

# the Messenger

Myers  
Memorial  
United Methodist Church

Volume 20, Issue 1

January 2019



If you have been asked to serve on a church committee, please make plans to attend the 2019 Leadership Summit on Sunday, January 6 from 2p to 5p. All members of teams or committees are encouraged to attend. This gathering will give us the chance to reflect on the 2019 Ministry Theme: Serve and this scripture from Jeremiah 24:15 (NIV) *“But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods of your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land are you living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”*

Our time together will be in both large group discussions and in smaller groups of our ministry teams/committees. We will be setting dates for annual church events and each group will be designing goals to guide our work in 2019. It will be a full afternoon that has proven to be a fruitful time!

The program staff and I look forward to hosting this event and your presence is very important to us. Our church is a better and more vibrant because of you. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend on Sunday, January 6 from 2p to 5p.

Please RSVP to Heather Steffey in the church office. You can call the office at 704-864-3222 or email Heather at [Heather@MyersMemorialUMC.com](mailto:Heather@MyersMemorialUMC.com). Childcare will be provided with advance notification.

Pastor Sally

## Who Are You?

Ever wonder what is going on in the minds of a preteen or a young teenager? You've known and loved this child all their life and yet now that they have reached double digits, something is changing! Are they all like this? Or is it just yours? How do we parent a child as they become a teen? If these are questions you've been wondering about, you're not alone! Myers Memorial UMC committed to help raise these children at their baptism or when your family joined the church and so we'll figure it out together! Invite other parents and grandparents, teachers and leaders, who you think might benefit from such a conversation!

Join us after worship on January 27 for a luncheon followed by an adult only conversation and discussion as we explore the topic of Tween Adolescence with a Licensed Counselor, Melinda Clontz, MSW, LCSW and Primary Care Physician, Dr. Allison Evanoff.

Tweens will participate in an alternative activity and childcare will be provided so adults can freely discuss what's on our minds and in our hearts as we seek to faithfully raise these precious children with which God has blessed us.

Please RSVP to Tresca McSwain, Director of Youth Ministry, [thmcswain@gmail.com](mailto:thmcswain@gmail.com) or via a Sunday Connection Card.

# Health Cabinet News

*Say to him: 'Long life to you! Good health to you & your household! And good health to all that is yours!'* 1 Samuel 25:6 NIV

The Health Cabinet at Myers would like to help each of you stick to your New Year's resolutions for a healthier you in 2019. There are several ways you can do this that combine faith, health and our church community.

Whole 30 Kick Off | Saturday, January 5 | 1p to 4p

- Come to the CFC to taste some delicious 'whole 30' food, hear testimonies, see typical groceries, listen to tips and tricks, and get all the information you need to get started on the Whole30 way of eating.

Faithful Families | February

- This is a 9 lesson program that brings together a trained nutrition educator and a lay leader with people from our congregation to learn an Eating Smart and Moving More curriculum in a faith based setting. Through group discussions, recipe taste tests & activities, individuals and families are encouraged to set goals for leading healthier lives. *We are looking for 10 interested persons to sign up for this from Myers with a goal to start the program in February 2019.* Visit FaithfulFamilies.com to learn more and watch for sign ups in weekly emails and the Connection Cards!

Fitness & Spiritual Wellness Initiative

- This is a collaborative effort of multiple faith communities in our area through the Faith Community Nurse program that will present a calendar of fitness and/or wellness events sponsored in 2019. We will be sure to advertise all opportunities through our social media, Health Cabinet bulletin board and emails. Myers plans to participate with our Whole 30 program, a Hula Hoop class with Ree Threkheld and the Walk for Justice in June.

Exciting things are happening at Myers Memorial UMC and we hope you will prayerfully consider participation in any of these health and wellness events. We also invite you to visit our website where you can resource a number of past Health Cabinet articles as well as current events available to you! [www.MyersMemorialUMC/Health-Cabinet](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC/Health-Cabinet) See Allison Evanoff, Health Cabinet Chairperson, with any questions or concerns.

# Adult Ministry

Connie Elzey, Director of Christian Education  
[dce@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:dce@myersmemorialumc.com)

Happy Birthday to You!

