

The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

MAY 2021

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)

On May 25th 1961, then President John Kennedy made a speech where he told the nation that we were going to put a man on the moon. Many, if not most thought it was impossible. But less than a year later, John Glenn traveled into space. The next seven years were spent getting us ready for Apollo 11 wherein Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walked on the surface of our moon. And they said it couldn't be done.

There will always be nay-sayers who purport to know better. Those who say that we can't do the great things we set our minds to. Those who count the cost as greater than benefit or the return. Those who say why are we spending so much on cancer research when we will never see a cure. And even those who say that the church is dead, it just doesn't know it yet.

Our nation did not become great on the backs of accountants and statisticians. It became great because when people said something was impossible, pioneers said just watch. That pioneering Spirit is what gave birth to Methodism. The church had grown to a point where the poor could not fit (nor were they welcome). It became populated with intellectuals and wealthy benefactors who could "buy" a pew. It had the appearance of religion but lacked the power thereof.

I believe in the church. I believe that we can do great things. Big things. Things that some people might even call impossible. I believe that we have that pioneering spirit that can stand up to a culture that sees no value in the church and would say to them, "just watch us."

Let's commit ourselves to going where the Spirit says go. Doing what the Spirit says to do. And someday, we'll look back and proudly say, look what God used us for.

+ Scott



CHURCH MINISTRIES

The Zoom class will start a new series generally known as the Upper Room Discourse, John 13-17 on Sunday, May 2 at 9:00. Some theologians and pastors refer to this scripture as Holy Ground. This is the scriptures where the twelve disciples received instructions that would help move them from mere believers and followers of Jesus to committed disciples. These scriptures can do the same for us.

You may have several resources to help you in your study, but I would also like to recommend two teaching ministers on u-tube: David Guzik and Skip Heitzig. Each has a series of sermons on John 13-17 and I have benefited to listening to each of them as I studied. If you have difficulty accessing either of these ministers, please let me know. I am going to try to get you a lesson plan of study each week on Sunday so that as you study, you may use it as a guide. If you are interested and want a lesson plan, phone or text Nancy Large 865-604-4319 .

The Zoom meeting number continues to be 921-3554-1958.

21 Acts of Love

2021

Our church's 21 Acts of Love campaign had an awesome month in April. Have you heard that people have been paying (and praying) for the customer behind them at the drive thru? Don't forget to have the employee pass them a 21 Acts of Love card when they give them the good news! And a card for the employee is a great idea too. We want them to hear our message loud and clear: "I am showing Christ's love to you. I'm paying for your cheeseburger, but Jesus paid it all! Come see that love in action at MUMC!"

Compassion Sunday on April 25th was such a blessing. We began the day with fifteen children who are living in poverty hoping to receive sponsors, and several of them have been given hope. They will now have the basic necessities of clean water, food, and medical care and will also receive letters of love and friendship from a sponsor. Compassion International's goal is to release children from poverty in the name of Jesus Christ, and many of you are making that possible. There are a few children who are still waiting for sponsors. If you are considering the idea, the Compassion table will be up for a couple more weeks. Come take a look!

Jesus instructs us in Matthew 22:37-38: "The greatest commandment says we are to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And the second one is to love our neighbor as ourself." His love is on display here at MUMC. Our neighbors both near and far are being blessed!

In Jesus name,
Donna Parke

Birthdays for May

5/01 Juanita Smith 5/04 Cheryl Conner 5/05 Zander Ford
5/06 Ingrid Freels
5/06 Don Gray 5/07 Joe Walker 5/10 Gabriella Rhea
5/18 Zayden Ford 5/18 Sarah Freels
5/18 Martin Stone Hennessee 5/21 Chuck Parke



