

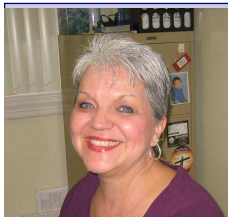
The Allen Memorial Messenger

"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 1

January 2013



New Sunday School Class to start on

January 13th at 10:00 AM –

Jane Jeffreys will teach a new Sunday School class for young adults in our church. This class will target couples and singles, with or without children, post-college age to around age 40. The class will meet upstairs in the classroom next door to the Pastor's office.

Would you like to make some new friends? Would you like to learn more about God? Would you like to explore the meaning of life through searching the scripture? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then this is the class for you.

Please tell your friends about this new opportunity in our church. No advance preparation is required. You just have to show up and bring a willing spirit to learn how to apply the scriptures to your daily life.

The group will choose a name for the class at the 1st class meeting. Opportunities for fellowship at times other than Sunday morning will also be discussed.

If you would like more information, just give Jane a call at the church office, 745-1560. Please mark your calendar so you won't miss the first class. See you on the 13th!!!



Body and Soul – 2013 – We will not have a Body and Soul meeting in January. However, we will have meetings in March, May, August, October and November. Body and Soul is for all age groups in the church family and is usually on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. It is a great time to fellowship and

get better acquainted with the people you only see on Sundays during Worship. We always have a great meal which nourishes the body and a short program which nourishes the soul. This is a great way to inexpensively feed your family. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children 10 and under. If you haven't been participating, why not resolve to do so in 2013. The meal starts at 6:00 and the program is usually over by 7:00. This gives plenty of time to get the youngsters in bed on time. We look forward to seeing you at Body and Soul in 2013.



**Take
down the
Tree**

It's time to take down the tree and decorations. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us on Sunday afternoon, **January 6, at 2:00**. We need several strong bodies to help us! Thank you.



Something for Everyone: Looking Ahead:

We have an exciting year planned for Something for Everyone. No activity is planned for January. **On February 5**, we will travel to **Cheddar's Restaurant** in Alcoa for lunch. You will have an opportunity to shop at Ross, Old Navy and Shoe Carnival after lunch. If you don't care to shop, the bus will be open. We need to know by **Sunday, February 3rd** if you plan to join us. You can call Charlotte, 745-1915, or the church office, 745-1560, to make your reservation. We will leave the church at 10:45 AM and return to Athens around 4:00 PM.

A few people have already expressed interest in the **Tour of the Volkswagen Plant** on May 7. Since we can only take 20 people, the tour will be open to the church family until Sunday, **April 14th**. After that date, if we don't have 20 people signed up, the tour will be open to church friends. Remember this trip does involve at least 30 minutes of walking. We will leave the church at 11:30 and return to Athens between 4:30 and 5:00. We will stop at the DQ on the way home. This trip does NOT include lunch. Even if you normally go on all the trips, you need to sign up for this one. Just contact Charlotte at 745-1915 or the church office at 745-1560 to reserve your spot.

CALLED OUT

Matthew 16:18 *"This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out."* (The Message)

The Cleveland District Ministers and Laity are **Called Out** for the District Training Event on Sunday afternoon, **January 13, 2-4 PM**. *Registration will be from 1:30-2:00 PM*. The event will be at **Walker Valley High School**, Exit 33 off of I-75. Six seminars and plenary worship will be offered. The Chairs of Staff-Parish and Finance should attend their seminars. Other Seminars are: The Church CALLED OUT to Be: Visionary, Creative, Hospitable and In Service. We hope several of you will plan to attend. Call the church office, 745-1560, for more information.

The ladies will meet on Saturday, **January 12 at 12 noon** at the **home of our hostess, Carolyn Delmas**, to plan for 2013. Please bring a salad to share for lunch.

The men will meet on **Sunday morning, January 6**, at 8:30 AM for breakfast and devotions.



We would like to express our appreciation to Yvonne Raper, Patti Rae Bryant, Dr. Nathan Windt, Gielda Reese and others who helped make our Advent services so special this year. It takes a lot of work to present these programs. Thanks for all your efforts!



