

October 2009

THE MESSENGER



News from Kern Memorial United Methodist Church

**“WHOM SHALL I SEND AND WHO WILL GO FOR US?” (Isaiah 6:8)
God’s Heart, God’s Love, God’s Work, God’s Call, God’s Promises, God’s Gifts
And then, only then, but definitely then ... Our Response**

Our lives are grounded in God, personally and together in God. As Christians and as the Church, we have experienced God’s heart of love in Jesus Christ. The Bible affirms God ever working (and loving) through God’s people. Always, with God’s call come God’s promises and power and later, God’s gifts. In all this, the focus is on God and not us. We hear God’s call, “whom shall I send and who will go for us?” Isaiah, for one, responded, “here I am, send me”.

Our October and November worship (and hopefully always) will focus radically on God, especially God’s call to us, claim upon us here and now. We move from World Communion Sunday (October 4) to Laity Sunday (October 18) to Reformation Sunday (October 25) and All Saints (November 1). We move toward the **“Loving Ministries” Congregational Celebration of Ministries (Wednesday, November 4) and Commitment Sundays (November 8 and 15)**. May God grant us eyes to see, ears to hear, hearts open to receive and to respond to God’s call, and hands, arms, and feet to offer Christ.

SPEAKING OF GOD’S CALL ... Warm Welcoming Wednesdays, Wow!!!

Three weeks into the fall season and they’ve been:

Fun: Grown men with hula hoops and grown women dressed up like lunch ladies.

Holy: Eating at the Communion Table before entering the serving line has reminded us that Christ comes into our everyday, ordinary space and his presence makes it sacred.

Delicious: Steak, crab dip, desserts galore.

Welcoming: We are meeting new friends. 130-180 people have attended weekly.

Unexpected: People from the community are clamoring to work in the kitchen to help cook and clean. Many have said how wonderful it feels to be useful.

A foretaste of the Kingdom: *If you haven’t been attending, your place at the table waits!*

Important: RSVPs on the bulletin tear-offs are HIGHLY encouraged to help us plan. Suggested donation is \$5 per plate, but any amount you are led to give is fine. Take-out boxes are available for those with special needs, but we want to keep that to a minimum since fellowship is the main emphasis of the evening.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY... CALLING THE GOOD MEMBERS OF KERN

We all heard Jay Richardson give an impassioned plea during all the Sunday worship services for more people from Kern to come to CR on Friday nights. As always, anybody struggling with hurts, habits and hang-ups will find a grace-filled environment of honesty and healing. If you don’t feel a personal need for your own recovery, then come and befriend people... come talk with us over dinner, worship with us, pray with us. We need your companionship and support. Dinner begins at 6:15 every Friday. Worship begins at 7pm. (Nursery and children’s activities provided.)

WE ARE INVITED — Grief Support Group

Tuesdays, 5:00-6:30 pm, First UMC of Oak Ridge (Room 203)

Eight Tuesdays (October 6-November 24)

Led by Steve Herbes, certified in grief counseling by the Association of Death Education and Counseling

Brochures are available in the narthex and Family Life Center

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

We extend our sincere Christian sympathy to:

The family of Lillian (Jackie) Curtis who died September 13. Arminta Robinson, on the death of her brother in Kingston, on September 1.

Steve, Michelle, AJ and Greg Pawel on the death of Michelle's grandmother, Eileen Royster, who died September 16.

Kyle and Toe Miller on the death of their brother, Raymond, on September 14, 2009 in Fort Payne, Alabama.

We extend our congratulations to Edward Geist, son of Al and Reaves Geist, who has left for nine months study in Russia as a Fulbright scholar. Edward is working on his dissertation at the University of North Carolina (his mother is a Duke graduate).

Jonathan Wilson, son of David and Judy Wilson, is stationed with the Marines at Camp Pendleton. Jonathan expects to be deployed to Iraq by the first of October. He welcomes mail:

LCPL Wilson JD
3/24 India Co WPNS PLT
Unit 43530
FPO AP 96426-3530

We extend our congratulations to Tracy Ward who gave birth to daughter Emily McKenzie Ward September 24, 2009. Norm and Sherry Smyrl are the maternal grandparents.

Known Hospitalized during September: Rudolph Bodemuller, Jerry Cassens, Tom Heeter, Betty Luzader, Arminta Robinson, Edith Taylor, Jane Teasley, and Margaret Wilson (Orangeburg, VA).

Marguerite Lundell celebrated her 99th birthday on September 14. Connie Bolling will be 101 on October 18. Effie Goodall will be 97 on October 21. Bob Livesey is approaching these dear folks.

A Memorial Service for Lucy Rydell Webster will be Thursday, October 15, at 11 am, in our Sanctuary.

