

the Messenger

Volume 20, Issue 8

August 2019

A+ Excellent!

Back to School Shopping

We've compiled a list of school supplies that are needed by the students and teachers at Sherwood Elementary, Grier Middle and Warlick Academy. Please bring these items to worship with you in August and place them at the front of the sanctuary. Bins are available in the Church Office during the week.

- Baby Wipes
- Clorox Wipes
- Boxes of Tissues
- Earbuds/Earphones
- 1" 3-ring Binder
- 5-tab Dividers
- Composition Books
- Binder Pencil Pouch
- 20ct Pencils
- Individual/Personal Pencil Sharpener
- Glue Sticks
- Snack sized packs of nuts or trail mix
- Microwaveable 'pouch' items (rice, pasta)
- Microwaveable Mac 'n cheese, chef Boyardee or soups.
- Meats: 'pouch' or canned tuna, chicken
- Individually packaged items: oatmeal, grits, cereal, pop tarts
- Pancake mix & syrup

The More You Know...

"The more you know; the more you hurt"

Ecclesiastes 1:18b (The Message)

For thirty years, NBC has run a public service ad campaign called "The More You Know" and addresses the nation's most pressing social issues. Taking a unique stance, the entertainment company was the first to launch it's own public service campaign in response to the teacher shortage in the late eighties. Since then, "The More You Know" campaign has partnered entertainers, politicians, authors with leading nonprofits and government agencies to ensure they deliver the most credible, useful and timely information possible.

As we head into the 2019-2020 school year, we invite you to hear the message of the August sermon series as we bring together the needs and issues of our local schools, educators and community leaders along with the scriptures and teachings of Jesus. We hope the more you know, the better able we will all be to respond with compassion to the needs of our neighbors.

A Day in Their Shoes ~ Sunday, August 18

Poverty is a reality for many individual and families in our community. But unless you've experienced poverty, its difficult to truly understand. On August 18th from 5p to 7p in the CFC, you are invited to spend a 'day' in the shoes of someone experiencing poverty. This is an interactive immersion experience that seeks to sensitize our congregation to the realities of poverty. It is not a game. It's based on real members of our community and their lives.

Like real life, you need transportation to work or school. You need food on the table. You might struggle with a chronic illness. Throughout this experience you will face the stresses and challenges a person in poverty faces.

In an effort to better understand what our neighbors lives are like on a daily basis and in a very real way, all ages are invited to participate. Nursery is available upon request. Join us in "a day in their shoes".

Connect this Fall on Wednesdays New Times! New Opportunities!

After seeking your input about what you're seeking on Wednesdays, check out these new opportunities to connect on Wednesdays beginning Wednesday, September 4th!

Wednesday Connect LUNCH | 11:30a to 1p | CFC

Invite your neighbors and others to this community lunch!

Wednesday Connect Evening Small Groups | 6p to 7p

Sign Ups will take place via the church website, Sunday Connection Cards and by calling the Church Office! More details are forthcoming!

Nursery | Weekly | Infants - PreK

Children's Connect | Weekly | K-4th gr

Youth/InXbetween | Weekly | 5th-12th

Zumba or Yoga | Select Dates

Walking Group | Weekly

Knit for Christ | Weekly

Disciple Bible Study I | 6p | E-105

Men's Upper Room Study | 6p to 7p | Asbury

Short Term Study: *Not a Fan* | Sept. 4-Oct. 9

Topical: Personal Finances | Oct. 23-Nov. 13

Worship in the Patch | October 16 | 6p

Thanksgiving Feasts & Worship | November 20

* Connecting Body *
* Mind * Soul *

Celebrate Christian Education Sunday

August 25

Join us as we take the day to celebrate Christian Education at Myers! The Nurture Committee will sponsor Breakfast for everyone in the CFC at 9:15 am to honor those that lead and participate in Sunday School each week. Celebrate your Sunday School teacher or meet a new one!

Our children and youth will be promoted to new Sunday School classes at 9:45a. And...it is a great day for adults to renew their commitment to attend Sunday School this fall!

