

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.'"
Isaiah 52:7 NRSV

Volume 13 Number 9

September 2013

Children's Choir

The Children's Choir under the direction of Patti Rae Bryant will be rehearsing each Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30 in the choir room. The children will be working on their Christmas musical which will be presented on December 8th at 7:00 PM.

All children from age 4 through 5th grade are welcome to come and be a part of the group.



Cleveland District Event

You are invited to come to an "ole timey" picnic at Athens Regional Park on Friday, September 20, from 11 AM—1 PM. The meat, drinks and paper products will be provided. You should bring a salad, veggie or dessert to share.

Just call the church office, 745-1560, by September 15 to make your reservation. There will be food, music and a devotional. This is an opportunity for fellowship with friends from throughout the Cleveland District.

We hope to see you at the park. Bring a dish and a friend. Don't forget to make your reservation!



Operation Christmas Child

The Youth are again sponsoring Operation Christian Child. To date, 100 million shoeboxes have been distributed worldwide.

You can help by donating empty shoeboxes and small gifts that will fit into the boxes. School supplies are always needed such as pencils, markers, etc. Small toys, games, books and hygiene products are also good to include.

More information about filling the boxes will be available soon. Just start collecting your small gifts as you see them in the stores. You can make an impact on the life of a child you will never see. Please be generous.



Something for Everyone

The Something for Everyone group will meet on September 10 at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall for a meal and a time of fellowship. The theme is "Good Ole Rocky Top." We will be celebrating all things U.T. The meal will be an indoor tail-gating party. If you have a U.T. hat or shirt, this would be a good time to show it off. Pastor Joe will play "Rocky Top" for us as we sing along. We will also have some U.T. trivia. **Please note that we are meeting the 2nd Tuesday and not the 1st Tuesday this month.** Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this fun time. Reservations should be made with Charlotte or the church office by Sunday, September 8.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

The Church Council decided that since we live in a technology-driven society, the Allen Memorial Messenger will be delivered for the most part electronically. Our shut-ins will continue to receive the newsletter in the mail. There will be a few copies available in the church entryways for those who do not have access to a computer. The newsletter can be viewed at allenmemorial-umc.org or you can choose to receive it at your email address. If you live out of town and do not have access to a computer, you can call the church office at 423/745-1560 to request that a printed copy be mailed to you. If you wish to receive your copy at your email address, please send a request to allennews@bellsouth.net.

This action will be helpful in many ways. It will save the church the expense involved in the production of the newsletter including paper, ink and postage, and it will help us be good stewards of our environment. Also, you will receive the newsletter sooner if you choose to read it online.

This will be the LAST regular newsletter that you receive. The new plan will be implemented starting with the October Messenger.



"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." (Jeremiah 33:3, NIV)

According to this our prayers invite and assure God's response. We should never feel our prayers are inappropriate or have poor words. The scripture contains many forms of prayers from the celebratory psalms to Jesus crying out on the cross at the end of his earthly life.

According to a Google search, there are 342 results on how to define prayer.

As Beth Moore said, "Even if you and I don't get our words right, if our hearts are right, God hears them." So let us not be bashful in offering prayers daily to our loving God giving praise and thanks too. Remember your sheep! (Eva Oakes)

Camp Lookout Benefit Golf Tournament

Saturday, October 12, 2013

Registration and Breakfast—7:00 AM

Cost to play in tournament—\$100

Contact Jared Wright, 423/368-2869 for more information.



A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

We are always having to deal with priorities. What is most important? What do we need to do first? What is next? What and who are most important in your life?

For many of us our church life and relationship with God has been first. We wanted to be at church. We didn't want to miss things. Other activities would just have to wait or be missed.

Such is not the case for many people any more. Church fits in if there is nothing else we want to do. God takes a backseat to all the other stuff we have to do. And I admit people are much busier than they used to be. There are a lot of activities we want to be a part of. That is our world. It is busy, busy, busy.

As we get busier our bodies need more rest. We need to be refreshed and renewed. That is why many people seek weekend trips, more days off, things to help us relax. But, many people ignore their spiritual needs. As we get busier we need more of God, not less. We need more spiritual influence in our life. Church attendance has dropped. Not just at our church; but in many (maybe most). Commitment to serving has lessened. People who are lonely get ignored more. It is harder for most churches to even schedule a meeting or activity because everybody involved already has something to do.

