



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 10, 2010

www.mulberrymethodist.org

THE WESLEY COVENANT RENEWAL SERVICE

January 10, 2010

The Tradition of the Covenant Renewal Service

At the heart of Christian devotion is a sense that we are not our own, but that through God's claim upon us in Christ through baptism, we are God's servants. From time to time, Christians need to make a solemn renewal of the covenant, *"lest we hold back from God what we once gave to God but over time have hoarded for ourselves"* (John Wesley). The early Methodists adopted a form of covenant renewal and found that early in the New Year was an appropriate occasion for such a service.

That tradition started on the evening of August 11, 1755 in the French church of Spitafields, a suburb of London, England. John Wesley saw the need for the Methodist community to renew the covenant each had made at their conversion. A simple yet powerful tradition was born. This was a time for the community to remember that they were not their own, but that God had made a claim on their lives through the sacrifice of Christ and baptism. This was an occasion to review the journey of faith, both the personal one and the one of the church community. It was a time to mend fences, and to build new bridges.

The world marks time and gives emphasis to making resolutions in the New Year. Christians, too, mark time, and it is good for us to reflect on who and whose we are, to look back but also forward, with eyes of faith in the company of one another and with God.

As we gather this Sunday for worship at 9:00 and 11:00, we too will take stock, give thanks, and seek God's guidance and wisdom – to rededicate ourselves to the worship and service of God through His Son Jesus Christ.

As we heard last Sunday the story of how the "wise men came to worship", and how God's guidance can transform our lives, so this Sunday we will remember our Lord's baptism and reflect on our own journey of faith. We will hear the water poured, and hear again the voice of God speaking to us: *"You are my beloved child. You are precious in my sight."* Nothing empowers us for living more than hearing and internalizing God's claim on our lives.

At the close of the service, we will receive Holy Communion together, and share in the covenant prayer of renewal and dedication. Come, let us worship! It is time of New Beginnings!

In Christ,



To Jack & Marilyn Armstrong upon the death of Marilyn's mother, Elizabeth Finch on December 16, 2009.

To John and Pam Barron upon the death of Pam's father, Max Bledsoe of Milledgeville, GA on December 18, 2009.

**You are Cordially Invited!
Epworth Winter Camp Meeting
"Seek Ye First"**

**Honoring Retired South Georgia Clergy
January 24-27, 2010**

Sunday, January 24 – 7:00 p.m.

"The Bishop's Hour" - Bishop James R. King, Jr.

Monday, January 25

10:45 a.m. – Dr. Don Kea

7:00 p.m. – Dr. Jim Trice

Tuesday, January 26

10:45 a.m. – Dr. Vance Mathis

7:00 p.m. – Rev. Jim Rush

Wednesday, January 27

10:45 a.m. – Dr. Herchel Sheets

Bible Study Sessions

9:30-10:30 a.m. – Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
Dr. Bill Mallard

Brochure, rates and online reservation form on Epworth's website at www.epworthbythesea.org. One CEU credit is available. For information, call Epworth By The Sea at 912-638-8688.



Pam Johnston, Director of Children's & Family Ministries

Confirmation Begins

Remember in your prayers the following six 6th graders as we begin their Confirmation classes this month. This is an important time in their spiritual growth, and we will keep you updated about things they are learning and doing together as a group.

Chris Golmitz Conner Hefner Emma Johnston
Joseph Kelley Will Smith, Jr. Xavier Tarbox

Children's Council

We will begin Children's Council meetings again in 2 weeks (date and time TBA), with Misty Kiernan as our new chair. If you are interested in serving on this important council that helps make decisions about the future of our Children's Department, please contact Pam. Thanks!

Macon Outreach Fund

In memory of Sue Wetmore by Sally and Larry Robson

In memory of Dr. Richard Fehlenberg by
Barbara Lange Frank & Mary Anne Gaudry

In honor of Corawayne Wright by Sally M. Heard

In honor of Jeff Venjohn by S. GA District, Merck & Co., Inc.

