



# MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 26, 2006

Volume XXVIII, No. 48

## The Simple Gifts of Advent

As I write these words people across our nation are swamping stores to buy the newest entertainment gadget...the PlayStation 3 console. Long lines formed outside the stores well in advance of the opening sale, because supply won't keep up with demand. A dentist in Columbus, GA, planned to hire people from a temp agency to stand in line and buy 15 consoles to give to his kids and grandkids, only canceling the plan when an outcry arose (presumably from jealous shoppers who couldn't afford to hire a stand-in.)

Once again 'tis the season to be materialistic. We will crisscross the city and surf the internet with great anxiety to spend piles of money to buy gifts that people don't want or to impress people we "need" to impress and to give gifts to bosses and co-workers or neighbors that they neither want nor need. Some of us, forgoing the materialistic urge, will slave twice as hard to make gifts or bake goods, which could be admirable except when such acts becomes both masochistic and martyr-like in intensity. Then there will be the group who will step back and sneer at all gift giving, failing to realize the joy that comes in a true spirit of giving gifts to one another.

I am not decrying gifts, nor shopping, nor baking. There are hundreds of beautiful ways to show our love and appreciation for one another. Many of them involve some form of gift. Jesus was the recipient of gifts throughout his life, beginning from the gifts of the magi all the way to the gift of anointing prior to his crucifixion.

As we move closer to Christmas, my suggestion is that we contemplate simpler gifts this year. Though it is not a "Christmas song", the Shaker hymn Simple Gifts, written in 1848 by Elder Joseph Brackett, Jr. conveys the spirit of this advent/Christmas season. Sing it to the tune of "Lord of the Dance" and prepare yourself for the weeks ahead:

### Simple Gifts

*'Tis the gift to be simple,  
'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
It will be in the valley of love and delight.*

*(Refrain) When true simplicity is gained,  
To bow and bend we shan't be ashamed.  
To turn, turn will be our delight,  
'Til by turning, turning we come round right*

*'Tis the gift to be loved and that love to return,  
'Tis the gift to be taught and a richer gift to learn,  
And when we expect of others what we try to live each day,  
Then we'll all live together and we'll all learn to say, (refrain)*

*"Tis the gift to have friends and a true friend to be,  
'Tis the gift to think of others not to only think of "me",  
And when we hear what others really think and really feel,  
Then we'll all live together with a love that is real. (refrain)*

*Creech*

## Worship Services

Sunday, November 26, 2006

Nine O'clock - Chapel

Eleven O'clock - Sanctuary

"Ruler of the Kings"

Revelation 1: 4-8

John 18: 33-37

Cile Mitchell, preaching

## Assisting with Worship

### Ushers for Nine O'clock

Joe Reeves and Clay Washburn

### Ushers for Eleven O'clock

Art Banks, Russ Barber, Cary Beck, Bill Gifford, Waverly Golson, Mel Jamison, Tom Owens, Ed Powell, Doyle Powers, Jerry Rankin, Bert Thompson, Rett Walker, Tom Woodcock

### Sunday School Greeters

Berg-Brenner Class

### Children's Church

Scott & Nancy Huggins

## Altar Flowers



Linda Sankey, Altar Guild

The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Alice and Herbert Tinker by Tina Sheffield Kuncaitis.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Alton Johnson and Grey Johnson Brown by Ruth Jennings.

## Lunch With Santa Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

1:00 p.m.

Mulberry Street UMC

Enjoy a bountiful lunch, a delightful musical show with singing Santa and magician Mike Fuller. Children \$10 – Adults \$12 Call Downtown Council for reservations: 621-2005 or 621-2013.

## Debt Elimination Progress

Thank you for your continued pledge payments.

Month	Loan Balance
December	\$634,803
January	\$310,554
February	\$289,365
March	\$270,794
April	\$215,551
May	\$170,960
June	\$145,588
July	\$134,441
August	\$125,256
September	\$112,293
October	\$104,802
November	\$ 93,330



## Mulberry Moms & Children's Holiday Tea Party

December 18<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Children's Assembly Room

Children 2-6 years old are invited to join us for a morning of holiday fun. Cookie decorating, crafts and story time are all on the menu, served-up tea party style of course. Bring a friend for a morning of classic Christmas cheer.

R.S.V.P. by December 6<sup>th</sup>

745-8601 (Jessica)

Reservations are required.