We need to occasionally slow down and look at our life and assess our own spiritual needs. It will affect our whole life. Make your church and your spiritual life a priority. Your church needs you and you need your church.

Seeing many people turn from God and to idols and other gods; Joshua said: "Choose the gods whom your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live. But my family and I will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15)

Who or what will you choose to be your god? God must be first in our life or not in our life at all. (Joe)



This month we have chosen **Michael and Patti Rae Bryant** as our Volunteers of the Month. Michael and Patti Rae have been members of the church for several years. They like to be involved with all the different age groups of the church.

Michael teaches the **Pairs and Spares Sunday School class**. This class is open to all ages and studies different topics from the Revelation of John to how to live as a Christian in today's world. Michael is very knowledgeable about the Scriptures and studies to make his class sessions informative and interesting. If you're not currently attending a Sunday school class, Michael would welcome you to his class.

Michael serves as **Vice Chairperson of the Church Council**. He conducts the Council meetings in the absence of the Chairperson. The Church Council plans a program of nurture, outreach and witness for the congregation. Michael is very supportive of the Council and promotes programs that are Christ centered and bible based.

Both **Michael and Patti Rae** work with **the Youth** group. They try to help with as many of their projects and trips as time permits. Patti Rae wears a number of Youth hats. She wears a **Chef hat** when they are traveling on mission trips or trips for spiritual enrichment. She knows 101 ways to use ground beef. She also helps with the Dinners after Church that the Youth have throughout the year. She wears a **Choir Director's hat** when the Youth are involved in various church services throughout the year. She wears a **Bus Driver's hat** when she is needed to drive the small bus on their trips. Both Michael and Patti Rae are available for the Youth as they are needed.

Patti Rae loves music and is a member of **the Chancel Choir and the Sanctuary Singers**. She is **Director** for the **Children's Choir**. Each year the Children's Choir presents a very special Christmas Musical. This would not be possible without the dedication of Patti Rae and the parents of the children who give many hours of their time to make this production possible. This is certainly one of the highlights of the Christmas season.

Patti Rae serves on the **Children's Ministry Team** and the **Youth Ministry Team**. She helps plan programs and activities for the children and youth of our church. She uses her many gifts to help with **Vacation Bible School** each year. VBS is a very important ministry and outreach sponsored by our church.

Michael and Patti Rae are the parents of Aaron, Andrew and Abby. Michael works for TVA and Patti Rae works for the Athens City School system. They are both very busy, spiritually-graced persons who enjoy building up the body of Christ.

Be sure to tell them how much you appreciate all they do for our church.

Be sure to tell them how much you appreciate all they do for our church.



Congratulations to Tim & Jamie Smith on the birth of their son, **Miles Holden Samuel Smith**. He was born August 7 weighing 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 19 1/2" long. He joins his big sister, Hannah Hall. The proud grandparents are Albert and Carlene Kuykendall and Nell Smith.

Youth in Mission Trip, Abby Bryant



On July 7, I along with 52 other people journeyed to the Church of the Nazarene in Far Rockaway, New York for the Youth in Mission Trip.

Our mission was to help people who had been impacted by the destruction of Hurricane Sandy.

We did a variety of jobs while there including distributing clothing, scraping off old paint and applying a fresh new coat, and shoveling up three layers of concrete mixed with "rat poop" on the 4th floor of a historic building downtown. The transformation was amazing. We celebrated by dancing on the floor to the electric slide.

On the last work day, we cleaned and organized a storage building which will be used to store food for area residents. We also helped with VBS at the church where we were staying. We really enjoyed listening to the stories of the children.

On the last day, we got to enjoy New York City by going to the 9-11 Memorial and touring NBC Studios.

It was an amazing experience serving God's people. I am thankful for my church family and for all your prayers and generous support toward my trip. (Abby Bryant)

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:

- Sept. 7** 10:00 AM—Pope Street Clean Up—WH
- Sept. 8** 12:05 PM—Harvest Festival Committee Meeting in Slagle Classroom
- Sept. 10** 12:00 PM—Something for Everyone—WH
- Sept. 15** 12:05 PM—Dinner After Church, Sponsored by Youth
- Sept. 22** 9:50 AM—Safe Sanctuaries Class in Chapel
4:30 PM—Safe Sanctuaries Class in Chapel
- Sept. 29** 9:50 AM—Safe Sanctuaries Class in Chapel
(If you plan to be involved with the children or youth in any capacity, you need to come to one of the above sessions. More opportunities will be available at a later time.)

