

Mulberry ends the spring with a full May

On May 2nd, we will finish our Reality TV series with "Minute To Win It," a game show where regular people attempt to complete insignificant tasks in one minute. If they succeed, they win extraordinary prizes. We will use this theme as we consider the incredible significance of the seemingly ordinary tasks of life. We will all be able to attempt some of the games from the show during the church-wide lunch.

We will recognize our Awana participants during our Mother's Day service on May 9th. Our Awana clubbers have worked very hard this year hiding God's Word in their hearts. They are an encouragement to us all. Awana will conclude this year on Awana family night, May 12th.

Our teenagers are presenting a service entitled "Why?" on May 16th at 10:30AM. The drama service explores the deep question: "Why did Jesus die for me?"

Our annual CDO Commencement will be May 16th at 5PM. Come see how our CDO kids have grown and learned.

On the evening of May 23rd at 6PM, the Music Ministries of Mulberry will come together to present a concert entitled, "Make Me An Instrument". This evening concert will include our children's choir, Sanctuary Choir, Les Sonnettes Des Joie (our handbell choir), Testament, and Kindred Spirits. This one-hour concert celebrates the talents here at Mulberry and encourages us all to make our lives an instrument of His praise.

God's Promises 2010

January: *Faithfulness*

February: *Love*

March: *Salvation*

April: *Potential*

May: *Attention*

June: *Joy*

July: *Wisdom*

August: *Belonging*

September: *Eternal*

Significance

October: *Communication*

November: *Caring*

Provision

December: *Presence*

**Visit mulberrychurch.org
for more resources,
including music related to
each month's theme**

God's Promises 2010

May: Attention



Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

Luke 19:1-6

A Note from Steve...

Luke 19 recounts the story of Jesus' interactions with a man named Zacchaeus, a wealthy chief tax collector who was intrigued by what he had heard about Jesus. He wanted to know more, but the large crowds prevented the short Zacchaeus from being able to see Jesus as he passed through Jericho. Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed a tree so that he could catch a glimpse of Jesus.

Imagine for a moment what a version of that scene might be like in your life: A celebrity of interest to you is passing through Houma, and you decide to go see him. There is such a large crowd on Barrow St. that you can't see, so you climb up on a left-over Mardi Gras viewing stand. As the celebrity passes by, he stops in the midst of the masses and turns toward you. Not only does he give you a friendly wave and a smile for a convenient photo-op, but he makes eye contact and calls you by name! He asks you to come down and join him and then suggests that he'd like to visit with you in your home. The dignitaries in the crowd are beside themselves; how can he spend time with a person of such small influence or importance!

That is essentially what happened to Zacchaeus.

Consider the incredibly personal nature of the encounter. Jesus stopped in the midst of the crowd and looked in on Zacchaeus. Jesus called him by name. Jesus made time for him and went to his home.

I am incredibly thankful that our God is not only mighty and glorious but also personal and caring. Scripture teaches us that God knows every bird and "even the very hairs of your head are all numbered." (Matthew 10:30) For some of us, that is a bigger claim than for others, but regardless of hair volume, it is the principle that is significant. God knows us intimately and personally, and God cares deeply about us. We see this illustrated throughout scripture: Jesus engaging in conversation with the woman at the well, Jesus gathering the children around himself, Jesus stopping to heal the crippled woman and the blind beggar. Whatever the circumstances of life may be, we can find hope and take comfort in knowing that God knows and cares. In the midst of the chaos that life sometimes brings, God calms the crowd, stares us in the eye, calls us by name, and initiates relationship with us.

Praise be to the God of the Universe who has chosen to be personal with each of us!

Steve

Worship and Media

Three of our kids were selected for All-State Honor Choir this month: Tessa Gautreaux, Olivia Cruse and Bob Patrick. They worked very hard preparing before the rehearsal weekend and memorizing all of their music ahead of time. As Lee Gautreaux would say, "You guys rock!"

The music ministries will be presenting a concert on May 23rd involving children's choir, Sanctuary Choir, handbells, Testament and Kindred Spirits. We need you! Join us in Sanctuary Choir at 6:15PM on Wednesday evenings and Children's Choir at 5:00PM on Sunday evenings.

