

The Allen Memorial Messenger

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'"
Isaiah 52:7 NRSV

Volume 12 Number 5

May 2012

Retirement Celebration for District Superintendent Mike Travis

A celebration for Mike Travis will be held at Broad Street UMC on Sunday, May 27, at 3 PM in Triplett Hall. He will retire after this year's annual conference. Cards may be mailed in advance to: Michael H. Travis, c/o Broad Street UMC, P O Box, Cleveland, TN., 37364-0003. Come and join us as we honor Mike for his 7 years of service as Cleveland's District Superintendent and to show appreciation to his wife, Teresa. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship, music and refreshments.

Chancel Choir News

If you like to sing, why not join the choir each Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM for rehearsal. The only requirement is a love of music. You will enjoy the fellowship of other Christians as you lift your voice in praise to our Creator. Please join us! You'll be glad you did!



Choir Rehearsal



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

United Methodist Women

All the ladies of the church are invited to attend the UMW meeting on Saturday, May 12, at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall.

Kathy Farner, Cleveland District Spiritual Growth Coordinator, will have the program. Eva Oakes and Jo Ann Littleton will provide a light lunch.

After the meeting, there will be time to work on our Card Project. If you have any "gently used" greeting cards or Christmas cards, please bring those to the meeting.

We urge all our ladies to take advantage of this time for spiritual growth and fellowship.



Carpet and New Pew Pads Paid For!

In August of last year, we had new carpet installed in our sanctuary along with new pads for our pews. Your response to this need has been outstanding. We have retired the debt in much less time than expected.

However, our church building still needs a lot of attention. We have a structural problem that must be addressed soon; new roofs will be needed for both parsonages in the near future and a new heating system is needed for the old Sunday School wing.

Everyone is encouraged to support the **Future Fund** now that the Carpet Fund has been retired. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:6) Please give to the Future Fund as God directs.

Vacation Bible School Kick Off Sunday, May 6, 4—5:30

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, May 6 at 4:00 PM. Our VBS theme is "Sky-Everything is Possible With God!" Come and see the great fun activities you will enjoy at Vacation Bible School starting June 3rd at 5:30 PM.



GRADUATES! If you are graduating or know of someone graduating who is in our church family and will be graduating from high school or college, please call the church office. We would like to recognize you in this great accomplishment on Graduation Sunday, May 20.

On Sunday, May 20, we will honor our graduates in our worship service and with a dinner following the service. The Youth will have a Dinner After Church with a menu featuring hamburgers/hotdogs, drinks, and desserts to honor our Graduates. Make plans to share in the fellowship as we recognize our graduates with this special church family gathering. There is no charge for the meal, but donations may be made to support Youth missions and activities through the year.



Honoring Our
GRADUATES

Help Needed by the Worship Committee For Communion

The Worship Committee needs volunteers willing to help with communion during Worship Service. There are several months available. Please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the side vestibule. Call the church office or Yvonne Raper at 333-3083 for more information about helping serve communion.

Operation Kid-to-Kid Mission Project—Saving a Nation

This year our Vacation Bible School kids are asked to bring monetary donations to help purchase bed nets which will protect children in the African country of Mali from mosquitoes which carry the deadly disease called malaria. For every \$6 donated, World Vision will provide one bed net which will protect 2 or more children for up to four years. The church family is urged to support this project. Look for collection buckets inside each Sunday School class and at each entryway.

Church to Honor Women on Mother's Day

On Sunday, May 13, the church will publish a special bulletin honoring women on Mother's Day. If you would like to honor the special women in your life, please pick up a form in one of the entryways or call the church office with your information. Forms will also be included in the church bulletin for your convenience. All entries are due in the church office by Wednesday, May 9. Donations will be directed to the Future Fund to help pay for future needs to our church building. Thank you for your generous support of all our projects.



A baseball player strikes out many times before hitting that homerun. Very few pitchers ever pitch a “no hitter.” That does not stop them from trying. We learned as children and still teach it to children a little poem that says: “The itsy bitsy spider went up the water spout. Down came the rain and washed the spider out. Out came the sun, and dried up all the rain, and the itsy bitsy spider went up the spout again.” Did you ever wonder if that poor little spider ever made it to the top and got to stay there? The point for children is the finger motions. But the message we can take from it is not giving up.

There is another poem that is not as familiar to me. It says: “Tis a lesson you should heed, try, try again; If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again; Then your courage should appear, for, if you will persevere, You will conquer, never fear; Try, try again.” There are a couple more verses to it, but you get the idea.

