

the Messenger

Quarterly Newsletter of Myers Memorial United Methodist Church in Gastonia NC

Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash

THE BIBLE YEAR ENTERS THE NEW TESTAMENT

Congratulations! The Bible Year Journey continues and we've entered the New Testament Readings! Congratulate yourself if you've been reading along, we've read 23,145 verses in 39 books of the Old Testament. As we enter into the New Testament readings, you're encouraged to continue reading or begin reading along! You can find the daily scripture readings on page 11 of this Newsletter, in the weekly emails or on our Bible Year webpage, www.MyersMemorial.UMC.org/the-bible-year. On that website you can find out how to receive the daily readings via text message. It is never too late to join a small group for further study and reflection. A listing of the small groups is on page 6 of this newsletter. And in all things, if you have questions or want assistance getting started, please call the church office (704-864-3222).

SPARKLE GIFTS FOR JESUS

When we celebrated Christmas in July, we learned about a story called "The Sparkle Box" where a family offered their acts of service through out the season as the first gift they opened on Christmas morning ~ acknowledging how these are gifts to and from Jesus. Worshippers were given a Sparkle Box on that Sunday and more are available in the narthex and church office. Feel free to take one and add your gifts on strips of paper, holding them in your box. In December when you come for worship, take out your strips of papers and add them to the Giving Tree in the Narthex. *Fill your box with the opportunities to serve on page 3!*

OUR MISSION

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

Cultivating

A CHRIST CENTERED
COMMUNITY

Worship on Sundays
9a and 11a

On-site and Live-streamed via
Facebook, YouTube & Church Website

Nov. 6: All Saints Sunday, UMM, Communion
Nov. 6: Charge Conference, 3p, FUMC
Nov. 13: Vision Visit, 10a
Nov. 14: A Bead & A Prayer, 11:30a
Nov. 20: Taste of Myers, 10a
Nov. 24: Church Office Closed
Nov. 27: First Sunday in Advent
Dec. 1: Blood Drive, 3p-7p
Dec. 4: Second Sunday in Advent, Angel Tree
Gifts Due, Communion Sunday
Dec. 4: Advent Adventures, 10a, CFC
Dec. 4: Love Feast, 5p
Dec. 5: Angel Tree Gift Sort
Dec. 11: Third Sunday in Advent
Dec. 11: Lessons & Carols, 5p
Dec. 18: Fourth Sunday in Advent
Dec. 18: Gingerbread Sunday
Dec. 21: Christmas Caroling, 5:30p
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Worship, 5p
Dec. 25: Christmas Day Worship, 10a
Dec. 26-28: Church Office Closed
Jan 1: College Student Sunday, 10a, *Virtual*
Jan. 2: Church Office Closed
Jan 8: Epiphany Sunday
Jan. 15: Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Jan. 20-22: HS Youth Winter Retreat
Jan. 27: MS Youth Lock In
Jan. 29: Servant Leadership Summit, 2p-4p

OUR VISION

*Together God's life grows in us, so that we
can share that life with others.*



SUNDAY WORSHIP & SPECIAL SERVICES

Join us in Worship each Sunday as we continue through a year in the Bible. We worship at 9a and 11a in the Sanctuary and via live stream on Facebook, YouTube and our Church Website. Make note of the special times at Christmas and New Years!

- December 4: Love Feast, 5p, Sanctuary
- December 11: A Service of Lessons & Carols, 5p, Sanctuary
- December 18: Gingerbread Sunday, 9a & 11a
- December 24: Christmas Eve Service, one service at 5p.
- December 25: Christmas Day, one service at 10a in the Sanctuary. Join us for the Paper Bag Nativity, a service of Song and Story where everyone has a part in the story! Warm & Cozy pajamas are welcome!
- January 1: one worship service *online*, premiering at 10a, no onsite worship.

LAITY SERVICE AWARD

Methodism has a long history of celebrating and recognizing the ministry of the laity. In the early days of American Methodism, the laity served and maintained congregations between visits of the circuit riders. Today, lay people are the front line of daily ministry of the church, in the home and within the community. On October 30th, Lynda Sides was presented with the 2022 Laity Service Award. We are grateful for the many ways Lynda serves among us in the Choir, Praise Team, as a member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee and past Stewardship chairperson, and as a Youth Leader on Sunday nights as well as using vacation time this past summer to serve on two high school youth trips to Hinton Rural Life Center and Wilderness Trail. Thank you Lynda, for living out your membership vows to support Myers Memorial UMC with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On Sunday, November 6th we will celebrate the Saints in our lives by remembering those in our congregation who have joined the church triumphant in the last year. Families have been invited to return for this remembrance as we light a candle for each member. There will be candles for each of us to light to remember those saints in our personal lives. We will acknowledge these members of Myers Memorial UMC and Trinity UMC during both services.

