

# 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 12

February 2012

**Chancel Choir News** As we look forward to the Lenten Season, beginning in February, practice will begin for the Easter season! Come join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM for choir rehearsal in the sanctuary. Anyone interested in joining the Allen Memorial Chancel Choir please contact the church office or call Nathan Windt at 513.460.3121. We would love to see you at the next practice!!!

## Rehearsals for Athens Area Community Chorus Begin!

If you've been interested in choral singing opportunities, we hope you'll consider joining us on Tuesday evenings, for rehearsals with the Athens Area Community Chorus, led by our own Chancel Choir Director, Nathan Windt.

This spring's concert features one of the great masterworks in the classical repertoire, Johannes Brahms's *Ein deutsches Requiem* (A German Requiem), in an American premiere of Joachim Linckelmann's chamber orchestra arrangement.

The performance will be given Sunday, April 22, at Townsend Auditorium on TWC's campus. The Community Chorus is well represented by Allen Memorial, so why not join us? For more information, contact Nathan at [nwindt@twcnet.edu](mailto:nwindt@twcnet.edu).

## Family Life News

Family Life will be hosting a covered dish lunch on Sunday, February 26 after Worship Service. Bring your favorite dish, or try a new recipe, or make your Grandma's favorite. Enjoy a good meal with your church family.

**Win a Free T-Shirt!** Enter your design for the 2012 Relay for Life T-Shirt and the shirt could be yours. Entries can be turned in to the church office or you can give your design to one of the ushers. Thank you for supporting Relay for Life!

## Calling all Prayer Shepherds:

This is the month we think of those we love! What better way to remember those special folks than to pray for them. After all, Jesus encouraged his disciples to pray and even taught them how.



**Lord, teach us to pray!** (Luke 11:1)

## Altar Flowers: There are just a few Sundays still open!

Please sign your name to the date of the Sunday that you are willing to provide flowers. These Sundays are available: April 29, July 8, and November 18. December 30th is open for Poinsettias.



Thank You!!!



The **United Methodist Women** will meet on the **2nd Saturday** at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall. This change is made so that more women can attend the meetings. A light lunch will be provided. Child care will be available upon request. Just call the office if you need child care.

Saturday, **February 11** will be the next meeting date. Our hostess, Charlotte Newman, will also have the program, "Partnering with Others in Mission." We invite ALL the ladies of the church to come to this meeting to see if you would like to join us. We will discuss a "hands on" mission project right here in our own community. Also, please bring your 'gently used' Christmas cards for a project to be started at the meeting.

## Ash Wednesday Service on February 22

Allen Memorial UMC will host the Ash Wednesday Service to be held on February 22, at 7:00 PM. The Rev. Dr. Steve Brown, Pastor of Trinity UMC, will be preaching at this year's service. Come join in the Ash Wednesday service with those coming from Trinity UMC for the beginning of the Lenten season.



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday was developed in the early church as a day of penitence for the beginning of the Lenten season. In this service, we recall our sin and wait upon the Lord for a renewing spirit. God's people have used ashes as a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence.

In the Old Testament, ashes were used as a purification offering. The New Testament speaks of repenting in "sackcloth and ashes" (Luke 10:13, NRSV). On Ash Wednesday, Christians are pained because our sins — private and public — led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing it leads to resurrection on Easter Sunday.

It is a time for putting aside the sins and failures of our past in light of who we are to become by the grace of God. Everyone is encouraged to share in this special service as we mark the beginning of the Lenten season.

## Super Sunday for Kids on February 26

A fun filled Super Sunday for Kids is planned for February 26 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM here at the church for children ages 3 to 5 years old. There will be a meal for the children and lots of fun with games and races! We will be working on God's team! Come and join in the fun afternoon for our Super Kids here at Allen!



Lent is a time of searching our own hearts and lives and looking forward to Easter. During Lent many people give up something as a reminder of the sacrifice of Jesus. Certainly our giving up soft drinks, chocolate, TV or other such things can never compare with what Jesus gave up for us. We can never match what Jesus did. But, it may cause us to think about the sacrifice Jesus gave on our behalf when we deny ourselves something that is very important to our daily life. It will cause us to think when we start to break our promise. It will teach us discipline.

But we also spend time searching our own life during Lent to see if there are changes we need to make in what we do, what we say, how we act. Can you think of some habits, attitudes, actions that are not good examples of the Christian life? Even more, I think it should also be a time of giving. Again, we can never match what God did for us. We can't even begin to do that. But during these forty days (not counting Sundays) that make up Lent; perhaps we might consider spending more time in the Word. We might want to dedicate more time to prayer. Make a list and be faithful to that time.

