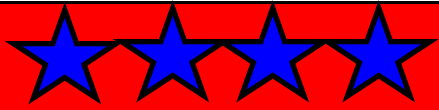
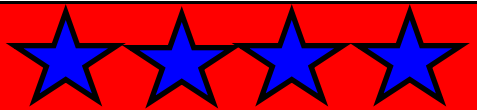


The MEMORIAL MESSENGER



JULY 2021



“This is why I tell you: do not be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body. After all, isn't life worth more than food? And isn't the body worth more than clothes?” Matthew 6:25 (Good News Translation)

You may have noticed, that I tend to be a little more relaxed in worship than some others. And yes, I agree, sometimes too much so. You have not seen much of me in a robe lately and yes, I tend to walk down the aisles during worship. As you can imagine, the next thing you read will be, “but I have a good excuse.”

My first time in a church happened when I was in middle school. A neighbor invited me to ride the bus, enjoy doughnuts and chocolate milk, and maybe see some friends. What a deal! Free donuts and chocolate milk! One of the first things that happened to the guests was that we were looked over and sized up. If you weren't dressed up to the standard of the church, you were taken to a clothes pantry and fitted with better.

What that instilled in me was this:

1. What a person brought was not good enough. 2. God did not make provision for that person. And 3. people (the church) had to step in. What that looks like is a “need” sandwich. Someone was not up to the standard, and we have to bring them closer to the mark. The problem is that the poor may have been wearing their best, and God doesn't care as long as they come.

What we have done (the church in general) is made every Sunday about the Easter parade, when the One we worship was a homeless man who died in a loin cloth. And when he arose, He left the burial clothing in the tomb.

I believe that it has brought us partially to where we are today; with empty church buildings and people in those communities who still think that they have nothing to wear. Jesus taught that we are worth more than food or clothing. That's true. We are worth so much that He was willing to die hungry and naked. Let's work together to dismantle the excuses which we made for others!



† Scott



Ida Gamble Scholarship Sunday

Sunday, August 1st will be Scholarship Sunday with most (if not all) recipients present in Church.

There will be a Cake & Ice Cream Social immediately following, in the Fellowship hall.

Any questions, please contact the Office or V.L. Stonecipher.



Picture Party

Carol Long's Retirement party on Sunday, June 27th, was a sweet success, with over 45 people present!

She may be retiring as a paid Staff member but she'll be here to help with Youth & Children's activities for seasons to come.

GO Carol!!

YOUTH MINISTRIES

The Youth of our Church have decided to take on the project of School Supplies for Clinton City Schools. They will be collecting goods and/or dollars to buy the following items:

Wooden Pencils	Crayons— 24 pack	Expo Markers-Black-chisel tip	Glue Sticks	Pencil top erasers
Big Pink Erasers	Clorox Wipes	Kleenex	Paper Towels	Headphones/earbuds
Fiskar Scissors	Hand Sanitizer	Notebook paper/wide ruled	Color markers	Colored pencils
Composition Books	Plastic Water bottles	Red & Blue pens	Band-Aids	1.5" 3 ring binders w/pockets (no zip up binders)
Zip lock sandwich bags	Subject dividers (5-8 pack)			

There will be a table in the hallway to leave your donations or put in the Office if during Office hours.

Last Day to collect items will be Sunday, August 1st.

21 Acts of Love 2021

It's wonderful to see and hear about what a loving church MUMC is! Our 21 Acts of Love continue to be spread all throughout our community.

Last week the youth and their leaders spent several hours baking cookies and delivering them to the Clinton Police and Fire Department on Hicks Street. Every batch of cookies came with our MUMC 21 Acts of Love card. Who knows! Maybe while munching on some yummy homemade cookies those officers' hearts were fed as well. I wouldn't be surprised to find some of them in our midst in the not so distant future. These young people shared the love of Jesus in a way that was inviting, delicious, and fun.

As you probably know MUMC has a thriving Food Pantry and Clothes Closet ministry that has been active for years. So many in our community depend on the help that our church provides through this ministry. The 21 Acts of Love cards are being slipped inside each bag of food and necessities inviting them to come see what else our church has to offer them.

I am so happy that these groups are using these little cards as a way to invite folks to join us at MUMC. May we all do likewise! There are extra cards by the bulletins in the sanctuary. Please grab some to share! God can use even these to bring others into a relationship with Him.



Trustee News

The Landscaping committee has done a fabulous job in making the church grounds beautiful and inviting. If you can help maintain the gardens, by helping to keep them watered, dead-heading the plants, pulling weeds, etc., there is a sign-up sheet in the foyer, or contact Kathleen Jones, or Betty Sellers, to set up a day. (One thing I have noticed is this: if it rains at my house in South Clinton, it doesn't mean it rained at the church, so if you sign up to water the flowers and shrubbery, drive over to the building to see if it rained there.)

