

THE MESSENGER

Volume 19, Issue 7

July 2018

Myers
Memorial
United Methodist Church

LAST month, Rev. Amy Coles led us in a conversation on how The United Methodist Church has responded to human sexuality for the last 40 years. I believe those who participated found the time educational and fruitful. At the end of our time, everyone was invited to share three words as their prayer for the church today. Rev. Coles designed this wordle as a visual image of Myers Memorial's prayer. The larger the words the more common the occurrence among the prayers.



That June 10th conversation was the first of what I hope to be many more opportunities to engage in thoughtful conversation together about human sexuality and The United Methodist Church. There were a number of questions posed that day and I will be answering those questions in upcoming emails and newsletters. I am always available to meet with you or come talk with your small group or Sunday school class. I want to help you find accurate information and feel well informed as our denomination moves towards a special called General Conference session in February of 2019.

Speaking of that special called session, I want to remind us that General Conference is the only body able to make official statements for the UMC. So, there are currently no changes to our Book of Discipline and though possibilities have been shared, nothing will be voted upon until the February 2019 session. Even then, decisions may need to return to the Annual Conferences for ratification with a two-thirds vote.

You are encouraged to stay connected to the official news by following www.umc.org or www.wnccumc.org.

A few things I plan to offer in the months ahead:

- ~ A class on what it means to be a United Methodist. This will likely be offered as a Sunday school opportunity for any who would like to know more about the UMC and our polity and theology.
- ~ A book conversation on The Anatomy of Peace published by the Arbinger Institute. I encourage you to order the book and read it. Details of conversation opportunities will be made available towards the end of summer. This book will help us remember that to have any fruitful conversation we must have a heart of peace and not a heart of war.
- ~ I covenant to be a non-anxious presence during this time. I am going to ground myself deeply in God's Word and invite God's Spirit to deeply reside in my heart so that I might grow closer in my walk with Christ.

I am praying for the Body of Christ - you! I am here to journey with you as we are in ministry together, and I strongly believe that despite our differences; we are called to remain united with God and one another.

Pastor Sally

Going DEEP

A Summer Study of 1 John

What does it mean when we say we want to "go deeper" in our faith? How can we live deeper in Christ? Join us on Sundays at 10:50am as we dive deep in the words of 1st John.

July 1 ~ Deep Clean ~ 1 John 1:8-2:2

July 8 ~ Deep Desire ~ 1 John 2:12-17

July 15 ~ Deep Truth ~ 1 John 2:22; 4:1-3, 9-10

July 22 ~ Deep Hope ~ 1 John 2:28-3:2

July 29 ~ Deep Love ~ 1 John 2:9-11; 3:16-18; 4:7-21

August 5 ~ Deep Creativity ~ 1 John 5:11-20

UMW Cookie Pans & Cookbooks The United Methodist Women have discovered a hidden treasure of Cookbooks and Cookie Sheets! These are much loved items by those who have them. Don't have one? Get yours today! Word is that the cookie sheets are fabulous and a must have in your kitchen! The cookbooks are treasures to behold and filled with many yummy recipes!



Both Cookbooks and Cookie Sheets are on the bookshelf in the office hallway. Stop by to pick up one or two! Donations are accepted and will benefit the mission projects of the Myers Memorial UMC United Methodist Women!

Congregational Thanks

*Dear Church Family,
Thank you for your kind thoughts, calls, cards and especially your prayers as we deal with the loss of our grandson. Our family has felt the love of Myers Memorial and the prayers lifted up on our behalf. We cannot thank you enough for your concern and your prayers.
~ David & Paula Phillips*

ADULT MINISTRIES

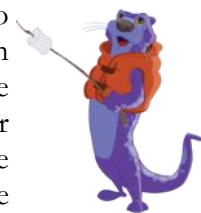
Connie Elzey, Director of Christian Education
dce@MyersMemorialUMC.com, 704-864-3222 ext. 105

Myers Memorial 60+ Fellowship ~ July Events

We encourage all our 60+ to attend our Vacation Bible School each evening July 15-18. Our meal begins at 5:30 and our adult class will begin at 6:30 with Marty Brown and David Elzey. Plan to bring a friend and join us. That same week is our regular third Thursday meeting day, July 19. Join us at 11:30am at Webb Custom Kitchen in downtown Gastonia for lunch together. Please make your lunch reservation with Connie by Monday, July 16.

