

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.'"

Volume 15 Number 4

April 2015

Holy Week Services

The Noon Day Holy Week Services are as follows:

Monday, March 30, Keith Memorial UMC
(Dr. Carlos Peterson)

Tuesday, March 31, Mars Hill Presbyterian
(Rev. Jay Ferguson)

Wednesday, April 1, St. Mary's Catholic Church
(Rev. William McDonald)

Thursday, April 2, St. Paul Episcopal
(Father Randy Slice)

Friday, April 3, Trinity UMC
(Father Hendree Harrison)

Other Services as Follows:

Thursday, April 2, 7:00 pm, Maundy Thursday at Allen
Friday, April 3, 7:00 pm, Good Friday/Tenebrae Service
at Allen Memorial

Sunday, April 5, 7:00 am, Easter Sunrise Service
Downtown Market Amphitheater



Welcome Spring!

As God sends spring at winter's end, He also brings happiness to our hearts as we celebrate Easter—a joyous time for our voices to be heard in praise and alleluias to Christ, the risen Lord.

It surprised me recently when I heard on TV news that a fairly high percentage of people doubt or do not believe that Jesus arose from the grave. Rest assured the scriptures offer plenty of evidence that the resurrection really happened. Rev. 1:17B-18A from the Common English Bible is one of my favorites, *"I'm the first and last, and the living one. I was dead, but look! Now I'm alive forever and always."*

Let us rejoice in that great promise. Christians are filled with hope because Jesus triumphed over death. May we never take for granted the **Victory** we have because Jesus is risen.

Shepherds continue your prayers and sheep pray for your Shepherd.

"Our prayers and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well—while one ascends the other descends." (Mark Hopkins)

Peace and Blessings, Eva Oakes

Hands-On Mission Project 2015

Food Buckets for Liberia

Each bucket should contain the following:

1 bag sugar (4-5 lb.)

1 bag rice (2 lb.)

1 bag dried beans (2 lb.)

1 box powdered milk (9 oz. or less)

1 box oatmeal (18 oz. or less)

1 bottle cooking oil (48 oz. or less)

2 cans (total) meat: ham, spam or tuna

\$5 for shipping

Put your check made out to the church or \$5 cash in an envelope and put on top of the bucket. Buckets are available in the side vestibule and should be returned by Sunday, May 31.



The United Methodist Women will meet on Saturday, April 11, at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall. Marjorie Guffey will provide a light lunch and Sandy Yielding

will present the program. All the ladies of the church are invited to attend.



The **Lenten Offering** will be collected through Easter Sunday, April 5th. The offering this year will be used to help meet the needs of people in our community. Please give as God leads you.

Something for Everyone

Tuesday, April 7—Buttonwillow Civil War Dinner Theater in Whitwell—If you are signed up for this trip, please be at the church ready to leave by 9:45 AM.

Tuesday, August 4—Smith Family meal and show. **Please save the date.** More information soon.

Wednesday, November 4—Cumberland County Playhouse. We will see the play *Foreigner*. More information later. **Please mark your calendar.**



Volunteers Needed for April 11 at Knox Park

Our church has been asked to participate in a community work day at Knox Park. We will be painting and supplies will be provided. All ages and abilities are welcome. Look for the sign-up sheet at either entrance.

Pastor's Corner

I love Holy Week! There is something meaningful about being involved with various churches for worship and fellowship throughout the week. I love the seriousness of Maundy Thursday worship and the solemnity of Good Friday. And I get really excited about the Easter Sunday worship and the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection that fills our lives with hope. But I sometimes wonder if there is something that is missing.

As much as I am moved by remembering the passion and sacrificial love of Jesus, my heart aches for those in our community and our world that do not know that God loves them. You see, I wish that everyone in our community would be filled with the hope and love that is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ. But the fact remains that we have so many people living in our own community who do not know of God's love. They are missing out on the greatest story of love and compassion that has ever been told and I am grieved that they are missing out.

So as much as I will enjoy celebrating with the congregation of Allen Memorial on Easter Sunday, I will also be challenged to look for ways to invite people who have not stepped through the doors of our church. I have challenged myself and members of our congregation to look for ways to intentionally reach out to members of our surrounding community. Maybe that will happen through the monthly meal that we will begin hosting for our neighbors that live behind the church on April 14. Perhaps it will happen when we work alongside our community members in activities like painting at Knox Park on April 11. Or it could happen as it did for me this morning when I met an individual at the local hospital who happens to live right behind the church. There are so many possibilities of inviting people to experience the love of God and the care of a wonderful church like Allen Memorial -- we just have to be looking for them!

So come and worship with us on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Better yet, invite someone you know who does not have a local church to come with you. I look forward to seeing how God will continue to work among us and pray that people will come to know of the saving love and grace of God. Happy Holy Week!

Melissa

Holy Week Worship

The Maundy Thursday worship service, April 2 at 7:00, will be held in Wattenbarger Hall and will involve multimedia. We will be joining together to remember the Last Supper by receiving communion and singing familiar hymns. This is a relaxed service for all ages.

The Good Friday traditional Tenebrae service on April 3 at 7:00 will be a more reflective service involving Scripture, candles, and sacred hymns. The service will close in silence as we reflect on the death of Jesus.

Please make plans to join us for these special services.

Welcome New Church Members



The **Harbin Family** joined the church on March 8. Mari joined by profession of faith and Brent comes as a transfer from Woodward Avenue Church of God. Beau and Mena both received infant baptism.



