

The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2021

From the Pastor's Pen

Here we are again on the cusp of another Lenten journey with Jesus. Lent is something many United Methodists hear about, but other than the change of colors and symbols, few understand the significance and opportunity Lent brings.

Lent is a season which begins on Ash Wednesday (February 17th) and includes the six Sundays leading up to Easter. Traditionally it is a period of self-denial as we walk with Jesus through His last days before the crucifixion. It is observed with "giving up" trivial things and using those resources which we would have spent on ministry. (It's not enough to give up Ice Cream for Lent, you have to give towards those less fortunate.)

It is a time of self-reflection on our daily walk with Christ as we spend more time in prayer, reading the Scriptures, and reflecting (as well as doing) on our own discipleship, allowing ourselves to be transformed by the disciplines. Oh, and that color purple is about contrition. What are we sorrowful for that we need to make right?

My current plans are to have an Ash Wednesday service time for individuals, families, and family groups as we did for World Communion Sunday. A short time of prayer with the imposition of ashes. (a symbol of our mortality and grief) Reservations would be required. You will also receive a devotional book and a small cross to carry with you.

Now is the time to prepare for this season of preparation. What sacrifice are you willing to make for the One who sacrificed so much for you? How will you offer Christ to others in need? Will you set aside time to remember Jesus' life and teaching? Now's the time to think about your own commitment to discipleship!

Blessings in Christ,

Scott



CHURCH MINISTRIES

February Report of Church Ministry:

Susan Overstreet headed a committee that sent a letter of to each hospital in the area, the Clinton Police Department, the Clinton Fire Department, EMT'S, and The Sheriff's Department including the Detention Center Staff thanking them for their protection of the public at personal risk during this time of the pandemic. In addition, the letter stated that Memorial United Church members are praying for their protection. The church is receiving responses. Thank you, Susan and Committee for a job well done.

The Food Pantry is now serving 99 families with Food Vouchers. In addition the Food Pantry donated a supply of food to the Senior Center at Mariner's Point. Bibles were made available to Food Pantry recipients. Twenty-five people asked for them and three people asked for the church to pray for them.

We have 20 participants in our Max Lucado's study Anxious for Nothing in the Zoom class at 9:30. The participants include members from the Sunday School classes and some from the community. We are impressed with Lucado's writings and his practical suggestions to help us with Anxiety, so appropriate for our times. Anyone can join the class at any time with meeting number 921-3554-1958 or click the link in Scott's weekly email.

Donna and Chuck Parke are heading up the church wide challenge of 21 in 2021. Thanks for your leadership.

Nancy Large



See page 5

Birthdays for February 2021

02/02 Karen Cary	02/09 Maggie Kirkpatrick	02/09 Zach Farrar	02/10 Emma Schrider
02/11 Margaret Eager	02/12 Charles Price	02/13 Ellie Murrell	02/13 Monica Austin Carroll
02/16 Ouida Steinkamp	02/17 Dewayne Hickson	02/20 Gail Gallaher	02/20 Jimmy Dorsey
02/20 Ken Barnes	02/22 Jan Kirkpatrick	02/23 Hollis Large	02/23 Susan Overstreet
02/24 Bebe Combs	02/24 Wilma Weinstein	02/25 Bobbie Sellers	02/25 Lydell Meier
02/26 Alice Connell			

Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday Memorial Members, Happy Birthday to you!



Finance News

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT: The 2020 budget giving was \$222,912. (2019 giving was \$235,947). The shortfall for 2020 was \$26,029.00. We also received a Payroll Protection Payment of \$22,700 through the Covid Relief bill. This is a loan which we hope to have completely forgiven. The monetary shortfall after this loan would then be \$3,329.00.

BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2021:

All areas except building maintenance and upkeep were reduced. Additionally, our pastor and the staff did not receive salary increases for 2021. The proposed budget is \$261,516, a decrease of \$4,918 over the 2020 budget.

