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MAY 12, 2010

The Messenger

2010 Holston Annual Conference Hands-On Mission Project:

Food Buckets for Zimbabwe

During the month of May we will be collecting food buckets for the Holston Annual Conference's 2010 Hands-On Mission Project.

Below is a list of items needed for each bucket. Please pack all items in a provided 5 gallon bucket OR any bag and we will pack the bucket for you (buckets can be picked up in the Fellowship Hall throughout May). A \$5 donation for packing and shipping is to accompany each bucket. **DO NOT PUT \$ IN THE BUCKET** - tape to lid, please. Or, place the money in the collection plate marked "Food Buckets for Zimbabwe". Buckets can be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall May 16-30.

List:

- 1- 5lb bag of Corn Meal
- 1- box of tea bags (take out of the box)
 - 1- 2lb bag of Rice
- 1- box of powdered milk (9oz or less)
- 1- bottle of cooking oil (48oz or less)
 - 1- 5lb bag of sugar
- 1- 5lb bag of SELF-RISING flour
 - 1- 2lb bag of dried beans
- 1- 2lb canned ham or 2- 1lb canned hams
 - 1- small box of Splenda

Questions? Contact

Kristin Lighter @ Kristin.Lighter@gmail.com or 865-705-1141. Or
Liz Kennedy @ lizzy_bat@yahoo.com or 865-531-7763.

Paving the Way (PTW) - Update

The three year PTW capital campaign will conclude in December of this year. With 77.6% of the campaign completed we have collected 72.1% of the funds pledged. Pledges for the total campaign were \$809,828 and \$583,539 has been received against those pledges. Another \$29,359 has also been received for the campaign that was not pledged. Many folks are current on their pledge or in some cases have already paid their entire pledge and we thank you.

Thanks to everyone for all the gifts we have received and let's do everything we can to finish this campaign well.

On Campus Events

SUNDAY, MAY 16

- 8:30 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:45 Contemporary Worship (FLC)
- 9:00 MPUMC Breakfast (FLC/FH)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 Contemporary Worship (FLC)
- 4:30 Youth Choir (Room 31)
- 5:30 Revelation Choir
- 5:30 Youth Snack Supper "Fish Food" (FH)
- 6:00 Youth Group
- 7:15 "Slingshot" Youth/Young Adult Worship

MONDAY, MAY 17

- 3:00 Set up for ladies dinner
- 7:00 SPR Meeting (LCR)

TUESDAY, MAY 18

- 9:00 Staff Meeting (LCR)
- 10:30 Prayer Around the Altar
- 5:30 Spring Marketplace—ladies event
- 6:00 Stephen's Ministry (Room 31)
- 6:30 Good & Beautiful God Class (Library)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

- 6:00 Beth Moore Study (LCR)
- 6:15 Early Risers Choir
- 6:45 "Ignition" Youth Fellowship
- 7:00 Chancel Choir
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 30)
- 7:45 Youth Games

THURSDAY, MAY 20

- 5:00 CWS Praise Team
- 5:15 Youth Handbells
- 6:00 Disciple III (LCR)
- 6:00 STEPS Co-Parenting Class (Old Bldg.)
- 6:30 KEENAGERS (FH)
- 7:00 Toastmasters (Room 30)
- 7:00 ESL Class (Room 31)

FRIDAY, MAY 21

- 6:00 Parents Night Out

SATURDAY, MAY 22

- 9:00 STEP Co-Parenting Class (Old Bldg.)

(See other enclosed calendars within this publication for additional activities.)

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE MAY 9, 2010

Sunday School—210 Worship—454

Attendance ~ A Heart for Haiti Event on Saturday ~ 313

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MAY 9, 2010

BUDGET	\$16,137.34
PAVING THE WAY	\$969.17
MEMORIALS~ John Ray HONORARIUM~ for Children's Art Supplies ~ Vern and Lisa Hippensteal	
SPECIAL OFFERINGS:	
FISH	\$150.00
DESIGNATED OFFERINGS	\$4,183.24
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$21,439.75



- May 19** Maci Brown, Preston Kelly, Eric Bronkala
- May 20** Mark Skinner
- May 21** Don Evon, Bill Graves, Jackie Purvis
- May 22** Georgia Blake, Debbie Oyler,
Parker McKellips
- May 23** Joey Shackelford
- May 24** David Kirk, Bruce Oyler, Jeremy Duncan,
Chad Carey
- May 25** Janis Lanternier, Wendy Young, Bill Nulton,
Joel Keas, Molly Hughes, Susan Henry

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



SUNDAY, MAY 16

**Breakfast will be served
by the
Marriage Enrichment Class
please join us!**



Wednesday, May 12 ~ Children's Choirs Spring Program—6:30 in the Sanctuary.
Everyone is invited to attend!!

Thursday, May 13 ~ Sisters in Christ Circle will meet will be at Becky Clay's house,
5723 Copperleaf Drive. All ladies are invited to join us.

