

MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July 19, 2009

www.mulberrymethodist.org

A View of Another World

The blog below was posted July 10 by Kati Bailey, a member of a mission team sent out through "Adventures In Missions". This team is working this summer in Swaziland, Southern Africa, in a small village; they call it the Novas Project after the name of the village. I share this for several reasons. For one, our own Mary Grace Rumford, (mentioned below, daughter of Steve & Rozelle Rumford), is a member of that team. The other reason is the blog itself: it originates from the place these young people (mostly ages 18 – 25) are embedded. The words speak for themselves. I was so troubled and yet so moved that I wanted to share it. Mary Grace says of their experience: *"God is going before us."*

"Zech, Mary Grace, Ryan, Chelsea, Kyra, and I have a new friend Maswani. She is exhausted. Her father died earlier this year. As her AIDS manifests itself in the final stages, her body looks like a scaly, dry mess. Her feet are incredibly swollen. The skin on her back looks like it is literally melting off like wax. She doesn't have clothes. She doesn't have soap. She doesn't even have her own copy of a Bible. She lies in a small dark hut...hopeless. Waiting to die. Did I mention she's 19? Yes. She is our peer.

Home visits are usually filled with questions about family, leisure activities, church, etc. But for the first part of our visit, we struggled. Searching for words of comfort...or just conversation.

Of course God can heal Maswani, and maybe He will. But aside from a miracle, she will die soon and there is only one comfort. But it's the greatest comfort of all...heaven. Heaven. How often do we put our focus there? How often do we look through eternal eyes, not earthly eyes? Are we so consumed with our home, our finances, and our family that we forget that this is not our home?

In the United States, I am comfortable. Praying over people who are dying is not a daily thing. Holding hungry children does not happen every afternoon. Pain and heartache of losing your entire family is not a cloud hanging over my head. But here in Swaziland, this is life. And the truth is, for most of the world, it's no different. We live in a world of hurting people. A world of brokenness and pain. And as I am confronted with this constantly here, I have learned that the only way to deal with this, the only way to serve and minister in joy is to have a heavenly outlook. As Colossians 3:3 instructs us, "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." I think if anyone knows this it's Pastor Gift who has lived in this atmosphere his entire life, and I think he put it best when he said,

"When there are deserts, I see springs of water.

When there is emptiness, I see God; fullness.

When there is darkness, I see light."

Wow. I want this vision. I want to strive for this vision not just as I spend my days in Swazi, but even when I return to the comforts and distractions of the US. I want to have a heavenly outlook, a mindset focused on my REAL home, and in the meantime...Love. Love. Love. until the day I die."

Mulberry Youth In Missions July 19-24

Some of our Mulberry Youth are heading to Asheville, NC for a week of missions and adventure. They will be volunteering with the Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry (ABCCM). The ABCCM serves over 10,000 people each year through five different ministries: Crisis Ministry, Jail Ministry, Veterans Ministry, Women and Children's Ministry, and Medical Ministry. Throughout the week, our youth will serve in several of these areas as they carry the love of Christ and build relationships with those who are socially and economically disadvantaged. You should be proud of these young people, their faith and conviction. We will pray for them Sunday during the 11:00 AM service as they begin their journey.

Our Summer Series: Swimming with Jonah,

continues this Sunday – "Running With God."
Bring a friend.

Tommy

Sunday Worship

July 19, 2009

Nine O'clock - Sanctuary
Eleven O'clock - Sanctuary

Swimming with Jonah:
"Running **Into** God
Jonah 2: 1 - 6; 3: 1 - 4: 3

Rev. Tommy Martin



Assisting with Worship

Ushers for Nine O'clock
Joe Reeves & 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

Children's Church
Chris & Leslie Brown (2/3K)
Traci & Joni Coleman (4/5K)



Altar Flowers



The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Grey Brown and in honor of Freeda and Harold Chapman and the Mulberry Acolytes by Bill, Cindy, Mary Priestly, and Howell Jarrard.

