

The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

APRIL 2020

James 4:13-15a Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business, and make a profit." You do not even know what will happen tomorrow! What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord is willing, we will live and do this or that."...

If you are anything like me, you have heard about a "certain disease" that's floating around until you are past the saturation point. Its in the news and on the lips of everyone you meet. So, this is not one of those messages. Instead, I want to focus on what we've learned through this part of the ordeal.

We love our church. That is so obvious. I have rarely seen a congregation love their church like this. But it is not for love of a denomination or a building that we care. It is for one another. I hear it in your voices, see it on Facebook. I read about it in the mail. You love one another and desire very strongly to come back to worship and do ministry together.

The time is coming but until then, we must be creative in how we "**do church**". The difference is "being the church" means how we love God and one another and how we express that love. "Doing church" is the mechanics of study, corporate worship, and administration. I have been looking at how to communicate the Gospel through technology. I'm not real happy with the results so far, but I believe it will get better

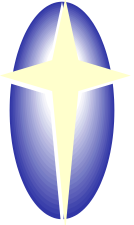
Have you noticed how this crisis has put other things into **perspective**? How important is General Conference now that it is indefinitely postponed? The Olympics? Vacation plans? Now we are focusing on being alive and not the mechanics of doing things.

When we do get back together, we must learn from this experience. What is important to the future of our church? Is it "how" we do things or is it "why" we do them? Is it doing or being? Can we afford to hold too tightly to sacred cows when our lives are so fragile, *like a vapor*?

Today, we are focused on **surviving**. When this is over and done, we need to hit the door running with our focus on **thriving**. Less about the mechanics and more about hearts on fire for the love of God and one another. Until then, be the church and know the love of God sustains you and gives you peace.

Pastor Scott





REMEMBER TO PRAY

For our Extended at home family members. For our Pastor, Our Church and Church Families. Pray for our Nation as we struggle with fighting this pandemic. Pray for our first responders, our doctors & medical professional that are on the front lines trying to preserve life. Pray for our Service Men, Women, and their families at this un-nerving time both at home and abroad. Pray for your neighbors who may be quarantined to their home.

JUST PRAY

BIRTHDAYS

March 16—Greg Prater	April 19— Boyce Evans
March 17—Pat Stonecipher	Byron Hale
March 19—Joyce Barnes	Harper Maxwell
March 23—Cal Kirkpatrick	April 20— Eli Kirkpatrick
March 28—Marie Hickson	April 21— Sarah Rhea
April 3—Adah Freels	April 22— Holly Meier
April 4—Brian Hitson	April 23— Jim Davis
April 5—Carol Long	April 24— Mike Harmening
April 11—Diane Stakes	Denise Davis
April 12—Leslie Stone	April 27— Linda Toman
April 13—Sarah Beth Pietrzak	
Romy Hitson	
April 14—Gwen Ferguson	
April 18—Georgia Pietrzak	
April 19—Boyce Evans	

S.O.S. CLINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear Church members:

Many students and their families in our surrounding community are in need of basic food and household items. If you are willing and able to donate any of the following items, please contact Mary Hatmaker (865-463-2253), Nancy Harper (865-457-1503), or Sarah Freels (865-385-4917). We can arrange a drop-off point or a pickup time for any items you are willing to donate.

Items in need:

Non-perishable food items: Boxed pastas, Mac & Cheese, Canned Soups, Spaghetti sauces, Cereals, etc.

Perishable items: Potatoes, fruits, juice boxes, breads, etc.

Refrigerated items: Milk, cheese, yogurt, sandwich meats, fresh meat, etc.

Household items: Toilet paper, paper towels, bleach & cleaning products, disinfectants, garbage bags-all sizes, dish and laundry detergent, hand soaps, sanitizer & feminine hygiene products.

Prayers for health and safety during this time.

Thank you.

