

The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2023



I'm waxing musically nostalgic today. If you looked at my iTunes album list, you would be surprised and maybe shocked at the variety of music I listen to. I have a lot of rock, some pop, progressive rock and jazz of various varieties and flavors.

Sometimes this love of music comes out in a quote or illustration in my Sunday morning message for those sensitive to hear it. Today, while thinking about our church the lyrics "Get back to where you once belonged" comes to mind (The Beatles, Let It Be Album).

Four years ago, we were riding a wave of the highest worship attendance in years. Our average Sunday we saw as many as 80 worshippers and on special Sundays it was expected that we would see over 100! So, what happened? March 15th Covid-19 caused us to close our doors and move to on line worship. This was the longest year!

During this 12 months, we lost some members due to illness, death, and changes in life stages. A few moved away. Some left because of perceptions of the future of the United Methodist Church. Others just never got back into the "habit". Good habits are sometimes hard to establish. Bad ones seem easy. Regardless, it has changed who we perceive ourselves to be.

Let's think about the good habit of church. First, there has to be some benefit. A sense of community, feeling good or becoming better people, opportunities for leadership and participation, a sense of belonging and being wanted. I think those attributes are very descriptive of our church. And then there has to be core values that we share. The need to serve one another and those around us. Those opportunities abound.

Regardless of why church has moved down some list of priorities, I encourage you to rethink coming and being a part of the best thing happening in Clinton Tennessee!

Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer. Hebrews 10:25 GNT

Scott

February 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2 5:30-6:30 Food Pantry	3	4
5 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Service W/Communion	6 6:00 Scouts	7 Delta Kappa Gamma 5:30	8 5:30 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Bible Study, Youth & Children Choir 7:00 Adult Choir	9	10	11
12 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Service	13 6:00 Scouts	14 Valentines Day	15 5:30 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Bible Study, Youth & Children Choir 7:00 Adult Choir	16 5:30-6:30 Food Pantry	17	18
19 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Service	20 6:00 Scouts	21 12:00-2:00 Garden Club Meeting 6:30-7:30 Church Council Meeting	22 5:30 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Bible Study, Youth & Children Choir 7:00 Adult Choir	23	24	25
26 9:00 Holy Grounds 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Church Service 12:00 CHILI Cook Off	27 6:00 Scouts	28				

Evangelism/Outreach/Ministries-2023

INMATES REQUEST BOOKS - SOFT BACK BOOKS ONLY, NO STAPLES,
NO EXPLICIT SEX OR VIOLENCE.

The books can be fiction, biographies, autobiography, how-to books, Bible Study, Christian living, sports, animals. When we think of Outreach in our church, our thoughts go to all of the needs in the community; some are difficult to meet for many reasons. But others require little time. These resources are at our fingertips and in our homes -BOOKS. The inmates in the Anderson County are fathers, mothers, children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and friends of many of us, but they have made poor choices that have put them in Jail. As women discussed in our worship in the jail this past Thursday, several are thankful that they are in jail. They stated jail is giving them an opportunity to reflect on their lives, give them structure, and helping them face what they want to do with the rest of their lives. They are scared: scared of the lethal drugs on the street, scared of losing their children, scared because they are alone from broken relationships and trust, scared of an unknown future. They are also bored in jail and an idle mind is the Devil's workshop. Inmates in the women's worship service asked me specifically to help get a new supply of books in the Detention Center. Director of Alternative Programs, Lucretia Logan, strongly urged us to help meet this need, for both men and women. There is a box in the sanctuary when you can leave books. I will take them to jail. Hopefully this will be an ongoing outreach for our church. Thank you for all of your outreach support. Nancy Large.



Calling all FOODIES !!!

The upcoming Mardi Gras, Chili & Soup Cook-off Is coming up on Sunday February 26th after Church Service. Bring your BEST Chili or Soup recipe for judgment, prizes awarded. If soup or chili is not your thing then bring a dessert, fresh breads etc. to help the Children's Music Fund. Donations from voting will go to

Questions? Or, want to help?
Contact Gail Gallaher or
Kathleen Jones





Youth News

BEE ATTITUDES.



RESURRECTION 2023

The kids had a wonderful time! We drove from the church and were able to check into our weekend home "Arbors at Pigeon Forge" right away. We then walked over to the LaConte Center and were able to get into the Center in time for pm meeting. Although I had not been able to procure tickets prior and was worried about paying double the regular fee, I was able to purchase tickets from another church who had excess. It all worked out. I have heard this kind of serendipitous situations being called "God Winks" and I believe it to be true¹

Our 1st day in our seats were in the very front section. It was a little loud. The worship band is called FRVE FREE (teen speak=Forever Free) and boy they can move a room! Rev. Dr. Stephanie Hand was the speaker and she started out Friday with Luke 15: 11-32. There were a few tears in our youth, and maybe adults too (I'm the adult).

