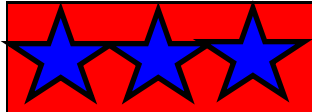
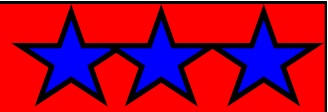


# The MEMORIAL MESSENGER



SEPTEMBER 2021



The author of Ecclesiastes wrote (Or was it The Byrds in 1965?):

*"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:  
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, a time to reap that which is planted."*

While we are still in the season of Summer, we can see the first evidence that Autumn is right around the corner. We see that what was planted in the Spring has been reaped and soon it will be time to till the soil for its long Winter's rest. As was added in the song, it is the process of turn, turn, turning. The turning of seasons. The turning of the soil. The turning of a new phase of life.

Last December, I passed one of those milestones in life. Now don't laugh at me! It was a big milestone for me. I have noticed since then that some things that were once easy for me are now harder. My memory is less focused and drifts easily. (Why did I go to that room? What was I saying?)

Just like the king that sat his throne against the seashore and ordered the tide to stop, I have no choice but to follow the laws of nature. I can't stop Autumn from coming, the tide from rising, nor can I halt the aging process. It is a part of God's plan for me.

But back to Ecclesiastes... I have wondered why so these milestones seem to be in order from worse to better. The reason I find is that it is the way of God's nature. One must be born in order to die. One can't reap what they don't sow. One doesn't appreciate laughter until they have wept.

Our lives are filled with wonder, but also some pain. Some feel its effects of that pain more than others. (or so they claim) I can't help but think that someday, after I have done my own suffering, achy joints, and the distractions of tinnitus, that I will know what true healing is. A healing that comes when this body has felt its last ache, wiped its last runny nose, and garnered that last "bless you."

In that day I will be given suffer no more. My tears gulfed in God's perfect love suffering when we have so of the journey?



what was promised. I will will be dried and I will be en- and perfect joy. What's a little much waiting for us at the end

Scott

# THE INSIDER NEWS & HAPPENINGS

## Flower Donors for September

09/05 Deane & Sutton Kay  
09/12 Ouida & Bill Steinkamp  
09/19 Art Miller  
09/26 Sarah & Jim Ern Medley

## Lay Speaker-September

Art Miller

## NEW Event happenings

09/05 Communion Sunday  
09/01 Wednesday Night Fellowship 5:30pm  
Every Wednesday unless changed  
09/02, 09/16 Food Pantry 5:30-6:30pm  
09/19 Sunday Guest speaker-Don Dare

1)Becky Williams is still recuperating. She is temporarily at Meadow View Senior Living, Room 304, across from the Museum of Appalachia. Becky's phone is 865-591-5304. Physical therapy is on-going.

2)Dr. Wenk is at his daughter's home in Nashville, recovering from Covid.

The Church is really *one big family*.

## Wednesday NIGHTS are BACK! (again)

August 11th was our first (and so far, only) Wednesday Night Dinner and a Movie Bible Study. Classes on August 18th and 24th were cancelled due to COVID. But as of today, we are back to GAME ON!

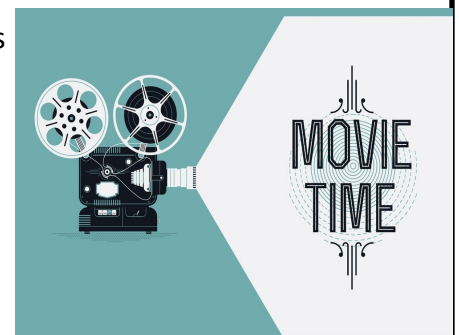
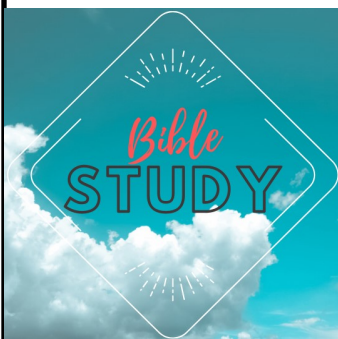
We had 18 people in attendance with popcorn in hand for the first episode viewing of The Chosen, a biblically based series based on the life and ministry of Jesus. Overall, word on the street is that (despite the nuttiness and technical ineptitude of the facilitator) the class was a great success.

