

**Meriden United Methodist Church**  
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# Meriden Messenger

Meriden United Methodist Church

June 2011



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**

MUMC is currently working with Habitat for Humanity to rehab a house on Ohio St in Topeka. It's being gutted and rebuilt. Most of the work is done on the weekends, with the MUMC Youth Group working on the week days for two weeks. Our involvement includes fundraising and volunteering. Contact Don Schaeffer if you would like to help!

## Meriden in Mission

Our Youth Group is attending Youth 2011 in July! This event only happens every four years and is the largest single gathering of UMC youth in existence. This four day conference will bring together top UM leaders as well as the best ecumenical speakers, bands and talent with thousands of youth from all around the nation for what is sure to be a life-changing event!

# YOUTH 2011



As I was driving to the church today, thinking of to-do lists and other things, a semi-truck with the trailer painted in bold patterns caught my attention. Still half in my other thoughts I looked closer at the alternating block images of red and white concentric circles. Eventually, from somewhere in the back of my head comes the word "Target". Oh, I get it. That's a semi-truck for the Target stores. Duh!

Somehow over the years that image lost its meaning for me. I was just looking at those red and white circles without really seeing. My seeing got lazy and my mind had let go of the purpose behind the image. That can easily happen in all areas of life. We get weary or distracted from our primary purpose, we let up off the gas pedal, relax and drift a little. Then something happens. Momentum slows or ceases and direction is replaced with wandering.

While you and I have been growing and serving together this last four years we have kept our vision focused on our goal: fulfilling our Mission and Vision while we follow the guidelines of our Relational Covenant. (See website)

We love God, love our Neighbor, and make disciples. Let's maintain the focus and as we rejoice in the many ministries and missions of this congregation, including:

- A strong Vacation Bible School program,
- 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter for middle-school youth after Jeff West home football games,
- Two exercise programs open to the community,

## I KNOW WHO I AM



- ✓ I am God's child.
- ✓ I am Christ's friend.
- ✓ I am united with the Lord.
- ✓ I am bought with a price.
- ✓ I am a saint (set apart for God).
- ✓ I am a personal witness of Christ.
- ✓ I am the salt & light of the earth.
- ✓ I am a member of the body of Christ.
- ✓ I am free forever from condemnation.
- ✓ I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant.
- ✓ I am free from any charge against me.
- ✓ I am a minister of reconciliation for God.
- ✓ I have access to God through the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms.
- ✓ I cannot be separated from the love of God.
- ✓ I am established, anointed, sealed by God.
- ✓ I am assured all things work together for good.
- ✓ I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
- ✓ I may approach God with freedom and confidence.
- ✓ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
- ✓ I am the branch of the true vine, a channel of His life.
- ✓ I am God's temple. I am complete in Christ.
- ✓ I am hidden with Christ in God. I have been justified.
- ✓ I am God's co-worker. I am God's workmanship.
- ✓ I am confident that good works God has begun in me will be perfected.
- ✓ I have been redeemed and forgiven. I have been adopted as God's Child.

**I belong to God.**

**Do you know who you are?**

## Youth Group Thanks You!



Thank you for your generous giving to the youth for the summer trip to Purdue this summer.

Your donations this Sunday was enough to cover our shortage. God will provide if we ask.

As Jesus said in Matthew 10:42, "Whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."

Once again I would like to thank not only those who gave Sunday but to all who give to our youth, in prayer, service, feeding the youth on Wednesdays or monetarily. Without you our youth group would not be able to do all of the mission and conference activities.

I would also like to thank Darin Lawhorn and Margi Payne for helping with youth group this year. They were wonderful!

Pam Farrant - Middle School Youth Leader  
Don Schaeffer - High School Youth Leader

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After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a minister when I grow up." "That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?" "Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."

- Hosting Financial Peace University,
- Hosting God's Storehouse Christmas,
- Jr. Tiger Basketball clinics,
- Highway Cleanup,
- Active and inclusive youth groups,
- Disciple Bible Study, and more.

As our time of ministry and mission together is coming to a close this month, Meriden United Methodist Church's time of serving in this community continues on a bright course. Being God's feet and hands to share God's love in our community and beyond is a lifelong call to all Christians. We should never weary or settle for mediocrity in the greatest use of our lives.

