

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 3

March 2012



Operation Kid-to-Kid Mission Project Saving a Nation

When most kids in your community go to sleep, their biggest fears might be the dark, a "monster" under the bed, or the thunder outside the window. But approximately 3 billion children and adults around the world fall asleep praying for protection from a small but deadly enemy—mosquitoes. In many countries (particularly those in Africa), mosquitoes carry a frightening disease called malaria that is often fatal. How widespread is malaria?

- About half of the world's population is at risk for malaria.
- Nearly 1 million people die from malaria every year.
- The disease kills more than 2,000 children every day.
- Every 30 seconds, a child dies from malaria.

But malaria is preventable! Because mosquitoes feed primarily at dusk and dawn, one of the most powerful weapons against malaria is a specially treated mosquito net. Draped over a child's bed while he or she sleeps, these special mosquito nets keep mosquitoes away. And one mosquito net can last up to four years!

World Vision (a Christian international relief organization) has a goal of raising enough funds to send more than 1 million life-saving mosquito nets to the African country of Mali!

At Sky VBS this year, we are asking the kids to bring monetary donations toward special bed nets. For every \$6 donated, World Vision will provide one bed net that will protect two or more children for up to four years. We would like to ask our church family to help us with this mission project. You may begin to collect change and bring in your donations to support this project. Thank you in advance for your help.

Collection buckets will be placed in each Sunday school room and at each entryway beginning Sunday, March 4th. Please generously support this project.

Start Saving Now! Please save your paper towel rolls, tissue paper rolls and cardboard egg containers. These will be used for our VBS craft projects. You can leave these items on the tables in both entryways.



VBS Kick-Off May 6th 4—5:30

Please mark your calendar and make sure your kids attend this fun time. More details will follow soon!



Remember Your Sheep This Month!

As we enter this busy season in our Christian year, don't forget to pray for your sheep every day. Remember Christ taught us to remember others each time we pray.



United Methodist Women to Observe Day of Prayer and Self Denial

The combined units of Allen Memorial, Trinity and Keith will meet together at Allen Memorial on March 12th for the annual Call to Prayer and Self Denial Service.

The theme for 2012 is "**A Time for Change: Technology.**" The Call to Prayer and Self Denial offering will enable national mission institutions to help the marginalized and the poor, the physically challenged and others, especially women, children and youth, who don't have access to information technology that will improve their quality of life. Projects such as computer literacy, information technology training, English as a second language classes, and career enhancement and job-seeking skills will be supported. The service will begin at 11:00 in the sanctuary of Allen Memorial. Come a little early to register. A light lunch will be provided by the ladies at Allen.

Just A Reminder: All of our regular meetings are now on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall.



Spring Forward

Be sure to set your clocks forward by one hour before going to bed on Saturday night, March 10. It's time to spring forward. Don't be late for church that

Call to Action Service of Prayer – District Wide Sunday, April 15, 2012 —4 p.m. at Keith Memorial UMC

Please put this on your calendar and plan to be a part of this service of worship and prayer. District Superintendent Mike Travis will lead this important Call to Action Service.



The Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 7th, at 1:00 here at the church. Please help us by bringing bags of wrapped candy by Wednesday, April 4.



Chancel Choir News

We are currently rehearsing each Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM for our Lenten special music. We would love to have you join us! If you have questions, please call Nathan Windt at 513-460-3121.



Please mark your calendar for Sunday, April 22. The Athens Area Community Chorus will be performing at Townsend Auditorium on TWC's campus. The spring concert features one of the great masterworks, Johannes Brahms's *Ein deutsches Requiem* (A German Requiem) in an American premiere of Joachim Linckelmann's chamber orchestra arrangement. The chorus is led by our choir director, Dr. Nathan Windt.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

You can't tempt me! Ever said or thought that? There is a certain truth to that statement. There are some things that are no temptation for me. I'm not interested. I don't have any desire in those things. I just can't be tempted. I can easily say no. However, there are other things that are very tempting to me. I have a hard time saying no. I give in pretty easily. People who know me well know that I am a chocoholic. Pretty much anything chocolate works for me. If I go through the cabinets looking for a snack and there is no chocolate I feel like I am going to starve. When I go to the drug store to pick up medicine I usually walk through the candy aisle. Once I get in that aisle I am trapped. I can't get out without buying something.

