

THE MESSENGER

Volume 18, Issue 8 | August 2017

eat + gather + worship

connect

On Wednesday Evenings this fall we seek to **CONNECT**
through dinner fellowship + small groups + worship
Wednesdays, August 30 through November 8
Thanksgiving Meal & Worship on November 15

5:15p - 6:15p | EAT

EAT Spend time connecting with friends and making new ones around the tables in the Christian Fellowship Center (CFC). Menus vary from week to week and feature foods we have all come to know and love. A salad bar is always available as are PBJ sandwiches. Make a standing reservation or make your reservation each Sunday via the Connection Card in Sunday's bulletin or by calling the church office at 704-864-3222. A suggested donation of \$6 for adults and \$3 for children over 2 is appreciated.

NURSERY (infants - 3 year olds)

A nursery will be available each Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 7pm to provide constant care for children of leaders and participants.

5:45-6:15p | GATHER

PK | CONNECT Preschoolers are invited to **CONNECT** with their friends through fun and interactive experiences that involve all types of activities. Parents can pick up after their program or children will be taken to the Nursery for the **CONNECT** Worship until 6:45pm.

KIDS | CONNECT Elementary Children will **CONNECT** with their peers for a time of learning, praying for each other and the world, and having fun. They will gather on the 3rd floor of the Education building. The Elementary Children will come to the Sanctuary for worship at 6:15pm.

YOUTH | CONNECT The Youth will **CONNECT** in the Youth Lounge each Wednesday for **CORE**, a student-led time of devotion in the Youth Lounge. Youth will gather in the Sanctuary at 6:15pm for worship.

6:15-6:45p | WORSHIP

WORSHIP A time to worship during the midst of a busy week. Gather for a homily, communion and music as we **CONNECT** as the body of Christ.

GATHER 5:45-6:15p continued

ADULTS | CONNECT

Young Adults E-105

Upper Room Study CFC-106

Prayer Focus Group Prayer Room

PLOW: Parenting, Life Or Work E-07

Knit for Christ 6 to 7pm, Parlor

Looking for a small group? Contact Connie Elzey, Director of Christian Education, dce@myersmemorialumc.com, 704-864-3222 ext. 105

WELCOME, JANET LAGOS!

The Staff Parish Committee is excited to announce the new Director of the Weekday Preschool is **Janet Lagos**!

Janet has a BS in Psychology from UNC Charlotte, an Associate's degree from Gaston College, and a number of years of experience in childcare as a teacher and most recently as an Assistant Director of a very large for profit child care center. Janet says that "children make her day." She describes her strengths as creativity, understanding, and fresh ideas.

Janet brings a lot of experience in overseeing staff, curriculum development, and the overall running of a child care center. One exciting gift Janet will bring to us is that she is bilingual! Janet wants to implement Spanish into our program and plans to teach Spanish in each classroom this Fall!

Welcome Janet at Preschool@MyersMemorialUMC.com

Registration information for the Weekday Preschool can be picked up in the church office or at www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/Weekday-Preschool

ADULT MINISTRIES

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

Myers 60+

Thursday, August 17 ~ Bingo Tournament



The youth have invited us to join them for lunch and have challenged us to a Bingo Tournament in our CFC. Bring your "A" game!

Fall Disciple Class Opportunities

Classes will begin after Labor Day. Please express an interest in participating in Disciple this fall to Connie Elzey.



BECOMING DISCIPLES
THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

Disciple I Fast Track with Rev. Sally Queen,
Sunday evenings 5:30-7 PM

Disciple II Fast Track with Gary Lutz, Monday
evenings 6:30-8:00 PM

Disciple IV with David Elzey, Tuesday evenings
6:30-8:00 PM

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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

The Young Adults are invited to beat the heat at a Pool Party at Pastor Sally's home on Thursday, August 10 at 6 pm. Bring the family and a side dish or dessert to complement a summer dinner. RSVP to Tresca by August 7th and she will share with you the address and any further details.