During the 10:50a worship, we will present Bibles to our rising 3rd graders (and any older children who have not received a Bible from the church.) Parents, please send your child's full name to Connie Elzey so we might personalize their Bible!



This Fall, we celebrate 40 years of being The Pumpkin Church in Gastonia! Join us on September 29 for Pumpkin Sunday Homecoming to mark the 40th year we've emptied the semitrailer of pumpkins and welcomed the community to Myers! Come home again on October 6th for Worship and a Party in the Patch with food trucks and live music. We will begin each Sunday with Worship at 10:50a in the Sanctuary. Invite your friends and family to Come Home to the Pumpkin Church this Fall!

Do you have a Pumpkin Story? We're compiling stories from the Patch and would love to hear yours! Got Pictures? We'd love to see them! How about a favorite pumpkin recipe? Please submit them to Donna Lutz, dplutz@gaston.k12.nc.us by September 1st.

Order your 40th Anniversary Pumpkin Church Wear Myers Memorial 40th Annual Pumpkin Patch shirts and hooded sweatshirts are available to order online now through September 10th. Shirts will be produced and delivered to the church for distribution on Sunday, September 22. Visit the church website (www.MyersMemorialUMC.org) and click on the "Click to Order" icon on the front page to order yours today! Call the church office if you need help placing an online order. This is a one time opportunity and no extra shirts will be ordered for later purchase. Shirts are available in youth to extended adult sizes. Standard shirt sizes are available at \$12 for short sleeve shirts, \$16 for long sleeve shirts and \$25 for hooded sweatshirts. Extended shirt sizes are a little more, please see the website for details.



Congregational Thanks

*I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.
Philippians 1:3*

My deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the many expressions of concern and well wishes that I've receive from my church family over the weeks following my bad fall. Your love and caring has been so comforting and so appreciated.

Blessings, Marion Flint

Dear Myers Family, I am moved beyond words to describe how much your prayers and cards have meant to me during my recover from my fall. What a loving God-filled church you have! I have truly felt your prayers and the Lord's grace during this time. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and pray blessings are showered upon each of you.

With much love, Jane Stroupe, Pam Avery's mother

Thank you for the beautiful service for mom, for the ladies who helped with the music to the wonderful lunch and the ladies who prepared and serve it. May you all be blessed by God.

*Lyndan Young, Alan Young, Sandy Hite, Bruce Young
Family of Joanne Young*

Dear Myers Memorial UMC Congregation,
On behalf of Sherwood Elementary, I would like to thank you for the kindness and generosity you have shown our students throughout the year through your efforts with the Weekend Backpack program. Your compassion has truly made a difference in our school, and we thank you for the blessings you have brought to us.

Sincerely, Kristie Gornto, Sherwood Principal

Are you looking for the congregational care addresses? We've run out of room in the newsletter this month so they are attached to the email or available in the church office.

from Sanctuary Counselling Group

Dear Members of Myers Memorial, As I move back to my permanent office at First UMC Gastonia, I want to thank you so much for allowing me to use your third floor classroom space over the past twelve months for pastoral counseling. Many lives have been touched through your gracious gift. I have enjoyed being in partnership with you, and I want to continue to offer this ministry to you and anyone in need of emotional and spiritual healing. My contact information continues to be 704-375-5354, ext. 411 or www.SanctuaryCounselingGroup.org. I also want to thank especially Sally and Sarah for the opportunity to serve as fellow clergy. You have an amazing staff and amazing clergy who are fulfilling their call and courageously leading Myers into faithful ministry now and in the future.

Rev. Eddie Ingram, MDiv., MSW., LCSW

Dear Sally, I wanted to express to you and your congregation, our heartfelt thanks from Sanctuary Counseling Group, for opening your hearts, your minds, and your doors to Eddie and his ministry there in Gastonia. Your quick response to his need to find a suitable location in order to be able to see persons in need was a blessing to SCG, to Eddie and most especially to those who work with him. I visited him and the space was wonderful. I am so very grateful for the kindness, love and support that you extended to him and our ministry in Gaston County. Words seem woefully inadequate, but I did not want you to think that neither Sanctuary Counseling nor I were unappreciative of your ministry to us. My deep gratitude and appreciation for all that you have done will forever be remembered. Thanks, Sally.