We celebrated the baptisms of Robert Orlando and Olivia Jo Ashburn on September 13. They are the children of Scott and Carmela Ashburn.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

We welcome **Helen Murphy** on transfer from Farragut Presbyterian Church. Helen is the grandmother of Brett Ellis (and better know as a great-grandmother of Jayden, Abigail and Danielle Ellis) in our congregation.

The Church held a New Member Welcome on September 13. Be looking for our New Members' photos and personal profiles to be displayed soon. We appreciate our Newcomers serving for Warm Welcoming Wednesday on September 23.

NEWCOMERS FELLOWSHIP SERIES

"What Does a Kern United Methodist Christian Look Like?"

October Sunday Mornings — 10 am

Kern UMW Room (underneath the sanctuary/adjacent to the Fellowship Hall)

Anyone is welcome to this series, especially our newcomers, visitors, guests and new members who have not attended previously. The series concerns basic United Methodist beliefs, the nature of the United Methodist Church, the Kern story and Every Member in Ministry.

LOOKING AHEAD

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY — November 1

This annual historic service (all three services) will include the reading of The Roll of Remembrance, our Church members who have entered the Church Triumphant since last All Saints. Their families will receive special invitations.

We will have a pictorial tribute and light an altar candle as each name is called. May we be sure to attend that day. (If so, the Church will give you an extra hour of sleep the preceding evening).

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women have begun planning for their annual fundraiser which will be held Saturday, Dec 5. They will again sponsor a Bake Sale/Mini Bazaar in conjunction with the Alternative Gift Fair. Please start thinking ahead about what you can bake or craft items that you can make. All types of baked goods are welcome. Homemade bread is especially popular. Also needed is your old jewelry that you no longer wear and would like to recycle. Please let us know what you are crafting for this year's bazaar! Proceeds go to support local organizations as well as the global missions of the United Methodist Church.

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming UMW events :

- Oct 2 Kern hosts Church Women United (CWU) in the Fellowship Hall. Fellowship and refreshments begin at 9:30 am followed by the program at 10:00 am.
- Oct 12 UMW General meeting at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Oct 15 Mary/Martha Circle meets earlier than usual at 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall in order to attend Lucy Webster's memorial service at 11:00am. Lucy was a life-long member and active in Kern's UMW until she moved away from Oak Ridge.
- Oct 17 Oak Ridge District Annual Meeting and Officer's Training at Jacksboro UMC from 9:30 am-2:00 pm. If you are a current officer or nominee for 2010, please register by Oct 9. There is a \$10 registration fee which includes lunch. Contact Carla Giles for registration forms & directions.
- Oct 19 Friendship Circle meets at 7:00 pm. Hostess: Wanda Parks

Our Presence

	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27
8:30 am Service	24	34	37	42
Praise	112	141	94	124
11:00 am Service	120	146	124	137
Celebrate Recovery	42	45	45	45
	298	366	300	348
Sunday School	120	161	136	144

PROPOSED MEMORIAL GARDEN

On September 20, Kern's Leadership Council heard a presentation by Mary Lea Hall on the proposed memorial Garden. Several Kern members attended the meeting to express their interest in and support of the garden. The information presented to Council included a drawing by a local landscape architect, a draft policy statement, information on the garden's use and upkeep, a proposed location, and for comparison purposes, information on other memorial gardens in our area. Some Council members had either been in churches or have families in churches that have memorial gardens and spoke of how the gardens been received very positively by those particular churches.

In the near future, there will be one or two information sessions to provide information and solicit interest in a memorial garden. Donations or memorial gifts may be designated for the Kern Memorial Garden. For additional information, please contact Mary Lea Hall, maryhall108@comcast.net. Wanda Parks or Mary Lea Hall can answer most questions, and all comments are welcome.

TO OUR KERN FAMILY,

Thank you very much for the prayers, cards and comforting words on the death of my son, Erik. Your kindness and sympathy during this difficult time means a lot to Michele and me.

Sincerely,
Ron Brandenburg

HANDS-ON MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Kern Memorial UMC has the chance to participate in a work camp at Red Bird Mission, a non-profit agency located in the Appalachian mountains of Southeastern Kentucky: "Red Bird Mission empowers individuals and advocates justice by providing educational, health, and community outreach ministries to area low-income residents." We would leave Kern at noon on October 25 and return by early afternoon on October 31. The cost is \$ 255 per person. We need to know who would like to go as soon as possible in order to provide this information to Red Bird. Please consider going for the whole week or even part of the week. You'll be blest as well as being a blessing to others.

See <http://www.rbmission.org/Ministries/communityh.html> if you need more information. Contact Jim Giles (482-5935) or the church office, if you are interested.

