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WEEKLY BULLETIN
DEADLINE
 is Wednesday
 at
 10:00 a.m.



FREEDOM AND LIBERTY ARE CHARACTERISTICS OF OUR FAITH

The month of July is mostly known for that great American Holiday, Independence Day. July has for more than 200 year represented the celebration of freedom and liberty. But what does it mean to be free and liberated? The answer to this question will garner different responses depending on the person engaged, their belief systems, various motives, and life experiences. Freedom as defined by the masses can mean anything, and in our time, it has manifested itself as everything. But freedom and liberty as defined in God’s Word is not nebulous, it is clear. Freedom and liberty are not void of parameters. For when they possess no parameter a people become polarized, communities become unstable, and the corresponding nation begins to look like anarchy personified. The Word of God offers freedom and liberty with definite form, limits, and benefits.

Freedom is choice and it comes with a great responsibility for the well-being of oneself and the safety of others. Paul exhorts the church at Philippi to good works in his absence which constitutes a dynamic freedom; freedom *from* his apostolic direction and oversight to limit their behavior and freedom *in* the option given by God to freely choose daily what our actions will be... In that vein Paul defines Christian freedom:

² Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (Philippian 2:12)

We understand that freedom is not the ability to do what we want, but a maturing which requires sound decision making based on an implied ethic and morality noted in this snippet of Paul’s statement; “...work out your own salvation...”. We learn that freedom must not be held freely, but with circumspection as it can both bless and curse. And if we want the blessing, our freedom must be bent toward that which is salvific; that is, our behavior must match that required by the God who saves...

Liberty is the condition of salvific freedom; or more clearly stated, Godly choices. Liberty is dependent upon the nature of your freedom. Paul writes to the church at Corinth with the idea of liberty in mind:

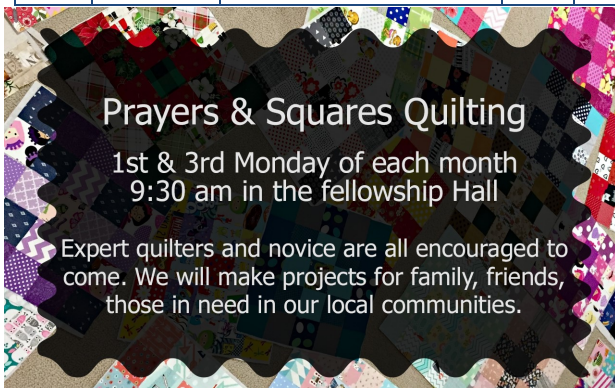
¹³ For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause. ¹⁴ For the love of Christ constrains us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead. ¹⁵ And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. (2 Corinthians 5:13-14)

Liberty is to live out an ethic and moral which transcends self and esteems others more than oneself; this is liberating, to see others live and to experience other living an ethic and moral which ensures that you can do the same. In this vein, we mutually experience true freedom and the perfect law of liberty.

The sad truth is that no nation is or has manifested this glorious mind of God. So, we need not waste our time condemning anything or anyone in this season of Independence. But instead, we may raise high the blood-stained banner of Jesus Christ which personifies the mind, moral and ethic of Christ for the healing of all nations. Christ is our banner, flag, and hope for the world. Amen!

From one prisoner of Christ to another,
Marty McMichael
 Sr. Pastor

1	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie	14	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support	22	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie
2	10:00 am	AA		4:00 pm	Grief & Loss Team	23	10:00 am	AA Meeting
3		Communion Sunday		7:00 pm	GA Meeting	24		
4		4th of July—Office Closed	15	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie	25	6:00 pm	SS Team
5	11:00 am	Staff Meeting	16	10:00 am	AA Meeting	26	11:00 am	Staff Meeting
6	10:00 am	Children’s Story Time		10:30 am	Book Club		6:00 pm	Church Council
	7:00 pm	NA Meeting	17	Noon	Private Event in Fellowship Hall	27	9:00 am	Holy Folders
7	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support		5:00 pm	VBS Kick-Off		7:00 pm	N/A Meeting
	4:00 pm	Grief & Loss Team	18		Meals on Wheels Week	28	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support
	7:00 pm	GA Meeting		9:30 am	Prayers & Squares		4:00 pm	Grief & Loss Team
8	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie		5:00 pm	VBS 2nd Night		7:00 pm	GA Meeting
	9:30 am	Feeder of the Pack @ Food Pantry	19	11:00 am	Staff Meeting	29	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie
9	7:30 am	UMM Breakfast		6:00 pm	Staff Parish	30	10:00 am	AA Meeting
	10:00 am	AA Meeting		5:00 pm	VBS 3rd Night	31	10:15 am	Sunday School Open House Kick-Off
10	TBD	VBS Volunteer Meeting		7:00 pm	Service & Mission		Noon	Our Neighbors Table
11	10:00 am	Bible Journaling	20	5:00 pm	VBS 4th Night			
	6:00 pm	SS Team		7:00 pm	NA Meeting			
12	11:00 am	Staff Meeting	21	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support			
13	10:30 am	Children’s Story Time		4:00 pm	Grief & Loss Team			
	7:00 pm	NA Meeting		5:00 pm	VBS Closing Night			