Galatians 6:9 says: “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” Joshua 1:9 tells us: “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Many of us take the attitude (myself included) that you try and if it doesn’t work; you just give up. That is the easy way out. Some things are really hard for some people to do. It takes extra effort – such as in witnessing, forgiving, loving, understanding, serving and so on. But we are encouraged not only as children with nursery rhymes but also from the scriptures that we should give it our best and the next time to try harder. Those who give up; never win the prize. Perhaps you have seen the movie about the man running in a marathon. He was doing well. He was ahead of everyone else and was a sure winner. Then something happened. He fell. He was injured and for him the race was assumed ended. But he pushed aside those who wanted to help him get help for his injuries. He got up and started running again. It wasn’t so much running as stumbling. There was no chance of him winning. Everyone knew that and he knew that. Some time after everyone else had finished the race and gone home, this man was still running. He did cross the line. He didn’t win the race. He didn’t place. He didn’t receive a medal. But he did finish the race to the applause of his family and the students in the school where he taught and a few friends. He was a winner. He was a winner without a ribbon. But he was a winner with pride that he had accomplished what a man his age should never have done. Most of those who were so far behind simply gave up and didn’t finish the race.

As hard as it may seem to do; do not give up. When we quit, the Devil wins. When we finish the race, we win with God. Be a winner. Climb back up that spout.

Joe

Hands on Mission Project – Holston Annual Conference

Liberia/Helen Roberts-Evans

Cleveland District’s goal is 400 health kits. Trucks deliver the kits to annual conference. A \$5 donation for packaging and shipping is to accompany each kit – please do not put money in the bag.

Our church will write one check for total kits to the **Cleveland District Office** who will submit a final check to conference. (Ex: 10 kits x \$5 = \$50).

Please do not make the check payable to Holston Conference.

This is not an UMCOR kit. Please pack all items in a 2 1/2-gallon zip-loc bag. The church will provide the box for shipping.

Contents are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 bath towel | 1 small bottle perfumed spray cologne |
| 1 washcloth | 2 tubes of toothpaste (6 oz or less) |
| 2 toothbrushes | 1 bottle of shampoo (12 oz or less) |
| 1 bottle roll-on deodorant | 1 bottle lotion (11 oz. or less) |
| 1 tube anti-bacterial ointment | 1 bottle aspirin/Tylenol (24ct) |

Sunday, June 3 will be the last day for collection of the health kits. Please place kits with \$5.00 shipping attached on the table under the window in the side vestibule. Thank you for your participation in this worthy mission project

Something for Everyone

May 1: If you are signed up for the trip to Jim Oliver’s Smokehouse, please be ready to leave the church by 9:30 AM.

May 29: A Salute to America - Honoring Those Who Have Served. Please join us in Wattenbarger Hall at 12 noon on Tuesday, May 29, as we honor our country and our veterans. If you are a veteran, please bring any memorabilia you would like to share with the group. We would also love to hear some of your “war stories.” Watch the bulletin for more information.

Save the Date: On August 7, we will travel to Crossville to see *Backwards in High Heels, The Ginger Rogers Musical*. We will have lunch at the Cumberland State Park Restaurant. Watch the bulletin for more details soon.

Prayer Shepherds/What a Privilege!

What a privilege is ours: the privilege of prayer; we can pray to our awesome God, using a direct line to this wonderful Father who loves us.

No wonder the disciples said “We will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.” Acts 6:4RSV Should we do anything less? Remember to pray for your sheep!

Prayer Shepherds pray for your sheep.



May's Calendar

Tuesday, May 1

9:30 AM SFE/Jim Oliver's Restaurant

Wednesday, May 2

6:15 PM Prayer Ministries
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 3

7:00 PM McMinn Ministries

Sunday, May 6

8:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship Service
4:30 PM Youth
4:30 PM VBS Kick Off

Monday, May 7

6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

Tuesday, May 8

7:00 PM Rejoicing Spirits Meeting

Wednesday, May 9

6:15 PM Prayer Ministries
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Friday, May 11

5:00 PM Relay for Life at Regional Park

Saturday, May 12

12:00 PM UMW/WH

Sunday, May 13

10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Morning Worship
No Youth

Monday, May 14

6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

Wednesday, May 16

6:00 PM Body & Soul
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Saturday, May 19

6:00 PM Kuykendall Wedding

Sunday, May 20

10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship Service
Graduation Sunday
12:00 PM Dinner After church for
Graduates
4:00 PM Rejoicing Spirits
4:30 PM Youth
7:00 PM Church Council/WH

