

# 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

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May 2013



**Memorial Day** which is May 27th this year honors men and women who died serving in the U.S. military.

This month as we remember those who have served in the past, we would like to honor those men and women from our church family who are currently serving. If we have missed someone, call the church office and we will honor that person next month.

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

Captain **Brandon Hashe**, U. S. Army at Fort Bragg in North Carolina

1st Lieutenant **Thomas Pelham**, U. S. Army Calvary at Fort Wainwright in Alaska

**Marshall Lee Hashe**, CE1, U. S. Navy, Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas. Lee is an electrician/construction instructor.

**Adam Randle**, 1st Class Petty Officer, U. S. Navy, Naval Submarine Base New London at Groton, Connecticut

**Alex Randle**, Chief, U. S. Navy, Bremerton Naval Base, Washington



## Our Graduates

**Abby Bryant** = McMinn County H.S.  
**Joseph Carpenter** = McMinn County H.S.  
**Kane Penley** = McMinn County H.S.  
**Drew Mays** = McMinn County H.S.

**Amber Jeffreys** = East Tennessee Cosmetology School

We will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, **May 19th** during the morning worship service and after the service with a special meal sponsored by our Youth and Family Life Committee. 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 12, the church will publish a bulletin honoring women on Mother's Day. If you would like to honor the special women in your life, please pick up a form in one of the entryways or call the church office with your information. All entries are due in the church office by Wednesday, May 8. Donations will be directed to our Youth Fund to help fund their many projects and mission trips. We have a very active Youth group. Please be generous with your support!



**The Mission Health Kits for Liberia** are due on June 2. 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.



## Vacation Bible School

**June 2—7, 2013**

The theme for VBS this year is Kingdom Rock, an epic adventure that empowers kids to stand strong. At Kingdom Rock VBS God's victorious power isn't a fairy tale.

It changes kids forever. The kids will meet true biblical loyalty such as King David and others. Please make plans now so that your children will not miss out on this great adventure! Watch the church bulletin for more information.



## Something for Everyone

The following people are signed up to tour the Volkswagen Plant on May 7: Charles & Charlotte Newman, Susan Jackson, Wayne Scott, Jody Boggess, Becky Jaquish, J. R. Griggs, Albert & Carlene Kuykendall, James & Joyce Grubb, Jim O'Daniel, Herb Dake, Kim Huth, Cleston & Jan Peel, Betty Davidson, David & Vicki Derrick & Matt Dannell. Please be at the church ready to leave by 12:15 PM.

**Spring Trip to Georgia May 28-29**—If you are signed up for this trip, please be at the church ready to leave by 8:00 AM.

**Looking Ahead:** Brochures are available in the side vestibule for the Fall Trip on October 6-10 to Virginia, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Reservations & payment for the Sight & Sound Theatre must be made for this trip by June 2.



## United Methodist Women to Meet

The ladies will meet on Saturday, May 11, at 12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall for a salad luncheon and meeting. Susan Jackson will be the hostess and Sandy Yielding 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, May 5, at 8:30 AM. This is a great opportunity for fellowship in the church.



**Relay for Life—May 10—6:00 PM—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.



### A Note from the Pastor

Years ago I learned a silly little poem. It is very short.. It says:

*Spring has sprung. The grass is risen. I wonder where the flowers is.*

Well, the flowers are all around. The Bradford Pears have already bloomed and lost the blooms. The parsonage yard has tulips in bloom (some of my favorite flowers). But, I confess I had nothing to do with the tulips. They were already there when I moved in. But I get to enjoy them.

Along with the flowers and blooms, Spring also brings rain and harsh storms. I confess I do not like storms. As a little boy I was terrified of storms. I can handle them now, but constant lightening and loud clashes of thunder still cause me to jump.

Spring also reminds us of new life. The earth has gone through its period sleep and has awakened. Grass is being cut. Gardens are being planted. Summer clothes are coming out. It just makes us feel good. People are saying, "Didn't you really enjoy yesterday? It was so nice."

We just went through Easter (and are still in the Easter season) as we consider that first Easter. With the Resurrection of Jesus came new life for all who believe. We are also reminded that every Sunday is an Easter celebration. Sin and death were defeated. New life is received. We are forgiven and called to live that new life in reflection of our risen Savior every day.

Yes, we will still encounter the storms of life. Sin will still be a temptation. But we are Easter people. We can rise above the temptation and be victorious because of the Holy Spirit who enables us to do what we cannot do on our own.

Let us live in the Springtime of life and not in the Winter of defeat. (Joe)

### Remember Your Sheep!

Have you ever given thought to the fact that one of the greatest privileges of prayer is the ability to be a part of what God is doing?

We can never underestimate the power of prayer because the scripture in 1st Peter (3:12 KJV) informs us His ears are open unto prayers.

So amazing experiences await us as we pray for people around us. **Remember your Sheep daily!** (Eva)



### Body & Soul—May 15—6:00 PM

Our next Body & Soul will be on Wednesday, May 15th at 6:00 PM in Wattenbarger Hall. The Men's Group will be serving a hearty "breakfast for supper" which is favorite of many of you. Pastor Joe will have a short devotion. Please turn in your reservations by Sunday, May 12th, so the men will know how much food to prepare. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Don't miss this time of fun and fellowship with your church family.



This month we have chosen **Charles Allen Bailey** as our **Volunteer of the Month**. On May 27th we will celebrate Memorial Day as we remember those who fought and died for our country. Charles Allen has been instrumental in our church being constantly reminded of those who have served and are currently serving in the armed forces of the United States of America.