Prayers & Squares Quilting
 1st & 3rd Monday of each month
 9:30 am in the fellowship Hall

Expert quilters and novice are all encouraged to come. We will make projects for family, friends, those in need in our local communities.

The August compass deadline is July 18th




God Bless America
 ★ Happy Fourth of July Weekend ★



CHURCH LIBRARY

“Love the Lord your God with all your mind.”

The Library Corner: New Books and New Babies

A New Book:

One of the books added to the library this month is important for the church and its way of operating. The book is **Mission Possible 3+: a simple structure for missional effectiveness.**

If you are saying “huh?” give it a moment. The book describes how churches can gain greater effectiveness and direction— fewer meetings, with more meaning, and more accountability. This book will be on display on the upstairs bookcase, and another copy will be in the church library. Pick it up, look it over, and think about how our church can work with it. Also, check out our church website—you can look at information plus videos. Click on SAS (Simple, Accountable Structure).

Babies and Books:

In 2011 the Church Library Team decided to start a new book ministry—giving baby books from the United Methodist Church family to newborns and their parents. And what a joy it was! The first book we chose was a board book engagingly illustrated with a little bear cub and his parents and accompanied with the familiar words of “Jesus Loves Me” as the text. (Hint: you need to sing it to the baby as you look at the book together!) And for that second or third baby that comes along we now have several other fun board books we can give to baby and family.

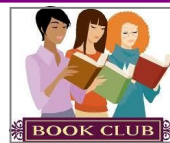
By sometime in 2018 we had given away over 50 books! You probably have seen some of those books on the church altar over the years. And then in 2020 came the Great Interruption—otherwise known as Covid. For a while this ministry paused, but we are happy to report we are now in full operation. This year we have given books to seven babies and families to welcome them into this world—and that includes a little “catch up” for little ones who were born a year or more ago, and whom we missed. So far this year books have gone to:

Eli Grayson Kiser
Wesley McMichael
Edison James Erbes

Shepherd John Phillip Erbes
Tripp Thomas Bounds
Oliver Allen Imhoff
Aidan James Henning

Each book has the baby’s name on a label inside the book. Books go to families who have connections to this church in one way or another—perhaps a parent who attends or attended here, or a grandparent or other relative who attends, and are announcing their joy in the new baby born to the family. If we have missed someone whose baby was born in the last year or two, and you would still like to have a baby book, please let the church office know.

And, by the way, we gave 5 books away in 2011, our first year of this project. Two of those children still attend this church: Lola Pierson and Liam Guthman!



The Saturday Book Club
Church Library, Rm 109
July 16th, 10:30

Plainsong
 By Kent Haruf*

A National Book Award finalist, this is a story of family and romance, tribulation and tenacity, set on the High Plains east of Denver.

In the small town of Holt, Colorado, a high school teacher is confronted with raising his two boys alone after their mother retreats-- first to the bedroom-- then altogether. A teenage girl—her father long since disappeared, her mother unwilling to have her in the house—is pregnant, alone, with nowhere to go. And out in the country, two brothers, elderly bachelors, work the family homestead; the only world they’ve ever known. From these unsettled lives emerges a vision of life, and of the town and landscape that bind them together—their fates somehow overcoming the powerful circumstances of place and station, their confusion, curiosity, dignity and humor intact and resonant. As the milieu widens to embrace fully four generations, Kent Haruf displays an emotional and aesthetic authority to rival the past masters of a classic American tradition.

