



First Things @ First

May 25, 2011
Vol. XV No. 11

“Living that all may know Jesus”

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

FUMC RESPONSE TO THE JOPLIN DIASTER

Please continue to **pray** for all the people affected by the Joplin tornado. St. Paul UMC was among those buildings destroyed.

First United Methodist Church will collect a **special offering on Sunday, May 29th** to assist UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) with disaster response in Joplin. Special offering envelopes will be available. Checks may be made to FUMC with “Joplin” written in the memo.

FUMC is collecting **bottled water, new blankets, and new towels**. Bring these items to the area inside the Preschool door no later than Friday, May 27th.

Clean-up buckets will be collected at the Annual Conference. FUMC members wishing to prepare clean-up buckets can find information and a list of kit contents in the office or in the FLC hallway. Buckets left at the church by Thursday, June 2nd will be taken to Annual Conference by our pastors and lay leaders attending. To make a monetary donation (\$56.00 per bucket) make your check payable to *FUMC* and designate “clean-up buckets.” Bring your monetary donation to the office or put it in the Sunday offering plate.

Because of safety issues we work with the conference in volunteering. Thirteen members of our conference-trained **FUMC Early Response Team** will be leaving for Joplin as soon as requested. The ERT team welcomes monetary donations for food and fuel. Make your check to FUMC and designate “ERT.”

MAIN STREET VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL STARTS JUNE 6th

VBS @ FUMC is around the corner for 2011. From June 6th - June 10th, we will be turning the church “inside out and upside down.” This year will be an exciting one, and we'd like everyone to be involved. If you haven't registered your kids, do so now in the Atrium or online at www.umcburg.org. Invite friends and neighbors. We are “living so that all may know Jesus” and this is a great way to be a part of that mission statement. If you'd still like to help out, know that we would love to have you **JOIN US ON MAIN STREET!**

NEW MINISTRY POSITION AVAILABLE

Due to funding cuts on the conference level, and in an effort to facilitate the transition of the former Wesley Campus Ministry into a fully integrated second site ministry of the First United Methodist Church of Warrensburg, the current position of Director of Campus Ministries will end on June 30, 2011. A “**New**” part-time position, titled Staff Assistant to College Age Ministry, will begin on July 1, 2011. Anyone interested in applying for this new position should pick up an application and detailed job description in the Church office.

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

SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH BUS


Call the office **by noon on Friday** to arrange a bus stop at your home. The FUMC bus is handicapped accessible.

FIRST THINGS @FIRST ~ MAY 25, 2011

Children's and Youth Ministry | Mike Cassidy, Director | mike@umcburg.org

Promotion Sunday ...The First United Methodist Church children will "Spring Ahead" into their next Sunday School grade on Promotion Sunday, May 29th. There will be a special recognition time in both services.

Help Us Be the Hands and Feet of Christ ...Some of our wonderful servant youth will be coming to you in the next few weeks asking if you'd like to buy a "share" in our summer mission trips. Please consider helping the youth as they prepare to go out into the world and share the love and healing grace of God. Our policy is to encourage all youth to attend mission trips, regardless of economic background. Your support helps us succeed in this mission. Thank you.

 **Preschool Doodlings** | Colleen Reed, Preschool Director | preschool@umcburg.org
The preschoolers are out for the summer! We had a wonderful end-of-year picnic with our families and perfect weather. We say "goodbye" and "good luck" to our families who are moving, our new PreK graduates, and teacher aide Debbie Richner who is moving on to a full-time job. We wish them all the best!

SPECIAL MUSIC NEEDED FOR SUMMER

Can you provide special music (vocal or instrumental) during a 10:45am worship service this summer? Contact Sherry Printz at 660-238-0246 or slgilpin@charter.net.

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."

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY RESUMES IN THE FALL

Pastor Louie's 10:30am Monday Bible Study will not meet during the summer. The Bible Study will resume in the fall.

SUNDAY SUPPERS ENDING

Thank you to all who have served on **Free Meal Ministry teams** providing first and fifth Sunday Suppers at Christ Episcopal Church the past 3+ years. Your extravagant generosity has blessed many persons. The final Sunday Supper will be held there on May 29th.

Mark your calendars for
THE KIOWA MISSION PROJECT
Kiowa Nation, Oklahoma
July 16-23, 2011
Work Projects ~ Bible School
Inter-Cultural Opportunities
"Your Opportunity To Be The Hands of God"



GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to the following 2011 High School graduates: **Mattie Elliott** (daughter of Jim & Kara Elliott), **Jenny Hanson** (daughter of Mitch & Janet Hanson), **John Keller** (son of John Keller and Kathy Kay), **Veanessa Lindstedt** (daughter of Joe & April Lindstedt), **Cody Means** (son of Mike & Lori Means), **Cody Narron** (son of Tim & Kathy Narron), and **Amanda Shreves** (daughter of Phil & LuRae Shreves).

