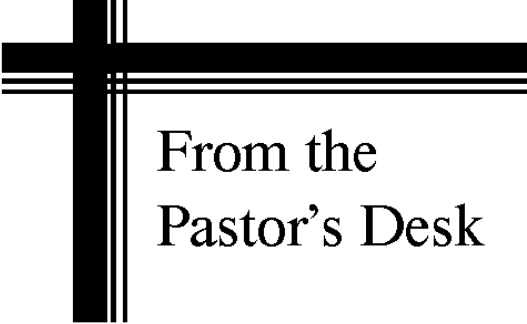


The MEMORIAL MESSENGER

APRIL 2024



From the Pastor's Desk

During the first part of this year, we learned a little bit about what it means to be United Methodist. We heard and read about the distinguishing marks of grace and holiness, and how the church is structured from the local church, to districts and conferences. And we learned about the importance of mission and ministry within our church.

In a few weeks our General Conference meets and will lay new paths for our future. General Conference is the legislative branch of our governance. Lay members and clergy will gather to discuss and move on

“change”. Change makes us uncomfortable, mainly because we like stability and a sense of normalcy. But for every four years, except during Covid-19 in 2020 this body has brought change. And my concern is that you (and I) don't get wrapped up in the fear of uncertainty.

The 3 main priorities before us in this General Conference are:

1. Removing the language of exclusion from the Discipline
2. Adopt a plan of regionalization and
3. Ending the process of disaffiliation from the church.

I'll touch briefly on each of these priorities.

Removing the language of exclusion does not mean that we are opening ourselves to same sex marriage or ordained clergy this year. It means that we are starting fresh with the discussions about what sexuality means in our culture. It is not intended to bringing us into a more permissive era, but to reevaluate what the language says about us. It means that stigmas will be removed that already limits participation in the local church.

Regionalization means that individual areas will be able to adapt and make legislation that is only applicative in your region. This is already in effect for the overarching landscape of United Methodism. Think of it like this... You are writing school curriculum for children in the rural United States. You are tempted to use something unfamiliar in an example which those in Korea may not understand such as, sidewalks on the Golden Gate Bridge. There is a need to use language and examples specific to our region which may not speak to United Methodists in Switzerland or Africa.

To my feeble mind, disaffiliation in the form we had was a demoralizing process which has left us with an identity crisis. We suffered a lot of pain and are just now learning what it means to be UM in the post Covid, post split world. It does (as any self-correcting system allows) mean that in four years' time, we see the need to revisit this option. That is the beauty of our governance, there is another opportunity to adjust in four years.

What can you do? Pray. General Conference is April 22 – May 3. Pray for safe travels for delegates. Pray for cool heads and warm hearts during times of discussion. Pray for God's will to be done. And pray that we ourselves will be patient with whatever our church learns about itself. I am still a firm believer that we have some rights and abilities to adapt to change in time. Love the church with the same intent that you love a spouse or child. We all have some growing to do.



April 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3 Delta Kappa Gamma @5:00	4 Food Pantry 5:30-6:30	5	6
7 Communion	8	9	10 5:30 DINNER 6:00 Bible Study, Youth with Jenny, Children's Choir 7:00 Choir Practice WEB-SITE Class	11 Staff/Parish Meeting at 6:30	12	13
14	15	16	17 5:30 DINNER 6:00 Bible Study, Youth with Jenny, Children's Choir 7:00 Choir Practice Samual Dzobo from Zimbabwe	18 Food Pantry 5:30-6:30	19	20
21	22	23	24 5:30 DINNER 6:00 Bible Study, Youth with Jenny, Children's Choir 7:00 Choir Practice	25	26	27
28 2-4:00pm Darcy Schrider's Children's Recital in Sanctuary.	29	30				



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ON EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST, WE HAD A TOTAL OF 8 NEW MEMBERS WITH 3 NEWLY CONFIRMED. THE PHOTOGRAPHER WAS NOT AVAILABLE THAT SUNDAY BUT PICTURES WILL BE FORTHCOMING SOON. THE NEW MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

