



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

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June 2017

Saying “I Do” and “I Will”

³⁴ *“I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other.”* ³⁵ *This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other.”*

-- John 13:34-35 (CEB)

On Sunday, June 4th, five youth will be confirmed during the Pentecost worship service. They will be asked several questions about the beliefs and the actions of their faith. As they are asked and answer the vows of their faith, it is an opportunity for each and every person in the congregation to hear and renew the vows of their faith.

The final questions they will be asked are these: As members of Christ’s universal church, will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries? As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness? This final question is the question that asks about a person’s intent and action as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

As I observe people, listen to people and consider my own Christian actions, I think these are the most difficult questions of all asked as one stands before God. It is easy to stand and talk about what we believe. It is easy to respond to the question, Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil power of this world, an repent of your sin? It is easy to respond to the question, Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? It is easy to respond to the question, Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? The I do’s are pretty easy to say. Two simple words.

Then come the last two questions. The questions that talk about our response to being called by Jesus. We answer with two words – I Will! The response is observed more than just one moment in time as we say two, simple words of “I Do.” Besides saying “I Will,” our actions will be observed from the moment the question is asked until we take our final breath.

The questions concerning our loyalty and our participation are really questions that come straight from Jesus as he asks how we will live out his call. Jesus commanded his disciples (and eventually us) to love each other. We act upon our loyalty and participation as we pray for one another and all in need. We act upon our loyalty and participation as we are present in learning, worship, and with the needs of our fellow human beings. We act upon our loyalty and participation when we take the time to learn and use the gifts God has given us. We act upon our loyalty and participation as we witness to others the love and care of God.

When we say, “I Do” and “I Will”, we are embarking on a life of commitment and service to God. When we say, “I Do” and “I Will” we are walking in the footsteps of the Disciples who responded to Jesus’ words, “follow me.” When we say, “I Do” and “I Will” we are ready, willing and able to minister through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

I would encourage you to listen as the questions of the confirmation vows are asked on June 4th. Listen as though you are taking them once again. Listen to the confirmation vows and deeply consider if you are still able to answer with a whole hearted, “I Do” and “I Will”. My prayer is for June 4th to be a day in which some say “I Do” and “I Will” for the very first time. May it also be a day in which others reaffirm their “I Do” and “I Will”. May it be a day in which we all live out Jesus’ command and call.

Blessings,
Pastor Donna

YUMS (Young United Methodist Students) News

As we celebrate summer, I encourage you to remember the verse that we shared on Children's Sunday, John 13:34, *I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other.* We have several special activities planned for children and families to celebrate and grow in their relationship with Jesus. We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Summer FUN

Wednesday, June 7th—Pool Party at Jaycee Park (6:30 PM to 8:30 PM)

Wednesday, July 12th—Roller Skating Party at Tri-County Roller Arena (6:00 PM to 8:00 PM)

Camp-Out VBS—Get S'more of Jesus - Saturday, July 22nd—Sunday, July 23rd

Our theme is Jesus is the light—*Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." (John 8:12)*

Your registration helps us make best use of church resources and plan the best programming. Sign up here (preK through rising 6th grade): <https://vbspro.events/p/events/mumcvbs2017>

A big thank you to those of you who have expressed willingness to volunteer with VBS. I will be in touch soon with our specific needs. More volunteers (adult and youth) are needed, please let me know your area of interest!

Blessings,

Leanne

memorialumcyums@gmail.com

(865) 257-2946

YOUTH NEWS

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the adults who have helped lead and teach our youth over the past school year. Thank you Kim Eby, Zach Farrar, Sherry Livengood, and Nancy Thrasher. Your help was invaluable to me as we learned about the Bible, Temptations, and Our Faith. During the summer, there will not be weekly scheduled activities. We will participate in the special activities of the congregation.

