

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 13 Number 3

March 2013



Living Stewardship: Creating Financial Literacy
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Pormandis incunae. Pormandis incunae.

The **United Methodist Women** will meet at Trinity UMC on Saturday, March 2, to celebrate A Call to Prayer and Self Denial. The ladies of Allen will have the program entitled *Living Stewardship: Creating Financial Literacy*. The Call to Prayer Offering will be used to equip, educate and empower women and youth with financial knowledge and skills necessary to improve their financial well-being and make informed decisions. The meeting will start at 11:00 AM. A light lunch will be served by the ladies at Trinity.



The **Family Life Committee** is sponsoring a church wide birthday party for **Body and Soul** on Wednesday, March 13th, at 6:00 in Wattenbarger Hall. The menu will include Sloppy Joe sandwiches, chips, cake and ice cream. Volunteers are needed to decorate the tables for the birthday party. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the side vestibule. Please choose the month you wish to decorate a table for. See Amy Windt if you have questions. Don't miss this fun event in our church!



The congregations of Allen and Trinity will meet together here at Allen on Thursday, March 28, at 7 PM for the Maundy Thursday service. Maundy Thursday is observed during Holy week on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples. Please plan to join us for this very meaningful service.



Easter Egg Hunt—March 17th
The Annual Allen Memorial Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday afternoon, **March 17th, at 4:30 PM.** The children are invited to bring their Easter baskets and search for the eggs which will be hidden in the church yard. Following the egg hunt, a meal of hot dogs and chips will be served.

The Easter Egg symbolizes new life and the resurrection of Jesus. Traditionally eggs were dyed red to symbolize the blood of Christ. The Egg Hunt symbolizes good luck for the rest of the year for those who find the eggs.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Sunday School hall for those who will be attending. If you don't sign up, you are still welcome to come.

Flowers on the Cross

Please bring fresh flowers on Easter Sunday to put on the cross in the church yard. This tradition is a witness to our belief that from His death on the cross comes new life for all.



Something for Everyone

Please plan to join us for "Marvelous March" Tuesday, March 5, at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall. The theme will be "In the Kitchen with Aunt Bee." We will see an episode from the Andy Griffith show, "The Pickle Story." Please make your reservation by Sunday, March 3, so we will know how much food to prepare. The menu will include Aunt Bee's fried chicken with all the trimmings.

Brochures are now available in the side vestibule for the upcoming Tour of the Volkswagen Plant on May 7 and the Spring trip to Georgia on May 28 and 29. Please pick up a brochure if you are interested in either of these trips. The deadline for the church family to sign up for these trips is Sunday, April 14th.

SAVE THE DATE: On August 6, we will travel to Cumberland County Playhouse to see their production of *The King and I*. More details will follow soon.



Family Life Plans St. Patrick's Day Meal

The shamrock, a symbol of Ireland, refers to a young sprig of clover. St. Patrick used it as a metaphor for the Christian Trinity. On **March 17th**, St. Patrick's Day, you are invited to bring a covered dish or two and join us following morning worship as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick is credited with converting many Irishmen to Christianity.

The purpose of the Family Life Committee is to bring the church family together in ways that will foster growth and fellowship as well as encourage love and a building up of the body of Christ.

Holy Week Worship Schedule

The Noon Day Services are as follows:

Monday, March 25—Keith Memorial UMC

Tuesday, March 26—First Baptist Church

Wednesday, March 27—St. Mary's Catholic Church

Thursday, March 28—St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Friday, March 29—Trinity UMC

Other Services as follows:

Thursday, March 28, 7:00 PM, Maundy Thursday, Allen

Friday, March 29, 7:00 PM, Good Friday Service, Trinity Sanctuary Choir will be presenting a cantata.

Sunday, March 31, 7:00 AM, Sunrise Service at Mars Hill Presbyterian Church



This year our Offering for Lent will be collected on Easter Sunday, March 31. The offering will go to support the Youth and Children's Ministries of our church. Please give as God leads you.



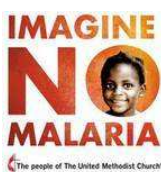
THE JOURNEY

The walk to Jerusalem by Jesus and his disciples was a journey like no other. The disciples knew something was different but couldn't quite understand what it all meant. They only knew that Jesus was very serious and determined. The ride on the donkey, the foot washing and the sharing of the bread and cup were different from before. Jesus was very determined and seemed to have something very serious on his mind.

Our journey through Lent with it giving up of something just doesn't quite offer the same sense of urgency. We give up soft drinks, chocolate or sweets all together. Then we ask if we can have them on Sundays since that is not a part of Lent.

