



Dan & Kay Dumas donated the book The Crippled Lamb by Max Lucado to the Library in honor of **Jackson & Savannah Dumas**.

Joe & Martha Coulter and Tim & Mary Freeman gave a gift to the Room in the Inn in memory of **Jennifer E. Holmes**.

Dot Hailey gave a gift to the Youth Fund in memory of **Jennifer E. Holmes**.

Nancy Cottingham, Deanna Reed and Carolyn Sexton gave a gift to the Discretionary Fund in memory of **Mary Wilson and Jennifer E. Holmes**.

Louise Ward gave a gift to the Budget Fund in memory of **Mary Wilson and Jennifer E. Holmes**.

The *UMW* gave a gift to the Room in the Inn in honor of the **Cokesbury UMM** who helped with the Attic Sale.

Howard & Edie Cox gave a gift to the Music Fund in memory of **Jennifer E. Holmes and Mary Wilson**.

Jack & Irene Murphy gave a gift to the Budget Fund in honor of **John & Ida Mae Malloy's 60th anniversary** and in memory of **Jennifer E. Holmes**.

Judy Sims gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Mary Wilson and Jennifer E. Holmes**.

Buddy & Etta Woodall gave a gift to the Discretionary Fund in memory of **Mary Wilson**.

Bob & Dottie Burns gave a gift to the Budget Fund in memory of **Mary Wilson**.

Bill & Bert Proctor gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Jennifer E. Holmes**.

Recently in the Hospital

*Louise Durante
Pearl Horne
Wembo Mundeke*



Our Deepest Sympathy

...To Wesley and Bradie Holmes, George and Nancy Eanes, and Carol & Dianne Holmes at the death of Jennifer Eanes Holmes who passed away December 12.

Thank you!



Thank you to everyone for all the calls, cards, prayers, and caring during my recent illness.

Ed Bolster



**Spaghetti Supper
Boy Scout Troop 147
Saturday, February 10, 2007
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Donation \$6 Adults, \$3 Children 6-10
Children Under 6 eat Free**

Those wishing to purchase tickets to our annual spaghetti supper, please see members of Troop 147 scouts or adult leaders, Bruce Fowler, Dave Badger, or Bill McKenzie. Thanks for your continued support in this annual fund raising drive for our scouts at Cokesbury.

Cokesbury Work Team

Anyone interested in joining the **Work Team** and/or helping with the upcoming barbecue, please attend our next meeting on **Thursday, January 18** in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 to socialize and 7:00 to discuss the barbecue. Call Don Broome at 704 537-2460 or Bill Coulter at 704 545-3328 for more information.

– Submitted by Bill Coulter

Millennial Coming to UMM

What distinguishes children of the “Greatest Generation” (1922-1943) from the Baby Boomers (1943-1964), the GenXers (1965-1982), and the Millennials (1985-2002)? Join the United Methodist Men on Thursday, January 25 to learn about the characteristics of each generation and how these affect the church. Mitchell Hagler will present the program. Good food and fellowship. Bring a friend. (The meal will begin at 6:15 followed by the program at 7:00 p.m.)

– Submitted by Mitchell Hagler

**Bethlehem Center Birthday Party for Jesus
Huge Success!**

On Saturday, December 9, we hosted the Bethlehem Center Birthday Party for Jesus and had a turnout of 29 children. (Quite a few more than the 20 we had planned on.) Everyone had a terrific time and this is a wonderful mission project that is a JOY for Cokesbury and the children and staff from Bethlehem Center.

Many thanks to all of you who donated funds this year. This was one of the best giving years we have ever had. Thanks also to the Youth and adults who helped and served as “personal shoppers” and wrappers, etc., to those who procured all the wrapping supplies, to those who got the pizza and drinks, and the UMW Circle that made up the “goodie” bags for the Bethlehem children this year. Since we had increased funds this year, we were able to give the children items of a higher quality as part of their gift.

Thanks again for your generosity and your support and participation!

God Bless You,
United Methodist Men



<u>General Fund</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Contributions	\$24,780.92	\$355,448.02
Disbursements	\$27,113.84	\$336,185.35



Up Close and Personal

In 1999, **Jonathan Wembo** moved to the United States from Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo), with his parents, Mundeke and Annie, and his two younger sisters, Christelle and Priscille. Jonathan has two younger brothers, Israel (Izzie) and David, that were born in the U.S.