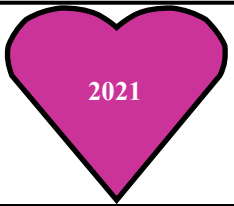
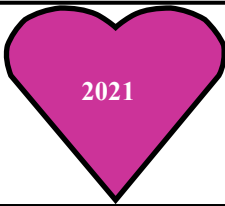
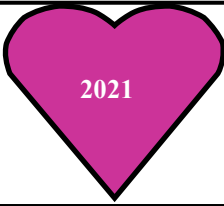
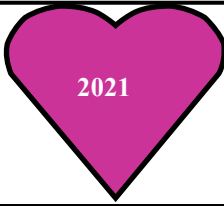
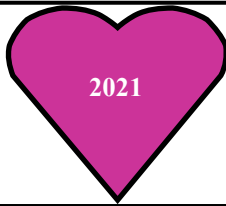
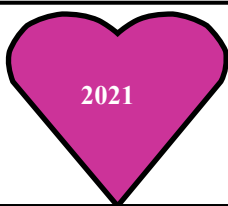
If you missed the first class and have any interest, please join us this week. The episodes are not done chronologically, so jumping in now would not have you feeling behind. I can tell the class is going to be full of great discussions as well. We'd love to have you.

## Youth for Wednesday NIGHTS

What makes the difference in a good sports team's performance? It is a good coach. For the important things in life we seek a coach, teacher, mentor, or counselor to help us reach our goals and have a good outcome. The same is true in our connection to Christ to help us navigate life and bring glory to God. The Youth are going to study the Holy Spirit, the counselor that Jesus promised before He went to heaven. In John 16: 7b Jesus said this about the

Holy Spirit just hours before he went to the cross: "It is good for you (the disciples) that I am going away. Unless I go, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you". Nancy Large will be leading the youth in exploring how the Holy Spirit can help them have the "abundant life" promised by a relationship with Christ. See you Wednesday night in the youth room at 6:00 for a series of videos and discussion.





Jesus replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

Matthew 22:37-39

There is nothing more important in helping to build God's kingdom than sharing the love that we have been shown from God and from His people. The members of Memorial are putting that love in motion every day both inside and outside the walls of our church building.

Let's all continue to share that love! There is certainly no better way to live.

Donna Parke

# 21 Acts of Love



Sunday

August 29, 2021  
10:30 am

A BIG Memorial Methodist  
"Thank you" for Wendel  
leading our Service this past  
Sunday.

His talent for writing Chris-  
tian Music is amazing and

the term tickle the ivories does not apply to him. He makes the piano "talk" with great enthusiasm.

It had been many years since Wendel had been here and our hope is that he'll be back again in only a few years time. Besides, he can't take the piano with him!





