

The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

JUNE 2021

Which came first, the chicken or the egg? This age-old question sometimes gets us “stuck.” If you say the egg, then what laid the egg? If you say chicken, how was the chicken brought into being? The simple answer is that in the creation story, God created birds (including chickens). Did God create them from “scratch” or did God create eggs? *Sigh*. It shouldn’t be so hard!

Few questions in life are as simple as black or white, left or right, or yes or no. Sometimes we are left with gray, center, and maybe. It’s at times like that I like the philosophy of Winnie the Pooh.

"Rabbit's clever," said Pooh thoughtfully.

"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit's clever."

"And he has Brain."

"Yes," said Piglet, "Rabbit has Brain."
There was a long silence.

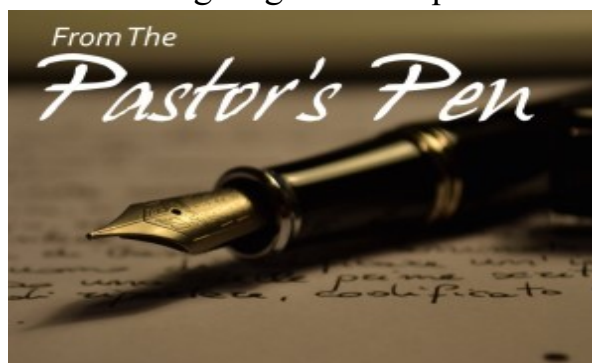
"I suppose," said Pooh, "that that's why he never understands anything."

God is a God of complexity who made a world of every color and texture, sounds which we can hear and some we can’t. Animals with scales, fur, and feathers. God made the cocoa bean and bacon too. And if all this was put into place for us, then shouldn’t we give God the credit if there are mysteries or things too big for our clever brains to comprehend?

We all want answers, especially to the really big questions. Sometimes we will have to accept that those answers will never come. It’s at those times that we ought to allow the awe and wonder of God to wash over us and teach us something new like humility.

Allow God to surprise you with a new perspective on creation. Keep the mystery where it belongs. It makes for a much more interesting world and a more awe inspiring God. Someday you will have the answers, but at that time you will have long forgotten the questions.

† Scott



CHURCH MINISTRIES

The Bucket Project for Zimbabwe has had a really good response from the Church. Your generous hearts are appreciated along with the “workers” Shollie & Ella Thomas, their mother-Megan Thomas, grandmother—Patti Harmening and Youth leader Carol Long. The bucket total comes up to **42 a whopping 68% increase from 2019!!** This has truly been an ACT of Love for our Church.

The Zoom/Yak class has been focusing on the Upper Room Discourse for our Bible Study Class. An alternative name for this study is Jesus Equips for Discipleship. On Sunday, June 6th, we will transfer back to the Yak Classroom for in-person study. The Zoom meetings will be discontinued at that time. Meeting in person will be great. In compliance with Covid-19 rules, if you have been vaccinated you are not required to wear a mask. Non vaccinated should wear a mask and distance still. Or everyone wear a mask, it's entirely up to what makes you feel the most comfortable.

We are looking forward to our return to the Church and in-person worship and fellowship.

Nancy Large



21 Acts of Love 2021

Jesus told his disciples that the most important commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And that the second one to love our neighbor as ourselves is equally important. It's obvious that Memorial United Methodist Church is taking those words to heart and putting them in action! So many Acts of Love are being shared. Here are just a few of those.

- Prepared Blessing Bags (with the help of a granddaughter) to pass out to people in need
- Reading and discussing devotionals with a shut-in
- Helped obtain a caregiver for a person with chronic illness
- Helped lots of folks getting tested and vaccine appointments for Covid
- Paid for dental work for an indigent patient
- Honored our Public Health Staff with delivering two meals for 40 staff
- Connected a person with chronic disease with support group and professional resources
- Took assisted living resident shopping for clothes and shoes for first time since pre-Covid
- Took special treats when visiting assisted living residents
- Brought homemade soup and flowers to sick friends
- Sewed many infusion bags and masks for cancer patients at the nearby cancer center
- Called and talked with an older person and go grocery shopping for them
- Take food and visit with an older person
- Write cards to several sick people
- Help make Covid vaccine appointments for people and then calling 70 people for reminders
- Sponsor a child with Compassion International (14 people did this!)
- The granddaughters helped stuff bags for Food Pantry
- We took a milkshake to the bank teller as an act of love
- Provided a meal for a friend recovering from surgery

And listen to the love in the response: “The 21 Acts of Love project has inspired me to be more aware of how I can witness to the students I serve. I have purposefully tried to witness through my actions and how I love them”. All of these acts of love are intentional ways of spreading Jesus’ love throughout our community and the world. Sharing these ideas with each other will help inspire each of us to be more Christlike. To God be the glory!

Donna Parke

Trustee News

We are planning an inside work day on Saturday June 5th, 9:00a-12:30p. The following is a list of items we would like to get done, depending on the number of people that can volunteer. Hope to see you there! Nancy Thrasher

1. Put together shelves and organize utility storage room
2. Scrub the front door and archway
3. Scrape, sand and paint railings to the Fellowship Hall and Basement (not all at one time).
4. Make sure classrooms are ready for the 6th opening
5. Repair shelves in front storage room
6. Inventory counts for green chairs, blue chairs, metal folding chairs, white plastic tables -rectangle, circle/ other tables
7. Make a list of lights that need bulbs. (Need a regular bulb in the Chapel basement, Yak Class fluorescents, over printer in Pat's office) that we know of already.
8. Flush water lines and fountains:
 - a. Flush hot and cold water through all points of use (e.g., showers, sink faucets) i. Flushing may need to occur in segments (e.g., floors, individual rooms) due to facility size and water pressure. The purpose of building flushing is to replace all water inside building piping with fresh water.
 - b. Flush until the hot water reaches its maximum temperature. Where possible, hot water at the tap should reach at or above 120°F. Anti-scalding controls and devices may limit the maximum temperature at the point of use.
 - c. Care should be taken to minimize splashing and aerosol generation during flushing.
 - d. Other water-using devices, such as ice machines, may require additional cleaning steps in addition to flushing, such as discarding old ice. Follow water-using device manufacturers' instructions.

