

The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

APRIL 2021



THANKSGIVING...

Among the things I believe we should do around the great feast day of Easter is to list our thanksgivings. Or as one hymn says, count your many blessings, see what God has done. There are no small blessings in God's economy. If you subscribe to the notion that a sin is a sin, then blessings too have equal weight. But like sins, we often fail to acknowledge their roles in our formation and thank the Creator for His loving care.

There are many people in our church to be thankful for. Too many to make a definitive list without risking leaving someone out. It takes all of us to be the church. Some bless the church with their presence and others with presents. Some do big things that get publicly acknowledged while others do equally significant things quietly from hearts of generosity.

In the parable of the widow, the first attention is given to the Pharisee who insists on making a public spectacle out of their giving. They sound the shofar and pray in a voice that God (and everyone else for that matter) can hear. But the widow comes with two dirty coins, the kind that we hate to carry in our pockets because they weigh us down and have little value.

Jesus doesn't condemn the Pharisee. He only says that he has received his reward. But the widow is lifted up as an example to us all because she gave until it hurt. She asked no return on her kingdom investment (praise or recognition) she only knew that giving was right and carried its own reward.

I share this because we have a generous church. When a need is announced, something happens. A family in need gets care. Mulch around the church building gets done. Carpet in the sanctuary? It's coming. All because our focus is on putting up rewards in heaven rather than seeking the praise of humans. A need arises and things get done.

I am proud of our church. We have come a long way together. We have a long way ahead. Yet, with God's help and your loving generosity we will stay on the path that leads to God's righteousness.

Bless you Memorial UMC!

Pastor Scott

CHURCH MINISTRIES

So many of you are sharing your 21 Acts of Love with friends, family, neighbors, each other, and even total strangers! Bread, cakes, and cookies are being baked. Meals are being shared. Folks are visiting one another (safely). The church grounds are being spruced up. All in the name of Jesus!

I love that the youth and children are spreading love through acts of kindness at home and at school. One member who said, "All I can do is pray" is doing the most important thing. The persistent prayers of His people are being heard!

If you haven't had a chance to peruse the Christian book rack that's sitting right outside the sanctuary, please do. Take anything that looks interesting and enjoy. And if you have any books at home that you're willing to share with others, come place them on the rack. They'll do more good in a fellow disciple's hands than collecting dust on your bookshelf at home!

Remember to pass out the cards that you received in the mail as a way to invite others to come see what God is doing at MUMC. And our 21 Acts of Love t-shirts are a signal to others around town that good things are happening here.

Jesus instructs us in 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 ourself." We are putting that love on display here at Memorial United Methodist Church for others to see. He is being glorified here!

Your servant in Christ, Donna Parke



Ongoing for 2021

Birthdays for APRIL 2021

4/03 Adah Freels	4/04 Brian Hitson	4/05 Carol Long	4/11 Diane Stakes	4/12 Leslie Stone
4/13 Sara Beth Pietrzak	4/13 Romy Hitson	4/14 Gwen Ferguson	4/18 Georgia Pietrzak	4/19 Boyce Evans
4/19 Byron Hale* *	4/19 Harper Maxwell	4/20 Eli Kirkpatrick	4/21 Sarah Rhea	4/22 Holly Meier
4/23 Jim Davis	4/24 Mike Harmening	4/24 Denise Davis	4/27 Linda Toman	

* 96 Years YOUNG

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



Since we cannot Hug any of these Birthday people due to "you know what", let's continue our Birthday Card or call campaign, especially for those homebound or in assisted living facilities. All of the addresses are in the Church Directory or call the office if needed. Or check InstantChurchDirectory.com.

Trustee News

The Trustees have received \$100,000.00 from the Estate of Margaret Eager who passed away on March 8, 2021/ Of this amount, \$75,000.00 is being saved for a few BIG TICKET items that will have to be addressed in the near future, namely the 3 very large H/AC units on the roof, and to the side of the building, along with replacing the tiled roof on the education wing. The Trustees want everyone to understand why we are saving the majority of the endowment. The items mentioned are things that we currently do not have enough money set aside. They are so expensive that our small congregation could not raise the funds quickly enough if we wanted to use the Sanctuary, or any floor of the education wing. We want to emphasize that your giving should not change because of our large gift. The remaining \$25,000.00 will be used for several much needed projects to be decided on by the Trustees in the near future.

Betty Sellers and Kathleen Jones have been working on a plan for the landscaping of the building. Nancy Large suggested that our Lenten Offering, a monetary sum representing what we gave up for Lent, be directed for this purpose. Please put Lenten offering or Landscaping on the memo line of your check or on the offering envelope to make sure your gift goes for that purpose.

