



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

www.memorialumc-clinton.com

March 2017

Going Deeper

Traditionally in the church, the season of Lent is a time for going more deeply into Christian discipleship. In the early church, converts were instructed during the season of Lent and died to their old ways and were baptized during the Easter Vigil. The Easter Vigil was celebrated from Sundown on Saturday through Sunrise on Easter morning.

Today there are many practices to help us go more deeply into our journey of Christian discipleship. Currently there are five teenagers who are in the confirmation class. They are going more deeply into Christian discipleship as they learn about the church and our faith. They will soon be making decisions as to how deep they would like their journey to go. If they choose, they will be confirmed on Pentecost morning in worship. Thus far, they have learned about the Creation, Sin, Redemption, the Holy Spirit, the Church, New Creation, the Way of Discipleship, the Way of Salvation, the Wesley Quadrilateral, Worship, Sacraments, and Living a Holy Life. They will soon start the unit of the curriculum which will finally guide them to responsibilities of living in Christian Discipleship.

As the season of Lent approaches, I have read several articles in leadership and worship magazines that I receive. I have read and heard of many challenges being offered for this Lenten season. Most often we hear about "giving something up for Lent." The thought is to remove something in our lives that will help us to appreciate the sacrifice of Jesus as he journeyed to the cross and was eventually crucified. Fasting during the season of Lent has taken many forms. Some include fasting from food, technology, social media, and other more personal fasts.

This year, many are encouraging their readers and congregations to not fast, but rather add something to the season of Lent. It is suggested a person add daily scripture readings, prayer, small group participation, and participation in weekly worship to their Lenten routines. By adding Bible reading, Christian conversation, and six consecutive weeks of worship, one could truly honor Christ and seek a deeper faith experience during the season of Lent.

Each of us knows what is needed to personally deepen our Christian discipleship. There are also things we can do as a community of faith to deepen our Christian discipleship. As a community of faith, we will gather together just a little differently during the season of Lent. We will participate in a fast. During the Wednesdays of Lent, our meals will be light. There will be no dessert and only water to drink. We will also add to our Sunday morning worship services. Each Sunday during the season of Lent, we will gather around Christ's Holy Table. Each Sunday in the season of Lent, we will celebrate Holy Communion. We will experience God's grace as we gather for worship.

May we not just journey to the cross because it is that time once again on the Christian calendar. My prayer is for each and every one of us (and all of us, collectively) to grow closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ during the coming season of Lent.

Blessings,
Pastor Donna

YUMS (Young United Methodist Students) News

March Wednesday Night Line-Up

3/1—Ash Wednesday Service - we will meet with the congregation in the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary

For this season of Lent, we'll be looking at how and to whom Jesus showed love during his earthly ministry. Our memory verse—

I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. John 13:34

3/8—To Ten Lepers

3/15—To Zacchaeus

3/22—**Baby Shower for Newborns in Need:** Churchwide Spring Service Opportunity

3/29—At the Last Supper

Easter Egg Hunt: April 15th

The Thomas Family is hosting our churchwide Easter Egg hunt at their home, 702 Eagle Bend Road. The hunt begins at 10:00 AM. Bring your basket and a snack to share. If you would like to provide candy or small treats to stuff our eggs, please drop these off at the church office by April 2nd.

Mark Your Calendars...

Saturday, April 15th—Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, May 14th—Children's Sunday (YUMS will be leading worship!)

Saturday, July 22nd—Sunday, July 23rd—Vacation Bible School

Blessings,

Leanne

memorialumcyums@gmail.com

(865) 257-2946

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Sunday School Class

I am excited to announce a new Sunday School teacher for the youth class on Sunday mornings. Scott Rhea has agreed to lead the youth. While 9 in the morning might be a little early for youth to wake up and be at Sunday School, I believe it is worth the effort to learn from Scott. See you this Sunday for Sunday School.

Wednesday Night Study Schedule

We have finished the curriculum, Echo the Story, that we have been studying on Wednesday evenings. Echo was a 36 session survey of the Bible that began with the creation (Genesis) and continued through the New Creation (Revelation). March 8th, we will begin a new study called, Temptation. This study will be our Lenten study. Here is our Wednesday night schedule for the month of March.

03/01	Ash Wednesday Service – we will meet with congregation in the Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary
03/08	Temptation: Pride Luke 18:9-14
03/15	Temptation: Greed Luke 12:15-23
03/22	Spring Break – we will be a part of the church wide Baby Shower for Newborns in Need.
03/29	Temptation: Lust 2 Samuel 11; James 1:14-15, 1 Corinthians 10:13

Blessings,

Pastor Donna

RevGoofy96@aol.com

(865)457-2287 (office)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Pat McBryde, Otto and Marie Briscoe, Lee Wysor, and Deloris Johnson. Our Pastor, Church and Church Families; Our Nation's Service Men, Women, and their families.

