St. Matthew
United Methodist Church
2540 West Baseline Road
Mesa, AZ 85202-5403

Office Hours
Monday -Thursday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday
Office Closed

Tel: (480) 838-7309/838-7311
Fax: (480) 838-7354

www.stmatthewmesa.org

Our Mission

We are called... to be a visible witness of the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit by providing a welcoming, caring, inclusive church home in the community for Christians of all ages as they live, grow and serve in their faith.

St. Matthew United Methodist Church

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Articles for October Mustard Seed Due: September 15, 2011

e-mail to mustardseed@stmatthewmesa.org or leave in the editor's mail box.
(If you have photos to support your article please include them.)

The Head of the church is the Lord Jesus Christ.
The Ministers of this church are its members.
Those who assist them are:

Rev. Minerva Carcaño		Resident Bishop
Rev. Michael Eaton	Michael@stmatthewmesa.org	Senior Pastor
Pastor Diana Williams	Diana@stmatthewmesa.org	Associate Pastor of Deaf Ministries
Pastor Iain Glithero	lainglithero@yahoo.com	Retired Local Pastor
Jill Fishburn	Jill@stmatthewmesa.org	Director of Music and Stephen Ministry
Becky Kerr	Becky@stmatthewmesa.org	Director of Youth
Maureen Jobe	Maureenjobe@stmatthewmesa.org	Christian Education Coordinator
Mareen Treese	Mareen@stmatthewmesa.org	Preschool Director
Adrienne Ashford Thorp	Mustardseed@stmatthewmesa.org	Office Manager/Publications Designer
Don Taylor		Custodian
Webmaster	Webmaster@stmatthewmesa.org	Communications
Evie Showers	Evie@stmatthewmesa.org	Nursery Coordinator

9:00 AM
Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary,
Sunday School for children and adults

9:30 AM—NEW TIME!!!
Contemporary Worship
with Communion
in Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM
Blended Worship and
Children's Church
in the Sanctuary,
Sunday School for youth and adults

Please call the church office if you need assistance with transportation to Sunday worship. We will help to coordinate ride-shares (480) 838-7309.

Please join us for fellowship time on the patio after worship.

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed." —Matthew 13:31-32

The Mustard Seed

September 2011

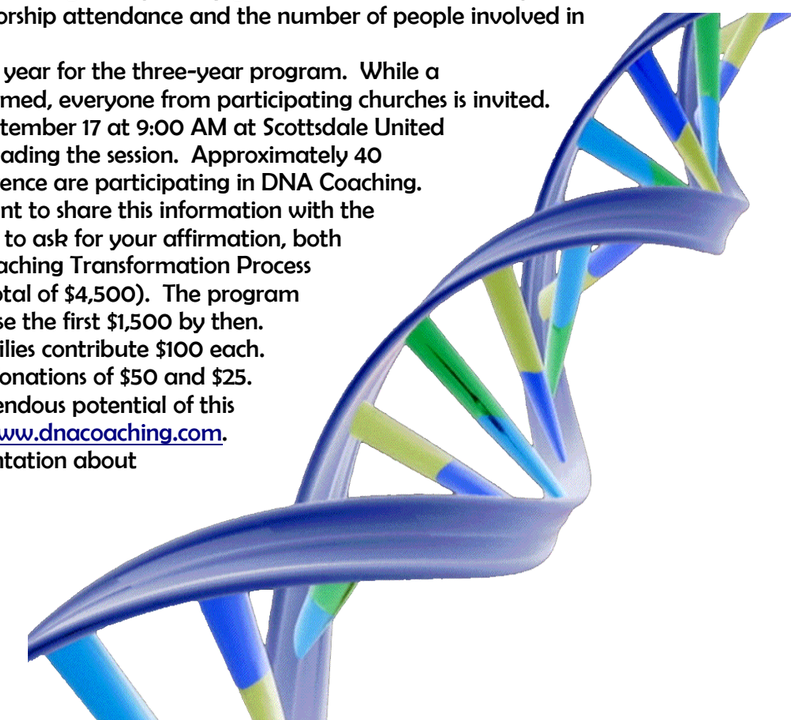
DNA Coaching

The Church Council of St. Matthew, at its August 16 meeting, voted to participate in the DNA Coaching Transformation Process, a program designed to help existing churches grow. DNA Coaching was founded by Rev. Dr. Don Nations, a United Methodist pastor, with an impressive record of growing church congregations. Before voting, members of the Church Council heard a presentation from Rev. Jonathan Arnpriester, leader of the Vital Faith Committee of the Desert Southwest Conference, and are enthusiastic about the program.