Since Lent is a time of giving by Jesus – the salvation he provides for all who believe; we might consider volunteering in some area where there are needs. We might write letters or notes to those who are shut-in, sick, alone, grieving or have other problems. You can also spend time in prayer for your church, its leaders, the members. Be specific and pray for the youth, the seniors, the children, the committees and teams. Think about those who lead in music, teach Sunday school, work in various areas in the church. As we make our way through Lent, beginning February 26, we prepare for the sorrow of Good Friday and the celebration of Easter.

Our desire should be to grow closer to our Christ. We also want to increase our witness to those who see us on a daily basis. As you go through the time of Lent, seek to listen to the voice of God, heed God's call in your life, and be in service for the cause of Christ. Then the celebration of Easter will be even more meaningful.

Joe



**The Case for Attending Sunday School:** Well researched studies by Duke University, Indiana University and many others show that children who “actively participate” in a “faith community” will be more likely to:

- Increase their average life expectancy by 8 years
- Significantly reduce their risk from alcohol, tobacco and drugs
- Dramatically lower their risk of suicide
- Help them rebound from depression 70% faster
- Improve their attitude at school and increase their school participation
- Reduce their risk for rebelliousness
- Reduce the likelihood that they would binge drink in college
- Improve their odds for a “very happy” life
- Provide them with a life-long moral compass
- And get them to wear their seatbelts more often

One way your child can “actively participate” is to be involved in Sunday School. We offer classes for all ages. If your children are not attending Sunday School, please consider bringing them on a regular basis, starting next Sunday.

**Proverbs 22:6 reads:** “Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.”

### Something for Everyone

**Something for Everyone**—If you are signed up for the February trip to Keri's Restaurant in Cleveland, please be at the church on February 7th ready to leave by 11:15 AM. We will return to the church around 4:00 PM.

**Looking Ahead:** Please mark your calendar for “Marvelous March” on March 6 in Wattenbarger Hall. The theme is “Thanks for the Memories.”

Looking Back  
Thru the Year!



**We invite you to bring something that reminds you of your childhood—especially something that is not commonly used today.** Some of us remember when telephones were clunky, black objects with long cords and a big rotary dial face. You may have a “hand cranking” ice cream freezer or an old typewriter just sitting around. Use your imagination. We will have tables to display your treasures on. A slide show of our last year's activities will be shown. Be sure to check the bulletin for more details.

### Men's Group Breakfast

**The Men's Group** will meet on Sunday, February 5th 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.

Don't miss this opportunity to nourish the body and soul! Come join the Men's Group for breakfast.





**Wednesday, February 1**

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

**Thursday, February 2**

7:00 PM McMinn Ministries

**Sunday, February 5**

8:30 AM Men's Breakfast  
10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Morning Worship  
/Communion  
4:00 PM VBS Planning Meeting  
4:30 PM Youth

**Monday, February 6**

6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

**Tuesday, February 7**

11:15 AM SFE/Keri Restaurant  
7:00 PM Rejoicing Spirits Committee  
/Slagle Classroom

**Wednesday, February 8**

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

**Saturday, February 11**

12:00 PM UMW Meeting

**Sunday, February 12**

10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship Service  
4:30 PM Youth  
7:00 PM Church Council/WH

**Monday, February 13**

6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

**Wednesday, February 15**

6:15 PM Prayer Ministries  
6:30 PM Body and Soul  
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

**Sunday, February 19**

10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Morning Worship  
4:00 PM Rejoicing Spirits  
4:30 PM Youth

**Monday,**

6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

**Wednesday, February 22**

6:15 PM Prayer Ministries  
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday/  
Allen Memorial UMC

**Sunday, February 26**

10:00 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship Service  
12:00 PM Family Life Dinner  
4:30 PM Youth

**FEBRUARY**

2. Charles Looney,  
Dr. Albert Rymer,  
Jacob Walker
3. Rayne Wade
4. Harry Holder, Joe Wilburn,  
Adam Guffey, Annette Ray
5. Joseph Carpenter
6. Zachary Lawson, Hannah Klusman,  
Scotty Hannah
7. Glenn Mason
8. James Ziegler
9. Jennifer Zavala,
10. Ruth Seaton, Betty Acuff,  
LeeAnn Jaquish
11. Tony Carpenter
12. Dale Rymer, Emma Windt
14. Clark Nation, Helen Trotter
15. Mildred Vincent
16. Fredia Skidmore, Chandler Latham
18. Gene Farris, Evelyn Black,  
Miller Bailey
19. Curtis Hutsell, Rick Mays
20. Tommy Acuff
21. Don MacElman, Patricia Parker,  
Ashlan Snyder
22. Jean Bryan, Linda Latham,  
Lisa Sharp, Kristen Hutchison
23. Hannah Hall
24. Loretta Grubb
25. Johnny Bryan, Stacia Dugan,  
Dylan Carpenter
26. Makayla Dake
28. Nell Gambill, Pam Kapka,  
Tyler Buckner
29. Brock Newman  
\*\*\*\*\*
9. Kelly & Brian Bean
12. Tim & Sue Walker,  
Vaughn & Jane Jeffreys
13. Tim & Jamie Smith
14. George & Janie Goines
16. Frank & Lisa Boyd
22. Rick & Fredia Skidmore,



**McMinn Ministries Meeting**

McMinn Ministries will meet on Thursday, February 2 at 7:00 P.M.