# Finance News

## Memorial still NEEDS YOU!

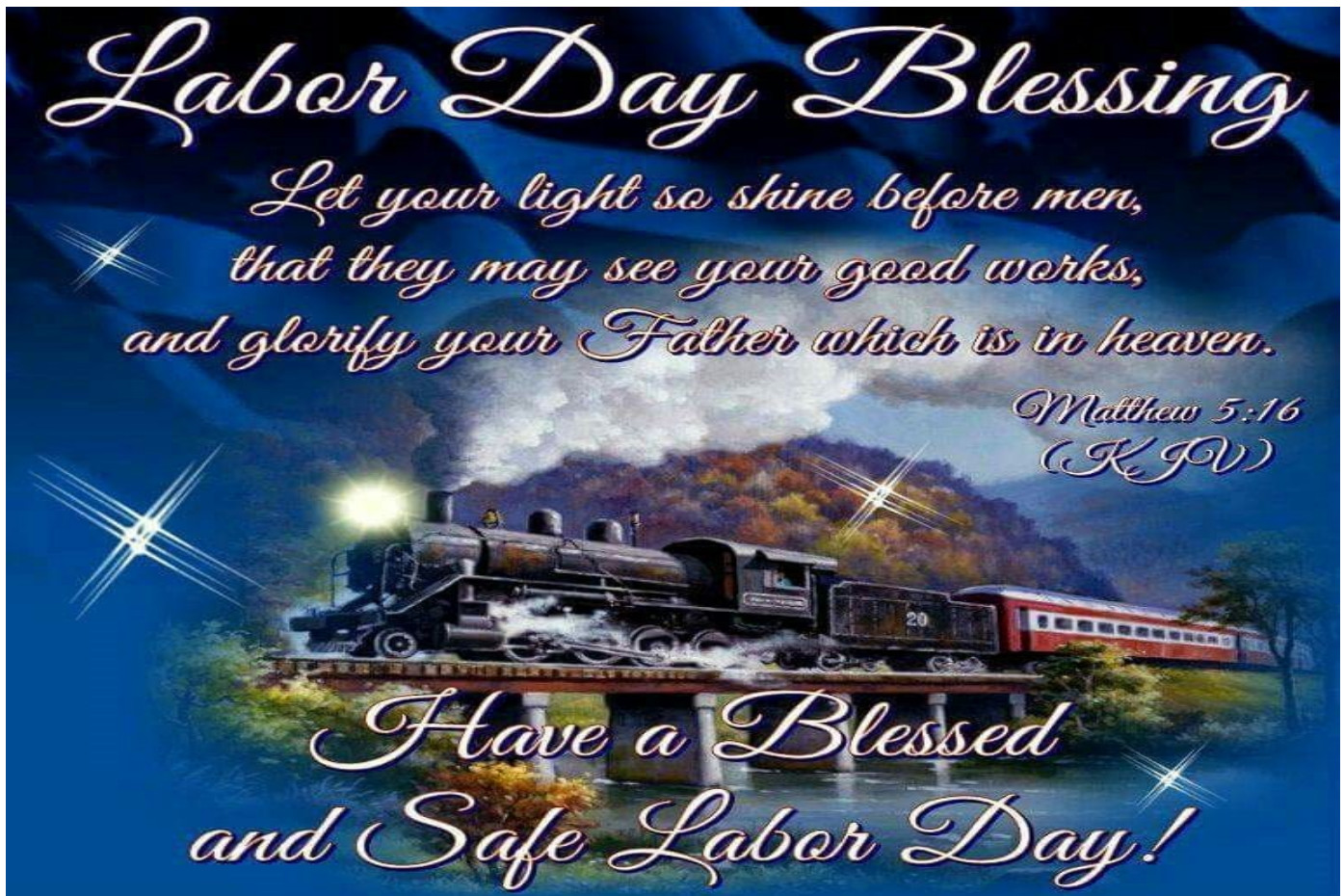
The following shows the amount of budget money we have received and our expenditures through August as well as year-to-date figures. As you can see, we did well in August, but still lag for the year.

August Giving	\$20,217.00	Year-to-date Giving	\$141,824.00
August Expenses	-19,997.00	Year-to-date Expenses	-161,005.00
Balance	+220.00	Year-to-date Balance	-19,964.00

As we continue full fall activities, 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 for your continued financial support to our church. There are several ways you can send in your contributions/tithes: Mail: Memorial UMC 323 N. Main Street Clinton, TN 37716 On-line Check Pay: You can have your checks sent directly from your bank under the bill pay option offered at most banks. On-line: Visit our website: [www.mumccinton.org](http://www.mumccinton.org). You will find alternate giving methods under the GIVE option on the top right side of the website. Questions? Contact the church: Church Phone: 865-457-2287 Email: [info@mumccinton.org](mailto:info@mumccinton.org).

Thank you for your faithfulness. Bebe Combs, Finance Chair





# Trustees Report



Trustees Meeting Notes

Aug. 9, 2021

Present: Betty Sellers, Steven Combs, Charles Price, Nancy Thrasher and Scott Wilks

We discussed replacing the gasket for the freezer in the kitchen or buying a new one. Because money is 'tight', we are replacing the gasket, to extend the life of the current unit. Charles Price took this project. There is a hinge on the back that needs to be repaired or replaced. This will be paid for from the designated "Kitchen Committee" funds.

We hired a painter to paint the halls, stairwells and kitchen for \$4,767.50, which would come out our designated funds. The shade of cream on the walls is being matched. All halls will be the same color.

