

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 13 Number 11

November 2013



The United Methodist Women's Cleveland District Annual Business Meeting and Officers' Training Day

will be held at Ooltewah United Methodist on Saturday, November 2. Registration begins at 9:30 AM and the meeting starts at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be provided by the ladies at Ooltewah for donations. Officer training will be held immediately after lunch. The UMW Reading Program books will be available for purchase before the meeting starts and during lunch.

All the ladies are invited to attend this important meeting.



Hanging of the Greens - Please join us on December 1 at 7:00 PM for our annual Hanging of the Greens program directed by Yvonne Raper. This is a very meaningful service based on the English tradition of decorating the home with wreaths, garlands and a Christmas tree. It readies the sanctuary (and church members) for the Christmas season.

Please don't miss this very meaningful program.



Harvest Festival - Invite your friends and family to come with you to our Harvest Festival on Sunday, November 3. There will be games for the children and lots of fun and food for everyone. The festival will start at **4:00 PM and end at 6:30 PM.**



United Methodist Women Sunday

Sunday, November 10th, has been designated as UMW Sunday. Our guest speaker will be Beth Green, wife of our District Superintendent, Rev. Joe Green.

Beth is an accomplished speaker and a gifted musician. She will be sharing her talents with us in word and song.

Please plan to be here to support Beth and the United Methodist Women.



Please join us for **Body and Soul on November 13** as we gather to give thanks and praise God for all the wonderful blessings of the year. Joyce Grubb and Becky Jaquish will serve us

a traditional Thanksgiving Meal with all the trimmings. The cost of the meal is \$3.00 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Please make reservations with the church office or one of the hostesses by Sunday, November 10th.

Something for Everyone

November—Tuesday, November 5th—If you are signed up for the trip on November 5th to Pigeon Forge, please be at the church ready to leave by 9:30 AM.

December—Tuesday, December 3rd—12 noon in Wattenbarger Hall. Please join us as we celebrate the birthday of Jesus. We will enjoy a Christmas meal of ham and all the trimmings. Our program will be a video clip from a Christmas party held in 1987 at the home of David and Becky Brewster. Many of you are in it. Reservations should be made with Charlotte or the church office by Sunday, December 1st.



This is the time of year we experience chilly temperatures, enjoy multicolored leaves, pumpkin pies and Thanksgiving day—all gifts of goodness and graciousness from our Heavenly Father.

Prayerfully, we will not wait until November 28th to show appreciation and praise for all these blessings because everyday we are to offer thanks and gratitude to our loving God.

To all Shepherds I echo Paul's words from the scripture to Philemon (1:4-7 NIV), "I give thanks as I remember you in my prayers, and your love has given me great joy and encouragement."

Thank you this Thanksgiving Season for all you are doing to support our church families and to increase the cause of Christ. **Continue to pray and give thanks.** God bless.

(Eva Oakes)



An Advent Journey

The **Chancel Choir** will begin preparing for its Christmas cantata, "An Advent Journey," which will musically follow the message of the Advent Wreath, as well as other themes of expectation and preparation for the season in which we celebrate the birth of Christ. The cantata will be offered during morning worship on **Sunday, December 22.** We would love for you to join us on this journey! No singing experience is necessary, and you can make a "short term" commitment to the choir *just* for the Christmas cantata! We'll begin rehearsing for the cantata on Wednesday, October 30, and we welcome all voice types. For more information, please email Nathan at nwindt@twcnet.edu. We hope to see you at choir rehearsal!



A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:

I really don't like missing church (thus my seldom vacations). I really didn't like being away and not preaching for a month. The folks from Allen Church were so gracious and loving to afford me that time for healing after a stroke. I would not have thought about that happening to me and it was so sudden - happened in an instant. People from the church responded immediately.

I am so grateful for the many visits at the hospital, at the parsonage, and at my house in Maryville. I received more cards than I could count from people telling me they wanted and needed me back. Preachers don't always get that consideration and love. I have felt the love from so many people. I even received a stack of pictures and notes from the children which really brightened my day. If the children care and love the pastor, to me that's the best thing ever.

I appreciate Yvonne (PPR Chair) who checked on me and made calls to make sure the pulpit was filled each week. I am grateful for those who came and preached.

I am glad to be back to share the good news of Jesus and help meet the needs of the congregation.

On Sunday, Oct. 13, the church was so gracious for Pastor Appreciation. I received gifts (far more than I deserved). I want to thank the congregation for your generosity and expressions of love. I pray that God will bless each of you and that He will strengthen and guide me to serve as your pastor. I'm far from perfect, but am trying to serve God faithfully by serving you.

