

# the Messenger

Volume 20, Issue 10

October 2019

Myers  
Memorial

## Party in the Patch

Worship at the Pumpkin Patch      Sunday, October 6 | 10:50a  
Worship in the Sanctuary followed by lunch on the grounds. Bring your own picnic, order from a local food truck (Renaldo's Culinary Experience, Roman's All Star Café, and Big Kahuna Shaved Ice) or pick up from your favorite local restaurant. Live music by Carolina SonRise.

Preschool Story Time in the Patch      Wednesdays | 10a  
Hosted by our Weekday Preschool in conjunction with the Gaston County Library, the youngest among us will enjoy story time in the pumpkin patch! This event is free and open to all! Indoors if the weather is unfavorable.

Concerts in the Patch      Thursdays | 6:30p  
Grab your folding chairs, stop by one of our area restaurants for dinner to go and enjoy an evening of music by various local artists.

Photos in the Patch      Saturdays | 11a to 2p  
Stop by for your annual photo in the pumpkins! Adam Brennan with B5 Photography will be onsite to grab a couple shots in our backdrop setting for this fall! *Note: due to a wedding on Oct. 12 an alternate photographer is being sought.*

Homeschool STEM in the Patch      Wednesday, October 16 | 1p to 3p  
This event is designed for homeschoolers in grades 4 through 10 to explore exothermic reactions, density and more! \$5/participant and \$15 family max. Advanced registration online.

Worship in the Patch      Wednesday, October 16 | 6p  
Come and Worship in the Gathering Garden for this fall midweek service.

Crafting at the Pumpkin Church      Sunday, October 13 | 1p  
Sunday, October 20 | 3p      Tuesday, October 22 | 6:30p  
Register online for this fun time of pumpkin crafts! Instructions and all the supplies are included in the price. Advanced registration is required.

Trunk O Treats      October 27 | 4 to 5:30p  
It's our annual Trunk O Treats even where we decorate our cars in fun ways and invite the children of our community into our space for a safe place to enjoy candy and fun! We'll have Music, Hot Dogs, Games and Lots of Fun!

## Why Pumpkins?

For 40 years, Myers Memorial UMC has hosted a pumpkin patch in the back of the Church. During that time, thousands of volunteers have sat in the heat and the cold, the rain and the wind for over 31 days each fall. **Why? It's more than just to sell pumpkins.** The Pumpkin Patch financially supports the Youth Ministry of Myers Memorial UMC. **And yet it's still more!** During those 40 years, thousands upon thousands of people from the community have come to the backside of 301 S. New Hope Road and the people of the Pumpkin Church have welcomed them as they searched for porch decorations, class projects, or their yearly jack-o-lantern. We have welcomed individuals, families and groups to The Patch and some have found their way into the building and we live and grow in faith together as disciples of Jesus. **That's why we sell pumpkins.**



[www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/Party-in-the-Patch](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/Party-in-the-Patch)

# Weekday Preschool

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

October is full of pumpkins and animals and lots of opportunities to pretend as we learn about Animals, Farms and Fall! We can't wait for October 16th when we dress like a farmer for Preschool! Join us at the Pumpkin Preschool this month!

Preschool Story Time in the Patch The Weekday Preschool is sponsoring Story Time in the Patch each Wednesday in October at 10a! Families with young children are invited to gather in the Pumpkin Patch as Gaston County Librarians & Myers Volunteers read fun fall themed books! There will be hands on activities as well. You do not have to be a student at Myers Preschool or a member of Myers to attend - this is open to all!

A Free Day of Preschool? Yes! Sometimes parents wonder if a certain preschool setting is right for their child. Our Weekday Preschool is inviting families still looking for the right place to check us out for a day, for free! Advanced reservations is required yet it'll be worth it to see your child playing and having fun at the Myers Memorial Weekday Preschool! Contact Janet Lagos to set up your day to play!

Trick or Treat around the Preschool Halloween will be a fun day in the Myers Preschool! We're looking for a few volunteers to sit in classroom doorways at 10:30a on October 31 to make trick or treating around the building a grand adventure for the little ones! Friendly costumes are encouraged! Contact Janet if you're game!



## Getting Crafty in the Patch

Come to the Pumpkin Church to create pumpkin home decor! We're partnering with a couple of our area businesses to bring amazing opportunities to create pumpkin art! Registration details will be on the Party in the Patch website ([www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/party-in-the-patch](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/party-in-the-patch)) or on the Facebook events.