Vacation Bible School will be Rip Roaring Fun!

We will need a lot of help preparing Myers Memorial for our "Rolling River Rampage". If you are willing to assist with our decorating please join us on Saturday, July 7 and July 14 at 9 am. We are still seeking volunteers to work with our preschoolers, to be floaters and to assist in the kitchen for our mealtime. To volunteer please contact the church office, April Proctor, Tanya Martin or Connie Elzey.



HalfTime ~ The Blessings of Mid-Life We had a great meeting in May with Rev. Eddie Ingram and in June with Lee Black. We have decided to continue meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month! We will gather for fellowship and discussion on topics that we are coping with during this season of life. In July the 3rd Monday is Vacation Bible School week and many are volunteering for this exciting time in the life of Myers Memorial. If you are not a volunteer, you are encouraged to attend the Adult Class July 15-18 with Marty Brown and David Elzey. Dinner is served at 5:30p and the Adult class will meet in the Asbury Room beginning at 6:30pm. Please mark your calendars for the next gathering on August 20.

Congregational Care Would you be willing to visit our homebound or send cards to those that are unable to attend church regularly? Contact Connie Elzey to assist with this ministry.

Bulletin Boards We have lots of hallways and classrooms that have bulletin boards that could use a facelift! If you would like to assist with our Bulletin Board Ministry contact Connie Elzey or April Proctor, Nurture Chairperson. Thank you for helping our classrooms and hallways shine!

Support Groups Our GriefShare support group continues to meet each Tuesday morning at 10 am in the Parlor. Our Divorce Care and Divorce Care for Kids program will begin on September 4 at 6:30 pm. If you or others you know are interested in these support groups, please contact Connie Elzey.

Myers' Health Cabinet



THaKO

Total Knee Replacement *Dr. Bob McCullen, Myers Health Cabinet Member*
This is a topic close to my heart since I broke my right knee twice and my mom just got her total knee last year. Approximately 767,000 Total Knee Replacements (TKRs) are done each year.

Indications of the need for a TKR: moderate to severe pain with daily activities, joint degeneration causing knee deformity like bow-legs or knock knees, Swelling/Inflammation not controlled with medication, rest, injections or other non-surgical therapy.

Contraindications: smoking increases the risk of revision in 4 years from 1% to 10%, if you are prone to infections, then TKR can result in removal of knee and even life-threatening complications.

Outcomes: 90% of patients have both significantly less knee pain, and experience greatly improved knee function.

Post operative: Physical therapy for several months is necessary to achieve a good outcome and patients need to commit to this before surgery. It may take up to a year to achieve the best and final result from you TKR

How long does it last? About 90% of first-time knee replacements last at least 15 years and many last as long as 20 years. It is important to avoid high impact activities such as jumping or jogging to extend the lifespan of a TKRs.

Late in July, a group from Myers Memorial UMC will travel to THaKO, Tomorrow for Haitian Kids' Organization, a non-profit orphanage based in the heart of the village of Carbonel, a remote region of Cap Haitien, Haiti.

In Worship on July 22, team members Louisa & Dan Suggs, Judy Seay and Alice Sweazy will be sent forth with our prayers and on July 28 they will depart for Cap Haitien, Haiti.

Won't you offer the children of Haiti support by contributing the following items? Deodorant, Toothpaste & toothbrushes, as well as children's underwear (boys size 8-16 & girls size 6-14).

Please bring all donations to the church prior to July 22. A bin will be labeled in the church office and in the Sanctuary Entrance/Narthex.

