

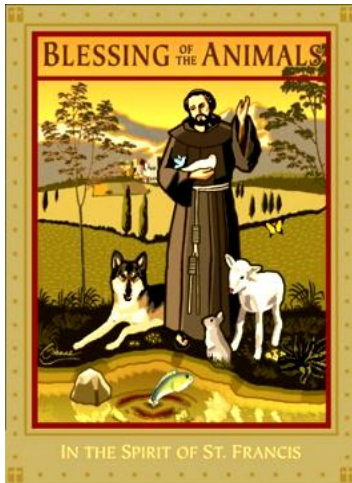


Red Mountain Matters

OCTOBER 2011

VOLUME 30

NO. 10

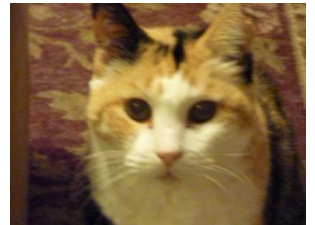


BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Get ready to see some unusual guests and visitors at our church – I'm speaking of the furry, feathered and scaly kind. We will have a *Blessing of the Animals* on **Saturday, October 29, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am**. Church and community people are invited to bring their pets to the church anytime during those hours for their pets to receive a special blessing prayer from one of the pastors.

Any and all pets are welcome, as long as they are leashed or secured, and are safe around children and other animals. We welcome dogs, cats, horses, llamas, goats, hamsters, rabbits, mice, hedgehogs, turtles, iguanas, snakes, birds, fish --- whatever you have and can get to church, we'll bless.

We will gather outside in the area near the Education building. Each animal will be individually blessed by name and will receive a special certificate of blessing. The morning will also include face-painting and other activities for children.



Torie



Darth Bob

We honor the special relationship children have with their pets. But it's not only children who bond with their pets. People arriving home from work love being greeted by a furry friend who is overjoyed at their return. Many a senior has a lap filled with a purring fellow creature. And for those who live alone, a pet can be a true companion.

Our service of the Blessing of the Animals is in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is in October. St. Francis is considered the patron saint of animals and of the environment. He cared deeply for all creatures and all of creation.

Bringing a pet to church for a special blessing is only appropriate, as church is the place where God's gifts of creation are celebrated. The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic.



Bentley



Brylie

The love we give to and receive from a pet can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life and into the wonder of our common relationship to our Creator.

Invite co-workers, friends and neighbors to come to this special event. Join Pastors Mary and Dot, and the pastors' own pets, Torie, Darth Bob, Bentley, and Brylie, for this wonderful celebration of creation.

Pastor Mary

OCTOBER 2011

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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DOT...



All Church Camp:

Nearly fifty people gathered for All Church Camp to explore ways to find God in everyday life through wonder, hospitality, gratitude, and living in God's love. Thanks to everyone who participated! Many thanks to the planning team and all who helped with everything from donations, registration, and publicity to activities, music, and worship leadership. Thanks to **Amy Hinze, Amber McCall, and Rose Meyers**, and to **Cynthia Armstrong, David Bullis, Ann Griffin, Kayla Griffin, Nathan Hinze, Michelle McCracken, Brian Merlo, Alyssa Olson, Debbie Park, John Park, David Peterson, Karen Peterson, Mara Peterson, Kim Ramelli, and Brock Walters**. Thanks to all participants for making the All Church Camp experience possible by supporting it with your presence and by jumping in to read, lead singing, set tables, move tables, and help with activities. A special thanks to **George Stickney and Sue Killebrew** for lending wisdom and insight during the early stages of planning and visioning. Thank you again, everyone!

Bible Recipients:

Pray for the fifteen children who received Bibles from the church in September. Pray for these children as they read and study God's word: **Claire, Nicholas, Ryan, Benjamin, Katharine, Isaia, Rose, Spencer, Patience, Aubrie, Michael, Cade, Carolyn, Alexis and Sarah**.



BIBLE BASICS CAMP:

All 3rd and 4th graders and any elementary-age child who wants to learn more about your Bible are invited to the **Bible Basics Camp** on **Saturday, October 29, from Noon to 2:00 pm**. Bring your Bible to the retreat that will be held in the Youth Center. A pizza lunch will begin the afternoon and will be followed by games, crafts, character costumes and many more fun activities. Register online at www.RMUMC.com or call the church office.

Peace, Dot ☺

Sunday Worship Services
7:45, 9:00 & 10:30 am
YOURS ARE THE HANDS OF CHRIST

Sunday, October 2 **John 9:1-12, 24-25**
World Communion Sunday

The Hands of Christ – Healing Hands

Jesus used his hands directly in healing; he applied mud to the eyes of blind men to restore their sight, and used his fingers to unstop the ears of a deaf man. We use our hands to heal, restore, repair, and encourage.

Sunday, October 9 **Mark 1:35-39**
The Hands of Christ – Praying Hands

Jesus' hands were hands of prayer. The gospels are full of accounts of Jesus withdrawing to pray, and of teaching others to pray. Jesus' prayers were remarkably God centered, not *me* centered.