- On Wednesday, January 2, we'll gather again for Wednesday Connect Meal at 5:15p and Worship at 6p. It's our annual Birthday Party for everyone in the church and a dessert for every month! If you are willing to make a dessert, please contact Connie Elzey.



HalfTime | Second Mondays | 6:30p

- The HalfTime group is designed for adults in the middle of life and living through the blessings of aging parents, empty nesting, and looking ahead at what's next. If this sounds like where you are in life, then please join us on the second Monday of each month at 6:30p.
- January 14 | Reset 2019 ~ Do you need to reset for the new year? Let's get together and talk about resetting our season of midlife for 2019.
- February 11 | Guilt ~ We'll meet again with Rev. Eddie Ingram as we explore and deal with the Guilt that comes along with the season of midlife.

60+ Fellowship | January 17 | 11:30a

- Let's welcome in 2019 with our Annual Bingo Fellowship and Lunch in the CFC. Fun and games are more fun with friends, so invite someone new to join you!

Grief Share | Tuesdays | 10a

- GriefShare will resume on January 9th. Grief Share regularly meets on Tuesday mornings at 10am in the Parlor and supports those working through the grief of losing a loved one. Contact Connie Elzey for more information.

DivorceCare & Divorce Care for Kids

- Will resume on Tuesday, February 5 at 6:30p. This support group for adults and young children meets weekly for 13 weeks. If you or someone you know would benefit from this group, please contact Connie Elzey to sign up or for more information.

## Lunch for Others

You are invited to stay after worship on Sunday, January 20 for a soup lunch to support the Weekend Backpack Food Program. The donations from this lunch will go directly to support the costs of providing weekend meals for 20+ children at Sherwood Elementary School. It'll be a great day to enjoy a lunch of soups and crackers (and of course dessert!) Sponsored by the Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study.



## Pastries with the Pastors

Are you interested in knowing more about Myers Memorial UMC? Thinking of becoming a member? Have you recently joined and would like to know a little bit more about the church? Pastor Sally and Pastor Sarah invite you to join them on Sunday, January 13 at 10am in the CFC for an informal gathering (with delicious pastries) to talk more about how we live out our calling to follow Jesus, make disciples and transform the world at Myers Memorial UMC. You may RSVP via a Connection Card or by emailing [churchoffice@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@myersmemorialumc.com).

## Women's Ministry

- The Koininia Circle of the United Methodist Women invites you to join as their monthly gathering moves to the fourth Thursday of each month beginning on January 24. Gather at 6p in the church parlor for salad and conversation. The basics of the salad will be provided and you're invited to bring a favorite topping! Interested in attending? Wonderful! See you then! Need child care? Contact Debbie Brown at 704-526-9578.
- The Joy Circle of the United Methodist Women meets the second Thursday of each month at 12p at a local restaurant. All ladies are invited to attend and details as to which restaurant will be in the bulletin in the weeks proceeding.
- **Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study** meets during the school year each Wednesday at 9:30a in the Asbury Room for biblically based studies. We will resume on January 9, continuing a study on the **Tabernacle**. It's not too late to join in the study!
- Are you looking for a small group? Contact Connie Elzey, Director of Christian Education to help you find a group that meets your needs.

*Check out the  
Congregational Care Bulletin  
Board in the Education Hall*

Charley Gage  
4910 Harris Woods Blvd  
Charlotte, NC 28269

Max Erwin  
3025 Imperial Dr  
Gastonia, NC 28054

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

Julia Cauble  
Summit Place  
1001 Phifer Rd  
Kings Mtn, NC 28086

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

Frances Woodyard  
2100 Scottwood Dr.  
Gastonia, NC 28054

Fran Kinlaw  
2264 Londonderry Dr.  
Gastonia, NC 28056

Willia Painter  
1548 East Perry Street  
Gastonia, NC 28054

Philip Wade  
526 Cameron Point Lane  
Belmont, NC 28012

Ruby Voigt  
150 Reep Road  
Kings Mtn, NC 28086

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

Ruth King  
109 B Stroupe Rd.  
Gastonia, NC 28054

Congregational Care

# Stewardship Report

Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, Witness

January 2019



## Living out & Living into our Faith

### Worship Offerings & Attendance

	Worship	Facebook Live	Sunday School	Offering Received
Nov. 25	169	19	81	\$13,168
Dec. 2	256	13	102	\$15,551
Love Feast	254	18		
Dec. 9 (snow day)	65 live views, 650 views before 12p			
Dec. 16	263	19	101	\$26,421
Lessons &	180	19		

