

MUNHOLLAND

SEPTEMBER 2023 MUNHOLLAND METHODIST PUBLICATION

'GET YOUR CHRISTIAN CEUS'

Dr. Jonathan Beck, Pastor

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SUNDAY SERVICES

Traditional: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
Sunday School: 9:30 AM (All ages)

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www.munhollandchurch.org

'GET YOUR CHRISTIAN CEUS'



What is a 'Christian CEU'? It stands for Christian Continuing Education Unit. When we went to school, we studied hard to prepare for our future careers. Our education didn't stop there. We all have continuing education units that we need each year. Yes, I do as well. So, we go to seminars and conferences that give us ideas, inspiration, and techniques to become more effective in our work. The same should be true of our intellectual growth in Christ which, in turn, will deepen your trust and guide your walk. Here are a few ideas and resources that may be helpful as you continue to grow in your knowledge, trust, and love of God.

1. Follow a Bible reading schedule. Colleges know the value of giving students a clear schedule. We need that for our Christian CEUs. The first schedule I used as a new Christian took me through the entire Bible in a year. I learned so much! It was invaluable. You can find many Bible reading schedules online at Biblegateway.com. Find one that is 2-3 chapters a day. You'll be surprised how much material you cover in a short period of time. A schedule will keep you moving through the Bible so you gain general knowledge, discover recurring themes, and make connections between books.
2. Get in a small group or Sunday School class. If we only read a book, we retain only 20%. When we discuss a book with someone, we retain upwards of 70%! I particularly enjoy the small groups in which we discuss a Christian book or a book of the Bible. Our Wednesday Men's Group has been a great way to dig in, learn, and retain knowledge of the Bible. However, it can be as simple as finding a friend who will read the same letter of Paul, Genesis, or one of prophetic books then talk about it once a week.
3. Use a concordance to help you research Christian ideas of interest to you. A concordance is a tool that helps you see where the same word is used in other passages and books. Most Bibles have a small concordance in the back. Biblegateway.com is the easiest way to study words. The power of the computer doing the work for you makes it easy and fun. Just punch in a word, and you will get every verse where it is used.
4. Finally, read Christian magazines, websites, and listen to podcasts. I find Christianity Today particularly helpful. It engages a breadth of issues in our society from a sound Christian perspective. Just go to christianitytoday.com. You can sign up for daily or weekly emails. They even have one specifically for women. The Bible Project by Tim Mackie will take you on a deep dive into biblical themes. They are only 30 minutes to an hour. You can learn a lot just driving to and from work!

These are all ways in which you can 'love the Lord with all your...MIND'. We all need Christian CEUs to learn more, trust more, and love more. Let me know what you are doing and if you have anything else that has helped you.

Working on my Christian CEUs,
Jonathan

'RENEW OUR PRAYER..'

by Jeff Pellegrin

Prayer may be the most important aspects of our life in Christ. It's how we communicate with God, express gratitude, confess our sins, seek help, and intercede for others. Through prayer, we align our hearts with God's desire for intimate fellowship with each one of us.

If you're like me, however, you probably find yourself struggling with prayer. Sometimes we are just too busy, distracted, tired, or discouraged to pray. It's easy to settle into a dry routine or ritual and forget that our prayers really do make a difference.

How can we renew our prayer life and experience the power and presence of God in a fresh way? Here are a few suggestions based on the wisdom of the Bible and the rich traditions handed down to us by our Methodist forebearers.

Pray with Scripture: The Bible is full of prayers that we can use as models, or guides for our own prayers. We can pray the Psalms, which express every emotion and situation we can possibly face. We can meditate on the Lord's Prayer, which teaches us how to honor God, seek his kingdom, ask for our needs, forgive others, and resist temptation.

Pray with Others: Prayer is not only a personal practice but also a communal one. We are called to pray with and for one another as members of the body of Christ. When we pray with others, we share our burdens and our blessings. We draw strength and insight from each other as we walk along the Ancient Way.

Pray with Passion: Prayer is not only our duty; it is our delight. It's not just some old-fashioned habit, but a heart-felt expression of our love for God. When we pray with passion, we pour out our souls to God with sincerity, fervor, and expectancy. We do not withhold anything from Him, but lay it all down with joy.

Prayer truly is a gift from God. One that we should cherish and cultivate with care. By praying with Scripture, with others, and with passion, we will renew our prayer life and enjoy greater intimacy with God and one another.