Sunday, October 16 **Mark 6:30-44**
World Food Day

The Hands of Christ – Feeding Hands

When the 5,000 people who gathered to hear Jesus became hungry, he told his disciples, "You give them something to eat." He took in his hands the loaves and fish they brought him, blessed the food, and it became enough for all.

Sunday, October 23 **John 13:1-17**
The Hands of Christ – Serving Hands

Jesus' entire life of service culminated in a surprising act. He took a basin and a towel and washed his disciples feet, giving them the example of the humble life of servanthood that puts others first.

Sunday, October 30 **Mark 10:13-16**
Children's Sabbath

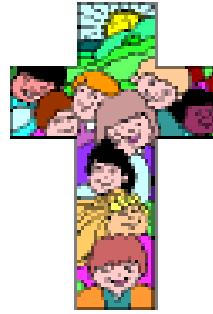
The Hands of Christ – Welcoming Hands

The disciples tried to shield Jesus from people bringing him all their children, that he might touch them. But Jesus welcomed the children, and took them in his arms and blessed them.

CHILDREN LEARN WE ARE
ART OF GOD'S FAMILY!

"Part of God's Family" is the theme for children's classes during the month of October. Each week our Sunday morning classes will explore what it means to be part of God's family!

- October 2** We are God's children and God loves us!
- October 9** Practicing Kindness
- October 16** Practicing Honesty
- October 23** God is with us even when we have done wrong
- October 30** We forgive others just as God forgives us



CHILDREN'S SABBATH

We will celebrate Children's Sabbath, an ecumenical worship focus that lifts up issues of justice that affect children, on **Sunday, October 30**, during all three of our worship services. Our children will help lead the worship services as we celebrate this special day.



SHOUT PRAISES KIDS!

Ask any SPK kid to tell you the story of how Isaac met his wife, Rebekah, and they can do it! They could also tell you that a camel can drink 20 gallons of water at one time, and that most kids prefer ice cream over fig-covered walnuts! We make the Bible stories come to life in SPK... through mini-dramas, "Thirsty Camel Races," and hands-on cooking for company! In the next session of E.D.G.E., we'll be continuing our experience with Rebekah and her life that proved to be so important to all of us. Did you ever think Alice in Wonderland, Mulan and Rebekah had things in common? I'd tell you more, but I'm late for SPK! We've got movie segments to watch and discuss, more food to prepare, a camel art project, and oh... a really "hairy" story about Rebekah's twin sons, Jacob and Esau. Don't miss it! (*Read more about SPK on the next page!*)

SEARCHING FOR THE KING



Rehearsals for "Searching for the King," a Christmas Musical and Drama, will kick-off with a preview Christmas party on **Sunday, October 2, at noon** in the Choir Rehearsal room. Join the Chancel Choir for Christmas

snacks and an opportunity to listen (*and sing along, if you'd like!*) "Searching for the King" is the story of two journeys separated by two millenia...an American soldier serving in the Middle East, mourning the loss of his best friend...asking "why"....and a "Wise Man--Magi" searching the same middle eastern sky for the sign of a long-awaited Messiah. Powerful drama and music combine to tell their story and the story of the birth of a long-awaited "King," who is the answer to all of the "whys?" of our lives. Email Choir Director Debbie at Debbie.Hollenbach@rmumc.com



E.D.G.E. NIGHTS *(Experience and Discover God Everywhere)*

NEW SESSION OF E.D.G.E. NIGHTS BEGINS **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19**

The last meeting for the current E.D.G.E. classes takes place on **October 5**. After a week off, a new session will begin on **October 19**, with lots of new and exciting classes to choose from! **ARTSedge** classes are at **4:00 pm**. **Dinner** is served in Madsen Hall from **5:15 – 5:45 pm**, followed by **two class sessions** at **6:00 and 7:05 pm**. Childcare is available all evening (except during dinner time). Register for classes online at www.rmumc.com or use a registration form that will be available on Sunday morning, in the church office, or in a printable form on the web site.

ARTSedge – 4:00 pm

Children's **ARTSedge** is going to "Camel Lot!" Filled with energetic and memorable music, many drama parts, fun costumes and choreography "Camel Lot (Don't Miss the Manger)" tells the story of Jesus' birthday -- a children's musical with a message for all ages. Children age 4 through 6th Grade are invited to come to **ARTSedge** on Wednesday's beginning **October 19** when rehearsals begin for "Camel Lot." Listening CD's, lyric sheets, rehearsal and performance information will be available beginning **Sunday, October 2**. Get a head start by picking up copies early. E-mail Debbie.Hollenbach@rmumc.com.

Also offered at 4:00 pm:

Zumba--This high energy fitness program features exotic rhythms set to Latin and international music. It's easy to do, effective and exhilarating fun! Led by Tina Rees.

99 Ways to Raise Spiritually Healthy Children -- Each week the group will look at several of the "99 Ways" using the delightful book of the same title by Kathleen Long Bostrom. Facilitated by Pastor Mary.