Attendance Last Sunday

Nine O'clock Worship	66
Eleven O'clock Worship	198
Total Worship Attendance	264

What God Can Do With Nothing



Martin Luther said, "Since it is God's nature to make something out of nothing, we must become nothing before God can make something out of us."

Adelaide A. Pollard, a 20th-century poet, made the same point in the hymn "Have Thine Own Way":

Have thine own way, Lord!
Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.



ATTENTION MULBERRY MEMBERS

Pam Johnston has requested assistance in painting the Children's Assembly Room on the second floor. We will do the preliminary work on the 1st of August starting at 9:00 a.m. and will roll the walls (3 colors) and ceiling on the 8th of August. If you wish to help on this project, please sign up on the sign-up sheet available in your Sunday school room or contact the church office.

Please indicate the Saturday(s) you will be available by signing beneath the appropriate date or dates. On the 1st of August you will need to bring with you a 2½ inch trim brush, a 4 to 8 inch roller and pan, and if available, a 8 foot step ladder.

On the 8th of August please bring with you an 8 inch roller (an extension pole) and pan and, an 8 foot step ladder.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Hammers, Hearts and Hands,
Paul Riley



Cameron Bishop,
Director of Youth Ministry

Summer 2009 Schedule of Events

July 19-24: Youth Week Trip
July 26: Sunday Night Program
July 27: Sr. High Bible Study
July 29: Lunch & Movie

More details will be coming out about the events listed above each week. Keep checking your mail & email.

Senior High Bible Study Mondays - 6:00-7:30 p.m.

All rising 9th - 12th graders are invited to attend a weekly Bible study at the home of Cameron & Aubrey Bishop.

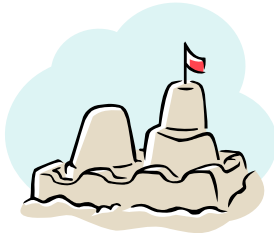
Weekly Email – Stay in the Loop

We invite you to sign-up for our weekly email newsletter, "Weekly Ramblings." It contains the most up-to-date information about upcoming events, trips, outings, Bible Studies, and so forth. All you have to do is visit the Mulberry Youth Website and click "Join Email List."

mulberryyouth.com

The Mulberry Youth Website has all kinds of information. You can see pictures from past events, learn about the different programs, access archived communications (emails, letters, postcards, flyers, etc). Take a minute today and check it out, and let us know you visited by clicking on the "Contact Us" page off the main site.

Thanks!



**Adult Sunday School Classes
Are Building "CanCastles"
for Macon Outreach
This Summer!**

**Bring food items each week to help
build a masterpiece!**



Pam Johnston, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Family Trip to Splash in the 'Boro - Thursday, July 16

Meet at the church at 8 am, and we'll take the bus to Statesboro to ride water slides, a lazy river, a surf machine, and visit splash island. The price is right, too--only \$10/person! We'll bring our own packed lunches (or buy reasonable food at their concession stands) and then stop for fast food as we leave. All kids must be accompanied by a parent or responsible party. Must RSVP to Pam by July 13.

Extreme Games and Blizzards - July 28

Bring your already-fed kids to the church at 6 for an hour of fun Bible Quiz Bowl Games, and then we'll go to the Marble Slab. Kids under 5 must be accompanied by parent. The cost is \$5, and you can pick them up at the ice cream places at 9.

Godly Play Workday - Saturday, August 8

Meet at the church from 9 until 3 to help prepare our classrooms for the upcoming year. We need you to make our rooms look great and stock the shelves with Godly Play supplies. Call Pam for more details.

Parent Meeting/Orientation - Monday, August 10, 6-7 pm

Come hear about all our plans for the coming year. We'll explain how Children's Church, SMAK, Wednesday night activities, and Confirmation will work. We need your input, too. Childcare and pizza will be provided.

Kids Lock-In the Summer - Friday, August 14

Meet at the church at 5 pm. We'll go on a mystery fun trip, return to the church for a movie and snacks, have a devotion, get some sleep (yeah right!), and then help give out school supplies at Macon Outreach on Saturday morning. The cost is \$15 and some school supplies of your choice. You can pick up your kids at 11 am.