The Trustees have been raising money to replace the carpet in the Sanctuary. We currently have \$6,126.00 toward that goal. The replacement cost at this time are between \$7500.00 and \$9000.00, because we have to include the costs of moving the piano twice, replacing any wiring that gets damaged in the process and touch up painting that's required. We are also looking into replacing the storm windows for windows that have UV protection to help stop the fading damage the sun provides.

Lastly, a special "Shout Out" to Joe Harper for using his drone to video the gutters from above. He saved someone from getting up on a VERY tall ladder to check them and we appreciate it greatly!!!

If you have any questions, please get in touch with me or any of the other Trustees.

In his service,
Nancy Thrasher

Altar Guild News

The rush to make the Sanctuary perfect for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday is over. Phew. Now for the current needs.

- ◆ We need small and medium size flower vases for giving away flower arrangements. We have plenty of large size. If you would clean out your basement/garage and help with this need it would be appreciated.
- ◆ We have flower donor opportunities available for **Sunday May 2nd, Sunday May 16th and Sunday May 23rd**. If you would like any of these dates please contact Kathleen Jones or Libby Freels.
- ◆ There is a new "Flower Donor" calendar on the bulletin board outside the Sanctuary. If you're not sure what week you have, please check it.

Finance News

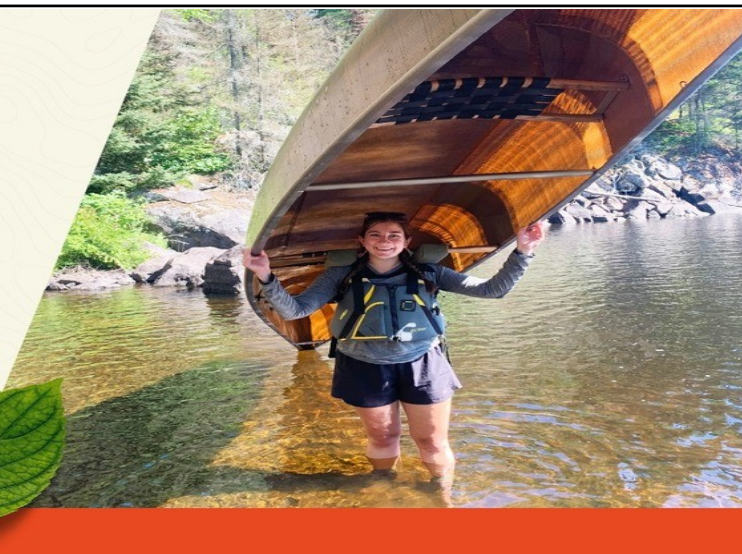
April 1, 2021

Thank you for your continued financial support to the church. Your support means we have continued to function soundly during these quarantine times. The following summary shows the amount of money we have received and spent in March 2021.

We received \$28,307.00 in March and spent \$18,454.00 for an overage of \$9,853.00. This has decreased our year-to-date deficit to \$1402.00. Although we have not met in person for most of 2020 and have just re-started in 2021, we have continued to pay all our financial commitments and all salaries. The utilities bills were paid on time, Salaries are paid on time. All service agreements are paid on time. Pastor Scott, Carol LuZader, Josh Allen, Beverly Johnson, and Carol Long have continued to work for us without fail and under difficult circumstances and have been paid on time. As we look forward to continuing our Sunday in person services we pray for and need your continued prayers, support, and tithes to continue to serve God and spread the word of Christ. We count on you to be part of us and you can count on us to be your *church family*.

Thank you, members and supporters of Memorial, for your faithfulness.

Bebe Combs, Finance Chair



Our Fund Raiser for Camp Wesley Woods (March Madness) raised \$440.00 for this summer's campers.

If you'd still like to donate, mark your checks or envelopes "Wesley Woods" .

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.

Special prayers for Becky Williams, recuperating at NHC Farragut.
And, for one of our Staff, Beverly Johnson, at home with Covid.





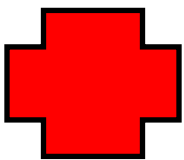
Idea for your Covid-19 Vaccination Card

In the upcoming months your vaccination card may be needed to board an airplane or other forms of transportation, to enter a Federal Buildings, etc., who knows how this will play out. Do NOT laminate your card, for if additional vaccines are needed that card may need to be updated. Safeguard your card by taking a photo of it from your smartphone and email it to yourself. Make a paper copy of it also, just in case.

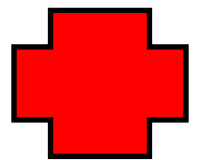
If you need help with getting your shot appointment don't forget we have the "Covid-Fixer" to help. Call the Office!



Used with Permission as found at <http://eddieeddings.blogspot.com/>



Food Pantry News



The Food Pantry is now serving over 110 families twice a month with Gift Certificates from Food City. The time has come that we can no longer afford to serve our participants with the gift certificates. So, we are going to re-stock the Food Pantry soon and start giving out food again without everyone coming into the Church. Bags will be packed for them and handed out. Here's where we need your help!!!