May God grant to each of us enough grace to be faithful and loving and serving our Lord who gave His best - no! His all for us.

My prayer is that the fire of heaven fall on us that we will burn and shine brightly for our Lord in our community, places of work, school or wherever we are. (Joe)

McMinn Regional Humane Society



The Super Sunday for Kids group will be collecting donations for the Humane Society until the end of November. Items needed

are dog shampoo, laundry detergent, Dawn dishwashing detergent, dryer sheets, Clorox bleach, cat and dog food to assist families in need, blankets and paper towels. Place your donated items in the baskets provided in each entryway. Thanks for your help.

Lessons and Carols

The Tennessee Wesleyan Fine Arts Department will offer the Eleventh Annual Lessons and Carols service on Tuesday, December 3rd, at 7:00 pm, at First Baptist Church here in Athens. The service is a mixture of congregational carols and choral anthems, all centered around biblical readings that relate the birth of Christ, from the fall of Adam and Eve, to the visit of the Magi, and wondrous mystery that was Christ's birth. The concert is free, but a freewill love offering will be received to support the Chorale in its tour to Europe in May 2014. Be sure to arrive early, as the concert is one of their most popular! For more information, please contact Nathan at nwindt@twcnet.edu.

Volunteers of the Month

This month we have chosen two of our church members, **Curtis Trotter and J. R. Griggs**, as Volunteers of the Month. These gentlemen work hard behind the scenes to make sure that the church functions as efficiently as possible

Curtis Trotter is relatively new to the Allen Memorial Church Family. However, he and his



wife, Helen, are very supportive of the programs of the church and are always willing to do whatever they can to make our church "shine." Have you ever wondered where the offering envelopes and other useful materials in the pews come from? Curtis comes on an "as needed" basis and replenishes the pews with sharpened pencils, offering envelopes, prayer request cards, etc. This is a

"thankless" job. Most people never give a thought to these items unless they are missing.

Curtis and Helen attend all the special programs in the church and are very welcoming to new people who come our way. They always have a welcoming smile for everyone from the children to the adults.

They have one daughter, Diane Hicks, and one granddaughter, Tully Hicks. Curtis and Helen are retired and enjoy spending time with not only their daughter and her family but also with the church family as well. Be sure to tell Curtis when you see him how much you appreciate him keeping the pews neat and fully stocked.

J. R. Griggs is our Sunday School Superintendent. Sunday



school programs don't just happen. They take a lot of work and planning. He works closely with each Sunday school teacher to make sure that the proper literature is ordered each quarter and distributed to each classroom in a timely manner. He is also responsible for making sure that each class has a book for recording each member's attendance and offering envelopes. The

offering received from the Sunday school program is designated for outreach in the church and local community. Each year at Christmas, the money is used to help those in need. J. R. is also responsible for recording the Sunday school attendance each week.

Another job he takes seriously is making his presence known throughout the Sunday school halls each week. If a visitor comes in who may need assistance, he is available to welcome that person and direct him or her to the proper classroom. His presence is also there for security reasons—especially in the areas where our children's classes are located. We are proud to be a Safe Sanctuary church. The safety of all our members is very important.

J. R. always welcomes each person with a bright smile. He is a caring person who uses his gifts and talents to make our church a place where people feel good about themselves and where God can be glorified.

He has one daughter, Anna Fields, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild. J. R. is retired from TVA. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends. Be sure to tell J. R. how much you appreciate all he does for our 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:

Sunday
Nov. 3– 4:00-6:30-Harvest Festival, **Daylight Saving Time Ends**— Change your clocks on Saturday night.

Friday
Nov. 8– 7 AM-7 PM—Youth Lock-in

Saturday
Nov. 9-- 2:00-4:00-90th Birthday Party, Millard Vincent

Sunday
Nov. 10—12:05- Dinner after Church

Wednesday
Nov. 13—6:00-Body and Soul Thanksgiving Meal

Sunday
Nov. 24—Youth Laser Tag and Cici Pizza trip to Knoxville. Check will Lela for more information.

Flowers for 2014

The new Flower Chart is now up in the side vestibule. Please sign up for the dates you would like to provide flowers for our Worship services.

Flowers are an offering of praise and thanksgiving and are a fitting way of memorializing or honoring loved ones.

