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A Word from Woody. . . *MFuge in Nashville!*

Our youth mission trip MFuge in Nashville, Tennessee was wonderful! Here are some of my journal jottings from the trip.

Monday: We gather at the church at 6:00 AM—big yawn!! We leave the church with the van packed at about 6:30 AM and head for Nashville. In Meridian, Mississippi we stopped for breakfast at the best breakfast place in the world—**McDonald's! Or so it seemed to us at the time.** . . . After a nice break we drive up to Birmingham, Alabama, and **have a delicious lunch at Arby's, and then arrive in Nashville** at Belmont University at about 3:45 PM. We register for MFuge, get our room assignments, take group photos, and the go to a delicious supper at 5:30 PM and off to **worship at 7:00 PM. Our week's pastor is Nate, and he leads a church plant in St. Louis. The theme for the messages is "Restored", and he emphasized how in creation God created all things good. After worship and small groups, we get back to our rooms around 10:30 PM and get ready for bed—and I am more than ready for the pillow!**

Tuesday: We gather for worship at 7:45 AM and then go to our separate groups. The students gather in their **work "Track" groups, and adults in a room together for a devotional.** We eat lunch at 11:00 AM in the cafeteria—this is a new twist to our usual MFuge schedule, and a welcome one. We usually eat a cold cut or peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich on our work site for lunch. We leave for our site at 12:00 Noon. Our Track group consists of about five adults and 12 students, and our work for the week is called PCY—Painting, Construction, and Yardwork. We will spend this week at Kipp: Patrick Elementary in the eastern part of Nashville doing odd jobs for this public school as it prepares for the next school year. Today Kaylor and Elena put labels on books for the school library, Christian worked with computer equipment, and I helped move furniture. We get back to **Belmont University, our "camp", by 4:00 PM. We relax and then eat supper at 5:30, after which we have worship and small groups and get back to our rooms by about 11:00 PM.**

Wednesday: We had a little disaster today. It was my turn to pick up the water coolers on the way to the **elementary school for our day's work. I supervised the two coolers** being put in the back of my van and off we went. Unfortunately, I did not think to wedge the coolers in the back, so when I took a turn they both went sideways and all the water poured out into the carpeted luggage well! Ugh!! When we

arrived at the school I quickly got the coolers out and started bailing water out. Elena and I went to Walmart and bought nine towels to dry up the back. I also put baking soda on the carpet to try to soak up any remaining moisture. I have learned my lesson—no matter how firmly one thinks a top is on a liquid container, *wedge it in!* **For supper that night we went to Kaylor's aunt and uncle's home, Paul and Amy Mitchell—Amy is Debby Grimm's sister. Their three children were there along with Amy and Debby's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas. We had a wonderful time of fellowship, and were able to pray for Mrs. Thomas, who was having shoulder surgery the next morning.**

Thursday: This is the second morning in a row that I went for a little over two-mile run before 7:45 AM worship. It was a beautiful, overcast morning, and the run has plenty of steep inclines and declines—unlike New Orleans! It was a refreshing way to start the day along S. 12th Ave., which has interesting, artsy shops and coffee houses. Our work at the school involved lots of weeding out the front and back landscaping. Kaylor and Christian worked diligently, and the result **was impressive! And by God's grace, Mrs. Thomas' surgery went very well!**

Friday: Today was a great day of work at a new site—**Ms. Pearl's community garden patch in Nashville. This** afternoon was the hottest we have had all week, with a blue sky above us. After work we returned to campus and had supper and went to worship. During worship there was a tornado warning in Nashville with loud sirens heeding us to take cover. The MFuge staff shepherded the worshippers tightly into a basement. After that the youth were allowed to participate in the traditional Mega Relays, and then sent to bed.

Saturday: A busy day—up around 6:00 AM to get dressed, packed, and out of our rooms by around 7:15. With the van loaded up we went to worship and departed at **10:45 AM. We visited with Kaylor's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas in Franklin, and had lunch with her Aunt Amy, Uncle Paul, and cousin Elizabeth. We arrived back in New Orleans at 9:45 PM, very tired, but thankful for a great trip.**

The "Restored" message theme in each day's preaching made the gospel crystal-clear. God created the world good, we rebelled, and God took our terrible sin penalty on the cross so we can be saved. This theme left us thankful for all the Lord has done for us, and humbled that He wants to use us to speak His good news!

Yours in Christ,

Woody



Youth Corner

VBS Volunteering!

We had a wonderful time at MFuge last month in Nashville! (Please see the Word from Woody article on p. 1.) Kaylor Grimm and Christian Ruiz worked hard alongside the three Hingles—Ms. Elena, Emily, and Pastor Woody. We go a lot of experience in helping an elementary school get ready for the coming school year as well as weeding out gardens. All was good, even though Pastor Woody did not get the chance to avenge his loss to Kaylor in last year's Bingo!