Flower Donors for MARCH 2017

March 5	Joe and Pam Rainey
March 12	Jim Ern and Sarah Medley
March 19	Tom and Nancy Thrasher
March 26	Altar Guild

MEMORIAL CAMP MADNESS BRACKET CHALLENGE

Summer Camp is an important experience for many children, but it is also a costly one for many parents. Memorial traditionally provides scholarships for half of the cost for any child from our church who wants to attend camp. To help fund the scholarships in a fun way, it is time for the fourth annual Memorial Camp Madness Bracket Challenge. With the NCAA tournament starting this month, fill out a bracket with us, help children go to camp, and have a chance at some really cool prizes like VIP parking at church, Potluck Pass – the first in line for fellowship meals. Prizes will go to the top four brackets with the winner choosing a prize first then 2nd place and so on. Below are the minimum donations, more generous offerings are always appreciated. Make checks payable to Memorial United Methodist Church and designate for camp madness.

Single Bracket \$20

2 Brackets for \$35

Family Pack of 4 Brackets \$60

You may also donate to camp scholarships without participating in the Bracket Challenge

Brackets will be completed online at ESPN.com. Info on how to join the challenge will be emailed to all who donate by Wednesday 3/15. Brackets must be filled out and saved on ESPN.com before 11am on Thursday 3/16. Help will be provided by Pastor Donna for those who would like to participate but do not have computer access or have trouble with the ESPN site.

MARCH 2017 CALENDAR

Wed., Mar.1	5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH 6:00p Ash Wednesday Service, Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
Thur., Mar.2	11:30a Grace Circle and UMW, FH, bring your lunch. 5:30p Food Pantry
Sun., Mar. 5	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service 2:00p Staff Meeting 4:00p Confirmation Class
Wed., Mar. 8	5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH 6:00p-7:15p Bible Study 6:00p-7:15p YUMS 6:00p-7:15p Youth 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
Sun., Mar. 12	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service 4:00p Confirmation Class
Wed., Mar. 15	5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH 6:00p-7:15p Bible Study 5:30p-7:15p YUMS 5:30p-7:15p Youth 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
Thur., Mar. 16	5:30p Food Pantry
Sun., Mar. 19	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service
Wed., Mar. 22	5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH 6:00p-7:15p Baby Shower for Newborns in Need, FH 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
Sun., Mar. 26	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service 4:00p Confirmation Class
Wed., Mar. 29	5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH 6:00p-7:15p Bible Study 5:30p-7:15p YUMS 5:30p-7:15p Youth 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If the Anderson County Schools are closed, church activities will not meet! You can check on Facebook and the website regarding office hours and weekend activities.

UMW NEWS

The Grace Circle of United Methodist Women will meet on Thursday, March 2nd, at 11:30a. Please bring your lunch Also, read chapter five of *Jesus' Parables about Priorities...the Priority of Forgiveness*. At this time we invite the congregation to participate in getting items together for the 2017 Holston Hands-on-Mission Health Kits.. These items are listed on the bulletin boards in the hallway. If you would like, donations will be accepted and the shopping will be done for you.

SUMMER CAMP JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH ASSEMBLY

Our children and youth are beginning to talk about Summer Camp and Junior and Senior High Assembly. It is time to think about registering them for these events (many camping slots are filling up!). The church will scholarship one half of the cost for these events.

The brochures for Camp Wesley Woods have arrived. They are in the information rack on the table next to the church office. The summer camping season begins the week of June 4th. The season concludes the week of July 23rd. Costs vary depending on the age and camp selected by the camper. The church scholarship code will be used during online registration. If you pick up a brochure from the rack, the scholarship code can be found on the back of the brochure. If you are a returning camper and a brochure was mailed to you, the scholarship code is available from the church office or Pastor Donna. We want to make sure everyone who would like to attend camp has an opportunity.

Junior and Senior High Assembly will be held June 26-30, 2017. The location for this year's Assembly will be Tennessee Wesleyan University. The registration forms for Assembly are also in the information rack on the table next to the church office. The cost for Assembly is as follows

\$112.50 Now through April 26th
\$137.50 April 27th – May 31st
\$167.50 Registration at the Door

To register for Assembly, fill out the form and turn it in along with a check made payable to Memorial United Methodist Church and designated for Assembly to the church office or Pastor Donna.

Baby Shower for Newborns in Need: Churchwide Spring Service Opportunity

Please make plans to join us on Wednesday, March 22nd for a party! We will welcome East Tennessee Newborns in Need President, Mary Ellen Rider. She will share about her organization's mission and work in our area. Newborns in Need, Inc. (NIN) is a 501(c) 3 charity organized to help take care of needy babies. NIN volunteers provide care necessities to agencies and hospitals serving premature, ill, or impoverished newborns. Newborns In Need distributes items free of charge to babies in the United States. You can learn more about this organization via their website, newbornsinneed.org.

Please bring newborn diapers, onesies, sleepers, receiving blankets, etc. to shower Newborns in Need. We will have collection bins at the entrances to the sanctuary beginning the first Sunday in March so if you are unable to join us March 22nd you can bring any items you may wish to donate. Thank you so much for your generosity and being part of our churchwide work to share Christ's love with those in need.



Memorial United Methodist Church

323 North Main Street
Clinton, TN 37716

Office: (865)457-2287
Fax: (265)457-4436
Email: memorialumccanton@gmail.com
Website: www.memorialumc-clinton.com

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Serving God's People

Donna Hester
Joshua Allen
Leanne Hennessey
Andrea Fritts
Dawn Walker

Pastor
Music Director/Organist
Children's Activity Coordinator
Secretary
Housekeeping/Custodian

RevGoofy96@aol.com
joshuaallensings@gmail.com
memorialumcyums@gmail.com
memorialumccanton@gmail.com