



Missouri United Methodist Church MESSENGER

Sharing the life-changing love of Jesus Christ

204 S. Ninth Street • Columbia, Missouri 65201-4899 • 573-443-3111 • www.moumc.org • January 19, 2012 • Volume 25, No. 3

Worship Services

Three worship opportunities are offered on Sunday, each with its own special character.

8:00 a.m. McMurry Chapel

Informal worship with a personal touch. Hymns are by request; sharing prayer concerns is welcomed.

8:50 a.m. Sanctuary

Worship that includes a children's time. Agape Singers provide joyful music accompanied by musicians; children's and youth choirs furnish special music on occasion.

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

More formal worship with music from the Chancel Choir. Worship also includes a children's time.

No Perfect People Allowed

SERMON SERIES
JANUARY 8-29
MISSOURI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WWW.MOUMC.ORG

Jan. 22
"No Perfect Bodies"

Jan. 29
"No Perfect Jobs"

Dinner Club Kick-Off

Are you looking for a non-intimidating way to get to know people from around the church? Do you enjoy food, conversation and fellowship? If so, Dinner Club is for you! Dinner Club is an opportunity for people to gather in groups of 8-10 people, 4-6 times each semester, for a meal and fellowship. Some groups are eat-out groups and some are pot-luck, hosted in each other's homes. You choose the style that is right for you. Dinner Club is open to all people, 18 years and over, single or married, new to the church or a "lifetimer." ALL are welcome! A new semester of dinner club is now organizing. The kick-off meal is Sunday, February 5th, at noon in the Multipurpose Room. To sign-up for dinner club, and to RSVP for the kick-off meal, stop by the church office to fill out a reservation card. The kick-off meal will be \$8 to cover catering, and can be paid at the time of reservation.

New Member Class

For those seeking to become members of Missouri UMC or for those interested in Methodist history and beliefs and what it means to join a church, please join Sandy Ward in the parlor on Sunday, January 22nd, immediately after the 11am service. Lunch will be provided. The class will run 1.5-2 hours in length. Please RSVP to Sandy (sandy.ward@moumc.org) or sign up on bulletin tear off this Sunday.

MU at MUMC:
Missouri United Methodist Church
Celebrating our CHURCH & CAMPUS CONNECTION
Sermon Series

FEBRUARY 5-19
Sundays at 8:00, 8:50, and 11:00 a.m.

February 5
"Knowledge and Vital Piety"

February 12
"Gifted and Called"

February 19
"Connected in Conduct"

Missouri United Methodist Church
www.moumc.org



The Pastor's Corner

by Rev. Amy L. Gearhart

*"Do not remember the former things,
Or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."
-Isaiah 43:18-19*

This is one of my favorite passages in the Bible, written to people who are longing for hope and a new vision from God. Wilderness and desert are places we can relate to, but to the Old Testament audience who was first hearing Isaiah's words, they represented places of fear and survival. One couldn't drive their SUV through the thick and mysterious wilderness. They couldn't rely on a GPS to navigate through the unknown desert, assured that they would find the necessary food or water in order to survive.

This God who can even make ways in wilderness and make water in the desert can surprise us, too! New every day are surprising gifts from God. Many times, the way we discover those gifts is as we let go of the familiar, deepen our trust and

watch for new things to spring forth.

I invite you into that holy place as individuals and as a congregation as we dive more deeply into our Healthy Church Initiative recommendations (check them out on our website at www.moumc.org). Among the learnings from hours of interviews, small group meetings and consultations, was that our staffing structure needed to be aligned for creative, innovative and missional ministry to reach generations for Christ and grow our church and its witness.

As was mentioned in worship this past week, I will be giving a 'Progress and Praise' report each week through this season of staffing changes. Each of these reports represent faithful, prayerful and careful work toward our paid and volunteer staff. I hope that you'll continue to pray for and support your church and its leaders as we look forward to all of the new things that God is bringing to us!