**STEPHEN, KELLIE & MARLON HAMBLIN
116 TIMOTHY AVENUE
CLINTON, TN. 37716
EMAIL: HAPPYGOLUCKY73@HOTMAIL.COM**

**JENNY NICHOL AND SONS CHARLIE & CASH MCCOMAS (JENNY IS OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR)
314 SOUTH APACHE ROAD
CLINTON, TN. 37716
EMAIL: JENNYNICHOLUMMC@GMAIL.COM**

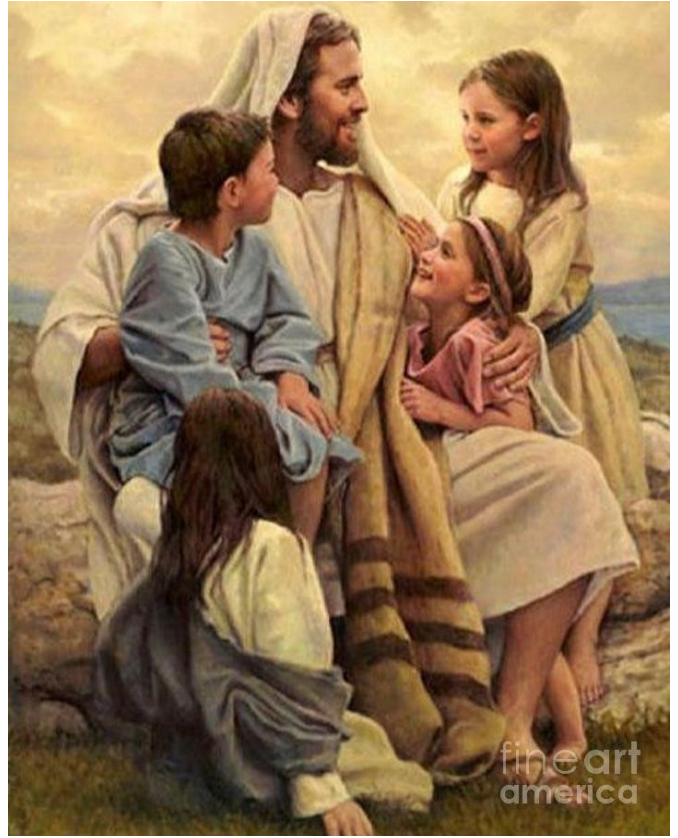
**DAVID & LINDA HARRIS
711 EAGLE BEND PLACE
CLINTON, TN. 37716**

CONFIRMED THIS DAY WERE MARLON HAMLIN, JOHN WESLEY HILL AND CASH MCCOMAS.

WE GIVE THESE NEW MEMBERS A BIG "SOUTHERN UNITED METHODIST" WELCOME AND MAKE THEM A PART OF OUR FAMILY. WE SHARE OUR LOVE AND SUPPORT OF YOU, FOREVER.



Food Bucket Mission 2024



This year's LIST is as follows:

- 1 Bag sugar (4-5 lb)
- 1 Bag self rising flour (4-5 lb)
- 1 Bag Rice (2 lb)
- 1 Bag dried beans (2 lb)
- 1 Powdered milk (no larger than 56.4 oz)
- 1 Bottle cooking oil (48 oz or less)
- Canned meat-(Ham, Tuna or Spam) 2 lbs total

You will spend \$40-45.00 for the listed supplies plus \$5.00 shipping per bucket. If you'd like to donate \$55.00 (includes shipping) the youth will shop and pack for you. Buckets are on order now and should be arriving soon. A sign-up sheet will be in the hallway so we know who is participating and which way. Contact the office or Jenny Nichol (304-840-7404) for more info or questions.



Free
**DAY
CAMP**
AGES 5-14



JUNE 24-28
8:30am - 4:30pm



NORRIS COMMONS
at Norris United Methodist

5 NORRIS SQUARE NORRIS, TN 37828

Register now! Camp is free, but space is limited!