Self-denial is a good thing. We are called to self-denial. But, it needs to be also a time of penitence and seeking forgiveness. It is a journey to the cross as we remember what the cross means to those who believe. We will see on this journey Jesus making the ultimate sacrifice of his life for those who will believe in him.

As we continue to make our way to the victory of resurrection over death let us remember the great sacrifice made for us. We know that what little things we give up can no way compare to what Jesus gave and gave up. But it reminds us that we are giving up the things in our life that only cause us to fail in order to receive the victory of forgiveness and eternal life. (Joe)



Thank you for your generous donations to No More Malaria. We set of goal of 250 lives saved. To date we have saved 202 lives. Please continue to give so that our goal can be met.



Do you enjoy making music? We would love to have you join us in our music ministry. You do not have to be a professional; we encourage participation on all levels. God cares only that it comes from your heart. If you have an instrumental talent, such as guitar, piano, organ, bass, woodwind or percussion, we welcome your involvement in worship of our Lord and God.

The Chancel Choir meets on Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM to rehearse. If you would be interested in simply doing an occasional instrumental or vocal solo, we welcome that too. Contact Nathan Windt at 513.460.3121 for more information.

Brochures are now available in the side vestibule for the Summer Camping Program. The theme this year is "Treasures of the Heart." You get an early bird discount of \$15 if you register by April 1st. The church offers scholarships for our children here at Allen. Call the church office for more information.



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Volunteer of the Month: This month we have chosen **Susan Jackson** as our Volunteer of the Month.



Susan drives the church bus, updates the church web site as needed and serves as Secretary of the Church Council and United Methodist Women. (This picture with the antique sewing machine was taken on one of our Something for Everyone trips.)

Susan worked very hard to obtain a CDL driver's license so she could drive our new church bus. She drives for the **Something for Everyone** group. She arranges her work schedule in order to drive for the day trips and the overnight trips. Well qualified drivers are essential to being able to utilize our buses for the various programs of the church.

As Secretary of the Church Council and United Methodist Women, Susan keeps an accurate, permanent record of the proceedings of all regular and special-called meetings. She is also available to assist the Chairperson upon request. Accurate records are very important in the life of the church. Susan does an excellent job, and is always willing to help where she is needed.

Susan volunteered to keep our church website up to date. Our church website is often the first impression someone has of our church. The bulletins, newsletters and information about each ministry group can all be found on the website. If you have not looked at the website, go to allenmemorial-umc.org and check it out.

Susan has also used her creative skills in various areas of the church. When we purchased our new bus, we were so disappointed that it did not have the storage pockets for each seat for magazines and other personal items. Susan created these on her sewing machine at home and donated them to the church for the bus. These really make a difference on the longer trips. Susan also uses her sewing skills to create prayer quilts which are signed by the church family and given to our members who are coping with a serious illness

Susan is married to Mike. They have one child, Michael, and one grandchild, Zoe. Susan has many interests including craft projects, traveling, reading and spending time with her family and friends. She especially loves spending time with Zoe.

We are very lucky to have Susan who is so dedicated to our church. Be sure to thank Susan for all she does when you see her.



Grief Share Class to Begin

The Athens Church of Christ will be conducting a grief class called "Griefshare" starting on Tuesday, March 5, at 6:30 PM. The class includes videos by expert grief counselors and work books. This class is for 13 weeks and the charge is FREE. Anyone suffering through the loss of a loved one is welcome to attend. Call Kaye McCullough at 745-0554 for more info.

Jubilation 2013 for senior adults will be held on April 21-23 at MeadowView Resort and Conference Center in Kingsport, TN. The theme this year is "Grace & Gratitude." The registration deadline is March 31. Registration forms are available in the church office. Call Jane at 745-1560 for more information.

Weekly Recurring Events

Monday
6:00 PM Junior Girl Scouts

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

Sunday
10:00 PM Sunday School
11:00 PM Worship
4:30 PM Youth

Monthly Recurring Events

Sunday
8:30: 1st Sunday—Men’s Group in WH
5:00: 1st & 3rd Sunday—Super Sunday for Kids
4:00: 3rd Sunday—Rejoicing Spirits at Cedar Springs