See you in church on Sunday!
Rev. Amy L. Gearhart

"Progress and Praise Report"

- We celebrate that Marty Hook, our Adult Choir Director, will continue in that capacity, beyond the initial interim commitment he previously made, into our 2012-2013 year. Marty is doing a wonderful job and we celebrate his leadership among us!
- We thank Natalie Moore (Children's Ministry) and Sarah Kurre (Youth Ministry) for their ministries among us for several years. We are in the process of beginning a search for newly developed positions of Children and Family Ministry and Youth Ministries.
- Many lay leaders have stepped up, under the leadership of Rev. Molly Moore, to coordinate the ministries for our children and youth in this interim time. There are many in our congregation with gifts and talents to minister to our children and youth, and we thank them for making themselves available during this time of transition.
- Next week, the Operations Leadership Team of the church will be sending out a newly configured organizational chart of our church staff, outlining details about employment opportunities at Missouri UMC and the exciting vision of mobilizing many more lay volunteers in the ministry of the church. Please begin to pray about the gifts that you can bring to your church!
- An online application process for all new and open positions will be available on our church's website by January 30, 2012. Please extend that news to those who might be qualified, called and gifted to serve in these areas.

News & Notes

In Memoriam

• Helen Keown, a member of Missouri UMC since 1962, passed away on January 11th. Our prayers and sympathy to her daughter Linda Keown and son-in-law Rick Crow, and other family, loved ones and friends. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 28th, at 1pm in the Sanctuary. A visitation will follow in the Parlor.

Thank You

• The wonderful support of Rev. Amy and our church family has been deeply appreciated. Gratefully, Margaret and the family of Ken Niemeyer

Community Notes

• Calvary Episcopal Church is hosting a chili supper to benefit Habitat for Humanity on January 27th. Tickets are available in the MUMC church office.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIVE

5:30pm - All Church Supper - Multipurpose Room

- Adults - \$6, Elementary and Teen Age - \$4, Preschoolers - Free, Low/No income - \$4

• **Jan 18** - Taco Bar

6:00pm - Children's Programming

- Serendipity Choir & Nursery (Birth-K) - Rms 103/110
- Grace Notes Choir (1st-5th Grades) - Rooms 108/204

6:00pm - Youth Programs (6th-12th Grades) - Room 306

6:15pm - Agape Singers Rehearsal - CLC 101

6:30pm - Adult Small Groups

- WNL Koinonia Group - CLC 110
- StrengthsFinder (Jan 18-Feb 8) - CLC 107/109
- Mission Study hosted by UMW (Jan 18-25) - Chapel

6:30pm - Wednesday Night Workout - Whittler Hall

7:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal - CLC 101

Open Door Ministry

ODM will meet this Thursday, January 19th, at 7pm in CLC 107/109. We'll show the movie "Prayers for Bobby" in which Sigourney Weaver plays the conservative Christian mother of a gay son who will not accept the homosexuality of her son until confronted with the unthinkable. The movie is based on the real life account of Bobby Griffith and his mother, Mary Griffith.



Foundation Grant Opportunity

Unrestricted funds will be available for distribution at the January 24th meeting of the MUMC Foundation Board. These funds were given to support the work of MUMC within the church and the broader community we serve. Please obtain an application from Lois Anderson in the church office. Call Roger Mitchell at 875-4049 if you have any questions.

Hospitality Team Training

As a reminder, if you're interested in serving on, or learning more about, our Hospitality/Welcome Team, please come to the training on Sunday, January 29th, from 12-4pm in CLC 107/109. For more information, feel free to contact Ann Merrifield at 573-864-1839 or ann.merrifield@moumc.org. If you'd like to view the "Real Men of Genius" video, here's the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cu1YZe62zPs>

Pray Your Way Through 2012

You are invited to pray your way through 2012 and be a part of one of our church prayer groups. *Praying the Church Forward* is a group that meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month for the purposes of praying for the church ministries, staff, and Columbia community. They meet at noon in the Chapel and are finished by 12:45pm. *Morning Prayer* meets on Monday mornings at 9am in the Library to pray over the needs represented by the worship tear-offs, as well as the personal prayers of those in attendance. If you are unable to join us for one of these groups, please consider taking time out, wherever you are, during one of these times to be in prayer with these people.