2021

5/06 Jerry

5/15

5/29 Amy Graham

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

Trustee News

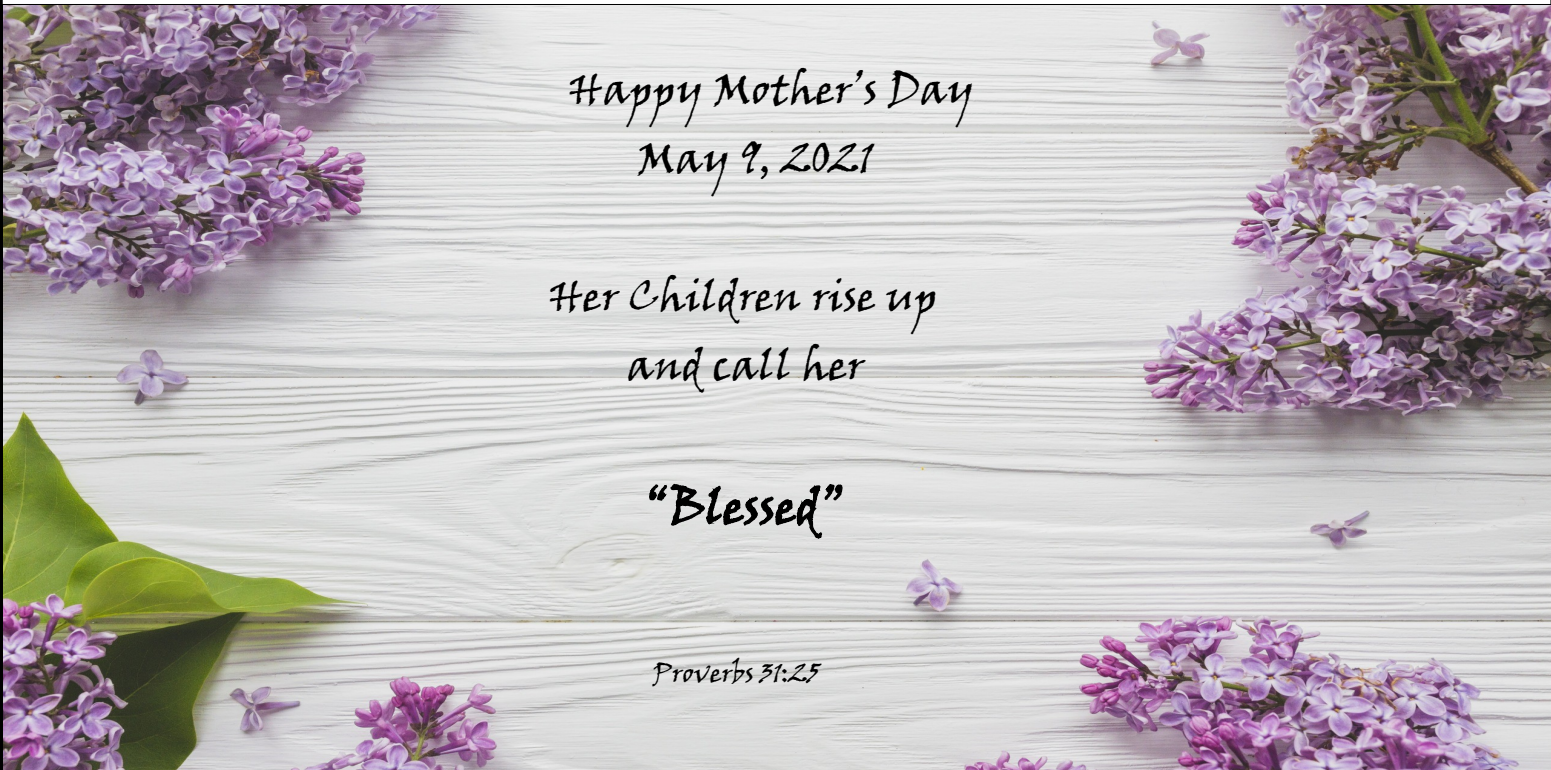
You may have noticed John Cole working on the older section of our building. He is going over the building, brick by brick, to check the mortar for cracks and breakage. He and his co-workers will be digging out the old broken joints, and filling in the gaps with a mortar that we agreed was as close to what is there as we could get. This project will take 7 weeks, and is being paid for with the money given by the estate of Margaret Eager. This project will help extend the use of the facility, and seal any areas where water has come through and damaged the plaster. When John has completed his part of the project, we will set a day to spray brick sealant to help seal out water even more. If you have a clean sprayer, and are not afraid of heights, we could use your help on this!