Dr. John Arey, Executive Director, Sanctuary Counseling Group

Sanctuary Counseling Group, formerly known as Methodist Counseling and Consultation Services—has provided mental health counseling and pastoral counseling in the greater Charlotte area and in satellite offices in cities and towns around the western piedmont of NC for over 50 years. SCG is dedicated to the healing of heart, mind, and soul. They provide excellent emotional, spiritual and relational health care to all people of the Carolinas. In 2018, SCG gave back \$165,394 to our community in unreimbursed services. No one is turned away due to the inability to pay for services. Sanctuary Counseling Group relies on the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, grants and faith-based entities to meet their financial objectives.



SANCTUARY COUNSELLING GROUP

Stewardship Report

Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, Witness

August 2019

Living Out & Living Into Our Faith

	Sunday School	Worship	Facebook Views	Offering Received
June 30	86	162	713	\$7,378
July 7	107	165	301	\$18,068
July 14	92	195	747	\$9,247
July 21	90	193	329	\$6,372

Our Sympathy to

Family and Friends of *Joanne Young*
who passed away June 30, 2019

Family and Friends of *Nancy Westbrook*
who passed away July 13, 2019.

Gifts Given in Honor of

Bill Hager Leon Cox Louisa Suggs
School Teachers Little Red Schoolhouse

Gifts Given in Memory of

Deanna Clemmer Libby Drum
Jane Hornsby Nancy Westbrook

Mid Year Finance Update

Myers Finance Committee would like to share our financial information through June, 2019.

We have collected \$312,711.98 through June. Our budgeted collections through June would have been \$344,881.53 so we collected \$32,169.55 less than our projected cumulative budgeted collections through June. We collected 89.45% of what we expected.

We spent \$308,481.07 through June which was \$36,400.48 less than what we budgeted!

Overall, we are \$4,239.17 under budget so we are in the GREEN! Thanks again to our staff for being good stewards of our offerings.

Sunday Morning Volunteers

Coffee Fellowship Hosts		Head Ushers	
August 4	Open Minds	August 4	Ken Avery
August 11	Open Minds	August 11	David Snyder
August 18	Open Minds	August 18	John Crane
August 25	Nurture Committee	August 25	Dave Davis
9:15a Breakfast			

Communion Stewards ~ August 4

Justine & Lauren Snyder, Steve & Karen Carrick, Tanya Lunsford, Allison Evanoff, Brendan Rooney

Youth & Children Leading in Worship

	Scripture Reader	Crucifer
August 4	Dawson Moore	Jake Hoskins
August 11	Sydney Shugart	Marie Kalinoski
August 18	Lauren Snyder	Ashley Fehrs
August 25	Brendan Rooney	Evan Falls
Acolytes		
August 4	Ella Queen & Charlotte Hearne	
August 11	Rhett Buchanan & Mattie Queen	
August 18	Lilly Allen & Adam Anderson	
August 25	Brock Davis & Andrew Walker	

Sunday Morning Nursery Caregivers

Nursery Coordinator, Janet Lagos, 704-907-4652	
August 4	Allison Isenhour, Jordan Erwin, Paula Phillips, Lori Kimble
August 11	Nancy Wilkins, Jennifer Gross, Donna Fletcher, Elizabeth Lanier
August 18	Chris McCullen, Mevalyn Farris, Allison Buchanan, Linsy Aul
August 25	Pam Shoemaker, Angie Flake, Robin Perlman, Jennifer Stroupe

Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

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

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<h1>August</h1>						
4 Communion 8a UMM/UIMW 9:15a Health Screenings, CFC 10a Pastries with the Pastors, CFC 4:45p Youth/InXbetween	5 10a Myers Mondays & Me	6 10a Grief Share 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	7 InXbetween Mission Mania August 5-8	8 12p Joy Circle	9 6p Music Camp Performance	10 10a-11:30a Drop In Wedding Shower for Marty Current & Steven McGee
11 New Member Sunday 12p Youth/InXbetween 2p-3:30p Drop in Wedding Shower for Haley Wise & Tony Sane	12 10a Myers Mondays & Me 7p Finance	13 10a Grief Share 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	14	15 9:30a 60+ Shopping Excursion to IKEA	16	17 8a Trinity Community Breakfast, Trinity UMC
18 5p Poverty Simulation 7p Church Council	19 10a Myers Mondays & Me	20 8a Little Red Schoolhouse Breakfast 10a Grief Share 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	21	22	23	24
25 Christian Education Sunday Blessing of the Backpacks 2p-4p Weekday Preschool Drop in Open House 5:30p Youth/InXbetween	26	27 10a Grief Share 6p Dementia Caregiver Support, Trinity UMC 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	28	29	30	31

Church Office

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

Meals on Wheels

(M-F) 8:30a to 12:30p

Weekday Preschool

September-May
8:30a to 12p

Schedule of Regularly Scheduled Events

Sundays

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

Mondays

6p Cub/Boy Scouts

Tuesdays

10a Grief Share
11a Al-anon
6:30p DC/DC4K

Wednesdays

6p Knit for Christ
7p Chancel Choir

Thursdays

6p Men's Basketball
7:30p NA

Fridays

7:15a Devotion

Adult Ministry

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

60+ Fellowship | August 15 | 9:30a

Let's Go Shopping! We're headed to Ikea in Charlotte for a morning of shopping and lunch! Whether you have a shopping list or just want time out with friends, join us as we check out all that Ikea has to offer! Take a break in the Restaurant with a Swedish-style dish or something more traditional. You're sure to enjoy the day all in one air conditioned building!

Half-Time: Blessing of MidLife | August 18 | 5-7p

We've accumulated a lot of skills in our lives and now we're going to test our skills if we had lived a different life. We'll put ourselves in someone else's shoes as we participate in the Poverty Simulation on Sunday, August 18 at 5p in the CFC. More information can be found on the front page.

United Methodist Men

August 4-10 has been designated as a week of men coming together in prayer. During this week of prayer, the men of the Western North Carolina Conference are strongly urged to pray for each other and all men. Our prayers will focus on the Discipleship of all Men, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Strength of Marriage and Family, Safe Communities and Our Church. UMM meets on the first Sunday of each month at 8am in the CFC and is open to all men.

Children's Ministry

Myers Mondays & Me is designed for toddlers through 3rd graders and their favorite adults (and older siblings). Join together to enjoy summer playdates with other children, parents/grandparents and friends! Please RSVP to Connie by Thursdays before the scheduled playdates on Mondays. Unless otherwise noted, please pack a morning snack/early lunch for your family. Rain will not spoil our plans! We'll meet in the church building if the weather threatens our fun!

August 5 | 10a | Game & Art Gallery Let's spend the morning creating and playing at the church! We will have games and art projects, but if you have a favorite one to share with your friends, we'd love to have you bring it along!

August 12 | 10a | Morning at the Museum Explore the Schiele Museum and trails with your friends! We will leave the church at 10a or you can meet us there. Admission: Adult \$7, Children \$6, 3 & younger are free. Gastonia City residents receive a \$2 discount and its free if you have a membership! We'll return to the church by noon.

August 19 | 10a-12p | Floaties & Fun End of Summer fun at Pastor Sally's Pool! Bring your floaties, towels and sunscreen and make a Splash! A Snack lunch provided.

Backpack Weekend Food Program

These were a few of the comments the Backpack Weekend Food Program received from Sherwood Elementary where Myers Memorial UMC provides up to 25 protein rich food sacks each week to children identified as lacking a consistent food source over the weekend. This ministry at Myers is spearheaded by the Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study. The cost for this ministry is roughly \$7,500 to \$8,000 each school year. All are invited to contribute financially, pack meals on a monthly basis or assist in the delivery of the meals each week. Thank you for caring for the youngest among us!