Patty Fayssoux

September 29, 1953~November 5, 2021

Pauline Barnes

November 5, 1920~November 8, 2021

Karen Bentley

February 3, 1960 ~ December 13, 2021

Danny Harvell

March 15, 1943~January 8, 2022

Joyce Stowe

February 20, 1924~January 30, 2022

Dorothy Zoeller

August 12, 1924~February 4, 2022

Ann Teague

June 12, 1938~February 11, 2022

Jeanette Walker

February 8, 1929~March 1, 2022

Max Erwin

May 8, 1928~May 26, 2022

Gay McKeown

January 15, 1948~June 11, 2022

Ron Eaves

November 23, 1953~June 3, 2022

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

A special Griefshare session on “Surviving the Holidays” will be held on Tuesday, November 15 from 10a to 11:30a in the Church Parlor. If you or others you know would like to join this special one-time session, please contact Connie Elzey, dce@myersmemorialumc.com or 704-864-3222 ext. 105.

THE GIVING TREE

This winter you'll find a new Tree in the Narthex. This tree previously served as the sanctuary Christmas tree for Trinity UMC. In November you will find it adorned with Salvation Army Angel Tree Angels; in December, you are encouraged to add your Sparkle Gifts to Jesus and in January we'll adorn it with gloves, hats, scarves and 'hot hands' to warm up our coldest neighbors.



ANGEL TREE ELVES

We need a few elves to help sort Angel Tree Gifts on Monday, December 5, then go shopping for any missing items. We'll also need more volunteers to help with loading the Salvation Army moving van later that week. We have over 100 angels and it's sure to be an amazing time to play elf! If you are available in the mornings on those dates to play elf for the angels, please contact Rev. Sarah Davis at 704-864-3222 or churchoffice@myersmemorialumc.com.

A TASTE OF MYERS ~ NOV 20, 10A

Have you connected with Myers Memorial UMC either in worship or a small group? You are invited to a Taste of Myers on Sunday, November 20 from 10a to 10:45a. A Taste of Myers is a time for you to get to know a little more about the church and her people. We invite you to come with any questions you may have. We want to be able to answer your questions and help you find your place in the Myers family! Please RSVP with Heather in the church office by November 16th so we can make arrangements for everyone at the table! Please let us know you're coming by emailing Heather@MyersMemorialUMC.com or call the church office at 704-864-3222.

WAYS TO SERVE THIS SEASON

Salvation Army Angel Tree The Angel Tree will be in the Narthex and decorated with 100 angels (children and adults) beginning November 13. You will have until December 4 to return your unwrapped gifts to the Angel Tree in the Narthex or the Church Office.

First Sundays for CAM The New Life Sunday School class invites you to participate in a collection for Crisis Assistance Ministry. Simply leave your donations at the rear of your vehicle on the first Sunday of each month and a member of the New Life Sunday School class will stop by to pick up your donations.

Give the Gift of Life on Thursday, December 1 from 3p to 7p, the OneBlood Big Red Bus (Bloodmobile) will be parked at Myers to receive your gifts! Be sure to let others know about it too! The link to make your life-giving appointment will be posted on the Health Cabinet website: www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/health-cabinet.

Thirsty Third Sundays The Choir is spearheading a collection on the Third Sundays of each month for Cancer Services of Gaston County. You are invited to bring donations of **Gatorade and Campbell's Chicken Noodle Soups**. You may leave your donations at the front of the sanctuary nearest the Choir loft.

Weekend Backpack Food Program will be packing backpacks on November 15, December 13, and January 24 at 2:30p in the CFC.

Sandwich Brigade will be making sandwiches for the West Gastonia Boys & Girls Club on First Mondays: November 7, December 5 and February 6. There is no school on the First Monday in January so we will not be needed.

Mission Possible meets as needed to construct accessible ramps on homes. No construction skills necessary!