Cam Bishop, Director of Music

### Covenant Choir

Sunday, November 26

5:45-7:15 p.m.

Pizza and Las Posadas Practice  
Covenant Choir Room



## Sounds of the Season

Sunday, December 3

'Las Posadas'

A Service of Shelter

for the Holy Family

Cherub, Carol and Covenant Choirs

Handbell Choir

Taco supper and piñata party

6 pm \* Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 17

'Christmas Oratorio'

by Camille Saint-Saens

Ainsworth Choir

Harp \* Strings \* Organ

11 am \* Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 19

Third Tuesday Organ Interlude

Gerald Carper, Organist

12 Noon \* Sanctuary

Sunday, December 24

9 am Morning Communion \* Chapel

10 am Church-wide Gathering

Fellowship Hall

Cinnamon Rolls and Coffee

11 am A Service for Children,

Families and Friends

(no communion at 11 am)

5:30 pm "There's a Song in the Air"

Songs of the season sung

by Mulberry's soloists

6:00 pm Candlelight Communion

Sanctuary



Jessica Tripp, Director of Children  
& Family Ministries

### Parent's Day Out

December 2 - 10:00-4:00

Children 2K-6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to come to Mulberry for a day filled with fun, faith building activities. Our theme for the day is "Let's Get Ready for Jesus".

Here's the schedule:

10:00-11:30 - Children's Choir practices for Los Posadas.

(2K & 3K kids enjoy time in their Sunday School room)

11:30-12:15 - Lunch

12:15-4:00

"Let's Get Ready for Jesus"

During this time the children will enjoy advent related crafts, snacks, games, a movie, and create Christmas stockings for the children of Macon Outreach. Also we will have a special visitor from the North Pole coming to give out treats and read a special Advent story to the younger children.

### 4:00 - Pick-up

PLEASE MAKE A RESERVATION FOR THE DAY

(call Jessica @ 745-8601)

Cost per child for lunch and activities: \$10

Don't miss all the fun as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of our savior's birth!

### Gifts at Las Posadas

The Children's Christmas music program is coming up December 3<sup>rd</sup>. On this night, we will be collecting Men's hunting style socks for the people of Iraq and stocking stuffers for the Children of Macon Outreach. Please bring your gift to the program and thank you for sharing the hope of Christ this holiday season.

### Family Spiritual Growth & Ski Retreat Weekend

January 12-15, 2007

For information call Jessica, 745-8601.



Cameron Bishop, Director of Youth

### UMYF - Sundays

6:00-8:00 pm - Grades 7-12

### Senior High Bible Study

Monday Nights - 7:00 pm

(at 584 Corbin Ave)

For Youth in Grades 9-12

### Thursday Morning Java

7:00 a.m. - @ Chic-fil-A on Zebulon

### Upcoming Events:

#### New Orleans Mission Trip

December 27-30 - Cost: \$100

Only 25 spaces available

- so sign up soon!

#### Youth Ski Trip to West Virginia

February 16-19 - Details soon.

### Youth Website

Want to know what's going on? Visit...

[www.mulberryyouth.homestead.com](http://www.mulberryyouth.homestead.com)



November 26

Robert & Ann

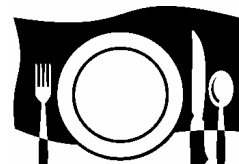
Bowen

### Christmas Social

Haven't found a Sunday School Class at Mulberry, yet? Looking for a diverse group of mixed ages and opinions who study the bible and what it means? Rosser II Sunday School class could be the place for you.....Come find out in a fun and relaxing environment....Join us for a Christmas Social at the home of Charlie and Claire Cox. Everyone is welcome....We will be gathering at 1201 Marlowe Drive at 7:00 pm on **Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**. Call or email Claire for more details (471-8774/dcrcox@cox.net.)

### Mulberry Ornaments For Sale

Need a great gift idea? The brass Mulberry pierced church ornaments would be a great one! They are available in the church office for \$10.



### Wednesday Night Supper

November 29

5:45 p.m.

### Menu

Baked Ham

Italian Green Beans

Macaroni & Chees

Sliced Pineapple

Rolls Cake

Tea Coffee

Also available for children:  
peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

### Program:

"Beating the Christmas Madness"  
by Cile Mitchell



### Cookbooks for Sale

Donate \$10 to the Macon Outreach endowment fund (the Emma Richardson Memorial Outreach Fund) and receive a copy of My Famous...a collection of Emma Richardson's favorite recipes. Donations will be deposited to the fund which underwrites the food related ministries of the Outreach. For more information contact Nancy Huggins (474-4993) or Kay Leaphart (474-7556.)