Food Pantry News



The Food Pantry continues on. We have transitioned back to actual food (instead of Food City gift cards) and our attendance is down. Other Food Banks are experiencing the same. No one really has an answer as to why but we all think positively and know they will come back. In the meantime, we are busy packing bags of food for the next pantry, Thank you Memorial UMC for your continued support. And to our Food Pantry workers, pictured here. They look like they're having fun!

Adah & Ingrid Freels with Grandma Pat

Finance News

May 28, 2021

Thank you for your continued financial support to the church. Your support means we have continued to function soundly during quarantine times.

The following summary shows the amount of money we have received and spent as of May 28, 2021. May to date we have received \$12,681.00 in budgeted funds and our expenditures are \$ 24,516.00. That creates a deficit amount of **\$16,423.00** for the month and YTD is **\$22,491.00**. We still have one more deposit for the month and the expenditures does include paying our once a year building insurance premium.

Memorial continues to pay all our financial commitments and all salaries. As we look forward to continuing our Sunday in-person services and resuming weekly Sunday School on June 6, we pray for and need your continued prayers, support, and tithes to continue to serve God and spread the word of Christ. Good things are happening in our church and we are so glad you are a part of it. Thank you, members and supporters of Memorial, for your faithfulness.

Bebe Combs, Finance Chair

Birthdays for June 2021

06/01 Cole Sellers 06/01 Sophie Hitson 06/11 Bill Steinkamp 06/11 John Lomax
06/11 Sharon McCarty 06/12 Suzan Moore 06/12 Susan Moore 06/21 Jeff Maxwell
06/21 Claire Pietrzak 06/22 Brady Sellers 6/23 Buford Bray

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.



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 June

6/06 Don Gray's Family
6/13 Allen & Denise Smith
6/20 Jim & Denise Davis
6/27 Bobbie Sellers

Lay Speaker-June

Nancy Thrasher

NEW Event happenings

June 5th Work Day-see Trustees article
Summer Music Program for Youth

Becky Williams has been released from NHC in Farragut. She is temporarily at Meadow View Senior Living, Room 304, across from the Museum of Appalachia. Becky's phone is 865-591-5304.

Dr. Wenk is still with his daughter in Nashville. His address is C/O Beth Fuqua, 2061 Roderick Circle, Franklin, TN. 37064. Phone # is 615-472-1951.

Susan Overstreet would like to Thank all of YOU for the prayers, calls, cards & flowers during her recuperation from surgery. They were very much loved and appreciated.



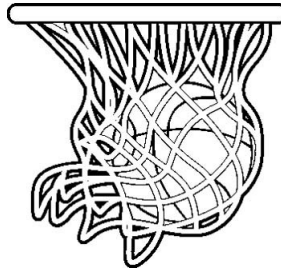
This Summer we will embark on a new program which teaches the basic of music to young people. We will be using instruments called Boomwhackers. These are tubes which when struck produce a pitch. When you get these in the hands of kids, they not only produce sound and music, they produce fun.

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.



Camp Madness



2021



We had another successful Camp Madness event this year.

There were 18 participants with several people who donated money but didn't pick brackets. The winners were: 1st Place – Jim Freels with 1070 points, 2nd Place – Jim Ern Medley with 1050 points, 3rd Place – Bill Gallaher with 1030 points.

Even though everyone's bracket was almost immediately "busted" because of the upsets in the early rounds, Jim Freels was the **ONLY** person to correctly pick Baylor as the final winner. **Congratulations, Jim!** First place prize is a designated reserved parking place until next March!

Second and third place winners will get to be first in line at all our potluck dinners once we start them up again. Thanks everyone for joining in the fun and helping our kids go to camp! We raised \$490.00.

Pat Stonecipher



Retirement Social

Please join us for a Cake and Ice Cream reception honoring Carol Long on Sunday June 27th Immediately following Church Service, in the Fellowship Hall.

Any Questions, call Kathleen Jones 865-363-0979.

Vacation Notice:

The Secretary, Carol Luzader, will be on vacation from 6/2-6/9/2021.

The Office will be staffed by Pat Stonecipher from 9:00am to 12:00pm each day. The phone will be forwarded to her phone during this vacation time so feel free to contact the Church anytime during the week. BIG Thank you to Pat for filling in during a much needed break for Carol.

MEMORIALS FOR MAY 2021

In Memory of:

Margaret Eager
James Tillotson
James Tillotson
James Tillotson

In Honor of:

Marilyn Murphy

Given By:

Missy Snead
Hollis & Nancy Large
Yak Sunday School Class
Bill & Ouida Steinkamp

Peggy Perry

Fund

Holston Home
UMCOR Missions
Food Pantry
Food Pantry

Camp Wesley Woods

“Baby It’s HOT Outside”

If you would like to help keep our new shrubs and flowers looking beautiful, we could use your help! We would like teams of two volunteers per week to help water out gardens in the front and back of the church. A sign-up sheet is available in the Church Office. Please call or come by to choose your week. Thanks so much! Kathleen Jones. 865-363-0979



Memorial United Methodist Church

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Office Hours

Email:

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

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Serving God’s People

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Carol Long
Carol Luzader
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Secretary/Treasurer
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