MUNHOLLAND METHODIST MEN
(MMM)

*Helping Men Grow in Christ, so
Others May know Christ.*

MMM MEETING

September 14th 7 PM- Zoom only

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

Men's Coffee Crew Study Group
meets at Munholland on
Wednesdays at 7:00 AM in the FH.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Munholland Methodist Men, contact Steve Zansler, President, at phylzans@hotmail.com.

***"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results".
James 5:16***

by Ronda Knox

Elijah was a prophet who, because of his idolatrous nation prayed that God would cause it to stop raining; it did not rain for 3 years and 6 months. His zeal for God and desire that his brothers and sisters return to the Lord prompted this severe request. He then prayed for rain and the rain came pouring down. Elijah's prayer literally was the key to open and shut heaven. Yet we know that Elijah was not perfect, he experienced temptations and sinned like we all do, so why was Elijah's prayer so effective? Or anybody else's for that matter.

Just as James 5:16b declares, and Psalm 66:18 also holds the answer for us: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear my prayer." It is not that we sin that keeps God from answering our prayers; but that we do not agree with God as to what sin is and confess that we have wronged God. God forgives a repentant soul - Always. However, He cannot forgive what we, like the hard-hearted Israelites refuse to admit is sin.

So, make it a habit to search your heart, confessing where you need to, and experience the joy, contentment, not condemnation that this brings. The prayers of a righteous person has great power and brings wonderful results!

We have 6 wonderful Bible Studies to choose from this fall and I encourage you to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities and sign up today! Email Rknox@munhollandchurch.org to sign up!

FALL STUDIES

1

The Genesis of Gender

Tuesdays, 9/5 - 11/7 6:15-7:30 PM
Rm 206

Transition from confusion to understanding about transgenderism and the cultural milieu that surrounds it.

Mary Kay Beck and Rev. Jonathan will lead a serious book study on The Genesis of Gender: A Christian Theory, by A. Favale. Favale taught gender studies for years when her thinking became more informed by her new Christian faith. Engage this cultural moment for the sake of family and friends.

Contact Jonathan at 504.834.9910 or email jbeck@munhollandchurch.org, if you have any questions.

4

Romans Part 2

Wednesdays 9/13 - 12/06 6:15-7:30
Rm 111

Ronda Knox and Stephan Ball return this fall to cover chapters 8-16, which completes the study of what many believe to be one of the most important books ever written on the Christian faith: Romans. Writing to Christians, the apostle Paul defines the gospel, explores its depths, and discusses its significance and implications for the Christian life. All are welcome, even if you did not attend Romans Part 1.

2

The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry

Tuesdays, 9/5 - 10/24 6:15-7:30 PM
Rm 111

If you have wanted to enter into life with God but found yourself saying "I just wish I had more time", this class is for you.

Join Owen Trotter as he unpacks what keeps us from walking daily with God and entering into His life giving way.

5

Men's Coffee Crew Study Group

Wednesdays, 7 AM Fellowship Hall
ongoing study

Be a Real Man by diving into conversations that matter to us today.

Dig into books of the Bible and other Christian works that will challenge you to think like a Christian.

Contact Jonathan at 504.834.9910, or just attend on Wednesday mornings.

3

When You Pray

Thursdays, 9/7 - 10/19 10-11:30 AM
Fellowship Hall
Jennifer Heebe, facilitator

So many women struggle with their prayer life...am I doing this right? Is there a right way? They get distracted, feel defeated and all too often give up.

We will roll up our sleeves, open The Word, and study effective prayers and learn to pray with power and purpose.

6

The Cost of Control

Sharon Hodde Miller
Wednesdays 9/6 - 10/4 10AM
Rm 210
Led by Ann Birdsong

Technology, science, medicine, and the internet all promise us ever-increasing mastery over our world. Why we crave it, the anxiety it gives us, and the real power God gives us. This is a Right Now media series, you will not need a book. If you would like to follow for more deeper discussion, you can order the book through Amazon.

COMING SOON!!!

MUNHOLLAND'S FALL FESTIVAL

Cochon de Lait & Gumbo Cook-Off
Sunday, October 22nd from 12 - 2:30pm

\$5.00

Pork Sliders - Coleslaw, Potato Salad
and Baked Beans

Live Music - Fall Photo Props - Face Painting
- Cake Walk - Fun outdoor Games

Also bringing back our famous...