Sarah Freels

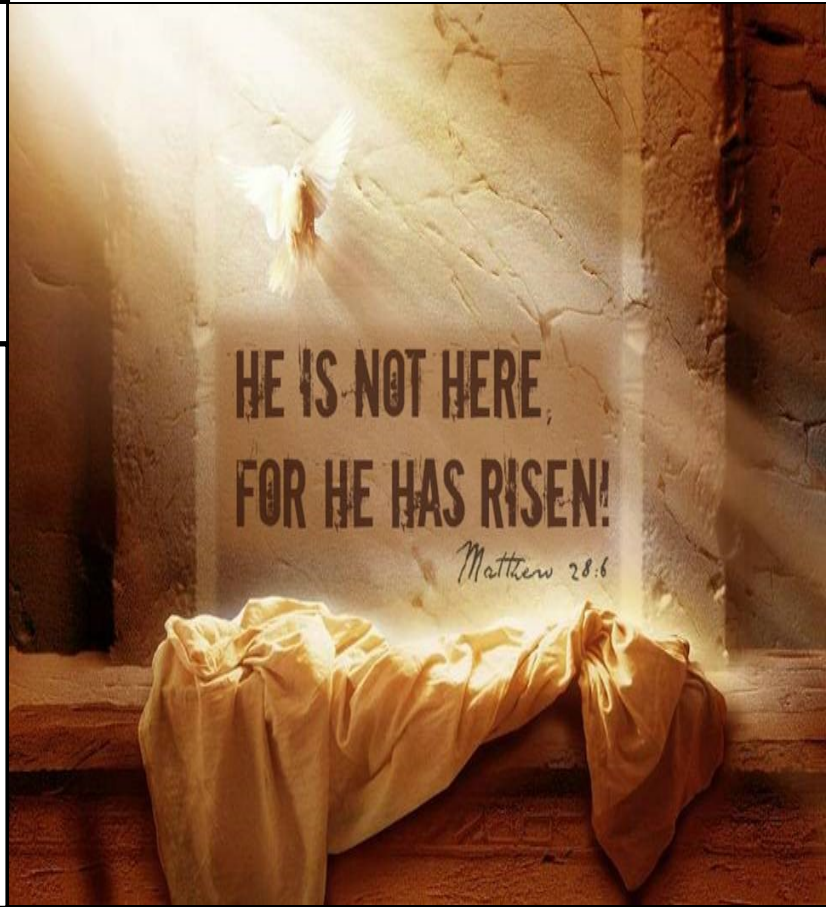
FLOWER DONORS APRIL/MAY 2020*

April 5 Nancy Large	May 3 Donna Irwin
April 12 Altar Guild	May 10 Wesley Bible Class
April 19 Robert McGinley	May 17 Hermon*Debbie
April 26 Jim/Denise Davis	Dickerson
	May 24 Margaret Eager
*if services return	May 31 Stoneciphers

APRIL 2020 CALENDAR*

Sunday April 5	Palm Sunday
Monday April 6	Prayerful Monday
Tuesday April 7	Prayerful Tuesday
Wednesday April 8	Prayerful Wednesday
Thursday April 9	Maundy Thursday
Friday April 10	Good Friday
Saturday April 11	Holy Saturday
Sunday April 12	EASTER SUNDAY

* Due to current conditions and the uncertainty in our everyday lives we cannot really schedule any services. We are working on something special for HOLY WEEK which can be viewed on-line. Keep a watch out for updates on the web page and we will do an email update once the schedule is available.



HANDS ON MISSION PROJECT

NOTE: Since it is hard to shop right now for anything but necessities, we understand the buckets not filling up. To help, you can send a check and mark it for "Mission Bucket" and we will arrange to do a bulk shopping spree to fill the buckets by their needed date. Approximate cost is \$35.00 per bucket. Thank you! Sutton

Our church District, the Tennessee Valley District, has been asked by The Holston Conference to participate in the "Ishe Anesu Project" that will aid under privileged children in Zimbabwe. The Ishe Anesu Project is similar to previous mission projects we've participated in such as the collection and shipment of school supplies; this time however we will be purchasing a list of nine basic foodstuffs to pack and ship in lidded buckets to the needy children. The buckets for the project have already been generously donated by Ace Hardware of Clinton. The lids and \$5 shipment fee per bucket are also being provided. We hope to meet a congregational goal of designated food items for at least 20 buckets. I did a quick cost survey of the requested food items at our local Food City and Ingle's groceries and found the average cost to be around \$33. Now, I know there are sharper shoppers with keener eyes for good deals sitting out there in the pews (Peggy Burton and Sarah Medley I see you!) so the \$33 is just a cost estimate. If anyone would prefer to participate in the mission project by donating money towards the cost of the items that will be gladly accepted also. Below is a list of the requested food items:

1 Bag Sugar (4-5 lbs.)	1 Bag self-rising flour (4-5 lbs.)	1 Bag rice (2 lbs.)
1 bag dried beans (2 lbs.)	1 Powdered Milk (10 oz. or less)	1 Canned Ham (2 lb. Total)
1 box quick/instant Oats (18 oz. or less)		
1-Bottle Cooking Oil (48 oz. or less)		
1 Box Splenda/Sucralose (50 count or less)		

We will begin to collect the items in April and we expect the Conference will pick the buckets up the first week of May. If you have any questions please call me. My number is 457-5358. Thanks in advance for your support.

Sutton Kay



MEMORIALS

In Honor or Memory of:

Jimmy Dodd Lawrence
 Jimmy Dodd Lawrence
 Jimmy Dodd Lawrence
 Carolyn Moxley Gillis

Given by:

Judy & Ty Foster
 Denise & Jim Davis
 V.L. & Pat Stonecipher
 Peggy W. Perry (Austin, TX)

Requested Fund:

Food Pantry
 Food Pantry
 Food Pantry
 General Memorials



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Scott Wilks
 Joshua Allen
 Carol Long
 Carol LuZader
 Beverly Johnson

Serving God's People

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 Music Director/Organist
 Youth Director
 Secretary
 Housekeeping/Custodian

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