*To Our Myers Church
Family,*

Your cards, phone calls and many acts of kindness over the last few months have let me and my family know how much you care. I have just reread every card I have received and almost everyone sends prayers - how blessed I feel. Thank you for sharing your love!

*Jean Campbell,
Mark, Jeanna & Bill
Hyland*

Dear Myers' Members,

This is just a small note to thank all of you for your prayers, cards and visits while I was in the hospital recently. You got me through the most difficult of days. I ask you to still remember me as I am still healing and anticipating a total recovery.

Sincerely, Sally Drennan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Delaney Cooper 8/1
Lauren Snyder 8/1
Carol Jordan 8/2
Ruby Voigt 8/2
Jordan Brown 8/3
Benjamin King 8/3
Betsy Sim 8/3
Evonne Wilhelm 8/3
Brent Alman 8/4
Madix Dillard 8/4
Colton Andrews 8/5
Tyler Caudle 8/5
Cole Hairston 8/5
Frank Martello 8/5
Robert McSwain 8/5
Emily Rhodes 8/5
Chelsea Connelly 8/6
Judith Duncan 8/6
Angelic Flack 8/6
Buddy Flake III 8/6
Brock Davis 8/7
Blake Smarr 8/7
Kathy Burleson 8/8
Patricia Steagall 8/8
Elizabeth Williams 8/8

Nancy Brackett 8/9
Berry Cauble 8/10
Mary Leigh Crain 8/10
Ashley Lowry 8/10
Huey McMillan 8/11
Dave Alenduff 8/12
Mike Gillespie 8/12
Dorothy Zoeller 8/12
Sharon Moss 8/13
Wayne Wilhelm 8/13
Meredith Cox 8/14
David Elzey 8/15
David Moss 8/15
Tommy Stines 8/15
Andrea Amaya 8/16
Alexis McSwain 8/16
Brenda Carothers 8/17
Elwynn Flack 8/17
Alexandra Thomas 8/17
Nicholas Flack 8/18
Cooper Hamlin 8/18
Louisa Suggs 8/18
Lauren Gillespie 8/20
Wanda Huffstetler 8/20
Cam Jenkins 8/20

Mary Morton 8/20
Dustin Farris 8/21
Jim Nelson 8/21
Adam Anderson 8/22
Mark Bridges 8/22
Melinda Brown 8/22
Payton Dean 8/22
Martha Dickson 8/23
Ella Queen 8/23
Mattie Queen 8/23
Sarah Sosebee 8/24
Ashely Krueger 8/25
Lyn Smarr 8/25
Bret Huntley 8/26
Carolyn Reese 8/26
Emma Hasemeyer 8/27
Judy Seay 8/27
Dave Davis 8/28
Tiffany Greene 8/28
David Snyder 8/28
Tommy Bentley 8/29
John Crain 8/29
James Gross 8/29
Walker Roper 8/29
Kathy Kavanaugh 8/30

Freida Pendleton 8/30
Kevin Wilbanks 8/30
Steve Carrick 8/31
John Dobbs Jr. 8/31
Beth Peddycord 8/31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

James & Ally Cagle Jr. 8/6
Eddie & Kathy Shaw 8/7
Arnold & Nancy Brackett 8/8
Darrell & Patricia Steagall 8/8
Keith & Patti Bollinger 8/9
Bill & Suzanne Newell 8/9
Cam & Colen Jenkins 8/10
Jim & Phyllis Windham 8/14
Robert & Tresca McSwain 8/15
Mark & Sue Shellman 8/17
David & Alice Slater 8/20
Jeff & Megan Henry 8/21
Ansley & Susie Scofield 8/21
Bryan & Melaine Surratt 8/26
Kris & Jodie Smetak 8/27
Roger & Gail Shoemaker 8/28

Annual Conference Report

by Mike Rhodes, Annual Conference Delegate

The Western North Carolina Annual Conference was held at Lake Junaluska on June 22-25, a slightly more abbreviated Conference than previous years. The theme for this year's conference was "Go and Baptize the World", from the Great Commission, and was led by Bishop Paul L. Leeland. I hope some of you were able to livestream the event on your computer, and share in the experience as it was happening. Only a few highlights are listed in this report, but you can find more details, pictures and videos on the Western NC Conference, United Methodist Church webpage <http://ac2017.org/>.