Congratulations to **Jim Helmig**, EdS from University of Central Missouri. Congratulations to **Chelsea Abney** (daughter of Steve and Cathy Abney), Masters of Interior Architecture and Product Design from Kansas State University.

FIRST THINGS @FIRST ~ MAY 25, 2011

INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS NEEDED: If you are able to speak, read, write and/or interpret a foreign language, please contact Anita in the church office. We are compiling a list for reference.

MINISTRY OF CARE AND VISITATION: Volunteers of all ages are needed to be a part of FUMC Ministry of Care. Volunteers visit those in need of a caring Christian presence. Contact Pastor Louie for more information, or to register.

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



CONGRATULATIONS

Collins Reece Abney was born May 17, 2011. Collins is the daughter of Marshall & Jessie Abney, and the great-granddaughter of Lila Potter. Proud grandparents are Steve and Cathy Abney.

Daphne Grace Moore was born May 20, 2011. She is the daughter of Gene and Kimberly Moore.

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, Marie Brigman, Sandy Culp, Brad Tharp, Doris Wilson. **Sympathy to:** Dan Brigman, whose grandmother Florence Heller passed away May 13, 2011; the family and friends of Clair Koons who passed away May 15, 2011; the family of Lowell Whiteside who passed away May 19, 2011; Bill Brame, whose wife Nan Brame passed away May 21, 2011; and to Linda Baker, whose brother Charles Oster passed away May 22, 2011.

Military: 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.

BAPTISMS

Hailey Dais was baptized during the 9:30am service on May 9, 2011.

Jackson Lawrence Krupa, son of Benjamin & Stephanie Krupa was baptized during the 10:45am service on May 15, 2011.

Jeremy Imboden was baptized during the 9:30am service on May 22, 2011.

Veanessa Lindstedt was baptized during the 10:45am service on May 22, 2011.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to **Jeff & Marilyn Imboden** and **Jeremy Imboden** who were received into membership during the 9:30am service on May 22, 2011.

Welcome to **Joe & April Lindstedt** and **Veanessa Lindstedt**, who were received into membership during the 10:45am service on May 22, 2011.

The office will be closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 30th.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

You are cordially invited to our Golden Wedding Anniversary party at Meadow View Gardens on Friday, June 17th. "Meet and Greet" is at 6:15pm with dinner at 7:00pm. RSVP janefrommo@hotmail.com or call (660)747-8979. Your presence is our gift.

~ **Bob & Jane Cooper**

Attendance & Offerings

May 15th attendance at the two services was 353.

Operating Fund Contributions were \$5,116.87.

Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$885.00.

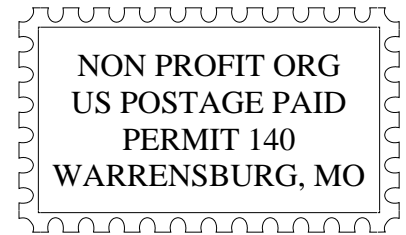
May 22nd attendance at the two services was 283.

Operating Fund Contributions were \$3,093.10.

Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$1,190.00.



First Things @ First
141 E. Gay Street
Warrensburg, MO 64093
Office: (660) 747-8158
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Return Service Requested

KIDS-CAN-DO MISSION:

The June 19th Kids-Can-Do collection of coins, cash and checks made payable to "FUMC" will be for *Survival House Adult Abuse Shelter*.

Pastor's Corner... | Rev. Louie Lowe, Senior Pastor | llowe@umcburg.org
"Sparks of Hope"

The disaster in Joplin, Missouri this past Sunday has traumatized all of us, to say the least, especially those of us who have friends and relatives that were directly affected.

The level of destruction is so great that it's hard to even comprehend. Yet, in the midst of all the destruction there are "sparks of hope" everywhere, "sparks of hope" that reveal the living and restoring presence of God.

Those miracle stories that we are just now hearing about: The incredible examples of self-sacrifice that took place; people going the "extra mile" to help others, whom they didn't even know before; volunteers from all over the region coming together in the relief effort, bringing to life the unconquerable spirit of community.

All of these stories themselves are "sparks of hope" because they reflect the living, present, goodness of God working among us through the actions of others.

The Bible says in *Romans 8:28*; that "***In all things God works for the good.***" One of the ways God does that is through the actions of people themselves.

This week every one of us have an opportunity to become a "spark of hope" for the people in Joplin, Missouri by giving to the relief effort. Take the opportunity to do that this week and let the goodness of God be revealed through you.

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).