Gumbo Cook-Off

\$10 entry fee

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Prizes

Silent Judges

Contact Ann Birdsong at annb@munhollandchurch.org
or church office 504.834.9910 for more information...

'IN HOLY CONVERSATION'

by Phyllis Zansler

I was recently asked to give the Mediation and Prayer at a District United Women in Faith Mission event. Because of this task, I found myself delving deeper into asking myself...

"What is Prayer" – How and why do I pray? Is God the first person I talk with each day?

Is He the last?

My favorite way of praying can be done 24/7 – simply known as "The Breath Prayer."

Inhale – Take a deep breath, say Jesus, Father, God...or another term of endearment you may use.

Exhale – Say your name. Repeat it twice.

You have just had a conversation with God! I am learning to be still and listen for God's presence. I find myself talking with God rather than to Him and try to listen.

Dan Rather, in an interview with Mother Teresa, asked her, "What do you say to God when you pray?" She responded, "I don't talk, I simply listen." After a brief awkward moment, he asked, "Ah, then what is it that God says to you when you pray?" Mother Teresa smiled and said, "He doesn't talk either. He listens". She then said, "And if you don't understand that, I can't explain it to you."

Prayer is a holy conversation because the one to whom we speak is Holy. He is our God and Creator; the Father or our Lord Jesus Christ and He is "our" Father. Prayer is a holy conversation because our Holy Father invited us to speak with Him. He wants to hear from us and listens to our every thought expressed. Be patient.

"Wait on the Lord, be strong, take heart and wait on the Lord." Psalm 27:14

"The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him is truth." Psalm 145:18.

Prayer transforms us and our relationship with God. We become who God wants us to be. Being in prayer with God is being in communion with Him. Begin where you are. God is always present. Where you are, He already is. Just call out to Him. He knows your needs before you even ask, ask anyway! Praise Him and give thanks for your many blessings.



Calendar

**We believe love in action
can change the world.
Please join us.**

09/12/23

General Meeting

10:00 AM

**White Elephant prep will follow the
meeting until 1:00 PM Rm. 211**

**We're meeting every Tuesday in
September to prep for the
White Elephant sale from
10 AM until noon.**

**White Elephant sale set up
will take place from
September 25th - 29th...**

**White Elephant sale
September 30th
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Watch your emails for times and
any changes or contact our
Communication Coordinator,
Phyllis Zansler.**



The Children's Choir is Back! The Acorns

Here at Munholland, we strive to teach our children to connect with God, grow with each other, and serve the world. Music is one of the tools we use to do just that!

We would love to have all children, ages 4-14 years old (Pre-K-8th Grade), join us.

Rehearsal begins Wednesday, September 6th from 5:30 - 6:30 PM.

Our 2023 Christmas Program will be
The Unbelievable Super Fantastic Truly Amazing Christmas Extravaganza!

Jolie Trotter, Children's Choir Director
Emily Johnson, Children's Choir Assistant

For more information visit Munholland's website under the Ministry section look for
The Acorns.

Growing God's Kingdom One child at a time!

Nurturing spiritual growth in children to equip them with a foundation in faith that will allow them to grow personally, form a relationship with Jesus Christ, live out their faith daily and disciple others.

Church Nursery

The nursery is available for infants & toddlers during the 8:30 AM service, Sunday School, & the 11:00 AM service. Make sure to bring a bag with all the items your child/children may need.

Sunday School

Children grades Pre-K 4 to 5th

Join us from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM to learn about God & His son, Jesus, through songs, games, experiments & more!



Sunday School Lesson

God gave us 10 Commandments to help us live a life that's sweeter not only to him, but to everyone around us. The 10 Commandments can make us, and the world around us, a sweeter place.

Children's Church 11 AM Service

During the 1st part of the worship service the children are invited down to the front to hear a short Children's Sermon. Children then leave the service to participate in Children's Church (RM 209.)

During this time children will sing worship songs, hear a Bible story, participate in various activities regarding a scripture verse, & pray. Children return back to BIG church during the last hymn.



'RENEWING OUR PRAYER'

by Owen Trotter

*"To pray is to descend with the mind into the heart, and there to stand before the face of the Lord, ever-present, all seeing, within you."
Theophan the Recluse*

Prayer can be an elusive thing for many Christians. Most people don't feel qualified for it, or that it is somehow "above their spiritual pay grade".

