

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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April 2014



Hands-On Mission Project— Health Kits --Zimbabwe

The Cleveland District Goal is 300 kits. Pack the following items in a 2-gallon Zip-Loc bag: 1 washcloth, 2 bars soap, 2 toothbrushes, 2 tubes toothpaste (6.5 oz. or less), 1 bottle adult Listerine OR Listerine Smart Rinse for children (250 ml or less), 1 box kids' chewable Tylenol/acetaminophen (30 ct.), 1 bottle Tylenol/acetaminophen 500 mg (24 ct.), 1 bottle Advil/ibuprofen (24 ct.) 1 bottle Delsym 12-hour cough syrup for children and adults (3 oz. or less), Benadryl—1 bottle children's liquid (4 oz. or less) OR 1 box adult tabs (24 ct.). A \$5.00 donation for shipping should accompany each kit. DO NOT put the money inside the bag. The bags are available on the table in the side vestibule. Return your completed kit to the side vestibule. **All kits must be returned by June 1.**



April 1 Smoky Mountain Heritage Center Townsend, TN

The Something for Everyone group will visit the **Heritage Center** which celebrates the unique human history and rich cultural heritage of East Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains region. We will have lunch at **Miss Lily's Café**. After lunch we will browse the shops at **Apple Valley**. We will leave the church at 9:30 AM and return around 5 PM. Please make your reservations by Sunday, March 30.



The **Lenten Offering** will be collected on **Easter Sunday, April 20**. The offering will help support the Youth and Children's Ministries of our church. Please give generously.

Good Friday Service: The Trinity UMC Choir will present *The Shadow of the Cross*, by L. Larson on Friday evening, April 18, starting at 7:00 PM. This cantata will be a blessing to all who attend. We hope to see you there.



The annual Allen Memorial Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday afternoon, **April 13th at 3:00 PM** at the home of our pastor, Melissa Smith.

The children are invited to bring their Easter baskets and search for eggs that will be hidden in the parsonage yard.

Following the egg hunt, a meal will be served. 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.

The church family is invited to donate candy for the egg hunt. Baskets are available in each entryway to collect the candy. Thank you for your help!



Maundy Thursday Service

The congregations of Allen, Trinity and Cedar Springs will meet together here at Allen on Thursday, April 17, at 7:00 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.

Holy Week Service Schedule

The Noon Day Services are as follows:

- Monday, April 14**—Keith Memorial UMC
- Tuesday, April 15**—Mars Hill Presbyterian Church
- Wednesday, April 16**—St. Mary's Catholic Church
- Thursday, April 17**—St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- Friday, April 18**—Trinity UMC

Other Services as follows:

- Thursday, April 17, 7:00 PM**, Maundy Thursday, Allen
- Friday, April 18, 7:00 PM**, Good Friday, Service, Trinity Sanctuary Choir will present *The Shadow of the Cross*.
- Sunday, April 20, 7:00 AM**, Sunrise Service at Market Park in downtown Athens

United Methodist Women

The ladies will meet on Saturday, April 12, at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall for a **covered dish lunch**. Becky Jaquish will present the program. All the ladies of the church are invited to attend.



Pastor's Corner:

As a child, I can remember going to my mom's closet and trying on her shoes. Her shoes seemed so much more attractive and fun than mine did for some reason. The only problem was that her shoes were much too big for me. I couldn't walk very far in them without falling -- now where's the fun in that?

During this Lenten season, our sermons are centering around following in the footsteps of Jesus. We are taking a look at the places where Jesus walked during his ministry and how that applies to our lives today. I don't know about for you but for me, sometimes it is difficult for me to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. It's hard for me to resist temptations and to love people that are different than I am. It's hard to follow the path that Jesus sets out for me; I often want to travel my own path. Perhaps these days leading up to Easter will provide us an opportunity to see the footsteps of Jesus throughout our every-day lives and bring us to the point of developing a deeper expression of our faith.