**\*Friday Night Singings\***

Friday night gospel singings continue to provide an important music ministry for our community. Different musicians are scheduled for the singing service each week. *Come and enjoy the fellowship and music on Friday nights at 7:00 P.M..*

**\*Donations Needed\***

The Cooke Center is in need of toilet paper, reading glasses and Bibles. If you would like to donate any of these items, please label donations for the McMinn Ministries and leave donations on the pew in the side vestibule.

Please note new mailing address:

McMinn United Methodist Ministries  
412 South White Street, #228  
Athens, TN 37303

Please see the bulletin broad in the side vestibule for information on the Residential Task Force for Better Housing operating as part of McMinn Ministries for our local area! See how you can help!!!

**Grace and Mercy Ministry:**

Thank you to everyone who provided gifts from the "Angel Tree" and shopped for the specific needs of those individual receiving the Christmas gifts. This project was a blessing for both those giving and receiving.

Meals are served at the Cooke Center on Mondays and Fridays from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. On January 16, 85 meals were served

**Thanks you!**

Generous contributions were received from Englewood UMC, Trinity UMC and the United Methodist Men of Allen Memorial UMC.

**Rejoicing Spirits to Meet**

The Rejoicing Spirits service will be held Sunday afternoon, February 19, at 4:00 in the afternoon. The meeting will be at the Cedar Springs United Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.



**Worship Service  
February Flower  
Schedule**

- February 5 –Duane & Amy Rikard
- February 12—Brian & Kelly Bean
- February 19—Becky Jaquish
- February 26—Alfred & Dee Gamble



Church Secretary email:  
**allensec@bellsouth.net.**

Please use this e-mail address when sending information to the attention of Jane at the office.

Church wide e-mail:  
**allenmemorialumc@bellsouth.net.**

**A New Ministry at the Cooke Center**

Beginning on Sunday, March 4, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, there will be a Worship Service held as an outreach for those in the Cooke Center community area.

Each Sunday a different local Pastor will serve those gathered to worship. Snacks will be served after each service and on the 5th Sunday a pot luck meal will be served.

A coordinator and a host will be needed from the sponsoring church at each service. For more information, please contact Pastor Joe Black to see how you might assist in these services.

# January 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.**

## We Worship By Our Prayers

Connie Allen	Jim Neil
Chris Beaton	Curtis Nichols
Evelyn Black	Charlie & Eva Oakes
John Boggess	Kylie Overton
Jackie Brown	Theda Poplin
Lee Brown	Tom Reese
Bonnie Burmood	Jason Richards
Kandi Burnette	Katie Russell
Kathy & Milford Clark	Roberta Russell
John & Pam Cooley	Chris Russell Family
Nancy Crabtree	Bud Smidt
JW Cross	Mildred Smith
Nell Gambill	Nell Smith
Steve Garren	Phyllis Stieb
Joe Henry	Roy & Anita Thomas
Madison Hensley	Rev. Bruce Vincent
Carol Hope	Mildred Vincent
Greg Hughes	Millard Vincent
Darrin Hutchison	Darlene Wade
Mike Jackson	Gladys Wallace
Steve King & Family	Nancy White
Raymond Latham	Sandy Yielding
Eva Ruth Lawson	
Glenn Mason	



## We Worship By Our Presence

Average Sunday School Attendance	75
Average Worship Attendance	179
Avg. SS Attendance for 2012	75
Avg. Worship Attendance for 2012	179
Avg. SS Attendance for 2011	80
Avg. Worship Attendance for 2011	179

## We Worship With



## Our Gifts and Tithes

Received for Operating Budget	16,964.06
Received for 2012 YTD	16,964.06
Received for 2011 YTD	15,087.60

### Special Giving

Sunday School Outreach	79.35
Future Fund	100.00
Carpet Fund	690.00
Bishop Gift	25.00
Children's Time	25.00
Bus Fund	25.00
Men's Club	50.00
Annual Youth/Children Fund	365.00
Youth Fund	175.00
Human Relation Sunday	97.00
Fifth Sunday/Holston Home	193.00
Cookbooks	45.00



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.

