

# the Messenger

Now Quarterly Newsletter of Myers Memorial United Methodist Church in Gastonia, NC

## PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Wouldn't it be amazing to end our Bible Year IN the Holy Land? Pastor Sally invites you to join this inspirational pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2023. Join us as we follow in Jesus' footsteps through Israel, the Holy Land. Our pilgrimage will visit inspirational sites that bring to life the stories of Jesus and the Bible in the Galilee, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea area and Jerusalem.



Pastor Sally

While the itinerary is subject to change, and many more details are on the travel website, we will fly from Charlotte to Tel Aviv through Munich then travel for our stay in the Galilee area. We will spend five nights in the Galilee area visiting the sights, enjoying a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee as well as visiting unique local businesses. Then on to Jerusalem for a four night stay visiting the Old City with the Western Wall, Upper Room, Church of the Holy Sepulcher, then the Dead Sea/Masada area where we can float in the Dead Sea! We'll visit newer parts of Jerusalem and conclude with a tour of Bethlehem.

This pilgrimage will be a wonderful opportunity for us to bond as friends, share in our faith, have lots of fun together and come back with memories to last a lifetime. The price is based on a minimum of 20 participants and will be reduced if we have more than 25 so be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors!

Costs (based on a minimum of 20 participants)

+ Double Room Occupancy (per person): \$4,436.

+ Single Room Occupancy (per person) \$5,349 *limited rooms*

Register online by July 1 with a non-refundable deposit of \$200 per person, plus a \$28 (refundable) mandatory travel insurance.

If you are interested, you may find all the information and registration details at [www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/holy-land](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/holy-land).

## THE MISSION OF MMUMC

*The Mission of Myers Memorial United Methodist Church is to cultivate a Christ-centered community that welcomes, loves, and serves one another and the world.*

## Upcoming CHURCH EVENTS

Worship on Sundays

9a and 11a

Onsite and Live-streamed via

Facebook YouTube & Church Website

May 15: Mitey Ladies, 12ish

May 18: Charge Conference, 6p

May 22: Graduate Recognition  
Sunday

May 30: Memorial Day, Church  
Office Closed

June 5-11: InXbetween Mission  
Camp, Tekoa Foothills

June 5: Pentecost, New Member  
Sunday

June 16-19: WNC Annual  
Conference, Lake Junaluska

June 26-30: Youth Mission Trip,  
Hinton Rural Life Center

July 1: Holy Land Trip Deadline

July 3: ONE Worship Service, 10a

July 4: Independence Day,  
Church Office Closed

July 17-19: Vacation Bible School

July 19-24: Wilderness Trail

August 1-4: Mission Mania

### ONGOING

Bible Year Small Groups

SUN: Sunday School for all ages,  
10a

1st SUN: UMM, 8a; Communion

2nd SUN: Mitey Ladies, 12ish

MON: Naranon

TUES: GriefShare, 10a AIAnon

WED: Choir Rehearsal

THURS: Narcotics Anonymous

## INTERIM CO-MUSIC DIRECTORS

We are pleased to announce that we have found not one but *two* interim music directors. Please welcome Laura Beatty and Logan McGuire. Laura will primarily be working with the 11am service chancel choir and hand bells while Logan will primarily be working with our 9am service and praise team. They will be serving in this capacity on an interim basis this summer and will formally be known as our Interim Co-Music Directors. We are excited by their gifts and look forward to their making music with our talented musicians. Although they each have a primary responsibility we have already seen them working in partnership. They will be present for rehearsal and Sunday morning worship. We may occasionally see them at other times, but they both have full time jobs as well. Laura is the choral director at Holbrook Middle School and Logan is the Assistant Principal at Bessemer City Middle School. Both Logan and Laura are long time United Methodists, have church music direction experience, and love being involved in worship. Staff Parish will continue to work for a permanent solution for our music needs. We are so grateful to have the skills, gifts, and experience that Logan and Laura bring to us. Please let Randy Black or Pastor Sally know if you have questions about these interim positions.