Monday, May 21

6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts
All day- Garden Beautiful Flower
Show May 21 & 22

Tuesday, May 22

6:00 PM S/PPR Meeting/Slagle RM

Wednesday, May 23

6:15 PM Prayer Ministries
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Sunday, May 27

10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship Service
No Youth
3:00 PM Mike Travis Retirement

Tuesday, May 29

12:00 PM SFE/WH -Salute to America



MAY BIRTHDAYS

1. Matt Klusman
3. Patricia Hamm
4. Laura Hutchison Herron
6. Kent Bailey, Megan Dake
7. Louise Wattenbarger,
Chris Meadows, Tim Walker
8. Beth Jaquish, Lisa Mays
9. Jesse Sparkman, Emilee Self,
Alanna Arsenault
11. Tyler Cooley, Janice Coning,
Lucy Kelley, Elaine Davidson,
Alexandria Wade
13. Misty Cole, Matthew Cole,
Beth Caulfield, Brian Bean,
Diane Hicks
14. Wayne Smith
15. Deborah Richards, Abby Murphy,
Joe Black
16. Nancy Cranfield, Alex Robinson,
C.J. Beckett
17. Becky Jaquish
18. Kevin Hoppe
19. Madeline Bean
21. Allen Bailey, Carla Hughes Fields,
Estela Black
23. Katrinka Castle, Larry Miller
24. Jordan Wooden
25. James Ivan Grubb, Harold Cole,
Bruce Delmas, Betty Thompson,
Thomas Slatton
26. Jacob Arsenault
27. Lena Ricks
29. Brandon Black, Emileigh Baker,
Braden Blair
31. Leah Guffey Northern

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

2. Ray & Ruth Seaton
3. Kristi & Paul Hodges
6. Don & Diane MacElman,
John & Kelley Clark
20. Doug & Kim Miller
22. Michael & Patti Rae Bryant,
Javier & Jennifer Zavala
23. Allen & Joyce Bailey
24. Lynn & Betty Collins
27. Dale & Karen Allen,
Ralph & Elizabeth Coleman,
Zac & Mandy Lawson
29. Mila & Yashan Long
31. Jesse & Melba Sparkman

May Calendar Continued: Wednesday, May 30

6:15 PM Prayer Ministries
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Rejoicing Spirits to Meet

The Rejoicing Spirits service will be held Sunday afternoon, May 20th at 4:00 in the afternoon.

The meeting will be at the Cedar Springs United Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome to attend this special service.

McMinn Ministries Meeting

McMinn Ministries will meet on Thursday, May 3rd at 7:00 P.M.

McMinn United Methodist Ministries-

Please see the bulletin board in the side vestibule for all the news, updates and outreaches that are happening through the McMinn Ministries at the Cooke Ministry Center on 714 Walter Street.

Relay for Life News-Help!

Volunteers are needed to work the Allen Memorial UMC booth on Friday, May 11th starting around 5:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to help set up the booth by 5:00 PM. Workers are needed to work the afternoon and evening on Friday and throughout the night until Saturday at 8:00 AM when the booth will be taken down. If you can help in the booth, walk or help pack up, please contact Yvonne Raper at 333-3083 or you may call the church office at 745-1560. Sign up sheets are available at each entrance!

Luminaria order forms may be found in the window in the side vestibule. Lumarias may be ordered up until the night of the Relay on May 11th. Orders may be placed in the offering plate. Please see Joyce Grubb, Yvonne Raper, Kim Rymer or Sarah-Beth Rymer for more information.

Church Secretary email: allensec@bellsouth.net
Please use this e-mail address when sending information to the attention of Jane at the office.
Church email: allenmemorialumc@bellsouth.net

Worship Service Flower Schedule for May

May 6 -Lou Jean Hutsell

May 13 -John & Lori Murphy

May 20 -Carlene & Albert Kuykendall

May 27 -Carolyn Jackson



Summer Camp is Fun!

The 2012 Summer Camp Catalog is available for pick up in the window in the side vestibule. Our church offers campers assistance with camp cost for our campers here at Allen. Two Allen campers have already signed up!



It's not too late!

April Stewardship Report

As United Methodists and members of this congregation, we are called to participate in the life of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness.