6:00 pm Classes

SPK Preschool and SPK Elementary (Shout Praises Kids!) A fun-filled hour of Bible stories, art and science projects and games. This session features Isaac and Rebekah, camel races, and much, much more.

Teen/Tween Fellowship -- Led by Youth Director, John Durkin. Enjoy a fun time of fellowship, games, Bible study and faith sharing.

Computer Basics – Learn to navigate the internet, search for information, store valuable information securely, play

your favorite games, watch DVD's and more. Bring a laptop if you have one. Led by Don Messenger and Lisa Knowles.

Sign Language -- This introduction to American Sign Language is for novices and beginning signers. The class will cover basic sign vocabulary, fingerspelling, sentence structure, and facial expression. Brief lessons on deaf history and culture will also be included, along with numerous tips for signing and understanding others that do. Led by American Sign Language Instructor, Cara Ortiz.

Blessed Earth: Hope for Creation -- In this Bible study led by Pastor Mary, the class will examine the six days of creation as found in the creation story in Genesis, Chapter 1. In an accompanying video, Matthew Sleeth, M.D., tells his personal witness of how he believes that being a disciple of Christ means caring for creation.

Watercolor -- The class will experiment with water color paint techniques. Discover how this art expression can create colorful works of art. Beginners to advanced artists welcome. Cost is \$3 per person for supplies. Led by Bobbi Heppe.

Writing Your Story -- Learn to write the story of your life and create a book that will be treasured by you and your family. Led by Dana Tramba.

Grief Care -- Led by Pastor Dot and Marie Pettegrew, this group offers support to those who have experienced a loss in their lives. Come for care and support.

De-Stressing Yoga -- Led by Don Krakauskas, this class is for everyone who would like to add yoga to their routine of de-stressing. Bring a floor mat for comfort.

Zumba (See description for ARTSedge at 4:00 pm)

7:05 pm Classes

1st – 4th Grade Activity Room -- Supervised time for children with games, videos, and a time to do homework.

5th-6th Grade Fellowship -- A fun combination of recreational games, faith-building stories and activities. Led by Sue Webb.

A Spiritual Path to Wholeness -- Led by Pastor Ellen Phillips and Pastor Dot, this groups uses a 12-step process for healing and growing in relationship to God, others and ourselves.

Blessed Earth: Hope for Creation -- Bible Study led by Pastor Mary. (See description above for 6:00 pm class)

Chancel Choir Rehearsal -- All who love to sing are welcome as we prepare for Sunday worship and begin preparing for Christmas. Led by Debbie Hollenbach.
4.

OCTOBER



HELP WITH CLEAN UP

Come and help at our fall church clean-up day on Saturday, **October 1**, beginning at **8:00 am**. We will be cleaning out closets, storage areas,

Sunday school rooms, youth rooms, Madsen Hall and the Worship Center, as well as sprucing up the outside landscape. This is a great opportunity to serve with our hands. All ages and abilities are welcome.



LIVING WELL WORKSHOP

Individuals of all ages who have been diagnosed with a chronic disease such as heart disease, arthritis, diabetes, asthma, bronchitis, and emphysema and anyone else who would like to learn more about these health issues are

invited to attend a **Living Well Workshop**. This workshop is a free series of six classes where participants will learn more about living a healthy lifestyle, even with chronic conditions. An **Information Session** will be held on **Tuesday, October 4, from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm** in the Education Building, Rooms 203/204. The Living Well Workshop classes begin on **Tuesday, October 18** and go through **November 22**. Registration will take place at the information session. For more information, call 480-728-5414. For child care and transportation requests, call the church office at 480-981-3833.

DIVORCE CARE

Divorce Care offers support to those who are in the middle of separation or divorce, or who have recently gone through a divorce. You don't have to go through it alone. Call or email the church office for times and location.



IMMIGRATION FORUM

An educational program about immigration issues from all perspectives will be presented on **Saturday, October 15, from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm** at Dayspring United Methodist Church, 1365 E. Elliot Road in Tempe. The forum is open to all and will provide an opportunity for those with differing viewpoints on this controversial issue to listen and to be heard. A catered lunch will be served at a cost of \$7. Registration is needed by **October 10**. Registration brochures are available in the church office or you can email **Jane Baker** at janepbaker@cox.net.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP/ CLASSICS

Looking for a place to get to know other adults in the church and to share some fun and laughter? Adult Fellowship/Classics is the group for you. Information on all of the upcoming events can be found on the church website, www.rmumc.com, under the "Fellowship" tab.



The group will next meet on **Saturday, October 15**, for a 90-minute sightseeing cruise on the Desert Belle on Saguario Lake. Reservations are a must and can be made on **Sundays, October 2 and 9**. Group cost is \$17 per person. There is indoor and

outdoor seating available for the cruise with restrooms near and handicap accessible. No food or drink is allowed to be brought onto the cruise, but food and drinks are available with cash only purchase on the boat. Plans are to meet at the church at **1:30 pm** to carpool to the lake for the **2:45 pm** sailing time. Contact Sue Killebrew with questions at skillebrew@gmail.com. All are invited to this fun outing.