Bill Stone has been going from room to room, by-passing the ballasts and installing LED light tubes. There are 3 lights in the kitchen yet to be done, and then the Fellowship Hall will be worked on during the next few weeks. It is a task that can use 2 people. If you could help Bill, please give him a call after the holiday, to schedule a time. The cost of changing the light tubes, in each 4-tube fixture is around \$20.00, and there are roughly 40 more fixtures to go.

Steve Combs will be repairing a unit of shelves in the front storage room of the Fellowship Hall this month. If you can help clear off the shelves of stuff slated for a Rummage Sale, that would be most helpful. There is a table, in the back of the room, that those items may be placed on.

John Cole is nearly finished repairing the brickwork in the Courtyard. The difference is breathtaking. But there is still the Hicks Street side of the building that needs to be addressed, at a cost of nearly \$12,000.00, plus rental of a boom.

One of the projects, that had been scheduled to be done this year, was the outer door to the H/AC unit on Hicks Street, but due to rising costs, the price has tripled, just for the price of wood. If you have ANY lumber materials, taking up space in your garage, that you could donate, we could cut costs, especially during this time when a 2x4 costs up to \$7.50 each, and plywood can run up to \$50.00 a sheet. Please contact Nancy Thrasher to set up a time to bring any lumber to the church.

And there is also much needed upkeep on the Parsonage that will need to be addressed very soon. Water damage from overflowing gutters has to be taken care of, and then painting the trim around the house, are high on the list of things to do.

The bottom line of this article is, the Trustees need your help! We need donations of time, materials, and especially money. Maintaining 2 buildings, and their grounds, does not come cheaply, nor can the work be done cheaply. Long gone are the days when a family would take a second mortgage on their house to help build this building we have come to love. Please prayerfully consider what your family can do to help maintain these buildings and their grounds. If you have any questions, or concerns, please contact me. Thank you.

Nancy Thrasher.

Food Pantry News

The Food Pantry continues on. We have transitioned back to bags of 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 the volunteers who help us each and every time. We appreciate you so much!

Finance News

June 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 June 28, 2021. June to date we have received \$20,426.00 in budgeted funds and our expenditures are \$ 16,520.00. That creates an overage amount of **\$3906.00** for the month and YTD is **\$18,585.00 shortage.**

Memorial continues to pay all our financial commitments and all salaries. As we look forward to continuing our Sunday in-person services and weekly Sunday School, 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 July 2021

07/01-Karen Bray, V.L Stonecipher, 07/02-Logan Prater, 07/03-Mary Helen Hitson, 07/06-Mark Medley, 07/09-Steve Combs, Alyssa Meier, 07/10-Crystal Sellers, Terry Austin, 07/11- S. Tyrone Foster, 07/13- Walter Freels, 07/16- John Jones, 07/18 Betty Sellers, 07/19- Abbey Wilks, Mara Wilks, 07/22-Brian Hatmaker, 07/26 Michael Freels, 07/30-Lauren Burton, 07/31-Gibby Seals, Sherry Livengood.

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 Instant-ChurchDirectory.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." Philipians 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 July

7/04 Karen & Buford Bray
7/11 John & Susan Gamble
7/18 Cathy Brown
7/26 Vickie Underwood

Lay Speaker-July

Sherry Livengood

NEW Event happenings

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.

The Wesley Men's Sunday School Class would like to Thank **Michael Schrader** of **Real Dry Cleaners** for donating the cost of cleaning our Piano Cover. What a wonderful thing to do and we "Thank You".

The **Children's Sunday School** class will re-start on **JULY 11th**. Scott Rhea & other team members are ready!



HAPPY **4th** of JULY



MEMORIALS FOR JUNE 2021

In Memory of:	Given By:	Fund
Margaret Eager	Missy & Richard Snead	Holston Home *Correction from last month
Margaret Eager	Rebecca Williams	Holston Home
Marilyn Kesterson	Don Hedden	General Budget
Don Gray	Ellie Green	Food Pantry
Don Gray	Mark Medley & Family	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Don Gray	Ouida & Bill Steinkamp	General Memorials
Don Gray	Denise & Jim Davis	Food Pantry
Don Gray	Sarah & Jim Ern Medley	General Memorials
Don Gray	Pat & V.L. Stonecipher	Sanctuary Remodel
Don Gray	Diane McNeil	Wesley Men's Sunday School Class
All Fathers	Deane & Sutton Kay	Wesley Men's Sunday School Class
Cecil Conner	Mark Medley & Family	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Cecil Conner	Sarah & Jim Ern Medley	General Memorials
Cecil Conner	Mary Magill	General Music Fund
Nadine Underwood	Mark Medley & Family	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Nadine Underwood	Deane & Sutton Kay	Landscaping
Nadine Underwood	Pat & V.L. Stonecipher	Landscaping

“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 our gardens in the front and back of the church. A sign-up sheet is available in the Church Office. We are only scheduled **through July 11th** week. 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:

Website:

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

memorialumclinton@gmail.com

www.mumclinton.org

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Joshua Allen
Carol Long
Carol Luzader
Beverly Johnson

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Music Director/Organist
Youth Director
Secretary/Treasurer
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