Want to serve? Call the church office and we'll get you connected! 704-864-3222

www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/serve

CHARGE CONFERENCE 2022

Charge Conference is the basic governing body of each United Methodist Church. Annually, the charge conference reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastors, and elects the members to positions of leadership for the coming year. The annual Charge Conference Meeting of Myers Memorial UMC will be held on Sunday, November 6 at 3p at First UMC, Gastonia (190 E. Franklin Blvd). Anyone is welcome to attend, yet only the members of the Church Council will have vote.

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT

In partnership with Gaston Hospice and the Gaston Alzheimer's Community, Myers Memorial UMC will be the gathering location for a monthly support group for Alzheimer's Caregivers on the second Tuesday of each month from 4p to 5p beginning November 8th. For more information, you may contact Mark Hanna at 704-842-0510 or visit www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/TMC.

TRINITY MEMORIES CAFÉ

Trinity Memories Café will be open on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 11a to 1p. The Trinity Memories Café is a social gathering for individuals living with dementia and their care partners. Care partners can include spouses, children, friends, and professional caregivers. The Memories Café will provide meals, snacks, and other activities such as music, other creative arts, stories and entertainment. Trinity Memories Café seeks to be a place where people can be themselves without stigmas or worrying about what others are thinking. For more information about attending the Café or to serve, please contact Mark Hanna (markedeck@gmail.com) or Susan Robinson (dreamwalkintwh@gmail.com).

IT'S A PANTRY POUNDING

The Outreach Committee is hosting a Pounding for the Loray Girls Home, a local residential facility for girls in their late teens living in the foster care system. If you have never heard of a Pounding, here's an explanation:

The idea of a Pounding dates back to the age of the original Quakers. The custom was established to welcome a new community leader and family into a community. The idea was to give the family a pound of pantry staples...corn, wheat, sugar, butter, etc. It was a sign of hospitality and welcome.

Now, we don't live in a time of cellars and dry storage. We are more of a coffee and chocolate kind of culture. Help us meet some of the basics of communal living by bringing "pounds" of pantry staples or gift cards to help them stock up the kitchen and feed the many mouths that gather around the table. *Return items to the Narthex any time in November.*

☞ Most needed items

Household Items

- ☞ Toilet Paper
- ☞ Paper Towels
- ☞ Laundry Detergent Pods
- ☞ Dish washing Pods
- Dryer Sheets
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- Lysol All Purpose Spray Cleaner
- Windex
- Air Fresheners

Personal Items

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Super Tampax Tampons
- Always Thin Pads

Dry Food Goods

- ☞ Gatorade Zero (*small bottles*)
- ☞ Bottle Waters
- Can Vegetables
- Can Fruits
- Sauces (*Alfredo, Spaghetti*)
- Pastas

Miscellaneous Items

- ☞ Epson 212 Cartridges (*black & color ink*)
- ☞ Gift cards to Target, Walmart etc.
- Gift Cards to restaurants

PLANNING FOR 2023

The Finance and Stewardship committee invites you to consider making an estimate of giving for 2023. By knowing an estimate of what the church will receive in financial gifts in 2023, we will be able to make a more accurate and faithful budget for the 2023 ministry year. Our 2022 ministry theme has been “Vision”. Our vision is not just to ‘pay the bills’. We want to dream big, to grow and to equip disciples to reach those who need to hear the hope of Jesus. How can you be a part of this vision? We ask that you begin praying and ask God how you can be a part of this journey. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge, an estimate of giving, for 2023. Your financial contributions are needed so that we can provide space, support and opportunities to share and grow in our faith. You should have received an Estimate of Giving Card in the mail, or you can find one in the Sanctuary entrance (Narthex), or there is an online option found at www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/give. We invite you to prayerfully complete this card and return it to the designated basket in the Sanctuary or office.

MYERS MEMORIAL UMC 60+

This group is designed for all those 60 years and older to meet for food and fellowship at 12:30p on the third Thursday of each month. Mark Your Calendars and invite a friend!

- Thursday, November 17 Meet at Ray Nathan’s (4571 S. New Hope Rd, Gastonia)
- Thursday, December 15 Meet at Barrister’s at the Esquire Hotel (168 W. Main Ave, Gastonia)
- Thursday, January 19 Enjoy a Potluck Soup & Sandwich Lunch in the Myers Memorial CFC

www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/give

DID YOU KNOW? ADVENT 2022

Did you know? Advent begins November 27th and is the four Sundays before Christmas? Did you know that this baby we anticipate in Advent and celebrate at Christmas would transform the world like he has? This Advent, we’re going to look at the life of Jesus, not just his birth story, but his adult life that showed us how we are to live differently than the rest of the world, sharing the love of God and proclaiming Justice, Acceptance, Truth and Unity. Join us this Advent as we unwrap the gift of the season and discover what there is to be known!

