



THE Messenger

January/ February 2023

Memorial UMC of Thomasville is a Safe Sanctuaries Church

101 Randolph Street, Thomasville, NC 27360

Mailings: P.O. Box 428, Thomasville, NC 27361

Phone: (336) 472-7718

Email: office@mumctville.org

Website: www.mumctville.org

Happy New Year!

Thank you for helping to make Advent and Christmas a wonderful time at Memorial UMC! Your participation allowed us to offer wonderful gifts to the community. The heart of Memorial was on display as we served the community through our Star of Bethlehem Live Nativity, Love Feast and Candle lighting, various collections of food and toys and many meaningful worship services. These events, and many others, were superb because you participated in some way.

We have concluded 2022 in a magnificent fashion and the momentum will carry us into 2023. Life is good at Memorial, and I believe God has great plans for us in the coming year. I hope you will resolve to continue growing in your faith, serving God and others in the coming year here at Memorial.

This newsletter contains some of our ministry plans for 2023. There are numerous ways to connect with God and others. I encourage you to think of family members and friends who may not have a church home and invite them to be part of our church. We have a place for them!

It has been a personal pleasure to serve among you this year. Thank you for your support of our staff and for giving generously of your time, talents, gifts and service.

Danny

2023 Pledges are still being accepted. If you need a pledge card to fill out, did not receive yours or have a question, please contact Kristin Shores at (336)472-7718 or kshores@mumctville.org



GROWS HERE

ROMANS 15:13

NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

Paid and volunteer positions available

Sundays: 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Wednesdays: 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

**If interested, please call Lynda Hepler
(336-687-3539)**

or Sara Faulkner (336-689-2523)



Danny Leonard, Senior Pastor
Rodney Denton, Minister of Youth and Young Adults
Lynda Hepler, Minister of Children and Families
Norris Norwood, Director of Music
Aaron Prillaman, Director of Contemporary Worship

Kristin Shores, Office Administrator
Jarry Oldaker, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds
Summer Gordon, Administrative Assistant
Melanie Byerly, Director of Arts Academy

HELLO 2023

The Church Office will be closed for:
New Year's Day, January 2nd and
Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday, January 16th

Children's Calendar

(Please check out Children's Corner for more information about the following events and more.)

1/8- 2:30-4:00pm GLOW Kids
1/15- 4-6pm Mission Possible Kids
1/18- 6pm Children's Choir begins
6:30pm Wednesday Night Kids Club begins

2/12- 2:30-4:00pm GLOW Kids
2/19- 4-6pm Mission Possible Kids

Youth Calendar

1/1- No Youth Group
1/8- 4-6pm On-Site Escape Room
1/15- 4-6pm Service Project
1/22- 4-6pm Youth Group
1/29- TBD Get Air

2/3-5- Ski Trip
2/12- 6-9pm Super Bowl Sunday
2/19- 4-6pm Service Project
2/26- 3-6pm Bowling

United Women of Faith

Sundays- 9:45am- Meets most Sunday mornings

1/22- Executive Meeting for lunch after church- Fellowship Hall

More information will follow.

January & February

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday-

8:30- 12:30 Nursery
8:50 Contemporary Worship (CEC) & Children's Church
10:00 Godly Play Sunday School (1st – 5th grades), Youth and Adult Classes also
11:00 Worship & Children's Church

Tuesday-

8:30 Men's Fellowship Group (Contact: Tim Lyons, tylons00@gmail.com) Sunrise Diner
9:00 Sewing Ministry
5:30 Yoga (Contact: Brenda Lyons, bwlyons00@gmail.com)

Wednesday-

5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner- Reservations needed*
6:20 Programs for Nursery to Adult*
*The current dinner and Bible study series will end 11/30. They will resume after the new year. More information to come.
6:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday-

10:30 Chicks with Sticks
10:30 Baby Café

Art Academy Hours

1:00- 7:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursdays

Bring in 2023 by joining us for a New Year's Brunch.

**Sunday, Jan. 1 - New Year's Brunch
(Fellowship Hall) 10am**

Homebound Committee Meeting and Brunch

Thursday, January 12th in the Fellowship Hall at 9am

Wednesday Night Dinner and Programs will start back on January 18th.

Please remember to make your reservation by 10am the Monday of that week and if you cancel after Monday be aware you had already been in the count.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Day

Tuesday, February 21st in the Fellowship Hall
There will be pop up ticket sales coming.



We would like to include Birthdays and Anniversaries in our "New" Newsletter. We will be sending out invitations for Realm, the internet program that we use in the office that will also serve as our online directory. Our goal is to have everyone accept the invitations by the end of January. This will give each person access to their personal information and help us to keep information up to date.

R.L. Pope Sunday School Class

Sundays at 10 am and is broadcast over WGOS- AM 1070.

January Teachers are (8) Allen Brown, (15) Richard Herman, (22) Kyles Wallace, and (27) Stan Styers.