My prayer for both you and me is that we continue to step up as and wherever we are called, to be used for Christ in the greatest eternal mission as heirs in the family of God. 2nd Thessalonians 3:13 says, "Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right." Isaiah 40:28-31 promises that if you ask, God will give you the strength to keep on the course. We do this because, "if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit."<sup>9</sup> So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up.<sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." Galatians 6:8b-10

May the God of all time and space guard your faithful hearts now and forever. Amen!

***FYI: [www.meridenumc.org](http://www.meridenumc.org) was viewed 794 times in April, a new record, and already have 760 visits to-date in May which should break that one!! We now have 85 who "Like" our MUMC Facebook page! (How about you?)***



### Vision Statement

"Sharing God's love within our community and into the world community."

## Choir News

Here is hoping you will enjoy fun times with family and friends over the summer. You will most likely be stoking up the grill, going for long walks, digging in your garden, running to summer events, planning a vacation, humming and listening to some of your favorite music pieces, the list goes on and on. Take a minute to call the office to select your Sunday for a special performance! It may be a reading, an instrumental, or a guest. Whatever way, we would love to hear from you!



So remember to call the office and to save those Best Choice labels for Choir!

Keep Singing,  
Claudia

## UMW Meeting

**Thursday, June 2nd at 6:30pm**

The United Methodist Women will have a salad dinner Thursday, June 2nd at 6:30pm. Partners for Purpose will have the program. All the women in the church are invited. In July, the meeting has been moved to July 6th at 9:30am. Hostess is Eileen Johnson and Margie Payne will have the program.



## Mission Statement

"We share God's love through: committed worship and open fellowship; nurturing all to be ever better disciples of Jesus Christ; serving others from what God has given us."

## Ice Cream Social June 12th



Come by after worship on June 12th to say good-bye to Pastor Bruce. Come enjoy ice cream and fellowship as we help thank Pastor Bruce for his service here and support his move to his new service at Edgerton UMC.

## What MUMC's Trustees are Working On

The Trustees are currently working on two major projects:

- Purchasing a new riding lawn mower.
- Roof replacement on the parsonage and garage due to hail damage.

The following items are being discussed by the Trustees but are currently unfunded:

- Parsonage Repair (estimated cost \$25,000+)
- Audio/Visual for Sanctuary (estimated cost between \$5,000 and \$15,000)
- New Gym Floor (estimated cost \$15,000)
- Additional Parking (cost unknown)

## The DIY Father List of Top Things to do on Father's Day

With just a few weeks to go - here's a list to help you decide How you are going to spend your day on Sunday, June 19th!



- Find your all time favorite song/tune - play it to your kids and explain why you like it, when you first hear it, etc. If you have an instrument and can play it to them - even better!
- Teach the little ones one of your "tricks" - could be a party trick, your secret method for something or a skill. If you have a young baby show them something they haven't discovered yet like how to blow raspberries, blink or stack blocks.
- Plant something that grows with your kids...like a tree or a seed, and make a wish. Watch it grow over the next few months/ years.
- Let your kids dress you and style your hair (if you have a baby, dress them in something you usually wear and take a photo).
- Take a short time out and have some "me" time. Relax, do something you really enjoy or do nothing at all.
- Visit a place with your kids that YOU have never been to.
- Connect with your dad in some way. If he's passed away - visit his grave or find a memento.
- Have a water gargling contest with your kids or gargle to your baby / partner.
- Hop on YouTube and find a snippet of your favorite show when you were a kid - play it to your kids.
- Light a candle for yourself or get your kids / family to do it. Pat yourself on the back - you're a great dad!

## June Birthdays

|      |                   |      |                  |
|------|-------------------|------|------------------|
| 6/01 | Shane Britain     | 6/12 | James Monhollon  |
| 6/01 | Brandon Hewitt    | 6/20 | David Overstreet |
| 6/06 | Jennifer Murphy   | 6/21 | Bob Overstreet   |
| 6/06 | Hank Smatla       | 6/21 | Delores Porter   |
| 6/07 | Miranda Grose     | 6/22 | Jan Shenk        |
| 6/10 | Nancy Hillman     | 6/24 | Nathan Monhollon |
| 6/10 | Chuck Wilson      | 6/25 | Kassidy Smith    |
| 6/11 | LaVon Lord        | 6/25 | Blake Sober      |
| 6/12 | Sadie Adams-Byler | 6/28 | Maggie McKeithan |
| 6/12 | Margaret Guffey   | 6/30 | Shaun White      |