CHRISTMAS SEASON POINSETTIAS

You are invited to decorate the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias this season. The cost is \$15 per poinsettia. The flower pot base will be wrapped, including a bow, and delivered to the church. The flowers will adorn the sanctuary from December 11-24. Poinsettias can be given in honor or in memory of a loved one and acknowledgements will be printed as well as shared on the sanctuary screens. Online orders and payments are accepted, checks may be written to MMUMC. The online order form can be found at www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/worship.

END OF YEAR INFORMATION

The Church Office is open Mondays-Thursdays from 8:30a to 4p. The office will be closed December 26, 27 & 28. The office will be open December 29 for regular hours (8:30a to 4p). If you have questions regarding your financial pledge and where you may be in your giving at this time of the year, contact our bookkeeper, Amelia Bumgardner, finance@myersmemorialumc.com; 704-864-3222, ext. 109. Also, if you make reoccurring financial gifts via your financial institution or the church’s Vanco system, please make time to confirm and adjust your giving for the 2023 year through your online giving portal.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2023



Pastor Sally is excited to share the information gleaned from the Vision Visits which has stirred among us all many ideas for future ministry *together* as the body of Christ at Myers Memorial UMC. Our 2023 ministry theme will be Together and in that spirit we invite you to come *together* on

Sunday, January 29, from 2p to 4p, in the CFC as we make plans for tangible ways to live out our mission and vision *together* in 2023. Youth and Adults are invited to participate. *You do not* have to be a member of any committee or task force to attend. *You must* have a desire to cultivate a Christ-centered community that welcomes, loves and serves one another and the world.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Worship servants serve on Sunday mornings in the role of Greeter, Usher, Worship Assistants and are vital in the hospitality of our Sunday morning and other Special Worship Services! If you would like to serve on the front line doing what you do best, being a welcoming congregation, then you are invited to contact Lee Black and offer your time. (kimreyblack@hotmail.com)

MYERS COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Like many things, supply chain issues have continually postponed the building of a columbarium at Myers Memorial UMC. The task force overseeing the project has decided to move forward with good faith that construction can begin in 2023 and are currently awaiting updated architectural plan before applying for necessary permits and proceeding. A columbarium is an architectural structure used to shelter cremation urns. The columbarium will be located in a small grassy area on the side of the CFC building. If you are parked in the small parking lot facing the CFC portico entrance, the grassy area is to the left of that entrance. The columbarium will be initially constructed with 100 niches with room for expansion. Niches are currently priced at \$2,000 for one urn, \$2,500 for two urns. Two urns is the maximum allowed in a niche. If you are interested in securing your spot, please reach out to Louisa Suggs, lousia.suggs@gmail.com or 704-813-9858 and she can assist you with the next steps.



The Bible Year Small Groups are open to all! Find one that meets your calendar and start today! If you need help making contact with a group leader, please call the church office, 704-864-3222.

Sunday Groups

- 10am New Life Class (Wendy Wade, facilitator) In Person, New Life Classroom
- 5:30pm (Allison Evanoff, Tonda Coonce & Susan Robinson, facilitators) In Person, Asbury Room

Monday Groups

- 8pm via Zoom (Marty Brown, Thomas & Brinkley Rhodes, facilitators)

Tuesday Group

- 12:30pm via Zoom (Rev. Sarah Davis, facilitator)

Wednesday Group

- 10am Morning Bible Study, (Debbie Brown, facilitator) In Person, Asbury Room

Thursday Groups

- 11am (Ann Peninger & Laurie Knight, facilitators) In Person, Asbury Room
- 6:30pm Soul Purpose (Rev. Everett Stoddard, facilitator) InPerson & Zoom, Asbury Room

FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Myers Trustees have been hard at work heading up various projects around the church, including the sale of the Trinity building. The building's exterior painting has been completed, more HVAC systems have been replaced, the parking lot paving will be completed as the weather allows, the sanctuary roof will be replaced in November and new electronic signs are being installed along both New Hope Rd and Burtonwood Rd. as the newsletter is printing. One exciting thing of note is that the Trinity Bell has been refurbished and has found a permanent home just outside the Sanctuary doors. Trustees is also updating the security/fire alarm system throughout the church facility and installing directional signs at key points around the outside of the building. We are grateful for the community grant and the funds from the sale of the Trinity building that have made continual updates to our facility possible.