Congregational Care

Nancy Westbrook ~ Abernathy Laurels
102 Leonard Ave., Apt. #108 Newton NC 28658

Marjorie Foy ~ Covenant Village
1351 Robinwood Rd. Gastonia NC 28054

Jane Ramsey ~ Brookdale Union Rd
1717 Union Road. Gastonia, NC 28054

Charley Gage ~ Brookdale Robinwood
1750 Robinwood Rd. Gastonia, NC 28054

Stephen Walls ~ Highland Apartments
401 N Highland St. Mailbox #39, Gastonia, 28052

Sue Auten ~ Peak Resources
1101 N. Morgan St. Shelby, NC 28150

Carolyn Reece ~ Carolina Care
111 Harrilson Road, Cherryville, NC 28021

Lena Gunn ~ Peak Resources
7651 Dallas Cherryville Hwy. Cherryville, NC 28021

Joyce Stowe ~ Terrace Ridge
1251 E. Hudson Blvd. Gastonia, NC 28054

Kimberly Sarvis ~ Holy Angels
6600 E. Wilkinson Blvd. Belmont, NC 28012

Shelba Shellman ~ Carillon Cramer Mountain
500 Cramer Mountain Rd, Cramerton, NC 28032

Betsy Noblett
812-6 Jamestown Dr. Gastonia, NC 28056

Ann Teague ~ Salem Square
1550 Babcock Dr. #7223 Winston Salem, NC 27106

Julia Cauble
3100 Erskine Drive, Gastonia, NC 28054

Frances Woodyard
2100 Scottwood Dr. Gastonia, NC 28054

Fran Kinlaw
2264 Londonderry Dr. Gastonia, NC 28056

Willa Painter
1548 East Perry Street Gastonia, NC 28054

Philip Wade
526 Cameron Point Lane, Belmont, NC 28012

Ruby Voigt
518 Thomas Trail, Gastonia, NC 28054

Joanne Young
3525 W. Franklin Blvd. Gastonia, NC 28052

Ruth King
109 B Stroupe Rd. Gastonia, NC 28054

Stewardship Report

Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, Witness

July
2018

Living out & Living into our Faith

Worship Offerings & Attendance

	Sunday Worship	Facebook Live	Sunday School	Offering Received
May 27	215	13	106	\$14,750
June 3	248	12	162	\$14,893
June 10	204	9	105	\$8,024
June 17	161	11	63	\$9,663
June 24	167	9	96	Not available at

Welcome to our Newest Members

Glenn & Teresa Fried

Gifts given in Memory of

Joanne McDowell

Gifts given in Honor of

Leon Cox Dorothy Hager Jennifer Rhodes

Going Deeper in the Neighborhood

In April we prayed through the streets and around the buildings in our immediate neighborhood. In May we enjoyed the great food at the many restaurants surrounding our church. And on May 19 we spent a day serving others who come into our neighborhood. What's Next? If you are interested in purposeful engagement with our neighborhood, you are invited to gather and go deeper in conversation and action about that very question ~ what's next? We will gather at a single restaurant location in our neighborhood on July 25 and again on August 22 at 6:30pm for intentional conversation. Space will be limited. Appetizers will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Sarah at churchoffice@myersmemorialumc.org.

Sunday Morning Volunteers

Coffee Fellowship Hosts		Head Ushers	
July 1	UMW & UMM	July 1	Ken Avery
July 8	Asbury Class	July 8	Debbie Brown
July 15	Asbury Class	July 15	John Crain
July 22	Asbury Class	July 22	Melinda Brown
July 29	Everyone	July 29	TBA

Communion Stewards ~ July 1

Brad & Pat Rivers, Jim & Phyllis Windham, Frieda Pendleton

Nursery

Christina Carpenter, Coordinator
(704) 214-1380

July 1	Glenn Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Angie Flake, Victoria Flake
July 8	Karen Carrick, Paige Falls, Jaclyn Tant, Katie Carpenter
July 15	Carrie Allen, Tresca McSwain, Chris McCullen, Katie Carpenter
July 22	Elizabeth Lanier, Linsy Aul, Jennifer Stroupe, Angelica Brown
July 29	Allison Buchanan, Carrie Allen, Jennifer Gross, Katie Carpenter

