

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 6

June 2015

Congratulations to Our Students!

Sam Ingram graduated with honors and distinction from Central High School. He earned 24 hours in college credit. He was a member of the Beta Club and National English Honors Society. He played tennis for three years. He graduated with a 3.96 GPA. He is the son of Bruce and Fayelyn Ingram.

Katelyn Elizabeth Hutchison graduated from McMinn County High School with honors and as a Tennessee scholar. She plans to attend Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville on a soccer scholarship. She is the daughter of Darrin and Nancy Hutchison.

Austin Meadows graduated from McMinn County High School with honors and distinction. He is the son of Deborah Richards and the grandson of Jo Ann Littleton.

Dillon Carpenter graduated from McMinn County High School. He is the son of Tony Carpenter and the great-grandson of Mildred Carpenter.

Chris Reese graduated with honors from the University of Tennessee. He is the son of Tom and Gielda Reese.

Sarah-Beth Rymer graduated from Tennessee Wesleyan College. She is the daughter of Frank and Kim Rymer.

Patti Rae Bryant graduated from Cleveland State College.

Marius Bahnean received his Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from Louisianan State University.

Elizabeth Yielding was in the top 5% in national ranking for her age group on the ACT test. She is the daughter of Bryan and Carla Yielding and the granddaughter of Bill and Sandy Yielding.

Brooklyn Hurst received an academic honor award from McMinn County High School. She is the daughter of Lisa Mays.

Hannah Hall received an academic honor award from McMinn County High School. She is the daughter of Jamie Smith and the granddaughter of Albert and Carlene Kuykendall.

Nicholas Arsenault was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society at Athens Middle School. He is the son of Josh and Tonya Arsenault.



Our Pastor is Leaving!

The church family has mixed emotions about Melissa's imminent departure. We are very sad that she is leaving us, but we are happy to see her move forward and experience new opportunities bringing the love and mercy of God to more people. She has been a tremendous source of light and joy to our congregation.

Thank you, Melissa, for the friendship, love, comfort and support you have so graciously given to the Allen family. Your sermons have been an inspiration to all of us. You were sent to us "for such a time as this." (Esther 4:14b)

We wish you the best of luck as you move to your new church. May the light of Christ go with you in your journey!

"The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace."
(Numbers 6:24,25)

With Love and Best Wishes, *The Allen Family*



Church to Honor Men on Father's Day

On Sunday, June 21st, the church will publish a bulletin honoring men on Father's Day. If you would like to honor the special men in your life, please pick up a form in one of the entryways or call the church office by Wednesday, June 17th. Donations will be directed to the Youth Fund to help with their many projects.



Church to Honor Pastor

Please join us on Sunday, June 14th, following worship for a potluck luncheon honoring our pastor, Melissa Smith. Each family should bring **two or three favorite dishes to share for lunch**. We hope each of you will take advantage of this opportunity to wish Melissa Godspeed as she moves to her new appointment.



Pastor's Corner

It seems like spring is a time for change. There are the changes in the season -- the gray winter days begin to blossom into warmer, spring days. Most welcome the additional hours of sunlight each day and the changes that brings to our daily routine. Changes continue to happen when we celebrate graduations that signify milestone achievements, the winding down of the school year, and the anticipation of all that the summer has in store for each of us. Yes, spring seems to bring lots of changes!

Very often, I'm not a huge fan of change. I like things that are familiar and the idea of the same routine seems comfortable and "safe." But on my best days, I have come to learn that most of the time, change is neither good nor bad, it's just a new reality that we have to accept. Since there is a big change coming in my life as I move to a new church and a transition for the church as you receive a new pastor this summer, I've been spending a lot of time thinking about change and how to best handle the changes that are coming. Something that has helped me is to be reminded of some promises that God gives us in Scripture:

"For I know the plan I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." -- Jeremiah 29: 11

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." -- Romans 8: 35, 37-39

These verses have helped to remind me that the same God that breathed life into our being is the same God that will sustain us all of our days. We can be confident that absolutely nothing can separate us from God's love and that God's faithfulness will follow us all of our days. So in the midst of the changes going on in your life, may you embrace God's constant love and assurance for your life. And may the assurance of God's love and presence give you strength to handle any changes that life may bring.

Melissa

*Do not fear, for I am with you;
Do not be dismayed,
For I am your God. (Isaiah 41:10)*



Infant Baptism

David Andrew Davidson was baptized May 10, 2015. His proud grandparents are Bobby and Elaine Davidson. His great-grandmother is Nell Davidson Please surround this family with your love and prayers and nurture David Andrew as he grows and becomes active in the church family.



