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FEBRUARY 11, 2009

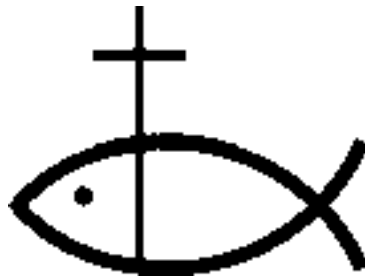
The Messenger

SURVIVING A FINANCIAL CRISIS

On Saturday, February 21 at 2PM, MPUMC will be hosting "Surviving a Financial Crisis." The event is designed to help those who have been affected by job loss and financial difficulties during the recent economic downturn. The event will feature a worship service at which Rev. Lurone Jennings will be preaching and workshops on topic such as managing money, finding a job, finding help with necessities, dealing with stress, and staying motivated. If you would like more brochures to give out to friends or community groups, please contact the church office.

Plenty of brochures are available.

Please call Ann Cover if you will need child care.



NEW MEMBER CLASS

Ready to take the next step in faith?

Pastors Eric Rieger and Wil Cantrell will be leading a new member class on Sunday February 15 at 4PM in the large conference room in the office complex.

If you have considered joining the church, please plan to attend.

Please call Ann Cover if you will need child care.

CLC Training with Lurone Jennings

Lurone Jennings will be with our Church Leadership Council again this year for training on Saturday morning, February 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Lurone coached NFL star, Reggie White and Olympic Gold Medalist, Venus Lacy, who starred on the U.S. Women's Olympic Basketball Team. Lurone was the principal of the largest inner city high school in Chattanooga, Howard High School. He later became the Director of Drug Education and Athletics. Lurone is the Executive Director of the Bethlehem Center and is a widely sought-after preacher, trainer, and speaker. Immediately following our training, we will have a CLC Meeting. We hope you can join us.

On Campus Events

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 8:30 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:45 Contemporary Worship (FLC/Gym)
- 9:00 MPUMC Breakfast (FLC/FH)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Contemporary Worship (FLC/Gym)
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12:15 Communion (Sanctuary)
- 12:15 Worship Team Meeting (LCR)
- 4:30 Youth Group Musical
- 4:30 Brass Voices (Room 31)
- 5:00 First Place for Life Meeting (Old Bldg.)
- 5:30 Revelation Singers (Choir Room)
- 5:30 Youth Snack Supper
- 6:00 Youth Group

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 6:00 Sr. High Basketball (FLC/Gym)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (Old Building)
- 7:00 Visioning Team (FH)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 9:00 Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 9:30 CEP (Education Wing)
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (Choir Room)
- 10:30 Prayer at the Altar (Sanctuary)
- 3:30 Girl Scouts (Room 30)
- 6:30 Cub Scouts (Old Building)
- 7:00 Open Gym

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 10:00 Willing Workers Circle (FH)
- 5:15 Wednesday Night Connection (FLC/Gym)
- 6:00 Book Club (Room 2A)
- 6:15 Children's Choirs
- 6:15 Early Risers Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:15 Friendship Choir (Room 30)
- 6:15 Youth Group Activities
- 6:15 Youth Handbell Choir (Room 31)
- 6:30 Hearing God through Scripture (Room 27)
- 7:00 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
- 7:00 Children's Handbells (Room 31)
- 7:00 ESL Classes (Room 30)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- 9:30 CEP (Education Wing)
- 10:00 Beth Moore Study (Room 30)
- 10:00 Fit and Faithful (FLC/Gym)
- 5:00 Praise Team (FLC/Gym)
- 6:00 Keenagers ((FH)
- 6:00 Men's Basketball (FLC/Gym)
- 7:00 ESL Classes (Room 31)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 6:00 PNO (FLC/FH)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 9:00 CLC Training
- 2:00 Surviving a Financial Crisis event



Wednesday Night Connection Menu for February 18

Spaghetti, Italian spinach,
salad and dessert.