October 13 | 1p | CFC | Wooden Cutouts



Enjoy an afternoon of crafting with Anne from Nest + Canvas (located on Garrison Blvd). A variety of wooden cut outs are available and will cost between \$30 & \$45 per project. This is a perfect "mommy & me" project or a girls afternoon project. All supplies will be provided and preregistration will be necessary.

October 20 | 3p | CFC | Thankful ~ Wooden Pallet

It's Designs on Wheels with the Gastonia location of Wine & Design (located in Franklin Square IV).



We've got space for 20 painters for this lovely wooden pallet! The cost is \$42 and all supplies and instructions are included. This project will take roughly two and a half hours to complete. Advanced registration/payment is required via the church website.

October 22 | 6:30p | CFC | Fall Garden Canvas

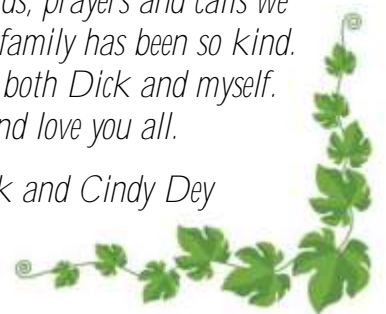


Wine & Design artists are back for another night of painting! This delightful fall canvas painting will brighten your home all season long. The cost is \$30 with all supplies and instructions are included! Advanced registration/payment is required via the church website.

## Congregational Thanks

*Thank you for all the cards, prayers and calls we have received. The church family has been so kind. It has meant so much to both Dick and myself. We appreciate and love you all.*

*Kind Regards, Dick and Cindy Dey*



## from the Health Cabinet

One of the big issues in the opioid epidemic is diversion, or the pilfering of prescribed pain killers from home medicine cabinets...that people illegally give or sell to others. Often, this is done by youth in the home, their friends, and by tradespeople working in homes. We've even heard that people tour homes for sale, to steal drugs. Many of us save opioids thinking one day we'll need them to relieve unexpected pain. And, all too often, we forget we have them.

We ask you to gather your out-of-date and no-longer-needed medications – opioids and other medications... pills, fluids, and ointments – and bring them to the CFC on Wednesday, October 9, between 11:30a and 1p, or to the Pumpkin Patch on Sunday, October 13 between 12p and 1:30p where a police officer will collect and safely discard them following Drug Enforcement Agency rules.

This will reduce the risk of opioid misuse and, by not flushing these medications, will help protect our waterways.

*Items Accepted* Prescription medications, All over-the-counter medications, Pet medications, Vitamins & supplements, Medicated ointments, lotions, creams & oils, Liquid medication in leak-proof containers, Homeopathic remedies, suppositories

*Items NOT Accepted* Thermometers, needles and syringes, Bloody or infectious waste and IV bags, Personal care products, Hydrogen peroxide, Aerosol cans, Full Inhalers, Chemotherapy pills—please return them to the provider who prescribed them for you.

For more information on drug disposal, call 704-866-3320. To dispose of clean syringes, call 1-828-291-7023 Need Help? Fighting Addiction? 1-888-235-HOPE (4673). Call anytime for instant access to professionals waiting to help you.

### Whole30 Support Groups

Myers Health Cabinet has coordinated two weekly meetings for those participating in the Whole30 way of eating. Gather on Mondays at 5:30p, Novant Family Physicians (located on Remount Rd) or on Wednesdays at 5:30p in the Choir Room at Myers (located behind the Sanctuary)

## Music Ministry

*Tony Sane, Director of Music* [tony@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:tony@myersmemorialumc.com)

### A Call for Art Work ~ A Portrait of Hope

As Advent draws closer, we are continuing to collect artwork to display during Advent and to highlight during the Festival of Lessons & Carols on December 15. We are looking for new and original artwork that visually depicts the scriptures of the season. The art will be included in a silent auction with proceeds going to Crisis Assistance Ministry. Please contact Tony if you would like choose one of the remaining scriptures and create an art piece.

### Guest Choir in October

On Sunday, October 20 while our Chancel Choir is away on retreat, we will welcome the Ashbrook High School Concert Choir under the direction of Philip Biedenbender. The Ashbrook Concert Choir is composed of upwards of 50 singers and will be sharing special music with us that day. A love offering will be collected following worship as a way to support the choir on their spring 2020 trip to sing in Carnegie Hall in New York City. We are looking forward to this special day!