## June Anniversaries

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 6/06 | Brad & Pam Clark            |
| 6/08 | Bob & Linda Hassler         |
| 6/09 | James Wright & Judy Glasgow |
| 6/14 | Justin & Carrie Bramlett    |
| 6/15 | Dennis & Yvonne Hewitt      |
| 6/15 | Gary & Eileen Johnson       |
| 6/21 | Bob & Betty Stiles          |
| 6/27 | Jim & Karolyn Conaway       |
| 6/27 | Steve & Tammy Scott         |
| 6/27 | Chuck & Carole Wilson       |



*To add birthdays and anniversaries please notify the church office.*



## Summer Mowing

Summer Mowing Sign-up sheets are on the table on the landing. Please sign up if you will be able to help keep the church grounds looking nice. There is a push mower and a riding mower available for anyone to use who will be mowing. Ask Mitch Wulfekoetter if you have any questions.

## Sunday School

We have classes for 3-4 year olds, Kindergarten-1st grades, 2nd-3rd grades, 4th-5th grades and 6th-7th grades. Our classrooms have been renovated with lots of color! Sunday School is from 9:00 to 9:45. Come join us and bring a friend!



### Children's classes:

- Pre-K – 9th grade meet in the basement of the church

### Adult classes:

- “First Place 4 Health” meets in the parsonage.
- “Fit 4 Life” meets in the gym

Nursery is available during worship for 0–5 years of age.

| Date      | Greeters                        | Liturgist     |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| June 5th  | Gary Johnson<br>Eileen Johnson  | Harry Mullins |
| June 12th | Steve Kruse<br>Nicole Kruse     | Scott Heald   |
| June 19th | Darin Lawhorn<br>Cheryl Lawhorn | Joye Mullins  |
| June 26th | Dale Long<br>Claudia Long       | Bob Hassler   |

## Want to help?



With tornadoes and flooding going on all around the country those of us who have been lucky want to help in some way. Well, now is your chance! We are collecting items for Cleaning Buckets that will be taken to the Kansas Conference of the United Methodist Church and will be distributed to those in need of them. The items needed for each bucket are listed below. There is a sign up list at the church but feel free to bring any of the items and place in the blue tubs in the entry way. Thank you for your help.

- **5 GALLON BUCKET WITH RESEALABLE LID**
- **LIQUID LAUNDRY DETERGENT** (2- 25 oz or one 50 oz bottles only)
- **LIQUID HOUSEHOLD CLEANER** (12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water—no spray cleaners)
- **DISH SOAP** (16-28 oz bottle any brand)
- **1 CAN AIR FRESHENER** (aerosol or pump)
- **1 INSECT REPELLANT SPRAY** (6- 14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover)
- **1 SCRUB BRUSH** (plastic or wooden handle)
- **18 CLEANING WIPES** (handi wipes or reusable wipes, no terry cleaning towels)
- **7 SPONGES**
- **5 SCOURING PADS**
- **50 CLOTHESPINS**
- **CLOTHES LINE** (two 50 ft or one 100 ft cotton or plastic)
- **24 ROLL HEAVY DUTY TRASH BAGS**
- **5 DUST MASKS**
- **2 PAIR DISPOSABLE WATERPROOF GLOVES** (rubber or latex)
- **1 PAIR WORK GLOVES** (cotton or leather)

## Looking Ahead to July...



Here are some upcoming events in July you might want to remember...