*Kent Haruf was on the English faculty **Saturday** at SIU for a period of time

MUMC
Saturday
Morning



8	Brant & Amanda Wingerter	21	Gary & Rosie Wece
14	Richard & Sharon Graff	24	Mike & Casey Johnstone
16	Dan & Donna Horniacek	26	Marty & Dolores McNitt
17	Loyd & Ruth Ebersohl	26	Mark & Deana Twenhafel



3	Tassie Doellman	18	Brody Geis
3	Loyd Ebersohl	18	Nikki Krummrich
3	Bill Martin	18	Olivia Schaldemose
4	Ruth Ebersohl	18	Jacob Stewart
5	Jacob Schwoerer	19	Bert Ozburn
6	Deb David	20	Willa Addison
6	Viola Parrish	21	Barbara Giffin
7	Isabella Krummrich	21	Jim Hughes
8	Richard Graff	21	Harry Wirth
8	Jacob Heilig	22	Kylah Clark
8	Asia Watson	22	Lillie Schaldemose
9	Harper Geis	22	Judith Williams
10	Brianna Sitton	23	John Imhoff
11	Geraldine Horner	24	Jennifer O'Donnell
12	Gene Schwebel	25	Ron Moutardier
13	Sharon Jones	28	Paul Chapman
14	JT Jenkins	29	Brianna Carnes
15	Ashlyn Buck	29	Kendall Ellermeyer
15	Pam Crews	9	Dacoda Twenhafel
15	Brittini Heilig	30	Francis Addison
17	Rhiannon Gally	31	Debbie Chapman
17	Eugene Stewart	31	Tage Green

Children's STORY TIME

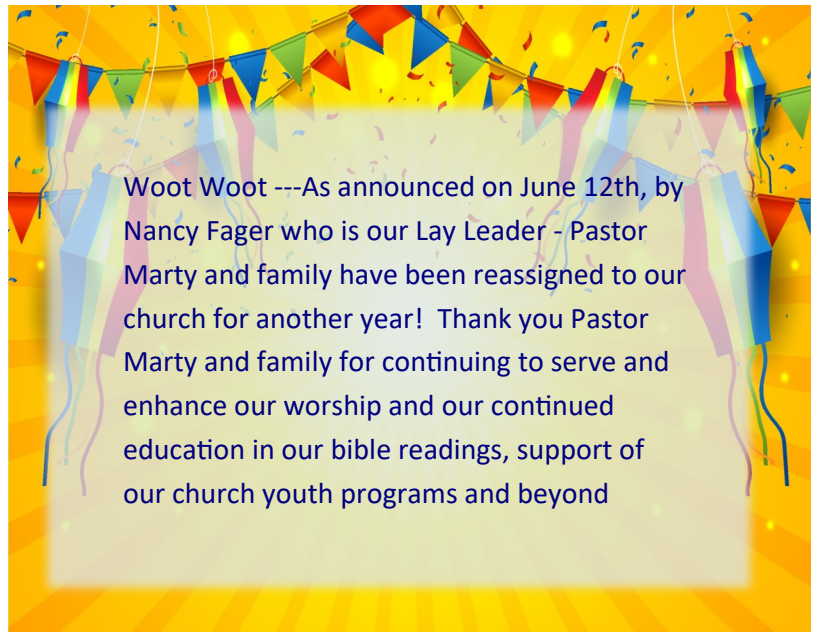
Has Returned ~ Wednesday ~
July 6 & 13
 10:00 am in the Pavilion

Interactive Bible stories, songs, crafts & refreshments for ages Pre-k to 2nd grade.

Volunteers needed, along with donations of fruit juice boxes, and small bottles of water for both days.

Story time will be July 6th & 13th this year. It will be appropriate for Children Pre-K—2nd grade, and last approximately 1 hour.

Activities will include coloring time, story time, singing, craft and snack time. Adults please attend with small children. Contact Vanessa Lirely or Barb Hughes for more information.





