



# FAITH @ FIRST

*McKenzie First United Methodist Church exists to worship God and enable open-minded people to discover the freedom of God's grace through Jesus Christ.*

September 9, 2009

## A WORD from the PASTOR

I recently read of two mothers who both had a small child with them while going through a checkout lane in a food market. One mother saw her child pick up a jar of pickles from the shopping cart. She yelled at the child, saying, "Put it down, right now; you're going to drop it. You are all the time dropping and breaking things." Then she said to the checkout lady, "She is so clumsy; always making a mess by dropping things. And she is about to drive me crazy."

The other mother also had a small child in a buggy in a check out lane. Her child picked up an item, too – a jar of peanut butter. This mother, however, calmly took the jar from the child and replaced it with a box of crackers. Then she said, "Dear, carry this for me; I really need your help." Having said this, she praised her child to the clerk, saying, "He really likes to help; he is so good to help at home; he is such a good child."

The question left to us is: which of these two children feels the best about themselves after shopping with their mother? Of course we would say it is the second child in this story.

Children need to feel appreciated. Some churches do not have the sounds of children anywhere in their facilities. When we affirm others with genuine gratitude and value, especially children, we will build self confidence. May we never take our children for granted or overlook their needs.

All people need to feel loved and appreciated. Jesus exemplified this for the church to follow his lead. He took them into his arms and blessed them; Jesus knew they needed attention and assurance that they were loved.

How are we, as a church, doing in this area?

I will look for you this Sunday; God bless.

*Peace and Grace, Larry*

September 13 Text: Mark 8:27-35  
Title: The More We Know Jesus

## First Place 4 Health

We're beginning **First Place 4 Health** on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 5:00 p.m. Do you want to lose weight? Could you use some balance in your life? Come and discover the most complete Christ-centered healthy living program. If you're not sure, come to the orientation on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> and see if this program is for you, with no obligation to continue.

## Handbell Happenings

Peals of Praise rehearsals begin this coming Sunday, Sept. 13, at 6:00 p.m. This is a great time for anyone from fifth grade to adult to join us for fun, fellowship, and ringing. Reading music is not a requirement, only the ability to count to 4, tell left from right, and red from blue. Come and try us out!

## Meals on Wheels

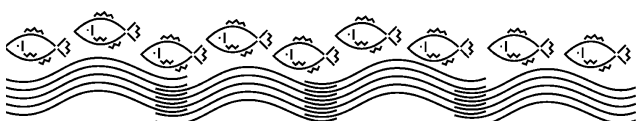
This program is starting up again on Saturday, September 12. **We are in need of help for preparing meals and for delivery**, as well as substitutes that can be called as needed. For those of you who aren't aware of what this program is, we provide a hot meal each Saturday at noon for approximately 30 people who are in need, either because of financial or physical limitations. If you can help one Saturday per month, please call Glenn Sacks at 352-2070.

## From Charlene . . .

It's almost that time again – time for Christmas Cantata music! I have been listening to CD's and have narrowed the choices down to two or three. For those of you who love to sing with the Chancel Choir at Christmas, it's September now, but Christmas will be here before long. Plan to join us for rehearsals some time in October.

## Paris District Choir Festival

FUMC in Paris will host a choir festival on Sunday Sept. 13 at 5:00 p.m. Several groups will be taking part in this, and everyone is invited to attend. Refreshments will be provided. An offering will be received that will benefit Reelfoot Rural Ministries, Lakeshore United Methodist Assembly, and the Wesley Foundation, Murray State University.



**Please pray for . . .** Family of Ann Hood; Family of Susie Motheral; Family of Richard Dunlap; Mildred Bunnell; J. W. Sterling; Dr. Michael Roberts; Steve, Chris, & Trish Cannon; Alice Curnutt; Bro. Alford; Bro. Riley; Dr. David Martin; Mr. Lankford (Bethel teacher); Ariel Allen; Leaverta & Ernest Bynum; Felicia Mesavage; Dooney Carroll; Angela Allen; Mary & Darrell Karas; June Sloan; John & Arlene Howard; Rikke, Johnathan, & Jeane Curtis; Zia McKennie; Marsha & Robert Tuck; Lynn Dorris; Arthur Roland; Bea Pickler; Kay & Samantha Parker; Sierra Mathis' mom; Mary Jane Sexton Brewer; Vicki Foster; Sandi & Kim McMahan; Shirley Martin; Lucy Hickman; Monte Montgomery; Jacob, Leah, & Emma Partridge; Soldiers & family members of 194<sup>th</sup> ENBDE; Betsy Barcroft; Ernestine Branon; Joyce McBride; Betty Simmons; Marvin & Judy Williams; Carolyn Burke; Mary Lou & Bill Boothe; Mary Frances & Don David; Ruth Moncrief; Raymond & Jessie McDade; Ann Sexton; Lola Alexander; Jean A. Melton; Margaret & Jim Purcell; Ina Faye Hall; Muriel Johnson; Mary Jo Vaughn; Ray & Brenda Berryman; Eadie Van Nostrand; Becky Herron; Kellett Hochreiter; Our troops overseas and at home.