Youth & Children Leading in Worship

	Scripture Reader	Crucifer
July 1	Dawson Moore	Jake Hoskins
July 8	Brendan Rooney	Katie Carpenter
July 15	Lathan Flake	Andy Lowry
July 22	Hallie Walker	Matthew Walker
July 29	Cassie Fehrs	Ashley Fehrs

Acolytes

July 1	Brianna Lambert & Ella Queen
July 8	Charlotte Hearne & Mattie Queen
July 15	Evan Falls & Rhett Buchanan
July 22	Andrew Walker & Adam Anderson
July 29	Brock Davis & Brianna Lambert

#ourmissionistolove

MYERS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CALENDAR

www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/calendar 704-864-3222

Church Office
(M-Th) 9p to 4p
(Fri) 9p to 12p

Weekday Preschool Summer Camp
(M-F) 9a to 1p

Meals on Wheels
(M-F) 8:30a - 12:30p

Summer Schedule of Regular Events

Sundays
9a Focus Prayer Group
9:30a Coffee Time
9:45a Sunday School
10:50a Worship

Tuesdays
10 a GriefShare
11 a AI-anon

Wednesdays
6p Knit for Christ
6p Men's Bible Study
7p Chancel Choir

Thursdays
6p Men's Basketball
8p NA

Friday
7:15a Devotion



*You will go out
IN JOY
and be led forth
IN PEACE.*
ISAIAH 55:12, NIV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Sunday 8a UMMen & UMWomen 9a Health Screenings 4p Youth Bowling	2 No Weekday Preschool Summer Camp	3 10a Grief Share	4 Independence Day Church Office Closed	5	6	7
8	9 Weekday Preschool Summer Camp Week 4	10 10a Grief Share	11 10a Staff Meeting	12 6p Witness Committee Dinner	13	14
15 10:50a Commissioning of VBS Volunteers, Youth Mission Team	16 Weekday Preschool Summer Camp Week 5	17 10a Grief Share	18	19 11:30a 60+ Group, Webb Custom Kitchen	20	21
Vacation Bible School ~ 5:30p Family Dinner ~ 6p to 8p Groups for all Ages						
22 10:50a Commissioning of Haiti Mission Team	23 Weekday Preschool Summer Camp Week 6	24 10a Grief Share	25 10a Staff Meeting 6:30p Myers Meal Conversation	26	27	28 Haiti Mission Team Departs
Youth Mission Trip to Florida ~ Give Kids the World						
29 9:15a Christmas in July Party	30	31 10a Grief Share	Let your [conversations] always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone. Colossians 4:6			
Myers Music Camp thru Friday						

July

Weekday Preschool

Janet Lagos, Weekday Preschool Director
preschool@myersmemorialumc.com 704-864-3222

A Few More Weeks of Summer Camp

Join us the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th weeks in July for the second half of Summer Camp! The last three weeks will be as fun as the first three weeks! The fun & engaging themes and activities include water play, baking and field trips!



Preschool Summer Camp Rate | 5 Days | \$75/week
School Age Summer Camp Rate | 5 Days | \$85/week

Registration is Open for Fall 2018

We're headed into fall with great plans in store for the kids in our Weekday Preschool! We currently are able to offer classes for Infants, Twos, Threes, and Four Year Old/Kindergarten Readiness Class. Registrations forms are due as soon as possible to assure your child's spot along with the registration fee is \$75.00 per child. Visit our website for more details and to download a registration form. Contact Janet Lagos with any specific questions.

www.myersmemorialumc.org/weekday-preschool

YOUTH MINISTRY

Tresca McSwain, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries ~ thmcswain@gmail.com 704-477-7447

Sunday, July 1 ~ Bowling Bonanza! Grab your friends then at the church at 4 pm for an afternoon of bowling. We will grab a fast food dinner on the way back and return to the church around 6:30p. You'll need money for your food!

