



Meriden Messenger

Meriden United Methodist Church

May 2011

IMAGINE YOURSELF DEBT FREE

Dave Ramsey's
Financial Peace
UNIVERSITY

Financial Peace University is a biblically-based, video-driven small group study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth and give like never before!

THIS PROGRAM IS FOR YOU IF ...

- Your credit cards ARE your emergency fund.
- Your dog responds to the name "Ebay".
- You're intrigued by the word "plasectomy."
- You want to know what God says about money.
- You have to sell your house to put your kids through college.
- Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds are friends you haven't met yet.

Join us **Sunday, May 8th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm** for a free preview of the course. After the free preview, there will be time provided to commit to the course. Childcare will be provided as well.

This biblically-based, 13-week course starts May 22nd. It will be each Sunday (excluding May 29th) from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Childcare will be provided.

For more information or to sign up today, please contact the church at (785) 484-2224 or Chris Starr at (785) 817-4766 or visit our website at www.meridenumc.org.





With Christians all over the world we just celebrated Holy Week and Jesus Christ's triumph over sin and death on Easter morning. At Meriden United Methodist Church, we shared two worship services, free Bibles to all, youth confirmations, and an Easter egg hunt. It was a great morning. He is risen!

Now what? Do we stay at the tomb, do we remain in the upper room marveling at the risen savior, or do we do what Jesus called us to do which is, "Go and make disciples?"

We go!

May will be an exciting month as we live into that calling. We will be focusing on the healing and hope Christ's victory gave to us as individuals, as a church, and to people of all ages, nations, and races. Our worship services will be unpacking the Bible's lessons in the letters of the older Apostle Peter - the wisdom of a grandfather. May will also bring exciting worship opportunities to experience God's healing and the hope we share through:

- Holy Communion
- Mother's Day and the gift of family,
- Graduation of this year's Disciple Bible Study class and other graduates,

10 Gift Ideas for Mother's Day

1. Put together a herb garden for your mom. Put them together in a pretty trough so all of the work is done for her!
2. Create your own picture DVD of family fun. Add photos, fun captions and background music to personalize it just for her.
3. Create a themed photo collage. Frame it and add a caption in the center so she can cherish it for years to come.
4. Give her a gift voucher for her to bring all her friends around for a ladies lunch and you will cook them a three course meal.
5. Sign her up for a class in something she has been wanting to learn. Cooking, pottery, painting, dancing. Anything she has been dying to learn but won't take the time for herself.
6. Take her out to lunch at a place she has been dying to go.
7. Give her a certificate promising to help her out with something she hates to do or has been putting off.
8. Give her a special treat of a weekend away at a place she would love to go.
9. Send her to the spa for a day of relaxation and pampering. Can't afford it? Then set one up in your home!
10. Or just keep it simple with flowers or plants. Find her favorite flowers and give them to her with a card or poem just for her.



Amy Gardner-Wooddell

She was told she would die...she lived through the night.

She was told she would never move again. She moved her arm.

Come hear God's amazing grace and healing abilities. See it with your own eyes.

At 24 years old, Amy, a dance major, had a severe, life-threatening stroke in May of 2010, from an injury induced blood clot leading to the cerebellum. One step away from death, Amy is now healthy and is well on her way to a FULL recovery! It is only by God's grace she is alive with no effects from this traumatic brain injury (with a death rate of over 80%) and is able to share God's glory with you.

Amy will share her story with Meriden UMC on Sunday, May 22nd during worship. Please come and share in this amazing story!



***Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life,
And pass it on to other folk!***

- Amy Gardner-Wooddell's witness of healing (we prayed for Amy a year ago because of an often fatal brain aneurism), and
- A sermon message from one of our members.

Meriden United Methodist Church is concerned about all aspects of a person's life: spiritual health, physical health, financial health, and social health (sharing opportunities to make friends and do your favorite things together.) We are offering events that build up our community: with Blanche Wulfekoetter's, **"Body and Soul" spiritual workout/fitness program** (see scheduling on the calendar); and starting May 8th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm through MUMC with Chris and Jodi Starr, the preview and enrollment session for **Dave Ramsey's "Financial Peace University"** (see front page).