We have just entered the time of Lent which will go until Easter. When I tell people that it is 40 days not counting Sundays; they want to know if they can eat their candy or drink their cokes on Sunday. You see, every Sunday is an Easter. It is the time to worship and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. I tell people to use their own conscious to decide. (That usually gets interpreted as "no you can't"). The idea of giving up something for Lent is to remind us of the sacrifice that Jesus made. For us to think that not eating chocolate, drinking cokes or watching TV can equate with what Jesus did is foolish. We can never know the sacrifice he made for us. But, it does say that we have agreed to give up something in our life from Ash Wednesday until Easter.

The giving up of things should also include adding things – substituting. That might mean more prayer time, more Bible reading, more service to the church and community. Living the Christian life does mean giving up those things that are sinful in our lives. But it also means changing to do the things God calls and gifts us to do. Then we are reminded that the cost of our salvation was at a great price to Jesus and the salvation then should result in Christian living – service, prayer, giving, loving – all the things that Jesus taught us and his disciples to do.

You see, living the Christian life is a great joy; but also comes through great sacrifice and calls for the sacrifice of our life to God. The good news in this is that The Holy Spirit will help us to resist the evil through our prayers and the power of the Spirit. In the same way the power of The Holy Spirit is with us to enable those things that seem hard, but we know we are called to do.

Whatever Lenten exercises you have chosen, do them with full commitment – not counting the days till you can quit; but rejoicing in the privilege to love and serve the One who gave His all for us while thinking of the eternal gift we have because of His sacrifice.

Pastor 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-gallon zip-loc bag, and pack inside a small sturdy box; it is easier to transport this way.

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

Men's Group Breakfast



The **Men's Group** will meet on Sunday, March 4th 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!

Herron Baby Shower Details to be Planned

A "Baby Shower" for Laura Hutchison Herron is being planned for sometime in the next month. Please watch the March Sunday bulletins for more details for the baby shower for Jake and Laura. Grandparents: Dan Herron, and Nancy & Darrin Hutchison.

Women to Prepare Meal for Grace and Mercy Ministries

Our United Methodist Women will prepare and serve a meal at Grace and Mercy Ministries on Friday, March 9. They will have a work day on Thursday, March 8. If you would like to help prepare the food, please be at the church by 9:00 on Thursday. If you are helping serve the meal, please be at the church by 9:00 on Friday. If you are making a dessert, please have it at the church by 9:00 on Friday.

The purpose of Grace and Mercy Ministries is to meet the physical, social and spiritual needs of the homeless and less fortunate out of love and compassion to others.



March Birthdays



Congratulations to Hailey and Herb Dake and big brothers, Eli and Seth on the arrival of **Noah Trent Dake** on February 9. He weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz.

Sunday, March 4

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

Monday, March 5

- 6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

Tuesday, March 6

- 12:00 PM SFE/WH Marvelous March

Wednesday, March 8

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

Friday, March 9

- 9:00 AM UMW/meal-Grace & Mercy

Sunday, March 11

- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship Service
- 2:00 PM Hashe Bridal Shower/WH
- 4:30 PM Youth

Monday, March 12

- 10:30 AM Call to Prayer/UMW
- 6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

Wednesday, March 14

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

Sunday, March 18

- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Morning Worship
- 12:00 AM Box Lunch/Relay/Life
- 4:00 PM Rejoicing Spirits
- 4:30 PM Youth

Monday, March 19

- 6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

Wednesday, March 21

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

Saturday, March 24

- 11:00 AM Youth Barbeque

Sunday, March 25

- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship Service

Monday, March 26

- 6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

Saturday, March 31

- 10:00 PM Pope Street Clean Up

2. Virginia Looney, Cathy Allen
4. Jerry Stevens, Theda Poplin
5. Harriell Lawson, Wesley Snyder, Sue Walker
6. Jeannie Stevens
7. Dale Allen, Makenzie Kittle
9. Frank Boyd, Lauren Self Nation
11. Bill Cranfield, Alex Randle
13. Wayne Owsley
14. Amy Walker, Dan Herron
15. Frank Coning, Trenton Thurman
16. Kelly Bean
17. Kane Penley
18. Joyce Bailey, Dick Moss
19. Jim Lewis
20. Albert Kuykendall, Jane Jeffreys
21. Lynnette Baines
23. Ruella Roach
25. Dayton Christensen, Tulley Hicks
26. Charlie Oakes
27. Monte Raper, Amber Jeffreys
28. Betty Holder, Leslie Skidmore
29. Kanden Sharp, Ralph Coleman, Jason Murphy
31. Rob Baker, David Tilley