GET YOUR FLU SHOTS HERE

Plan to get your annual flu shot at the church on **Sunday, October 16**. Mollen Clinic will be in Madsen Hall **from 8:30 am until 12:00 pm** to distribute the shot and encourages the congregation to get a shot and "fight the flu". Cost is \$25. Some insurance plans will cover the cost so bring your insurance card with you. Pneumonia shots will also be given that morning.

OCTOBER 21—23 MINGUS MOUNTAIN

Ladies, treat yourself to a very special weekend away in the cool mountains near Prescott at Mingus Mountain. This



year the Women's Retreat, **October 21 – 23**, marks the 10th year of holding women's retreats. We know that many fond memories will be relived during this fun weekend. Plan to join us now—it is not too late to register! **Sunday, October 9**, will be the last chance to sign up and for the final payment to be paid. A table will be available on the patio on **October 2 and 9** to register, pay and be given more information. **Sue Webb, Evy Hartley, and Mary Beth Jones** have an exciting weekend planned for us on the theme "The Prodigal Son." Cost for the weekend is \$100 which includes all meals provided in the dining room by our wonderful camp hosts (no clean up!) and two nights housing in the big group cabin with indoor restroom facilities. Contact Sue Killebrew at skillebrew@gmail.com for more information.

Holiday Boutique

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Friday, November 4 -- 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday, November 5 -- 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Shoppers will find great gift ideas! There will be some one-of-a-kind items offered in a silent auction! The United Methodist Women will be holding their annual bake and book sale!

RED MOUNTIAN CRAFTERS

Do you like making craft items? Do you like having fun with others while making craft items? Then join the Red Mountain Crafters when they meet every **Thursday from 6:00 – 9:00 pm** at the home of Penny Gumser. They are busy this month preparing for the Holiday Boutique in November. Contact Penny Gumser at pennygum@cox.net.

WREATH SALES ARE HERE!



The youth will be selling Christmas wreaths and other greenery this year. These are fresh and beautiful items that will add to your holiday decorating. You may order these to pick-up at the church or they can be shipped directly anywhere in the United States.

Look for a table on the patio

starting on **Sunday, October 2**. We will be accepting orders for gifts that are being shipped until **October 21** and for local delivery through **October 28**. Expected arrival for local orders will be between **November 28 and December 2**. Help support this youth project.

GOLF TOURNAMENT



The United Methodist Men will be holding a golf tournament on **Saturday, November 19**, at Augusta Ranch Golf Course in Mesa. The proceeds from the tournament will support the Red Mountain Youth Mission Projects. Play will be a modified scramble with ESP golf. There

will be prizes for the closest-to-pin on several of the holes and tee prizes will be given out. Following the tournament, lunch will be available. The first tee time will be at **10:30 am**. Sign ups will begin in mid-October. Contact Larry Lininger at lorenzocooks@q.com.

CONNECTING TO MESA

*Submitted by Karen Spencer-Barnes
for Social Justice Ministry*

Being "connected" is one of the unique gifts of the United Methodist Church. For example, we stay connected to the world through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). We stay connected through the General Conference, through Jurisdictional Conference, through our own Desert Southwest Annual Conference, and through our districts and on down to our local churches. We are a connected people, bound together by a common mission and common governance that can accomplish great things by reaching out into the world.

The Social Justice Ministry team invites you to a "connectional relationship" with Mesa. Our Mayor, Scott Smith, as well as our Mesa Police Department are intentionally giving the faith community opportunities to be involved with our city. As a "connected" people we understand the significance of being open to one another.

We share with you an invitation we recently received from the City of Mesa inviting our congregation to participate in a **FREE Community Cinema Night** each month this fall. The movies will be held at the Mesa Arts Center, Contemporary Arts Building, Dobson Lecture Hall, One East Main Street. The programs are relevant and diverse. Different groups within our church might be interested in attending together and then have discussion afterwards. All are welcome to attend any of these movies:

- **October 20, 6:00 pm – Deaf Jam, by Judy Lieff**
Aneta Brodski is a deaf teenager living in New York City. As she prepares to be among the first deaf competitors in a National Poetry Slam, she discovers the power of American Sign Language poetry to transcend and liberate.
- **November 17, 6:00 pm – We Still Live Here – Âs Nutayuneân, by Anne Makepeace**
The Wampanoag saved the Pilgrims from starvation and lived to regret it. On Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard, linguist Jane Little Doe is reviving the Wampanoag language more than a century after the last native speaker died.
- **December 15, 6:00 pm – Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai, by Lisa Merton and Alan Dater**
The dramatic story of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai whose simple act of planting trees grew into a global movement.

