



**Briarwood**  
United Methodist Church

October 2011 Newsletter

## Pastor's Corner

One of my favorite psalms is Psalm 139, especially this one section midway through:

*For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.*

*I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful, that I know full well.*

*My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, Your eyes saw my unformed body.* (Psalm 139:13-15)

It speaks to the intentional and intimate way God has shaped and formed each one of us, even from the womb.

Before we were fully formed, before our bodies were even complete, God knew us and loved us *personally*. Even in the womb, we are unique, we are a person. We have a soul and a spirit. We are alive in God's eyes, for He has created us.

We as Christians believe that *personhood* starts in the womb. Life does not begin at birth. Life begins from the moment of conception. This has been the theology of the church for centuries, though there may be those who dissent from it on occasion.

In a few weeks, we here in Mississippi have a wonderful opportunity to affirm what we believe in a State Amendment. It is called Amendment 26, or what some are referring to as the Personhood Amendment. In essence, it says:

*The term 'person' or 'persons' shall include every human being from the moment of fertilization, cloning or the functional equivalent thereof.*

Don't let the reference to 'cloning' throw you. We don't support cloning. However, even if someone were to clone a human, then that cloned child is still a person and not a mere test subject.

If I understand correctly, this Amendment will be on the November 8<sup>th</sup> Ballot. Please prayerfully consider supporting this Amendment, that every child may be recognized as a full person, with all the rights entailed, even from the womb.

See you Sunday,

Lauren

## Operation Christmas Child



**National Collection Week:  
November 14-21**

## October Anniversaries

October 19 David & Shannon McKee

## Briarwood's Homebound Members

Jim Alvis	Jim McElroy
Johnnie Beasley	Wayne Milsted
Barbara Clark	Ruth & Anne Paine
Janet Coleman	Shirley Robertson
Gloria Davis	Avanelle Stephens
Virginia Erwin	Dan Williams
Ella Dee Lamb	

## October Honorees

October 2	Tommy & Yvonne Dyson
October 9	LaVerne Elsesser
October 16	Virginia Erwin
October 23	Jo Finch
October 30	Doug & Jeanette Godfrey

## Family Night Supper



Family Night Supper is Wednesday, October 12, at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

Rev. Ghuna Kumar, a missionary pastor in India, will share with us about the church in India. Be sure to invite a friend to bring along with you.

## UMW Meetings



**Fidelity Circle** – Saturday, October 22, at 10 am  
**Ethel Bailey Circle** – Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 10 am

### Men's Club

Men's Club will meet Sunday, October 16, at 8 a.m. in the fellowship hall.



Tommy and Pete will cook breakfast.

### Mission Needs for Wingard House

The items needed for the Wingard House are: **Ramen noodles, mayonnaise, bleach, laundry detergent, toilet paper, and trash bags.**



This is a Christian home that reaches out to those in need – men, women, and children. Place the items in the kitchen across from the Fellowship Hall.

### Wesley Sunday School Class News

We will continue to deliver items to the Salvation Army! Thanks for your generous response and contributions. They are greatly appreciated.

### Items to Pack in a Shoebox Gift

**School Supplies:** pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

**Toys:** small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, yo-yos, jump ropes, Slinky, etc.

**Hygiene Items:** toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

**Other:** T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

**Do not include:** Used items; toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as glass; aerosol cans.

### Craft Fair



**Saturday, October 22, 2011  
9 am – 3 pm**

Mark your calendars, and come join the fun.

### Can You Bake a Cherry Pie?



Or some cookies, cakes, or brownies? If so, gather your ingredients and bring your baked goods of choice *for sale* at the **Craft Fair** on **Saturday, October 22, 2011. Hours: 9 am – 3 pm**

Mark your Calendar!

Wilma Ammons

### Charge Conference

Our Charge Conference this year will be Sunday, November 13, at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Rev. Henderson Rasberry, our DS, will preside.

The Church Council will meet at 2 p.m. preceding the Charge Conference.

### Library Notes



If you want to *think*, read the new book in the Library, **Why? Making Sense of God's Will** by Adam Hamilton. The 4 chapters are discussions on the following questions:

- 1) Why Do the Innocent Suffer?
- 2) Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?
- 3) Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life?
- 4) Why God's Love Prevails.

Hamilton doesn't present his ideas as *the* answers, but you will be prodded to think about them.

Linda Anglin

**VOTE**for**LIFE**



### Record of our Faithfulness

Budget Received to Date	\$122,821.90
Budget Needed Weekly	\$3,237.60
Total Budget Needed to Date	\$126,059.50