<i>We Worship By Our Prayers</i>	<i>We Worship By Our Presence</i>
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Connie Allen	Tammy Lowry
Stacy Alexander	Glenn Mason
Barbara Ball	Jim Neil
Chris Beaton	Kylie Overton
Evelyn Black	Theda Poplin
John Boggess	Tom Reese
Jackie Brown	Amberly Richards
Lee Brown	Chris Russell Family
Linda Brown	Bud Smidt
Bonnie Burmood	Mildred Smith
Kandi Burnette	Nell Smith
Kathy Clark	Mary Sparkman
Milford Clark	Phyllis Stieb
John & Pam Cooley	Roy & Anita Thomas
JW Cross	David Stephenson
Nell Gambill	Virginia Stephenson
Steve Garren	Rev. Bruce Vincent
Joe Henry	Mildred Vincent
Carol Hope	Millard Vincent
Mike Jackson	Brenda Walker
Steve King & Family	Gladys Wallace
Raymond Latham	Nancy White
Wesley Lewis	Sandy Yielding

Average Sunday School Attendance/April	74
Average Worship Attendance/March	179
Avg. SS Attendance for YTD 2012	7 0
Avg. Worship Attendance for YTD 2012	174
Avg. SS Attendance for YTD 2011	72
Avg. Worship Attendance for YTD 2011	187

Pray for our nation, community, our leaders,
 Pray for our Pastor and for each other.
 Pray for God's vision for our church.
 Pray for our Bishop, James Swanson and our
 District Superintendent, Mike Travis
 Pray for those who need salvation.
 Pray for Steve & Diantha Hodges in Sudan.
 Pray for our Sunday Worship Services.
 Pray for renewal in our lives.
 Pray for Grace & Mercy Ministries.
 Pray for hungry, homeless, and unloved.



Praise God! Your dollars each month helped us pay off the Carpet Fund in record

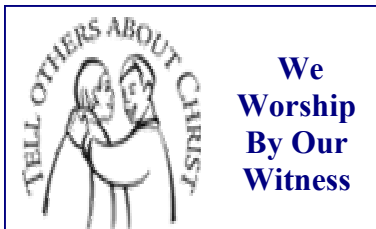
We Worship With **Our Gifts and Tithes**

*Received for Operating Budget	16,920.12
*Received for 2012 YTD	69,167.65
Received for 2011 YTD	68,242.80

Special Giving

Sunday School Outreach	54.00
Future Fund	100.00
Carpet Fund	886.50
Bus Fund	25.00
Men's Club	50.00
Youth Fund	55.00
Cookbooks	15.00
VBS/Mosquito Nets	30.00
Mission Shipping	35.00
Lent	437.00

*April 1 thru April 22



Mission Moments

There are so many ways we can be involved in missions that do not involve serving in a foreign country; although that would be great service. I have never done that. But we can be in mission at our own church, in the local community or in so many ways. Several people from Allen are involved in local missions. One of those opportunities is preparing and serving meals at Grace and Mercy.

Our ladies and men have both done this recently. We may be there to serve, but we are blessed by the gratitude and friendliness of those who come to eat. We are able to share with them a hot meal and a time of devotion/worship. This is a great ministry.

We also are one of the host churches of the recently started Sunday evening worship service. Several churches take turns going and leading in worship with music and preaching. We also offer snacks. One of the best parts of these opportunities is sitting at the table and talking with those who come; to hear their stories and see their faith and love for God. If you haven't participated you have missed a great blessing.

A third ministry we are involved in is the Rejoicing Spirits worship service at Cedar Springs UMC on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 4:00 PM. These services are great times of worship and fellowship. What a joy it has been to me to lead the music. Those who come open up and sing with all they have and bless us each time we go.

There are many other opportunities to serve in the local communities. There are opportunities after tornadoes; Relay for Life in which many of our folks serve and other things. The prayer ministry is a great opportunity. This is called a "Reasonable Service of Worship" in the Bible. Pray and ask God where he would have you to serve. **Seek your Mission Moments!**



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS!

Brandon Carter, Tyler Cooley, Taylor Creasman, Michael Dyer, Josh Goforth, Josh Gary, Taylor Gray, Brent Greer, Eric Greisenhaur, Brandon Hashe, Lee Hashe, Daniel Hickey, Derek Hickey, Anderson Jaramillo, Robinson Jaramillo, Tim Lammers, Wesley Levy, Wayne McKenzie, Tyler Moore, Will Nation, Thomas Pelham, Adam Randle, Alex Randle, Zach Roberts, Brittany Rupert, Bobby Smith, Brent Stephens.

We Worship By Our Service

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. (1 Peter 4:10)

Any youth 6th—12th grade is invited to participate in our Youth Group. Come join in the Youth activities!