Cornerstone Coffee Is Under Construction!

Renovations to the west end of the Connector started on Monday! Existing cabinets and countertops have been removed and saved for the Parlor kitchen. New cabinetry and counters that will accommodate the coffee equipment and appliances are being installed. It's an exciting project! We hope to have the coffee shop operational in time to accommodate the crowds of the True/False Film Festival, when they use the CLC as one of the Festival venues at the beginning of March. If you have a passion for coffee, people, and serving others, consider volunteering to help in the coffee shop ministry. Email Sandy Ward at sandy.ward@moumc.org or sign up on the tear-off in the Sunday bulletin to tell us you are interested.



WNL Supper Coordinator

MUMC is looking for one or two people to help coordinate the Wednesday Night Live suppers for this winter/spring semester. Responsibilities include setting up the Multipurpose Room table tops (water bottles, table tents, etc), receiving the catered meal and setting it out, and assisting with clean up on Wednesday nights. The supper coordinator would generally need to be at the church by 4:30pm and work until 6:30pm. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact Rev. Molly at molly.moore@moumc.org.

MUMC extends a huge thank you to Jan Johnson and Samantha Smith for helping to coordinate the WNL suppers this last semester!

Office Volunteers Needed

We are currently looking for volunteers to help out in the church office during the week. Duties would include answering phones, general office work and some computer data entry. Morning and afternoon shifts are available. If you have a few extra hours each week and would like to be part of this team, please email amanda.armistead@moumc.org or sign up through the bulletin tear-off this Sunday.

Sunday Service Slides & Videos

We are looking for individuals who would like to operate the computer that is used to project slides and the DVD player used to play videos at the 8:50 and/or 11am worship services on Sunday. Training will be provided. Email Sandy Ward at sandy.ward@moumc.org or sign up on the tear-off in the Sunday bulletin if you are interested.

Wanted: Sunday Bus Drivers

Each Sunday morning, Missouri UMC offers free rides to our 11am worship service for anyone in need of transportation. Dedicated volunteers make this happen! We are currently looking for a few more volunteers to serve once every 4-6 weeks. If you would like to be part of this important ministry, please email amanda.armistead@moumc.org or sign up through the bulletin tear-off this Sunday.

Coffee with the Pastor

Join Pastor Amy for coffee (or a coke!) and conversation on Sunday, January 29th, from 6-7pm in the Connector.

Adult Koinonia Groups

Adult Koinonia (coin-oh-nee-ah) groups are starting back up the week of January 22nd. These small groups are perfect for people who are searching for ways to deepen their Christian discipleship and are looking for companions to journey with. Koinonia groups meet for one hour/once per week for 13 weeks and use the *Upper Room Disciplines* as their devotional guide and conversation starter. As the new year begins, think for a moment about how balanced you are in the 5 practices of discipleship: Prayer, Worship, Learning, Service, and Giving; and think about joining a Koinonia Group to help you discover the richness that can come from a balanced life of discipleship with Christian friends. Sign up for one of these groups online at www.moumc.org/koinonia or through the bulletin this Sunday.

2012 Koinonia Group Offerings

- Sundays at 10am - Faith Forum Group - CLC 111, led by Kim Ratcliffe and Scott Griffin
- Sundays at 4pm - CLC 106, led by Steve & Tami Gallaway (Starts Feb 12th, childcare available)
- Mondays at 7pm - Young Professionals Group (ages 23-30) - CLC 102, led by Craig & Brittney Stevenson (Starts Jan 30th)
- Mondays at 7:30pm - College Age Group - CLC 105, (Starts Jan 30th)
- Wednesdays at 6:30pm - WNL Group - CLC 110, led by Rex & Anne Derr (Starts Jan 18th, childcare available)
- Thursdays at 8am - Breakfast Group - Elm St. Upper Crust, led by Rev. Amy Gearhart
- Thursdays at 10am - CLC 111, led by Rev. Molly Moore

11 Mentors Trained!

The first group of Mentors have been trained for college-age ministry. Many thanks to these eleven volunteers: Bill Struckhoff, Barbara Johnson, Mark Milanick, June DeWeese, Andy Ritts, Craig Stevenson, Betsy Reeves, Elizabeth Sobczak, Terri Williams, Fran Beach and Ann Merrifield. More training will be offered in late January.