Laura Beatty



Logan McGuire

## SUMMER SINGERS SOUGHT

Do you love to sing? This summer the choir invites you to sing along with them! There are no commitments and anthems are easy. The Choir rehearses in the Choir Room located behind the sanctuary on Wednesdays at 7p and Sundays at 10:30a. If you have questions, you may reach co-interim Director of Music, Laura Beatty at [music@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:music@myersmemorialumc.com) or speak with her following worship on Sunday.

## WHAT ABOUT THE CONTINUING UMC?

While no one knows exactly what the future holds our District Superintendent, David Christy, and Conference Secretary, Kim Ingram, will be leading a discussion on the future of the United Methodist Church in WNC. This will be a chance to hear from conference leaders what our shared future can look like and to ask questions you may have. The focus will be on the United Methodist Church and not on any groups or other denominations that wish to separate from the United Methodist Church. We will discuss what the future of United Methodism will look like in our Annual Conference. There are five counties in the Catawba Valley District and gatherings are planned for in each of these counties. Please save the date for July 10 from 3p to 4:30p at First UMC, Gastonia (190 E. Franklin Blvd).

## ARE YOU THINKING PUMPKINS?

We are!! We need to begin securing materials for the Pumpkin Patch, specifically a forklift and 200 wooden pallets. If you can help with these items please let Tresca ([thmcswain@gmail.com](mailto:thmcswain@gmail.com)) know so we will be prepared for Pumpkin Sunday, Oct. 2!

*serv·ant /'sərvənt/ n. a devoted and helpful follower or supporter.*

*Myers Memorial UMC n. A church cultivating a Christ-centered community that welcomes loves and serves one another and the world.*

## SUNDAY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for Worship Servants to help with the variety of duties that accompany worship at Myers. Worship Servants will serve as greeters, ushers, communion stewards, passing out worship materials, depending on the Sunday you serve. Please contact Heather (704-864-3222 [heather@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:heather@myersmemorialumc.com)) in the church office to offer your services!

## CHARGE CONFERENCE: MAY 18, 6PM

For the last 5 years we have developed a partnership with Trinity UMC. We have shared ministry, worship, study, and fellowship together. Their membership felt it was time to make the next faithful decision in their church life cycle. Trinity UMC has unanimously voted to merge with Myers Memorial UMC effective July 1. Merging with a congregation not only transfers all of their membership; it also transfers all of their assets to our congregation. The WNC Conference will work to sell the property at Trinity and upon sale, the money will be used for capital improvements at Myers Memorial UMC. This is truly a gift being offered to us by our friends at Trinity. We also find it an honor that they wish to be part of our congregation and we look forward to welcoming them to our fellowship.



We need to have a Church Conference to vote to accept this merger. Rev. David Christy, our District Superintendent, will be present on Wednesday, May 18 at 6pm for the Church Conference in the CFC. All professing members of Myers Memorial will be able to vote upon the merger of Trinity UMC and Myers Memorial UMC. Please plan to attend. This will be the only item on the agenda.

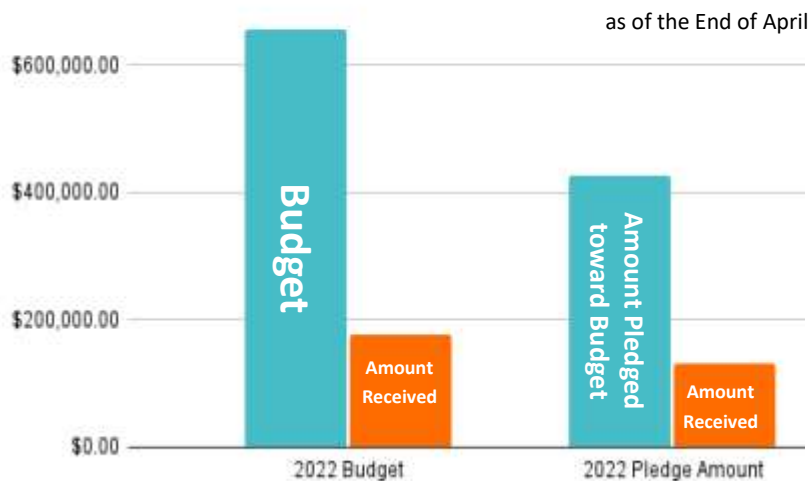
If you have any questions please contact Church Council Chair: Laurie Knight, Trustee Chair: Allen Proctor, or Pastor Sally. Please be in prayer for our friends from Trinity as we can imagine this is an emotional time in the life of their church. We do give God thanks for over 100 years of ministry they have offered in Gaston County.