Altar Flower Schedule

- September 1 Dee and Al Gamble
- September 8 Lou Jean Hutsell
- September 15 Gretchen Kittle
- September 22 Betty Grubb
- September 29 Wayne and Myra Owsley

United Methodist Women to Meet



The ladies will meet on Saturday, September 14 at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall for a salad luncheon and meeting. Janie Goines and Jane Jeffreys will be the hostesses and Charlotte Newman will have the program. Please bring a salad to share for lunch. All the women in the church are invited to come and be a part of the work of the United Methodist Women.



Men’s Breakfast: All the men of the church are invited to come for breakfast and devotions on Sunday, September 1st at 8:30 AM. This is a great opportunity for fellowship in the 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

	SS	Worship
(YTD) 2013 (Average)	54	148
(YTD) 2012 (Average)	66	167
(MTD) Average for July 2013	59	137

Our Gifts

YTD (July 2012)	118,830.65
YTD (July 2013)	114,574.09
July 2013	14,917.00
Sunday School Outreach	76.75
Youth Fund	580.00
Future Fund (includes fundraisers)	55.00
Structural Repair Fund	1,325.00
Bus Fund	25.00
Holston Home	25.00

Our Prayers

- Our Country, our Leaders and our Troops
Our Pastor, Rev. Joe Black
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	George Lunsford
Nancy Barton	Gary Mason
Kelly Bean	Brandon Myers
Chris Beaton	Cecily Myers
Darren Beckett	Jim Neil
Shealeigh Brewer	Lewis Raulston
Joseph Carpenter	Myrtle Lee Roberts
Kathy Cawfield	Russell Roberts
William Cawfield	Curtis Sayles
Kathy & Milford Clark	Sue Senn
John & Pam Cooley	Sandy Sledge
Robert Davidson	Charles Seargent
Bruce Delmas	Mildred Smith
Linda Dennis	Nell Smith
David Freeman	Marie Sparkman
Nell Gambill	Roy Thomas
Steve Garren	Jim & Verdine Thompson
Lacey & Caleb Hunter	Jim Toomey
Mike Jackson	Rev. Bruce Vincent
Erica Johnson	Millard & Mildred Vincent
R.C. Krise	Elizabeth Ward
Richard Kyker	Rev. Carl Ware
Cynthia Hudick Leigh	Rev. Ogle Wattenbarger
Chase Littleton	Joe Wilburn
Wendell & Dawn Lynn	Larry White
Ben & Jane Lynn	Rev. Jeff Wright,
Barry Lynn	Johnny Wright

Our Service

The Family Life Committee is sponsoring a clean-up of Pope Street on Saturday, September 7. Please come to Wattenbarger Hall at 10 AM for a brief devotion & orientation. All materials needed will be provided. Please plan to join us!

Allen Memorial United Methodist Church
800 Decatur Pike
Athens, TN 37303
Phone: (423) 745-1560
Fax: (423) 745-8320
allenmemorialumc@bellsouth.net
Rev. Joe Black, Pastor

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 21
Athens, TN 37303



Return Service Requested



Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Youth - Sunday 4:30 PM
Prayer Ministries - Wednesday 6:15 PM
Adult Choir Practice- Wednesday 7:00 PM



Our Youth

Any youth 6th—12th grade is invited to participate in our Youth Group. Our meetings begin on Sunday afternoons at 4:30.



Our Kids

Super Sunday for Kids is for children ages 3—5th grade. Our meetings are Sundays at 5:00. Check the bulletin for specific dates.

September 15—Supper will be served by Charlotte Newman at 5:00 followed by activities and games.

September 29—Supper will be served by Jane Jeffreys at 5:00 followed by activities and games.

September 1—No Youth Meeting

September 8—Youth-Parent Meeting—This is a very important meeting to update medical release forms for the coming year.

September 15—Dinner After Church following Worship—Regular Youth Meeting at 4:30

September 22—4:30—Safe Sanctuaries Workshop. This is open to all adults who plan to work with Children or Youth in any capacity during the next year.

September 29—Regular Youth Meeting



Bible Question for September: What is the 1st Commandment?

Correct answer for August: Kish

1 Samuel 9:3a: "Now the donkeys of Kish, Saul's father, were lost."

First Person(s) to correctly answer last month's question:
Mildred Vincent & 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 Joe Black, Editors.