### Words of Victory—Hosted by McMinn Ministries

On March 31, 2012, the Words of Victory service will be held at the Cooke Center. Because our churches and all Christianity are in an ongoing battle with changing times, changing values and changing morals, we need to hear Words of Victory. Join in the service to hear local ministers speak on church growth and the partnership between pastors and laity. A reservation must be confirmed by March 12; call Bill Cochran at 423-887-5048 or 423-887-7995 with questions or to confirm your reservation. Please see the notice on the bulletin board.



**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.



### Summer Camp News

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

### Summer Camp is Fun!

## We Worship By Our Witness



Have you known people who fit in the category of this cartoon? There are some people who are so bold that they become obnoxious. I've know people who couldn't believe it was possible for anybody to go to heaven is they weren't a member of a particular church or group.

Our witness as Christians is seen better than it is heard. People will not believe us if we condemn them for being different. It is by our actions and words and attitude that we are able to witness to people about our love for our Lord and help us to win people to the saving faith.

Any youth 6th—12th grade is invited to participate in our Youth Group. Our meetings begin on Sunday afternoons at 4:30.



**Souper Bowl of Caring:** On Sunday, February 5, our Youth once again will lead us in the Souper Bowl of Caring. When you come to church on February 5 - please bring at least one canned food item for every member of your family. The cans collected will be given to the Allen Food Pantry. We will also be collecting monetary donations and those donations will go to Coordinated Charities. You can give either canned goods, money or both!

Come to Youth at 4:30 PM for worship and fellowship!

February 5—The Youth will have a regular meeting.

February 12—The Youth will be making Valentines as this months mission project to send to our shut-ins during the regular meeting.

February 19—The Youth will come prepared to travel to an unknown destination for special devotions!

February 26—Youth will have a regular meeting to plan for the BBQ in March.

There a few Youth Calendars available for sale(10.00)! Pick up your copy at the entrances next Sunday!

Each Sunday the Allen Memorial Youth meet for activities, friendship, prayer, food, and learning biblical principles.

**Super Sunday for Kids Artwork:** Please come down to the Sunday School Hall and see the great works of art made by our Super Kids at the January Super Sunday. Check out the seven days of creation as imagined by our kids!



**United Methodist Men Day with the Bishop**

On Saturday, March 10, the UMM Day with the Bishop will be held in Knoxville at the Concord UMC. More information about the UMM Day with the Bishop may be found at: [www.umm.holston.org](http://www.umm.holston.org), or consult the UMM Day notice posted on the bulletin board in the side vestibule.



**Vacation Bible School**

The “SKY” is the limit! It’s time to get started in our preparations for VBS!

There will be a planning meeting for all those interested in helping with Vacation Bible School on Sunday, February 5 at 4:00 PM in the Slagle Classroom. All volunteers are welcome to attend! We need you for Bible School!

**Body and Soul 2012**



The next Body and Soul will be on Wednesday, February 15 at 6:30 PM.

The menu will be Vaughn Jeffrey’s home-cooked pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, buns, dessert and a drink.

Pastor Joe Black will have share a short devotion. The hostesses for the February Body and Soul will be Lisa Sharp, Pattie Rae Bryant, and Jane Jeffreys. Come and enjoy a great meal and a short devotional program by our Pastor.

**Jubilation 2012** is an Adult Ministry of the Holston Conference. This year’s event will be held at the Mountain View Resort and Conference Center in Kingsport, Tennessee, on April 22-24. The keynote speaker, Linda Douty, will lead sessions related to the 2012 theme, “A Joy-Filled Life.” Humorist Jeanne Robertson promises to leave you smiling. If you are interested in attending this event, call the church office.

**FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE**  
 In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

• • • • DIRECTIONS • • • •  
 To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.

gain as or ear van an for give  
 gave her on it one other he an a

B \_ \_ \_ w \_ \_ h each  
 ot \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ d \_ \_ \_ \_ give  
 \_ \_ e an \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ if \_ \_ \_ y  
 of you h \_ \_ \_ \_ grie \_ \_ \_ ce  
 a \_ \_ \_ \_ st some \_ \_ \_ \_ .  
 For \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ as t \_ \_ L \_ \_ d  
 for \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ you.”

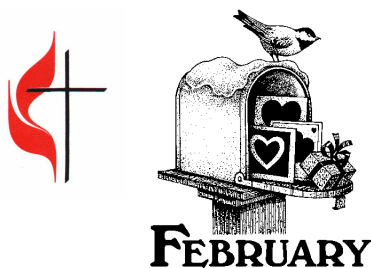
COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” Colossians 3:13, NIV

**Attention Kids: Bring your completed puzzles to the church and we will display them on the bulletin board. Just give them to one of the church ushers.**

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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 February: What is Matthew 7:12 often called?**

**Correct answer January: Why did John call Jesus "the Lamb of God"?**

Because Jesus was the spotless sacrifice and gift from God. John 1:19-2:12

**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.