## DON'T TAKE A VACATION ON GIVING

The Finance Committee reminds us to not let our faithful giving to the church take a vacation this summer! The many ministries at Myers Memorial UMC don't stop during the summer months! While we do have a small deficit and have depleted several designated accounts due to recent, and much needed, capital improvements, we continue to be conscious of our spending. We celebrate your faithful giving so that we can pay the maintenance costs associated with our building, fund our fabulous staff and continue to remain connectional through our giving to the larger United Methodist Church. We also celebrate new HVAC systems, new parking lot paving and striping, and more through designated giving!

The Finance Committee would appreciate you taking the time to set up automatic giving through your financial institution or through our online giving portal, Vanco, [www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/give](http://www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/give).

If you need assistance, desire to know where you are in your pledged giving, or if you wish to pledge for the remaining, please reach out to Amelia Bumgardner ([finance@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:finance@myersmemorialumc.com)) in the Church Finance Office.





## THE HOUSE THAT FAITH BUILT

The Gaston County faith community is invited to come together on May 22 to raise necessary funding for one Habitat Home. If 15,000 of **Gaston County's faith community** donated just \$10, one house will be fully funded on one Sunday. The House will be built in the Dixon Village subdivision and you can learn more at [www.habitatgaston.org](http://www.habitatgaston.org). Donations for The House that Faith Built can be given on May 22nd in Worship and earmarked HGFAITH. You may *Text to Give*: Text HGFAITH to 44321 (click on the link you receive, select an amount you wish to give, select payment method and complete the prompts to submit your gift); *Mail a Check*: directly to Habitat for Humanity of Gaston County, Inc. (earmark: HGFAITH) 1840 E. Franklin Blvd., Gastonia, NC 28054; *Give Online* at [habitatgaston.org](http://habitatgaston.org) by clicking the donate button. Please note HGFAITH in the comments section.

## MYERS MEMORIAL UMC 60+

The third Thursday of each month is our time to gather and fellowship with all those 60 years and older.

- Thursday, May 19: we will meet at 12:30p at Stowe Botanical Gardens to enjoy the spring gardens.
- Thursday, June 16: we will meet at 12:30p at the Schiele Museum to view their latest exhibits.
- Thursday, July 21: we will meet at 12:30p at Taxco Mexican Restaurant on Garrison Blvd.

## JULY IS CAM MONTH

In an effort to better love and serve our neighbors and to fill a void in the Crisis Assistance Ministry pantry July is our new month to collect for CAM! During the month of July you are invited to bring nonperishable food items and household cleaning items. Can we collect 2,461 items? **That's how many verses we will read** in the book of Psalms!

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our children are digging into the Bible. Throughout May our children are learning stories from the book of Exodus in June it'll be Joshua and Judges and in July they will study Samuel. Please bring your children to Sunday School 10a to 10:40a each week.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

Grief Share is an ongoing gathering each Tuesday morning at 10 am in our church parlor. If you or if you know of someone that could benefit from this support group please contact Connie Elzey [dce@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:dce@myersmemorialumc.com).

Divorce Care meets via zoom on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm through June 14. A new session of Divorce Care will begin September 6. For more information about our Divorce Care support group please contact Connie Elzey [dce@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:dce@myersmemorialumc.com).

## LOOKING FOR A GOOD SHOW?

Have you checked out Amplify? It's a multimedia platform that features thousands of videos you can use for study reflection worship and inspiration. Think of it as Netflix for the Christian Faith! You can access all of these videos anytime and on almost any device ~ for Free! Go to: [my.amplifymedia.com/amplify](http://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify). Enter Our Access Code: XJFVBY You will need to create a free account but then you can access hundreds of lessons meditations and more!

