

MAPLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MESSENGER

AUGUST 2014



**Front 2,3,4. Back
2,3,4. Front 2,3,4.
slide, slide, slide*
Maplewood
United**

Methodist Church is sponsoring a Back to School Dance ...

... on Saturday, August 16, 7 - 9 p.m. Middle School students in the community are invited for an evening featuring the music of DJ Sean Green and 'Get Happy Productions' (an evening for which their services have been generously donated!) Promotional materials will be going out through the school. As well as being a fun and safe activity to kick off the new school year, this event also will be a service for Weekend on Wheels.

And **yes**, you can help support this Middle School event:

- Pray those attending will see the church as a safe, loving and cool place and be drawn to find out more.
- Consider donating needed items like 2-Liters of soda, sweet snacks, salty snacks, and fruit.
- Consider chaperoning (*must be okay with crowds, loud music, strobe lights, & teens singing at high decibels .*) **Lots of adult oversight is needed.** If you are interested in chaperoning and you are not yet safe-sanctuary trained, please let Julia Schaffner know at 314-440-3119
- Volunteer sign up sheets will be posted at Church. Or, simply feel free to respond to this email or text at phone number above.

*Julia Schaffner &
Colette Cummings*

SERVE2014

“FROM A DAY TO A WAY” is the theme for SERVE 2014 this year

Plans are in place for service projects through the end of the year. **SAVE THE DATES** of September 13th for a Day of Service and September 20th for the Mosaic Fun Run. The Run raises funds that support Mosaic Services at the MRH Early Childhood Center.

Activities for August include the dance for Middle School Students August 16th and the Concert for a Cause at Ryan Hummert Park on August 27th. Both of these activities will include donations of can goods for the MRH Weekend on Wheels.

September activities include the Day of Service and Mosaic Run. October activity will be the Adult Mission Trip scheduled the week of October 5–11. Plans are to work in Joplin and will be in conjunction with First Methodist in Webster. November project will be the Thanksgiving Baskets and December project will be the Christmas gifts. In addition, an all church book study is planned including a sermon series on ways of being of service in the world.

T-shirts will again be provided through a generous donation from a couple in the congregation. Be sure to indicate your willingness to help with SERVE2014 activities on the registration sheet in the bulletin and sign up on the sheets in the fellowship area of the church. Be sure to include your t-shirt size on the registration sheet.

If anyone has any yard work or small home repairs that need to be done as a part of our SERVE 2014 please contact Jan Harsh (314-780-1797, cell)



Dear Friends,

Over the past several months a group led by Dennis Collins has

worked toward hiring a contractor to replace the education wing roof. The ad council is in the process of approving the recommended contractor and plans for financing the project. The education wing roof has been an enormous building challenge for longer than I have had the privilege of serving as your pastor. Replacing the roof at times seemed like an impossible task to accomplish, but as scripture teaches "with God all things are possible." If you have questions about this project and its financing you are welcome to attend the Ad Council meeting at the church on Sunday, August 10 at 6:30 p.m.

No, the church is not a building, but the building can be a great tool for ministry. I can't wait to see what God will do next in and through this congregation.

To God be the glory!
Pastor Kim



Can you define a "superhero"? Can you describe a "hero"? Do you KNOW one?

The Apostle Paul tells the people in the church at Ephesus that they are able to do amazing things through the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Jesus tells his disciples that "the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these..."

(John 14: 12). Beginning the last Sunday in July and throughout August we will be talking about "How to Become a Superhero" in our faith journey. We will talk about the characteristics of superheroes and look at the examples of ordinary heroes we find in scripture and in daily life.

"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine..." (Ephesians 3: 20)



Recognize the reptile? Why, it's Crocodile the Alligator, of course! Oh wait ... That's actually Jonathan Schaffner! Although it looks a lot like Halloween, it's actually Church Camp! Jonathan attended a **Methodist drama camp at Camp Jo-Ota** in mid-July. In case you weren't aware, Camp Jo-Ota is home of the infamous mud pit!

we are so blessed

There's gonna be a baby shower on August 30

Brittany, our long time nursery worker, will soon be bringing Baby Jeremy into this world and we are gonna celebrate!

