

Mulberry Ministry Team

Church members: Ministers-at-large
Steve Graves, Pastor
 steve.graves@mulberrychurch.org
Chris Babb, Minister of Music and Media
 chris.babb@mulberrychurch.org
Mary Dowden, Children's Minister
 mary.dowden@mulberrychurch.org
Charlene Patrick, Children's Day Out Director
 charlene.patrick@mulberrychurch.org
Haley Kraemer, Secretary
 info@mulberrychurch.org

Mulberry Baptist Church
A Place for Life!
 2025 Bayou Black Drive
 Houma, Louisiana 70360
 (985) 876-3204 Fax (985) 876-3131
 www.mulberrychurch.org

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit #269
 Houma, LA 70360

VOLUME XLI

June 2009

NUMBER 6

Vacation Bible School 2009
June 15th-19th

Hop on board the Boomerang Express as VBS 2009 takes a train ride across the Land Down Under! As kids wind their way through Australia, they'll discover the vastness of God's love, and they'll learn that no matter where they go or what they do in life—it all comes back to Jesus.

This year's theme is centered around 1 John 4:9, "God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent His One and Only Son into the world so that we might live through Him."

Boomerang Express' Motto is, "Follow! Worship! Live through Him!"

Each day, the children will be introduced to a Truth, a Bible Story that relates to that Truth, and a particular Bible Verse for study. There will be an age appropriate life application to follow up these Bible studies. VBS is a valuable tool for introducing children to all that life in Christ has to offer.

VBS kids will also learn about the daily lives of other children around the world and discover some ways they can show God's love to these children.

to fill out a registration form, or you can register on-line at www.mulberrychurch.org and click on the VBS link on the home page. Please note that you must fill out a registration form for each child attending.

Thanks for all the parental support and volunteer work we have received so far. We couldn't do this without you! We look forward to spending time with your child and know that this year's VBS will be the best yet!



VBS will begin Monday, June 15th and will continue each day throughout the week concluding on Friday, June 19th. The days will begin at 9:00AM and end at 12:15PM. There will be a VBS Family Night on Thursday, June 18th at 6:00PM. All family members are invited and encouraged to attend.

You can register your child by stopping by the church office



July 20th-24th Musical on July 26th

Children's Music Camp

Register your first thru sixth grader on-line at www.mulberrychurch.org



May Statistics

Budget Receipts

Attendance

Date	Amount	Sunday School	AM Worship
05-03-09	\$7,690.87	73	218
05-10-09	\$5,910.00	81	191
05-17-09	\$11,298.52	71	152
05-24-09	\$4,766.00	53	95

Budget Goal YTD: \$150,732.54
 Budget Receipts YTD: \$123,976.39

VBS Kickoff Lunch

Sunday, June 14th
 Immediately following Worship Service

Adult Wii Game Night

Come join us on Sunday, June 7th from 5:00PM-7:00PM at the church for Adult Wii Game Night. Childcare will be provided.

A Note from Steve...

A couple of Sundays ago, two individual church members came forward at the end of the service to express their gratitude to our church family for the love and support they had received through difficult circumstances over the past several months. Several things stuck with me about that morning. They both commented on not only "making it," but actually being encouraged and growing through the circumstances. Christ used the warmth, acceptance, encouraging words and acts, and the spiritual nourishment they had received from the body at Mulberry to draw them closer to himself. When two different people express those similar sentiments completely independent from each other, it stands out even more.

I often hear from others what a warm group of people we have at Mulberry. I agree, and I am glad to be a part of this family. We have a delicate balance to find in terms of our community we share. As we "look inward," we strive to love, support, encourage and care for each other. As we "look outward," we welcome others into this warm community. The community that we share with one another is part of the attraction for those who are not yet a part of it, and we must continue to strive to not let it be an exclusive community but seek to spread the fellowship of Christ. I'm glad to share life at Mulberry - sharing life with each other and sharing true life in Christ with the world.

In Christ,



Compassion Sunday

The news often seems bad. The problems in the world continue to grow. Sometimes we may feel like we can't do much.