PROGRAM: BUNCO

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

FEBRUARY 8, 2009

Total Worship - 530 Sunday School - 267

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

FEBRUARY 1, 2009

BUDGET	\$18,954.20
PAVING THE WAY	\$1,864.17
HONONARIUMS	
IHO Rita Tate to benefit FISH	
SPECIAL OFFERINGS	
FISH	\$435.00
DESIGNATED OFFERINGS	\$2,166.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$23,419.67

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- FEB 24 Sharon Miller
- FEB 25 Logan Kington
- FEB 26 Bobbie Wray, Matthew Brown
- FEB 28 Mike Line, Zach Roskop

(If we missed your birthday, we are sorry. Please notify the church office so your birthday can be added to our records.)

SPRING CLOTHING SALE

The Children's Enrichment Program will have their Spring Clothing Sale on Monday, March 2nd 6-8pm, and Tuesday morning, March 3rd. If you would like to participate, call the CEP office for more information on Tuesdays or Thursdays and ask for LouAnn (531-8589).



Spiritual Growth Team Announces:

The Spiritual Growth Team invites you to observe the Holy Lenten Season with our church family through a church-wide forty day devotional reading plan and optional small group discussions. The daily readings will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 25, 2009.

Based on the book, *40 Days Living the Jesus Creed*, by Scot McKnight, this study will involve both the daily readings and the opportunity to gather on Wednesday nights, after Wednesday Night supper, for a round table discussion with others and a small group leader.

Contact Debbie Uglow at the church office (690-8641) or email at: duglow@middlebrookpike.com to order a book for \$11.00 no later than 2/12/09.

Hearing God Through Scripture

On Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30, Associate Pastor Wil Cantrell will be leading a Bible study class titled "Hearing God Through Scripture". Each class session will focus on learning to listen to what God is saying through a particular passage in the Bible. The class will meet in the library.

40 DAY JOURNEY ~ BOOK STUDY

Join me on a 40 day journey through the Lenten season using a book "A Call to Die- a 40 Day Journey of Fasting from the World and Feasting on God" by David Nasser. We will meet on Wednesday nights from 7-8 pm beginning on the Wednesday 2/18 and finish on the Wednesday before Easter 4/8. I did this book last year and it was very meaningful for me as I prepared my heart for Easter. Please call me, Sandy Daniels 556-6937 if you are interested or have questions. Or you can call the church office to sign up. We will meet in the large conference room downstairs in the office suites.

Lenten Study begins Monday, February 23rd.

Please join us for a Lenten Study at our Monday night Life-Links session. We'll meet from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm at Deb and Rich Holly's house. Give yourself the gift of time for reflection and relaxation as we celebrate all that Jesus did to prepare His servants for the ultimate gift—life forever.

Questions: Call Rich or Deb at 693-1370

WILLING WORKERS CIRCLE

*Don't forget our meeting on Wednesday,
February 18 at 10:30.*

*All ladies are welcome to join us ~
see you then!!*

Dear MPUMC Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls, and prayers shared with me during Mom's illness and passing. Though we have been gone for several months now, I was so touched by the thoughtfulness expressed by all of you. I miss you all.

Carolyn Lawhorn



♪ WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES ♪

♪ WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES ♪

THE POWER OF MUSIC

“After silence that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music.” ALDOUS HUXLEY

I participate in a weekly conference call with other contemporary worship leaders from around the country, last week the topic was on the power of music. We all understand that music is very powerful and affects each of us differently. It is clear that the influence of music is widespread throughout the world and throughout generations. It is the specifics that differ, but the overall impact is the same. Music takes the mind and soul to a different plane. To dig a little deeper, I'm going to share with you what some of my colleagues had to say about this topic.

“Our language is limited. It fails to capture the nuances of emotion and experience. Instruments, rhythm, and sound express longings and feelings that our words simply can't convey. When lyrics and music are combined, our deepest emotions are given a voice. Music reaches nerves in my heart that I wouldn't otherwise know were exposed. The best music, the most original, the most truthful expresses the humanity in us all.”