Woo Hoo! At 2 PM, on August 30th, Maplewood UMC will be the scene of a baby shower so we can share joy and anticipation with Brittany. Be sure to **RSVP by August 15 to Ellen** (314-409-9117) **or to Mallory** (324-562-6795)



Children and youth had two fun events during the summer: one an outing to the Botanical Gardens and one an evening of bowling. That's the bowling crew is pictured above.

Charge conference for MUMC scheduled

Our annual Charge Conference will be held Sunday, October 5, at 3 p.m. We are part of a cluster of churches which will meet at The Gathering - Clayton site (101 North Bemiston Ave. Clayton, MO 63105).



AUGUST

2	Jon Schwab
3	Ray Jauregui
5	Michael Chance
5	John Rutledge
6	Rachel Ward
6	Suzie Ward
7	Jonathan Schaffner
10	Mike Lodholz
12	Julia Schaffner
20	Colette Cummings
24	Laura Housewright
28	Niki Lodholz



8/2/02 – Robert & Ronaleaze
Chandler
8/12/02 – Mark & Lisa Watkins
8/24/57 – Wayne & Elaine Kidwell
8/25/07 – Amy & Johnny Kampis



Sunday, August 24,

'Holiday – Happenin' Craft Fair & Bake Sale is set for November 15th

Calling crafters, bakers and workers willing to donate finished crafts and baked goods to sell **and** to help with the sale. Have any craft supplies you want to clear out? We would be happy to have them! We are also looking for things like yarn, canning jars, plastic canvas, wood spools, wood embroidery hoops, jeans and ribbon. If you are interested in helping or donating, there will be sign-up sheets in the back of the sanctuary or you can talk to Donna Reynolds, Madaleaze Cramer or Rona Chandler.

Please, don't leave me with a HUNGRY class full of anger management students!

Our next series of Anger Management classes begin on Thursday evening, August 14th. These gatherings start at 6 PM so that we can provide a light meal at the beginning. This says a lot to the people who are required to attend about the hospitality and welcome at MUMC.

We really NEED to have folks who can make sure we have meals for the next six Thursday evenings ... providing the food, helping set up the dining area, eating with the students, and cleaning up afterwards. You can be reimbursed for your expenses but we really need YOU.

At this point we have 13 registrations – that is no guarantee that there will be 13 students in attendance: there could be fewer; there could be more. Please give Shay Blackwell a call - H: 822-4719 C: 971-0626. She will be glad to share additional information about meals ... and she would be grateful for assistance!



Sunday, August 24,



***Openly invite** all people to experience God's transforming love and grace through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

***Grow spiritually** in ways that strengthen our relationship with God: worship, preaching and teaching, fellowship, prayer, evangelism, giving and caring for others.

*** Do God's work** by sharing our faith, working for justice and serving the needs of those in our community and world.

Choir Corner

August is here and choir rehearsal is just around the corner.

We will begin meeting again on Wednesday, September 3rd, at 7:00pm. Hope to see everyone back! Newcomers are welcome! We are in special need of altos, but sopranos, tenors and basses will be gratefully accepted too. This is a fun bunch of folks who share a love of music and fellowship.

Thank you to all who provided special music this summer. We appreciate your talents. Would also like to give a big thanks to our Praise Band. This dedicated group meets usually every other Saturday even during the summer. A lot of preparation and practice goes into the Sunday praise songs. Thank you to our singers, drummer, and guitarists who lift us up each Sunday! And thanks to our congregation for your support.



'Imagine No Malaria' report

Lives will be changed; lives will be **SAVED**

Last year at this time the Missouri Conference UMC and Maplewood UMC embarked on a journey to raise funds for the IMAGINE NO MALARIA campaign. With all the churches in Missouri working together, a year later, the Conference reports that a total of \$1,125,314.54 was raised.