KITCHEN NOTES

We are so excited that our kitchen is bustling again with various ministries taking place each week. Please note, we no longer have a kitchen staff member or a lay kitchen coordinator. Please be conscious of this space when using it by cleaning off all surfaces, washing all dishes, and removing the trash. If you use any of the towels provided, please wash and return promptly. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining cleanliness, organization and safety of our kitchen. If you should have need to use the kitchen, please contact Connie Elzey or Sarah Davis to ensure the kitchen's availability.

NEW STAFF AT MYERS

Since the last newsletter we have been blessed with the arrival of Andrew Ingram as the Director of Children and Youth Ministries. Andrew is a 2022 graduate of Brevard College and a multi-summer staff member of Camp Tekoa. Andrew began working at Myers at the start of the school year and has jumped in with his whole heart! You can easily find him in worship on Sunday mornings by looking for the clumping of children and youth sitting with him and on Sunday afternoons going between Youth and Wonder programs. During the week, Andrew is in the office Mondays-Thursdays. Andrew is grateful for all the parents and adults for helping him navigate his first fall and pumpkin season at Myers! Andrew@MyersMemorialUMC.com



CHILDREN'S ADVENT ADVENTURE

We're going on an Advent-ure this Advent Season! Preschoolers through 5th graders are to gather in the CFC at 10a on Sunday, December 4th to prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of the Christ child! Parents/Grownups, come back at 10:40a to see what Adventures Jesus has in store for us!



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY NIGHT WONDER

On Sunday nights from 5:30p to 6:30p on the 3rd floor, our children 'wonder' through music, crafts and story time learning about Bible Heroes! We give thanks to our own super heroes, *Logan McGuire, Melinda Brown, Louisa Suggs, Justine Snyder and Chris McCullen* for making the Bible come to life for our children! Wonder will not meet December 4~January 1 and will resume on January 8 at 5:30p.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

As our children continue their journey through the Bible, during November, December and January they will be learning more about the books of Matthew, John and Acts! Parents & Grandparents, please help our children get to Sunday School each week! We have outstanding teachers that are so dedicated to Christian education as they prepare, care and are committed to your children. Extra thanks to *Annie Oliver, Kathleen Sharp, Judy Seay, Judy Thiele, Brinkley Rhodes, Jaclyn Tant, Justine Snyder and Gary & Jerri Lynn Boggess!* All children gather in Room 103 at 10a before heading off to their classrooms with their teachers. Children will return to this room by 10:40a for pick up by a parent/grownup.

MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK IN

Middle Schoolers are invited to an overnight lock-in at the church from 7p on January 27 to 8a on **Saturday, January 28. It'll be a night of fun and games, late night movies, laser tag, video games and board games.** Bring your own overnight supplies! Sign Ups will take place in January!

ONGOING/WEEKLY GROUPS

Through out the Week: Bible Year Small Groups
SUN: Worship, 9a & 11a; Sunday School for all ages, 10a, Praise Team, 4:30p, Youth & Children, 5:30p
1st SUN: UMM, Communion, CAM food Collection
2nd SUN: Mitey Companions, 12p
3rd SUN: Cancer Services Collection
MON: Naranon, 6p, Boy Scouts
TUES: GriefShare, 10a, AIAnon, 11a, DivorceCare, 6:30p, Girl Scouts
2nd TUES: **Alzheimer's Support, 4p**
WED: Music Rehearsals
2nd WED: Trinity Memories Café, 11a
THURS: Narcotics Anonymous
3rd THURS: 60+ Fellowship, 12:30p
FRI: **Men's Prayer Group, 7:15a**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Joy to the World! We're going Christmas Caroling to spread joy and happiness to some in our congregation who need to hear the joy of the season in our voices! Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, December 21 at 5:30p!** We'll meet at the church then divide up! Everyone is encouraged to participate regardless of your singing ability!