GOOD NEWS: In addition to regular budget giving our congregation gave generously for Outreach, Evangelism, Missions, and the Food Pantry. Memorial UMC's generosity includes: Food buckets last spring - \$4,100; Gifts for the Senior Center -\$2,800; Christmas family - \$3,500; Food pantry - \$9,624. This is over \$20,000! Since this giving does not show up in the budget, we often overlook how much our church contributes to the community and beyond. These gifts are in addition to the Memorial giving.

YOUR CHURCH GIVING IN 2021: We ask that you maintain your level of giving as you are able in 2021. It is a tough year for you and for the church, but we can pull together and become stronger.

Your servant in Christ,

Bebe Combs, Finance Chair

(See Page 5 for more ideas on giving)



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 professionals that are on the front lines trying to preserve life. Pray for our Service Men, Women, and their families at both at home and abroad, Pray for your neighbors, Pray for our School teachers and all the staff required to keep schools and learning going.

JUST PRAY

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God." Philippians 4:6

THANK YOU

To the dedicated members serving our prayer chain. They love and care for everyone and show this in their devotion to be truly "Prayer Warriors". No crisis too big for them because God answers prayers. Keep up the good work; we all need YOU.



MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Servant Leaders 2021

Administrative Council

Nancy Harper *	
Lay Leader	Art Miller
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Tom Thrasher
Secretary/Treasurer	Carol Luzader
Finance Chair	Bebe Combs
Financial Secretary	Pat Stonecipher
Nominations	Pastor
Pastor Parish Relations	Bill Gallaher
Trustees	Nancy Thrasher
Ministries Coordinator	Nancy Large
Pastor	Scott Wilks

Stewardship

Bebe Combs*	
Tom Thrasher	Nancy Harper
Art Miller	Bill Gallaher
Pat Stonecipher	Michael Combs
Carol Luzader	Pastor
VL Stonecipher – Administrator of the Ida Gamble Scholarship	

Trustees

Nancy Thrasher *	
Charles Price	Bill Stone
Betty Sellers	Ken Overstreet
Joe Walker	Steve Combs

Staff ~Pastor~ Parish

Bill Gallaher *	
Kim Eby	VL Stonecipher
Gibby Seals	Scott Burton
Steve Combs	Amy Graham
Art Miller	Tom Thrasher

Nominations

Pastor *	
Art Miller	Nancy Large
Ouida Steinkamp	Mark Medley
Darcy Schrider	

Tech and Finance News

About AmazonSmile

Contributed by Michael Freels

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support. You can find us (Memorial United Methodist Church) when you select a charity on smile.amazon.com and searching for "Memorial United Methodist Church Clinton" – without the quotes of course.

PayPal Giving Fund

We can also receive donations via the PayPal Giving Fund either as a standalone donation or when you checkout online somewhere and use PayPal as your payment method. Either in the PayPal app or after you've logged into PayPal on your computer there is an option to select your favorite charity. Search for "Memorial United Methodist Church Clinton" and you should find the church. Once you select the church you will have the option to donate \$1 anytime you use PayPal as your online payment method.

For more information see <https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/hub>

Podcast

There is a podcast of the current week's scripture and sermon that I try to create and upload every week from the YouTube videos. You should be able to find the podcast on most popular podcast networks including Spotify, Google, and Apple podcasts. If you like to use your own podcast app or software below is the RSS feed link you can plug in yourself. Otherwise just search for us at "Memorial United Methodist Clinton" and let me know if you have problems finding it.

If you aren't familiar with podcasts or are unsure of them they are fantastic ways for you to keep informed and entertained while in the car or on the go. There are so many great podcasts out there as well as audiobooks so this is a great way I can keep up with the week's scripture and sermon and not have to fight for the TV with my children while I try to watch the entire week's service online.

<https://feed.podbean.com/mumclinton/feed.xml>



I hope that you are as excited as I am about our new 21 Acts of Love that is underway for 2021! What a wonderful way for all of us to live out Matthew 22:37-38. "The greatest commandment says we are to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And the second one is to love our neighbor as ourselves."

