

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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May 2014

Our Graduates

Rebecca Garren=McMinn County High School
Addison Haggart=McMinn County High School
Matt Hutchison=McMinn County High School
Andrew Huth=University of Tennessee
Sara Monteen=McMinn County High School
Brock Newman=McMinn County High School
Kanden Sharp=Central High School
Amy Windt=Lee University



Our graduates will be honored on Sunday, May 18th during the morning worship service.

After the worship service, the Family Life Committee along with the Youth will sponsor a special meal to honor our graduates.

Please mark your calendar and plan to support our graduates and our youth on this important day.

Church to Honor Women on Mother's Day



On Sunday, May 11, you can honor the special women in your life by having their names published in our special Mother's Day Bulletin.

Forms are available in each entryway or you can call the church office with your information.

All entries are due in the church office by Wednesday, May 7.

Donations will be directed to the conference **Annual Mission Offering Fund** to benefit "Education in South Sudan." Thank you for your support.

Something for Everyone



On Tuesday, May 6, the group will enjoy lunch at the Gondolier Restaurant in Maryville.

After lunch we will visit Benton's Country Hams. Here you will learn how the hams are slow cured using salt, brown sugar, and sodium nitrite and typically aged 9-10 months. You can also purchase a slice of that delicious ham to bring home with you.

We will leave the church at 10:30 AM and return around 4:00 PM. Please make your reservations with Charlotte or the church office by Sunday, May 4th.

Remember Our Service Personnel



As you celebrate **Memorial Day on May 26th**, remember those who died serving our country and those from our church family who are actively serving.

Major **J. Tyler Cooley** and his wife **Major Mary Catherine Leach**, U.S. Army Intelligence at Fort Meade in Maryland

Captain **Brandon Hashe**, U.S. Army at Fort Sill, Lawton, OK

Captain **Thomas Pelham**, U.S. Army Cavalry at Fort Benning, Columbus, GA

Lieutenant **Paul Herron**, U.S. Army, currently deployed to Afghanistan

Marshall Lee Hashe, Chief, U.S. Navy at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas

If we have missed someone, call the church office and we will honor that person next month.

Relay for Life

May 17th—2 PM—Midnight
Market Park in Downtown Athens



Please come out and support the Allen Team. When you donate to the ACS Relay for Life, you are supporting the global leader in cancer research funding.



The **Mission Health Kits for Zimbabwe** are due on **June 1**. You can pick up a bag in the side vestibule which has a list of items to be included in the kit.

Return your completed kit to the table in the side vestibule. Your help will make a difference in many lives. Thank you for supporting this project.

United Methodist Women



The ladies will meet on Saturday, May 10, at 12 noon for lunch and a program.

Charlotte Newman and Mattie Hutsell are the hostesses and will provide a light lunch for the group. Amy Windt will present the program.

All the ladies of the church are encouraged to attend.



Pastor's Corner

I'm writing this article on the Wednesday of Holy Week. This week is coming on the heels of a big weekend. We celebrated with over 45 people at the church Easter egg hunt on Sunday afternoon, and we enjoyed a holy time of worship at the Youth Seder Meal on Sunday night.

For most pastors, this is one of the busiest weeks of the year. There are noon-day services, worship services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and we are getting ready for the big worship celebration on Easter. Most times, I revel in the excitement and busyness of this week. Sometimes though, it leads me to want to take a nap.

I'm so excited to be able to celebrate Easter for the first time with this congregation of Allen Memorial UMC. You have received me with an outpouring of love and support and I am most grateful. I am indeed privileged to be able to continue as your pastor and I look forward to a great ministry with you. In looking at my calendar for the next few months, there are many exciting things that are coming up that I would like to draw your attention to:

Beginning on Easter, we will begin a four week sermon series called "I Can See Clearly Now." This series will look at different people who encountered Jesus after his resurrection and how their faith was strengthened by this experience.

On April 25-26, there will be a youth Confirmation retreat. This is open to all youth regardless of whether they have already been confirmed or not. We will celebrate these faith journeys on Confirmation Sunday, April 27. This will be a great celebration for the whole church!

Over the next couple of months, there are several special events for our church family including a time to celebrate our graduates, and we will be getting ready for Vacation Bible School in early June.

As you can see, we have a lot going on in the life of Allen Memorial, but it is all great stuff! I hope you will get involved in all aspects of the life of our church as we seek to love God and love others.

Melissa Smith



Spotlight on the Staff

Giolda Reese is the Church Pianist. Giolda has a very important role in the church. She is responsible for rehearsing with the Chancel Choir each week. She not only accompanies the choir but also various groups and soloists who perform from time to time. She also uses her talent for weddings and funerals as she is needed.

Music is very important in the life of our church. Just try to imagine what the service would be like without any kind of music. We listen to music to assist us in entering the presence of the Lord. Music often encourages us and makes us joyful and worshipful. Music sets the atmosphere for the message that will follow.