**The next week at our church**

**Sunday, September 13**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School Class  
 10:50 a.m. Worship Service  
 5:00 p.m. First Place 4 Health  
 6:00 p.m. Peals of Praise Handbell rehearsal

**Monday, September 14**

9:00 a.m. CARE Group meeting

**Wednesday, September 16**

6:00 p.m. FLOW meal and classes  
 menu: Chicken strips, potatoes, green beans, roll, dessert  
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

**VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK**

**ACOLYTES** – Lexie & Emily Bolin

**NURSERY** – Jennifer Pinson & Stephanie Bolin

**GREETERS** – David & Michele Jarrett

**LITURGIST** – Glenn Sacks

**USHERS** – Jimmy Patterson; chairperson, Marshall Russell, Jack Martin, Glenn Hayes

**Sept. 12 Meals on Wheels Angels**

Cook and delivery: Glenn Sacks

**Sept. 16 Office Angels**

Mildred Colotta & Juanita Finley

**Sept. 16 FLOW Kitchen Angels: Team 3**

Jimmy & Kathy Patterson, Truman & Trudy Bateman, Edward Sexton, Harold & Suzanne Russell, Mildred Colotta, Jim & Linda Arnold, John Oakley, Robin Russell

**September United Neighbors needed items:**

Bath soap; shampoo

**Memorials**

September 6, 2009

**In Memory of Morris Beasley**

Glenn & Joyce Hayes C & Y

**In Memory of Joe Curtis**

Glenn & Joyce Hayes C & Y

**C & Y news**

**October 9 - Lakeshore Retreat:** 4th - 6th grade. Sign up sheet is outside the nursery. Please note the change in the dates (I had last year's flyer, sorry!) and the price for each camper.

**Sunday School Teachers Needed:** We currently have a need for teachers for the 3rd-4th grades and 6th-8th grades. Complete lessons are provided and easy to follow. If you would be willing to teach or "team teach" with another person, please call Gina at 415-1984.

**Forgive Me When I Whine**

Today upon a bus I saw a lovely girl with golden hair.  
 I envied her - she seemed so gay - and wished I were as fair.  
 But suddenly she rose to leave. I saw her hobble down the aisle, she had only one leg and wore a crutch, but as she passed, a smile...

Oh, God forgive me when I whine, I have two legs, the world is mine.  
 I stopped to buy some candy. The lad who sold them had such charm.  
 I stopped to talk to him, he seemed so glad if I was late could do no harm. As I left he said to me, "I thank-you, you have been so kind. It's nice to talk to folks like you, you see," he said, "I am blind."

Oh, God forgive me when I whine, I have two eyes, the world is mine.  
 Later while walking down the street,  
 I saw a child with eyes of blue. He stood and watched the others play, he did not know what to do. I stopped a moment and said, "Why don't you join the others, dear?"  
 He looked ahead without a word and then I knew, he couldn't hear.

Oh, God forgive me when I whine, I have two ears, the world is mine.  
 With feet to take me where I go, with eyes to see the sun-set glow, with ears to hear what I would know.

Oh, God forgive me when I whine, I am blessed indeed, the world is mine!

~By Og Mandino

**FUMC Staff**



J. Larry Riley, *Pastor*  
 John Pugh, *Pastor Emeritus*  
 Charlene Jones, *Director of Music*  
 Sandra McMahan, *Organist, Handbell Director*  
 Donna Bruce & Gina King, *C & Y Directors*  
 Kathy Patterson, *Administrative Assistant*

(adapted from original by Red Foley)~