Anniversaries to Celebrate



March Anniversaries

1. Raymond & Linda Latham
8. Bill & Alda Stewart
15. Dayton & Kathy Christensen
22. Wayne & Myra Owsley

Holy Week Services

- Monday, April 2, Noon, Keith UMC**
- April 3—6 To be announced**
- Thursday, April 5, Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM at Trinity UMC**
- Friday, April 6, Good Friday, 7:00 PM at Cedar Springs UMC**
- Sunday, April 8, Sunrise Service, 7:00 AM at Mars Hill Presbyterian**

Youth Plan Barbeque Lunch

The youth will be selling Barbeque lunches on Saturday, March 24, starting at 11 AM. The meal will consist of chicken, baked beans, slaw, roll and a drink. Tickets are \$7 each and can be purchased from any youth member.

Congratulations to Russell and Taylor Carter, Teresa and Mike Carter (grandparents) and Don and Dianne MacElman (great grandparents) on the birth of **Aleah Lynn Carter** on February 5. She weighed 8 lbs 2 ozs.

We pray God's blessings on these families.

Rejoicing Spirits to Meet

The Rejoicing Spirits service will be held Sunday afternoon, March 18, 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, March 1, at 7:00 P.M.

SUMMER

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!

Relay for Life Box Lunch Planned

Our Relay for Life Team will be selling carry-out box lunches on Sunday, March 18, after worship for \$6.00 each. The meal will consist of chicken salad/croissant, pasta salad, congealed salad and a dessert. Tickets will be on sale in each entryway starting March 4. Tickets are required to purchase a meal.

Your support is appreciated!



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: allenmorialumc@bellsouth.net

Worship Service Flower Schedule

- March 4 -Ralph & Elizabeth Coleman
- March 11- Marjorie Guffey
- March 18- Vaughn & Jane Jeffreys
- March 25-Lynn & Betty Collins



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



We Worship By Our Presence

Average Sunday School Attendance	67
Average Worship Attendance	166
Avg. SS Attendance for 2012	67
Avg. Worship Attendance for 2012	173
Avg. SS Attendance for 2011	74
Avg. Worship Attendance for 2011	181

DOLLARS SENSE

Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." Putting your trust in the economy, your employer or your bank account is not a good idea. God, however, is always faithful. That is why we should always be trusting Him as our supply! If there is a financial crisis, God will supply your needs. Just like He promised.

We Worship With



Our Gifts and Tithes

Received for Operating Budget	17,319.97
Received for 2012 YTD	34,284.03
Received for 2011 YTD	29,453.47

Special Giving

Sunday School Outreach	52.25
Future Fund	75.00
Carpet Fund	855.00
Bishop Gift	24.00
Children's Time	25.00
Bus Fund	37.00
Men's Club	50.00
Youth fund	840.00
Food Pantry	25.00
Souper Bowl Sunday	65.00
Holston Home	25.00

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.

We Worship By Our Service

Matthew 5:14-16: "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

We can profess our faith to others, recite Bible verses, show up to church for worship; but our faith, our heart and our inward light will only shine when we set aside ourselves by serving others. Our service is the true window to our soul and one of the best testimonies we have for non-believers.

How are you doing? Are you letting your light shine by serving others?

We Worship By Our Witness

"And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved"— Acts 2:47

There is a direct connection between worship and witness. We are being watched by the outside world. Sometimes that outside world even joins us in the pew. So what kind of worshipper are you? You may think it doesn't matter, but actually it does, because unbelievers are checking things out. Maybe someone sitting near you has never been to church before. But while the worship was going on, you are preoccupied. You are chatting with a friend or daydreaming or texting. It is important to pay attention and engage during worship, because unbelievers may be watching you.

There is a connection between our worship and our witness. Witnessing is not something we do; it is something we are.