February Teachers are (5) Jim McGhee, (12) Allen Brown, (19) Elaine Rabon, and (26) Kyles Wallace.



Chicks with Sticks is a group of ladies, of all knitting levels, that meet each Thursday to knit together. It's like the old "Quilting Bees" a lot of talking, laughing, and a little knitting. We meet Thursday mornings in the Parlor at 10:30am.

Yoga means "union". As defined in one of the ancient yoga texts it is the cessation of the fluctuations of the mind. What does this really mean? It means that we practice the physical asanas or poses and quiet our mind with focused breathing & sometimes meditation.

The class is a gentle class using props such as chairs, straps, blocks, and blankets to make it accessible to all body types. No, you don't have to be a pretzel to practice yoga! We modify the poses to accommodate anyone.

The classes range from chair yoga to restorative yoga to a more active class. Class size is small which allows for more individual attention and is open to both men & women. You don't have to be a church member to join & there is no cost.

I have been teaching this class for more than 15 years and have been certified since 2007.

Come join us for a peaceful end to your day. Class starts promptly at 5:30 on Tuesdays in the Christian Enrichment Center and you don't need a mat to start. There are a few extra props to use.



If you would like to be added to the Receptionist List for the New Year, please contact Loretta Usher @ 336-475-3929.

The time slots are 9am-12noon and 12noon - 3pm. Or you could be added to the substitute list. Most shifts are once a month unless there are more available at the time.



The Men's Fellowship Group meets each Tuesday morning at 8:30 at the Sunrise Diner in Thomasville. The meetings are informal, and topics can range from church theology to household projects. All men are welcome to join us for a time of discussion and fellowship. You may contact Tim Lyons at tlyons00@gmail.com or 336-259-6920 if you have any questions.



If you are interested in joining us for sewing projects (not everyone needs to know how to sew, some do the cutting and ironing), please feel free to join us MOST Tuesday mornings.

Contact Katie Conant @ 336-225-1947 if you have any questions or would like to check on a Monday to see if we are meeting the following day.

Join us for Baby Café

Thursdays 10:30-12:30, MUMC Nursery
Pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and babies are invited to drop-in and connect with other families and an Internationally Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC). The lactation consultant is available to answer questions and provide infant weight checks. No appointment needed. Baby Café is a free program.

For more information, call or email Lisa Russell Miller.

336-669-7209 or
Lisa@LisaRussellMiller.org



Our facilities will be being used for tax preparation for low-income participants. There is no charge for this. They will be set up on Mondays and Wednesdays, starting Feb 6-April 12. And 2-3 Saturdays.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Day

Tuesday, February 21, 2023



Pancakes,
Bacon,
Coffee,
Tea,
Juice,
& Milk!

Price is \$7.00.

(Children under 6 FREE.)

You can purchase your tickets a head of time at several presale events. Be on the look out!

Breakfast
6:30- 9:00AM

Lunch
11:15- 2:00

Supper
4:30- 7:15PM

ALL proceeds benefit Cooperative Community Ministry and Meals on Wheels.



DEADLINE

With us entering a busy season for Memorial, our families, and friends, please be sure to check the bulletins, E-News and emails for any updates regarding the information in this publication of THE Messenger.

Please note the deadline for the next newsletter is February 15.

Please have any information/announcements you would like featured in that newsletter in by the 15th. The next Newsletter will be for March and April 2023. Please be thinking ahead.

Just in time for Valentine's Day, Church logo tee shirts and sweatshirts will only be sold from **Jan 3- Jan 17**, via direct order or with Katie Conant (336-225-1947) Ordering details will be forthcoming soon.

A display of "color choice" and "size samples" will be set up at Church before Jan 3rd.

We will have both youth and adult sizes, short or long sleeve tee shirts, and crew neck or hoodie sweatshirts.

Color choice: **White, Sports Grey, Navy**

Youth size: Small 6-8, Medium 10-12, Large 14-16

Adult size: Small, Medium, Large, XL, XXL, XXXL

Tee shirts are 100% Cotton, Sweatshirts are 50/50 Blend

Prices: (for both the youth and adult sizes) tax will be calculated when order is placed.

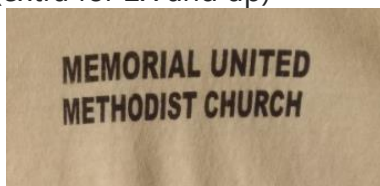
Short Sleeve "T" \$15

Long Sleeve "T" \$18

Long Sleeve Crew Neck Sweatshirt \$25

Long Sleeve Hoodie sweatshirt \$30

(extra for 2X and up)



Front

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How to order online:

1. Website to visit store:
designillusions.itemorder.com or scan the code below.
2. Sales code to access store
MUMC2023
3. Online Store Closes on: Jan 17, 2023
4. Estimated Delivery on: Jan 27, 2023



STAR OF BETHLEHEM

Thank you... Thank you to all who participated in this year's production of the Nativity story, Memorial's free gift to the community. There were 530 vehicles, 1540 visitors and approximately 250 participants that made this event successful. To those who physically constructed the sets, dismantled the sets, provided heavy equipment to move sets, designed and decorated them, wired and lighted them, filled and tended the torches and fire pits, prepared and distributed the costumes, secured all the participants, worked with advertising, made and served meals and snacks, assisted with traffic flow, drove vans to shuttle participants, provided child care so families could be in the cast, and many, many other details, words are not sufficient to express the gratitude you deserve. Memorial Church and its members are a blessing to this community and Star of Bethlehem is just one example of the many ways Memorial reaches out to everyone. Thank you again to all who were a part of this year's Nativity story.



