



First Things @ First

July 6, 2011
Vol. XV No. 14

“Living that all may know Jesus”

660.747.8158 ~ FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WARRENSBURG ~ www.umcburg.org

KIOWA MISSION PROJECT

Keep the Kiowa Mission Project in prayer. They will be departing on July 16th and will return on July 23rd. They will be working with the Kiowa Indian Nation mission site located at the Botone Memorial UMC in Carnegie, Oklahoma. This is a Kiowa congregation that belongs to the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

Mission opportunities will include “Kiowa Style Children’s Bible School,” which will include lessons, crafts, music, storytelling, recreation, and meals for the children. Work projects will improve the church facilities and grounds. Community outreach will include interaction through afternoon craft classes, worship, meals, and other festivities.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE *SERVE2011* TRAINING EVENT

First United Methodist Church will be participating in *Serve 2011* by serving in our local community in a variety of ways on Saturday, September 10th. The purpose of *Serve 2011* is for every United Methodist congregation in the Missouri Conference to be in service to their community at the same time, sharing with the state of Missouri that we are a loving church with a desire to connect with our friends and neighbors in a meaningful way.

Everyone is invited to attend the *Serve2011* training at St. James UMC in Kansas City on Wednesday, July 20th. Members attending the 2-hour training event will receive all the information needed to assist FUMC in planning our day of service. We will meet in the north parking lot at 5:00pm to carpool as a group and will stop for ice cream on the way back to talk. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to the office. For more information contact Kathy Howard.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FOOD CENTER IN AUGUST

During August, First United Methodist Church supplies the personnel required for the operation of the Food Center. Persons are needed for (a.) the office, where clients are greeted and verification is made, (b.) ushers, who escort clients through the Center as they receive food items, and (c.) collecting the commodities that are given to clients based on family size. Typically, two persons are needed each day in the office, at least four persons for ushers, and two to work at the commodities table. Volunteers are needed each Tuesday and Thursday from 1-4 pm and should arrive at the Food Center on East Culton Street by 12:30pm. Your help will be greatly appreciated. **A Volunteer Sign Up Sheet is in the FLC hallway of the church.** If you have questions, contact Fran Waller at 660-584-2103.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

9:30am Connection / *Connected* Band
10:45am Classical/Blended with choir
and “Kids Own Worship”
*A nursery is available for children through
2 years of age.*

SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH BUS

The handicap accessible FUMC church bus will not be here on Sunday, July 10th and Sunday, July 17th. Call the office by noon on Friday if you need a ride to church.

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Youth Ministry | Mike Cassidy, Director | mike@umcburg.org

Senior High Mission Trip a Success!

On July 1st, twenty-eight FUMC Senior High Youth and adults returned from an amazing trip to Joplin, Missouri. Under the direction of Bob Muir, the Youth built handicap accessible ramps for residents who had to relocate into another home due to the tornado. They worked picking up debris in the Sanctuary of St. Paul UMC, which lost its sanctuary in the tornado. "Chests of Hope" were delivered to Joplin residents needing these supplies while setting up residence in new locations. We saw God's grace in many places during our week in Joplin. Thanks to Neosho UMC for providing lodging for our group. Thanks also to a wonderful group of kids who showed so much compassion, leadership, and grace. Thank you to our FUMC family for your prayers and financial support.

Children's Ministry | Melanie Montambeault, Director |

Welcome to our part-time Children's Ministry Coordinator Melanie Montambeault (Mon-tam-boe). Melanie will be working with our pre-kindergarten to 5th grade children in their Sunday school, worship services, Wednesday activities and choirs as Mike continues to work with the youth. Many of you have already met Melanie in her role as "Heidi Claire" during our 2011 VBS. Melanie has also been visiting Sunday School classes, helping with Kid's Worship, and participating in FriendsDay.

Melanie comes to us from Kansas City, MO, where she grew up in North Cross United Methodist Church. There, Melanie served on the Children's Ministry Team, sang in the choir and performed with the 4 One praise band. She recently moved to Whiteman Air Force Base with her husband, Joshua, after marrying last year. Melanie studied psychology at Truman State University and spent the last eight years working with mentally ill, developmentally delayed, and behaviorally disordered children in the Kansas City, MO area for Truman Medical Center. Melanie looks forward to working with the children and family's of FUMC, and is hopeful that the whole congregation will surround the children of FUMC with the prayers, presence, gifts and service to encourage every child's walk in faith.

OFFICE NEWS | Anita Ellis, Administrative Coordinator | office@umcburg.org

FOOD HANDLERS TRAINING CLASSES BEING OFFERED

Those needing to certify, or re-certify, for their Food Handlers certificate need to register for a Food Handlers Class. Johnson County Community Health Services offers Monday classes 10:00am – 11:30 am on July 18th or August 15th. Thursday classes are offered 2:00pm – 3:30 pm on July 14th or August 4th.

Please call (660) 747-6121, ext. 258 to register. Registration is requested at least one week in advance. Once you are certified, please provide a copy of your card to Anita so that she may keep it on file. You will need to have your card with you when working in the kitchen. Contact Anita for further information.

NEWSLETTER IS ON OUR WEBSITE

To view recent issues of *First Things* @ *First* newsletter: (a.) Go to umcburg.com. (b.) Click on "About Us." (c.) Choose "Newsletter."



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Nathan and Chasity (Presley) Brown**, who were married here on June 25, 2011.