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER 2023 TRIP

High School Youth! Mark your calendars for July 21-29 for a once in your high school life **opportunity!** We're going to Florida for a time of service at Give Kids the World in Orlando and attend Youth 2023 in Daytona Beach. Youth 2023 is a denomination wide gathering of United Methodist Youth Fellowship groups that only happens once every 4 years! The Youth 2023 theme is *Bold: Being Ourselves. Living Different.* And it's sure to be bold with keynote speakers like Rev. Rachel Billups and Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin and more yet to be announced! Costs will be determined by the number of youth and adults attending. Learn more about Youth 2023 at www.umcyoungpeople.org/youth2023 and Give Kids the World at www.gktw.org Please contact Andrew ASAP to let him know your interest! *Middle School Summer Mission Opportunity will be announced in early 2023.*

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

SUNDAY MORNING SUNDAY SCHOOL

Meet Downstairs each Sunday morning at 10am for Sunday School! Middle School meets in the classroom off the Youth Lounge while the High School Youth meet in the Lounge. We're working our way through the Bible and discovering how relevant it is in our lives! Middle School Sunday School meets in the Youth Classroom with rotating teachers: the Klines and the Melton's. High School Sunday School meets in the Youth Lounge with rotating teachers: David Elzey and Lois Carnes.

SUNDAY EVENING YOUTH MINISTRY

There is a lot going on these next few months! Put these dates on your calendar and make plans to attend! For all the latest details please make **sure you're receiving the weekly Youth email**. You can also find details on the Youth webpage, www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/youth. Sunday Night Youth will follow a similar pattern of Youth Supper together followed by age appropriate programming. December Youth will meet at different times to allow for participate in other events at church.

Sunday, November 6

5:15p Youth Supper, Youth Lounge

5:30p Middle School Youth: Well Played! (Game Night) in the Youth Lounge.

5:30p High School Youth: Vision Visit with Pastor Sally at the Elzey's home (2060 Snowbird Ln. Gastonia) Supper Served at the Elzey's.

Sunday, November 13

5:15p Youth Supper, Youth Lounge

5:30p Middle School Youth: Vision Visit with Pastor Sally at the Church.

5:30p High School Youth: Level Up! (Game Night) in the Youth Lounge

Sunday, November 20

5:15p Youth Supper, Youth Lounge

5:30-7p We're going to visit a few Myers folks at Brookdale Senior Living on Robinwood Rd. and spend time creating Thanksgiving decorations for residents' living space.

Sunday, November 27

5:15p Youth Supper, Youth Lounge

5:30p-6:30p Decades Night! Come dressed from your favorite decade (past, present or future!) as we gather in the Youth Lounge to learn more about caring for one another throughout our lifespan. We will have special conversation about Alzheimer's and complete hands on activities to care for others in our congregation.

Sunday, December 4

12p to 2p: Deck the Halls! We'll grab a quick bite to eat after worship before hunting down the best Christmas Tree for the Youth Lounge.

Once found, we'll return to Deck the Halls of the Youth Lounge. Please bring an ornament to add to the tree as well as money for your lunch.

Sunday, December 11

12p to 2p: Youth Christmas Party will be held in the youth lounge complete with party food, fun and festivities. You are asked to bring a \$5 funny or kind gift to play The Grinch Game.

Sunday, December 18th

4:30p to 7:30p. Meet at Burger King for a quick bite to eat then we'll head to McAdenville to enjoy the lights! We'll text parents when we're on our way back to Burger King for pick up.

Sunday, December 25: Merry Christmas!

10a: Worship in the Sanctuary. Wear your cozy pajamas and participate in the Paper Bag Nativity!

Sunday, January 1: Happy New Year!

Make time to commit to Youth Group and Sunday School and Worship this year! We'll all watch worship online at 10a as the College Students lead us in worship.

Sunday, January 8, 15, 22:

5:15p Youth Supper, Youth Lounge

5:30-6:30p Growing Together in 2023

Sunday, January 29:

5:15p Youth Supper, Youth Lounge

5:30p Warm Up Sunday Night We'll create & deliver care packages for our coldest neighbors.

HANG TIME WITH ANDREW

Don't get bored over Winter Break! Come Hang with Andrew Ingram, our Director of Children & Youth! Youth are to come on Wednesday, January 4 and children on Thursday, January 5 at 12p in the CFC.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH WINTER RETREAT ~ JANUARY 20-22, 2023

We're headed to Lake Junaluska Assembly January 20-22, 2023 to gather with other United Methodist youth groups in the region for s'mores, engaging programs with live music and energized worship led by Wayne Kerr. Lodging will be in a rental home on the lake where we can maintain community and cook our own meals. Saturday options include skiing or local mission work (youth must pick one and there is a price difference). Please complete the online registration at www.MyersMemorialUMC.org/youth and pay the non-refundable deposit of \$50 by November 27th. More details are on the youth page.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Myers Memorial UMC is home to a number of support groups. If you or if you know of someone that could benefit from these support group, please reach out to the church office (704-864-3222) and we will ensure you are connected with the leadership of the group.

