



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

www.memorialumc-clinton.com

November 2017

PURSUE LIFE!

²²Jesus refused. "First things first. Your business is life, not death. Follow me. Pursue life."

--Matthew 8:22 (The Message)

The theme of this year's stewardship campaign is PURSUE LIFE. The idea and emphasis comes from Matthew 8:18-22. Jesus instructs the disciples and those from the crowds who choose to closely follow him to be about the business of life. Jesus says to pursue life!

I have been reflecting on this scripture since late July. I have been especially interested by the way in which the Message interprets verse 22. This interpretation expresses an urgency to me. The urgency is about the life and activity Jesus has placed before us. We are to follow him and pursue life. We are not to roll in remorse over the decline and death of the church as we know it. We are to follow Jesus and serve the least, the last, and the lost. We are to share and seek the life we have been given in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus talks a lot about life. He meets the woman at the well and offers her living water. He offers her water that will quench her spiritual thirst. Jesus declares himself to be the Bread of Life. He promises through him our souls will not want for food. Jesus proclaims, "I am the resurrection and the life." He promises we will live even though we die. Jesus offers us life abundant. He offers us the ability to live life to the fullest in this world and the next.

I would encourage you to take some time to reflect on Jesus' teachings about life. I would also encourage you to spend some time with this gospel passage from Matthew. As you end your reflection ask yourself the following questions:

- Is my business life or death?
- Do my words center around life or death?
- Am I following Jesus?
- How could I follow Jesus more closely?
- Am I pursuing life?
- What could I change so that I better pursue life?

I know each of us will find ways in which we can more closely follow Jesus. I know each of us can take steps in order to have a stronger pursuit of life. I pray we will all hear and heed the words of Jesus. I pray we will follow Jesus and Pursue Life. If we are about our business of life, we can make a huge difference in our community and in our world!

Please join me in Pursuing Life!

Blessings,
Pastor Donna



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Christmas Program: Sunday, December 10th at 3:00 PM

Mark your calendars now! The children and youth will present an afternoon program that is sure to be a highlight of your holiday season.

Parents and loved ones of our children, please let me know if your child would like to be part of our program. Practice for the Christmas program begins Wednesday, November 1st.

Wednesday Night YUMS Line-Up

11/1—Christmas Program Preparation

11/8—Christmas Program Preparation

11/15—Christmas Program Preparation

11/22—NO YUMS (Thanksgiving Break)

11/29—Christmas Program Preparation

Rez Kidz 2018: February 10th-11th

This event is the Holston Conference's family worship event. Directly from the event website:

Our theme this year is "Jesus is my Jam!" We'll focus on Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." (ESV)

Session 1 will look at The Word and how God's Word is what teaches us everyday. Session 2 will focus on Worship: Jesus is our Jam and all of our praise goes to Him. In Session 3, we'll explore Thankfulness: Jesus gave His all for us and we are thankful.

A little more directly from the event organizers:

At Rez Kidz, we dream of parents and their children committing together to make their faith a priority. We dream of boys and girls who light up with excitement when they walk through the door and leave in wonder about a King who loves them. We dream of families committing themselves wholeheartedly to the commands of the Lord. We dream of watching the gospel message change lives, one family at a time.

The event is held at The Connexion in Sevierville, TN. Cost is \$20 per person over age of 3 plus lodging and food expenses. If you and your family would like to attend this event, please let me know by Wednesday, November 15th so that we can begin making plans for our group. Website <http://www.rezkidz.com> will provide you with additional information.

Blessings,

Leanne

memorialumcyums@gmail.com

(865) 257-2946

CHOIR NEWS

I would like to congratulate the Choir on a spirit-filled concert. There were three churches represented. The choir sang beautifully and the solos were touching. The church truly is alive, and the Choir continues to promote its life through Music.

Next, the Choir will prepare for another community outreach program. On December 17th at 6pm the Choir will present a Christmas program of Lessons and Carols. We will begin rehearsing on Wednesday October 25th.

All are welcome to join the Choir, even non-members. All it takes is to begin coming to rehearsals! It's easy to learn music in a group, and we have a place just for you!

If music isn't your gift, perhaps you can participate in another way. There is a need for greeters, readers, and food for a reception on December 17th. Please pray on, and think how you can participate in this ministry.

