

# 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.'"

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Body & Soul

**Body and Soul—March 12** Please join us at 6:00 PM on March 12th for our first Body and Soul meal of the new year. Charlotte Newman and Jane Jeffreys will be the hostesses. The menu will include baked ham, green beans, roasted potatoes, cranberry sauce, rolls, drinks and peach cobbler/ice cream. The program will be a video clip of the Something for Everyone activities in 2013. A lot of you are in it.

The cost of the meal is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children 10 and under.

Please call the office or see one of the hostesses to make your reservation.

## Something for Everyone

On March 4th at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall the Allen Church Hobos will convene for a meal and party. If you would like to join us, please see Charlotte or call the church office by Sunday, March 2nd.

Brochures are available in the side vestibule for the Spring trip to Nashville on June 3 & 4. Please pick up a brochure if you are interested in this trip.

The August trip to the Playhouse in Crossville has been changed to August 12th. Please mark your calendar.



...welcome her  
as you would  
welcome me  
PHILEMON 1:17, NRSV

## Welcome Melissa!

Our interim pastor, Melissa Smith, has been here since February. She has been very busy getting to know all the people and visiting with all the various groups of our church. She and her cat Smokey are now settled

in the parsonage.

We want to officially welcome Melissa with a covered dish lunch right after church on Sunday, March 2nd. Please bring 2 or 3 of your favorite dishes and join us as we welcome Melissa to our congregation.



## Ash Wednesday Service

This year the Ash Wednesday service will be held at Trinity UMC beginning at **7:00 pm on March 5th**. Our pastor, Melissa Smith, will be preaching for this service. The service will conclude with the imposition of ashes that remind us of our need for repentance. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this very important service.



## Lenten Sermon Series

Melissa will do a series of sermons beginning March 9 that take a look at the places where Jesus walked during his life and ministry. The series will focus on Jesus' baptism, healing ministry, and a variety of miracles throughout his ministry. The series will conclude by traveling to Jerusalem for Palm Sunday and Easter.

Invite a friend to come to church with you during this special time.



## Small Group Bible Study

Melissa plans to teach a small group Bible study which complements the Lenten Sermon Series starting **March 9th** on Sunday evening at 5:30 pm and on Monday morning at 10:00 am in the Slagle Classroom.

This is a video based curriculum that will show actual places from the Holy Land followed by Bible study and discussion. Please take advantage of this opportunity to enrich your preparation for Easter.

## United Methodist Women

On Saturday, March 8th, the ladies will meet jointly with the ladies from Trinity and Keith to celebrate the annual Call to Prayer and Self Denial observance.

The ladies from Trinity will present a special program, *Sound Foundations, Sound Missions*, which will reflect on the rich heritage of our mission institutions made possible through our gifts that enable the institutions to be physically sound and safe spaces for ministry for present and future property needs. Registration starts at 9:30 AM. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.



The Chancel Choir meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. If you love to sing, you are welcome to join us as we prepare for the upcoming Lenten season.



**Pastor's Corner:**

Sometimes it is funny to stop and pay attention to the things that we focus on. For the past few weeks, I have been focused on packing my condo in Cleveland and getting moved to Athens. (It's a wonder the things you find when you move!) The last few days here in Athens, we have been focused

on the brutal snow storm that hit our area. I'm not sure if the parents were excited about the snow festivities but it certainly seemed like the kids and "young at heart" really enjoyed it. As important as a focus like moving and snow can be, there is a greater focus that we are called to as Christians and as the church of Allen Memorial UMC. That centers around our focus of Lent.

I grew up in a church tradition that did not celebrate Lent but I have come to find that it is one of the most special times of the Church year for me. Lent is a period of forty days leading up to Easter. It is a time that allows us to take a serious look at our relationship with God and how we can grow as a Christian disciple. One of the ways that some people celebrate Lent is to sacrifice a luxury that they are accustomed to, like chocolate, coffee, or TV. I have done this in the past but I have taken a little bit of a different approach the last couple of years. Instead of giving up something for Lent, I have been adding something to my spiritual journey of Lent. This has ranged from a specific time of prayer to a particular Bible study during these days. I have found that adding something to my Lenten journey has made this a much richer experience.

