

# 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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August 2014



## Homecoming – A Time of Celebration

Homecoming is an exciting time. It's a time of fellowship with friends and family we may not have seen for quite a while.

The Allen church will celebrate Homecoming on **Sunday, August 10**. Everyone is welcome. Please invite your family and friends to attend with you for this very special day.

Our special Homecoming speaker will be **Rev. Jeff Wright** who served as our pastor from 2000-2011. He is currently serving as District Superintendent for the Big Stone Gap District in Virginia. The service will include special music including some of your old favorites.

Following the service we will enjoy a "covered dish" lunch in Wattenbarger Hall. Please mark your calendar now and plan to join us on August 10.



Being a member of the Allen Memorial prayer group has been a blessing for me in many ways. This has been a long-time ministry for our church. We have received requests by the hundreds over the years, and have seen prayers answered quickly.

Not long ago, I read a modest proposal concerning prayer: "If your church ever prays for anything besides health issues and travel, you are at an advanced level. Something like 87% of all audible church prayers are requested for one of the two categories. But, this being the case, shouldn't there be more prayers for safe travel to a hospital?" (From: A Laugh a Day, Hallmark)

There are many concerns this month—schools are starting, and as always, **remember your sheep**.

Always Blessings, Eva



## Children's Choir

The Children's Choir under the direction of Patti Rae Bryant will be rehearsing each Wednesday, starting August 20th, from 5:30 - 6:30 in the choir room. All children from age 4—5th grade are welcome. The children will be working on their Christmas musical.

Call Patti Rae at 744-3047 for more information.



## Camp Meeting Services in August

It's time for our annual Camp Meeting services. The "Old Fashioned Camp Meeting" has been a source of encouragement and inspiration for many people down through the years. In the early days, camp meeting was a moving, evangelistic event. John McGee, a Methodist minister, held the first known Tennessee camp meeting at Drake's Creek, Sumner County in August 1800.

We will continue our tradition here at Allen this August as we worship the "old fashioned" way with a lot of good preaching and singing. Every Sunday in August will include special music starting on August 3 when Danny Pilkey will be singing for us. On August 10<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Jeff Wright will be preaching and singing for the special Homecoming service that day. On August 17<sup>th</sup>, Victor Amos will be our guest. On August 24<sup>th</sup>, we will enjoy the talented Beth Green and on August 31<sup>st</sup> Kelsey Stewart will be here. Not only will we have special music each week but also we will enjoy singing the old gospel songs you know and love.

We hope you will plan now to join us in August for these very special services. Please invite your friends and neighbors to come with you.

## "UNDIE SUNDAY"

We have designated August 24th as McMinn United Methodist Ministries -"Undie Sunday" to collect new girls and boys underwear, socks, and toothpaste.

The socks and underwear are for K-8th graders and will be distributed through the Jubilee Project in Sneedville, TN which is one of the poorest areas in our state. You can bring your items beginning now through August 24th. Please leave all items in the side vestibule. See Becky Jaquish for more information



## Lord's Hour Offering

Our annual Lord's Hour Offering will be received on August 24th. This special offering will be directed to the Youth Fund to help fund their 2015 trip to Orlando, Florida. Please be generous with your offerings so that our youth can take advantage of this great opportunity.



### Pastor's Corner

It seems like there are a lot of things that are getting ready to happen at Allen Memorial UMC that you need to know about. Let me highlight a few of these:

- Over the next several weeks, I'm going to be sitting down with Sunday School groups within the church and ask some essential questions: "What brought you to AMUMC?" "What do you love about AMUMC?" "What would you like to see happen at AMUMC?" You will also have the opportunity to tell me what's important to you – Missions, Outreach, Family Ministries . . . I promise that this process will be painless and will provide me with some great feedback. If you are unable to attend one of the Sunday School meetings, we will also have two times that are available for anyone in the congregation to attend: **Sunday, August 17 @ 5:30pm** and **Wednesday, August 20 @ 5:30pm**. I would love to have as many of our church members as possible involved in this process because it will allow me to get to know you better and will help give me a broader picture of what the church is now and the direction we want to grow in.

- You may have heard that we are having a Homecoming service on August 10. Allen Memorial has not had this type of service in a number of years and we would love to have a packed sanctuary join us in this celebration. All of the former pastors have been invited to attend and former pastor Jeff Wright will be preaching on that day. After worship, we will continue the celebration with a "dinner on the grounds." There will be a lot of special things going on this day that you will not want to miss out on. Please make plans to join us and invite all of your Allen Memorial friends to come with you.

- One of the key ways that we can continue to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ is to be involved in small group Bible study. Not only are we strengthened in our own relationship with God but we are able to learn and grow alongside other people who desire the same. Beginning in late August, you will have the opportunity to participate in two small group Bible studies that will be offered.

1. "**Meet the Methodists**" will be offered on Sunday evenings. This is a great introduction to the Methodist church and will cover the history of the church, what we believe as United Methodists, and how our church is involved in mission and ministry to the world.

2. On Wednesday night, we will offer a **Bible Study for young women**. This is something that I have heard several women say they desire and something that we want to make available. This meeting time will coincide with the time that the children will be in choir so make plans to join us.

### Spotlight on the Staff Our Nursery Workers



Our church is fortunate to have **Elaine Davidson** and **Anita Thomas** in charge of our nursery. Both of these ladies have a natural love for children. The children know that Elaine and Anita are there to care for them and play with them each week. Elaine is there for both the Sunday school hour and the Worship service hour. Anita joins her after Sunday school is dismissed.