Visit campinthecommunity.org/host/norris
or call (865) 494-9407

Finance News

The sun seems to be brighter in the Spring. Our Savior has risen and He indeed is ALIVE. Could we ask for more? Of course we could, but that would make us selfish. Christians are not selfish and share what they have with every one that needs it. And, we are so happy to have those people at Memorial UMC. Please See our blessings below:

March Budget Giving: \$32,628.00
March Expenses: \$20,482.00
March Balance: +12,146.00

Year to Date Giving: \$67,625.00
Year to Date Expenses: \$58,914.00
Balance Year to Date: +8,711.00

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.
Carol Luzader, Secretary/Treasurer

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 the people of Israel, Palestine and Ukraine.

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

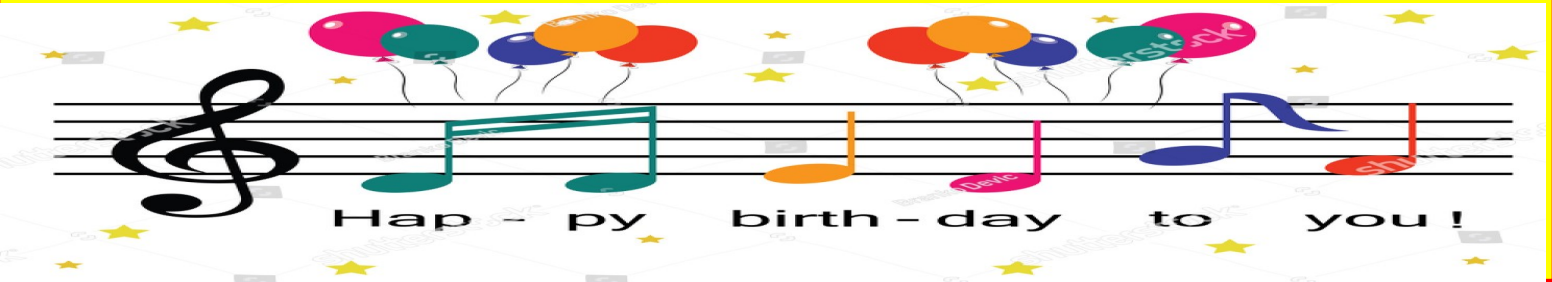
To the dedicated members serving our prayer chain. They are fearless, love and care for everyone and show this in their devotion to be truly “Prayer Warriors”. No crisis too big for them because God answers prayers. **Thank You!!**

Birthdays for April 2024

Happy Birthday Memorial Members, Happy Birthday to you!

4/03-Adah Freels, 4/05 Jenny Nichols, 4/09 Julie Knapp, 4/12-Leslie Stone, 4/13 Sarah Beth Pietrzak, 4/14 Gwen Ferguson, 4/18 Georgia Pietrzak, 4/19 Harper Maxwell, 4/20 Eli Kirkpatrick, 4/21 Sarah Rhea, 4/23 Jim Davis, 4/24 (crip) Denise Davis, Mike Harmening.

Let's continue our Birthday call campaign, especially for those homebound or in assisted living facilities. All of the addresses are in the Church Directory or check ChurchDirectory.com or call the Church Office (865-457-2287).



DON'T FORGET OUR EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS As of 3/31/2024

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

Becky Williams, Canterfield Assisted Living, 200 Bus Terminal Road, Room 239, Oak Ridge, TN. 37830. Her cell # is 865-591-5304.