HANDBELLS

It's time to make those English hand bells ring again! Enough people have expressed a desire to play to begin a group, so hopefully we will have hand bells ringing for Christmas this year. We will have an organizational meeting on Tuesday, September 29, at 6:30 pm in the Narthex. An ongoing rehearsal schedule will be decided at that time. We have several folks committed to play, but there is always room for more ringers. You will be able to try them out in our introduction to English hand bells; this will not commit you to play. The only pre-requisite is the ability to read music, both sound and rhythm. Teenagers are welcome. If you cannot attend, but are interested, call Carol Cox (482-3402).

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET COMING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

Plans are underway to offer the Alternative Gift Market on Saturday December 5th as a place to shop for gifts that not only mark the birth of Christ, but also reflect His Spirit by supporting ministries to those who are poor or hurting, by making grateful and wise use of our resources and dealing fairly with people everywhere.. Mark you calendars! Phone Marcia Walker (521-7759) if you want to help.

OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Each year, in accordance with our *Safe Sanctuary* policy, our children's and youth ministry team leaders are required to participate in training to review specific policies relative to health and safety measures that the church takes to keep our children safe. Our 2009 annual training was held on Tuesday, September 15 with 26 people in attendance. In addition to our *Safe Sanctuary* training, all those who work with youth and children are to undergo background checks. As we do our part as leaders, we will also be asking parents to complete new emergency cards for their children. Please return these cards to your child's teacher or to one of our children's or youth ministry staff (Shona Ellis, Tyler Neas, Debbie Shope, or Sheila Smith).

Thank you for your part in helping to keep our church, staff, and especially our kids safe.

***NOTE:** Those who were unable to attend the training are asked to see Sheila Smith or Shona Ellis to obtain a training packet, and policies and guidelines relative to their respective roles. All Children's and Youth Ministry leaders will be expected to sign that they have participated in annual training.*

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The UMM will continue with their study of the book of Acts on Tuesday, October 6, in the Family Life Center. Fellowship begins at 6:00 pm. Steve Pawel will lead the study. All are welcome to attend.

KERNELS

Join us Tuesday, October 13, to hear from Dr. Wilma Banner Curtis, the first bride to be married in the Kern sanctuary. The meeting starts at 11:00 am in the Family Life Center and is followed by a delicious pot-luck lunch at noon.

October Dance Schedule

October 7

4:30-5:15 pm – K-Grade 1 with Kayla

6:45-7:30 pm - PreK with Ashley

October 14

4:30-5:15 pm – Grades 5 & 6 with Kayla

6:45-7:30 pm - Grade 2-4 with Ashley

October 21

4:30-5:15 pm – K-Grade 1 with Kayla

6:45-7:30 pm - PreK with Ashley

Classes meet in Room 12. Classes are still open – anyone is Welcome! For more information, contact Ashley Bice (660-8618 or pointe_dancer18@hotmail.com) or Kayla Carico (414-8805 or kmcarico@gmail.com).

No Dance Class Oct. 28 – Happy Fall Break!

KOINONIA CAFÉ

The room for our children and youth is coming along great! If you have not been down stairs to see it, we invite you to do so. To date, we've received \$2000 in donations, but still need \$1500 more to complete our project. Our goal is to have this new ministry ready by October 7, even if the room is not completely finished. In addition to financial support, we will need help (especially from parents) to plan devotional activities and provide supervision of the children from 6:30-8:30 pm on Wednesday evenings, beginning mid-October. If you can help, please see Shona, Sheila, Tyler, or Debbie or indicate your interest on the bulletin tear-off. Koinonia Cafe will host Sunday Night Youth activities, Wednesday night children's and youth activities, and lots more activities for our children and youth.

OCTOBER YOUTH NEWS

The youth will be cooking the Wednesday night meal on Wednesday, October 7. There will be a \$7 cover charge. I remind you that this is a Youth Fundraising Meal. Please come out and support our youth.

October 23-25, the youth will be taking a trip to Camp Wesley Woods for a get together with Wesley Memorial UMC youth group. We will be hanging out, having fun and worshipping together on that weekend. Please go to ty ty on facebook to sign up, if you would like to attend.

No Youth Oct. 25.

PUMPKIN ROLLS

Please see a youth or youth parent about ordering your pumpkin rolls.

Reminder: you must pay for them in advance this year.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Preschool & Kindergarten class has finished studying Joseph and is moving on to Samuel. They will learn about Hannah saying goodbye to Samuel, God calling to Samuel, Samuel and Eli, and Samuel talking to God before he went to bed. Teachers for October are Priscilla Spitzer and Amanda Whitaker.

The children in grades 1- 4 will be studying Moses for the month of October, after studying Joseph in September. Lessons include when Moses was a baby, the burning bush, when God commanded "Let My People Go!", and the parting of the Red Sea. Teachers for the 1st & 2nd grade class will be Jana Martin & MacKenzie Dawn and teachers for the 3rd & 4th grade class will be McKeever & Leigh Marlar.