As we have all heard, the biggest news I get to bring home from Lake Junaluska is the re-appointment of Rev. Sally Queen to Myers Memorial for another year! We have been blessed by her energy, inspiration and leadership during the past year, and I know we're all looking forward to the coming year with Pastor Sally!

Our Conference budget for 2018 was presented and approved at \$16,209,006, a 1.19% reduction from the 2017 budget. Among the business motions this year was a proposal by the Conference Board of Trustees to build a new Conference Center just off I-77 in Huntersville, NC. According to the Board of Trustees, the project can be completed and paid for without any increase to our

apportionment dollars. This has been extensively researched was presented as a responsible investment for the future of our conference, and the proposal was voted on and approved. Details, including an informative Q & A section, can be found online.

Russ Pierce, Executive Director for Mission Engagement and Director of The Advance, with the Board of Global Ministries, recognized the Western North Carolina Conference for its leadership in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Our conference is first in giving to US-based projects to the Advance giving over \$488,000 dollars. The conference is also first in the jurisdiction for giving to UMCOR with \$820,000 dollars, and that is second in the entire denomination.

There were more positive reports on the good work that is happening in Western North Carolina, including: of note was the Conference Committee on Camp and Retreat Ministry Report (including a very well-done video on our Conference Camp Ministry featuring Camp Tekoa and our own Director of Youth and Young Adults, Tresca McSwain)! And for the second consecutive year at the National United Methodist Men's Convention, our WNC UMMen were named the top men's conference in the nation!

There were special services acknowledging the commissioning and

ordination of new clergy as well as celebrating the retirements and deaths of ministers and ministers' spouses. Rev. Reginald James Cooke, who, with 20 members, began Myers Memorial, then known as St. John's Methodist Church in 1956, was remembered in the Celebration of Life Service.

Not to be forgotten are the outstanding worship services. This year, in addition to some "raise the roof" music provided by our worship leaders, the Lake Junaluska Singers, and other groups, we heard exceptional messages by: Bishop Leonard Fairley, Bishop Lawson Bryan, Rev. Donald Jenkins, Linda Ollis Taylor, Laity Address Speaker, and Bishop Paul L. Leeland.

In closing, I'd like to thank the church for this opportunity to represent Myers Memorial at my third Annual Conference, and would like to express a word of appreciation to Dan and Louisa Suggs, for their generosity in offering their lake house for my accommodations for the weekend. Technology has made it possible for us to view the conference from the comfort of our homes, but I hope you'll make an opportunity in the future to attend Annual Conference at least once in the beautiful setting that is Lake Junaluska, and get a better view of how our apportionment dollars are being spent through the connection of The United Methodist Church.

Saints & Seniors

Please remember these Saints & Seniors in your prayers and let them know it!

Nancy Westbrook ~ Abernathy Laurels
565 Shuford Circle Dr. 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 Rd
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

Eunice White ~ Peak Resources

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

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

Philip Wade
526 Cameron Point Lane, Belmont, NC 28012

Stewardship Report

Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, Witness

Worship Offerings & Attendance

	Worship Attendance	Sunday School Attendance	Offering Received
July 2	197	114	\$8,172
July 9	220	108	\$10,769
July 16	227	126	\$10,180
July 23	150	100	\$7,220

Gifts Given

in Memory of

Dan Rooney, Sr.
Victor Flake, Jr.

in Honor of

JP Rooney
Bill Hagar

Sympathy to

Connie & David Elzey and family on the death of Connie's father, Hugh 'Jake' Jolly, on July 23, 2017

Don't let your giving take a vacation!