So before you get focused on how you will celebrate Easter or what you will do during Spring Break that is coming just around the corner, I encourage you to focus your attention on the celebration of Lent. Take some time to think about how this time can be used to deepen your walk with God. Be sure to check out the article in this newsletter that gives you some options on how we as a church will be celebrating Lent. I'm glad to be here with you at Allen Memorial during these days!

(Melissa)

**Jubilee Project—Sneedville**

Our church will be collecting cereal and oatmeal as a "hands on mission project" during Lent for the children in Sneedville.

Jubilee Project is a United Methodist mission to one of the poorest counties in Tennessee. Please remember these children as you shop in the coming weeks.

You can place your donations in the baskets provided at each entryway.

This year our **Offering for Lent** will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 20. The offering will go to support the Youth and Children's Ministries of our church.



**Spotlight on the Staff**

**Janie Goines** is the **Church Custodian**. She and her husband George are in the church several days each week while most of you are still asleep.

As the church custodian, Janie is responsible for keeping the building well maintained. She realizes the importance of our church building having a good appearance when people come to worship or engage in other activities throughout the church. She is also responsible for ordering supplies as needed.

Janie is also a very active member of the church. She enjoys Sunday school, Something for Everyone activities, and is very involved with the work of the United Methodist Women.

Janie goes to her job at K-Mart after she finishes her duties her at the church. She enjoys spending time with her friends. She has a soft spot in her heart for God's creatures, and she and George have rescued several animals.

Thank you Janie for all you do to keep our church looking nice for all who come to worship here.



**Welcome New Members!!**

Horace and Naomi Feezell united with our church on Sunday, February 16. They are a retired couple and enjoy spending time with their family and friends.

Please make them feel welcome as they become more involved with the church family.

**Day Apart for United Methodist Women**

This year the Cleveland District Day Apart will be on Saturday, March 15, at Tasso United Methodist Church in Cleveland. The message will be delivered by Heidi Johnson. The "hands on mission project" will be Camp Horizon, a special place for special kids. Items needed include first aid items such as band-aids, Neosporin, etc., party supplies for 10th anniversary celebration such as balloons, party hats, etc.

If you are interested in attending, contact Carolyn Delmas at 745-8446 for more information.



**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. (Eva)

**Weekly Recurring Events**

<b>Monday</b>	
6:00 PM	Junior Girl Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	
6:15 PM	Prayer Ministries
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Practice
<b>Sunday</b>	
10:00 PM	Sunday School
11:00 PM	Worship
4:30 PM	Youth

**Monthly Recurring Events**

<b>Sunday</b>	
8:30:	1st Sunday—Men’s Group in WH
5:00:	Selected Sundays —Super Sunday for Kids
4:00:	3rd Sunday—Rejoicing Spirits at Cedar Springs
<b>Tuesday</b>	
1st Tuesday—	Something for Everyone—Check bulletin
<b>Thursday</b>	
7:00:	1st Thursday—McMinn Ministries at Cooke Center
<b>Saturday</b>	
12:00 Noon:	2nd Saturday —UMW

**Special Events and Meetings:**

- March 2**—Men’s Breakfast—8:30 AM  
—Covered Dish after church to welcome Melissa
- March 4**—Something for Everyone—12 Noon WH
- March 5**—Ash Wednesday—7:00 PM, Trinity UMC
- March 8**—UMW at Keith Church—9:30 AM, registration
- March 9**—**Daylight Savings Time Begins**
- March 9**—Lenten Bible Study—5:30, Slagle Class
- March 10**—Lenten Bible Study—10:00 am, Slagle Class
- March 12**—Body and Soul—6:00 PM
- March 15**—Day Apart for UMW Tasso UMC-10:30 AM
- March 16**—Lenten Bible Study, 5:30, Slagle Class
- March 17**—Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 am, Slagle Class
- March 22**—Youth Barbeque—11:00—2:00 PM
- March 23**—Lenten Bible Study—5:30, Slagle Class
- March 24**—Lenten Bible Study—10:00 am, Slagle Class
- March 30**—Lenten Bible Study—5:30, Slagle Class
- March 31**—Lenten Bible Study—10:00 am, Slagle Class