More Options for Mentor Training

The Koinonia college-age ministry will be holding two additional training sessions before the February 5th kick-off of our new Mentor Program. These sessions are for any member of the congregation who would like to become a Mentor, as well as for any college-age person who would like to be paired with a Mentor in the spring semester of 2012.

- Wednesday, January 25th, 6:30pm-7:30pm, Room 407
- Tuesday, January 31st, 12-1pm, Parlor (Room 205)

Please RSVP to let us know you are coming by emailing heather.mccainmorgan@moumc.org or calling 443-3111.

Thank You!

Many thanks to Alicia Lorio, Cameron Ward, Paul Ward and Heather Morgan for traveling to Joplin to do tornado clean-up work. There were United Methodist, college-age people from all over the state of MO helping: 160 students gathered to repair homes and help low-income residents. First United Methodist Church and Byers United Methodist provided hospitality for the workers.

An Evening Out

The Columbia Marriage Encounter Community would like to invite you to a FREE romantic dinner out with your spouse—because we care about you and your marriage! A Spaghetti Dinner will be served on Saturday, February 18th, (*please note change in date*) at 6:30pm in the Parlors. Childcare will be provided. (We ask that you feed your children before you come.) For more information, contact Dora & Greg Thackery at 874-2067. Reservations and/or childcare arrangements may be made by calling the church office at 443-3111. After dinner there will be a small information session about Marriage Encounter Weekends.

Discover Your God-Given Strengths

It's a new year and the perfect time to discover the God-given strengths within you by attending a Strengthsfinder Class! Using the popular Strengthsfinder 2.0 tool, participants will learn about the tool, what their God-given strengths are, and how they can utilize their strengths in every day living and in the church. Join one of two four-week sessions:

- Sundays, Jan 22 - Feb 12, in the Parlor at 10am
- Wednesdays, Jan 18 - Feb 8, in CLC 107 at 6:30pm

Books are \$15, which includes online access to discovering your strengths, and can be purchased on the first day of class. Email molly.moore@moumc.org to sign-up!

Spotted: Random Acts of Kindness

- Up in the balcony a couple of Sundays ago, a little girl (Iris Hughey, age 3) was very excited about putting money in the collection plate. The usher, Brian Callahan, noticed, and asked her to help him with the rest of the collection up there. She was so excited and grateful, and everybody up there dug a little deeper and threw in a dollar or two just to see her smile. It was very thoughtful of him! *-Lois Huneycutt*
- A member at our 8am Chapel Service got up from her "regular pew" to go and sit with a new visitor – what a wonderful way to make someone feel welcome! It's never fun to sit alone!

Visioning & Planning

Everyone interested in college-age ministry is invited to attend a lunch-time gathering for visioning and planning on Sunday, January 22nd. This will include both college-age persons and older adults interested in a successful, college-age ministry. We will gather in CLC 106-110 from 12-2:30pm. Lunch will be provided. Together, we will envision how to live out God's call to college-age people here at MUMC in the spring semester of 2012. Please RSVP to Heather Morgan at 443-3111 or heather.mccainmorgan@moumc.org.

Filling the "GAP"

All graduate students and young professionals will be invited to a lunch right after the 11am service on Sunday, January 29th, in CLC 111, from 12-1:30pm. They will meet with Andrea Hall, a graduate student at Mizzou, who used to attend a church that had an active "GAP" class – which stood for Graduates And Professionals. Keith Vessell and Heather Morgan will also be present at this gathering, to hear what the group's desires are for ministry next semester. Please bring your ideas, suggestions, enthusiasm, energy and friends!

Missions Outreach

Angel Tree Thank You!