Tuesday, May 18 ~ SPRING MARKETPLACE 5:30pm table viewing ~ 6pm dinner
If you would like to join us for dinner and the evening activities, please call the church office.
Tickets are \$12.00
(questions, call Debbie 690-8641)

Wednesday, May 19 ~ Willing Workers Circle will meet at 10:30 for a Bible Study and a pot
luck lunch. All ladies are welcome to join us!

Thursday, May 20 ~ KEENAGERS 6pm fellowship—6:30 dinner. Call Jackie Purvis 692-8344
to make your reservation by Monday, May 17.

FREE CONCERT

The Delaware State University Tour Choir will perform in concert on May 20th at the Church of the Savior United Church of Christ at 934 North Weisgarber Road. This free performance promises to be action-packed with divine moments of absolute peace and awe. The Delaware State University Choir, under the direction of Dr. Curtis Everett Powell, continues the legacy of presenting the most beautiful choral works written with the highest level of artistic excellence imaginable. The concert will present a broad range of selections ranging from Negro Spirituals, to traditional hymns to classical selections. Additional information is available at the Family Promise web site <http://www.familypromiseknoxville.org/>.

An offering will be taken to benefit Family Promise of Knoxville and the Delaware State Tour Choir.

HOPE FOR SUDAN

2010 Holston Annual Conference Mission Offering

Holston's partnership with East Africa Annual Conference and the UMC in Sudan continues to provide resources and mission teams to address the needs identified on the Covenant Agreement. The generosity of Holston has provided educational facilities, medical assistance, pastor training, leadership in the church and education and clean water.

Your offering will provide:

- ◆ School construction—complete with desks.
- ◆ Rev. Boo and Phyllis Hankins serving as the District Superintendent and teaching English to the pastors.
- ◆ Clergy training for the pastors and leaders of the 17 local churches.
- ◆ Medical professionals from Holston working with local clinics and UMCOR.
- ◆ Holston has a goal of 19 wells to provide the much needed clean water.

Please give generously to the "SUDAN MISSION OFFERING" on Sunday, May 23.

PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

May 16 ~ 7th Sunday of Easter

Traditional Service ~ Eric Rieger

Contemporary Service ~ Bill Pendergrass, Certified Lay Speaker, Fountain City UMC

May 23 ~ Pentecost Sunday

Traditional Service ~ John Tate, Holston Conference Treasurer

Contemporary Service ~ Eric Rieger

May 30, Trinity Sunday, Memorial Day Weekend

Traditional Service ~ Al Henry, Certified Lay Speaker, Retired Navy Captain

Contemporary Service ~ Martha Scott, Ministerial Candidate, Seminary Student

Children's Corner

Dates to Remember ~

May 16– New Rotation (Dance for the Lord)

May 16– VBS registration (Fellowship Hall) (9:45, 10:45, 12:00)*

May 21– Parents Night Out

June 7 – June 11 – Vacation Bible School

June 13– Eric teaches 5th graders.

June 27– Summer Rotation begins

July 16– Parents Night Out

July 25 – Eric Bronkala meets with rising 6th graders and their parents at 9:45 (Theater).

August 22– Bible presented to rising 3rd graders. Information will follow.

*There will be CD's to purchase with the music for VBS.

You can begin listening to the music.

The cost is \$5.00. Put shirt sizes on the registration form.



VBS ~ 2010

June 7 - June 11

6:00 – 8:30pm

(light dinner provided)

During Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School, cadets will voyage into outer space praising God. Through daily missions, your kids will see space like never before, gain a new perspective on our planet Earth, and learn easy "green" earth tips they can practice at home. This cosmic combination of faith and fun will have your cadets developing a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Please contact Marielle Kusch (692-3899) or kuschfamily5@aol.com if you would like to volunteer.

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



MPUMC YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES...

Saturday, May 15

High School Senior's Cookout at the home of
Steve & Marsha Haas 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
No need to bring anything – all food will be provided.
Families are welcome!

Sunday, May 16

8:30, 8:45, & 11:00 - Worship
9:45 – Youth Sunday School
4:30 – Youth Choir
5:30 – “Fish Food” Snack Supper
6:00 – Special Event: “BUNCO NIGHT” –
Come have fun and win a few prizes!
No “G.i.G” small groups

7:15 to 8:30 – SLINGSHOT WORSHIP SPECIAL EVENT – LOCATION: SANCTUARY

This is the last Slingshot Worship Service until September!
Please notice the special time and venue – our **youth handbells
and youth choir** ensembles will be assisting us in worship.