Promotion Sunday and Bibles for 3rd Graders

Sunday, August 16

This is a big day in our children's department! We'll be kicking off our new Sunday School classes and the Godly Play program, unveiling the renovated Children's Assembly Room, recognizing the children in the sanctuary during the Sunday School hour, and then proceeding with the "Blessing of the Backpacks" liturgy and presenting Bibles to our third graders during the worship service. More details later. . .

Fall Leaves in the Mountains

Join Cile for a fall get-a-way to Lake Junaluska. Dr. Evelyn Laycock, a well-known and loved bible teacher, will be the teacher at the **Fall Fling October 20-23**. We would arrive at Lake Junaluska on Tuesday and leave on Friday. Wednesday and Thursday afternoon is free time for sight-seeing. The cost is \$300 for a double occupancy room. This would include room, meals and transportation. What a great opportunity to see the fall leaves, to grow spiritually and to have wonderful fellowship. Contact Cile if you are interested. You don't want to miss this!



To Chris and Leslie Brown upon the death of Leslie's grandmother, Fannie Lou Greene, of Gray, GA on July 2, 2009.

To Joyce Paul upon the death of her sister, Doris P. Elliott, of Austin, TX on July 4, 2009.



Memorial Fund

In memory of Charles H. McCrary by
Mr. Delmas L. Webb Dr. & Mrs. John G. Etheridge
Ms. Lucy E. Miller Mr. & Mrs. Sidney E. Middlebrooks

Macon Outreach Fund

In memory of Minnie Sapp by
Mrs. Sue Bagwell Mrs. June C. Smith

Godly Play

In memory of Minnie Sapp by Miss Gail Springstead

Chapel Renovation

In memory of Charles McCrary by
Miss Gail Springstead

**Ministries Budget Report
2009 General Fund**

Month	Gifts	Expense	Net	Last Year
Jan	80,288	102,289	(22,001)	(24,726)
Feb	72,070	99,174	(27,104)	(23,690)
Mar	102,764	102,991	(227)	6,979
Apr	81,652	107,761	(26,109)	229
May	85,482	97,177	(11,695)	(5,960)
Total YTD	422,256	509,381	(87,125)	(47,168)



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

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U.S. POSTAGE
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MACON, GA

**NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED WEEKLY
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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

Pastor on Call

July 17-19

Cile Mitchell

Home: 745-9657 Cell: 986-7107

E-mail: cmitchell@mulberrymethodist.org

THIS WEEK AT MULBERRY

Sunday, July 19

9:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:40 a.m. KIDSPRAISE/Children's Assembly Rm

11:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

12:00 p.m. Youth Leadership Council Mtg/Youth Rm

12:15 p.m. Children's Ministry Council/
Children's Assembly Rm

5:30 p.m. Godly Play Training

Sunday-Friday, July 19-24

Youth Week Trip

Tuesday, July 21

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study/Conf Rm

8:30 a.m. Prayer Group/Conf Rm

9:15 a.m. Chapel for Daycare/Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting/Conf Rm

12:00 p.m. Kiwanis Club Luncheon/Fel-Hall

4:00 p.m. Trustees Mtg/Conf Rm

Wednesday, July 22

7:00 p.m. Small Groups Mtg/Conf RM

Thursday, July 23

9:00 a.m. Pew Patrol

4:00 p.m. Children's Center Board Mtg/Conf Rm

5:30 p.m. Devotional Group/Panera Bread

Friday, July 24

7:00 a.m. Market Place Men's Ministry/Joshua Cup

Sunday, July 26

9:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:40 a.m. KIDSPRAISE/Children's Assembly Rm

11:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. UMYF

5:30 p.m. Godly Play Training

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MULBERRY STREET UMC STAFF

Tommy Martin, 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

Pam Johnston, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Erin Roberson, Director, Children's Center

Betsy Abbott, Director of Hospitality

Johnny Hathcock, Director, Macon Outreach

Sara Colvin, Financial Secretary

Linda Parker, Administrative Secretary

Doris Andrews, Church Cook/Custodian

Custodians

Clifton Carswell, Arnold Freeman & Sherman Ivry