Contact Karen Spencer-Barnes with any questions at kspencerbarnes@gmail.com.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

(Articles submitted
by Sue Killebrew)

OUR UMW PURPOSE

The organized unit of United Methodist Women is a community of women whose **PURPOSE** is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

UMW EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President – Bonnie Smith – user240546@aol.com
Vice President – Linda Munsil – linda@munsil.org
Secretary – GayLynn Brewer – brewerinaz@cox.net
Treasurer – Carolyn Miller (call office for phone number)

All women are invited to all UMW events, whether a member of the unit or not. Contact any of the officers listed above about any of our programming.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 1, 9:00 am – UMW Executive Meeting in Room 202

October 8, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm – United Methodist Women Central East District Annual Meeting at RMUMC

October 20, 7:00 pm – Fall meeting in Madsen Hall – Special speaker from Rwanda

November 4–5, 8:0 am – 3:00 pm – Book and Bake Sale in conjunction with the Holiday Boutique

December 10, 11:30 am – “Christmas Star”, UMW annual holiday luncheon with guest harpist

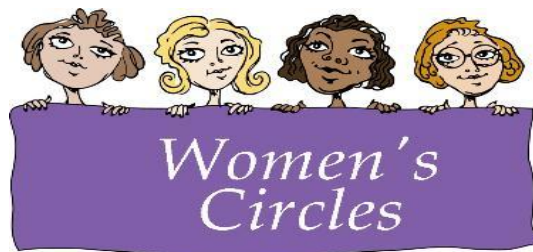


CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS:

Continue to bring your “Labels for Education” to the church and place them in the proper basket in the Worship Center Narthex or in a container placed in the Madsen Hall kitchen. The UMW donates these labels to the Wesley Community Center in Phoenix which in turn uses them to “purchase” educational products that the Center would otherwise be unable to afford. Check out the many product “Labels for Education”

which are used for this project. Thanks to **Gladys Stricker** for making these labels ready to donate.

NIKE SHOE RECYCLING: Thank you for the many, many shoes which have been taken to the Nike donation center and kept from the landfill. Continue to bring your used, worn, and clean tennis shoes to the Worship Center Narthex where there is a basket used for this collection. Nike takes the shoes and recycles them by breaking them down and using the new product for ball courts, running tracks, etc. Keep our landfills free of your used shoes. Recycle them through this project.



CIRCLE MEETINGS IN OCTOBER

United Methodist Women Circle meetings are a great place to make new friends, develop a spiritual link with each other and provide outlets for valuable service projects. If you would like to be a part of a special group of women, come to any circle that might fit into your schedule. As you can see from the list below, circle groups are offered at various times and places. Contact any of the circle chairpersons with any questions or for further information.

Faith – Tuesday, October 11, 6:00 pm – Dinner Out. Carol Taylor – caroltmesa@cox.net

Grace – Tuesday, October 11, 6:30 pm in Rooms 203/204. Sue Killebrew – skillebrew@gmail.com

Irene – Wednesday, October 19, 9:30 am, in Madsen Hall. Betty Rose – tombettyr@yahoo.com

Hope – Thursday, October 20, 9:15 am in Madsen Hall. Myra Moir – myramoir1@q.com

Rebecca – Thursday, October 20, 9:30 am at Jan Vineyard's home. Verna Berndt – call office for phone

Doves – Thursday, October 20, 1:00 pm at Marie Pettegrew's home. Janet Crippen – crippenaz@hotmail.com



UMW READING PROGRAM

Several 2011 books have been added to the UMW reading cart in Madsen Hall. Continue to read a variety of books to participate in the program. You can be encouraged and become aware of the mission work of United

Methodist Women through the reading program. Remember to check out only one book at a time and return it in a timely manner so that others can enjoy reading the book. If you are a part of a circle group, be sure to keep a record of the books you have read and report them to the circle chairperson.



*Submitted by Marilyn Husted,
Chairperson of Stewardship Committee*

*“Do not be interested only in your own life,
but be interested in the lives of others.
Life becomes a montage of strength and joy
if you just use your talents to help others.”*
– Sylvia Browne, Spiritual Connections

KEEPING UP WITH MARSHA



The words above describe the philosophy of **Marsha Lehman**, one of our most active church members who exemplifies our new Stewardship theme: **Making a Difference . . . Reaching Out.**

“My head is overflowing with ideas, so I have to have an outlet for them,” Marsha related. She grew up being

involved in her church. As an art teacher, she taught all grades (particularly high school) before changing careers to become an educator for the Reading Public Museum in Pennsylvania.

Marsha and her husband, Jim, moved to Arizona in 2006. They visited several churches before deciding on Red Mountain UMC. “I often say that the people at Red Mountain talked back to me,” Marsha explained. “That didn’t happen in other churches.”

And how is Marsha reaching out to use her unique talents? You can look around the church for just about any kind of art work and it will have her signature. She has directed Vacation Bible School for the past few years including designing all the backdrops and decorations. She helped plan and took part in the new Music and Arts Camp that attracted 60 children to our church this summer. Marsha serves on the committee to plan the classes and activities for E.D.G.E. nights as well as teaching a class on Art History during the current session.

An outstanding example of Marsha’s outreach efforts is “Project Neighborhood.” This church-wide local mission project began this year when children participating in Vacation Bible School donated backpacks filled with food to a local elementary school. The school was selected because 92% of its students come from families below the poverty level. There is also a significant homeless population. Because of Marsha’s initiative, various groups in our church will partner with this school, donating needed supplies and clothing and other types of ongoing support.