### Windows of Mulberry Notecards

These beautiful notecards (eight cards with envelopes) are available in the church office for \$12. Proceeds from the sale of these cards will go to Macon Outreach and other charities of our United Methodist Women. Make checks payable to "Mulberry Street UMW."

**Mulberry Street United Methodist Church**  
719 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201  
P.O. Box 149, Macon, GA 31202  
Office (478) 745-8601  
[www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org)

**Our 11 a.m. service is broadcast live  
over Radio Station AM 940 WMAC**

Pastor on call: November 25-26 – Creede Hinshaw  
(Home:474-8735 – Cell: 737-8981)

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, November 26

9:00 am Worship/Chapel  
9:30 am Communion/Prayer Room  
9:45 am Sunshine Music Time/Children's Church Classroom  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship/Sanctuary  
1:00 pm Lunch with Santa-Downtown Council/Fellowship Hall  
4:30 pm Case for Christ Study/6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
4:45 pm Young Spirit Singers  
5:00 pm Disciple III  
5:30 pm Disciple 1  
6:00 pm UMYF

### Monday, November 27

5:30 pm COM Chairs & Program Staff Mtg  
7:00 pm Senior High Bible Study

### Tuesday, November 28

6:30 am Men's Bible Study/Conf Rm  
6:30 am Men's Sermon Starter Group  
8:30 am Prayers of the People/Conf Rm  
10:30 am Staff Meeting  
12:30 pm Pacesetters II Luncheon

### Wednesday, November 29

5:00 pm Altar Guild/Conf Rm  
5:15 pm Handbells  
5:45 pm Wednesday Night Supper  
6:30 pm Children's Choirs  
6:30 pm Sunshine Music Time (2K-3K0)  
6:30 pm "Beating the Christmas Madness" by Cile Mitchell  
7:30 pm Ainsworth Choir

### Thursday, November 30

7:00 am Morning Java (Youth)

### Saturday, December 2

10:00-4:00 – Parent's Day Out

### Mulberry Street UMC Staff

*M. Creede Hinshaw, Senior Pastor*  
*Cile Mitchell, Associate Pastor*  
*Bishop C. W. Hancock, Bishop in Residence*  
*Dr. William H. Hurdle, Senior Pastor Emeritus*  
*Bruce Bishop, Church Administrator*  
*Camille Bishop, Music Director/Organist*  
*Cameron Bishop, Director of Youth Ministries*  
*Jessica Tripp, Director of Children's  
& Family Ministry*  
*Beth Smith, Church Hostess*  
*Johnny Hathcock, Director, Macon Outreach*  
*Sara Colvin, Financial Secretary*  
*Linda Parker, Administrative Secretary*  
*Doris Andrews, Church Cook/Custodian*  
*Clifton Carswell, Custodian*  
*Arnold Freeman, Custodian*

## Circle Meeting

The Paula Motes Circle Christmas Luncheon will be in the church parlor on Monday, December 4, 2006 at 12:00 Noon. Please remember to bring children's gift bags for our Christmas project.

## A CHRISTMAS CORNUCOPIA

This delightful book of Advent/Christmas meditations by The Rev. Hamp Watson will allow you to enter a world of wonder and awe. Makes a great gift for a devotional book. All proceeds support Miss Ella's Camp for Special People at Epworth by the Sea. Order from the church office for \$14.

## Macon Outreach

### Pantry Needs

Grits Soups Mac & Cheese  
Mixed Beans Peanut Butter  
Cereal Flour Canned Potatoes  
Mixed Vegetables Mixed Fruit  
Yams Pork & Beans  
Dried black-eyed peas Mackerel  
Misc. Greens Canned Sweet Peas  
Cookies

### Other Needs:

deodorant & razors

Johnny Hathcock, Director  
[johnnymom@bellsouth.net](mailto:johnnymom@bellsouth.net)

## Search for Daycare Director

We are seeking a full-time director for our new daycare ministry, The Children's Center at Mulberry (CCM), for ages 6 months to 4K. Preferred qualifications as well as job responsibilities are identified in a full Job Description posted at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org). If you, or someone you know, have experience as a daycare director and are interested in the position, please send résumé ONLY by fax to Julia Magda at (478) 464-5371.