There is currently \$6125.00 in the *Sanctuary Remodel* fund. The current cost of the carpet alone is \$6985.00. We are currently \$860.00 short for the carpet installation, plus the needed funds required to cover the cost of moving the Grand piano, the altar, the altar railing and several pews, not to mention any painting or electrical work that may come up. Your gift in memory, or honorarium, to the *Sanctuary Remodel* fund would help us meet this goal.

There are many smaller projects you can help with as well. Look for the list on the bulletin board across from the Parlor, beginning May 1st.

In closing, the Trustees would like to give a great deal of thanks for those who helped with the beautification project. Your generous gifts and hard work have enhanced the appearance of Memorial UMC. The grounds are absolutely beautiful, and a glory to God!

Your servant in Christ
Nancy Thrasher



Happy Mother's Day
May 9, 2021

Her Children rise up
and call her

"Blessed"

Proverbs 31:25

Finance News

April 29, 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 as of April 29, 2021.

April to date we have received \$16,350.00 in budgeted funds and our expenditures are \$20,574.00. That creates a deficit amount of \$4,224.00 for the month and YTD is \$5626.00. There may be a few undeposited checks that will change the numbers a little but not by that much. If you compare last April of 2020, our deposits were \$16,653.00 and that was the beginning of Covid-19 with nothing going on at the Church.

Now we just re-started weekly in-person church on Palm Sunday, Memorial continues to pay all our financial commitments and all salaries. 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



Registration On-going!!

You can call for info at 865-448-2246 or check their web-site at Holston.org, Camp Ministries.

Open to Grades 2 –12.

There are funds available to offset cost of camping, just ask Wesley Woods or call the Church Office.

Great faith building and fun experience! Don't miss out.

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 home and abroad, Pray for your neighbors, Pray for our School teachers and all the staff required to keep schools open and learning going, and for our First Responders and our Police Officers who keep us protected every day.

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.



THE INSIDER NEWS & HAPPENINGS

Flower Donors for May

5/02 Jimmy & Libby Freels
5/09 Wesley Men's Class
5/16 Donor Needed
5/23 Donor Needed
5/30 Bill & Leslie Stone

Lay Speaker-May

Harper Maxwell

NEW Event happenings

Girl Scouts will be meeting on Thursdays, 6:15pm beginning May 6th.

For those of you who don't know, Gibby Seals has a new granddaughter. Parsons Leland Toy was born April 8, 2021 to Amanda Seals & Zac Toy of Atlanta. Paternal grandparents are David & Linda Toy. Gibby was there but in a wheelchair recuperating from surgery to repair a leg injury acquired going down steps, the hard way. Bless them all.

Becky Williams has been released from the hospital back to NHC in Farragut. The address is NHC Rehabilitation Center, 122 Cavette Hill Lane, Room 426, Knoxville, 37934. Phone is 865-591-5304. She is getting better with Rehab.



This Summer we will embark on a new program which teaches the basic of music to young people. We will be using instruments called Boomwhackers. These are tubes which when struck produce a pitch. When you get these in the hands of kids, they not only produce sound and music, they produce fun.

Our tentative plans will start on Wednesdays at 5:30pm so that when school starts again, we can also feed them a meal and their souls.

So get ready and pray that God blesses this new ministry.

Congratulations GRADS !

Claire Medley Pietrzak will Graduate on May 14, 2021 from Clinton High School. Claire is the daughter of Harper Maxwell, step-daughter of Jeff Maxwell, granddaughter of Jim Ern & Sarah Medley. She captained the Swim Team, was leader of brass section in High School Band, member of the National Honor Society and Girl's State Delegate for 2020. She will be attending Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville to study elementary education.