This month we have the opportunity to help children get to know God through Vacation Bible School—July 22nd-26th from 5:45-8:00 PM. Please make plans to volunteer, and please invite friends to help!



Church Family Night

Church Family Night has recessed for the summer, and will meet back on Wednesday, September 4th with a meal from 6:00-7:00 PM and a speaker from 7:00-7:30 PM.

Garage Sale Update

Many thanks for the numerous volunteers who committed seemingly countless hours to help put on our Garage Sale on Saturdays June 1st and 8th. This sale was a huge success, and brought in about \$2,000 for the church's ministries!



MFuge & LVUMC

Sermons for July

Pastor Hingle will continue *the sermon series* on the **Fourth Gospel “Good News for Life”**. On July 7th his message will be **“The Ultimate Freedom”** on John 4:43-53, and on July 14th Rev. Dr. Lloyd Harsh from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary will bring the message **“When God Says ‘No’”** from 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Pastor Hingle will bring the message on July 21st **“The Sabbath, Superstition, and Squabbles”** from John 5:1-18, and on July 28th **“Like Father, like Son”** from John 5:19-29.

VBS Is Around the Corner!

Our Vacation Bible School program is called **“Roar: Life Is Wild—God Is Good”**. Mary Ellen Herbert is our VBS Director, and all who are interested in this wonderful ministry are invited to be involved. On Saturday, July 20th we will meet for a **“Decorating Day”** from 10:00-12:00 Noon at the church as we prepare for VBS. Our VBS this year will be from July 22-25 *at a new time*—5:45-8:00 PM, with the VBS Celebration Luncheon on Sunday, July 28th.

Prayer Focus

- ✚ Barbara Velasquez, health
- ✚ Give thanks that the Louisiana Annual Conference has not formally rejected the Traditional Plan, which upholds the biblical view of marriage, and pray for unity under the final authority of Scripture for The UMC.
- ✚ Beryl Lynn Jones, recovery from back surgery and broken foot
- ✚ Brenda Marks, in the death of her beloved husband, Mr. Herbert Marks, Sr.
- ✚ Yolande Goudeau, recovery from back surgery

A Time for Guys' Fellowship!

Pastor Woody Hingle is leading a Men's Sunday School Class that meets in the Library at 9:30 AM, and we are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew. The men would like to thank Roger Cull for hosting a delicious supper on June 24th on his beautiful boat. The next men's supper will be in August.

Missions in Motion



Read your newsletter online at <http://www.LakeVistaUMC.org>

Skeptic's Class

We will break for the month of July with the Skeptic's Class. Our next Friday class will be in August, as we continue reading and discussing atheist Duke University philosopher Walter Sinnott-Armstrong's book *Morality Without God?*

New Worship Time!

On Sunday, June 23rd Lake Vista UMC experienced a shift in worship time from 10:30-11:30 AM to its new time of 10:45-11:45 AM. This time shift will continue at least through the month of September. The reason for this time shift is that Lakeshore Church will be renting and using our sanctuary from 9:00-10:15 AM as they are in need of a larger worship space. They will also use three Sunday School classrooms during their worship time, and have an after-worship fellowship in our Fellowship Hall. Let's be sure this church knows how much we value their ministry for Jesus' Kingdom!

4th of July Celebration

We'll have a 4th of July Celebration: a potluck dinner and board games for children and adults beginning at noon on Thursday, July 4th. Wear your red, white and blue and join us for a day of food and fun in the Fellowship Hall!

Small Group Offerings

Wednesday SONset and Wonderful Wednesday Bible Study—The SONrise Prayer and Communion service will meet only on Wednesday, July 17th from 6:30-7:30 AM this month. Please note that the Wednesday 7:00 PM Bible study will not meet for the month of July.

The S(tudy), P(ray), A(ct) Ladies' The SPA Ladies' Summer Reading book is *Weight of Mercy* by Deb Richardson-Moore. The paperback is on sale at Christianbook.com for \$7.49 which would make it \$8. The e-book is \$9.29. We will meet 2-3 times this summer. Our first meeting, on about half the book, was Sunday, June 30, from 1:00-2:30 PM. Future meetings will be announced as they are scheduled. Please let Debby know if you are interested in the study and if you want a paperback book.

Sunday School classes for women begin at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall. Men's classes meet in the library at 9:45 AM. Youth and children meet in the Education Building, also at 9:45 AM. **A nursery sitter is available for children during worship services.**

Prayer Walk Around the Neighborhood

This month's Prayer Walk: Prayer Saturday, Saturday, July 6th, 10:30-11:30 AM. Please join us for this important ministry

A lighthouse for Christ in the heart of the lakefront.

Lake Vista

United Methodist Church

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