Summer is vacation time and often we forget to maintain our financial giving because our schedules are varied. Maintaining your giving is simple! (1) Set up reoccurring contributions through your financial institution (2) Mail/Drop off your contribution: Myers Memorial UMC, 301 S. New Hope Rd. Gastonia, NC 28054 or (3) Mail/Drop off your contribution: Cherry Baekert, 322 Burtonwood Dr. Gastonia, NC 28054.



Living out & Living into our Faith

Youth & Children Leading in Worship

	Scripture Reader	Crucifer
August 6	Chloe Jordan	Brooke Cox
August 13	Megan Farris	Reagan Osborne
August 20	Cameron Dennis	Marie Kalinoski
August 27	Lathan Flake	Jillian Medlin

Acolytes

August 6	Mattie Queen, Brianna Lambert
August 13	Brock Davis, Adam Anderson
August 20	Ella Queen, Mattie Queen
August 27	Marie Kalinoski, Andrew Walker

Sunday Morning Nursery Volunteers

Christina Carpenter, Nursery Coordinator
(704) 214-1380

August 6	Allison Buchannan; Tresca McSwain, Jennifer Gross, Katie Carpenter, Kathleen Sharp
August 13	Carrie Allen, Elizabeth Lanier, Lauren Snyder, Angie Flake, Victoria Flake
August 20	Debbie Brown, Melinda Brown, Angelica Brown, Jennifer Stroupe, Mark Taylor
August 27	Paige Falls, Jaclyn Tant, Katie Carpenter, Ann Gates, Sydney Shugart

Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship Hosts

August 6	Contemporary
August 13	Young Adults
August 20	Young Adults
August 27	Nurture Committee

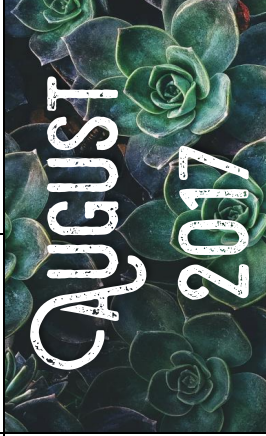


Women's Retreat Book

On September 8-10, Myers Memorial will be hosting a Women's Retreat. While the details are still be finalized, you may wish to pick up a copy of Present over Perfect by Shauna Niequist to read in preparation for the fall gathering. The retreat is open to all adult women.

MYERS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CALENDAR

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30a Preschool Playgroup 10a Grief Share	2 8a Youth Gleaning 10a Staff Meeting	3 6:30p Mission Possible Build	4	5 8a Mission Possible Build
Haiti Mission Trip through August 6						
6 Communion 8a UM Men 9a Health Screenings	7 9:30a Program Staff Meeting 1p Congregational Care Meeting	8 9:30a Preschool Playgroup 10a Grief Share	9 8:30a Youth to Haywood Street	10 6p Young Adult Family Pool Party	11	12
13	14	15 9:30a Preschool Playgroup 10a Grief Share	16 10a Staff Meeting	17 11a 60+ vs. Youth BINGO Challenge	18 August Newsletter Deadline	19 7:30a Haiti Fundraiser - Yard Sale
20 3:30p Worship Committee 5p Church Council	21 CFC Carpet Cleaning (all week) 1p Kid's Summer Book Club	22 9:30a Preschool Playgroup 10a Grief Share 5:30p Back to School Prayer Service	23 6:30p Youth GNO	24	25	26
27 2p Weekday Preschool Open House 5p Youth	28 Christian Education Sunday Blessing of the Backpacks	29 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4Kids 6:30p Disciple IV	30 CONNECT 5:15 Eat 5:45 Gather 6:15 Worship	31		

Church Office
(M-Th) 9am to 4pm
(Fri) 9am to 12pm
Meals on Wheels
(M-F) 8:30a - 12:30p

Regularly Scheduled Events
Summer Schedule

Sundays
9a Focus Prayer Group
9:30a Coffee
9:45a Sunday School
10:15a Choir Rehearsal
10:50a Worship

Tuesdays
10a GriefShare
11a Al-anon
6p Men's Basketball

Wednesdays
6p Knit for Christ
7p Chancel Choir

Thursdays
8p NA

Fridays
7:15a Devotion

Head Ushers
1st Sunday Ken Avery
2nd Sunday Debbie Brown
3rd Sunday Susan Martello
4th Sunday Louisa Suggs
5th Sunday Jim Warnock

Children's Ministry

Summer Book Club for Children We know summer reading is strongly encouraged for all age levels so we're hoping to make it a little more fun for everyone! Elementary aged children are invited to join the Myers Summer Book Club! We will meet from 1p-3p each time. Please RSVP so we may have adequate adult supervision.