YAH was back on the road on Tuesday, June 14. It may have been hot outside, but it was cool and comfortable inside St. Nicholas Brewing Company in DuQuoin. Twenty-two participants enjoyed steaks, salads, burgers, seafood tacos, and brussel sprouts - yes, I said brussel sprouts - you gotta try them! The casual, funky atmosphere (including bicycles used as decorations) just added to the fun times and fellowship shared by all. And, as a side note, our own Richard Tierney - who highly recommended this establishment - has joined up with the bicycle club that meets at St. Nicholas. All and all, St. Nicholas has a lot to offer for the food enthusiast and the bicycle enthusiast. We recommend that you give it a try - and don't forget about those brussel sprouts! YAH will be taking a vacation during the month of July, but will be back on the road on Tuesday, August 9 for another fun trip. Stayed tuned for more details!

YAH ON THE ROAD

Will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each Month to enjoy fellowship and lunch at different area restaurants.



Contact Michelle Parker-Clark or the Church office for more details or to sign up.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Jr. High & Sr. High meet the 1st & 3rd

Sunday of every month

in Fellowship Hall from 5-7 pm.

A meal is provided, invite your friends and come fellowship with us!

Saturday, July 9th at 7:30 AM. UMM Breakfast. Come help us start planning for our annual Apple Pancake Breakfast.



Mon., July 11th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please let Rosie know if you will be attending to ensure there is adequate spacing available.



Bible journaling



During the month of July, the Adult Sunday School Class will be concluding their current DVD study of Adam Hamilton's Book Unafraid and will be beginning a new study. Please check your upcoming church bulletins for details concerning the new study, and consider joining us for a great time of fellowship, study, and discussion. Adults of all ages are welcome and are encouraged to attend.



Plans are almost complete for our first ever Community Vacation Bible School. Use the QR Code below or go to our website to sign up your child now. We are going to have so much fun at our Food Truck Party.

Now we still need your help! We have enclosed with this newsletter a VBS Postcard. We are asking each family to please hand this card out to someone in our community. Invite them to join us at VBS; could be a relative, neighbor, co-worker, the check-out person at Kroger, or even someone you pass on the street. Just invite someone. You can even mail the postcard out if you like. The choice is yours. This is a very easy way to help spread the good news of Jesus with our community.

Hand it out early as we can only accept the first 80 kids who sign up.

Thank you in advance for your help and remember to keep everyone who is involved with VBS and joining us in your prayers for the whole month of July.

Murphysboro United Methodist Church Community Vacation Bible School

Join me, "DJ Skillet", for fun, games, crafts, food & fellowship each night



Everyone Pre-K—4th Grade is invited. Bring your friends, neighbors, and your family. We are going to have a rolling good time.

Sunday, July 17th—21st
Dinner starts at 5:00 pm
program runs until 8:00 pm each night
Murphysboro Youth & Rec Center
1818 Walnut Street



Scan to sign up

For more information scan the QR code or contact the church office at 687-2317



In Loving Memory . . .

Since the last newsletter we celebrated the lives of two loved ones and a friend:

Geraldine Horner

Geraldine Horner passed away on Th., May 19th. Geraldine was the mother of Sheila (Jim) Stewart, the grandmother of Jamie (Shannon) Green, and the great grandmother of Landrie, Tage and Kort Green.

Bill Hanlon

Bill Hanlon passed away on Sun., May 22nd. Mr. Hanlon was the brother of Donna Lynn Horniacek.

Dr. Michael Dreith

Dr. Michael Dreith passed away on Sat., May 28th. Michael was the husband of Carol, the father of Andrew (Alicia) Dreith, Douglas (Katie) Dreith, Alexander (Fiance', Chloe) Dreith, the stepfather of Ryan Medder and Rachel Parsley (deceased), and the grandfather of Carson, Camden, Wyatt, Dempsey and Millie Lou Dreith and Lexa Parsley.

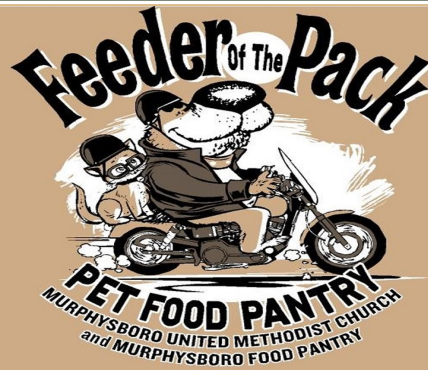
Our Neighbor's Table

FREE community meal
the last Sunday of every month starting at 12:00 noon
in the Murphysboro United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers Needed!