The committee voted to break the job into 3 parts:

1. The Foyer, Stairwell and Hallway. This will be done the week of August 30<sup>th</sup>.
2. The Kitchen, Stairwell and first floor hallway will be done in September.
3. The back stairwell will be done in October.

Fire inspection indicated covers missing from 3 old relay boxes from our currently unused steam system. No power was active in any of the three boxes. Covers were fabricated to close these boxes and were marked inactive and dated. One additional box appeared to have power but it's use and ultimate destination was not determined. The original cover was replaced and marked as active (because it was covered the fire inspection did not note this box. During this task some light bulbs were replaced in the basement with one more that needs additional work to be replaced.

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The Trustees could really use your help:

As of 2 weeks ago, we no longer have anyone mowing the church grounds, and we are paying Pro-cuts to mow every other week at the Parsonage. If you know of someone who could mow, or if you want to volunteer to help keep our lawn mown, please email Nancy Thrasher at [thrashernl@msn.com](mailto:thrashernl@msn.com). A big shout out to John Jones and Bill Stone for their work to get the lawn ready for the Smith-Chang wedding on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

Nancy will also be buying brick sealant to put on the building trouble spots around the lower half of the outer brick wall. If you have a sprayer, and can help, please email Nancy Thrasher at [thrashernl@msn.com](mailto:thrashernl@msn.com). She is hoping to take care of this project on Saturday, September 11, beginning at 9 a.m.

Lastly, the Trustees are entrusted with the upkeep of the properties, and to that end, I believe we are making a dent in the many projects that require our attention. Our building and grounds are valued at \$3,400,000.00. Building maintenance budgets should run between 2% - 5%, therefore, we should be spending between \$68,000.00 and \$170,000.00 on our property maintenance. The Trustees are allotted \$10,000.00 minus the cost of mowing, testing the fire extinguishers and gas for the mower, plus replacement lighting tubes, for building maintenance. Everything else is paid for through funds that you have designated towards a project, i.e. building and grounds, landscaping, kitchen, Sanctuary, Trustees General Fund, etc.

There are some big projects coming up during the next 3 to 10 years:

Replace the H/AC unit next to the building. Bids will be asked for in mid-September. Most of this project will be paid for with the remaining funds from the Eager estate.

Replacing the gutters and downspouts.

Updating the bathrooms, the kitchen, the Fellowship Hall and remodeling the kitchen

Repair or replace the windows in the Sanctuary. So far, it looks like cost per window is running at \$10,500.00 to repair each window in the sanctuary. Replacing each window runs around \$11,400.00 per window. Savings from doing this would be seen in our Heating and Air Conditioning costs. Currently we are paying between \$250.00 to \$275.00 each Sunday, just to air condition the Sanctuary.

We are at a point where very difficult decisions about the building need to be made. Prayerfully consider this, and ask God to guide our Trustees during this challenging time.

In His Service,  
Nancy Thrasher



## And, Now You Know.....

As your pastor, I would like to share some of the financial concerns and challenges we have tried to communicate over the last month. The last thing any pastor wants to address is finances. I thank God for such an adept and passionate financial team at our church. They do wonders.

July (as it often does) was not our best giving month. When faced with a deficit between our income and our expenditures, passionate people start to get nervous. The truth is that we expect that drop in the Summer and yet it seems to surprise us all the same. People travel. People spend time away with families or out in nature. Attendance is lower and giving as well.

But while giving and attendance goes down in summer months, utilities go up. Salaries stay the same. Ma Bell want's her cut as does CUB. And we have a beautiful old building that costs a lot to heat and cool. We're constantly checking doors, lights and thermostats to trim costs. I also know that this is a wonderful church who loves this old building.

Our trustees were left a sizeable amount from an estate this year. A God-send. It allows us to do some past due projects that needed to be done. Paint here, carpet there. Wall repairs. Plumbing repairs. The list seems to go on forever and never gets shorter. Our air conditioning units are way out of their life expectancy so we hope that when the time comes, we will have that reserve, designated money to replace them. Thank you, Nancy Thrasher for your good stewardship.

And now you know.