## CHRISTMAS IN JULY

By late July we'll need a little Christmas spirit! Join us in your most fashionable holiday wear on Sunday July 24 as we celebrate Christmas in July! **You're encouraged to bring canned meat, peanut butter & jelly and hearty soups**, three of the most needed items for your CAM donation on this Sunday.

## READY TO JOIN?

Members of Myers Memorial UMC have committed to be a part of this congregation by supporting one another with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. If this is something you would like to be a part of, we will be welcoming New Members on Sunday, June 5th, at both services. Please speak with Pastor Sally or Pastor Sarah if you have any questions or are ready to make this commitment for yourself!

## FAST TRACK DISCIPLE I

Recently the Fast Track Disciple I class concluded their study that began in September. Many thanks to Gary Lutz for facilitating this study that met each Tuesday evening. We will recognize *Butch Adams, John & Penny Hurst, Melinda Brown, Glenn & Teresa Fried, and Beth Broadwater* in the 11a worship on May 22, for their participation and commitment to this study of the Old and New Testaments.

## NURSERY NEWS ~ WE'RE GROWING!

We love having our littles at church and welcoming new infants! Beginning Sunday, June 5, we will offer 2 nurseries during our 11a worship service: Infants/Crawlers and Toddlers-4years. We will continue to offer one nursery at 9a until we find a further need. Volunteers are vital for this ministry. Please contact Connie Elzey if you are willing to volunteer with our youngest!

## THE FAITH WE SING

On July 3 we will have *one* worship service with communion at 10a as we enjoy a service of worship songs featuring American composers. Enjoy Lemonade on the Lawn and festive fellowship after the service.

## YOUTH & INXBETWEEN

Stay connected with all the IXB and Youth have happening this summer! Ask Tresca McSwain to add you to the Youth mailing list and subscribe to the remind text for information and reminders instantly on your phone! Youth: text @myersy or InXbetween: text @myersinb to 81010. If you have questions about any of the ministries with the 5th-12th graders, please contact Tresca McSwain Director of Youth (thmcswain@gmail.com, 704-477-7447)

## YOUTH & IXB SUNDAY SCHOOL

Meet Downstairs each Sunday morning at 10am for Sunday School! InXbetweens (5th & 6th graders) meet in the classroom while the Youth (7th-12th graders) meet in the Lounge.

## IXB MISSION TRIP ~ JUNE 11

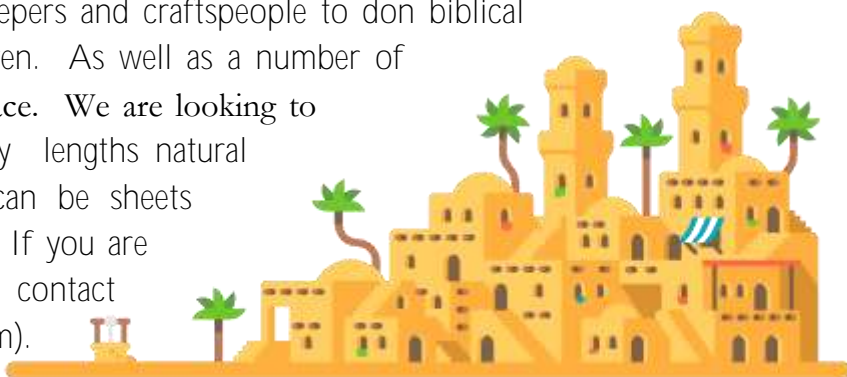
Rising 6th-8th graders will be heading to Tekoa Foothills for the opportunity to serve others in beautiful upper Cleveland County. While enjoying Tekoa Foothills which includes a zip line, pool, creek, paddle boats, they will also be experiencing a range of service opportunities from home repairs and construction to a relationship based missions experience through community outreach. We will commission these missionaries during worship on June 5th prior to their departure.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2022 IS A JOURNEY INTO BIBLE TIMES!