On **Sunday June 7**, we will learn more about what we *can* do. We will hear one way we can change the life of a child forever. Think about that for a moment. Not just changing life for a day, but changing the life of a child forever.

No guilt-heavy, emotional pleas. Just an opportunity to make a difference to a child and in the process be amazed at God's great love and provision.

Compassion International exists as an advocate for children, to release them from their spiritual, economic, social, and physical poverty and enable them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults. We have the opportunity to partner with Compassion in three countries to be a part of accomplishing this amazing task. See you Sunday!

Worship and Media

Children's Choir Camp will soon be here. Register your child today!

This water park themed camp, entitled "Splash Kingdom: Come Meet the Lifesaver", will be held during the week of July 20th-24th (8:45AM – Noon). Splash Kingdom is a musical about heaven and how to get there. The story takes place at the Splash Kingdom Water Park as the kids learn that before they can enter the park, they must be "certified". In order to become "certified", they must pass the course called Lifesaving 101. This ensures that their names are written in the Lifeguard's Book of Life. This camp is for elementary students entering 1st grade in fall 09 and above.

We are still in need of volunteers. We need three team leaders/escorts, and three teacher/helpers. Please, contact me if you are interested.

In Christ,



Children's Ministry

We have a couple of great events planned during the summer break. VBS is June 15-19. If you can, I encourage you to plug in; you really won't want to miss being a part of it. Music Camp is set for July 20-24. Even if you work and can't be here, there are other ways to help out. Perhaps you can come decorate for VBS, help with staging and props for Music Camp, or donate some water play equipment for our Music camp water party on Friday, July 24 (we could use a few extra chaperones, too!) Get involved!

On another note...here we GROW again! Our preschool Extended Teaching Care class is getting crowded! We plan to open up an extra class just as soon as we get another set of quarterly volunteers! (Yes, I mean YOU!) It takes 13 people to complete a quarterly schedule, so this is YOUR chance to make it happen. We are also in need of some Children's Church helpers. Call, email, or volunteer online to get involved with our precious children.

And now... a "mini lecture" from Mrs. Mary: Don't let the slower pace of summer slow your church attendance. I want to see your children at church! A school break is not an excuse to take a break from Jesus. In his letter to Timothy, Paul wrote, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:14-15). How far would Timothy have progressed in his faith had his mother not taken responsibility for his education in the scriptures? Establish in your child a habit that will last a lifetime. "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:25). See you at church!

In Christ,



Keenager's Korner

"Be a Blessing to Someone"—I did not live during the depression of the twenties and early thirties, but my older siblings did. We had very little; times were hard, but we survived.

Today, as we listen to the news and see what is happening to our economy, we are facing some difficult times. For the most

part, we all have much more than what we need. There are those around us feeling the loss of jobs and don't know where to turn. God tells us to invest in people—help our neighbors. In 1 Timothy 6:17-18 the scripture says, "Tell those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust their money, which will soon be gone. But their trust should be in the Living God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give generously to those in need, always ready to share with others whatever God has given them." 1 Timothy 6:7-8 also says, "We didn't bring anything with us when we came into this world, and we certainly can't carry anything with us when we die. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content."

By doing this, we will be storing up treasures in heaven. Count your blessing and share with someone less fortunate. God tells us to serve one another and we will truly be blessed.

Our deepest sympathy and love is extended to the Carreker family in the death of their beloved father, brother, uncle, and friend, James Carreker. He was a loving and caring Christian man.

A Servant,

Evelyn Head and The Keenagers

Deacons to Serve for June

Ronnie Voigt and Shannon Lewis
**Next Deacon's Meeting, Sunday,
June 7th at 7:15PM

CDO News

Another year safe and sound. I do think that this year started out as one of our roughest and ended as one of our best ever—we had a snowball stand come in during the last week and it was very, very good!

I can't say enough good things about the CDO staff. I am so appreciative of their love and commitment to this ministry and their creativity and genuine love of the children and one another—they make it all work!

Thank you for your support, help, and prayers. We are so grateful for a loving, caring, and supportive church.

We'll be back in September (hopefully with no hurricane delays)! Have a great summer!

Charlene Patrick, CDO Director