I invite you to journey with us as we learn more about following in the footsteps of Jesus. We worship each Sunday morning at 11:00 am and offer a Lenten Bible study at 5:00pm on Sunday's and at 10:00am on most Monday's. My prayer is that you and I will both learn to follow in the footsteps of Jesus a little closer each day. I'm excited to be on this journey with you!

Melissa

Confirmation Class Is Just Around The Corner

One of the most important elements of our faith journey as a United Methodist is the participation in a Confirmation class. It is a time that we learn what we believe and why we believe it. This spring, we will be offering a confirmation class here at AMUMC taught by Pastor Melissa. It is geared toward anyone who is in the 6th-12th grades. The bulk of the confirmation material will be covered in an in-house weekend retreat that will be held on **April 25 & 26**. We will celebrate Confirmation Sunday on April 27 which will involve baptizing and taking into membership those who are confirmed.

We are encouraging **all youth** to participate in this Confirmation weekend. If you have already been confirmed, this will be a great "refresher" course for your faith. If you have not been confirmed, this will be an essential component in your faith journey.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Melissa in the church office. I ask that the congregation begin praying now for this Confirmation class and all who will be involved. (Melissa)



Spotlight on the Staff

Jane Jeffreys has been the church secretary since February of 2011.

Jane is much more than a secretary. She believes in a place for everything and everything in its place. She is still busy cleaning out and organizing all the closets and rooms in the church. If you want to know where something is, just as Jane.

She also has a sweet spirit and a very compassionate heart. When helping those in need, whether it is food from our pantry or help with power bills from our local missions fund, she always offers up kind words of advice and encouragement.

Jane cares for all the members. She keeps the pastor informed about those who are sick or in need. She sends cards to those who are in the hospital or are having a "special" birthday from the office staff. When a church member calls the church, he or she is greeted with a voice that is obviously smiling. Members are always glad they have talked with Jane.

In addition to being the church secretary, Jane is a very active church member. She teaches an adult Sunday school class she calls the "misfits." She serves on the Something for Everyone planning team and the Family Ministry team. She is also available to help with the Youth and Children when she is needed. She is actively involved with the Church Council serving as Membership Secretary which is a very important position. She is also active in the United Methodist Women's group.

Jane is married to Vaughn. She has three children, Chris and Brent Harbin and Beth Bulow and one step-daughter, Amber Jeffreys. She has two grandchildren, Beau and Mena Harbin.

Jane enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, traveling with friends and working in her yard.

When you see Jane, tell her how much you appreciate her going the extra mile for our church.



Our Newest Member

Janice Pratt united with our church on February 23rd after attending for several months.

She is very active in the Friendship Sunday School class and the Something for Everyone group. She enjoys the church fellowship and after church meals.

Please make Janice feel welcome to our church when you see her.

Remember Your Sheep

April—and the excitement of springtime. God never ceases to amaze us during this time of year as we see beautiful daffodils along with other bulbs and trees showing off their best—all so special after a very cold winter.

They are a glorious reminder of spring and that God is again speaking to us through His beauty, renewing His promises of steadfast love and perfection. Spring also calls our attention to the triumphal resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Easter surely is much more than a beautiful event. It's a promise of life and glory.

Shepherds, pray for your sheep and enjoy this meaningful time of year by giving thanks. (Eva Oakes)

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: | Selected Sundays —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 and Meetings:

- April 1**— Something for Everyone trip, 9:30 AM
- April 6**— Men’s Breakfast—8:30 AM
Dinner after Church, pulled chicken & pork
Lenten Bible Study, 5:00 PM
- April 12**—United Methodist Women, 12 noon
- April 13**—Easter Egg Hunt, 3:00 PM, Parsonage
- April 14-18**—Holy Week Services, 12 noon, See page 1
- April 17**—Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 PM
- April 18**—Good Friday Service, 7:00 PM, Trinity UMC
- April 20**—Easter Sunday, Lenten Offering
- April 25-26**—Confirmation Class
- April 27**—Confirmation Sunday
- April 30**—Churchwide Birthday Party, 6:00 PM