He is now 15 years old and is a junior at Butler Senior High School. His favorite class is Business Law and he aspires to be an attorney one day. He is a member of the French Club and enjoys hanging out with his friends at school.

Jonathan enjoys taling to his sisters and is especially close to Christelle whith whom he enjoys playing football and video games as well as rapping. Jonathan likes sports and especially playing football and basketball with his friends. He and his friends also compete with each other in break dancing and rapping. He enjoys performing for and entertaining people and hopes to continue to get better at break dancing. In addition to rap music, Jonathan enjoys Christian and R&B music.

Jonathan has a lot of good memories of living and going to school in Zaire. One of his memories is of trying to learn to do back flips out in the field at the school he attended. He never did learn and says that to this day he cannot do a back flip! He also remembers him and Christelle taking turns pushing each other on the swings in a field by his house. He pushed Christelle a little too hard and she fell off the swing and broke her arm. Incidentally, she has broken it twice more since then and claims they are all Jonathan's fault – of course they aren't! Some of his favorite memories are of playing soccer with his cousins. He especially misses his cousin, Kayembe, who still lives in the DR Congo. He hears news of him from time to time but has not been able to communicate directly with him since coming to the U.S. One day Jonathan hopes to be able to visit his homeland in the DR Congo.

– Submitted by Donna Pharr



Through Cokesbury Windows

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Ordinary Time

The Epiphany Season along with the six month long season of Sundays after Pentecost is called by our church a season of ordinary time. These seasons are ordinary in that the other seasons are designed to celebrate specific emphases of the faith. Advent is our preparation for Christmas and Christmas is our celebration of the birth of Christ. Lent is our confessional season and a time of trial for new members and candidates for baptism. Easter is our celebration of the resurrection of Christ. Some speak of these two seasons as times to examine the life of the church, but they are also called ordinary time. We will spend some time this Epiphany Season sharing about the ordinary elements of our faith and life.

Certainly, one of the most central elements of ordinary time is worship time. It is ordinary in that it is something we do regularly and which we sometimes take for granted. The weekly gathering of the faithful for worship can be a time of old friends seeing one another again and celebrating our own fellowship with each other. Worship, however, is our weekly opportunity to declare to the world the worthiness and Lordship of God. It is our opportunity to humble ourselves before the one we believe brought us into existence and who desires to redeem all humanity from its sense of lost. The thing we have lost in particular is God. In our worship, we acknowledge that we once were lost but thanks be to God, we have been drawn back to the path of holiness by God and we are better for it. The value of God's saving work is so great that we feel it important, at least once a week, to gather as a body to honor God for the work of salvation.

While worship is ordinary, it is also essential to the life of believers and should never be taken for granted. Every effort needs to be made to gather with the faithful to honor God. We must also not forget that worship is less for the benefit of the believer as it is to please God. When we come together, we train our thoughts on what would please God, what would honor God, what would lift the glory of God. Yet with this emphasis there is another aspect in which worship is ordinary, its content. Worship is essentially the sharing of Holy Scripture, proclaiming the good news of God, songs of praise, and prayer. There is nothing extraordinary about these elements except in the way a group chooses to accomplish them. Our task in worship is made more humble when we remember the simplicity of these elements. There are many different ways to accomplish the task of worship and the growing congregation will find many ways to keep worship vibrant and alive for though these elements are simple and ordinary, they can become drab, lifeless, and dull. God is not pleased with that!

While worship is quite ordinary in a general sense, it has an exceptionally extraordinary component, the believers. Worship depends heavily upon what we bring to it. A prayer can be quite ordinary when seen on paper, but on the lips of a believer who is inspired by God, that simple prayer can be quite beautiful and moving. Indeed, most of the truly moving prayers of the saints are quite simple in construction and theme. Therefore Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Pastor John

Church Staff
John A. Moore, PASTOR
Donna Pharr, COORDINATOR OF
CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES
Louise Ward, FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Marty Gregory, MUSIC DIRECTOR
Joan Gillis, SECRETARY
Dennis Cannon, SEXTON

Mission Statement

*As disciples of Christ, we are called to look upward
in celebration of God's grace, mercy, and love;
to reach inward in worship, study, prayer,
and to send outward in mission and servant ministry
the love of Christ in our community.*

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