A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

We are approaching the New Year. I'm not really into making resolutions. Mine, as most people's, don't last very long. It is hard to change. It is hard to remember what we promised and to always be able to do what we said we wanted to. Circumstances don't always allow us to keep some of the things we want to do. I ran across something that helped me to look at the new year differently. I want to share it with you here.

I AM THE NEW YEAR

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.

I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you learned about life during the last twelve months.

All that you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination.

The good that you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have – these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new."

May we all look for ways to serve our Lord in the New Year by being faithful in worship of God and in service to others.

In Christ's Love, Joe



The Chancel Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, January 2, 2013. If you like to sing what not resolve to join the choir in 2013? This is a great opportunity for service to your church. The choir will begin work soon on music for the Lenten/Easter season.



Divine Rhythm—2013 for young adults will be held in Gatlinburg at Mills Auditorium on February 1-3. Olu Brown will be the featured speaker. The church will help with expenses for the program fee and hotel accommodations. More information can be found at www.divinerhythm.com. Please see Jared Wright or contact the church office if you have questions.



Volunteer(s) of the Month: This month we have chosen a husband and wife, **Tim and Lisa Sharp**, as our volunteers of the Month.

Tim serves our church as chairman of the Church Council, chairman of the Trustees, and he is a member of the Grounds Committee.

The Church Council plans a program of nurture, outreach and witness for the church. The council is also the administrative agency of the Charge Conference. Tim does an excellent job presiding at the Church Council meetings. He is open to all suggestions and gives each member equal time to present the plans of his or her committee.

The Board of Trustees supervises and maintains all property of the church. The committee is entrusted to see to the proper keeping of God's house as a way to honor God and to facilitate the ministry of the church. This can be a time consuming job. Because Tim works many hours, he has had to delegate some of this work to others.

Tim is very active on the Grounds Committee. The purpose of the Grounds Committee is to maintain the church's grounds in order to present an inviting and welcoming place of worship and gathering. Tim is always willing to take his turn mowing the church yard, raking the leaves and generally keeping the grounds attractive for all who pass by our church.

Tim serves as an usher for morning worship on the Sundays he is able to attend. He is also very active in the Men's Group.

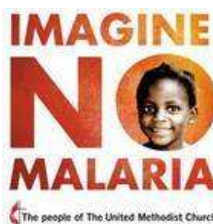
Lisa is Children's Ministry Coordinator. She also teaches the 1st and 2nd grade Sunday School class. Lisa's job as Children's Ministry Coordinator enables her to lead ministry projects and programs such as Vacation Bible School so that our children will grow in faith as Christian disciples. Lisa is very dedicated to this task. She starts early planning for VBS each year. She helps plan the Super Sunday for Kids and is always willing to help with the programs that involve our children and youth.

As a Sunday School teacher, Lisa is right at home. Since she teaches young children in her professional life, she is able to relate to their special needs. Sunday school is a vital link in the spiritual development of our children. Lisa takes the time to make her classes interesting so that the children will want to attend.

As you can see, Tim and Lisa are very busy people. Tim works as a supervisor at Denso and also owns his own business, Sharp's Mowing and Landscaping. Lisa teaches 1st grade at Englewood Elementary School. She also owns Miss Lisa's Dance Studio.

Tim and Lisa have one daughter, Kanden. Tim enjoys hunting—especially with Kanden. They all enjoy camping and Lisa and Kanden enjoy traveling to other parts of our great country.

Be sure to thank Tim and Lisa for volunteering their time to our church.



The Church Council voted to set a goal of saving **250** lives. For just \$10 you can save a life. This campaign runs until Annual Conference in June. Please be generous. Just mark your check "Imagine No Malaria." Thank you for your support of this project. To date we have saved **71** Lives.

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: 1st & 3rd Sunday—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/Meetings

2:00 PM—Sunday, Jan. 6—Take down Christmas tree

10:00 AM—Sunday, Jan. 13—New SS Class for Young Adults in Classroom next to Pastor’s office

12:00 Noon—Sunday, Jan. 13—Dinner After Church

2:00 PM—Sunday, Jan. 13—District Training Event at Walker Valley High School, Cleveland

January 18-20—Youth attend Resurrection

Altar Flower Schedule

January 6 Vaughn & Jane Jeffries
January 13 Tim & Lisa Sharp
January 20 Paul & Linda Guffey
January 27 Charles & Charlotte Newman



The Flower Chart is up on the bulletin board in the side vestibule. This is a great opportunity for service to your church. Be sure to reserve your Special Date! Call the church office if you have questions.