The Veterans' Board that is permanently mounted in the front entryway of our church is there because of Charles Allen's leadership. He secured the services of Millard Vincent and Charles Newman who actually made the board and installed it in its current home. Charles Allen was responsible for securing and getting the pictures made to a uniform size for posting on the board. He keeps the board current by adding new pictures as needed and also marking the pictures properly upon death.

Charles Allen is a veteran himself and has always been an advocate for those who are serving or have served. He never fails to tell any person he sees wearing a service uniform how much he appreciates the sacrifice he or she is making to serve our country.

Charles Allen is also a good ambassador for our church when someone is seriously ill in the hospital. He makes visits and calls checking on the progress of the person's illness. He also continues to follow up after the person returns home. He works quietly behind the scene and never expects any recognition for what he does.

He has served the church in many significant ways down through the years. He is probably best known for his work with the Boy Scout troop sponsored by our church. He served as Scout Master for several years and many men in our church and community have fond memories of camping trips and other activities associated with the scouting program. Several boys became Eagle Scouts under his leadership.

More recently he has served on the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. This is a very important committee in the life of the church requiring dedication and many hours of service.

Charles Allen is married to Joyce. They have two children, Keith and Kent, and four grandchildren. Charles Allen enjoys traveling inside the U. S. while Joyce sometimes likes to venture to countries much further away. He enjoys sports and supports the local schools in this area by attending their sporting events as often as he can.

Be sure to tell Charles Allen how much you appreciate what he does to draw attention to our service personnel and all the others activities he does quietly that you may not know about. Be sure to check out the Veterans' Board this month as we honor and remember those who have served or are currently serving our country.

### New Structural Repair Fund

As many of you know, our church is facing a **major expense** for repairs to the structure of the building. There is a problem with the foundation where the Sunday School wing connects to the Sanctuary. Our trustees are considering the recommendations made by a structural engineer. Work on this project should begin sometime this year. **Please give to this new fund as God leads you. Thank you for your help.**

**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**

**Thursday**  
May 9—Grace & Mercy Fundraising Banquet, 6:00 PM at Woodward Avenue Church of God

**Wednesday**  
May 15—6:00– Body & Soul-Wattenbarger Hall

**Sunday**  
May 19—Graduation Dinner After Church

**Tuesday & Wednesday**  
May 28 & 29—SFE Trip to Georgia, Leave at 8:00 AM

**Altar Flower Schedule**

May 5 .....Jesse and Melba Sparkman  
May 12 ..... John and Lori Murphy  
May 19 .....Brian and Kelly Bean  
May 26 .....Bob and Alice Shugart

**Grace and Mercy Ministries 1st Annual Fund Raising Banquet—Woodward Avenue Church of God Thursday, May 9th—6:00 PM**

Over the past two years, Grace & Mercy Ministries has served over 8,000 meals—helping meet the physical, social and spiritual needs of those who attend..

To help fund this ministry, you are invited to attend a fund-raising banquet where you will see a video presentation and be entertained by Beth Burkey and Michael Rodgers. The cost is \$30/person. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to help those who in need. Call Tanya Murphy at 423-920-1367 for more information (email: murphytanyaj@gmail.com).



**Save the Date:** The Youth Yard Sale will be on Saturday, **June 15**. Donated items are now being accepted in the church storage building. Call the church office for more information.

**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**

	<u>SS</u>	<u>Worship</u>
(YTD) 2013 (Average)	54	174
(YTD) 2012 (Average)	69	173
(MTD) Average for March 2013	51	155

**Our Gifts**

YTD (March 2012)	53,994.13
YTD (March 2013)	51,438.69
March 2013	21,057.54
Sunday School Outreach	69.60
Imagine No Malaria	240.00
Youth Fund	221.84
Holston Home	623.00
Lent	907.98
One Great Hour of Sharing	30.00
Future Fund (includes fundraisers)	680.00
Bus Fund	50.00
Chair Fund	200.00
Food Pantry	200.00

**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!**

Nancy Barton	Lou Jean Hutsell
Chris Beaton	Mike Jackson
Shealeigh Brewer	Erica Johnson
Linda Brown	Jerry McLemore
Joseph Carpenter	Glenn Mason
Kathy Cawfield	Kathy Niswonger
Kathy & Milford Clark	Jim Neil
Grace Coleman	Russell Roberts
John & Pam Cooley	Charles Seargent
Ingrid Cooley	Mildred Smith
Linda Dennis	Nell Smith
David Freeman	Jewel & Marie Sparkman
Al Gamble, Jr.	Roy Thomas
Steve Garren	Jim & Verdine Thompson
David Clay Guffey	Jim Toomey
J.D. Harris	Rev. Bruce Vincent
Carol Hope	Mildred Vincent
Bryan Hunter	Rev. Carl Ware
Lacey Hunter	Ogle Wattenbarger

**Our Service**

Our own **Abby Bryant** who is a member of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries will be traveling to Rockaway, New York for the Youth in Mission Trip on July 6-13. The group will be working with Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief.

We are so proud of Abby for the example she sets for other young people in our area.

If you would like to support Abby, you can make a financial contribution to help cover her expenses. Make your check to Allen Memorial UMC and mark it for Abby Bryant.

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Rev. Joe Black, Pastor

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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.

Youth Dinner After Church on May 19th

Our Youth along with Family Life will be sponsoring a dinner after church on Sunday, May 19th, to honor our graduates. Check the church bulletin for the menu.


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

This is a great opportunity for fellowship with your church family. Please plan to join us!



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

The children have had a great year! They will be taking a break during the summer months. Watch the bulletin and the newsletter for the program details for next year.

**Bible Question for May: Jacob had 12 sons. What was his daughter's name?**  
**Correct answer for April:** Thomas  
*John 24b: Thomas said to them: "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."*  
First Person (s) to correctly answer last month's question: Elizabeth Coleman and Mildred Vincent

**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.