Marsha’s latest outreach is publishing a 20-page booklet, described as “all you need to know about raising a child in our church” for the Children’s Ministry Program. Targeting families with children through the 6th grade, it will describe various activities, programs, and classes along with registration forms.

In addition to all these activities, Marsha sings in the choir, serves on the Mission Committee, represents Children’s Worship and Art in Worship on the Administrative Council, and leads the outreach that provides 170 lunches each month to the East Valley Men’s Shelter. She is active in Faith Circle and will be the United Methodist Women’s District Communications Officer this year. Marsha is also part of the church team that will be attending leadership training at Church of the Resurrection in Overland Park, Kansas this fall.

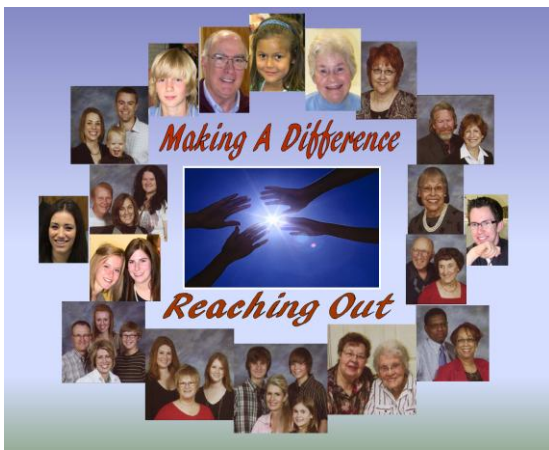
When asked why she is motivated to be such an example of **Making a Difference . . . Reaching Out**, Marsha exclaimed, “The church has been so good to me and for me. It has become very personal so that I can do my part to meet many needs.”

We are all very thankful to you, Marsha, for your continual outreach and dedication.

RED MOUNTAIN REACHES OUT

Thanks to your generosity, our church is able to offer assistance to those in our community who are in need of help. We offer food bags (no limit), and one time assistance with gasoline vouchers or utility help. The number of families who come to the church office seeking assistance continues to grow, due to high unemployment and loss of benefits.

Our Assistance Fund is getting low and our food pantry shelves have run low on some items. We invite you to give a financial gift (mark it ‘Assistance Fund’) or to donate non-perishable food (particularly pasta, spaghetti sauce, soup and canned meats), so that we can continue to be Christ’s hands and heart to those in need.



Submitted by Marilyn Husted

CAN WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

We can make a difference in someone's life by **reaching out** with our hearts and our hands. What would our community, our country, our world be like if everyone **reached out** to someone at least once a week, every week of the year?

This is our challenge for you:

1. Think about those people in your life who need a word of encouragement, praise, or concern. Expand your thinking to those around you, first in your neighborhood, then your town, your state, and beyond.
2. Determine how you can make a difference in that person's life. Maybe it's a phone call, an email, even a handwritten note. Do it today!
3. Find out from the church where the greatest needs exist. Volunteer your time and your unique talents. Help brighten the lives of others. You will be blessed in so many ways.
4. Share your story of what 'reaching out' has meant in your life. How have you been affected by someone reaching out to you? Or, how has reaching out to others made a difference in your life? Please email one of the Stewardship Co-Chairpersons, who will then contact you:
Marilyn Husted marilyn.husted@gmail.com
Gene Barnes genebarnes34@gmail.com

Our new stewardship theme, "**Making a Difference . . . Reaching Out,**" will feature ways that the people of our church are helping others by giving freely of their time, talents, and financial resources. Through video vignettes, personal testimonies, and written material, we'll learn about how lives are being transformed by the generosity of those around us.

We are the heart, hands, and feet of Christ. That's what stewardship is all about. **Won't you reach out and make a difference in someone's life today?**



CIRCLE OF PROMISE TREE OF LIFE

Submitted by Jackie Sidbeck

The Circle of Promise Tribute Tree, located in the Narthex, is a reminder of the **Tree of Life** that is found in the Bible. This month we focus on how the Tree of Life appears in various cultures.

Hebrew: "Etz Chaim" is a common term in Judaism for the "tree of life." The expression, found in the book of Proverbs, is figuratively applied to the Torah itself. "Etz Chaim" is also a common name for yeshivas and synagogues, as well as for works of Rabbinic literature. Further, it is also used to describe each of the wooden poles to which the parchment of a Sefer Torah is attached.

Egypt: They were said to have emerged from the acacia tree of Jusaaset, which the Egyptians considered the "tree of life," referring to it as the "tree in which life and death are enclosed."

Chinese mythology: A carving of a tree of life depicts a phoenix and a dragon. The dragon often represents immortality. A Taoist story tells of a tree that produces a peach every three thousand years. The one who eats the fruit receives immortality.

Norse religion: The tree of life appears as Yggdrasil, the world tree, a massive tree with extensive lore surrounding it. Perhaps related to Yggdrasil, accounts have survived of Germanic tribes honoring sacred trees within their societies.