**Worship in the Patch**  
Wednesday, October 16 at 6p

### Trunk O Treats ~ October 27

Sunday, October 27 is the annual Trunk o Treats event at Myers Memorial UMC from 4p to 5:30p! We're looking for at least FIFTY vehicles this year to decorate their trunk space, provide treats or an activity in a parking spot. We do this so that we can welcome children and their families to a safe place for some Halloween fun! The Group (Sunday school class, bible study, family) with the most participating vehicles will win a prize and all the bragging rights! Rumor has it the Young Adults Class (aka United) have stepped up their game from last year's Wizard of Oz theme and are prepared to defend their honor! There will be music, food & fun for all ages! And last year we had over 400 attend!



# Stewardship Report

Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, Witness

October 2019

## Living Out & Living into Our Faith

	Sunday School	Worship	Facebook Views	Offering Received
Sept. 1	83	171	496	\$13,551
Sept. 8	95	207	343	\$10,908
Sept. 15	114	217	903	\$8,272
Sept. 22	83	173	527	\$7,520

## from the Finance Committee

Greetings! We have already been discussing the 2020 budget and we meet next on October 1 to begin our work. Here are some financial details for the year as of the end of August, 2019.

Pledged collections received as of 8/31/2019, are \$311,089 which represents 100.39% of the expected budget amount January through August. We can all celebrate that. Our Unpledged collections as of 8/31/2019 are \$79,502 which represents 53.93% of the expected budget amount January through August. Overall collections (including miscellaneous other collections) are \$61,389 less than expected using an even 12 month year. As we know, collections do not come in evenly each month.

We also celebrate that we have paid apportionments through August of \$18,670 which is 49.6% of the expected apportionment budgeted payments to date. Another win is that our spending is less than expected so far this year. We have spent \$459,842 through August which is 91.94% of expected spending.

Our net (all collections less spending) year to date finds us in the red by \$24,304. We have the summer vacations behind us now though. Thanks to each of you for your awesome support of our church. And thank you to the staff for their stewardship with our funds.

## Sunday Morning Volunteers

Coffee Fellowship Hosts		Head Ushers
October 6	Drifters Class	Ken Avery
October 13	Drifters Class	David Snyder
October 20	Drifters Class	John Crain
October 27	Drifters Class	Dave Davis

### Communion Stewards ~ October 6

Brent & Shelly Alman, David & Connie Elzey, Tanya Lunsford, Greg Carnes, Becky Garner

## Youth & Children Leading in Worship

	Scripture Reader	Crucifer
October 6	Brendan Rooney	Ashley Fehrs
October 13	Sydney Shugart	Kathleen Sharp
October 20	Dawson Moore	Brock Davis
October 27	Jillian Medlin	Adam Anderson

### Acolytes

October 6	Charlotte Hearne & Audrey Vincent
October 13	Lilly Allen & Serenity Clay
October 20	Evan Falls & Harrison Davis
October 27	Rhett Buchanan & Laurelei Hearne

## Sunday Morning Nursery Caregivers

Nursery Coordinator, Janet Lagos, 704-907-4652

October 6	Angie Flake, Chris McCullen, Elizabeth Lanier, Robin Pearlman
October 13	Tanya Lunsford, Sydney Shugart, Debbie & Angelica Brown
October 20	Karen Carrick, Jennifer Stroupe, Dana & Mallory Wolfe
October 27	Allison Isenhour, Jennifer Erwin, Paula Phillips, Lori Kimble

# Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

704-864-3222

www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/calendar

**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 Aldersgate Ringers  
9a Focus Prayer Group  
9:30a Coffee Fellowship  
9:45a Sunday School  
10:50a Worship  
5p Youth Chorale  
5:30p Sunday Night Live  
Adult Bible Study, E-105  
**Children's Choirs**, 3rd floor  
Youth & inXbetween,  
Youth Lounge