- *Naranon*, Mondays, 6:30, Asbury/Zoom
- *Grief Share*, Tuesdays at 10a, Parlor
- *DivorceCare*, Tuesdays at 6:30p, Zoom
- *Alanon*, Tuesdays at 11a, Asbury Class
- *NA*, Thursdays at 7p, Youth Lounge
- *Mitey Companions*, 2nd Sundays at 12p, Jackson's
- *Alzheimer's Caregiver Support*, 2nd Tuesdays, 4p, Asbury

WALK FOR WELLNESS UPDATE

The Health Cabinet of Myers Memorial UMC and Cancer Services of Gaston County would like to thank all those who supported our Annual Walk for Wellness & Health Fair in Memory of Rev. Henry A Justice on October 8. Approximately \$12,000 was raise, 10lbs of medication were collected and 9 pints of blood were given. Walk for Wellness t-shirts are still available in Connie's office for a \$30 donation to Cancer Services.

GINGERBREAD SUNDAY

Sunday, December 18 has been named Gingerbread Sunday! Join us at each service for this gift of love in the form of a Gingerbread Cookie from Louisa Suggs. What started as a few gingerbread cookies for the children has turned into cookies for everyone! We are grateful for her gift!

MORAVIAN LOVE FEAST

The Moravian Love Feast has been a tradition of Myers Memorial UMC for over 40 years. This year we will be back in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 4 to enjoy this wonderful tradition with a warm cup coffee, Moravian sugar cake and beeswax candles. Join us at 5p in the Sanctuary for singing seasonal carols as well as music provided by our Chancel Choir and Chancel Bell Choir. We continue to abide by all current health and safety protocols and it's recommended to mask while gathered in large groups such as worship. Childcare for infants through preschoolers is available. The service will be live-streamed via our Website, Facebook and YouTube for those not able to join us in person.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

The Service of Lessons and Carols is annual holiday service of scripture reading, seasonal carol singing, choral anthems all reminding us of the birth of Christ will be held on Sunday, December 11 at 5p in the Sanctuary. This service traditionally ends with the singing of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" and you are welcome to join the choir for this singing by simply coming to the front at the end of the service. We hope you will join us onsite or online wherever you may be on December 11!



Facebook.com/myersmemorial
YouTube.com/c/MyersMemorialUMCGastonia
Instagram.com/myersmemorialumc