August 21 Magic Tree House: High Time for Heroes by Mary Pope Osborne. Meet at Myers Memorial for conversation and sharing about the heroes in our lives. For questions: Contact Sally Queen, pastor@myersmemorialumc.org or Sarah Davis, churchoffice@myersmemorialumc.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Wed. August 2: Gleaning with Society of St. Andrew
8am to 1pm, bring money for lunch

Gleaning is a biblical mandate to those with much to share with those with less (read the book of Ruth). We are heading to a local farm to pick the leftovers and share them with area helping agencies. Wear Sunscreen!

Wed. August 9: Haywood Street Ministries
Leave 8:30a return late afternoon

Get on the bus as we head to Asheville, NC to worship, eat, fellowship and serve with Haywood Street Ministries. This mission congregation strives to serve the homeless and marginalized in the Asheville area. Dress comfortably and appropriately for serving others.

Thurs. August 17: Game On! 11am, CFC
It's Bingo Time with Myers 60+ group. Don't think this will be an easy win for you! Be prepared for friendly competition and a morning of fun and fellowship.

Wed. August 23: Girls Night/Guys Night 6:30p - 8p
School is almost back in session and it's time to divide the group for Guys Only and Girls Only events.

Sun. August 27: Back to School Bash 5p-7p
It's Messy Game Night!!! Bring a change of clothes, towel and a friend!!!

Wed. August 30: CORE Resumes at Wednesday Connect Dinner - 5:15p, CORE - 5:45p, Worship - 6:15p

Preschool Playgroup

Summer Fun for the Littlest Among Us!
Tuesdays, 9:30a to 10:30a

Designed for the 'littles' to enjoy with their parents, caregivers, grandparents or other loving adult!

August 1 - Playdough Party

Make and play with playdough! What Fun!

August 8 - Dance Party

Sing songs, play musical games and show off our best moves

August 15 - Where the Wild Things Are

Summer is almost over and we're getting Wild! Enjoy monster themed crafts and snacks

August 22 - Sprinklers and Bubbles

Cool off with this end of summer splash party! Don't forget your towel!

Contact Tresca McSwain with any questions, thmcswain@gmail.com 704-477-7447



MYERS MEMORIAL UMC

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

is now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. The Weekday Preschool offers early childhood classes for toddlers through 4 year old children, two to five days a week.

Find out more at
www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/Weekday-Preschool

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, August 27 2p - 4p

Meet your Teachers

Visit the Classrooms

Meet our New Director, Janet Lagos

Our school year will operate daily, 9a to 12p, September 5 through May 25. We will follow the Gaston County School system for all other closures.

I Saw the Light

Mission Trip Reflection

On my way up the mountain to Cherokee, North Carolina, entering my last mission trip as a Youth at Myers Memorial United Methodist church, I was anxiously anticipating a week full of helping others. This year, as a senior, I was a leader of the Youth. We had about 7 of the 11 youth as "rookies" to mission trips. This year was one of the youngest and smallest groups a Myers youth mission trip has seen. Although this trip was different from my perspective, God still had a divine plan for every single one of us for the week. Being in Cherokee, a different culture than where we live obviously, was both unique and amazing to experience for a week. One evening, we went to watch the play, "Unto these Hills" where we experienced the background of why the Cherokee Indians are who they are today.