**Mondays**  
6p Cub/Boy Scouts

**Tuesdays**  
10a Grief Share  
11a AI-anon  
6:30p Chancel Bells  
6:30p DC/DC4K

**Wednesdays**  
9:30a **Women's Bible Study**  
11:30a-1p Connect Lunch  
6p Connect Small Groups  
7p Chancel Choir

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

**Fridays**  
7:15a Devotion

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Pumpkin Patch Hours Mondays— Saturdays 10a to Dusk  Sundays 12:30p to Dusk	1 10a StoryTime in the Patch 10a Grief Share  6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K 7p Finance, Asbury	2 9:30a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 11:30a-1p Connect Lunch 6p Connect Small Groups	3   6:30p Concert in the Patch	4   6:30p Concert in the Patch	5 11a-2p Pictures in the Patch	
6 Worship at the Pumpkin Church <b>children's choirs sing</b> 8a UMM/UMW 12p-3p Lunch on the Grounds Pictures in the Patch 5p Youth Chorale 5:30p SNL Sunday Night Live	7 12:30p CPR Recertification Class  3p Make Sandwiches for the WGBGClub	8 10a StoryTime in the Patch 10a Grief Share 11a Memory Café Trinity UMC 11:15a Warlick Mentoring  6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	9 9:30a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 9:30a Staff Meeting 11:30a-1p Connect Lunch; Operation Med. Cabinet  6p Connect Small Groups	10 12p Joy Circle  6:30p Concert in the Patch	11 Weekday Preschool Closed	12 2p Wise/Sane Wedding
13  1p Crafting in the Patch  5:30p SNL Sunday Night Live	14      4:30p The Shelter, Supper Club	15 10a StoryTime in the Patch 10a Grief Share  6p Trustees 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	16 9:30a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 11:30a-1p Connect Lunch 1p Homeschool STEM  6p Worship in the Patch	17 11:30a 60+ Venecia  6:30p Concert in the Patch	18   <b>Chancel Choir Retreat</b>	19 8:30a Pumpkin Truck Arrives  11a-2p Pictures in the Patch
20 Chancel Choir Retreat Guest Choir: Ashbrook High School Choir  5:30p SNL Sunday Night Live (no children/youth choirs)	21      6p Pack 21 Meeting, CFC	22 10a StoryTime in the Patch 10a Grief Share 11:15a Warlick Mentoring  6p Caregiver Support Group, Trinity UMC 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	23 9:30a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 9:30a Staff Meeting 11:30a-1p Connect Lunch 6p Connect Small Groups	24 6p Koinonia Circle 6:30p Concert in the Patch	25      11a-2p Pictures in the Patch	26 11a-2p Pictures in the Patch
27  4p - 5:30p Trunk O Treats No SNL	28      6p Pack 21 Meeting, CFC	29 10a StoryTime in the Patch 10a Grief Share 6:30p Divorce Care/DC4K	30 9:30a <b>Women's Bible</b> Study 9:30a Staff Meeting 11:30a-1p Connect Lunch 6p Connect Small Groups	31 10:30a Preschool Trick or Treat	October	

# Adult Ministry

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

60+ Fellowship | October 17 | Lunch with Friends

This month we'll meet at Venecia Restaurant (306 E. Garrison Blvd) on Thursday, October 17 at 11:30a. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, October 14th.

Half-Time: Blessing of MidLife | Every Thursday

This month we'll enjoy life as the Pumpkin Church! Grab your dinner and join us in the Gathering Garden each Thursday in October for Concerts in the Patch at 6:30p.

10/3: The Wetzell Women      10/10 Justin Morehead

10/17: Chris Belk              10/17 Caleb Davis

*no concert on October 31*

Divorce Care & DivorceCare 4 Kids will begin a new session on Tuesday, October 1 at 6:30p in the Sanctuary Parlor. DivorceCare and DC4K is a support group for individuals & parents with children that meets weekly to help face the challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

Wednesday Connect Evenings | 6p to 7p

+ Beginning October 23, and meeting for 4 weeks, you are invited to gather for a practical and supportive group regarding Personal Finance. Facilitated by the Myers' Finance Chair, Karen Carrick.

+ Grab your dancing shoes and join Dana Wolfe for Zumba! This class meets in the CFC from October 23-November 13.

+ Ongoing Classes: Disciple 1; Men's Upper Room Study; Youth, Children, Knit for Christ, Walking and Nursery.

## Homeschool STEM ~ October 16

It's going to be explosive! But only if you do the math correctly! On October 16 from 1p to 3p The Pumpkin Patch will host Homeschool STEM in the Patch for 4th through 10th grade students. This specially designed program for Homeschool or Gaston Virtual Academy students will explore exothermal reactions, density experiments and more! The cost is just \$5 per participant with a family maximum of \$15 and will include STEM instruction and hands on pumpkin fun in the patch! Advanced registration is required to ensure adequate supplies.

[www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/party-in-the-patch](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/party-in-the-patch)

Body • Mind • Soul



## Connect on Wednesdays at Myers

Lunch 11:30a to 1p

Small Groups 6p to 7p

301 S. New Hope Rd Gastonia, NC  
[www.MyersMemorialUMC.org](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org)

## Children's Ministry

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

### Children's Sunday School ~ October

Our children (preschool & elementary ages) kick off each Sunday at 9:45a in room E-110 on the children's hall before heading to their classrooms. This time with Pastor Sally is where children can share their highs and lows of the week then pray and sing together before heading to their respective rooms. Elementary children will return to this room at 10:40 for parents to pick up.