During our worship services, fresh flowers adorn the altar area in celebration or remembrance. The flowers are a wonderful way to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. You can order the flowers yourself or the church secretary will gladly order them for you. Give Jane a call at 745-1560 if you have questions.



We remember the following members of the church family who died in 2012:

Eva Ruth Lawson
Donald McElmann

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) 2012 (Average) | 62 | 161 |
| (YTD) 2011 (Average) | 62 | 166 |
| (MTD) Average for Nov. 2012 | 52 | 166 |

Our Gifts

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| YTD (November 2011) | 192,564.20 |
| YTD (November 2012) | 177,599.84 |
| November 2012 | 14,597.42 |
| Sunday School Outreach | 59.10 |
| UMCOR (Hurricane Sandy) | 50.00 |
| Imagine No Malaria | 305.00 |
| U.M. Student Day | 20.00 |
| Future Fund (includes fundraisers) | 266.00 |
| Chair Fund | 1,374.00 |
| Bus Fund | 35.00 |
| Men’s Group | 50.00 |

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!

Pray for the Names Listed Below:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Nancy Barton | Bridget Raper |
| Chris Beaton | Bonnie Richards |
| Warren Brewster | Mildred Smith |
| Linda Brown | Nell Smith |
| Joseph Carpenter | Mary Sparkman |
| Kathy & Milford Clark | Bill Stewart |
| John & Pam Cooley | Edward Tessier |
| Ingrid Cooley | Nathan Thomas |
| William Cross | Roy Thomas |
| Linda Dennis | Bruce Vincent |
| Al Gamble, Jr. | Mildred Vincent |
| Carol Hope | Justin Walden |
| Mike Jackson | Brenda Walker |
| Steve King | Jim & Mary Watkins |
| Anne Morgan | Ogle Wattenbarger |
| Jim Neil | Renay Wattenbarer |
| | Sandy Yielding |

Our Service

Our Youth wrapped and filled 65 Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! Their goal was 50 boxes. With your help, they were able to exceed their goal. Our Youth are now on Facebook. You can friend them if you want to keep up with their projects and activities.



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



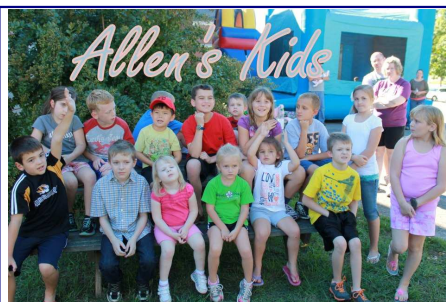
Sunday School 10:00 AM
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM
 Youth - Sunday 4:30 PM
 Prayer Ministries - Wednesday 6:15 PM
 Adult Choir Practice- Wednesday 7:00 PM



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

January 6th: Regular Meeting
January 13th: Dinner After Church
 Parent and Youth Meeting—All Youth
 going to Resurrection must attend.
January 18th—20th: Resurrection—Final payment due
 at this time
January 27th: Regular Meeting

Dinner After Church: Mark your calendar now for
 January 13th. The Youth will be serving soup and grilled
 cheese sandwiches after the Worship service. There is no
 charge for the meal; however, donations will be gladly
 accepted to help fund their upcoming projects. Thank
 you for your continued support of our Youth.



Our Kids
 Super Sunday for
 Kids is for children
 ages 3—5th grade.
 Our meetings are
 on the 1st & 3rd
 Sundays at
 5:00.

January 6th: 5:00—Becky Jaquish will provide supper.
January 20th: 5:00—Carlene & Yvonne will provide supper.

If you haven't provided a meal for Super Sunday for Kids, there
 is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the side vestibule.



**Bible Question for January: Who was the 1st
 person in the Bible called a teacher? He in-
 structed workers in brass & iron.**

Correct answer for December: Gabriel

....the angel Gabriel was sent by God...to a vir-
 gin ...whose name was Mary. "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is
 with you, blessed are you among women. (Luke 1:26-27)

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