**Altar Flower Schedule**

<b>March 2</b> .....	Tim and Sue Walker
<b>March 9</b> .....	Gretchen Kittle
<b>March 16</b> .....	Brian, Wesley and Madi Bean
<b>March 23</b> .....	Ralph and Elizabeth Coleman

**Looking Ahead: Jubilation 2014 for Senior Adults, April 27-29, 2014, Meadow View Resort Center, Kingsport, TN**—If you are interested in this event, see the bulletin board in the side vestibule for more information and registration forms.

**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) 2014 (Average)	52	158
(YTD) 2013 (Average)	56	168
(MTD) Average for January 2014	52	158

**Our Gifts**

YTD (January 2013)	15,051.65
YTD (January 2014)	15,939.00
January 2014	15,939.00
Sunday School Outreach	91.00
Youth	125.00
Human Relations	65.00
Future Fund	65.00
Structural Repair Fund (includes fundraisers)	730.00
Bus Fund	150.00
Ginger Bread Houses	13.00

**Our Prayers**

Our Country, our Leaders and our Troops  
 Our Pastor, Rev. Melissa Smith  
 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!**

Polly Anderson	Chase Littleton
Nancy Barton	Diane MacElman
Kelly Bean	Theda Poplin
Chris Beaton	Mike Ray
Darren Beckett	Jason Richards
Rev. Joe Black	Myrtle Lee Roberts
Joseph Carpenter	Curtis Sayles
Kathy Cawfield	Mildred Smith
John & Pam Cooley	Marie Sparkman
Jim Crittendon	Mike Stewart
Robert Davidson	Roy Thomas
Nell Gambill	Rev. Bruce Vincent
Steve Garren	Millard & Mildred Vincent
Mike Jackson	

**Relay for Life**—This year Relay for Life will be on May 16th in downtown Athens. It’s time to start thinking about how you can honor or remember your loved ones that have been touched by cancer. The Allen Team is already busy working on ideas to raise money for this very worthy cause. Watch the church bulletin for opportunities to help our team raise money to fight this dreadful disease.

**Our Service**

*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”* 1 Peter 12-6:8

How are you using your gifts to serve Him?

Allen Memorial United Methodist Church  
 800 Decatur Pike  
 Athens, TN 37303  
 Melissa Smith, Pastor  
 423-745-1560  
 Fax: 423-745-8320

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

allenmemorialumc@bellsouth.net  
 allensec@bellsouth.net



**Our Youth**

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

**Youth Schedule for March:**

- 2—Regular Meeting
- 9—Regular Meeting
- 16—Regular Meeting
- 22—Saturday—**Chicken Barbeque**
- 23—No Meeting—Spring Break
- 30—Regular Meeting



**Super Sunday for Kids** will meet on March 2 and 16 at 5:00 pm for supper, fun and activities. This ministry is open to children ages 3 through 5th grade. If you child has not been attending, we encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity.



**Annual Youth Chicken Barbeque**

The Youth are sponsoring their annual Chicken Barbeque on **Saturday, March 22, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**. The meal will include Jody's barbequed chicken, baked beans, slaw, roll and a drink. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased from any youth member.

The Youth appreciate your support of all their projects.

**Youth 2015, June 24-28 in Orlando, Florida**

Please help the Youth earn money to attend this event by supporting all their fund-raising events.



**SAVE THE DATE!  
 June 1—6, 2014**

**Vacation Bible School**  
 God filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures....including you! When kids feel weird, different or even lost in a crowd, nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus. Plan to join us for VBS on June 1st!



**Bible Question for March: Who gave Joseph a ring and put a gold chain around his neck?**

**Question for February:** Who did Jacob love?

**Correct answer for February : Rachel**

Genesis 29:18: "Now Jacob loved Rachel: so he said, I will serve you seven more years for Rachel your younger daughter."

First Person(s) to correctly answer last month's question: Mildred Vincent

**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 Melissa Smith, Editors.