Tuesday
1st Tuesday—Something for Everyone—Check bulletin

Thursday
7:00: 1st Thursday—McMinn Ministries at Cooke Center

Saturday
12:00 Noon: 2nd Saturday —UMW

Special Events/Meetings

March 2—UMW meeting at Trinity at 11:00 AM.
March 3—VBS planning meeting, 3:30 PM
March 10—Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 13—Body & Soul—6:00 PM
March 16—Day Apart for UMW, Cleveland, 9:30 AM
March 17—Family Life covered dish meal after church
March 17—Easter Egg Hunt—4:30—here at church
March 23—Youth Barbeque—11:00-2:00 PM
March 28—Maundy Thursday Service—7:00 PM
March 29—Good Friday Service—Trinity UMC—7:00 PM
March 25-29—Noon Holy Week Services, See page 1.
March 31—Sunrise Service at Mars Hill—7 AM

Altar Flower Schedule

March 3Bruce & Carolyn Delmas
March 10 Gretchen Kittle
March 17 Vaughn & Jane Jeffreys
March 24 David & Vicki Derrick
March 31 Dan Herron

Day Apart for United Methodist Women

This year the Cleveland District Day Apart will be on Saturday, **March 16th, at Big Spring UMC** in Cleveland. The inspirational message will be delivered by Rev. Janice Keebler, Senior Pastor of the Holston Georgia Parish. Special music will be performed by the Youth Choir from First UMC of Cleveland. Registration starts at 9:30 AM. If you are interested in attending, contact Carolyn Delmas at 745-8446 for more information.



Don't forget to set your clocks forward by one hour before going to bed on Saturday night, **March 9th**. It's time to spring forward. Don't be late for church on Sunday!

OUR STEWARDSHIP

"I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and do all in my power to strengthen its ministry by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness."

Our Presence

	<u>SS</u>	<u>Worship</u>
(YTD) 2013 (Average)	56	168
(YTD) 2012 (Average)	75	179
(MTD) Average for Jan. 2013	56	168

Our Gifts

YTD (January 2012)	16,964.06
YTD (January 2013)	15,051.65
January 2013	15,051.65
Sunday School Outreach	76.04
Imagine No Malaria	125.00
Human Relations Sunday	35.00
Future Fund (includes fundraisers)	225.00
Chair Fund	139.00
Bus Fund	10.00

Our Prayers

Our Country, our Leaders and our Troops
Our Pastor, Rev. Joe Black
Our District Superintendent, Rev. Joe Green
Our Bishop, Rev. Mary Virginia Taylor
Our Missionaries, both at home and overseas

Remember to Pray for Your Sheep!

Pray for the Names Listed Below:

Nancy Barton	Larry Messer
Chris Beaton	Kathy Niswonger
Linda Brown	Jim Neil
Joseph Carpenter	Eva Oakes
Kathy Cawfield	Ella Parker
Kathy & Milford Clark	Bonnie Richards
Grace Coleman	Russell Roberts
John & Pam Cooley	Charles Seargent
Ingrid Cooley	Nathan Sembeck
Jim Crittenden	Donna Smith
William Cross	Mildred Smith
Bobby Davidson	Nell Smith
Linda Dennis	Christopher Spence
Lisa Evans	Bill Stewart
Bob Everage	Edward Tessier
David Freeman	Roy Thomas
Doug Ford	Jim Toomey
Al Gamble, Jr.	Bruce Vincent
David Clay Guffey	Mildred Vincent
J.D. Harris	Emily Grubb Wade
Carol Hope	Brenda Walker
Lacey Hunter	Jim & Mary Watkins
Mike Jackson	Ogle Wattenbarger
Marie Kiukendall	Renay Wattenbarer
Tonya Linder	Sandy Yielding
Glenn Mason	

Our Service

The ladies will be providing a meal for the clients of Grace and Mercy Ministries on Friday, March 15. 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.

Allen Memorial United Methodist Church
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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



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




Our Kids
Super Sunday for
Kids is for children
ages 3—5th grade.
Our meetings are
on the 1st & 3rd
Sundays at
5:00.

March 3: Bob and Alice Shugart will provide supper.
March 17: Easter Egg Hunt—4:30

If you haven't provided a meal for Super Sunday for Kids, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the side vestibule. The leaders really appreciate everyone's participation.

The Youth are sponsoring their annual **Chicken Barbeque on Saturday, March 23rd from 11:00—2:00.** The meal will include Jody's barbequed chicken, baked beans, slaw, roll and a drink. Tickets are \$7 each and are available from any youth member. The youth appreciate your support of all their projects.

The Youth will not meet on March 24th due to Spring Break or March 31st which is Easter Sunday.

**Bible Question for March: Who was compelled to carry the cross for Jesus?**
Correct answer for February: Boaz
Ruth 4:13: So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife....
First Person (s) to correctly answer last month's question: Mildred Vincent and Elizabeth Coleman

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.