Sunday, July 8 ~ Summer Time AOK We'll meet from 5p to 6:30p to spread the joy of kindness to strangers in our community. Your friends will want to come too, so bring them! Dinner included!

July 15-18 ~ Vacation Bible School Join us each night for an adventure of a lifetime! And we don't even have to leave the building! This journey with God will happen through games, bible lessons, giveaways, fun and more each night from 6-8pm in the Youth Lounge!

July 22-28 ~ Mission Trip!! We're going to Orlando Florida for a week of service with Give Kids the World. This Make-A-Wish organization hosts families critically ill children to give them a truly magical week. We will also be serving with other Orlando helping agencies and enjoy a fun day at Universal Studios.

Children's Ministry

The "Created by God" workshop for the In~Betweens has been postponed until this fall or winter. Watch for details as we coordinate the dates for this important workshop.

Summer Sunday School We look forward to seeing you in Sunday School this Summer! In July our children will be learning "Stories Jesus Told". Children gather in Room 110 at 9:45a before departing to classes. Parents pick up in Room 110 at 10:40a.

July 1 - The Two Houses
July 8 - The Two Debtors
July 15 - The Mustard Seed and the Yeast
July 22 - The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
July 29 - The Ten Talents

The week we've been waiting for is here! Vacation Bible School is amazing week of interactive fun for all God's Children! Have you been listening to the music on the CD we mailed home? Won't you join us in the adventure of a lifetime - a journey with God!? Help us keep the ride smooth and preregister your children (and invite your friends to do the same!) Registration forms have been mailed to you, and you can pick one up in the church office lobby and online registration is at www.MyersMemorialUMC.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Tony Sane, Director of Music Ministry
tony@myersmemorialumc.com 704-864-3222 ext. 107

Myers Music Camp | Fire Drill | July 30-August 3
The music ministry of Myers Memorial UMC is gearing up for the first annual Myers children's music Camp! Rising first through 6th graders, regardless of their musical experience, are invited to participate in the 2018 Camp July 30 through August 3. This week will be Monday through Thursday from 9a to 2p and on Friday from 9a to 6a as we prepare for the conclusion of the camp with the performance of our show at 6p in the sanctuary.

We will be learning this warm, funny, message-driven musical in just one week so will be a fast paced week and campers will be expected to focus and engage on the music. The week will be packed with fun activities, lots of singing and acting! Tuition assistance is available, please contact Tony Sane for more information.



from the Finance Committee

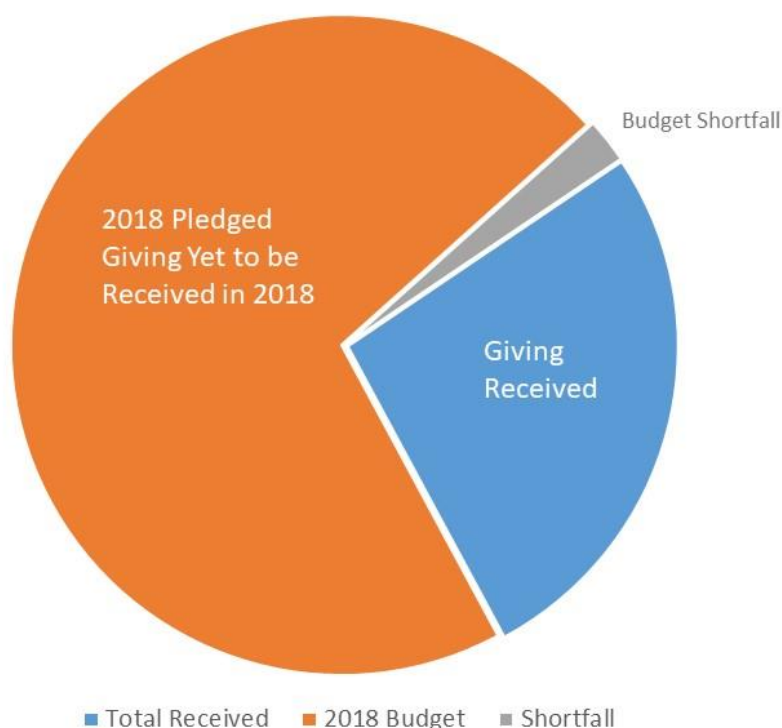
Just a brief update on our giving as we enter into the second half of the year. The chart below can allow you to see where we are with our giving through the end of May 2018. We want to celebrate that at the beginning of June we paid one-third of our apportionment commitment or \$17,679.02 to the connectional system of The United Methodist Church.



