

The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

JANUARY 2023



Happy New Year!

2023 is here and with it comes the promises of hope, peace, joy, and love. For Christians, these are more than desires. They are promises from the One who is the keeper of promises. God's word is indelible and unchanging. When God says (or has said in the Scriptures) that nothing can separate us from His love in Jesus Christ, you can count on that!

The church is God's people (it's not a building or an organization) where these premises are lived out. It's a gathering of people who offer hope to the despairing, peace to the restless, joy to the depressed, and love to the lonesome.

One of God's promises is that He "will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young will see visions, your old will dream dreams." That is echoed in both halves of our Scripture and speaks of days like today.

Dreams and visions are very important. Another passage says that "without a vision, the people perish." God doesn't say that the building will crumble or the church cease. Again, God speaks to us as those who gather and work in His kingdom. And if we believe that God is the keeper of promises, then it must be true.

What vision or dream do you have for Memorial UMC? Some dream of a church with more children and young people. Some vision a church that feeds the hungry. Some have hearts for worshipping more deeply. There are some who see a church building restored and its grounds even more beautiful. Some even want to see the budgetary needs met fully and with joy.

While God is the giver of dreams and visions, we are the one He calls to enact on what we see. God does not feed a hungry person without the food first passing through another's hands. He inspires us to sing to His glory, but it is our diaphragm that pushes the air out in song. He provides the means, we are expected to use it to produce the result.

How can you help bring God's vision of Memorial UMC to life? By taking the dreams and visions and making them real!

Scott

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Services	2 Holiday Office Closed	3	4 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice	5 5:30-6:30 Food Pantry	6	7
8 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Services	9 6:00 Boy Scouts	10	11 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice	12	13	14
15 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Services	16 6:00 Boy Scouts	17 6:30 Church Council Meeting	18 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice	19 5:30-6:30 Food Pantry	20 Resurrection	21 Resurrection
22 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Services	23 6:00 Boy Scouts	24	25 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir Practice	26	27	28
29 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Services	30 6:00 Boy Scouts	31				

Evangelism/Outreach/Ministries-2022

Dear Memorial Methodist Family,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your help with donations for Christmas for our seniors. With your help we were able to provide Christmas for 52 seniors with a variety of your donations. This number consisted of homebound and active seniors. Without your help this could not have been accomplished. We thank and love you from the bottom of our hearts.

Cherie Phillips CRS-A/D

Our congregation donated \$425 for food and gasoline cards and items valued at \$2400 dollars were donated and gifted to the clients of Anderson County Center for the Aging. Thank you for your giving hearts.

Nancy Large, Chairperson of Ministries

Food Pantry News

Thanks to all of you who have volunteered to work at the Food Pantry. Some have helped load and unload groceries; some have helped bag groceries on the first and third Thursdays of the month; some have been in charge of "crowd control".

Participation in the Food Pantry has increased dramatically in the past few months. Just a few months ago, we were serving about 15 households per week. In November and December, we averaged serving 30 to 40 households per week. We have a lot of hungry people and children in our community. The patrons have particularly welcomed the addition of bread, milk, eggs, lunch meat, and vegetables which we have been offering since August.

Please try to contribute whatever you can to this ministry. You can give by check or on line: PayPal, Givelify, or Tithely. Go to <https://mumclinton.org/give> and click on your choice.



Finance News

We have good news and bad news to report. First the bad news: As you can see, December giving (normally a very high giving month) was down compared to expenses. The result is a \$20,000 + deficit.

December Budget Giving: \$14,693.00

December Expenses: \$30,416.34

December Balance: -\$15,723.34

Year-to-date Giving through December: \$223,276.68

Year-to-date Expenses through December: \$243,913.02

Year-to-date Balance through November: - **\$20,639.34**

Now the good news: Our financial campaign was a success. Commitments were up over \$27,000 from last year. I think this reflects renewed vigor in the church. I can see the difference and feel the difference in the church atmosphere. There is an excitement in the air!

Please continue to support your church with your financial gifts. We are making a difference in people's lives in the church and in the community.

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 - the bill pay option offered at most banks. On-line: Visit our website: www.mumclinton.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@mumclinton.org.

Thank you for your faithfulness.
Bebe Combs, Finance Chair

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 to recover from the pandemic. 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. And lastly, pray for Ukraine, more than ever!

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

To the dedicated members serving our prayer chain. They are fearless, 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. Thank You!!!

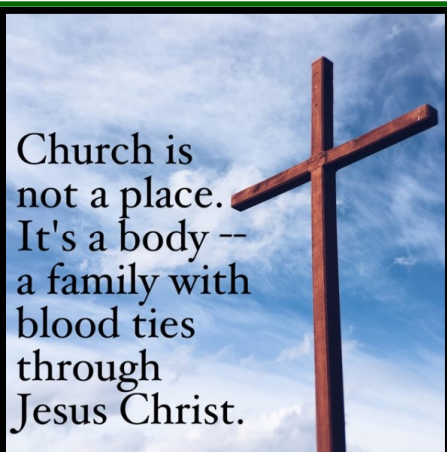
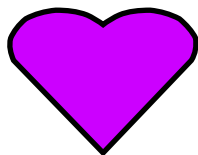


Birthdays for January 2023

01/02 Phil J. Wenk, 01/05 Vickie Underwood, 01/08 Scott Burton, 01/12 Don Conner, 01/12 Cindy Boshears, 01/17 Ken Overstreet, 01/23 Kathleen Jones, 01/30 Kaye Johnson, 01/30 Chrystal Reed, 01/31 Olivia Kelly

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

Since we're not supposed to 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 check InstantChurchDirectory.com or or call the Church Office (865-457-2287).



DON'T FORGET OUR EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS As of 12/30/2022

Away from Home:

Winki Watkins, The Grove, Apt. #149, 734 Emory Valley Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Phone: 865-248-9976

Bill Connell, NHC of Oak Ridge, 300 Laboratory Rd., Oak Ridge, TN. 37830

Alice Connell has moved to Florida. Will update her address when available.

At Home:

Juanita Smith, 301 Cross Street, Clinton, TN. 37716

865-463-8336

Temporary Care:

Becky Williams is recuperating at Meadow View Senior Living, 111 Acuff Lane, Room 304.

Call her at 865-591-5304

MEMORIALS ~ DECEMBER 2022

In Memory of:

Donor:

Designated Fund

Byron Hale	Sharon McCarty	Food Pantry
Memorial UMW	Diane Stakes	General Memorials
Memorial UMW	Audrey Van Pelt	General Memorials
Betty Jo Blevins	Ross Blevins, Teresa Johnston	General Memorials
IN Honor of:		
Bill & Leslie Stone	Deane & Sutton Kay	Food Pantry



Memorial United Methodist Church

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Office Hours

Email:

Website:

Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00. Closed Friday.
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www.mumccclinton.org

Serving God's People

Rev. Scott Wilks
Joshua Allen
Carol Luzader
Jenny Nichol

Pastor
Music Director/Organist
Secretary/Treasurer
Youth Ministries

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