I have agreed to head up this project and have come up with a few ideas that I think will get us all involved. First, I have ordered light blue t-shirts that have the 21 Acts of Love logo on the front pocket and Memorial United Methodist Church on the back. Just call or email me with the size you need and I'll get one in the mail to you! All I ask is that you agree to participate in this wonderful program by going out into our community and sharing different acts of love, whether that's paying for a family's meal, mowing a lawn, visiting with someone who is lonely, or showing love to people in any way that the Spirit leads you.

Business cards are being printed up with our church's info on one side and our Scripture verse on the back. I will be happy to send some to you! These can be passed out as we share an act of love, helping them to know why we do what we do. When we give them one of these cards they are then introduced to our church and made to feel welcome to come and see for themselves.

A 21 Acts of Love brochure will be distributed at the Ash Wednesday service. There will be a tear off section that you can hang on your refrigerator with 21 blank spaces for you to fill in your acts of love. Please keep up with these and send them to me every week so that Scott can celebrate them anonymously from the pulpit. Hearing and celebrating each others' successes will keep us all inspired to continue to share this love that comes from Christ and that this world desperately needs to know. So let's get involved and show this community what a wonderful church MUMC is and spread God's love everywhere we go!

Donna Parke
423-284-5459
parked1002@yahoo.com

MEMORIALS FOR JANUARY 2021

In Memory of:	Given By:	Fund
Maude Riggs	Mark, Donna & Corey Medley	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Maude Riggs	V.L. & Pat Stonecipher	Sanctuary Remodel
Susan Hedden	V.L. & Pat Stonecipher	Sanctuary Remodel
Maude Riggs	Tom & Nancy Thrasher	Trustees Fund
Susan Hedden	Kim Eby	General Fund
Shirley Shipley	Kim Eby	General Fund
Maude Riggs	Jim & Denise Davis	Food Pantry
Susan Hedden	Deane & Sutton Kay	Sanctuary Remodel
Maude Riggs	Deane & Sutton Kay	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Otto Briscoe	Jim & Denise Davis	Food Pantry
Maude Riggs	Bill & Gail Gallaher	General Memorials
Susan Hedden	Bill & Gail Gallaher	General Memorials
Fred Fox	Peggy Burton & Family	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Susan Hedden	Jerry & Gwen Ferguson	General Memorials
Maude Riggs	Bill & Ouida Steinkamp	Children's Ministries
Susan Hedden	Richard & Melissa Snead	Music Fund
Otto & Marie Briscoe	William Briscoe	General Memorials
Maude Riggs	David & Vanessa Seivers	General Memorials
G.W. Boles	John Lomax	Food Pantry
In Honor of:	Given By:	Fund
Denise Davis, Pat Stonecipher & Gibby Seals	Deane & Sutton Kay	Food Pantry

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS:

Zoom Sunday school class every Sunday @ 9:30. New study on the book "Anxious for Nothing" by Max Lucado.

The link for Sunday school is on the Facebook page and in Scott's email for Sunday service.

Sunday Church service available on youtube.com, search for Memorial United Methodist Church or use the link in Scott's email every week or from our Facebook page.

Mere Christianity Zoom class on Wednesday evenings @ 7:00pm. Scott leads this and the link is in his email, or contact him for further information.

Church Council meeting on Tuesday February 2nd @7:00. Link will be emailed to members.

OFFICE HOURS FOR FEB: MONDAY & THURSDAY 10:00-2:00

Memorial United Methodist Church
 323 North Main Street
 Clinton, TN. 37716
 (865) 457-2287

Office Hours
 Email:
 Website:

By appointment only until further notice
 memorialumclinton@gmail.com
 www.mumclinton.org

Rev. Scott Wilks
 Joshua Allen
 Carol Long
 Carol Luzader
 Beverly Johnson

Serving God's People
 Pastor
 Music Director/Organist
 Youth Director
 Secretary/Treasurer
 Housekeeping/Custodian

parsonwilks@gmail.com
 churchemail87@gmail.com
 carolong586@gmail.com
 memorialumclinton@gmail.com
 memorialumclinton@gmail.com