What was it like to gather with friends in a biblical town? How did they learn the stories of God's love? Where did they get water? What kinds of foods did they eat? This year at Vacation Bible School children preschool through high school are invited back in time to discover what it was like as we transform the CFC into a Biblical town. Registration is forthcoming but mark your calendars for July 17-19, 6:30p to 8p each evening!

Adults, we will need lots of hands to make this Bible town come to life! As you've read the scriptures what do you see in a bible town? We know we will need volunteers with the children to guide the family tribes from station to station and shopkeepers and craftspeople to don biblical attire and share knowledge with the children. As well as a number of 'things' to help aid in transforming the space. We are looking to borrow large woven baskets large pottery lengths natural colored materials (solids and patterns can be sheets blankets or other material) pop up tents. If you are able to share your gifts of time or materials contact Connie Elzey ([dce@myersmemorialumc.com](mailto:dce@myersmemorialumc.com)).



### YOUTH MISSION TRIP ~ JUNE 26-30

Our Youth Group (rising 9th-12th graders) will be headed to beautiful Western NC for a week of service in the Haysville area through the ministry of Hinton Rural Life Center. Youth will be completing various projects while building relationships with our neighbors. We will commission these missionaries in the June 26th Worship service prior to their departure.

### WILDERNESS TRAIL

A small group of youth and adults will be heading for a journey into the wilderness July 19-24 as they step out of their comfort zones and dive deeper into the love of God in this off-the-grid backpacking experience. Our prayers will go with **them and we can't wait to hear about it upon their return.**

### THE BIBLE YEAR

It is not too late to join us in reading the Bible in a Year and/or joining a small group discussion each week. Check out our website to find the list of readings and the small group times that are available. If you have questions or want to learn more about The Bible Year contact any of our staff members.

### MISSION MANIA ~ AUGUST 1-4

Rising 4th-8th graders are invited to experience the opportunities in our area for serving others one day at a time! Each day (9a—3p) **we'll head** out into our community for service and fellowship. The cost is \$100 and more details are coming to you in June!

### SAVE THE DATE

The Walk for Wellness in memory of Henry A. Justice, will be held on October 9th from 9a to 12p. This annual fundraiser for Cancer Services of Gaston County will be held at the church during pumpkin season! You are invited to enjoy the day, participate in various wellness opportunities, donate Gatorade & Chicken Soup, and learn more caring for yourself while raising funds for Cancer Services of Gaston County. We look forward to supporting the fighters, admiring the survivors and honoring the taken.