Let Us Pray

Dr. Jeremiah tells the story about the man who arrives at the gates of heaven and looks through the door seeing rows and rows of filing cabinets. He asked St. Peter, "Why all those filing cabinets?" St. Peter said, "Those are all full of good things God has for people on earth, and they never prayed asking for them."

Entering June, surely our church family has many prayer needs such as remembering those with health issues; our graduates seeking God's will for jobs, college and directions for their life; blessings for Pastor Melissa going to a new assignment and adventure; Allen Memorial UMC as we transition and adjust to a new leader; those with addition of new family members by birth and marriage. The list goes on and on.

Could we have many "good things" awaiting us for the asking? Remember—God loves us!

I'm sure our heavenly Father is always pleased to hear our prayers and thanks because 1 Peter 3:12a (NIV) tells us, "His ears are attentive to their prayers."

Let us pray.....

Peace & Love, *Eva Oakes*

Something for Everyone

On **August 4th**, the Something for Everyone group will travel to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, to enjoy a meal and show at the Smith Family Theatre. We will enjoy a plated dinner of chicken & dumplings', Grandma's meat-loaf, loaded potato corn chowder, mashed potatoes, vegetable medley, rolls, dessert and beverage. The total **cost for the meal and show is \$30.70 each**. The dinner will be at 4 PM and the show starts at 5 PM. The bus will leave the church at 1:30 PM and should return around 9:30 PM.

Reservations must be made with Charlotte or the church office **and paid for by July 12th**. The money is not refundable after that date.

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 June:

Monday—Friday, June 1-5

5:30 PM—VBS

Friday, June 5

7:00 PM—VBS Program

Sunday, June 7

8:30 AM—Men’s Club Breakfast in Wattenbarger Hall

Sunday-Wednesday, June 7-10

Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska

Sunday, June 14

12:05 PM—Covered Dish Luncheon honoring Melissa

Friday & Saturday, June 12, 13

8:00 AM—Youth Yard Sale

Saturday, June 20

12:00 Noon—UMW in Wattenbarger Hall

Annual Conference

The 2015 session of Holston Annual Conference will be held on Sunday, June 7th through Wednesday, June 10th, at beautiful Lake Junaluska.

Becky Jaquish and our pastor, Melissa Smith, will be representing our church.

Please pray for all pastors and delegates who will be attending the conference.

The **Men’s Club** will meet on Sunday, June 7, at 8:30 AM in Wattenbarger Hall for breakfast and devotions.

The **United Methodist Women** will meet on Saturday, June 20, at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall for a light lunch hosted by Janice Pratt. Becky Jaquish will present the program. All ladies 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) 2015 (Average)	54	166
(YTD) 2014 (Average)	52	152
(MTD) Average for April 2015	53	189

Our Gifts

YTD (April 2014)	71,369.69
YTD (April 2015)	66,836.60
April 2015	16,002.00
Sunday School Outreach	74.50
Youth Funds	70.00
Structural Repair Fund	225.00
Future Fund	100.00
Bus Fund	75.00
Lent Offering	480.00
Mission Shipping	20.00
Holston Home	50.00
Men’s Club	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	Chase Littleton
Ann & Reva Barton	Family of Susie Malone
Family of Chris Beaton	Alice Matthews
Joseph Carpenter	Doug Mayfield
Kathy Cawlfild	Jim O’Daniel
John & Pam Cooley	Virginia O’Daniel
Ken Davidson	Cleston Peel
Naomi Feezell	Billie Phillips
Dee Gamble	Mike Ray
Nell Gambill	Myrtle Lee Roberts
Maddie Harrison	Mildred Smith
Mike Jackson	Josh Sledge
Rachel Klusman	Roy Thomas
Raymond & Linda Latham	Millard Vincent

Our Service—Altar Flowers

June 7	-----	Letha Allen
June 14	-----	Becky Jaquish
June 21	-----	Horace and Naomi Feezell
June 28	-----	

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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 June

Friday, June 5th

Swim Night for VBS Workers

Sunday, June 7th

4:30 PM, Regular Youth Meeting

Monday, June 8th through Thursday, June 11th

Work Nights for Yard Sale (Check with Lela)

Friday & Saturday, June 12th and 13th

Youth Yard Sale—8 AM — 2 PM

Sunday, June 14th

4:30 PM, Youth Parent Meeting

Saturday, June 20th

Leave for Orlando Trip (Check with Lela for time of departure)



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.

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be from May 31st—June 5th. The theme this year is **Everest**, conquering challenges with God's mighty power. We encourage all children to come and bring a friend.

Camp Lookout brochures are now available in the side vestibule. Call the church office for more information.



**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.
 Please support our Youth!

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.