Iroquois: The World on the Turtle's Back is an Iroquois myth passed down from generation to generation. According to this myth, the tree of life is found in the heavens where the first humans lived. A pregnant woman fell from the heavens and landed in an endless sea below. She was saved from drowning by a giant turtle and she formed the world on the turtle's back by planting bark taken from the tree of life.



Submitted by Jennifer Ruttman, Chairperson, Finance Committee

This month our beloved Treasurer **Phil Hartley** is taking a much-deserved European river cruise with his lovely wife Evy. Therefore, I will do my best job as the leader of the Finance Committee to fill in for him. Before I do that, however, I think this is a great opportunity to take the time to say a heartfelt **“THANK YOU”** to Phil for his many years of dedication in bringing you this monthly update. So, Phil, when you read this, please know that you are loved and appreciated and we are always uplifted by your monthly words of encouragement.

As you can see below, our August financial statements show that our income fell short of our expenses for the month. However, this was mostly because of the timing of certain expenses and is not cause for concern. The Finance Committee looks very closely at the detailed reports every month and we are pleased to report that the overall financial health of RMUMC is better than ever before. In the past year or so, I have personally sensed a newly-revived sense of financial stewardship among our congregation -- a feeling that we are so very thankful for our many blessings and we are eager to be a part of God’s plan for a better world!

General Ministries Fund

	<u>Aug. '11</u>	<u>Aug. '10</u>	<u>Total to date '11</u>	<u>Total to date '10</u>
INCOME:	\$ 38,863	\$ 44,161	\$391,011	\$360,002
EXPENSES:	\$ <u>51,160</u>	\$ <u>43,088</u>	\$ <u>393,262</u>	\$ <u>366,582</u>
CHANGE:	(\$12,297)	\$ 1,073	(\$ 2,252)	(\$ 6,580)

Mortgage/Columbarium Fund

	<u>Aug. '11</u>	
INCOME:	\$ 9,248	Fund Balance: \$ 5,029
EXPENSES:	\$ <u>13,442</u>	
SHORTAGE:	\$ 4,194	Total Mortgage Principal: \$ 938,105

Last month, Phil challenged us to be thinking about how we can use our resources for something that will help people in the community and in the world to know the love of Christ through RMUMC. This is a challenge we are prepared to meet, thanks to all of you.



ENDOWMENT

Submitted by Elaine Troyer for Planned Giving Committee



Here are some thoughts to ponder as you think about becoming a part of the Red Mountain United Methodist Church’s Planned Giving Endowment Fund: All of us are indebted to the past and to those who preceded us. We drink from wells we did not have to dig. We enjoy liberties we did not have to win. We share faith whose foundations we did not have to lay. At the same time, we are seeds of the future for those who will succeed us. We dream and envision and set what we vision into motion. However, the outcome of our decisions will be known only to others whom we will never meet. Still, we are called to partner in faith with those who have gone before us and to offer the best that we have to give to those who will follow us. May your ponderings be placed in action.



WALKING FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Submitted by Rebecca Wiseman for Health and Wellness Committee

The weather is finally showing signs of cooling down so getting outside and walking is a great way to exercise and improve health. Research shows that exercise has many health benefits. Walking is a safe and easy exercise that almost anyone can do. More than 60% of adults in the United States do not engage in the recommended amount of physical activity. In fact, some 25% of American adults are not active at all. When done briskly on a regular basis, walking can have many positive impacts on health:

- Decrease the risk of heart attack
- Reduce the risk of developing type-2 diabetes
- Help to keep blood pressure in a healthy range
- Reduce the risk of blood clots and irregular heartbeats
- Help to control weight and improve muscle tone
- Lower "bad" cholesterol and raise "good"
- Minimize the effects of osteoporosis and arthritis
- Reduce stress and promote an overall wellness

In addition, going for a walk is a great way to reduce stress and promote an overall sense of wellness. Let's put on those walking shoes and go for a walk!

(The Health & Wellness Committee of RMUMC strives to provide information to our church members. You are encouraged to read the articles, to consult your personal physician and to make decisions regarding your personal health based on the advice of your physician.)



MISSION MOMENTS

*Submitted by Carolyn Ball
from the Prayer Calendar*

My mission is to extend God's love to the Dakota people, many of whom believe that God has abandoned them. God's love provides hot meals for children who otherwise might be hungry, and that love provides diapers for babies. I use the artwork of the children in cards and calendars so they can value their own talent.

Deaconess Pat Croley
elementary school teacher
Crow Creek Reservation, Central South Dakota

Accurate knowledge of the HIV/AIDS disease is relatively low in Ghana. Therefore we provided schools with free HIV/AIDS prevention workshops and specifically talked about how HIV is transmitted, how it is not transmitted and the signs and symptoms of HIV/AIDS. I worked with HIV positive persons, encouraging them to live positively. I helped them expand market opportunities for their handcrafted products, and I did an inventory of drugs in the pharmacy. I also visited HIV positive persons, and advocated for a clean environment.