MEDITATION GARDEN NEEDS PLANTS

Shane Ewing thanks those who donated tall and medium height plants for the Meditation Garden he is creating north of the parking lot. Still needed are donations of short sun-loving perennials of any kind. Shane will provide labor, soil and pots. For information, or to donate plants please call Shane at (660) 429-6122.

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INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD CENTER NEEDS: The Warrensburg Food Center especially needs nonperishable donations of breakfast cereal, macaroni & cheese, beef stew and other high-protein canned foods, salmon, tuna, peanut butter, canned fruit, vegetables (other than corn and green beans), gelatin, mustard, ketchup, BBQ sauce, bathroom tissue, laundry detergent, bars of soap, toothpaste, deodorant and hygiene products. **Please place your nonperishable donations inside the Food Center Cabinet located in the FLC hallway north of the pop machine.** The Food Center is open 1:00pm—4:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 9:00am till 11:00am on Saturdays. Recipients must contact Catholic Charities (747-2241) to sign up to receive food.

SAVE BEST CHOICE UPC CODES AND CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS: As you prepare food for summer picnics and family reunions, don't forget to save *Best Choice* bar codes and *Campbell's* soup labels. Place them in the container located in the Food Center cabinet in the FLC hallway or in the office. The proceeds help support United Methodist Women missions.

KNITTERS NEEDED FOR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: All knitters are invited to be a part of our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Knit the shawls by casting on 57 stitches and then using straight knit stitches. The finished shawls are approximately 60 inches long before fringe is added. Deliver completed shawls to the office. Members of the Care Ministry Team or the Pastoral staff give the shawls to those in need. For more information contact Sherry Printz. Mark your calendar for the Sunday, August 28th "Blessing of Prayer Shawls."

JOHNSON COUNTY EMERGENCY CARE COALITION: Our church directs all people with emergency needs to JCECC. This coalition provides assistance with utilities, rent and budgeting classes. Monetary donations are needed. *Make checks payable to FUMC and designate "JCECC."* Leave your donation in the office or place it in the offering plate.

ALDERSGATE CLASS ICE CREAM SOCIAL & SILENT AUCTION FUND RAISER: Mark your calendars for the Aldersgate Class Ice Cream Social & Silent Auction fund raiser 5:00pm—7:00pm on Wednesday, August 24th. Proceeds will be for the Jamaica Medical Mission and the FUMC Early Response Team. Items (no clothing please) for the silent auction are now being collected. Call Nadine Graham at 747-6346 or Donna Sample at 747-9597.

In Our Prayers

In Our Prayers: Maxixe UMC (our sister church in Mozambique) & its pastor Geraldo Nataniel Matsinhe, shut-ins, care givers. **Ill/Recovering:** Tom Bennett, Marilyn Boyd, Marie Brigman, Scott Bryan, Sandy Culp, Julia Pieron, Erkelene Sartin, Nancy Scism, Clair Swan, Brad Tharp, Doris Wilson. **Sympathy to:** Ed Harris, whose wife Evelyn passed away June 29, 2011.

Military: Christopher Lozo, Chris Manley.

Pastoral Care: If you have a death in the family, are sick or hospitalized, please let the church office know so we can arrange for spiritual care. *If you or a loved one is admitted to a local hospital, please call us, as the hospitals do not notify us.*

Prayer Requests: Please fill out a prayer request card found in the pews or in the office.

THANK YOU

Thank you to **Lynn Little** for her passion, love, enthusiasm, and dedication during the past two years as Campus Ministry Director. May God Bless her future endeavors.

Thank you for all the get well cards and phone calls.
~ **Pearl Warnken**

Thank you for the cards you sent in honor of our 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary. We appreciate your kindness. ~ **Bob & Jane Cooper**

Attendance & Offerings

June 26th attendance at the two services was 334.

Operating Fund Contributions were \$4,353.60.

Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$2,825.00.

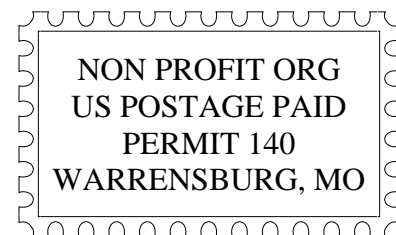
July 3rd attendance at the two services was 285.

Operating Fund Contributions were \$9,038.63.

Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$3,177.50.



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141 E. Gay Street
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Return Service Requested

KIDS-CAN-DO MISSION:

The July 17th Kids-Can-Do collection of coins, cash and checks made payable to "FUMC" will be for "Christmas in July" children's books collection project.

Pastor's Corner... | Rev. Louie Lowe, Senior Pastor | llowe@umcburg.org

Recently I watched a documentary on the life of the great baseball player Babe Ruth. What an incredible athlete he was. During his career he set records as both a pitcher and batter, with his home run record remaining unconquered until recent years.

However, there is another record Babe Ruth holds that many people are unaware of. While he hit more home runs than any other in his day, he also struck out more often than anyone else.

What's the point? Great achievements always come with some risk taking, and even the occasional setback. Perseverance is the key.

In *Philippians 3:14*, the Apostle Paul speaks of "Pressing on towards the goal." Where is God calling us to persevere, to "press on" towards the goal God has before our Church?

See you in Church,

Louie



First Things @ First is published every other Wednesday by the First United Methodist Church of Warrensburg. Newsletter submissions are due Monday at noon for the upcoming Wednesday's newsletter. Submissions may be communicated to **Marge Ballew**, Publications Editor (660-747-8158; receptionist@umcburg.org). Calendar updates, prayer requests and address changes may be communicated to **Anita Ellis**, Administrative Coordinator (660-747-8158; office@umcburg.org).