No type of artificial flower or plant is appropriate. Evergreens, potted plants and fresh flowers are all appropriate.

European Flair has been sold to Goins Creations which will charge \$30+tax for each arrangement. Heavenly Creations will provide flowers for \$35+tax for each arrangement. You are welcome to use potted plants or fresh flowers you prepare yourself. Complete guidelines are posted underneath the Flower Chart in the side vestibule.

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)	55	147
(YTD) 2012 (Average)	63	167
(MTD) Average for September 2013	59	133

Our Gifts

YTD (September 2012)	148,011.34
YTD (September 2013)	133,160.01
September 2013	18,505.00
Sunday School Outreach	128.78
Peace with Justice	45.00
Future Fund (includes fundraisers)	85.00
Structural Repair Fund	2,095.00
Bus Fund	150.00
Time with Children	25.00
Lord’s Hour Offering (designated for budget)	325.00

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	Jim McCutcheon
James Cameron Baker	Jim McQuain
Nancy Barton	Gary Mason
Kelly Bean	Jim Neil
Chris Beaton	Charlie Oakes
Darren Beckett	Neyland Pickel
Kenny Benton	Theda Poplin
Shealeigh Brewer	Mike Ray
Joseph Carpenter	Jason Richards
Kathy Cawlfild	Myrtle Lee Roberts
William Cawlfild	Russell Roberts
Kathy & Milford Clark	Curtis Sayles
John & Pam Cooley	Sandy Sledge
Jim Crittendon	Mildred Smith
Robert Davidson	Nell Smith
Nell Gambill	Marie Sparkman
Steve Garren	Phyllis Stieb
Tully Hicks	Roy Thomas
Lacey & Caleb Hunter	Jim & Verdine Thompson
Mike Jackson	Curtis Trotter
Erica Johnson	Rev. Bruce Vincent
R.C. Krise	Millard & Mildred Vincent
Family of Richard Kyker	Larry White
Cynthia Hudick Leigh	Rev. Jeff Wright
Chase Littleton	

Our Service

Altar Flower Schedule

November 3	Annette Ray
November 10	Yvonne Raper
November 17	S. L. & Sylvia Johnson
November 24	Karen & Sam Guffey

Allen Memorial United Methodist Church
 800 Decatur Pike
 Athens, TN 37303
 423-745-1560
 Fax: 423-745-8320
 Rev. Joe Black, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 AM
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM
 Youth 4:30 PM
 allenmemorialumc@bellsouth.net
 allensec@bellsouth.net
 allenmemorial-umc.com



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.

Sunday—November 3rd— 2:00 PM -Youth will help with Harvest Festival

Friday— November 8th—Youth Lock-in from 7 PM to 7 AM— The theme is Random Acts of Kindness. The youth will work on their program for Rejoicing Spirits, pack Operation Christmas Child boxes, and make candy for our shut-ins. There will also be a lot of fun activities.

Sunday— November 10th—Dinner after Church 4:30 PM—Regular Youth Meeting

Sunday—November 17th —4:00 PM—Rejoicing Spirits program—Youth should be at the church by 3:30 PM. Each youth should bring money for food.

Sunday—November 24th—Laser Tag and Cici’s Pizza trip to Knoxville. The cost is \$10/person. Check with Lela for more details.

Operation Christmas Child

The Youth are again sponsoring Operation Christmas Child. Please consider being a part of this great ministry which brings joy to children around the world.



You can fill a standard size shoe box with small gifts. A brochure is available in each entryway which gives instructions for filling the shoeboxes. Please plan to donate \$7 for each shoebox you prepare to help cover shipping & project expenses. **Boxes should be returned by Nov. 10th.**

With your help, this can be the best year EVER for Operation Christmas Child! We give God all the praise and glory!

Meetings for November are as follows:

November 10 at 5:00-Becky Jaquish-hostess and

November 24 at 5:00-If you can provide the meal, please call the church office.

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, *An Out-of-the Box Christmas*, which will be presented on **December 8th at 7:00 PM.**



When boxes show up at a dress rehearsal with all the wrong costumes, the kids have no other choice than to think out of the box.

All members of the Children’s Choir are encouraged to attend every rehearsal. See Patti Rae for more information.



Bible Question for November: What did the young man say he had to do first and then he could follow Jesus?

Question for October: What 2 things shall grow in Adam’s garden because he listened to Eve?

Correct answer for October: Genesis 3:18 *“Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth to you.”*

First Person(s) to correctly answer last month’s question: Elizabeth Coleman & 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.