DNA Coaching looks at all aspects of an individual church including hospitality, leadership, worship, evangelism, education and advertising. The primary goals of the transformation process are an increase in professions of faith, worship attendance and the number of people involved in intentional spiritual formation.

There are four training sessions a year for the three-year program. While a transformation training team will be formed, everyone from participating churches is invited. The first training session is Saturday, September 17 at 9:00 AM at Scottsdale United Methodist Church. Dr. Nations will be leading the session. Approximately 40 churches in the Desert Southwest Conference are participating in DNA Coaching.

The Council believes it is important to share this information with the entire congregation at St. Matthew and to ask for your affirmation, both spiritually and financially. The DNA Coaching Transformation Process will cost $1,500 a year for three years (total of $4,500). The program starts September 1 and our goal is to raise the first $1,500 by then. We can easily achieve this goal if 15 families contribute $100 each. We can also achieve our goal through donations of $50 and $25. Please reflect and pray about the tremendous potential of this program. For more information, visit www.dnacoaching.com. For a fact sheet and PowerPoint presentation about DNA Coaching, please contact Kevin Staab at kbrox01@gmail.com.



Michael's Musings

I stepped up on the block. I was full of nervous energy. I was shaking my arms and my legs to get ready for my swim event – 100 yard breaststroke. My high school swim team traveled about two hours for an evening swim meet on Friday and an invitational relay swim meet the next day. The Friday competition was against the high school in Vestal, N.Y. The Saturday competition was against several high school swim teams.

We had time to warm up. That was always good so that the body would be ready for the hard swim later. Each team had three breaststrokers. The top swimmers get the inside lanes. This is important because they would not encounter too many wakes in the water as they swam. Since I was the number three guy I was put in an outside lane where I would be swimming in the wake of the faster swimmers.

It was time – "Swimmers take your mark." The gun went off. I was off the block and into the water as fast as I could go. I felt really good in the swim. However, when I reached the wall to turn around I discovered that I was the first swimmer to touch the wall and turn. I was surprised! I was faster than my own teammates as well as the fastest breaststroker on the other team. This had never happened before!

I couldn't see the others on the second turn because I was facing the other way. But, when I came up from under water and started swimming, out of the corner of my eye I could see that I was still ahead. The third and final turn was coming up. At this time the guy in the lane next to me and I touched the wall at the same time. He and I were ahead of everyone else. The other swimmers were eating our wake. I swam hard but I was beat by a tenth of a second. I took second place and my team was cheering. Nobody expected me to beat the other two breaststrokers on the team. My time was also a personal best record.

What made that experience possible? I think about the good coaching I received. Coaches who were there to help train and encourage during swim practice. They were very helpful to point out different things to make turns faster and to get of the block faster. Their coaching made it possible to have that sweet moment in Vestal, N.Y.

St. Matthew UMC is going to take part in a program called DNA Coaching. We are one of 40 churches within the Desert Southwest Conference that will be in the program. The Rev. Don Nations is a United Methodist pastor from the Florida Conference who has an excellent track record of helping churches become the best they can be.

The DNA Coaching will provide training for each church. We will discover the things we can do that will help us grow our church stronger. The Rev. Don Nations will visit our church and provide us with an assessment. With the assessment we will receive a "to do list" with items that we will need to do.

I believe this will be an excellent experience for our church and help us in ways we have not thought about. I ask your support in this coaching program. First, pray that we will be good listeners about what we need to hear. Second, there is a financial commitment of $4,500 to be paid over a three year timeframe ($1,500 per year) and we need to find the funding.

I believe that through the coaching we receive we will find ourselves doing more ministry and missions than we could have thought. We will be able to share the grace we have experienced with those in our community. They will soon know about a God who loves them deeply.

By the way, because I did so well on the Friday night swim meet I was placed in the "A" relay team for Saturday's swim meet and did well. Let's see where God will take us with DNA Coaching.

Grace and peace,

Michael

Thank you!

A huge thank you for all the cards and prayers we received during Ted's recent heart surgery and recovery. Visits from Pastors Dave and Diana and others along with fabulous meals were also much appreciated.

~Dorothy and Ted Dodds

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We want to thank Pastor Michael for his hospital visits. He showed us that laughter is the best medicine. And to our special group of friends, thank you for the gifts, and your love and support. God bless.