You may have noticed some new construction in the Sanctuary. The new sound booth

structure is part of a three phase process to improve the media capabilities of our services. The completed project will include a new projection screen on the back wall of the church above the sound booth and flexible commercial stage lighting for the platform. We are currently about \$13,000 short of our goal to complete the project. Consider and pray as to what you can give to the project above your normal tithe.

As always, thank-you all for your support and help with our music and media programs.

In Christ,

Chris

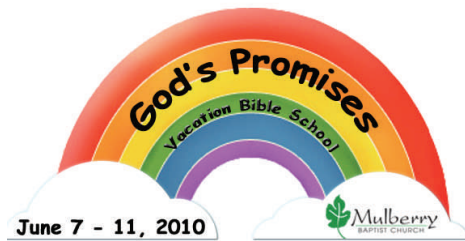


Children's Ministry

Is May really here already? End of year programs, band concerts, awards...busy, busy, busy! Don't get so busy that you forget to come to church! We have a lot of great things going on this month...check out the May calendar.

This month we will be learning about **God's Promise of Attention**. God knows every hair on our head, hears every prayer, works in every life, and loves each and every one of us. Amazing! Even the much-disliked Zaccheaus got called out by Jesus Himself! Zaccheaus' response to Jesus changed his life! Like with Zacchaeus, Jesus can bring about new life in every person that responds to His call. See you at church!

In Christ,



***VBS is right around the corner!** We need your help! We still need several more volunteers to make this year's VBS a success. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 19. There will be a VBS staff meeting at 6:00 p.m. Childcare will be provided. All staff members need to attend. You will receive your teaching materials at this meeting and we will discuss our goals, curriculum, and other details essential to a quality VBS event.

***Here we grow again!** We have several new projects in the works for Fall 2010 through 2011, but lots of activity requires lots of people to make it happen. For example, we plan to expand Children's Sunday School and Extended Teaching Care. We will add adult assistants to Children's Church as well. Whether you have never worked with children, or are a seasoned veteran of children's ministry, please pray about how you might serve. Details to come...

Deacon Reminders:

Serving in May: Eric Danos,
John Wiggins, Steve Patrick

Regular Deacon's Meeting:
Sunday, May 2nd @ 7:15PM

**Thanks to the Kitchen Krewe for
preparing all the
wonderful meals this year!
The last Wednesday Evening
Family meal will be served on
May 19th.**

Let the bank do the work...

To schedule automatic tithe payments from your bank, give them the following info:

- Your name (to be used as an identifiable "account number")
- Payable to: Mulberry Baptist Church
- Intended recipient: Charlene Patrick
- Mailing Address:
Mulberry Baptist Church
Attn: Charlene Patrick
2025 Bayou Black Drive
Houma, LA 70360

**Thanks to all Awana volunteers for
making this year's Awana program
spectacular! We will wrap up the
Awana program on
Wednesday, May 12th with
Awana Family Night beginning at
6:00PM and we'll see you next fall
beginning, Wednesday September 8th**

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, Administrative Assistant
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

Volunteers Needed

We still need to fill the following vacant spots for Vacation Bible School and Children's Music Camp. Please contact Mary Dowden, Chris Babb, or call the church office to volunteer.

VBS

Preschool Games (1)
Missions (1)
1st Grade Teachers (2)
2nd Grade Teachers (2)
3rd Grade Teacher (1)
Pre-K Rotation Escort (1)

Children's Music Camp

Choreographer (1) Music Helper (1)
Bible Study Leader (1)
Music Leader (1)
Team Leaders (2)
Bible Study Assistants (2)
Snack Crew (2)

April Statistics

<u>Budget Receipts</u>		<u>Attendance</u>	
Date	Amount	Sunday School	AM Worship
04-04-10	\$4,740.00	62	200
04-11-10	\$5,916.00	68	91
04-18-10	\$6,440.00	58	149
04-25-10	\$4,410.00	51	149

Budget Goal YTD: \$122,021.58
Budget Receipts YTD: \$91,107.18

**Pick up your VBS yard
sign anytime beginning
Sunday, May 2nd
through
Saturday, May 22nd**