



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

www.memorialumc-clinton.com

March 2019

I Am Going to Love

The General Conference of the global United Methodist Church met in St. Louis, Missouri, this last week. Clergy and lay delegates elected from Annual Conferences all over the world, including Holston, make up the General Conference--the body that orders our life as a Christian denomination. These persons met in this special session to address a topic that is controversial in our culture and in the church-- human sexuality and our denomination's relationship with the LGBTQ+ community. In seeking a way forward, the General Conference made no clear change in our denomination's current stance or policies regarding LGBTQ+ clergy and same-gender wedding ceremonies.

There was no clear change and no clear winner from this conference. Today the United Methodist Church and the world are filled with hurt. There are broken hearts, broken souls, and broken spirits. I realize just how broken the world is around me. My heart is broken as I realize that the faith I hold and proclaim is creating some of the brokenness around me.

As I reflect on all that has happened, I reflect on some of what I have preached over the past month as the lectionary readings have directed us to consider love. The first letter of John states that God is love. The Gospel of John says, God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son, so everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. God's only Son, Jesus, taught us the greatest commands of God are to love God with all our heart, being, and mind. We are also to love our neighbor as yourself. The law and prophets are based on these commands. Additionally, Jesus taught us to love our enemies and do good to those who hate you.

As I reflect and talk with my Heavenly Father and Creator, I realize nothing has changed in what is expected of me. I am expected to love God, love neighbor, and love enemy. I can turn to 1 Corinthians 13 for a refresher on what is and is not love. The clear change comes from me. Am I going to love or am I going to point fingers and shout insults? Am I going to love or am I going to spread falsehoods? Am I going to love or am I going hate?

I am going to love. I am going to pay closer attention to my words and actions. I am going to love my LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters. I am going to love those who do not see the world as I do. I am called to transform the world. I am going to transform the world with love.

Blessings,
Pastor Donna

General Conference Debriefing

On Sunday, March 3rd at 3:00 pm (3/3 at 3:00pm), the Tennessee Valley District will gather at Powell United Methodist Church for worship and a word from our delegation post-General Conference. This gathering is for clergy and laity. The delegation will send us a video_message, plus one of the delegation members will be present with us. Each of the nine districts have designated a gathering point for this same hour.

March Wednesday Night Line-Up

3/6—Join us for an Ash Wednesday program in the Fellowship Hall from 6:15 PM to 7:15 PM (No YUMS Program)

3/13—The Widow's Coins

3/20—Spring Break (No YUMS or Wednesday night programming)

3/27—The Two Houses

Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 20th

Meet in the church Fellowship Hall at 10:00 AM. Bring your basket for the hunt! **Please bring donations of small treats or individually wrapped candy to the church office by Sunday, April 7th**—We need these to stuff our eggs!

Mark your calendar...

Saturday, 4/20—Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, 5/12—Student Sunday (The children will have leadership roles in morning worship.)

July 8th-12th—Camp in the Community

Blessings,

Leanne

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YOUTH NEWS 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. 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 2nd. The season concludes the week of July 28th. Costs vary depending on the age and camp selection of 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 24-28, 2019. The location for this year's Assembly will be Emory and Henry College. 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 May 2nd
- \$137.50 May 3rd – May 30th
- \$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.

WINTER POLICIES Inclement Weather Policy

If the Anderson County Schools are closed, church activities will not meet. Check on Facebook and the website regarding office hours.

School Closings for Illness

If the Anderson County Schools and/or the Clinton City Schools are closed due to illness, church activities will not meet.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Otto Briscoe, Lee Wysor, Pat Wenk, Libby Freels, Our Pastor, Church and Church Families; Our Nation's Service Men, Benjamin Shipley, Women, and their families.



Flower Donors for March 2019

March 3	Joe and Pam Rainey
March 10	Bill and Alice Connell
March 17	Tom and Nancy Thrasher
March 24	Samuel Franklin
March 31	Bill and Leslie Stone

ACOLYTES NEEDED

Calling all people who are in the fourth grade or older. We are in need of additional acolytes. If you would like to help in leading worship as an acolyte, please contact Kathleen Jones.

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 sixth 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. Prizes which include VIP church parking and Potluck Passes. 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 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 March 20th. Brackets must be filled out and saved on ESPN.com before 11am on Thursday March 21st. 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 2019 CALENDAR

Sun., Mar. 3	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Tues., Mar. 5	10:00a Staff Meeting
Wed., Mar. 6	5:30p-6:15p Dinner in FH 6:15p Lesson and Service of Ashes, FH 7:30p Chancel Choir Practice
Thur., Mar. 7	11:30a Grace Circle will meet in FH 5:30p Food Pantry
Sun., Mar. 10	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Ephesians 5:1-20
Wed., Mar. 13	5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH 6:00p-7:15p Adult Bible Study 6:00p-7:15p YUMS 6:00p-7:15p Youth 7:15p Chancel Choir Practice
Sun., Mar. 17	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service Psalm 27; Luke 10:25-37
Thur., Mar. 21	5:30p Food Pantry
Sun., Mar. 24	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service Psalm 63:1-8; John 15:9-17
Wed., Mar. 27	5:30p-6:00p Dinner in FH 6:30p-7:15p Adult Bible Study 6:00p-7:15p YUMS 6:00p-7:15p Youth 7:15p Chancel Choir Practice
Sun., Mar. 31	8:30a Prayer in the Sanctuary 9:00a Sunday School 10:00a Morning Service Psalm 32; Philippians 4:4-20

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 6th is Ash Wednesday. As the Season of Lent begins, we will gather together in the Fellowship Hall for a Lesson and Service of Ashes at 6:15 p.m. This will be a hands-on lesson time as we begin with the dried palm from last year's Palm Sunday worship service. If the weather is permissible, we will burn palms. All will have a hand in preparing the palms to ash for the service. We will learn why the ashes and day are important to our repentance and preparation for Easter. Finally, we will conclude the time with a service where we receive the ashes and begin our Season of Preparation. This time of lesson and service will be our Wednesday night programming.

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF

Howard Henegar

Jo Henegar

Ruth Thompson

William McBryde

Pat McBryde

Chuck Green

Marie Briscoe

Kate Bailey

Deloris Johnson

Kenneth McCarty

GIVEN BY

Jim Ern and Sarah Medley
Zach and Mollie Farrar
Buford and Karen Bray

Jim Ern and Sarah Medley
Zach and Mollie Farrar
Sutton and Deane Kay
Mark and Donna Medley
Andrea Fritts
Bill and Ouida Steinkamp
Tom and Nancy Thrasher
Dow and Peggy Burton and Family
Buford and Karen Bray
Ellie Green
V.L. and Pat Stonecipher
Steve and Bebe Combs
Bill and Gail Gallaher
Mary T. Desmond

Cathy Brown
Andrea Fritts

Buford and Karen Bray

Buford and Karen Bray

Buford and Karen Bray

Buford and Karen Bray

Buford and Karen Bray

Buford and Karen Bray

Buford and Karen Bray

FUND

Ida Gamble Scholarship

Ida Gamble Scholarship

Food Pantry
Ida Gamble Scholarship

Food Pantry

Music

Music

General

Memorial United Methodist Church

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

Donna Hester
Joshua Allen
Leanne Hennessey
Andrea Fritts
Dawn Walker

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

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