Music helps us express things that we have a hard time putting our finger on, I am so thankful that each week, God uses music in our

worship service to help usher people into His presence, transcending language, culture and generations.

Another person on this conference call painted a similar picture.

“Harmonies and rhythms can bypass the intellect and go straight to the subconscious to evoke feelings and emotions. My guess is that the place in ourselves that we hear, feel or sense God, is close to the subconscious place that we feel music or dream dreams. It is somewhere almost outside of ourselves, somewhere that seems larger than life.”

“While the harpist was playing, the hand of the Lord came upon Elisha” (2 Kings 3:15 NIV).

We serve a God who is so profound, mysterious, creative and unique that our confined understandings cannot possibly comprehend Him. I think there is no stronger proof that music reveals a part of God's divine nature than the fact that it evokes that same profound response. There is something in it that is above our understanding. Perhaps this is the definition of art, of truth, of divinity. Either way, we are participating and experiencing a truly timeless and heavenly expression.

Justin

Children's Corner

Dates to Remember

- ◆ February 20 - Parent's Night Out (MPUMC)
- ◆ **March 27—Parent's Night Out (CUMC)***
- ◆ June 1—June 5 - Vacation Bible School

***Change in date due to spring break**

Mission Focus:

- ◆ **Change for Children** - ongoing
- ◆ FISH: Jelly (February)
- ◆ FISH: Green Beans (March)

**BANDANAS - ONGOING THROUGH
FEBRUARY 25**



Wesley Woods Camp

As we close 2008, we are looking at the summer of 2009. There are many children who want to experience Wesley Woods Camp. With the cost of the camp and our current economic state, we are looking for people who are able to sponsor a child. Please call Ann Cover if you feel that you can help send a child to camp.

Baby Pictures:

**Please send your
baby's picture for
the Baby Bulletin
Board.**



Ann Cover - Director of Children's Ministries
acover@middlebrookpike.com

Baby Rose: Let Ann know when you will be bringing your "new" baby for the first time so the church can honor him/her with a rose on the altar.



MPUMC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES

Upcoming Events & Activities...

This calendar does not include basketball practices or games.
See your coach for further details.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Youth Sunday School - 9:45
Traditional Worship - 8:30 & 11:00
Contemporary Worship - 8:45 & 11:00

4:30 - Youth Musical Rehearsal
5:30 - Snack Supper
6:00 - Youth Group
7:15 - Youth Bible Studies

8:00 to 8:30 - Open gym & youth rooms for youth group

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH CONNECTION

YOUTH LEAD CHURCH-WIDE BUNCO NIGHT

5:15 - Dinner line opens

6:15 - YOUTH LEAD CHURCH-WIDE BUNCO NIGHT

7:00 - Youth Group Time
7:00 to 8:30 - Open gym & game rooms for youth

Bring in your \$50.00 deposit for our Summer Mission Trips!

Smoky Mountains

July 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, & 18

Current 6th, 7th, & 8th graders may participate.

Total Cost - \$175.00

Includes transportation, all living expenses during our week of mission work (Sunday night through Friday morning), one night of hotel lodging (Friday the 17th), and Dollywood/Splash County activities on Friday & Saturday.

Bennett County, South Dakota

July 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, & 19

Current 8th through 12th graders may participate.

Total Cost - \$500.00

Includes transportation, all living expenses during our week of mission work (Sunday night through Friday morning), three nights of hotel lodging (Saturday the 11st, Friday the 17th, & Saturday the 18th), along with some tourist activities such as viewing Mount Rushmore.

A Thank-You Note...

Thank you to everyone who supported our Super Bowl Hoagie sale! We raised \$727.00 to go toward our summer youth trips and choir tour expenses.