### Gifts Given in Memory of

Howard Brown                      Bill Hyland

### Gifts Given in Honor of

Hannah Black                      Louisa Suggs  
Marsha Wright

### Congratulations to

*Whitney & Chad Lott* on the birth of *Mary Windham "Mary Wynn" Lott* born Sunday, December 2, 2018.  
Big sisters are Anna Ruth & Catherine Lott.  
Myers Grandparents Jim & Phyllis Windham.

Monthly Blood Pressure Screenings | New Times  
The Myers Health Cabinet Blood Pressure Screenings are moving to the Bridal Room in the Narthex from 10:30a to 10:50a on the first Sunday of the month, beginning January 6. The Health Cabinet will also offer screenings on the third Wednesday of each month (January 16) between 5p & 5:30p in the CFC while Connect is in session. Know your numbers!

## Sunday Morning Volunteers

Coffee Fellowship Hosts		Head Ushers	
Jan. 6	UMW & UMM	Jan. 6	Ken Avery
Jan. 13	Young Adult	Jan. 13	Debbie Brown
Jan. 20	Young Adult	Jan. 20	John Crain
Jan. 27	Young Adult	Jan. 27	Melinda Brown

### Communion Stewards ~ January 6

Randy & Lee Black, Jamie Hester, Dick & Cindy Dey, Jackie Gross, Becky Garner

## Youth & Children Leading in Worship

	Scripture Reader	Crucifer
Jan. 6	Brendan Rooney	Matthew Walker
Jan. 13	Sydney Shugart	Jake Hoskins
Jan. 20	Angelica Brown	Katie Carpenter
Jan. 27	Cassie Fehrs	Adam Anderson
Acolytes		
Jan. 6	Ella Queen & Andrew Walker	
Jan. 13	Mattie Queen & Charlotte Hearne	
Jan. 20	Evan Falls & Brock Davis	
Jan. 27	Rhett Buchanan & Ella Queen	

### Sanctuary Flower Calendar

Multiple dates are available on the 2019 Sanctuary Flower Calendar. You may reserve your date(s) by signing up on the flower calendar outside the work room in the office area. Please print clearly and make note if you wish the flowers to be *in honor* or *in memory* and who is reserving the flowers. There is room for two sponsors/two arrangements each week. If you have any special wording, please contact the church office at 704-864-3221 at least one week in advance. By reserving your date, you are committing to a cost of \$45. We will take care of ensuring the flowers are present on that Sunday and you are welcome to take the flowers home to enjoy or share with others.

# Myers Memorial United Methodist Church Calendar

www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/calendar

704-864-3222

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Happy New Year! Church Office Closed Weekday Preschool Closed	2 10a Staff Meeting 2p Directory Photos 5:15p Connect Meal, Birthday Party 6p Connect Worship	3	4 Girl Scout Lock-In	5 7a BSA Pancake Breakfast, CFC  1p Whole 30 Kick Off
6 Epiphany Communion  10:30a Health Cabinet Screenings, Bridal Room  2p-5p Leadership Summit, CFC  5:30p SNL	7 3p Sandwich Making for WGBGC	8 10a GriefShare, Parlor	9 9:15a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 11a Warlick Mentoring  5:15p Connect Meal 6p Connect Worship	10  12p Joy Circle	11	12    6p Choir Party
13 10a Pastries with the Pastors  3:30p In}{Between 5:30p SNL	14 8a-6p District Committee on Ordained Ministry  6:30p Half-Time	15 10a GriefShare, Parlor	16 9a Staff Day Apart 9:15a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 5p Health Screening 5:15p Connect Meal 6p Connect Worship	17 Weekday Preschool Closed  11:30a 60+ Bingo Tournament, CFC	18 Weekday Preschool Closed	19
20 12p Weekend Backpack Fundraiser Lunch  12p In}{Between, Charlotte Checkers 5:30p SNL	21 MLK, Jr Day Weekday Preschool Closed	22 10a GriefShare, Parlor	23 9:15a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 11a Warlick Mentoring  5:15p Connect Meal 6p Connect Worship	24  6p Koinonia Circle, Parlor	25 Youth Winter Retreat, Lake Junaluska	26
27 Youth Winter Retreat  12p In}{Between Parenting  5:30p SNL	28	29 10a GriefShare, Parlor	30 9:15a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 11a Warlick Mentoring  5:15p Connect Meal 6p Connect Worship	31		