Signup on Attendance Pad or Contact Michelle Parker-Clark



*Meets the 2nd
Friday of each
month at the
Murphysboro
Food Pantry
at 9:00 am*

Feeder of the Pack needs your help to stay alive. Costs of supplies have doubled. Please consider donating today.

Prayer Request Policy from the Church Office:



Sharing the needs of our church family is extremely important so that we may care for each other in Christian love. In an effort to keep everyone informed concerning hospitalizations, illnesses, and deaths reported to us by the members of our church family, we will be sending those prayer concerns out on the prayer chain, and we will be placing them on the prayer list in the church bulletin, unless otherwise instructed by the individual making the request. We hope this will enhance communication and provide more opportunities for each of us to show love and concern for one another.

Blessings!

Michelle Parker-Clark Interim Pastor of Congregational Care

To submit a prayer request you may fill out a prayer card each Sunday and place in the offering plate, or email it to:
mumprayerchain@yahoo.com

Hooray Children & Youth Sunday School Is Back!!

Starting Sunday August 7th at 10:15 am in the education wing.

We are excited and proud to present the Grow Curriculum that has something for EVERYONE!!

We will have classes for pre-k to first grade, 2nd and 3rd, 4th and 5th, Jr High and High school. We invite you to join us for our open house on July 31st following promotion Sunday in the church service. We will also have food and fellowship in the pavilion to celebrate the start of the school year.



*We are still looking for volunteers please
contact*

Diane Schingel for more information 618-303-3757



Our Sunday School mission is to grow our church through our youth. AND we want to "train our children in the way they should go; and when they are old, they will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

The Methodists on a Mission Relay For Life team would like to thank our church family for once again supporting us in raising funds for the American Cancer Society. This is such a worthy cause that helps us to Remember and Fight Back against the scourge known as cancer. This year our team raised over \$7,200 and we couldn't have done it without the help of our friends and family. So, a great big THANK YOU to everyone who bought a gift card, came to our chicken dinner, purchased a luminaria in honor of someone, or donated money to our team members. We made a difference in someone's life.





Get your breakthrough prayer card, in the church office or at the back of the sanctuary.

Oh, gracious God who's still small voice we long to hear. Cause us to walk in your Wisdom and rest in your strength. Give us eyes to see your will for Murphysboro UMC and the community we serve. Order our steps and establish our thoughts, for we commit this vision to you. Its in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Commit your works to the Lord and your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:3

On behalf of your church SPRC committee a heartfelt thanks to all who have submitted thoughts for the continued growth and the good of your church.

Please continue to pray the "Breakthrough Prayer" as a loving church body.

Time to pray as a whole is 4:00 pm daily.

Ask a prayer partner to pray this prayer at another time or dedicate yourself a specific time. I know several who are praying at 6:00 am. Whatever time works for you---- God has no time limitations and hears all prayers.

Vanessa Lirley



Ice Cream Social



MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966**

OFFICE HOURS at MUMC

Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Phone: 618-687-2317 Fax: 618-687-2604
E-Mail: murphysboroumc@gmail.com
Website: www.crossandflameministries.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

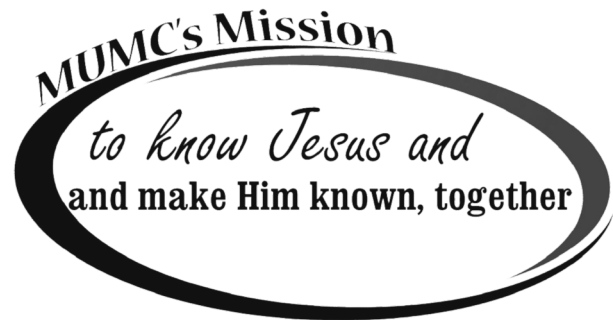
Sunday Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.



Staff

Ministers The Congregation
Pastor Marty McMichael
Interim Pastor of
Congregational Care..... Michelle Parker-Clark
Financial Secretary Christine Nolan
Custodian Pat Sullivan

Church Secretary Melba Ziegler
Pianist/Organist Cameron Taylor
Interim Music Director Cameron Taylor
Nursery Attendant..... Ashlee Sanders
Technology..... Vacant



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Desoto & Murphysboro
United Methodist Churches
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966**