~Jan and Joel Huffman

September Calendar, cont.

Saturday, September 10, 2011
- UMYF Fall Retreat
- Trustees' Work Day, 7:00 AM
- Helping Hands, 9:00 AM, C6-7
- Walk to Emmaus, 9:00 AM, B11
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Walk to Emmaus, 6:00 PM, FH, K
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, September 11, 2011
- UMYF Fall Retreat
- Trad. Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemp. Worship, 9:30 AM, FH
- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Sunday School Team, 11:45 AM, C6-7
- Sonoran Circle Girl Scouts, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, September 12, 2011
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, Bldg C
- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24

Tuesday, September 13, 2011
- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, D22-25
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14
- UMW and UMM Combined Unit Meeting, 7:00 PM, FH, K

Wednesday, September 14, 2011
- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:30 PM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, September 15, 2011
- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:00 AM, D23-24
- Alzheimer's Assoc., 7:00 PM, B12
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct
- Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH
- Staff Parish Relations, 7:00 PM, B11

Saturday, September 17, 2011
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, September 18, 2011
- Trad. Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemporary Worship, 9:30 AM, FH
- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Sonoran Circle Girl Scouts, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, September 19, 2011
- Preschool, 8:30 AM, C1-7
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, Bldg C
- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24
- Disciple Bible Studies, 6:30 PM, B11-14

Tuesday, September 20, 2011
- Morning Glories, 9:00 AM, D23-D24
- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Girl Scout Troop 502, 5:00 PM, C1-3
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, D22, 25
- Church Council, 7:00 PM, D23-24
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, September 21, 2011
- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:30 PM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, September 22, 2011
- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:00 AM, D23-24
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct
- Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH

Friday, September 23, 2011
- Mothers of Preschoolers and MOPPETS, 9:00 AM, D23-24, Nursery, C1-3
- Bible Overnighter, 4:00 PM, FH

Saturday, September 24, 2011
- Bible Overnighter, ends 11:00 AM, FH
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, September 25, 2011
- Girl Scout Troop 841, 7:00 AM, Patio
- Traditional Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemporary Worship, 9:30 AM, FH
- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Sonoran Circle Girl Scouts, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, September 26, 2011
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, Bldg C
- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24
- Disciple Bible Studies, 6:30 PM, B11-14

Tuesday, September 27, 2011
- Week Without Violence, 8:00 AM, D25
- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, FH
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, September 28, 2011
- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:30 PM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, September 29, 2011
- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:00 AM, D23-24
- Friends of Justa, 1:00 PM, FH, K
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct
- Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH

Preschool: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM, C1-7; Friday, 8:30 AM, C6-7

Key: PL = Parking Lot, K = Kitchen, FH = Fellowship Hall, Sanct = Sanctuary

For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.stmatthewmesa.org
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Sunday School News

Our Bible Overnighter is coming up this month! On Sunday, September 18, 2011 children who are in third grade will receive their bibles in the traditional and contemporary service. This is a special recognition and dedication for them.

In support of this special event, on Friday, September 23, 2011 we will have our annual Bible Overnighter event in Fellowship Hall and the D building. This is a great opportunity for children who are in 3rd grade through 6th grade to become more familiar with their Bibles through interactive games, Bible lessons and fun with friends. This year our event theme will be **Game On: Bible games, lessons, fun and God's comfort for all.** If you are interested in registering your child or grandchild for this event come to our Sunday School table on Sunday mornings or download the registration form on our website and email it to Maureen Jobe. If you have any questions, call Maureen Jobe at (602) 469-1864 or email her at maureenjobe@stmatthewmesa.org.

Worship in September

September 4
"Keeping the 'Christ' in 'Christian'"
Matthew 18:15-20

September 11
"The Healing Power of Forgiveness"
Matthew 18:21-35

September 18
"Grace Filled Surprises"
Exodus 16:2-15

September 25
Youth Sunday – The youth will lead worship and share the Word at all three services.

Get to know the Eatons!

Let's gather a group of friends together and invite Pastor Michael and Alane into our homes for a chit chat session. They are excited and want to meet with groups of people. Nellie Amedee is coordinating the schedule. Please see her on the patio or call her at (480) 838-0950.