For some it may just be too daunting of a task, or maybe you just don't know what to say. Prayer is the bedrock for our faith, it is how we root ourselves as believers, and have a relationship with God our Father.

It is imperative that we are able to pray. So how do we dip our foot in the water of prayer? One of the most life-giving practices I have adopted for my own prayer life is praying the daily office of the Book of Common Prayer. It is a scripture saturated way of prayer that gives you the words to pray, as long as you bring the heart to pray them.

I highly encourage the morning and evening offices to open and close your days in a prayerful and scripture-led way. Below is a link to a digital copy of the 2019 Book of Common Prayer, the offices are found on pages 21 and 51.

<https://bcp2019.anglicanchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/BCP-2019-MASTER-5th-PRINTING-05022022-3.pdf>



CALLING ALL YOUTH AND YOUTH FAMILIES

We will have games, grill out, and close out summer with a bang. It will be fun for the entire family.

YOUTH (GRADES 6TH - 12TH)

Sunday School:
9:30 - 10:30 AM
Collective Sundays
5:00-7:00 PM Youth Room

Each Wednesday, I send out a weekly Newsletter with up-coming events, calendar and other information about what's going on at Munholland Youth!

If you would like to be added to my email list, please email me at owent@munhollandchurch.org.

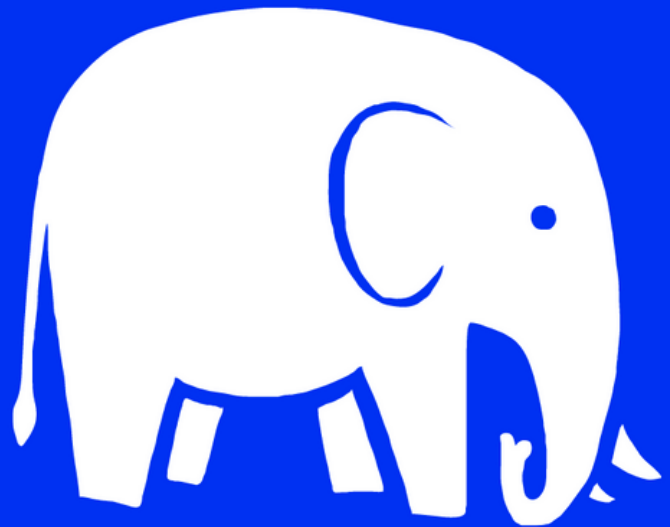
MUNHOLLAND METHODIST CHURCH

1201 Metairie Road, Metairie, 70005 504.834.9910

www.munhollandchurch.org

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023
8AM-1PM**

**SALE INCLUDES: HOME & GARDEN, JEWELRY,
COLLECTIBLES, BOOKS & TOYS, FROZEN SOUPS,
JELLIES, PICKLES, SWEETS, FURNITURE,
NO CLOTHES - ACCESSORIES ONLY...**

**Regular donations accepted
July 20th through Sept. 24th
(place behind screen in FH)**

**Furniture drop off begins Sept. 25th
Text Phyllis Zansler at 504.701.3622 for
large furniture items, if needed for pickup...**

**All proceeds go to UWF missions
local, national, and international...**

Munholland In a Week

CHURCH CALENDAR

UPCOMING SEPTEMBER EVENTS

SUNDAY

- 8:30 AM Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes
- 11:00 AM Worship Service
- 12:00 PM Prayer Meeting * (1st and 3rd Sunday)
- 5:00 PM Youth Collective Mtg.
- 5:00 PM AA Group Officers Mtg
- 6:00 PM Sunday Night AA Group

MONDAY

- 9:30 - 1:30 PM Kids Day Out (M, W, Th, Fr)

TUESDAY

- 9:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 10:00 AM UWF General Meeting *
- 1:30 PM Program Staff Meeting
- 2:30 PM Mt. Zion Good Samaritan (3rd Tuesday)*^
- 6:15 PM *The Genesis of Gender* (9/5 - 11/7)
- 6:15 PM *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry* (9/5 - 10/24)

WEDNESDAY

- 7:00 AM Men's Coffee Crew Study Group
- 10:00 AM *The Cost of Control* - Women for Women Study (9/6 - 10/4)
- 5:00 PM Midweek Meal
- 5:30 PM Children's Activity Night (times may vary)
- 6:00 PM Cursillo
- 6:15 PM *Romans Part 2* (9/13 - 12/06)
- 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