- ⇒ Students are able to maintain healthy caloric intake over the weekend. Also, these students form a connection with the coordinator and sometimes additional needs are fulfilled.
- ⇒ The program is a great asset to our students. My students who qualify for this program ask frequently when they will get their backpacks restocked on their restock days. They depend on this program.
- ⇒ I am grateful for this program. It is vital to learning that students are not hungry. It is beneficial and I hope it will continue to be funded.
- ⇒ Provides needed resources that otherwise they wouldn't have.

Youth Ministry

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

Sundays
9:30a Coffee Fellowship (food!)
9:45a Sunday School 10:50a Worship

August 4 | 4:45p | Escape Room at Xtreme Xcapes at Eastridge Mall. Bring \$10 plus money for dinner at Wendy's. We'll return to the church by 7p...if we escape!

August 11 | 12-3p | Bowling Bonanza at Textile Lanes in Belmont. Hop on the bus after worship for an afternoon of bowling! Bring money for lunch in the Grill.

August 18 | 12p | Clean Up Day Roll up your sleeves and let's get our space ready for fall! We've got a little touch up painting, decorating, purging and restocking to do in our youth and InXbetween rooms. Bring your lunch or grab some fast food after worship for lunch. Adults are welcome to assist!

August 18 | 5p to 7p | A Night in Their Shoes Sometimes the best way to understand is to experience it so we're participating in this special program for the whole church. Whole families are invited to participate in the poverty simulation as it will provide opportunities for conversation afterwards.

Music Ministry

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

Choir Fall Kick Off | Wednesday, August 14 | 6p
Have you ever considered singing in the choir? The Myers Music Ministry invites you to gather for a fall kick-off covered dish dinner at 6p for fellowship prior to the 7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal. This is a great time to check out the other voices and consider your place in the choir!

What's Up, Zak?

A Musical Encounter with Jesus

* Final Performance *

Friday, August 2 at 6p in the CFC

August 25 | 5:30p | Back to School Bash/Family Fun Night Games, Food, Snow Cones, Karaoke, Inflatables! Parents, Youth and inXbetweeners are invited for this fun night to kick off the school year! This is a great opportunity to learn more about this fall activities, meet the volunteers and each other!

August 5-8 | InXbetween Mission Mania Time to serve for rising 5th-8th graders in this 4-day mission week! Monday-Thursday we serve from 9a to 2p (except Tuesday when we depart at 7:30a). Where do we go? Check out the youth webpage (www.myersmemorialumc.org/youth) and contact Tresca to add your name to the list of servants!

Confirmation 2019-2020 begins September 8

Confirmation is an opportunity for youth to respond to the grace of God available to us, as acknowledge in baptism and to promise to live as a person of faith. The Myers Confirmation class is open to all youth, rising 6th grade and older (who haven't previously been through confirmation). It's a time to explore and question and discover in a safe and nurturing environment. We will meet on Sunday mornings during Sunday School time and conclude with Confirmation Sunday, May 31.

Celebrating Happy Couples

You are invited to shower two happy couples in our congregation with gifts and well wishes as they prepare for married life. Drop in the Myers Memorial UMC Parlor on the designated day to celebrate their futures.

Marty Current & Steven McGee

Saturday, August 10

10a to 11:30a

Marty & Steven are registered at Amazon.com

Haley Wise & Tony Sane

Sunday, August 11

2p to 3:30p

Haley & Tony are registered at Belk, Walmart, Bed Bath & Beyond

Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

301 S. New Hope Road Gastonia, NC 28054

704-864-3222

www.MyersMemorialUMC.org

ChurchOffice@MyersMemorialUMC.com

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Myers Memorial UMC
invites you to



Connect on Wednesdays at *Lunch*

11:30a to 1p
pay as you can

NEW TIME!

Begins September 4

NEW TIME!

Begins September 4

Connect on Wednesday *Evenings*

Body * Mind * Soul

6p to 7p
small group opportunities
for all ages