Eric Bronkala - Director of Youth Ministries

ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com; ebronkala@comcast.net

*Roses are Red,
BBQ Sauce is too.
Empty Nesters...
We want to see YOU!!*



Join us at Calhoun's at Pellissippi
Saturday, Valentine's Day
6:30 ~~ upstairs in the loft.

Please call Debbie in the church office for reservations.

Invitation to Whirling Dervices

On February 12, Thursday, 7:30 pm at James R. Cox Auditorium of The University of Tennessee, our church family has been invited to witness the Turkish Whirling Dervishes performing their traditional Mevlevi Order Sufi ritual. This invitation comes to us from the Knoxville Turkish Cultural Center, which seeks to promote dialogue and understanding between cultures and religions. The main objective of this activity is to underline the value of love and tolerance among different cultures and religions so that people could realize the common grounds to be involved in dialogue for a more peaceful world which is much needed today. You can find out ticket information from www.knoxvilleturkish.org/dervish.htm. Cost is \$20- \$30 with a \$10 discount for students.

KEENAGERS

FEBRUARY 19 ~~ 6:15pm
Fran Dotterwiech will share her trip to the Holy Land with us.
Call the church office for reservations.

CLERGY COLUMN

“SO, HOW IS YOUR FRUIT?”

Good Investments

7 Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Instead, train yourself to be godly. 8 “Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.” 9 This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it.

I Timothy 4: 7-9

This past Sunday, Wil and I preached from the familiar text of John 15 about the Vine and the Branches. In this passage, Jesus stresses the necessity of abiding in Him if we are to be fruitful. Fruitful means many things in the scripture. Of course it means what is produced in and from our lives, and this can be positive or negative, healthy or unhealthy, even good or evil. Jesus also says that you know a tree by its fruit referring to actions that stem from the human heart (see Matthew 7:15-20). In John 15 fruit is used in a positive Biblical sense meaning good works and actions and behaviors. Of course it means the Fruit of the Spirit also (Galatians 5:22). Before we can “go somewhere that is new to us”, it is helpful to first understand where we are. In other areas we might say, “Diagnosis precedes prescription.” So, how is your fruit? Is your life fruitful in the Biblical sense? Is your life filled with good deeds and works that point others to God? (see Matthew 5:16 & Ephesians 2:10) I do ask myself these penetrating questions.

The good news is that Jesus promises that we will have fruitful lives if we abide in Him. I believe we all want our lives to count for something. I believe everyone hungers for meaning. I believe we all want to contribute to God's Dream (Kingdom) unless we have been broken in some way or we have given ourselves over to self-centeredness. Jesus says to abide in him ten times in just ten verses—talk about emphasis! Abide is about our ongoing connection with the Living Christ. And Jesus promises that we will have truly fruitful lives if we will abide.

Do you know how to abide? Please join us this Lenten season for our church-wide Lenten observance in which we will practice abiding. We will follow a 40-day guide for daily Lenten readings. And if you are able, please join us after our meal on Wednesday evenings for table-group discussions of the readings. If you have not already ordered your book, Forty Days Living The Jesus Creed, please call the church office immediately and let Debbie know you want a book. Don't miss this opportunity to “train for godliness” together.

Desiring to bear fruit,

Pastor Eric

Recent requests for prayer from our church family...

CONCERNS: Alex Mefford, Dwight Cope, Ruth Masterson (Charlie Harr's sister), Sally Evenden, Carrie Hawley (Drew Hawley's mother), Tim and Kristen McKellips, Heidi Hunt and mission team, Mississippi mission trip, Chrysalis Flight

DEATHS: Virginia Metzger
Bruce Vincent (Mike and Marcie McGregor's brother-in-law)

PASTOR ON CALL

Friday 2/13~
Sunday 2/15

Eric Rieger
Cell - 964-0030

LOOK TOWARD SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2009

Traditional and Contemporary Services

***Sermon: I am the
“Good Shepherd”.***

Scripture: John 10:11-21

**MIDDLEBROOK PIKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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KNOXVILLE, TN 37909**

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