Summer FUN

Wednesday, June 7th—Pool Party at Jaycee Park (6:30 PM to 8:30 PM)

Wednesday, July 12th—Roller Skating Party at Tri-County Roller Arena (6:00 PM to 8:00 PM)

Service Opportunity

On Saturday, July 23rd and Sunday, July 24th, the rooms and halls of Memorial UMC will be transformed into a campground for Vacation Bible School. Volunteers are needed for these 2 days. I encourage all youth to help with this event as we bring the word of God to life for our children. Contact me or Leanne Hennessey (865) 257-2946 and let us know you are willing to spread the light of Jesus!

Blessings,

Pastor Donna

RevGoofy96@gmail.com

(865)457-2287 (office)

(423)967-5365 (cell)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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



Flower Donors for JUNE 2017

- June 4 Allen and Denise Crenshaw Smith
- June 11 John and Kathleen Jones
- June 18 Jim and Denise Davis
- June 25 Ret. Col. W.L. Cooper

HELP NEEDED!

Help is needed with our children on Sunday morning. We need a children's Sunday School teacher for the month of July. This would include July 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 30th. Our VBS program will be responsible for the July 23rd lesson.

We also need nursery workers for the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

If you are able to supply any of these needs, please contact Sarah Medley at 865-457-2577

RECITAL

Dear friends,

I would like to invite you to attend a benefit recital in the Sanctuary on Sunday June 11th, at 6:30pm. All gifts received benefit my travels to study in Graz, Austria this Summer.

Admission is free, and baskets for donations will be by the doors. No one is expected to give to attend. I only wish to accept gifts from those who are able and willing to give.

All are welcome, so invite your co-workers, friends, and anyone you think would enjoy a combination of classical, sacred, and musical theatre songs. This is a fun way to share music we all enjoy. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Josh Allen

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Due to the Conference email server not communicating well with AOL, Pastor Donna is changing her email address. Pastor Donna's email address is now RevGoofy96@gmail.com.

JUNE 2017 CALENDAR

- Thur., June 1 5:30p Food Pantry
- Sun., June 4 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service, Confirmation Sunday
11:00a Reception for Confirmands
11:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
2:00p Reception for Dr. Adam McKee at First United Methodist, Oak Ridge
- Wed., June 7 6:30p-8:30p Pool Party, Jaycee Park
- Sun., June 11 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service
11:00a Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6:30p-8:00p - Josh Allen's Recital
- Sunday 11th-Wednesday 14th, Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska
- Thur., June 15 5:30p Food Pantry
- Sun., June 18 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service, FH
- Sun., June 25 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service

Mark Your Calendars!



Reception for Rev. Dr. Adam McKee and Charlotte McKee

Please join us for a reception honoring District Superintendent Dr. Adam McKee and his wife Charlotte on Sunday, June 4, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Oak Ridge. We hope you will take this opportunity to stop by and express your gratitude for eight years of faithful service in the Oak Ridge District. A special presentation to Adam and Charlotte will be made during the reception at 3:00 p.m.

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF

GIVEN BY

FUND

Stella Wheeler

Ronnie and Marjorie Phillips

Summer Scholarships

Kathleen Cardwell

Cathy Brown

Food Pantry

Jim and Denise Davis

Mary Anne Peaglear

Food Pantry

CONFIRMATION WORSHIP AND RECEPTION

Sunday, June 4th is Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday! Five youth (Sarah Burton, Stone Hatmaker, Romy Hitson, Sophia Hitson, and Clara Thomas) will be confirmed during the worship service.

There will be a reception for the confirmation class following the worship service. The reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Please make plans to attend the reception to greet Sarah, Stone, Romy, and Sophia and welcome them as professing members of Christ's church.

Mark Your Calendars for Summer FUN

Make sure you put these dates on your calendar so you'll be ready for our summer activities....

Wednesday, June 7th—Pool Party at Jaycee Park (6:30 PM to 8:30 PM)

Wednesday, July 12th—Roller Skating Party at Tri-County Roller Arena (6:00 PM to 8:00 PM)



Memorial United Methodist Church

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Children's Activity Coordinator
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