Giolda takes her position as church pianist very seriously. She is always looking for new ways to involve other members of our congregation who have musical abilities. Giolda also plays the flute and is willing to share in that way also. She loves what she does and it shows.

Giolda works for the Meigs County School System as a 3rd grade teacher. She loves teaching and uses her talents in the classroom as well as at church.

Giolda is married to Tom. They were blessed with three children, Laura (1983-1998), Leslie Gunderman and Christopher. She has one stepson, Bryan Reese, and two step-grandchildren, Hannah and Vince Reese. She has one grandchild, Dean Gunderman. When she is not working, she loves playing with Dean, visiting with friends and family and traveling with Tom.



Loving Kindness

Recently, I read a story of a teacher who asked her pupils to tell the meaning of "loving kindness." A little boy jumped up and said, "Well, if I was hungry and someone gave me a piece of bread that would be kindness; but if they put a little jelly on it, that would be "loving kindness."

Having just celebrated Easter, I treasure the thought that the Lamb (Jesus) who died to save us is the Shepherd who lives to care for us—the ultimate in "loving kindness."

Shepherds, keep praying for your sheep and remember your mothers on Mother's Day.

Blessings, Eva Oakes

Men's Breakfast: All the men of the church are invited to come for breakfast and devotions on Sunday, May 4th, at 8:30 AM in Wattenbarger Hall. All the men of the church are encouraged to attend.

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:

May 4—Men’s Breakfast—8:30 AM
VBS Kick-off—4:00 PM
Church Council Meeting—7:00 PM

May 6—SFE Trip to Maryville—10:30 AM

May 10—United Methodist Women, 12 noon

May 18—Graduation Sunday, Dinner after church to honor graduates

Altar Flower Schedule

May 4..... Brian & Kelly Bean
May 11 The Murphy Family
May 18..... Sally Garren
May 25..... Bob & Alice Shugart

Dinner After Church—May 18th



The Youth along with the Family Life Committee will sponsor a dinner after church on Sunday, May 18th to honor our graduates. The menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings.

There will be no charge for the meal, but donations will gladly be accepted to help fund the many activities the Youth are involved in.

VBS Kick-Off



Our VBS Kick-Off will be on May 4th here at the church from 5:00—6:30 PM. The children will enjoy crafts, food and games. All the children are encouraged to attend.

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) 2014 (Average)	52	160
(YTD) 2013 (Average)	54	174
(MTD) Average for March 2014	50	155

Our Gifts

YTD (March 2013)	51,438.69
YTD (March 2014)	55,638.03
March 2014	22,482.00
Sunday School Outreach	101.80
Youth	115.00
Men’s Club	50.00
Future Fund	90.00
Structural Repair Fund (includes fundraisers)	410.00
Bus Fund	290.00
Super Sunday for Kids	245.00
Holston Home	740.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	55.00
Children’s Time	25.00

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

Our Service

Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. James 1:11 (NRSV)

What are you doing to help others this month?



The Church Council will meet on Sunday, May 4, at 7:00 PM in Wattenbarger Hall. All council members are urged to attend.

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 May:

- 4—Regular meeting at 4:30 PM
- 11—No meeting — Mother’s Day
- 17—Saturday—Relay for Life
 Random Acts of Kindness Project
- 18—DAC—Day to honor seniors graduating
- 25—No meeting—Memorial Day



Youth Yard Sale

Yard Sale Planned

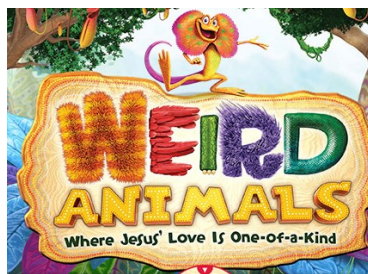
The Youth Yard Sale will be on **Friday, June 22, and Saturday, June 23.**

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



Super Sunday for Kids will not meet again until Fall.

Have a great summer!



Vacation Bible School

The theme this year is **Weird Animals**. 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.

This year VBS will be held on **June 1—6**. Kick-off for VBS will be on Sunday, **May 4**.

Sunday through Thursday classes will start at 5:30 PM and end at 8:30 PM. On Friday the children will present their program at 7:00 PM. Please save the date. You don’t want to miss seeing and hearing what the children have learned about **Weird Animals** in VBS!



Brochures are now available in the side vestibule for the **Summer Camping Program**.

The church offers scholarships to help pay for our children here at Allen to attend.

If you need more information, call Jane in the church office.

Bible Question for May: Rahab hid the spies under stalks of _____.

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

Mark 16:1: *“Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices.....”*

First Person(s) to correctly answer last month’s question: 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 Melissa Smith, Editors.