In honor of Shannon Fickling by Bootsie Faulk

In honor of Betty Hamlin by Harris & Willie Vaughn

In honor of the Staff & Volunteers of MOM by Creede & Bonnie Hinshaw

In honor of Mickey Pope by Joy Class

In honor of Elizabeth LeClair by Marjorie McFerrin

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Ed Sell, III by
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Murphey Wayne & Jean Bloodworth

In honor of James Copland by The Solomon Class

In memory of George & Emma Broumas by Lisa Lawson

In memory of Rev. Bob & Viola Woodall by Mike Ketchum

In memory of Maxie & Alvin Turner, Sr. by Nancy Turner-Dunn

In memory of Paula Motes by Paula Motes Circle

In memory of Richard Fehlenberg by Harold Hollans

In honor of Carol & Mickey Pope by Larry D. King

In memory of Paula Knight by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Midkiff

In memory of Tinsley Matthews by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Midkiff

In honor of John and Beth Tripp by Jan and Marcus Tripp

In honor of Brent & Angie Stanford by William O. and Janet Walker

In honor of Albert & Sally McKay by William O. and Janet Walker

In honor of Robert Bowen by William O. and Janet Walker

In memory of Ann Martin Bowen by William O. and Janet Walker

In honor of Robert & Ginger Stribling by William O. and Janet Walker

In honor of Julia Dunn by The Solomon Class

In memory of Betty Ballard by Ed & Lenore Sell

In honor of Iris Jones' birthday by Martha Thompson

In memory of Glenn Kaler Smith by Edith W. Smith

In honor of Sid & Susan Middlebrooks by Kathy Walker

In honor of Mac & Elizabeth Grace by Christopher Westbrook

Circle Meeting

The Paula Motes Circle will meet Wednesday, January 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Please bring items for Macon Outreach and the Children's Home.

**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)
Jun	103,693	98,451	5,242	28,813
Jul	81,424	96,769	(15,345)	(31,955)
Aug	86,459	96,383	(9,924)	(18,589)
Sep	108,276	102,097	6,179	(22,466)
Oct	71,745	93,023	(21,278)	(702)
Nov	147,038	90,326	56,712	(17,607)
Total YTD	1,020,891	1,086,430	(65,539)	(109,674)

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

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED WEEKLY
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MACON, GA

Pastor on Call

January 8-10

Cile Mitchell

Home: 745-9657 Cell: 986-7107

E-mail: cmitchell@mulberrymethodist.org

THIS WEEK AT MULBERRY

Sunday, January 10

9:00 a.m. Worship/Chapel

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

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

11:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

4:45 p.m. Young Spirit Singers

5:00 p.m. UMYF

Monday, January 11

10:00 a.m. Women's Club Mtg/Parlor

5:30 p.m. Small Groups Mtg/Conf Rm

Tuesday, January 12

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

7:00 a.m. Men's Sermon Starter Group/Bob Lovett's Office

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

9:15 a.m. Chapel/Children's Center

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

12:00 p.m. Kiwanis Club Lunch/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 13

4:00 p.m. Paula Motes Circle/Conf Rm

5:00 p.m. Children's Handbells

5:45 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper

6:30 p.m. Children's Choirs

7:15 p.m. Ainsworth Choir

Thursday, January 14

12:00 p.m. Young at Heart

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

Friday, January 15

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

Sunday, January 17

9:00 a.m. Worship/Chapel

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

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

11:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

4:45 p.m. Young Spirit Singers

5:00 p.m. UMYF



February 19-21, 2010
"Near to the Heart of God"

Registration forms are available in
the church office.

Music Fund

In honor of Bob Waters by the Joy Class

Memorial Fund

In memory of Betty Parsons Ballard by

Mrs. Sara B. Newberry Mr. & Mrs. Willard W. McEachern

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

Pam Johnston, Director of Children's & 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