# The Bible Year ~ Daily Scripture Readings

DAY	DATE	SCRIPTURE	DAY	DATE	SCRIPTURE	DAY	DATE	SCRIPTURE
61	May 1	Judges 17:1 - Judges 21:25	92	June 1	1 Chr. 10:1 - 1 Chr. 12:40	122	July 1	Psalms 5:1-8:9
62	May 2	Ruth 1:1 - Ruth 2:23	93	June 2	1 Chr. 13:1 - 1 Chr. 16:43	123	July 2	Psalms 9:1-12:8
63	May 3	Ruth 3:1 - Ruth 4:22	94	June 3	1 Chr. 17:1 - 1 Chr. 22:1	124	July 3	Psalms 13:1-16:11
64	May 4	1 Sam. 1:1 - 1 Sam. 3:21	95	June 4	1 Chr. 22:2 - 1 Chr. 27:34	125	July 4	Psalms 17:1-20:9
65	May 5	1 Sam. 4:1 - 1 Sam. 7:17	96	June 5	1 Chron. 28:1-29:30	126	July 5	Psalms 21:1-24:10
66	May 6	1 Sam. 8:1 - 1 Sam. 12:25	97	June 6	2 Chron. 1:1-5:1	127	July 6	Psalms 25:1-28:9
67	May 7	1 Sam. 13:1 - 1 Sam. 15:35	98	June 7	2 Chron. 5:2-9:31	128	July 7	Psalms 29:1-32:11
68	May 8	1 Sam. 16:1 - 1 Sam. 17:58	99	June 8	2 Chron. 10:1-13:22	129	July 8	Psalms 33:1-36:12
69	May 9	1 Sam. 18:1 - 1 Sam. 20:42	100	June 9	2 Chron. 14:1-16:14	130	July 9	Psalms 37:1-41:13
70	May 10	1 Sam. 21:1 - 1 Sam. 24:22	101	June 10	2 Chron. 17:1-20:37	131	July 10	Psalms 42:1-45:17
71	May 11	1 Sam. 25:1 - 1 Sam. 28:25	102	June 11	2 Chron. 21:1-24:27	132	July 11	Psalms 46:1-49:20
72	May 12	1 Sam. 29:1 - 1 Sam. 31:13	103	June 12	2 Chron. 25:1-28:27	133	July 12	Psalms 50:1-53:6
73	May 13	2 Sam. 1:1 - 2 Sam. 4:12	104	June 13	2 Chron. 29:1-32:33	134	July 13	Psalms 54:1-56:13
74	May 14	2 Sam. 5:1 - 2 Sam. 7:29	105	June 14	2 Chron. 33:1-36:23	135	July 14	Psalms 57:1-59:17
75	May 15	2 Sam. 8:1 - 2 Sam. 10:19	106	June 15	Ezra 1:1-3:13	136	July 15	Psalms 60:1-63:11
76	May 16	2 Sam. 11:1 - 2 Sam. 14:33	107	June 16	Ezra 4:1-6:22	137	July 16	Psalms 64:1-68:35
77	May 17	2 Sam. 15:1 - 2 Sam. 19:43	108	June 17	Ezra 7:1-10:44	138	July 17	Psalms 69:1-72:20
78	May 18	2 Sam. 20:1 - 2 Sam. 24:25	109	June 18	Nehemiah 1:1-4:23	139	July 18	Psalms 73:1-75:10
79	May 19	1 Kgs. 1:1 - 1 Kgs. 4:34	110	June 19	Neh. 5:1-7:73	140	July 19	Psalms 76:1-78:72
80	May 20	1 Kgs. 5:1 - 1 Kgs. 8:66	111	June 20	Neh. 8:1-10:39	141	July 20	Psalms 79:1-84:12
81	May 21	1 Kgs. 9:1 - 1 Kgs. 11:43	112	June 21	Neh. 11:1-13:1	142	July 21	Psalms 85:1-89:52
82	May 22	1 Kgs. 12:1 - 1 Kgs. 16:34	113	June 22	Esther 1:1-4:17	143	July 22	Psalms 90:1-95:11
83	May 23	1 Kgs. 17:1 - 1 Kgs. 19:21	114	June 23	Esth. 5:1-10:3	144	July 23	Psalms 96:1-101:8
84	May 24	1 Kgs. 20:1 - 1 Kgs. 22:53	115	June 24	Job 1:1-5:27	145	July 24	Psalms 102:1-104:35
85	May 25	2 Kgs. 1:1 - 2 Kgs. 8:15	116	June 25	Job 6:1-14:22	146	July 25	Psalms 105:1-107:43
86	May 26	2 Kgs. 8:16 - 2 Kgs. 10:36	117	June 26	Job 15:1-21:34	147	July 26	Psalms 108:1-112:10
87	May 27	2 Kgs. 11:1 - 2 Kgs. 13:25	118	June 27	Job 22:1-31:40	148	July 27	Psalms 113:1-118:29
88	May 28	2 Kgs. 14:1 - 2 Kgs. 17:41	119	June 28	Job 32:1-37:24	149	July 28	Psalms 119:1-88
89	May 29	2 Kgs. 18:1 - 2 Kgs. 21:26	120	June 29	Job 38:1-42:17	150	July 29	Psalms 119:89-176
90	May 30	2 Kgs. 22:1 - 2 Kgs. 25:30	121	June 30	Psalms 1:1-4:8	151	July 30	Psalms 120:1-126:6
91	May 31	1 Chr. 1:1 - 1 Chr. 9:44				152	July 31	Psalms 127:1-130:8

# 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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## Journey into Bible Life

July 17-19 | 6:30p-8p | Preschool - High School

Vacation Bible School  
@ Myers Memorial UMC

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