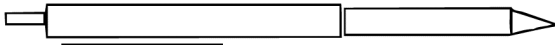




Medina Messenger

Newsletter of the Medina United Methodist Church

July 2007



FROM THE PASTOR

July is the month that we set aside to remember America's Declaration of Independence. There were 56 men who signed that historical document.

- Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died.

- Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned.

- Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

- Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

What kind of men were they?

- Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists.

- Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well edu-

cated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer,

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Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr, noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates. Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American

Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more.

Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

My hope and prayer is that all of us will find time to remember and be thankful for those who sacrificed so much so that we can enjoy the incredible liberties we have in this country. We live in the most prosperous country the world has ever known and it came at a high price. May the Lord make us truly grateful and may we never forget, "To whom much is given, much is required." (Luke 12:48)

Bill

TRUTH

We are taking a break for the summer and Lord willin' will be back when school starts. Thanks for all your support!

Lacy

VBS Needs Help

VBS needs snacks and helpers on Friday. And then Monday (9th), Tuesday (10th), Wednesday (12th), Friday (13th), and Saturday (14th) – the week before VBS – we need help preparing for VBS, from 9:00AM - ?.

Cross-Over

Cross-Over is on Tuesdays. Come join us for swimming at 3:30 at the Klaassen Pond (go down Stringtown, take a right next to the Klaassen's Shop. Drive until you see the pond on your left.) At 5:45 we re-group for snacks, worship, and singing.

Bricks

Have you purchased your brick yet? Please do so and mail your completed form along with your check to the church.

Medina United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 208
Medina, TX 78055

In Sympathy

Our sincerest condolences go to the Dee Bonugli family.

E Sword Bible Program



Free E-Sword Bible program - This Bible study program is available to Windows Users. Not only can you get the basic program for free, but you can also get several add-on books, such as Bible versions (including Greek and Hebrew), Strong's Concordance, and several basic biblical commentaries. You can add other books for a fee. There's also an interesting prayer request keeper included with the program that can remind you of certain items you need to pray for.

<http://www.e-sword.net/>

UMW MEETING

(United Methodist Women)

The meeting for July 18th has been cancelled due to VBS week.

The next meeting will be August 15th, 2:00 p.m.
at the Craddock Cottage.

Program Leader: Pastor Bill Stegemueller

Hostesses: UMW - Salad Luncheon

***Come and enjoy the Program, Refreshments and Fellowship!
Men are invited, too!!***

Vacation Bible School

July 16th — 20th at Medina United Methodist Church 9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

The Game Is On...

...and excitement is in the air! LifeWay's VBS 2007, Game Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made™, will get kids in the game and help them learn how to become heroes both on and off the field by focusing on Jesus and following God's plan for their lives.



During Game Day Central VBS, kids will have an all-access pass for everything from the Worship Rally Arena to the Crafts Fan Zone. So, get ready for a record-setting Vacation Bible School with LifeWay's Game Day Central VBS—it's where heroes are made!

Did you know?

Medina United Methodist Church has a website that we update on a regular basis. You can visit it at www.medinaumc.org. If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see on it, let me know!

Worldiness

Which disturbs you most?

A soul in hell or your business?

Your missing worship service or your missing a day's work?

A sermon 10 minutes too long or lunch half hour late?

A church not growing or your garden not growing?

Your Bible unopened or your news paper unread?

The church work neglected or house work neglected?

Missing a good bible study or Television program?

Your children late for Sunday school or for school?

Medina United Methodist Church

(Reed Avenue)

P. O. Box 208 • Medina, TX 78055

(830) 589-2646

www.medinaumc.org

Rev. Bill Stegemueller

bill@medinaumc.org

Medina United Methodist Church

Worship Schedule

Sunday

9:45 a.m. — Sunday School

11:00 a.m. — Traditional Service

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. — Mid-week Study

Administrative Council meets the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise announced.

Our Vision

"We invite everyone into the family of GOD, where the LORD is praised and felt, love is shared, and lives are blessed."