As an Easter people, let us joyfully hold this ideal close: the one great living temple of God is made with all Christians fitted together - the universal Church of Christ. And as members of God's family, you and I are part of that royal priesthood called to share the good news of Jesus Christ through our words and our actions. [1 Peter 2:5-10] May you share in Christ's transformation of the world.

*He is
Risen!*

FYI: www.meridenumc.org was viewed 663 times in march and 661 times to-date in April. We now have 83 who "Like" our MUMC Facebook page! (How about you?)

May News

The robes have been tucked away for this season. We hope that our most recent piece, *"Jesus the One and Only"* touched you in some way with the powerful songs, words, and message it brought.



Choir will be on summer break, so this will be your time to bring a special, song, poem, reading, or whatever to us. Call the office to select your Special Sunday. Keep saving those Best Choice labels for us too...

Also, we have made a CD of the Easter Cantata 2011 that will be available in the church library to check out. If you still have your Cantata music and CD, please bring it back and put it in the Choir room or leave it in the office.

**Keep Singing,
Claudia**

UMW Meeting

Wednesday, May 4th at 9:30am

The United Methodist Women will meet on Wednesday, May 4th at 9:30am. Joye Mullins is the hostess and in charge of the program. All the women in the church are invited!



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."



Need a Lawnmower



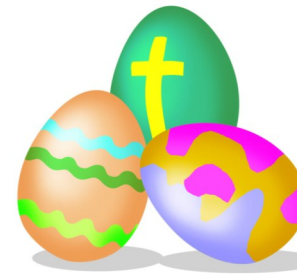
The old church lawnmower is being retired. Before we have to start using the one pictured here, please contact the Trustees with leads on donating, and/or getting a good deal on a used riding lawnmower before Spring is in full swing!

Liturgists and Greeters Needed *Training Provided!*

We are in need of more liturgists and greeters for Sunday Services. Training is provided and your name is added to the schedule. We schedule alphabetically and rotate through all the names on the list. If you would like to help out, please contact the church secretary!



Thank You!



Thank you to everyone who donated eggs and candy this year. The Easter Egg Hunt was a success! If you have extra Easter eggs, please bring them to the church and we will recycle them and use them next year!

Vision Statement

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



Looking Ahead to June...

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



- The Kansas East General Conference will be held at the Leawood Church of the Resurrection from June 8th to the 11th. Katie Farrant is the District Youth Representative. Janice Schaeffer is the District Lay Member Representative and Pastor Bruce is the Clergy Representative.
- Tuesday, June 14th and 28th, the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging will meet at 10:00am.
- On Sunday, June 12th, the Outreach and Trustee Committees will meet after worship services. This day is also Pentecost. Please join us as we celebrate the birth of church!
- On Sunday, June 19th, the Administrative Council will meet at noon, after the potluck. This is also Father's Day.
- On Monday, June 20th, the Men's Breakfast will be served at 8:30am.

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

Youth Groups meet every Wednesday at 6:00pm.

Please check out our online calendar at www.meridenumc.org to see all of the activities going on at our church in June and beyond!

May Birthdays

5/01	John Corum	5/18	Eldon Adams
5/04	Aldiene Myers	5/22	David Hazelton
5/05	Aaron Swank	5/24	Dreanalee McClurg
5/05	Cecil Graham	5/25	James Starr
5/07	Josh Fritzsche	5/26	Katie Farrant
5/09	Janelle Lolly	5/26	Twila Stapel
5/11	Amanda Lopez-Joheen	5/28	Eileen Johnson
5/13	Pam Draper	5/29	Olivia Tuck
5/14	Derek Pollom	5/31	Mike Monhollon
5/14	Darold Schnacker	5/31	Perry Kessler
5/16	Maecy Tuck		

May Anniversaries

5/03	Paul & Sharon Monhollon
5/15	Bill & Amy Mitchell
5/16	Mark & Glynda Hunt
5/18	Darin & Cheryl Lawhorn
5/21	Frank & Kelly Kuhn
5/23	Chad & Mary Smith
5/24	Marvin & Jeannette Waters
5/25	David & Meredith Sober
5/28	Josh & Kristal Fritzsche
5/31	Don & Janice Schaeffer



To add birthdays and anniversaries please notify the church office.