Every year, we are overwhelmed at the generosity of this church family. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all of you who purchased and wrapped gifts; and, also to those who made monetary donations. Special thanks to those who helped with the best, but busiest, part of Angel Tree – the delivery of gifts to 28 households: Paula Donoho and Linda Robb; Nancy and Gary Franklin; and Joe, Julie and Kayla Hires. A total of fifty-one children in Columbia, Ashland, Centralia, Moberly and Mendon received two gifts each. Everyone's help is so much appreciated! Please remember these angels and their families in your prayers. Thank you! -Greg & Dora Thackery

Room at the Inn

• The shelter is running smoothly! We continue to need overnight help as well as more sheets and blankets. In addition, if you would like to be part of a washing brigade that can wash blankets and sheets, please contact keith.vessell@moumc.org.

• On January 22nd during Sunday school hour, Rev. Keith Vessell will be in CLC 103 to update anyone who has questions about the Room at the Inn winter homeless shelter.

Mozambique Notes

Since the end of the seventeen year civil war (1975-1992), the United Methodist Church in Mozambique has dedicated itself to rebuilding the social fabric and restoring property that supports the lives of Mozambicans. While the national government may be overwhelmed with repairing infrastructure following decades of war and natural disasters, the church presents dependability and security in the lives of people. The church is linked to hospitals, schools, trade schools, homeless shelters, orphanages and international aid throughout the country. Church-related humanitarian institutions in Mozambique include Chicupe Rural Hospital and Cambine Mission Station (the flagships for which the UMC is known) as well as Carolyn Belshe (Teles) Orphanage, Tsalala Training Center and more. Volunteers in Mission have participated in the growth of these ministries by contributing construction labor, building materials and training. The UMC in Mozambique is also active in ecumenical efforts and provides leadership in the Christian Council of Mozambique.

MUMC's 2012 VIM team will be traveling to Mozambique June 12-26, 2012. Stay tuned for additional information. You can stay updated by visiting their blog at <https://moumcmozambiquemissions.wordpress.com>.

"Haiti: Challenges & Hope" Study

Plan now to attend the "Haiti: Challenges and Hope" Study by the United Methodist Cooperative School of Christian Mission. Haiti's capital is still in ruins from the 2010 earthquake, and two-thirds of the population does not have a formal job. Join us on January 18th & 25th at 6:30pm for this Wednesday Night Live study.

Children's Ministry on the Road!

The Children's Ministry Team, working to deepen and grow our children's ministry, is planning a road trip to St. Louis on Saturday, January 21st. While in St. Louis, the team will visit Morning Star UMC to see their spaces and learn what they are doing as they minister to children. This will be a full-day trip to St. Louis and we extend the invitation to others who are interested in the future of our children's ministry program. Space is limited to the first 5 people to RSVP to this invitation. Contact Rev. Molly (molly.moore@moumc.org) for more information.

Parent Listening Session

Parents of children and youth are invited to a listening session to be held in CLC 103 on Wednesday, January 18th, at 6:30pm. This is a time for parents to come ask questions and hear about the recent changes and new directions in which our youth and children's ministry programs are moving.

MISSOURI UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

Wednesday, January 18th

5:30pm - Church-Wide Meal - MPR

6-7:30p - Youth Activities - Room 306

Sunday, January 22nd

10-10:50am - Sunday School

All grades start in Room 306 and then break into separate classes:

6th Grade; 7th Grade; 8th Grade; 9th-12th Grades

4pm - WOW Trip Returns

(No Sunday Night Live this week)

Wednesday, January 25th

5:30pm - Church-Wide Meal - MPR

6-7:30p - Youth Activities - Room 306

Upcoming Events

The summer mission trip to Joplin will be July 29-August 3. Sign up now!

Children's Ministry

Live B.I.G. - January 22

B.I.G. Theme - Stories About Jesus

B.I.G. Idea - We believe that the stories about Jesus help us understand that Jesus is the Son of God.