Sincerely,
Josh Allen

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



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

PRAYER CHAIN

The MUMC Prayer Chain is changing. We will be contacting via email all prayer requests. Those wishing to be added to the existing prayer chain should contact Jo Henegar by email and let her know that you want to be added to the chain. Email her at vhenegar@comcast.net.

Flower Donors for November 2017

November 5 Mary Jo Richardson
November 12 Charles and Kay Price
November 19 Pat Hedden McBryde
November 26 V.L. and Pat Stonecipher

THANK YOU

A special thank you to each person who provided excellent hospitality for the Cluster Charge Conference. The youth did an awesome job parking cars and greeting guests. The door greeters were magnificent in welcoming our guests and providing needed information. Our hospitality (and safety yellow shirts) stood out and made an impression on all who gathered together for the business of the church!

CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

As you make your plans for Christmas, don't forget to plan your worship of the Christ Child. There will be two services on Christmas Eve. The first service will be at 5:00 p.m. with a Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Then at 9:00 p.m., there will be a Candlelight and Communion Christmas Eve Service.

UMW NEWS

The Grace Circle of UMW will meet Thursday, November 2nd at 11:30. A light meal will be served. Cindy McGhee from St. Mark United Methodist Church will be our speaker, telling us about her mission trip to Mexico. The ladies from St. Mark, Mary Martha United Methodist Women and Memorial are invited to hear this inspirational talk.

The pecans are here and can be picked up at the office...this is our major fundraiser and we appreciate your participation in supporting this sale.

NOVEMBER 2017 CALENDAR

- Wed., Nov. 1 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH
6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study
6:00p-7:15p YUMS
6:00p-7:15p Youth
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
- Thur., Nov. 2 11:30a Grace Circle and UMW, FH
5:30p Food Pantry
- Sun., Nov. 5 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; John 11:11-27
1:00p Staff Meeting
- Wed., Nov. 8 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH
6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study
6:00p-7:15p YUMS
6:00p-7:15p Youth
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
- Sun., Nov. 12 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service
Psalm 78:1-7; Luke 9:57-62
- Wed., Nov. 15 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH
6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study
6:00p-7:15p YUMS
6:00p-7:15p Youth
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
- Thur., Nov. 16 5:30p Food Pantry
- Sun., Nov. 19 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service
Psalm 123; Matthew 25:14-30
- Wed., Nov. 22 **OFFICE CLOSED**
- Thur., Nov. 23 8:00a Men's Thanksgiving Breakfast, FH
9:15a Youth Clean up, FH
OFFICE CLOSED—THANKSGIVING DAY
- Sun., Nov. 26 8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary
9:00a Sunday School
10:00a Morning Service
Psalm 100; Matthew 25:31-46
- Wed., Nov. 29 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH
6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study
6:00p-7:15p YUMS
6:00p-7:15p Youth
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice

YOUTH NEWS

Wednesday Night Study Schedule

- 11/01 Friends: Wrapping it All Up
- 11/08 Christmas Program Preparation
- 11/15 Christmas Program Preparation
Resurrection Money is Due!
- 11/22 (No Wednesday Night Programming)
- 11/29 Christmas Program Preparation

Resurrection 2018

Resurrection 2018 will be held, January 19 – 21, 2018 at the LeConte Center in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The speaker for Resurrection 2018 is the Reverend Rachel Billups. The worship band for the weekend is I Am They. All youth 6th through 12th grade are invited to join us in Pigeon Forge. The cost for the trip is \$100. **All money MUST be turned in by November 15, 2017.**

Thanksgiving Breakfast Clean-up

The youth will clean up following the Men's Thanksgiving Breakfast on November 23, 2017. Meet in the kitchen at 9:15 a.m. to begin the clean-up.

November 29th

We will be preparing and serving the Wednesday Night meal. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Youth Room for the help needed.

Children and Youth Christmas Program

The Children and Youth Christmas Program will be held on December 10th at 3:00 p.m. The Youth will begin preparing for the program on Wednesday night's beginning on November 8th. If you are in 6th through 12th grade and would like to be a part of the Christmas Program, we would love for you to join us. There are plenty of parts for everyone!

Blessings,

Pastor Donna

RevGoofy96@gmail.com

(865)457-2287 (office)

(423)967-5365 (cell)

ALTAR GUILD

Altar Guild has several openings in January and March for donors for the Altar flowers. If you are interested in being a flower donor please contact Libby Freels at 457-6742.

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

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

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