Coffee with the Pastor



Every 4th Sunday after church, please join the Pastor for coffee and chat with him if you are interested in joining the Meriden UMC or have questions about baptism. If you know of anyone who is thinking about baptism or becoming a member of our congregation, please encourage them to attend "Coffee with the Pastor."

Sunday School

We have classes for 3-4 year olds, Kindergarten-1st grades, 2nd-3rd grades, 4th-5th grades, 6th-8th grades, and high school. 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 – 6th grade meet in the basement of the church
- High School meets in the conference room
- Middle School meets in the SW Sunday School area

Adult classes:

- "First Place 4 Health" meets in the parsonage.
- "Growing in Faith" meets in the gym.

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

Date	Greeters	Liturgist
May 1st	Grant Greene Jennie Greene	Jeanne Kessler
May 8th	Bruce Fleeker Joyce Fleeker	Eileen Johnson
May 15th	Angie Feyh Nicole Feyh	Sherri Heald
May 22nd	Bob Hassler Linda Hassler	David Leffingwell
May 29th	Scott Heald Sherri Heald	Nancy Lord



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 UMW Mtg 1 Y Groups	5 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 5:30pm Body & Soul	6 12:00pm Open Prayer Time 6:30pm Boy Scouts	7
Disciple Retreat			
11 1 Y Groups	12 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 5:30pm Body & Soul	13 12:00pm Open Prayer Time	14
18 1 Y Groups	19 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 5:30pm Body & Soul	20 12:00pm Open Prayer Time 4:00pm Merz Grad 6:30pm Boy Scouts	21 Quilter's Group
25 1 Y Groups	26 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 5:30pm Body & Soul	27 12:00pm Open Prayer Time	28
view of the calendar including arts of the church are being utilized, please visit us at meridenumc.org and click on Church Calendar.		9:00am: Sunday School 9:45am: Welcoming Time 10:00am: Worship Service 11:00am: Fellowship Time	



May 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wedn
Communion 1 11:15am Trustees 1:30pm Disciple I	2 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	3 9:00am Exercise 5:00pm Boy Scouts 5:30pm Body & Soul	9:30am 6:00pm
Mother's Day 8 11:15am Outreach 6:00pm Financial Peace University 	9 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	10 9:00am Exercise 10:00am Jayhawk Area Agency 5:00pm Boy Scouts 5:30pm Body & Soul	6:00pm
15 Disciple I Graduation  JWHS Graduation	16 8:30am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	17 9:00am Exercise 5:00pm Boy Scouts 5:30pm Body & Soul	6:00pm
Amy Wooddell 22 Guest Speaker Potluck 11:00am Coffee with the Pastor 12:00pm Ad Council 6:00pm Financial Peace University	23 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	24 9:00am Exercise 10:00am Jayhawk Area Agency 5:00pm Boy Scouts 5:30pm Body & Soul	6:00pm
Nicole Welborn 29 Preaching	Memorial Day 30  Office Closed	31 9:00am Exercise 5:00pm Boy Scouts 5:30pm Body & Soul Fold/Mail Newsletter	For a full what put www.n



2011 Graduates

Are you graduating this year, or do you know someone who is? We would love to list all of the Graduates for 2011 in the upcoming bulletins. Please call or email the office with their name and where they are graduating from. Whether it's from Kindergarten, High School, or College, we would love to know! Call Carrie at (785) 484-2224 or send an e-mail to mumchurch@embarqmail.com.

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.



Open Prayer Time in Sanctuary Fridays Noon-1:00 pm



Any and all are welcome to join Pastor Bruce in praying for the physical and spiritual health of the congregation, for the direction of the congregation, and for anything else on your hearts.