Altar Flower Schedule

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| April 6 | Becky Jaquish |
| April 13 | David & Kathy Cawlfild |
| April 20 | Susan Scott & Elaine Davidson |
| April 27 | Gretchen Kittle |
| April 30 | Tim and Lisa Sharp |



The **Family Life Committee** is sponsoring a church wide birthday party for Body and Soul on Wednesday, April 30, at 6:00 in Wattenbarger Hall. The menu will include a make-it-yourself sub sandwich bar, chips, drinks, birthday cake and ice cream. There will no charge for this event. Volunteers are needed to decorate the tables. There is a sign-up sheet in the side vestibule so you can choose the table you would like to decorate. Don’t miss this fun event at our church!

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 | 163 |
| (YTD) 2013 (Average) | 56 | 160 |
| (MTD) Average for February 2014 | 52 | 168 |

Our Gifts

| | |
|---|-----------|
| YTD (February 2013) | 30,381.15 |
| YTD (February 2014) | 33,156.03 |
| February 2014 | 17,217.03 |
| Sunday School Outreach | 80.76 |
| Youth | 40.00 |
| VBS | 90.00 |
| Future Fund | 65.00 |
| Structural Repair Fund (includes fundraisers) | 1,410.00 |
| Bus Fund | 185.00 |

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 | Becky Jaquish |
| Chris Beaton | Chase Littleton |
| Darren Beckett | Diane MacElman |
| Vicki Derrick | Mike Ray |
| Rev. Joe Black | Jason Richards |
| Joseph Carpenter | Amy Rikard |
| Kathy Cawlfild | Myrtle Lee Roberts |
| John & Pam Cooley | Mildred Smith |
| Jim Crittendon | Marie Sparkman |
| Ken Davidson | Mike Stewart |
| Robert Davidson | Roy Thomas |
| Nell Gambill | Rev. Bruce Vincent |
| Mike Jackson | Millard & Mildred Vincent |

Camp Lookout —Brochures are now available in the side vestibule for the Summer Camping Program. The church offers scholarships for our children here at Allen. Call the church office at 745-1560 if you have any questions.

Relay for Life—This year Relay for Life will be on May 17th in downtown Athens. The Allen Team is already busy working on ideas to raise money for this very worthy cause. The chocolate Easter eggs will be available soon. You may want to purchase a luminary to remember or honor your loved one.

Our Service

The church continues to collect hot and cold cereal for the children in Sneedville. If you haven’t done so already, this is a great opportunity to serve others. You can place your donations in the baskets provided in each entryway.

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 April:

- 6—DAC—Pulled chicken and pork dinner.
- 13—Youth Seder Meal and Program
- 17—Casting Crowns—Knoxville, 7 PM
- 20—Easter Sunday—No Youth
- 27—Regular Meeting at 4:30 PM



Casting Crowns Concert

Our Youth group will be attending a Casting Crowns concert on Thursday, April 17th at 7 PM at Knoxville Civic Coliseum. The tickets are \$25.

Casting Crowns has consistently delivered songs that spur listeners to evaluate their relationships with God and with each other.

This is a great opportunity for our Youth. Contact Lela Lawson and watch the church bulletin for more information.



Super Sunday for Kids will meet on April 6 at 5:00 pm for supper, fun and activities.

The **Easter egg hunt** will be on **April 13th** at the parsonage starting at 3:00 PM.

Congratulations to **Carol Russell** who has been nominated for teacher of the year in the state of Tennessee for Pre-K through 4th grade. We are all proud of Carol and her accomplishments this year. Good luck Carol!

SAVE THE DATE!

June 1-6, 2014 — Vacation Bible School

The theme this year is **Weird Animals**. Please plan to join us on June 1st.

June 20-21—Youth Yard Sale

Donated items are now being accepted in the church storage building. Call the church office for more information.



Bible Question for April: Who were the first three people to visit the tomb on Easter Sunday?

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

Correct answer for March: Pharaoh
 Genesis 41:42: *“Than Pharaoh took his signet ring off his hand;and put a gold chain around his neck.”*

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.