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

Weekday  
Preschool  
(M-F) 9a to 12p

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

Schedule of Regular  
Events

Sundays  
9a Focus Prayer Group  
9:30a Coffee Time  
9:45a Sunday School  
10:50a Worship  
5p Sunday Night Live  
5p Youth Choir  
5:30p IxB & Youth  
Snack Supper  
**5:30p Children's Choirs**  
& Worship Arts  
5:30p Disciple I & III

Mondays  
5p Aldersgate Bells  
6p Cub/Boy Scouts  
Tuesdays  
10a GriefShare  
11a AI-anon  
6p Girl Scouts  
6:30p World Religions  
6:30p DC/DC4K  
6:30p Chancel Bells

Wednesdays  
**9:30a Women's Study**  
5:15p Connect Dinner  
6p Connect Worship  
6p Knit for Christ  
**6p Men's Bible Study**  
6:30p Small Groups  
7p Chancel Choir

Thursdays  
**6p Men's Basketball**  
7:30p NA

Friday  
7:15a Devotion



# Children's Ministry

Connie Elzey, Director of Christian Education

[dce@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:dce@myersmemorialumc.com)

- Sunday School Notes | Preschooler - 3rd graders gather at 9:45am in room 110 with Pastor Sally before heading to classes. Preschool and Nursery Parents, please sign your children in on the pink sign in sheet. This allows us to better care for children during the Sunday school/Worship transition. Elementary Children (Spark) will return to Room 110 at 10:40am for pick up.

## January's Sunday School Theme | Healing Families

*God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.*

*Psalms 147:3*

January 6: Magi Seek a Healer *Matthew 2:1-12*

January 13: Jesus Heals *Luke 4:34-44*

January 20: Jesus Heals a Young Woman *Mark 5:21-24, 35-43*

January 27: Jesus Heals Ten Men *Luke 17:11-19*

Parents, please take note of the Health Cabinet article regarding opportunities for Healthy Families in February 2019 as well as the Tween Parenting Session on January 27 after worship (article on the front page).



Each Sunday in Advent, the children 'lit' the living Advent Wreath! Thank you to Judy Fritzsche for making these costumes for each of the children's Sunday School rooms!



Thank you for the generosity in giving gifts through the Salvation Army Angel Tree. Together, we supplied Christmas for 71 children's Angels and 30 Christmas Critters (older adults).

# Outreach Opportunities

- Making Sandwiches for the Club You are invited to gather on the first Monday of each month (January 7) at 3pm to assemble Sandwiches for the W. Gastonia Boys & Girls Club. Meet in the CFC Kitchen.
- Mission Response Center The Mission Response Center in Terrell, NC is where UMCOR supplies are housed. Flood buckets, health kits, and Project Agape donations are received and recorded then stored until the time is right. There is always work to be done, counting, sorting, and packing donations. You are invited to get on the bus with the team from First UMC on the third Tuesday of each month (January 15). If you are interested, please contact Bill & Phyllis Kaser directly at 704-824-5331.
- Trinity UMC Community Breakfast, January 19, 8:30a You are invited to prepare, serve, and enjoy breakfast in the community on the Third Saturday of each month at Trinity UMC, 1513 Florida Street.