Wednesday, May 19

6:45 – Youth Group – “Ignition”
7:00 – Youth Leadership Council
7:45 to 8:30 – Open gym and games room for youth

2010 Youth Scholarship Recipients

Bill Kessler UMYF Memorial Scholarship Winner
Amy Thompson – senior at West High School
Awarded the \$1000 scholarship at the May 16 11:00 CWS

Susan Brown UMYF Scholarship Winner
Katelyn Christian – senior at Hardin Valley Academy
Awarded the \$500 scholarship at the May 16 11:00 CWS

“Heart For Haiti” Rally results:

313 people in attendance.
Covered by WLVT & WBIR. Conference representatives present.
Financial information not yet available...waiting on percentage
from merchandise sales, return of unopened concession items.
Over 50 people were involved in the planning, leading, and clean-
up of the event! Thanks for all your help!

**BE ON THE LOOKOUT: YOUTH MISSION TRIP MEETING FOR
DAYTONA & BIRMINGHAM TEAMS – 5:00 to 6:30 ON SUNDAY,
MAY 22 – FOOD AND DRINK PROVIDED.**

Attention: Rising Sixth Graders & Parents

Don't forget, CURRENT FIFTH GRADERS may begin attending all
youth activities beginning **Sunday night, July 25**. Eric will teach the
fifth grade Sunday school class on June 13, and will meet with all new
youth and their parents during the 9:45 a.m. Sunday school hour on
Sunday, July 25. **Location: Old Building Theater**

Eric Bronkala - Director of Youth Ministries

ebronkala@middlebrookpike.com; ebronkala@comcast.net

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for
the cards, food, kind
words and support for
our family after my
dad's death.

Shelia Cooper



Works, Faith, and Taming the Tongue. Interested? Intrigued?

Come join the Genesis Sunday School Class for an in-depth study of the book of *James* be- ginning May 30th in room 31.

Jerry Vaughn was voted
the Volunteer of the Year
by the YMCA.

Congratulations Jerry!!!

*God is our refuge and strength,
Always ready to help in times of trouble.
So we will not fear when earthquakes come
And the mountains crumble into the sea.
Let the oceans roar and foam.
Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge!*

*Be still, and know that I am God!
I will be honored by every nation.
I will be honored throughout the world.
The Lord of heaven's armies is here among us;
And the God of Israel is our fortress.
Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11*

Killer tornados, plane crashes, severe flooding, earthquakes, oil spills, stock market debacles, local murders—is this some apocalyptic theme in a recent *Left Behind* novel? No, this is the very real world in which we live: a world in which the strange mixture of good and evil, triumph and tragedy, justice and injustice, meaning and randomness are intertwined and part of our daily existence. I am not a “doomsayer”; however, if it were not for the resurrection of Jesus Christ and his assurance that He is always with us, I would be tempted to become jaded and cynical. The resurrection is the “difference that makes the difference.” I have these soul-longings for a better world. I have dreams and aspirations that things can be different. As the wisest one in the Old Testament world wrote: “God has written eternity in the hearts of men.”

In the Psalm above, the writer is describing the mightiest forces of nature releasing their fury and he counsels us not to fear. We need to hear that. It is not a denial of the way things really are. It is not a flight into fantasy and escapism. It is an affirmation of reality. Christian philosopher, Peter Kreeft, writes:

Recent requests for prayer from our church family...

CONCERNS: Walt Smith, Laura Julian (Iris Long’s niece), Jennifer McDonald, Margaret Pedit (Ruth Ford’s sister)
DEATHS: Margaret Wilson (Marci McGregor’s grandmother), Amelia Kaye Kington (Mark Kington’s sister)
BIRTHS: Katherine Isabella born to Greg and Kristin Haun on 4/30—big brother Conner

To put it most simply, God is God, the Absolute Reality, Infinite Perfection, more massively real than the universe itself and more worthy than all the ideals together ever conceived by all human minds... Thus we should pray because prayer is the most realistic thing in the world to do. It is our acknowledgment of reality, our right response to reality, and our honesty with reality.

The reality of God is such that God, through the psalmist, counsels us to do something very counter-intuitive. He counsels us (it seems) to do nothing. In our doing “nothing” we are aligning ourselves with the ultimate reality—Almighty God. He stays to, “Be still, and know that I am God.” The Hebrew can be legitimately translated: “Cease from striving, and know that I am God.” The resurrection reminds us that there is reality behind disasters and catastrophes whose very essence are love and goodness and justice. God invites us to be part of new creation. I am so proud of the United Methodist Church’s response to the need. We are filling food buckets for Zimbabwe, we are responding to Haiti (even sending our own mission team), we have another mission team returning to Mississippi, and for Vacation Bible School we will be making clean-up buckets for middle-Tennessee. We are part of God’s new creation.

This Sunday in Contemporary Worship we are blessed to have Bill Pendergrass coming to help us *Discover Our Divine Potential*. I have seen Bill’s presentation and it is most rich. Bill is working on the development of small group ministry at Fountain City UMC; he is a certified lay-speaker in the UMC. Bill’s wife is the Director of Early Childhood Ministry at Fountain City UMC. They have three small children. You will be enriched by this service.

Remember, “Be still and know...”,

Pastor Eric

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