At Home:

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

865-463-8336

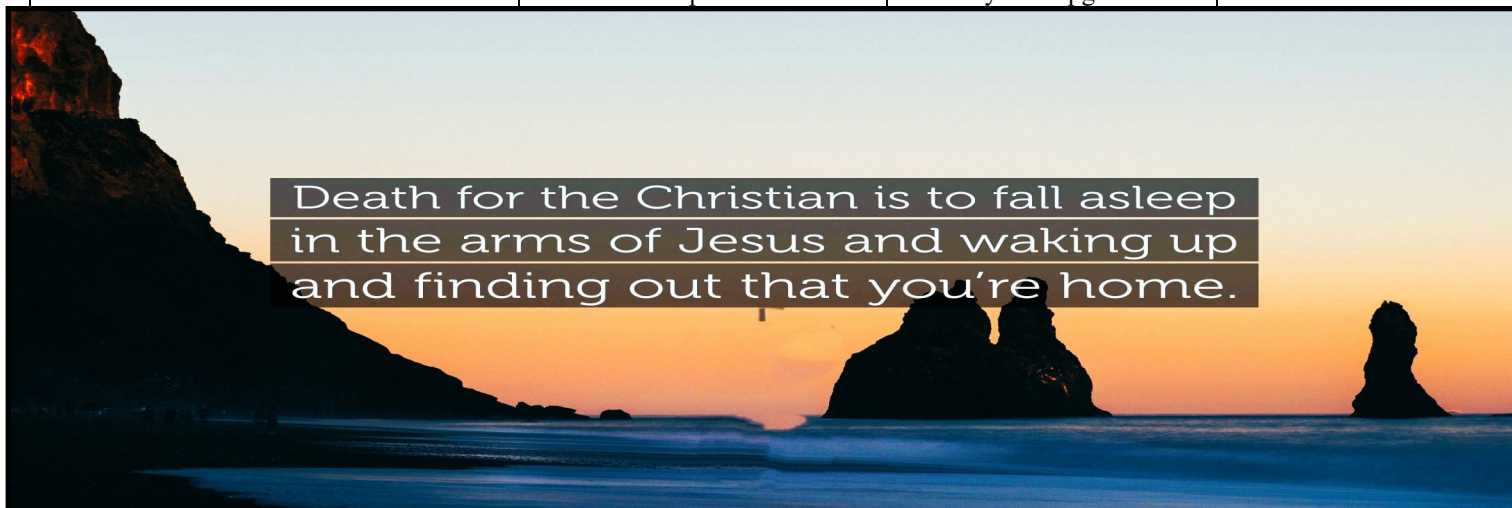
Phillip Wenk, 115 Dogwood Lane, Clinton 37716

865-457-9301

Ben Edwards (new address) C/O Stephanie Jones, 1820 Alysheba Run, Murfreesboro, TN. 37128

MEMORIALS ~ MARCH 2024

In Memory of	Donor Name	Designated Fund	Notes
Joe Rainey	Mark & Suzanne Caldwell	Sound System upgrade	
Bill Van Pelt	Deane & Sutton Key	Ida Gamble Scholarship	
Bill Van Pelt	Ouida & Bill Steinkamp	General Memorials	
Bill Van Pelt	Sarah & Jim Ern Medley	Ida Gamble Scholarship	
Bill Van Pelt	Steve & Bebe Combs	Sound System upgrade	
Joe Rainey	Steve & Bebe Combs	Sound System upgrade	
Bill Van Pelt	Daniel W. & Jane Posey	Sound System upgrade	
Bill Van Pelt	Drexel & Barbara Tiller	Sound System upgrade	Maryville, TN.
Bill Van Pelt	Andy & Therese Morris	Sound System upgrade	Atoka, TN.
Bill Van Pelt	Sharon McCarty	Sound System upgrade	
Bill & Audrey Van Pelt, Kim Pate	William Pate	Sound System upgrade	Fort Pierce, FL.
Bill Van Pelt	William B. & Alexina Van Pelt	Sound System upgrade	
Bill Van Pelt	V.L. & Stonecipher	Sound System upgrade	



Death for the Christian is to fall asleep
in the arms of Jesus and waking up
and finding out that you're home.

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

Serving God's People

Rev. Scott Wilks
Joshua Allen
Carol Luzader
Jenny Nichol

Pastor
Music Director/Organist
Secretary/Treasurer
Youth Ministries

parsonwilks@gmail.com
churchemail87@gmail.com
memorialumccclinton@gmail.com
jennynichol.ummc@gmail.com