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS!
 Brandon Carter, Tyler Cooley,
 Taylor Creasman, Michael Dyer,
 Josh Goforth, Josh Gary, Taylor
 Gray, Brent Greer, Eric
 Greisenhour, 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.

Pope Street Cleanup

Our church has "adopted" Pope St. for trash pick up through the Athens Adopt-A-Street program. Trash pick-up-day will be Saturday, March 31 at 10:00AM. Vests, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Come join this Family Life Activity. See Amy Windt for more information.



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.

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



Come to Youth at 4:30 PM on Sunday's for worship and fellowship!

Regular Youth meetings will be held on March 4, March 11 and March 18. Youth will not meet on Sunday, March 25.

Tickets for the Chicken BBQ dinner will be on sale after the March 4 Youth meeting! See a Youth soon for your tickets!

The Youth will be serving Chicken BBQ dinner from 11:00 to 2:00 on Saturday, March 24. Lela will need all Youth to come help prepare for the dinner. The Youth will set up tables, prepare drinks and deserts, package the dinners for pickup, and will help clean up after. A Youth work schedule will be planned during this months regular meeting. There is a job for you! All Youth are expected to come and help with the Chicken BBQ Dinner!

The Youth BBQ helps to raise money for Youth Missions!

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

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!

Something for Everyone

Looking Back Thru the Year!



Please join us on Tuesday, March 6th, at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall as we celebrate **Marvelous March**. Our theme for this month is "Thanks for the Memories." Our meal will be reminiscent of the past and includes: Fried Chicken, Gravy, Collard Greens, Pinto Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Slaw and Corn Muffins. We have a variety of favorite desserts for your enjoyment.

We invite you to bring something that reminds you of your childhood—especially something that is not commonly used today. We will have tables to display your treasures on. A slide show of our last year's activities will be shown. Please make your reservation by Sunday, March 4th, by calling the church office.

Something for Everyone Spring Trip: Our Spring trip will be on April 9-11. Highlights include visits to Monastery of the Holy Spirit, Callaway Gardens, Columbus Riverwalk and Andersonville National Historic Site. If you would like a brochure which gives more details, you can pick one up in the side vestibule. Please let Charlotte or the church office know as soon as you decide to join us for this trip.

Save the Date: On August 7th, 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.



Body and Soul -Happy Birthday to Us!

The next Body and Soul will be on Wednesday, March 21 at 6:30 PM. Family Life will have the program to celebrate our church wide birthday's.

We need volunteers to decorate a table for each month. Please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the side vestibule to reserve your birthday month. Amy Windt has more details.


Sue Walker and Yvonne Raper will hostess the birthday bash and provide a delicious meal. Please see March Sunday bulletins for the menu planned. Come join the birthday fun!

Bridal Showers Planned



A bridal shower for Leighann Hashe, bride-elect of Thomas Pelham, is planned for Sunday afternoon, March 11, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM in Wattenbarger Hall. Leighann is registered at Kohl's, Belk, and Bed, Bath & Beyond.

A bridal shower for Kari Kuykendall, bride-elect of Evan Walden, is planned for Sunday afternoon, April 1st, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM in Wattenbarger Hall. Keri is registered at Belk, JC Penney and Greeks Bearing Gifts. Gift certificates from Lowe's and Wal-Mart would also be greatly appreciated.



SIGNS OF *Rebirth*

Isaiah 35 describes the rebirth of a dry land when Jesus returns, as well as the signs of God's beautiful creation at springtime.

Directions: Solve each math problem. Then write the words in order, from smaller numbers to larger numbers, in the spaces below.

bloom 6+1= ___	blossom 2x2= ___	rejoice 4x2= ___
burst 3+3= ___	wilderness 2+1= ___	joy 5+5= ___
crocus 3+2= ___	desert 1x0= ___	parched 0+1= ___
glad 2x1= ___	shout 10-1= ___	

"The _____ and the _____ land will be _____; the _____ will rejoice and _____. Like the _____, it will _____ into _____; it will _____ greatly and _____ for _____."

Isaiah 35:1-2, NIV

Answers: "The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and shout for joy. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy."

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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 March: What did John the Baptist tell the tax collectors who came to him for baptism?

Correct answer February: Matthew 7:12 is called "the Golden Rule"; do unto others, as you would have them do unto you.

First Persons To Correctly Answer this month's Question: Mildred Vincent and 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.