The Allen Youth enjoyed a bike trip on the Virginia Creeper Trail on the weekend of April 22. Twenty-one adults and youth left for the hills on Friday afternoon, April 20th, camped out, and got up on Saturday morning ready to bike the 17 miles (some said it seemed much longer) along the trail. It rained, it was muddy, and there were plenty of sore muscles at the end of the day. What fun! The Youth Bike Trip on the Virginia Creeper trail was a great success!

May Youth Calendar:

- May 6-Regular Meeting at 4:30 PM.
- May 11-Friday night-Youth to help at Relay for Life
- May 13-No meeting-Mother's Day
- May 20-Graduation Sunday- Dinner After Church to Honor Seniors/Regular Meeting at 4:30 PM
- May 27-No Meeting- Memorial Day Weekend (The Youth mission project for May is helping with the activities at the Relay for Life.)
- June News: The Youth will be helping with VBS beginning June 3 through June 8. Youth volunteers should see Lisa Sharp for more information about helping with VBS.



Body and Soul

The next Body and Soul will be on Wednesday, May 16, at 6:30 PM. The Allen Memorial Men's Group will be serving a hearty breakfast for dinner at the Body & Soul. Look forward to great cooking by the Men's Group. Pastor Joe will have a short devotion. Come join in a good time of fellowship and good food at the Body & Soul on May 16. See you there!



Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kuykendall and Mr. and Mrs. David Walden invite you to share in the joy of the marriage uniting their children
Kari Marie Kuykendall and Evan Andrew Walden
 on Saturday the nineteenth of May two thousand twelve at six o'clock in the evening at Allen Memorial United Methodist Church.



What does God mean when he commands us to honor our fathers and mothers (Exodus 20:12)?

Complete this word search to discover words that mean the same as *honor*.

- admire • adore • appreciate • cherish • esteem
- look up to • praise • respect • revere • value

E S T E E M U H A L G Z
 F K M R Q E X H P C C I
 N O L D U Y S S P R N E
 I P J L J I R T R M Y R
 D X A S R K E J E Z K O
 R V O E J P S X C F A D
 Z E H U R H P C I C D A
 V C V A Q N E Y A P M G
 Q D I E P F C M T Y I Z
 Z S X C R X T P E N R G
 E O X U Y E U A Y O E H
 B R E O T P U K O O L Q

Important Meeting for the S/PPR: On Tuesday, May 22 at 6:00 PM the S/PPR Committee will meet in the Slagle Classroom, to gather information needed at the Annual Conference in June.

Church Council to Meet

The Church Council will meet on Sunday, May 15 at 7:00 PM in Wattenbarger Hall. If you would like to place an item on the agenda, please contact Tim Sharp or the church office.



YOUTH YARD SALE

The Youth Yard Sale is Scheduled for June 23. Start collecting now for this Youth fundraiser! Find those gently used items

that you would like to discard, and donate them to the Youth Yard sale. The Youth Yard Sale is an important fund raiser for the youth ministries. All items can be brought to the Church storage building.



Men's Group Breakfast

The Men's Group will meet on Sunday, May 6 for breakfast and fellowship. ALL men of the church are invited to attend. Breakfast is served at **8:30 AM** followed by Fellowship and Devotions. Come and be a part of the Men's Club!

The Men's Group prepared a meal for Grace and Mercy Ministries on April 13. Approximately 75 clients enjoyed the meal. Please keep the Grace and Mercy Ministries in your prayers.

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 Rev. Joe Black, Pastor

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Permit No. 21
 Athens, TN 37303



Return Service Requested

Sunday School 10:00 AM
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM
 Youth - Sunday 4:30 PM
 Prayer Ministries - Wednesday 6:15 PM
 Adult Choir Practice- Wednesday 7:00 PM

Bible Quiz

Editor's Note: The first person to call the church office with the correct answer will have their name published in next month's newsletter.

Question for May: Jesus' words, "For many are called, but few are chosen," were uttered after reciting the parable of the _____.

Correct answer for April: Jesus, after being baptized, had the heavens opened to him and saw the Spirit of God coming down in the form of a dove?

First Persons To Correctly Answer this month's Question: Elizabeth Coleman

If you no longer wish to receive this monthly newsletter, please call the Church office at 423 745 1560 or send an email request to allenmemorialumc@bellsouth.net.



THE ALLEN MEMORIAL MESSENGER, a monthly publication of the Allen Memorial United Methodist Church, is intended to be an informative link between the church members and friends. Your comments and/or article contributions are welcome! If you know of other people you would like to receive this newsletter, please contact the church office at 800 Decatur Pike, Athens, TN 37303 or call (423) 745-1560. Jane Jeffreys, Charlotte Newman and Joe Black, Editors.