Both Elaine and Anita are trained to be aware of situations that might be unsafe for the children. It is always better to prevent a problem than just react after an accident happens. Both of our nursery workers have received Safe Sanctuaries training and are trained to administer CPR if the need should arise.

Elaine is married to Bobby. They have two children, Kris and Cortney, and one grandchild, David Andrew. She works at Starr Regional Hospital here in Athens as a Social Worker.

Anita is married to Roy. She has one daughter, Kandy Burnett, and two grandchildren, Alex and Katie. Anita owns a private daycare center in her home.

When new families come to our church, they are looking for a place where their young children will receive loving care. Excellent church nurseries are a security blanket for parents. We are proud of our nursery and the staff. Be sure to thank Elaine and Anita for taking such good care of our youngest members when you see them.



### Welcome Baby Ben

Josh and Tonya Arsenault welcomed Benjamin Joshua (Ben) to the world on Sunday, July 13, 2014. He weighed 7# 4 oz. and was 20" long. Ben will receive a lot of love and attention not only from his parents but also from his

brothers and sisters, Alanna, Kayla, Meg, Jake, Nick and Lyndy. Our prayers of joy and gratitude are with the Arsenault family as they celebrate this new blessing.



**MEN'S  
GROUP**

**Men's Breakfast:** All the men of the church are invited to come for breakfast and devotions on Sunday, August 3rd at 8:30 AM. This is a great opportunity for fellowship in the church.

**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:**

**August 3**—Smokies Ballgame, Leave after church  
9—UMW , 12 noon in WH  
10—Homecoming, Covered Dish Meal  
12—SFE, Playhouse, Leave church at 10:30 AM  
13—Body and Soul, 6:00 PM  
24—Undie Sunday  
31—Cleveland District Conference, 3:00 PM, Benton UMC

**Altar Flower Schedule**

**August 3** .....Betty and Lynn Collins  
**August 10** ..... Brian and Kelly Bean  
**August 17** ..... Tom and Kim Huth  
**August 24** ..... Bill and Sandy Yielding  
**August 31** ..... Sam and Karen Guffey



United Methodist Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

**United Methodist Women**

The ladies will meet on Saturday, **August 9** at 12 noon for lunch and a program. Becky

Jaquish will provide a light lunch. She will also present the program.

**Body & Soul**



Our next Body & Soul will be on Wednesday, August 13, hosted by the Super Sunday for Kids leaders. The menu will include spaghetti, bread, dessert and drinks.

A short program will follow highlighting the activities of our kids. Please make reservations by August 10 with Kelly Bean or the church office. The cost will be \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for kids.

**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	159
(YTD) 2013 (Average)	54	150
(MTD) Average for June 2014	55	154

**Our Gifts**

YTD (June 2013)	95,545.39
YTD (June 2014)	106,947.97
June 2014	19,002.42
Sunday School Outreach	74.05
Youth	50.00
VBS	117.50
Future Fund	90.00
Structural Repair Fund (includes fundraisers)	2,326.00
Bus Fund	181.00
Change for Children	219.63
Foundation Grant	5,000.00
Shipping	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	Mike Jackson
Ann Barton	Raymond & Linda Latham
Reva Bartpm	Chase Littleton
Chris Beaton	Diane MacElman
Sheron Bellman	Susie Malone
Larry Blackburn	Jim O’Daniel
Joseph Carpenter	Mike Ray
Kathy Cawlfild	Jason Richards
John & Pam Cooley	Myrtle Lee Roberts
Jim Crittendon	Mildred Smith
Ken Davidson	Mike Stewart
Dee Gamble	Roy Thomas
Nell Gambill	Curtis & Helen Trotter
Joyce Grubb	Millard & Mildred Vincent

**Our Service**



Our Youth delivered over 100 boxes of oatmeal and cereal to the Jubilee Project in Sneedville to be distributed to the residents who are in need in this area. Thanks for your support of this project!

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



### 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.

Watch the bulletin for news concerning the annual back-to-school kick off.

Regular meetings will resume in August.



### Our Youth Mission Trip To Sneedville

### Youth Mission Trip to Sneedville, TN – by Melissa Smith

The youth group traveled to Sneedville, TN to work alongside the United Methodist Mission, Jubilee Project. This is an incredible organization that is working to provide for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of this area that struggles with poverty and adequate resources. Each morning, the youth and adults were able to provide a VBS to children and youth who were in an isolated “holler” in Sneedville and we were able to share the good news of God’s love to people who were considered outcast and rejected by others. It was one of the greatest privileges that I’ve had to work with the handful of children and youth who came from this area because they had very little and yet opened themselves up to loving and receiving us.

In the afternoons, we were able to divide into several different crews who did a variety of jobs. Over the course of our time there, we were able to spend quality time with the residents of a local nursing home, do extensive repairs to the flooring in a house, organize the food & toiletries pantry at Jubilee Project, and stain a handicap ramp for a local family. We found that all of this work was rewarding in so many ways.

I cannot thank you enough for the congregation’s support of this mission trip. Many of you gave a financial gift, donated cases of water, and offered many prayers on our behalf and we are so grateful. I cannot say enough good things about the youth and adults of Allen Memorial. I was so privileged to work alongside them and cannot say enough about their commitment to love each other and love others in return. You guys are amazing!!!

### Children’s Ministries

**Super Sunday for Kids** will not meet during the summer months. Meetings will begin again in the fall. Watch the newsletter and the bulletin for plans for the fall.



**Bible Question for August:** How old was Moses when he died?

**Question for July:** Who sought David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats?

“Then **Saul** took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats.

First Person(s) to correctly answer last month’s question:

**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.