Throughout the week, we were split up into two teams: middle school and high school. You may think the decision to split might have tampered the relationships between

middle and high school, but it did not. After our long work days, we would all join together to hangout and have a devotion. In all of our devotions we focused on one theme, our theme was to "shine the Light" (of Christ). During our week we were supposed to look for the Light in the people we encounter. As we all found out, the Light is easy to see when you look for it. Our youth pastor, Tresca, told us that we do not have to necessarily like someone, but we can always find the Light somewhere in their life.

As the Gospel of John 1:5 says, *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."* When we share the Light of Christ or witness the Light in someone else, it is obvious because the Light overshadows the darkness always.

Throughout a busy but encouraging week, I experienced many views of the Light in others. My group built and painted a walking ramp for a legally blind woman. When my friend and I went to talk with her, she gave off such a positive



personality and had pure hope in every word she spoke.

On another worksite my group helped at, this older gentleman had a shed full of every tool imaginable. The man was not walking well, but he had the hope and perseverance that one day he would be back out working with his tools. I also saw the Light during devotion time. We had people grow the courage to open up to the group about issues and problems in their lives. Even I brought out the Light to my friend by reading the Bible at night, which inspired him to do the same by the end of the week.

God worked in me, God worked around me, and God worked through me (and my Myers family). The Light is there, open your spiritual eyes and embrace the Light of Christ.

John (JP) Rooney

Mission Trip Reflection

The mission trip to Cherokee was my first mission trip. I was very nervous at first but seeing the work of God through the whole week was amazing. The first day and also the second day, we were going to redo and paint a ramp. We were doing this for a lady who was blind but she could see bright colors so we painted the ramp a bright blue color. After we finished up the ramp and painted it, the next two days we went to another house and the lady wanted us to put shingles and a door on the shed. We were only there for a little bit the first day so the second day we

were there, we painted, finished the door and finished putting the shingles on. What was so cool though is that the lady's husband who was inside, his birthday was that day and he loved chocolate ice cream so a couple people went to get him some ice cream. Over all, this mission trip was amazing. I saw God through everything. The mountains, the town, the people I met, and the youth group. I grew closer to God and I am so thankful that I went on this mission trip to Cherokee, North Carolina.

Jillian Medlin



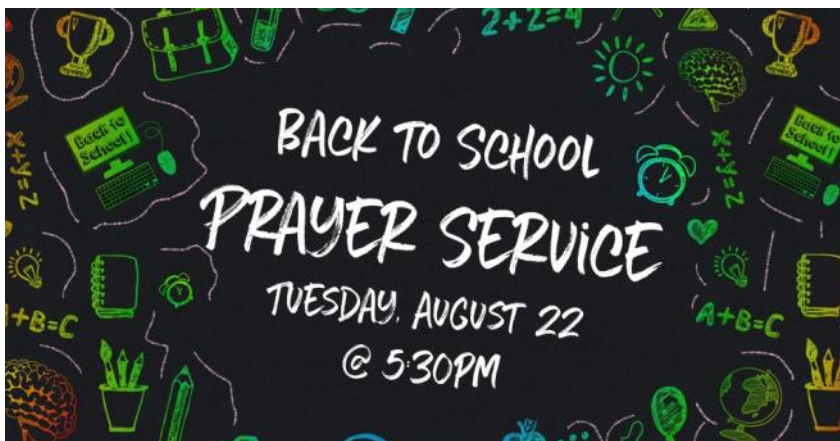


Myers Memorial

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



CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

Items of the Month: *School Supplies*

These are actual items from Gaston County School Supply lists that we wish to collect for area students.

pencils, paper, crayons, backpacks, scissors, glue sticks, calculators, pens, highlighters, 3-ring binders, erasers (pink block and caps), 2-pocket folders, spiral notebooks (single & multi-subject), composition books, thumb drives, bleach wipes, tissues, plastic zipper baggies, ear buds/ headphones, handheld pencil sharpener, pencil box or pouch, dry erase markers, baby wipes, paper towels, chart marker, hand sanitizer, Lysol, play-doh, band-aids, watercolor paints, sharpies...