Don't forget we've devised several ways to help you maintain consistent giving to the church. You are encouraged to contact your financial institution to set up reoccurring payment or simply click this image on the church website to be redirected to a secure portal for giving. This can be a one time gift or on a schedule of your choosing—which you can modify at any time. Remember, there are no fees associated with connecting your checking account in this secure portal.

You are also able to mail a check to either the church office or directly to our financial office at Cherry Baekert, 322 Burtonwood Drive, Gastonia, NC 28054. If you have questions regarding your giving, please contact Angie Rutlege in the CB office.

Financial Giving Update
January 2018 through May 2018



Yes, only six months until December 25 but the Outreach Committee wants to give you an opportunity to act now for to give an Armenian child a wonderful Christmas! Project AGAPE—a ministry to Armenia and to some of our most desperate Christian brothers and sisters—is a collaborative effort of the UMC in North Carolina and a joint effort with the Armenian Apostolic Church. This is the only humanitarian effort sanctioned by the government and it comes from us United Methodists in North Carolina!

During the month of July you are encouraged to collect items that will fill plastic shoeboxes for children Infant through Teens. You may complete an entire box, or you may simply purchase items to fill boxes. Each box must also include \$5 to assist with the cost of shipping. *Remember: All items for one child must fit in a plastic shoebox.*

Some ideas for sharing Christmas joy:

Infants & Toddlers: baby blankets, bibs, brush, diaper cloths, diaper pins, socks, soft toys, teething ring, picture books.

Preschool Children: Ball, winter cap/toboggan, car, comb/brush, crayons, doll, hairbands/bows, markers, gloves, notepad, socks, toy/game, toothbrush.

Elementary Children: see above and school supplies such as pencil sharpener, pencils, ruler (metric), stuffed animal.

Youth: Preschool & Children's Items as well as tools, new underwear, notebook, journal, mirror, picture frame.

NO Food/Candy/Perishable Items, Batteries, Used Items or Toothpaste

A detailed list will be in the July bulletins as well as the church website and in the church office.

On Sunday, July 29 you are invited to a Christmas in July party at 9:15am in the CFC to pack and pray over these gifts!



Myers Memorial

United Methodist Church

301 S. New Hope Rd., Gastonia, NC 28054
704-864-3222

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Gastonia, NC
Permit #185

ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE



Register at www.MyersMemorialUMC.org

Myers Memorial UMC invites all ages to experience the ride of a lifetime with God at our "Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School". A Snack Supper Meal will be served in the CFC at 5:30 each evening.

Children under 4 years will be taken by parents directly to their classroom and picked up there.

Parents will take their children 4 years-Rising 6th to the sanctuary at 6pm to sign in for the evening's adventures of music, science, crafts, recreation, storytelling and a special opening and closing each evening with Romper, the River Otter and his Paddle Captain. Children will be picked up in the Sanctuary at 8 pm.

July 15 - 18, 2018
5:30p Family Dinner
6p to 8p Groups for All Ages

**“When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you.” Isaiah 43:2**

Sunday ~ Jesus Calls the Disciples
Monday ~ Jesus Walks with Zacchaeus
Tuesday ~ Jesus Shares a Special Meal
Wednesday ~ Jesus Makes a Promise

Rising 7th graders and older youth will meet in the Youth Lounge at 6pm.

Adults will join Marty Brown and David Elzey in the Asbury Room each evening at 6:30pm.

During the week we will take a special offering of supplies for the Project Agape Christmas Shoeboxes (see inside)