Stone Douglas Hatmaker will graduate on May 21, 2021 from Anderson County High School. Stone is the son of Mary & Brian Hatmaker , grandson of Nancy & Joe Harper, Doug Hatmaker and the late Kathy Dugger. He was a Maverick football player and basketball player all through high school. He will be attending Tusculum College in Greenville, TN. on a scholarship to play football for the Pioneers while Majoring in Business.



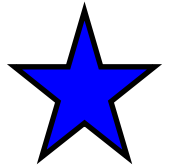
YOUTH NEWS

Some of the Youth met Sunday, April 25th, and put together healthy snack bags to give to children and soup jars for ill or shut-in members after preparing lunch for themselves. They plan to start collecting items for care bags for the homeless shelter. Youth will meet again on Sunday May 16 (immediately after worship) to continue the care bag project plan and to teach the youth boys to cook a pasta lunch before working on their service project. The girls have challenged the boys in preparing lunch! Watch the next newsletter and the hallway for collection lists and containers for care items after May 16th. (If you receive items from a hospital stay they are excellent donations and at this time of year, socks are a favorite item.) More direction next newsletter. NOTE: May 23 will be the last Bible Study session for the school year.

Conference Youth Assembly is back! When: June 28- July 2

Where: Tennessee Wesleyan University, Athens, TN

Early Bird Registration by May 17 \$295 Regular Registration by June 11- \$320.



Assembly is a week long camp for rising 7th graders- graduated seniors in high school. Some people like to refer to Assembly as summer camp on a college campus. Throughout the week youth will worship, meet in family groups, play, participate in interest group and more! Our speaker this year is Rev. Anna Lee. Anna is the Executive Pastor at Cokesbury UMC in Knoxville, TN. She will share messages with us and we will spend time in family groups to follow up. There will be plenty of free time to play games and hang out, there will be time to focus on using your gifts in worship and there will be time to fellowship with new friends. This year we will be following Covid protocols with masks, hand washing/sanitizing and distancing. Tennessee Wesleyan has a stringent cleaning and sanitizing routine and will be great hosts for this event. We are so excited to be back together safely! This program is nearly 100 years old kept alive through youth support. Since 1969, Rev. Don and Anna Thomas and I each served the attendees youth as counselors over 25 times and many youth of Memorial have participated, Logan Prater being the last one! Its a great faith growing and fun time!

[Register today!](#) Contact Carol Long for more info

MEMORIALS FOR APRIL 2021

In Memory of:

Susan Hedden

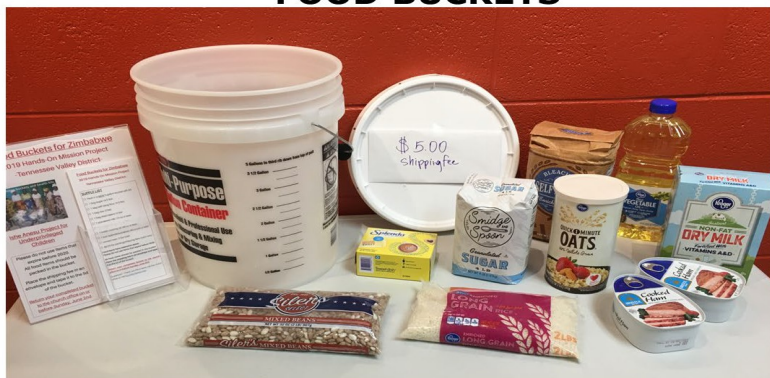
Given By:

Suzan Moore

Fund

Landscaping Fund

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.

Food for Zimbabwe

We have 25 buckets just waiting to be filled. The average cost of the food is about \$40.00.

To fill or not to fill.

If you'd like the Youth to shop and fill your bucket, contributions can be made to the Church Office no later than 5/17/21
Any & all contributions are greatly appreciated.

All filled buckets are due back by Sunday 5/30/21 for delivery on June 1st.

Memorial United Methodist Church

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(865) 457-2287

Office Hours

Email:

Website:

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

memorialumclinton@gmail.com

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Serving God's People

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Carol Long
Carol Luzader
Beverly Johnson

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Secretary/Treasurer
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