B.I.G. Verse - "The child Jesus grew. He became strong and wise, and God blessed him" (Luke 2:40)

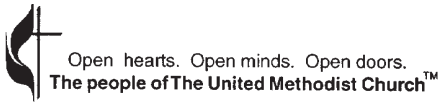
Bible Lesson - Jesus Begins His Ministry (Luke 4:14-30)

Sunday School - 10am

Tiny Tots	Rm 107
Terrific Twos	Rm 110
Preschool	Rm 101
Pre-K	Rm 105
Kindergarten	Rm 104
1st Grade	Rm 401
2nd Grade	Rm 403
3rd Grade	Rm 405
4th Grade	Rm 404
5th Grade	Rm 411

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Worship Attendance on Sunday, January 15 - 678
We invite you to join us for Worship: Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. in McMurry Chapel;
8:50 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Sunday School for All Ages - 10:00 a.m.

Military Prayer List

*Please remember those among us who are deployed for military service.
Please email donoho@mchsi.com to add names to the military prayer list.*

- CW3 Stephen Hudson at Fort Belvoir, VA - son of Tom & Nancy Hudson
- Lt. Commander Tom Statler at Great Lakes, IL - son of Rev. Jerry Statler
- PFC Evangeline Smock, Chaplains' Asst., Ft. Leonard Wood, MO - daughter of Jed & Cindy Smock
- Sgt. Aaron Headley, US Army, Ft. Polk, LA - son of Ingrid & Mark Headley
- Sgt. Gerrad W. Bard, Special Forces, Afghanistan - son of Gene Bard
- Lt. Col. Gary Ridenhour, commanding the 51st Expeditionary Signal Battalion at Ft. Lewis, WA - son of Dr. Gene Ridenhour
- Lt. J.G. Patrick Brooks, serving on the submarine, USS Ohio - son of Pat Brooks
- Sgt. Jeremy Kabler, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Belton, MO - grandson of Rev. Jim Kabler
- Cpl. John M. Lozano, USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC; deploying to Afghanistan in July - grandson of Bev Huckaba
- Dr. Courtney Schapira, Major, USAF, Afghanistan, Dental Corps - daughter of Dan and Ginger Schapira

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 20 Alex Ash, Jean Kiesewetter, Doug Mooney, Garyt Odom, Matt Weltig **21** John Crane, Mary McCluskey, Carlee Mueller, Dan Rader, Jay Rader, Dudley Trice, Ella Zacherl **22** Wyatt Jennings, Sarah Keely, Thomas Kirkland, Tom Leak, L.D. Schaperkötter, David Yost **23** Evelyn Della Rocca, Chris DeMoss, Marilynn Holm, Christean Nguyen, Kerri Packard, Danica Pope, Brianne Travis, Mary Jane Turner, Anna Vessell, Jane Watson **24** Louise Black, Scott Buresh, Linda Hollingshead, Teri Jo Oetting, Mary Powell, Jacob Rowe **25** Michael Browning, Clayton Veverka, Carrie Yost **26** Mary Lou Davis, Lynn Edinger, Scott Murphy, Georgia Nolph, Nancy Perry, Kayla Shrum **27** Abigail Fitzsimmons, Grace LaRose, Ernie Lee, Rob McDaniels, Ryan Noblitt, Marge Rupp, Doug Stone **28** Paul Gerhart, Shawna Jones **29** Anna Lee, Ryan Mueller, Scott Oglesbay, Colin Skinner **30** Steve Dillard, Marti Henderson, Kira Kirk, Matthew Watson **31** Mary Beck, Kim Harrison, Jerry Holloway, Lina Klein, Tom Mendenhall, Bert Schulte, Ron Sergent, Jenea Smith **February 1** Jake Blount, Marilyn Hoffman, Charlie Kyriakos, Art Leuenberger, Susan Moore, Jane Parker, Aurora Tyler **2** Christian Ackmann, Deborah Connett, Bob Elliott, Bob Jackson, Ji-Ho Lee, Blake Ward, Aria Webber

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**The church provides bus transportation to the 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship service.
Call 443-3111 before noon on Fridays. Bus service is available to all.**

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