September Calendar

Thursday, September 01, 2011
- Alzheimer's Assoc., 7:00 PM, B12
- Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH

Saturday, September 03, 2011
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, September 04, 2011
- Trad. Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemp. Worship, 9:30 AM, FH
- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Sonoran Circle Girl Scouts, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, September 05, 2011
- Labor Day
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, Bldg
- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24

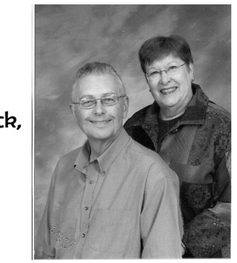
Tuesday, September 06, 2011
- Morning Glories, 9:00 AM, D23-D24
- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Girl Scout Troop 502, 5:00 PM, C1-3
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, D22-25
- Pampered Chef, 6:00 PM, FH, K
- Boy Scout Troop 853 Parents, 7:00 PM, D22
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, September 07, 2011
- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Evangelism Committee, 6:00 PM, B13
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:30 PM, FH
- Missions Committee, 6:30 PM, B12
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, September 08, 2011
- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:00 AM, D23-24
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct
- Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH
- Stephen Ministry, 7:00 PM, B11

Friday, September 09, 2011
- UMYF Fall Retreat
- Mothers of Preschoolers and MOPPETS, 9:00 AM, D23-24, Nursery, C1-3

Lay Leaders' Notes



When Jesus traveled about and arrived at a new community, he would assess the needs of the people and administer to them accordingly. He would heal the sick, teach those who would listen, forgive the sinners and recognize the low elements of society. The community would be the better because of Jesus' presence.

As latter day descendants of that early church, we should follow Jesus' example and tend to the needs of our community. Our church has members from all over the East Valley, but for this article we will consider our community to be the Dobson Ranch and immediate area. What should we do to serve this area? First we need to define the demographics of our area and what needs this suggests.

We have a group of people who are unchurched, some of which may be seeking some sort of spiritual connection. Next we have families with children. Some of these may be single parent families and some may have children with special needs. Then we have retired persons that may have special needs. Also there are shut-ins and persons with medical needs. There are no doubt other classes of individuals with special needs that have not been mentioned. We can define specific needs for each element of these demographics.

Can we minister to all of these needs? We will probably not do it all at one time. There is an old saying that begins with a question: How do you eat an elephant? The answer: One bite at a time. We need to work on these defined needs one at a time. As has been discussed before, everyone has talents as assigned by God. We must discern what these talents are and use them to the fullest. With God's help, we can do much. If you eye an area that interests you, pray that you may be able to contribute to success in that area. Then you should call the church office to offer your assistance in that area. Someone from the church will contact you to determine what should be done next.

Pray that Saint Matthew United Methodist Church will become a dynamic source of outreach in our local community.

Hope everyone is doing well and we will see you in the Mustard Seed.

Joyce and Roger Helm
rhelmaz@yahoo.com

Adult Classes

Searchers/Disciples Class

The combined Searchers and Disciples Sunday School classes meet on Sundays in room B11 from 9:00-10:00 AM. Class will resume on Sunday, September 11 with a study of "Why?": a book and DVD by Adam Hamilton.

Men's Bible Study

Meets on Thursday mornings, at 6:30 AM, at Coco's at Baseline and Dobson Roads. We are studying "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren.

Pastor's Bible Study

Join Pastor Michael every Thursday morning at 9:00 AM for Bible study, starting on September 8. We will meet in D23-24.

United Methodist Women

Unit Meeting: The September meeting will be a joint meeting of the United Methodist Men and the UMW. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall, September 13 at 7:00 PM. Carl and Michelle Chasse will be talking about their trip to Haiti. Refreshments will be provided by the UMW. All members of the church are invited to attend.

Cuppa Natter: Welcome back ladies after a hot summer. September 27 will be our "Out to Dinner" meeting. Meet at Coco's Restaurant at Baseline and Dobson at 6:00 PM. We will order from the menu on separate checks.

Morning Glories: We will meet Tuesday, September 6, at 9:00 AM in Building D. Our speaker will be Pastor Michael Eaton. On Tuesday, September 20, at 9:00 AM in Building D, Sherry Taylor will speak about problems for farmers.

Preschool

St. Matthew Preschool is now enrolling children ages 2 1/2 to Pre-K for fall. For details, contact Director Mareen Treese at (480) 229-2436 or visit our website.

The Mission Minute

Clean Water for Haiti

The United Methodist Women, the Worship Committee and others in the church are raising money for water filtration systems in Haiti. If you would like to participate by donating money, please contact John Dey at JHDasid@aol.com. If you donate $20 or more, you will receive a baseball cap with "St. Matthew's UMC" embroidered on it.