Next Tuesday at 1:30 we need to pickup a full pallet of food that is being donated to us by Food City. We need people to load it into a pickup truck and then unload here at the Church and move to the Food Pantry. If you can help, please let us know, as soon as possible.

Call Pat Stonecipher at 865-405-0824 or Denise Davis at 865-216-6314

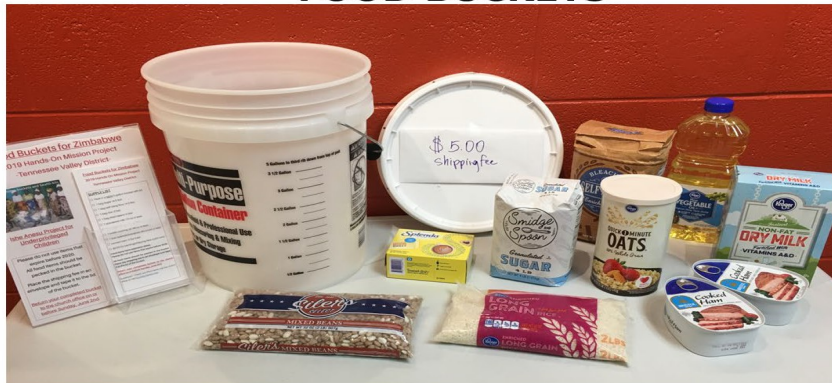
Thank you very much!!

Easter Sunday 2021



"He is Risen, indeed!"

2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Hands on Mission Project TENNESSEE VALLEY DISTRICT FOOD BUCKETS



Pack in a **NEW** 5-gallon bucket with lid.

- 1 bag sugar (4- 5 lb.)
- 1 bag self-rising flour (4 - 5 lbs.)
- 1 bag rice (2 lb.)
- 1 bag dried beans (2 lb.)
- 1 powdered milk (10 oz. or less)
- 1 box quick/instant oats (18 oz. or less)
- 1 bottle cooking oil (48 oz. or less)
- 1 box Splenda/sucralose (50 ct. or less)
- Canned Ham (2 lb. total)

Food Buckets for Zimbabwe.

Collection Date: Tuesday, June 1 at Second UMC, 1524 Western Ave, Knoxville 37921
9:00am-3:00pm

Cost per bucket for shipping \$5.00.

Please make 1 check payable to TN Valley District UMC for total amount of buckets delivered.

The Bucket Challenge
is back!

No, not the one pouring
water on someone.

Further instructions to
follow. Just know that
it's coming.

MEMORIALS FOR MARCH 2021

In Memory of:	Given By:	Fund
Sue McFarland	Peggy Burton	Ida Gamble Scholarship Fund
John Bryant	Peggy Burton	Ida Gamble Scholarship Fund
Margaret Eager	Deane & Sutton Kay	Sanctuary Remodel Fund
Margaret Eager	V.L. & Pat Stonecipher	Sanctuary Remodel Fund
Susan Hedden	Don Hedden	Landscaping, Food Pantry, Sanctuary Remodel, Music Fund & General Memorials
Margaret Eager	Art Miller	General Music Fund
Margaret Eager	Andrea Fritts	Food Pantry
Susan Hedden	Susan Gamble	Landscaping-Shrubs in front of Office Windows
In Honor of:	Given By:	Fund
The Church Staff	Ouida & Bill Steinkamp	General Fund



Don't forget the new locking mailbox!
You can insert anything you want for the Church in the top section.
It appears in the bottom, the locked part, which is collected daily.
A safe way to leave checks, correspondence, whatever you like.
Thanks for using it!!

ON-GOING HAPPENINGS:

Zoom Sunday school class every Sunday @ 9:00. The on-going class is led by V.L. Stonecipher, based on the Max Lucado book "Jesus, The God who knows your name". A new study will start the first Sunday in May, Led by Nancy Large, on the Upper Room, Preparation for Disciples", John 13-17. All are WELCOME to join, the link for Sunday school is on the Facebook page and in Scott's email for Sunday service.

Sunday Church service in person at 10:30 am. It is also 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.

21 Acts of Love for 2021 an ongoing happening for the rest of the year. Keep up your "Fridge" list.

Memorial United Methodist Church

323 North Main Street

Clinton, TN. 37716

(865) 457-2287

Office Hours

Email:

Website:

Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00. Closed Friday.

memorialumccclinton@gmail.com

www.mumccclinton.org

Serving God's People

Rev. Scott Wilks

Joshua Allen

Carol Long

Carol Luzader

Beverly Johnson

Pastor

Music Director/Organist

Youth Director

Secretary/Treasurer

Housekeeping/Custodian

parsonwilks@gmail.com

churchemail87@gmail.com

carollong586@gmail.com

memorialumccclinton@gmail.com

memorialumccclinton@gmail.com