It's making a difference to people with names and faces and families and communities. Because of these efforts, nets have been distributed to the entire Bo District in Sierra Leone.

A BIG thanks to all at Maplewood UMC. Children, youth and adults worked hard and contributed much so that Maplewood could send it's portion to the Conference campaign.

Person to Person

Dave Phelps

A Harvard University study earlier this year, released under the title "The Children We Mean To Raise: The Real Messages Adults Are Sending About Values," revealed that, while parents say they believe it's more important for their children to be good people than to be individually successful, their children don't believe them. Instead, the children believe their parents would prefer that they be successful--at virtually any cost. According to the study, "Our youth's values appear to be awry, and the messages that adults are sending may be at the heart of the problem."

The study by the "Make Caring Common" project, reveals that only about 20% of 10,000 children surveyed said "caring for others" was more important than personal success. Some youth articulated the philosophy "If you are not happy, life is nothing. After that, you want to do well. And after that, expend any excess energy on others." But according to child psychologist Michele Borba, a lack of empathy actually impedes a person's ability to succeed. Empathy, she said, is ". . . the benchmark of humanity, and core to everything that makes a society civilized." Yet the Harvard study indicated that "We don't seem to be preparing large numbers of youth to create [the] society [we need.]"

A 2012 survey by the University of Virginia showed that 96% of the parents said that empathy and strong moral character were more important than anything else. But three quarters of the youth in the Harvard study said their parents would be more proud of good grades than of their being a caring member of their community.

The authors of the Harvard study made recommendations, which included "Children and youth need ongoing opportunities to practice caring and helpfulness, sometimes with guidance from adults." And--no surprise--they recommended that parents provide strong positive role models. The authors pointed out that there ". . . may be a rhetoric/reality gap, a gap between what parents and other adults say are their top priorities and the real messages they convey in their behavior day to day." There may be a gap? Really? Seriously, none of us--

least of all me--"practice what we preach" all the time (Rom. 7:18b-19). And this is to the detriment of our youth.

Our adult Sunday School class has been studying the book of James. One of the best known passages from this book is ". . . faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." (2:17b ESV). You might say these youth are hearing "faith" but they're not seeing "works." When the Pharisees demonstrated similar behavior, Jesus called them "hypocrites" and worse (Matt. 15:1-9, 23:1-36; Mark 7:1-13; Luke 13:10-17). We can't simply give or serve or set an example when it's convenient or benefits us. In a Biblical worldview, serving others isn't just for our "excess energy," it's our service to God (Acts 20:35; Gal. 6:2; Phil. 2:4). Peter complained to Jesus about sacrifice (Matt. 19:27) and Jesus replied, "'Truly, I say to you, in the new world, . . . many who are first will be last, and the last first.'" (vs. 28a, 30). Later, he washed the disciples' feet (John 13:1-17) and when he was finished he said "'I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.'" (vs. 15 ESV).

At Maplewood UMC, parents and other adults must be doing something right. A number of our youth just returned from a mission trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where they worked on homes that belonged to people they didn't know. Most of the youth were on their second mission trip. Clearly, they're learning this behavior from someone. Adults are living as not only good citizens of this world but citizens of God's kingdom (Eph. 2:19) and setting a good example (John 13:35; 1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 4:9; 1 Tim. 4:12; Tit. 2:7-8). More important, the youth are seeing the example of Christ through study and worship. I'm proud of our youth and I pray that they will go on to be good citizens of both their society and God's kingdom.

"Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, so practice and observe whatever they tell you--but not what they do. For they preach, but do not practice'" (Matt. 23:1-3 ESV.)

Check out Person-2-Person on the Web: <http://person2person.faithweb.com>

With heart and mind and voice, THANK YOU to ...

... Bryon Stone for leading the summer book discussion; and thanks also to all who attended. The discussions were great.