John Odhimbo Atoyo
global justice volunteer, West Africa Aids Foundation,
East Africa Annual Conference, Ghana



Recently in the Hospital:

Sarah Downin

Iona Klinger

Susan Thorpe

Kim Ramelli

Carolyn Miller

Debra McNichols

Rett Wilbur

Irene Lucas

Jim Lehman

George Blare

Alyssa Coleman

Please remember...

When you change your mailing address, your phone number or your e-mail address, please notify the church office. Also, let us know of births, deaths, marriages, hospitalizations or omissions of birthdays or anniversaries. Call the church office at 480-981-3833 so we can keep our database current. Thanks!



Michelle O'Neil
on the death of her mother

Kathryn Brockman
9/28/1934 – 9/26/2011



To my church family:

Thank you very much for your prayers, cards and visits while I was hospitalized and in rehab. Thanks to Pastor Mary and Pastor Dot for all they shared with me. I have returned to work in the Nursery, happy to see all my kids and parents!

God bless, Laura Lucas

I want to thank you for Spencer's beautiful Bible! I know he will enjoy it. Thank you for thinking of him.

Trish McCumber

Keep up with your church--

Visit Our Web Site at
www.RMUMC.COM

- **View the church calendar**
- **Read the church newsletter**
- **Find a class or study group**
- **Link to the Daily Devotional**
- **Become a fan on Facebook**
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October

RED MOUNTAIN MATTERS

A publication of Red Mountain United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2011

VOLUME 30

No. 10

RMUMC STAFF

Rev. Mary M. Bullis, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dorothy Saunders-Perez, Associate Pastor
Peter Gutierrez, Membership/Bookkeeper Specialist
Cris Bass, Administrative Assistant
John Durkin, Youth Director
Debbie Hollenbach, Director of Traditional Music
and Christian Discipleship Coordinator
Brock Walters, Contemporary Worship Leader
Ken Winland, Organist
Kathy Wooton, Handbell Choirs
Kim Ramelli, Coffeehouse Worship Leader
Erin Gray, Preschool Director
Frank Moir, Custodian
Richard Ullmann, Custodian
Laura Lucas, Nursery Attendant

WORSHIP TIMES ON SUNDAY:

7:45 a.m. – Coffee House Worship
(in Madsen Hall)
9:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship
10:30 a.m. – Contemporary Worship

OFFICE CONTACTS:

PHONE: 480-981-3833
FAX: 480-807-8483
E-MAIL: rmumc@rmumc.com
WEB SITE: www.rmumc.com
OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY – THURSDAY
8:00 am – 5:00 pm
FRIDAY
8:00 am – 4:00 pm



Celebrating a



- | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|--|
| | | 13 | Corey Colburn
Kasey Fox
Janet Gradle
Michael McNamee
Jeff Wooton | |
| 1 | Elle Mitchell
Madeline Moore
Cindy Smith | 16 | McKenna Riall | 3 |
| 2 | Kelley Mitchell
Megan Woodyard | 17 | Reed Webb | <i>Robert and Jennifer Ruttman
-- 13 years</i> |
| 3 | Tom Brower
Iona Klinger | 19 | Ann Benson
Evy Hartley | 4 |
| 4 | Steve Brooks
Melanie Callahan | 20 | Audrey Henry | <i>Alfred and Bernice Lowe
- 64 years</i> |
| 5 | Stuart Crouse | 21 | Abbey Duarte
Sandra Jennings
Mike Wooton | 5 |
| 6 | Ken Grobe
Tod Horsburgh | 23 | Barbara Byas | <i>Fred and Mary Alice Nicola
- 69 years</i> |
| 7 | Benjamin Duarte
Trinity Johnson
Barb Skinner | 24 | Bill Cooley
Ken Winland | 12 |
| 8 | Mary Lynch
Dottie Toner | 25 | Tyler Paulson | <i>Tom and Karen Rauls
-- 37 years</i> |
| 9 | Lily Enos
Donald Erickson
Eric Ramelli | 28 | Lee Kohlhase
Doug Schram
Audrey Towers | 13 |
| 10 | Al Bauder
Daylyn Lucky
Denny Nelson | 29 | Marcia Tharp | <i>Ken and Rita Cox
- 22 years</i> |
| 11 | David Cummings
Emily Franklin
Kim Ramelli | 31 | Justin Durkin
Linda Munsil
Larry Norris, Jr. | 14 |
| | | | | <i>Rod and Carrie Fetter
- 12 years</i> |
| | | | | 16 |
| | | | | <i>Hap and Carol Howard
-- 46 years</i> |
| | | | | 20 |
| | | | | <i>Reed and Susan Webb
- 49 years</i> |
| | | | | 22 |
| | | | | <i>Jim and Vicki Hooker
-- 28 years</i> |
| | | | | 25 |
| | | | | <i>Dick and Barb McGee
-- 49 years</i> |
| | | | | 28 |
| | | | | <i>Ed and Susan Moerder
-- 11 years</i> |