Water Collection for the Homeless

The Water Collection campaign is still going on. Please consider donating bottled water to help the homeless and unsheltered during the summer months (June 1—September 16). You can drop it off at:

- Mesa Fire Department Volunteer Center, 2830 E. Adobe (behind Fire Station 206 at Lindsay and Adobe)
- Red Mountain Multigenerational Center, 7550 E. Adobe
- United Food Bank, 245 S. Nina Drive (north of Broadway between Extension and Alma School)
- Paz de Cristo, 424 W. Broadway
- A New Leaf – MesaCAN, 635 E. Broadway

If you are unable to drop them off at one of these locations, please contact Brenda Hook at GLHBCG@AOL.COM or (480) 964-0799 or drop them off at the church office. We have had 7 cases dropped off at the church so far this summer. Thanks to all!

UMOM

The UMOM Auxiliary, with several members from St. Matthew, is sponsoring the third annual walk for UMOM on Saturday, October 1, at 7:30 AM. It begins at the state capitol in downtown Phoenix. The walk is to raise funds as well as awareness of homelessness in the Phoenix area. Register online at UMOM.org or call (602) 275-7852 ext. 220. Our youth and Sunday school will be participating as well. You may register as an individual or as a team.

Thank you to our August servers: Marlene Seitz, Bonnie Price, Tom Price, Leroy Livingston, and John Dey. Those serving in September are: Joe and Jill Lindstrom (9/2); Cindy Williams - Aux. (9/9); Pastor Eric Brown and Journey UMC (9/16); Gary Hertzler - Chancel Choir (9/23); and Carl and Michelle Chasse (9/30).

Get Involved!

Many groups at St. Matthew participate in missions. You can contact them directly to get involved with their projects. To join the Mission Committee, contact Brenda Hook at GLHBCG@AOL.COM or (480) 964-0799.

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome our new members who joined August 28: Shannon Black, Susan Blair, Alane Eaton, Barbara Eaton, Larry Eaton, George Masles, James Scott Pinegar, Audry Whitehurst, and Harry Whitehurst. We are excited to have you in our faith community!

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Fall Retreat

"Say, Say You Believe It"
Friday, September 9, 5:00 PM – Sunday, September 11, 2:00 PM
United Christian Youth Camp, Prescott
Last day for registration is September 3, 2011
A list of "what to bring" will be sent via email by September 6 to those registered.

Youth Sunday

"Say, Say You Believe It"
Sunday, September 25
9:00 Traditional and 10:30 Blended Worship

The entire worship will be presented by our UMYF and includes music by our Youth Celebration and Hands of Praise Choirs.

Mission Focus: Crisis in the Horn of Africa

July 20, 2011—The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is holding conversations with partner organizations working in the Horn of Africa and planning a regional response to the growing hunger crisis provoked by severe drought in the region.

Years of drought in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Djibouti have escalated in recent weeks, causing widespread hunger and, in two regions of southern Somalia, famine. According to the United Nations, today's drought is the worst the region has seen in half a century and has left an estimated 11 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. It has provoked acute malnutrition and death, especially among children and other vulnerable populations.

"UMCOR is very concerned about the escalation of the crisis in the Horn of Africa and is talking with ACT Alliance, Church World Service, GlobalMedic, and Muslim Aid to devise a regional response to it," reported Melissa Crutchfield, UMCOR executive for International Disaster Response.

Somalia, where relief efforts have been hampered by ongoing violence and war, has seen tens of thousands of its weakened citizens flee to neighboring Kenya and Ethiopia. The Somali population in three refugee camps in Dadaab, Kenya, has increased by more than 30 percent in recent weeks, to 400,000 people.

Nearly half the Somali population—3.7 million people—is estimated to be in crisis, the UN said; most—2.8 million—can be found in the war-torn southern part of the country, where the violence has impeded the work of food agencies for more than a year.

If the effects of the drought are not checked, famine could spread to the rest of southern Somalia within two months, the UN underscored.

"UMCOR is working with our partners to act as quickly and as comprehensively as possible," Crutchfield said. "While we do, we ask for your continued prayers and support for those affected by this crisis."

Your help is urgently needed. Please give to International Disaster Response, UMCOR Advance #982450, and earmark your gift for Horn of Africa Crisis.

Article taken from http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/newsroom/releases/archives2011/hornofafrica/