The Bible Year ~ Daily Scripture Readings

DAY	DATE	SCRIPTURE	DAY	DATE	SCRIPTURE	DAY	DATE	SCRIPTURE
246	Nov. 1	Matthew 5:1-48	276	Dec. 1	Luke 10:1-11:36	308	Jan. 1	Acts 24:1-26:32
247	Nov. 2	Matthew 6:1-34	277	Dec. 2	Luke 11:37-12:59	309	Jan. 2	Acts 27:1-28:31
248	Nov. 3	Matthew 7:1-8:34	278	Dec. 3	Luke 13:1-14:35	310	Jan. 3	Romans 1:1-3:20
249	Nov. 4	Matthew 9:1-10:42	279	Dec. 4	Luke 15:1-16:31	311	Jan. 4	Romans 3:21-5:21
250	Nov. 5	Matthew 11:1-12:50	280	Dec. 5	Luke 17:1-18:43	312	Jan. 5	Romans 6:1-8:17
251	Nov. 6	Matthew 13:1-58	281	Dec. 6	Luke 19:1-48	313	Jan. 6	Romans 8:18-10:21
252	Nov. 7	Matthew 14:1-15:39	282	Dec. 7	Luke 20:1-21:38	314	Jan. 7	Romans 11:1-13:14
253	Nov. 8	Matthew 16:1-18:35	283	Dec. 8	Luke 22:1-71	315	Jan. 8	Romans 14:1-16:27
254	Nov. 9	Matthew 19:1-20:34	284	Dec. 9	Luke 23:1-53	316	Jan. 9	1 Corinthians 1:1-3:23
255	Nov. 10	Matthew 21:1-46	285	Dec. 10	Luke 24:1-53	317	Jan. 10	1 Corinthians 4:1-6:20
256	Nov. 11	Matthew 22:1-23:39	286	Dec. 11	John 1:1-2:12	318	Jan. 11	1 Corinthians 7:1-9:27
257	Nov. 12	Matthew 24:1-25:46	287	Dec. 12	John 2:13-3:36	319	Jan. 12	1 Corinthians 10:1-12:31
258	Nov. 13	Matthew 26:1-75	289	Dec. 13	John 4:1-54	320	Jan. 13	1 Corinthians 13:1-16:24
259	Nov. 14	Matthew 27:28-20	290	Dec. 14	John 5:1-6:21	321	Jan. 14	2 Corinthians 1:1-3:18
260	Nov. 15	Mark 1:1-3:35	291	Dec. 15	John 6:22-7:9	322	Jan. 15	2 Corinthians 4:1-7:16
261	Nov. 16	Mark 4:1-5:43	292	Dec. 16	John 7:10-8:59	323	Jan. 16	2 Corinthians 8:1-10:18
262	Nov. 17	Mark 6:1-56	293	Dec. 17	John 9:1-10:42	324	Jan. 17	2 Corinthians 11:1-13:13
263	Nov. 18	Mark 7:1-8:38	294	Dec. 18	John 11:1-12:50	325	Jan. 18	Galatians 1:1-2:21
264	Nov. 19	Mark 9:1-10:45	295	Dec. 19	John 13:1-4:31	326	Jan. 19	Galatians 3:1-4:31
265	Nov. 20	Mark 10:46-12:35	296	Dec. 20	John 15:1-17:26	327	Jan. 20	Galatians 5:1-6:18
266	Nov. 21	Mark 12:35-13:37	297	Dec. 21	John 18:1-19:42	328	Jan. 21	Ephesians 1:1-2:22
267	Nov. 22	Mark 14:1-72	298	Dec. 22	John 20:1-21:25	329	Jan. 22	Ephesians 3:1-4:32
268	Nov. 23	Mark 15:1-16:20	299	Dec. 23	Acts 1:1-2:47	330	Jan. 23	Ephesians 5:1-6:24
269	Nov. 24	Luke 1:1-80	300	Dec. 24	Acts 3:1-5:16	331	Jan. 24	Philippians 1:1-2:30
270	Nov. 25	Luke 2:1-52	301	Dec. 25	Acts 5:17-7:60	332	Jan. 25	Philippians 3:1-4:23
271	Nov. 26	Luke 3:1-4:13	302	Dec. 26	Acts 8:1-9:43	333	Jan. 26	Colossians 1:1-2:23
272	Nov. 27	Luke 4:14-5:39	303	Dec. 27	Acts 10:1-12:25	334	Jan. 27	Colossians 3:1-4:18
273	Nov. 28	Luke 6:1-49	304	Dec. 28	Acts 13:1-15:21	335	Jan. 28	1 Thessalonians 1:1-3:13
274	Nov. 29	Luke 7:1-8:39	305	Dec. 29	Acts 15:22-17:34	336	Jan. 29	1 Thessalonians 4:1-5:28
275	Nov. 30	Luke 8:40-9:62	306	Dec. 30	Acts 18:1-20:38	337	Jan. 30	2 Thessalonians 1:1-3:18
			307	Dec. 31	Acts 21:1-23:35	338	Jan. 31	1 Timothy 1:1-3:16

Welcome to the New Testament! There are 27 books in the New Testament and nearly 8,000 verses! It is our prayer that you read along, attend worship and participate in a small group as you are able. We have discovered that reading scripture together at Myers Memorial UMC has enhanced not only our daily lives and personal relationship with God but also with one another and the church. As we have read and heard the scriptures taught and preached, we have grown in our understanding of how God reaches out to God's people...repeatedly. How have you been impacted by reading the Scriptures?

WWW.MYERSMEMORIALUMC.ORG/THE-BIBLE-YEAR

Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

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Myers Memorial
United Methodist Church

Tis the Season

Sunday Morning Worship
9a and 11a

Moravian Love Feast
December 4 at 5p

A Service of
Lessons & Carols
December 11 at 5p

Gingerbread Sunday
December 18 at 9a and 11a

Christmas Eve
December 24 at 5p
Communion & Candlelight

Christmas Morning
December 25 at 10a
Paper Bag Nativity: A Service in Story
and Song where everyone has a part!

New Years Day
January 1 at 10a
College Student Sunday
*Service will premiere at 10a
only via online channels

Services are held in the Sanctuary* and Streamed to
Facebook, YouTube, and www.MyersMemorialUMC.org

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