This month we'll be hearing stories about Moses and the Israelites. These stories are foundational to our faith community.

October Theme: Community Foundations

Theme Verse: *I'll be with you. Exodus 3:12*

October 6: Call to Freedom

October 13: The Exodus

October 20: Community in the Wilderness

October 27: Ten Commandments

Wednesday Connect for Children ~ 6p to 7p

Join us each Wednesday for fun ways to connect with one another and with God as we look at living as whole children of God ~ Body, Mind & Soul. Childcare for infants and preschoolers on main floor. Elementary ages will meet on the 3rd floor.

October: 2: Service in the Patch

October 9: Gifts & Talents

October 16: Worship in the Patch with everyone

October 23: Working Out

October 30: Chilling Out

# Youth Ministry

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

October is all about Pumpkins! The Pumpkin Patch is the #1 fundraiser for Myers' Youth! This is how we keep our expenses down for all our activities, mission trips and retreats. Youth and families are strongly encouraged to sign up with a parent or another adult to serve in the pumpkin patch this fall. Sign ups are on the church website or on the board outside Sally's office.

## Sundays

9:30a Coffee Fellowship (food!)

9:45a Sunday School 10:50a Worship

5p Youth Chorale 5:30p Snack Supper & Program

Oct. 6 | The Great Pumpkin Hunt! Our annual unusual scavenger hunt for pumpkins and more! We will begin right at 5:30p so be on time! Once the clues have been followed we'll regroup in the Lounge for dinner and a recap of the night's events in pictures and videos!

Oct. 13 | Night of Kindness The Youth will prepare care packages for the college students. The inXbetweeners will create breakfast food packs for the High School food pantries for Crisis Assistance Ministries.

Oct. 20 | Youth | Loving Them Like Loving Me Youth will explore what it means to 'love your neighbor as yourself' with special attention to the self part of Jesus' commandment.

Oct. 20 | iXb | Leaving our Mark in the World The inXbetween group will get creative with Lynda as they work to create original works of art while looking more closely at how we can leave a mark in the world.

**Oct. 20 | It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown** will be showing in the Pumpkin Patch at 7p.

Oct. 27 | Trunk o Treats | 4p to 5:30p Borrow a car (or at least the trunk!) and decorate it as Myers seeks to provide a safe place for kids to have Halloween fun! There are prizes for car decorations! We will not meet at our regular time this week.



## PUMPKIN PATCH HOURS

Mondays - Saturdays

10a to Dark

Sundays

12:30p to Dark

Connect on Wednesday Nights  
6p in the Youth Lounge

**Oct. 2 | Let's Get Physical** We've invited a Physical Therapist to help us learn how to stretch and take care of our bodies no matter our physical level.

Oct. 9 | Service in the Patch We're meeting in the Pumpkin Patch tonight for a pumpkin devotion and service project.

Oct. 16 | Worship in the Patch In all places we Praise God, and tonight that includes the Pumpkin Patch.

Oct. 23 | Chill with Melinda Counselor Melinda Clontz will help give us skills for dealing with the stress in our lives.

Oct. 30 | Art with Rosie Rosie Little will lead us in a time of creative art exploration and we'll all go home with a work of art!

## Making Sandwiches for the Club

The fall session of sandwich making for the West Gastonia Boys & Girls Club kicks off Monday, **October 7 at 3p in the Kitchen.** If you've got the time, you are welcome to join in the fun of making 200 sandwiches and setting up the meal for the kids! Sandwich Makers meet the first Monday of each month to make Sandwiches and then deliver to The Club located on S. Boyd Street to serve dinner to the kids.

Did you know that it only costs \$202 per month to serve 200 kids dinner? Each month we serve a meal that includes a ham & cheese sandwich, chips, sweet treat and water. We welcome your financial donations as a way to support this ministry. Please earmark your checks to Sandwiches for the Club.



# Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

301 S. New Hope Road Gastonia, NC 28054

704-864-3222

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

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

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Permit #185

## Fun & Fellowship at the Pumpkin Church this Fall



### PUMPKIN PATCH HOURS

Mondays—Saturdays

10am to Dark

Sundays

12:30p to Dark

Sunday ~ October 6 ~ Worship at the Pumpkin Church  
10:50a Worship followed by Lunch in the Patch  
Food Trucks, BYO Picnic, Live Music by Carolina SonRise

Preschool Story Time

Connect Lunch

Concerts in the Patch

Pictures in the Patch

Homeschool STEM in the Patch

Worship in the Patch

Operation Medicine Cabinet

Crafting at the Pumpkin Church

Trunk O Treats

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