After session 1 we walked back to the Arbors and enjoyed a fire pit, and a live entertainer with a guitar. We had smores, sang songs by the fire then the youth were able to get in the heated pool. After swimming we enjoyed warm drinks, showers and a little TV before lights out.

Saturday, we got up early and enjoyed a buffet breakfast at Reagan's Pancake House and watched the sunrise as we walked back to LeConte Center for Session 2. We got there early enough to visit the prayer room and the retail shops set up for the conference. There was a special offering for a tribe in Peru called Kakataino which raised over \$6000.00 to have the New Testament translated in their own language.

Rev. Dr. Hand spoke on John 6:1-16. The band shoed up again and I was told by a youth "wow, everyday her talks grow greater". After session 2 we went shopping and the HS students attempted to make pizzas from scratch. More shopping at the Island and then dinner at Bennet's Barbeque

Saturday night's session (#3) was on John 14:1-14 was so inspirational that half of the Bee-Attitudes went forward during the altar call. I know they will need prayers; they are all great students and we look forward to seeing if this choice will bring them closer to God. Afterwards, most of us did mud facials and hung out doing crafts.

Sunday morning it was raining until it was time to go to session 4. Verse John 14:12 started off and the whole room was singing "Sanctuary". After Communion the band started and was back to it. We had lunch at Frizzles Chicken and back home to share our wonderful experiences. Jenny Nichol



Children's News

Dec 24, 1957 · 🕒 · 👤

**Memorial Methodist Church - Clinton TN -
Children's Christmas Choir -1957 or 1958**



Are you in this photo? Sorry, but that dates you.....

Children' s Choir is Back!

Rehearsal is every Wednesday at 6:00pm, taught by none other than Josh Allen. The start up is small in number but word of mouth will grow this activity and give our children memories they will keep forever. Bring a grandchild, a neighbor child that would benefit from this education and fun experience. Come at 5:00 and enjoy our Fellowship Dinner as well. We'll have pics next month of the current members.



Finance News

We have good news for the first month of the year. The numbers below give us continued hope for 2023!

January Budget Giving: \$26,019.00

January Expenses: \$19,735.00

January Balance: +\$6,284.00

Other 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.mumccClinton.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@mumccClinton.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 all of You!!!**



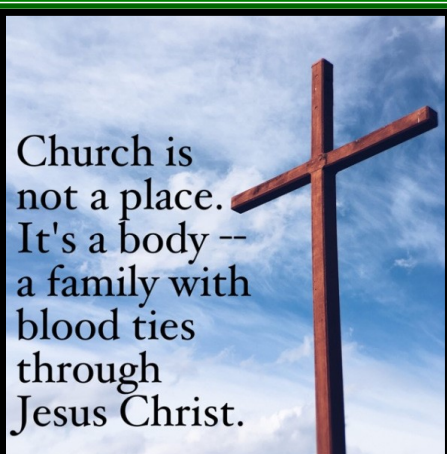
Birthdays for February 2023

02/02 Karen Cary, 02/09 Maggie Kirkpatrick, 02/10 Emma Schrider,
02/12 Charles Price, 02/13 Monica Austin Carroll, Ellie Murrell,
092/16 Ouida Steinkamp, 02/17 Dewayne Hickson, 02/20 Ken Barns, Jimmy
Dorsey, Gail Gallaher, 02/22 Jan Kirkpatrick, 02/23 Hollis Large, Susan Overstreet,
02/24 Bebe Combs, Wilma Lomax . 02/25 Lyndell Meier, Bobbie Sellers
02/26 Alice Connell

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



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 call the Church Office (865-457-2287).



DON'T FORGET OUR
EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS
As of 01/31/2023

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. Does anyone know how to get in touch with Alice???

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 ~ JANUARY 2023

In Memory of:

Donor:

Designated Fund

Diane Stakes	Memorial UMW	General Memorials
Audrey Van Pelt	Memorial UMW	General Memorials
Byron Hale	Missy Snead	Music Dept.
Alberta Grace	Mark, Donna & Corey Medley	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Alberta Grace	Sarah & Jim Ern Medley	Ida Gamble Scholarship
Betty Blevins	Evelyn Genzel of Ca.	General Memorials
Betty Blevins	Margaret Steel of Ga.	General Memorials
Betty Blevins	Johnanna Sprague	General Memorials
Caroline Lawson	Gwen & Jerry Ferguson	General Memorials
IN Honor of:		
Dr. P. J. Wenk	Deane & Sutton Kay	Food Pantry

Error from Dec.

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Omitted from Dec.



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

www.mumccclinton.org