... Maplewood United Methodist Church,
Good morning. We would like to express our great appreciation to your church for all the donations towards Kendall's first year at Lincoln University college. I had no idea on how I was going to provide the things he needed, and how I was going to bring things together for him. I could never have done this alone and your acts of kindness, prayers & donations are helping send Kendall on his way. My miracle angels Mr. and Mrs. Kidwell have always been family and a true blessing in our life's. GOD works through them for the good of all. My family and I are forever grateful to you and the MUMC family. I thank GOD he touched your hearts.

Sincerely,
Nicolette (& Kendall)

... members of Maplewood United Methodist Church, and Operation Food Search volunteers who assisted with the summertime lunch program. **We served over 290 lunches and made meaningful connections with over 100 kids and their parents, grandparents or caregivers.** We hope to continue the **"School's Out Cafe"** program again next summer with an even greater amount of outreach. Thanks again!"

Anne Arias

... Dear Friends (at MUMC)

A special blessing to all who helped in any way as we celebrated our loved father, Raymond Norris. A special thank you to your Mike Plonka who cleans your church, your organist, Amy, Sharon & Bill Housewright, dear friends forever, Jan & Bob Harsh, Kathy, Mary, Larry, Tony, Dave, Charlotte, Shay ... God forgive me if I overlooked anyone. We appreciate everything you did. You made it a beautiful celebration for our dear loved one. We loved him so! Our loss is heaven's gain. You can bet he is putting in a word for this dear church and its families, his brothers and sisters in Christ. We will all celebrate on Resurrection morning, together with our God.

Love, Susie & Jim Norris and children



Don't forget to mark to mark your calendars for the September SERVE 2014 events. The "One day of service, Saturday, September 13 and the Mosaic Fun Run on Saturday, September 20. See the article on page one of this newsletter for more information.



GATHER as God's people
GROW in faith, love and service
GO into the world to do God's work



WHEN:

Begins: Friday, September 19, 2014 4:30 to 9:00 p.m.
 Ends: Saturday, September 20, 2014 8 am to 1:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Hosted by: Union UMC, 3543 Watson Road, St. Louis, MO

WHAT:

For Pastor's & Church Leader teams

This workshop trains congregational teams on how to reach new people in their community.

- Reintroducing Your Church to its Community
- The Pastor's Role in Reaching New People
- The Congregation's Role in Reaching New People
- Each Team develops an Action Plan
- Support available through a facilitated "Coaching Cluster"

\$25 per person or \$75 per team of 5 (teams are encouraged)

Pictures from the youth mission trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Sharing with the congregation after the mission trip.



This group put a new porch on the front of the house. Digging holes for a new gate in the backyard and gutted a bathroom

"If you are interested in attending this workshop on behalf of Maplewood UMC please contact Pastor Kim. Your registration fee will be provided by the church."



Playing with children at a community BBQ held on Thursday night.



This group put siding on a garage.

Kim Shirar, Pastor
Pastor's Office Hours:
Tuesday: 9 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Cell Phone: (314) 651-9999
E-Mail: pastor@maplewoodumc.org

Sally Noel, Secretary
Secretary will be in the office:
Tues. & Thurs. - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Maplewood UMC phone
(314) 781-5902
Maplewood Official Website:
www.maplewoodumc.org



Maplewood UMC is on Facebook

All you have to do is "Like" us and you will be kept up to date on what is happening at MUMC. If you haven't visited our new Facebook page, please take a look at <http://www.fb.com/mumcstl> And like our new page.

Hearing assist devices are available

In an effort to make worship a better experience for everyone, we have devices available to help those who have trouble hearing all or part of the worship service. If you would like to use one of these devices, see Ray Juaregui or Tony Kunce before worship begins...or speak to the morning greeter.



Maplewood United Methodist Church

7409 Flora Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63143



Every Sunday
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
for all ages
11:00 a.m. Worship



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