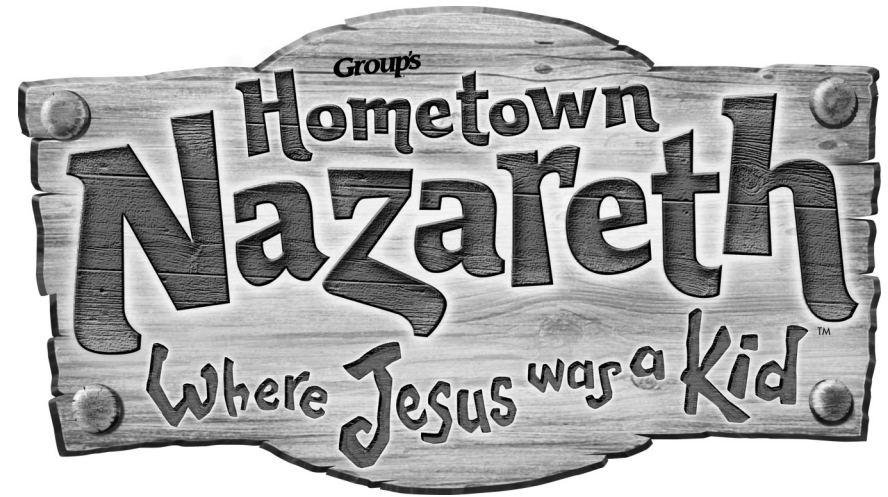
- Vacation Bible School will be from July 11th through July 15th from 9:00am to 11:30am each morning. There will be a special VBS Service on July 17th for the families of the VBS kids.
- Tuesday, July 12th and 26th, the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging will meet at 10:00am.
- On Sunday, July 10th, the Outreach and Trustee Committees will meet after worship services.
- On Sunday, July 17th, the Administrative Council will meet at noon, after the potluck.
- On Monday, July 18th, the Men's Breakfast will be served at 8:30am.

Financial Peace University meets every Sunday from 6:00pm to 8:00pm through August 21st.

The Women's Exercise Group meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00am to 10:00am.

Youth Groups meet every Wednesday at 6:00pm and Choir has practice every Wednesday at 7:00pm.

Please check out our online calendar at [www.meridenumc.org](http://www.meridenumc.org) to see all of the activities going on at our church in May and beyond!



## VBS In July!

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 11th-15th from 9:00am to 11:30am.

This year you can go online to print registration forms! Just visit our website at [www.meridenumc.org](http://www.meridenumc.org) after June 6th. All the VBS information is on the home page with links to the registration forms. Print one off and mail or bring it in to the church. Don't want to go online? Don't worry, we will be mailing out the forms to everyone who came last year and copies will be available at the church.

We need volunteers to assist us in making this a success. If you can help please see Pat Welborn. It's lots of fun!



# June 2011




| Sunday  | Monday                              | Tuesday   | Wednesday                             | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| <b>9:00am:</b> Sunday School<br><b>9:45am:</b> Welcoming Time<br><b>10:00am:</b> Worship Service<br><b>11:00am:</b> Fellowship Time |                                     |   | <b>1</b><br>6:00pm HS/MS Youth Group  | <b>2</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group                                     | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>                     |
| <b>Communion 5</b><br>6:00pm Financial Peace University   | <b>6</b>                            | <b>7</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group   | <b>8</b><br>6:00pm HS/MS Youth Group  | <b>9</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group                                     | <b>10</b>   | <b>11</b>                    |
| <b>KS East General Conference</b>   |                                     |   |                                       |   |   |                              |
| <b>IceCream Social 12</b><br>11:15am Outreach<br>11:15am Trustees<br>6:00pm Financial Peace University                              | <b>13</b>                           | <b>Flag Day 14</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group<br>10:00am Jayhawk Area Agency<br> | <b>15</b><br>6:00pm HS/MS Youth Group | <b>16</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group                                    | <b>17</b>   | <b>18</b><br>Quilter's Group |
| <b>Father's Day 19</b><br><b>Potluck</b><br>12:00pm Admin. Co.<br>6:00pm Financial Peace University                                 | <b>20</b><br>8:30am Men's Breakfast | <b>21</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group  | <b>22</b><br>6:00pm HS/MS Youth Group | <b>23</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group<br><br><b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  | <b>24</b>   | <b>25</b>                    |
| <b>26</b><br>6:00pm Financial Peace University  | <b>27</b>                           | <b>28</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group<br>10:00am Jayhawk Area Agency   | <b>29</b><br>6:00pm HS/MS Youth Group | <b>30</b><br>9:00am Women's Exercise Group<br><br><b>Fold/Mail Newsletter</b> | For a full view of the calendar including what parts of the church are being utilized, please visit us at <a href="http://www.meridenumc.org">www.meridenumc.org</a> and click on Church Calendar. Then click on the event for locations and times. |                              |