- 10:00 AM *When you Pray* - Ladies weekly ongoing study (9/7 - 10/19)
- 7:00 PM Munholland Methodist Men * (usually meets on the second Thursday)
- 7:30 PM Al Anon
- 8:00 PM NA
- 8:00 PM AA

*Note: Not a weekly event

^ Contact Betsy White at betsysw@aol.com

FH: FELLOWSHIP HALL

For more information... Visit our website... munhollandchurch.org

06 MIDWEEK MEAL RESUMES

5 - 6:15 PM
Fellowship Hall

CHILDREN'S CHOIR (The Acorns)

5:30 - 6:30 PM
Sanctuary

07 KDO RESUMES

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

17 YOUTH END OF SUMMER BASH

5:00 - 7:00 PM Greenspace

24 LUNCH BUNCH

After 11 AM Service

30 UWF WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

LOST & FOUND

If you've lost an item,
check the Lost & Found container located
in the Collections/Copy-Rm 112.

In September, items not claimed
will be sent to the VA...

The Affiliation Task Force has been working for you to discern a future denominational affiliation. Go to 'Seeking God's Future' on our website, to become more informed. Read 'Independent Church Considerations', a 'Snapshot of Denominations', 'Denominational Comparison Chart', and more. There are many articles for you to read.

This Sunday, September 3rd, the Task Force members will be available to answer any questions you may have. The Q & A table is set up in Elmeer Hall following each service.

Munholland's Task Force

FINANCIAL

MOBILE TEXT GIVING

Text "MUNHOLLAND" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP.

If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.

Munholland's Vital Statistics

| | August 2023 | | | | January - August 2023 | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|----------|--|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| | Budget | Actual | Variance | | Budget | Actual | Variance |
| <i>Contributions</i> | \$76,445 | \$115,328 | \$38,883 | <i>Contributions</i> | \$732,806 | \$563,314 | -\$169,492 |
| <i>Expenses</i> | \$76,445 | \$47,577 | \$28,868 | <i>Expenses</i> | \$732,806 | \$580,697 | \$152,109 |
| <i>Net Income/Loss (Contributions)</i> | \$0 | \$67,751 | \$67,751 | <i>Net Income/Loss (Contributions)</i> | \$0 | -\$17,383 | -\$17,383 |

This is as of August 31, 2023.

MESSENGER

MUNHOLLAND METHODIST CHURCH
1201 METAIRIE RD METAIRIE, LA 70005

THINK ABOUT IT

Jesus said to Father God, "The glory which You gave Me I have given to them (believers)". (John 17:22) Did you know it is impossible for us to be one with Jesus and NOT share in what He has? The word *glory* is used 340 times in the Bible. In Hebrew, it is the word *kavod* which means glory, honor, abundance, riches and splendor. It can then be translated as the "heavyweight of God's presence that is filled with everything that is good." Where you find the glory you find miracles, restoration, and transformation because the life of God is there. Out of God's **fullness** we have all received.

That's why Jesus needed us to become "the righteousness of God through Christ". (2 Cor 5:21) He wanted us to be perfected in spirit so we would share in this glory. Jesus needed us to have the same degree of the light, the life, the goodness, and the power of God as He had, so that we could continue destroying the works of darkness and manifesting Heaven on the earth. How would that happen? By each of us possessing the glory of God and living it out. Some might ask, "If believers have the same glory of Jesus, why aren't we experiencing it?" Because you can't experience what you don't know that you have. It is also impossible for us to do the same works as Jesus and even greater works as He told us we would do in John 14:12 without His glory.....without His anointing. Christians talk about doing the same works as Jesus but think they have less authority and power. Even though we do not possess His divinity, we do possess His anointing through God's glory within us.

One of the more well-known passages about glory is Exodus 33:18-19, in which Moses cried out to God, "Please show me your glory". Then God said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you.." His goodness was His glory. In I Kings 8:11, we see that when Solomon dedicated the temple, the Glory of God filled the temple to such a degree that the priests could not even stand up! Every time the glory of God appears, encounters with God take place — and it is always glorious. Isaiah prophesied in 60:1-2 , "Arise and shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people, but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you". This is what we can expect in our lives when we meditate on the glory— God's glory. We will be more aware of His promise to us ~ that we possess this gift and "For in Him we live and move and have our being. For indeed we are His offspring". (Acts 17:28)