## Food Pantry News

The Food Pantry continues on. We are transitioning back to evening hours (like old times) 5:30-6:30pm on the first and third Thursdays of each month, starting September 2nd. We have almost completely re-stocked the Pantry with food goods as well as household items such as toilet paper, paper towels and cleaners. In the meantime, we are busy packing bags of food for the next pantry. We are attempting to make this a drive-thru event so that recipients don't have to come in the church. Thank you Memorial UMC for your continued support, and the volunteers who help us each and every time. We appreciate you so much!



## 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

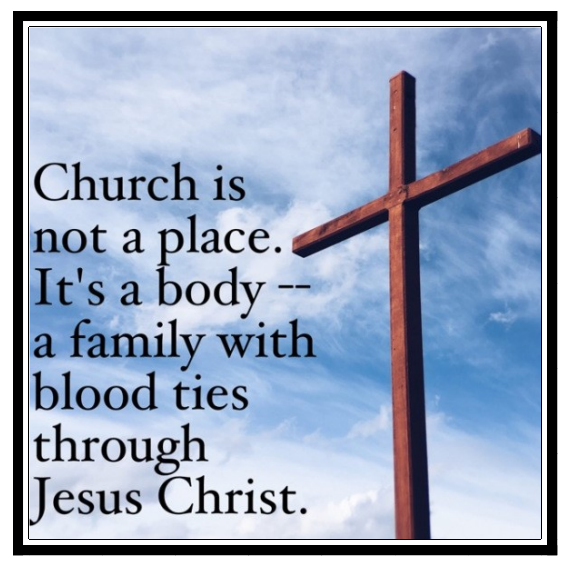
*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God." Philippians 4:6*

### 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.







## **DON'T FORGET OUR EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS**

**As of 08/31/2021**

### Away from Home:

Ruth Layton, 2648 Sevierville Rd., Apt. C15, Maryville, TN 37804 865-238-8348

Winki Watkins, Brookdale Apt. #105, 734 Emory Valley Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Winki -865-248-9976

Bill Connell, Canterfield of Oak Ridge, 200 Bus Terminal Rd., Oak Ridge, TN. 37830

### At Home:

Alice Connell, 427 Highland Dr., Clinton, TN 37716 865-457-4070

Byron Hale, 308 Delta, Clinton, TN. 37716 865-457-3609

Clyde Horton, 1118 McAdoo Street, Clinton, TN. 37716 865-457-9216

### Temporary Care:

Dr. PJ Wenk is at his daughters' : Beth Fuqua, 2061 Roderick Circle, Franklin TN. 37064

NOTE: Recuperating from Covid 615-838-2860

Becky Williams is recuperating at Meadow View Senior Living, Room 304.

Call her at 865-591-5304

# MEMORIALS FOR AUGUST 2021

In Memory of:	Given By:	Fund:
William Stone Sr.	Ouida & Bill Steinkamp	Music Fund
William Stone, Sr.	Denise & Jim Davis	Music Fund
William Stone, Sr.	Deane & Sutton Kay	Music Fund

## Birthdays for September 2021

09/05 Zavie Ford, 09/08 Joe Rainey, 09/10 Sarah Burton, 09/10 Stone Hatmaker, 09/11 Joni Simmons, 09/12 Will Stonecipher, 09/16 Jim Ern Medley, 09/17 Grace Schrider, 09/18 Ruth Layton, 09/20 Lillie Kay Reed, 09/24 Libby Freels, 09/25 Scott Rhea, 09/26 Sarah Medley, 09/28 Judy Foster, 09/28 John Gamble, 09/29 Nicole Flanders, 09/29 Nancy Harper.

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.



## 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](mailto:memorialumccclinton@gmail.com)

[www.mumccclinton.org](http://www.mumccclinton.org)

### Serving God's People

Rev. Scott Wilks  
Joshua Allen  
Carol Luzader  
Beverly Johnson

Pastor	<a href="mailto:parsonwilks@gmail.com">parsonwilks@gmail.com</a>
Music Director/Organist	<a href="mailto:churchemail87@gmail.com">churchemail87@gmail.com</a>
Secretary/Treasurer	<a href="mailto:memorialumccclinton@gmail.com">memorialumccclinton@gmail.com</a>
Housekeeping/Custodian	<a href="mailto:memorialumccclinton@gmail.com">memorialumccclinton@gmail.com</a>