## Wee Ones Worship

Yes, the youngest among us worship too! Each Sunday the children in the nursery learn what it means to feel God's love by the love shared with them by the people who care for them while the parents are in 'big church'. They hear the silly Jesus songs and the organ over the speaker. They dance and move and eat snacks too! Don't you want to be a part of this amazing opportunity to worship with the youngest among us? Janet Lagos, our Sunday morning Nursery coordinator is currently seeking volunteers for the next quarter. If you are able and willing to help one to two Sundays in the next 3 months, please contact Janet Lagos at [preschool@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:preschool@myersmemorialumc.com) or 704-864-3222. You can still listen to the sermon while you snuggle and play with the youngest among us!

# Youth Ministry

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

## Weekly Youth Opportunities

### Sunday Mornings

9:30a Coffee Fellowship (food!)

9:45a Sunday School

10:50a Worship

### Sunday Evenings

Special Times in January for Youth & In}{Between

### Youth (9th-12th Grades)

January 6 | 5:30p to 7p | Youth Lounge

- Happy New Year! Start the year off right and get in the habit of coming to youth group each week! Enjoy the evening of fun and games and a few new year's resolutions!

January 13 | 5:30p to 7p | Youth Lounge

- #itsnotaboutme It's a night of service to others through sending notes of cheer and care to college students and shut-ins.

January 20 | 12p to 4:30p | Checkers Game

- Not that kind of Checkers! The Charlotte Checkers Hockey Team plays at home today! Enjoy an afternoon cheering on the Charlotte Checkers Hockey Team! Tickets are \$10 and you'll need to bring money for the food court at Bojangles Coliseum.

January 25-27 | Winter Retreat | Lake Junaluska

- It's the Annual Youth Winter Retreat at Lake Junaluska. There are a couple spots still available, please contact Tresca. The bus departs on Friday, January 25 at 4p and we'll return early afternoon on January 27. While at Lake J, we will join other youth groups from around the Southeast for worship, fellowship, mission work and a good bit of fun (skiing, tubing, shopping).

Help us Change the Game  
and Tackle Hunger  
**2019 CHILI COOK OFF FOR CAM**  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - FOLLOWING WORSHIP

# InX Between

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

## InBetween (4th-8th Grades)

January 6 | 5:30p to 7p | I}{B Classroom

- Happy New Year! 2019 is a whole new year with new opportunities to love and serve God! How will you chose to do that this year? Start by coming to In}{Between this day! It's going to be a fun year!

January 13 | 3:30p to 6:15p | B-I-N-G-O on the Road

- #itsnotaboutme We'll be traveling to a local nursing home to visit and play BINGO with the residents. We'll stop for dinner on the way home (please bring \$ for a stop at a fast food restaurant).

January 20 | 12p to 4:30p | Checkers Game

- Not that kind of Checkers! The Charlotte Checkers Hockey Team plays at home today! Enjoy an afternoon cheering on the Charlotte Checkers Hockey Team! Tickets are \$10 and you'll need to bring money for the food court at Bojangles Coliseum.

January 27 | 12p to 2:30p | Destination Unknown

- Parents are going to talk about us so we're making ourselves scarce! What are we doing? You'll find out if you show up!

In}{Between Parents & Other Caring Adults Please see the announcement on the front page of the Newsletter about a special session for you on this date.

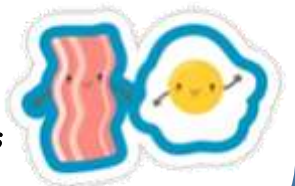
**Enjoy a Country Breakfast Buffet  
and  
Support Boy Scout Troop & Pack 21  
Saturday, January 5  
7a to 10:30a**

**Adults \$9**

**Seniors \$5**

*Children under 5 eat free*

*All proceeds to support the  
scouting ministry of Myers  
Memorial UMC.*





# Myers Memorial

## United Methodist Church

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

[www.MyersMemorialUMC.org](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org)

[ChurchOffice@MyersMemorialUMC.com](mailto:ChurchOffice@MyersMemorialUMC.com)

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Gastonia, NC

Myers Memorial UMC

# Leadership Summit

Sunday, January 6  
2p to 5p

# SERVE

JOSHUA 24:15

MYERS MEMORIAL UMC  
2019 MINISTRY THEME