Benjamin Lewis Guffey, the son of Sam and Karen Guffey, received infant baptism on March 1st. He has a big brother Grant and his proud grandparents are Paul and Linda Guffey.



Eli Brett Lawson, the son of Zac and Mandy Lawson, received infant baptism on March 15th. His proud grandparents are Harriell and Lela Lawson.



Bobby and Vickie Haile transferred their membership to Allen Memorial on March 15th. Bobby is a retired pharmacist and Vickie teaches gym and coaches the girl's basketball and softball teams at E.K. Baker.



Izzy Alexis Walden, the daughter of Evan and Kari Walden received infant baptism on Sunday, March 22. Her proud grandparents are Albert and Carlene Kuykendall.

We celebrate in welcoming these children and adults to the Allen Memorial church family. Please make every effort to show them your love and support during the coming weeks.

TWC Choirs Visit

It is the Tennessee Wesleyan College Fine Arts Department's privilege to visit the vibrant Allen Memorial UMC family on April 12 for the morning worship service. The TWC Concert Choir, TWC Chorale and VOX Humana will be presenting a short offering of songs dedicated to the glory of God and encouragement of the Allen Memorial UMC community. We are looking forward to serving during the morning worship service, and giving back to the community that so greatly supports our program.

(Dr. Marius Bahnean)

Weekly Recurring Events

Monday
6:30 PM Junior Girl Scouts

Wednesday
6:00 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
5:00: Selected Sundays —Super Sunday for Kids
4:00: 3rd Sunday—Rejoicing Spirits at Allen

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 for April:

Wednesday, April 1
12:00 Noon—St. Mary’s Catholic—Holy Week Service

Thursday, April 2
12:00 Noon—St. Paul’s Episcopal—Holy Week Service
7:00 PM—Maundy Thursday Service in W. Hall

Friday, April 3
12:00 Noon—Trinity UMC—Holy Week Service
7:00 PM—Good Friday Service in Sanctuary

Saturday, April 4
11:00 AM—Egg Hunt at Pastor Melissa’s home

Sunday, April 5
7:00 AM —Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, Market Park

Tuesday, April 7
SFE Trip to Whitwell, 9:45 AM

Saturday, April 11
10:00 AM—Work Day at Knox Park
12:00 Noon—United Methodist Women

Sunday, April 12
11:00 AM—TWC Choirs visit AMUMC

Sunday, April 19
12:05 PM—Dinner After Church, pulled pork and chicken—Donations accepted for Youth 2015 trip.



Welcome New Baby

Thomas and Leighann Pelham are proud to announce the birth of Iris Leigh. She was born February 26 weighing 6 lbs. 11 oz. and

was 20” long. The proud grandparents are Dick and Debbie Hashe. Our prayers of joy and gratitude are with this family as they celebrate this new blessing.

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

	SS	Worship
(YTD) 2015 (Average)	52	159
(YTD) 2014 (Average)	52	163
(MTD) Average for Feb. 2015	51	162

Our Gifts

YTD (Feb.2014)	33,156.03
YTD (Feb. 2015)	30,892.30
Feb. 2015	16,061.34
Sunday School Outreach	51.30
Youth Funds	1,680.00
Structural Repair Fund	795.00
Future Fund	150.00
Bus Fund	175.00
Children’s Fund	50.00

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

Polly Anderson	Diane MacElman
Ann & Reva Barton	Susie Malone
Chris Beaton	Alice Matthews
Sheron Bellman	Jim O’Daniel
Joseph Carpenter	Virginia O’Daniel
Kathy Cawlfild	Cleston Peel
John & Pam Cooley	Mike Ray
Jim Crittendon	Bettye Kaye Richeson
Ken Davidson	Myrtle Lee Roberts
Dee Gamble	Mildred Smith
Nell Gambill	Josh Sledge
Mike Jackson	Roy Thomas
Raymond & Linda Latham	Millard Vincent
Chase Littleton	

**Our Service—Flowers for April
Altar Flower Schedule**

April 5	-----Betty Collins
April 12	-----Becky Jaquish
April 19	-----Susan Scott & Elaine Davidson
April 26	-----Ralph & Elizabeth Coleman

Allen Memorial United Methodist Church
 800 Decatur Pike
 Athens, TN 37303
 Melissa Smith, Pastor
 423-745-1560
 Fax: 423-453-5530

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

allenmemorialumc@bellsouth.net
 allensec@bellsouth.net



Youth Ministries

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

Sunday, April 5th

No Youth Meeting

Sunday, April 12th

4:30 PM—Regular Youth Meeting

Sunday, April 19th

12:05 PM—Dinner After Church

4:30 PM—Regular Youth Meeting

Sunday, April 26

4:30—Youth

5:00—District Wide Youth Worship in W.H.



Children's Ministries


Super Sunday for Kids is for children ages 3—5th grade. The meetings are on selected Sundays from 4:30—6:00. If you have any questions concerning our Children's Ministries, please contact Kelly Bean.

Super Sunday for Kids Schedule for April

Saturday, April 4—Easter Egg Hunt at Miami Street Parsonage—11:00—12:30

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 for more information. (745-1560)



Save the Date!
May 31—June 5
Vacation Bible School

An exciting theme is planned for this year, **Everest**, conquering challenges with God's mighty power.

Plan to join us on May 31st for this exciting journey.



Youth Yard Sale—June 12 and 13
 Donated items are now being accepted in the church storage building. Call the church office for more information.

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.