A special thank you to **Bethlehem Bonnie's** for catering the meals to the town of Bethlehem. Your hard work and love were shown to all. Thank you!

Our Youth Ministry is for 6th to 12th grade students. We are a friendly, active group that seeks to love God, love people & have fun doing it!!!

In an effort to grow in our relationship with God, we do things that challenge us to get out of our comfort zones and into God's love and grace. These opportunities include:

YOUTH GROUP: Sunday nights (4-6 PM). On Sunday nights we focus on all three of our Youth Group goals. There are a variety of activities, trips and discussions that go on during Youth Group. We might be playing Laser Tag, Ultimate Frisbee, or our annual Super Bowl Party, or we may be delivering cookies to the local First Responders, or we may be discussing important issues that matter to today's teens by asking what God thinks about those issues. Every Sunday Night is an adventure. We even have a free snack supper at 4 PM. Bring a friend!

SMALL GROUPS: Wednesday nights (6:30 – 7:30 PM) On Wednesday Nights we get together for some "sharing and caring". Each week we share the same 3 questions: What is your HIGH POINT for the week? What is your LOW POINT for this week? and Where did you SEE GOD this week? We also pray for one another!

MORE: We also offer Sunday School, go on annual Retreats, Ski trips, Mission Projects and more! Come and check us out!

To keep up to date about all the things we are doing get on our texting list: Text @mumyouth to the number 81010!

Also, follow us on social media:

Twitter: @memorialyouth

Facebook: @memorialyouth

Instagram: @mumctvilleyouth



LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. HAVE FUN.

Youth Motto

YOUTH SKI TRIP

FEBRUARY 3 - 5

WINTERPLACE SKI RESORT

\$200

The Youth will be headed to Flat Top, WV for our annual SKI TRIP! This year we will be staying in cabins (on site) with bunk beds and we will ski all day on Saturday and 1/2 day on Sunday! BEGINNERS ARE WELCOME! Winterplace has a SKI SCHOOL that will help you best the basics down AND plenty of easy slopes to learn on! We make every effort to keep costs down, but this year the cost of the "BASIC TRIP" (Lift Ticket, Ski/Snowboard (& helmet) Rentals, Lodging and Meals) will cost \$200 per person (Scholarships are available!) There is also a NO SKI option for \$50 (lodging & meals) and add-ons (ski bibs, tubing sessions) More details will be posted to our web site! Contact Rodney (336) 906-3036 to get signed up!

BIG GAME PARTY!!!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

6 - 9 PM (Half-time)

You know you are going to watch the Super Bowl, Why not watch it with your friends on the BIG SCREEN IN THE GYM? We will have a GIANT INFLATABLE SLIDE in the gym, lots of food, Pool Table, Ping-Pong, & Foosball upstairs, fellowship and fun!

Don't miss out on this great party! ADMISSION WILL BE to bring 2 cans per person of food for our CCM food shelves!!!

Dinner is served at 6 PM UNTIL -- THIS YEAR we ask that you arrange for your ride to pick you up RIGHT AFTER THE HALF-TIME SHOW! BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2023

FIRST CLASS: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

10 AM

YOUTH ROOM

Well, it's that time of year again! Our Confirmation Class is getting cranked up here at Memorial UMC. We believe that it will truly be an exciting and fun time to learn and understand more about God and one another. Confirmation is a time to confirm or "make real" the faith that has been developing in you as a result of being in a Christian community. We hope to include a wide range of activities to make this process a fun and special experience in the life of each "Confirmand".

A full schedule will be posted to the web site, which we will go over at the FIRST CLASS on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 at 10 AM in the Youth Room! If you have any questions, want to sign up, or need to know more please contact RODNEY (336) 472-7718 or (336) 906-3036, and thank you very much.



ARTS ALIVE ART ACADEMY 2022 IN REVIEW

We had a great year in 2022!

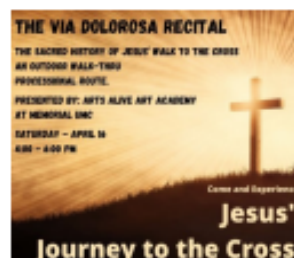
We began in February preparing for our student production of **The Via Dolorosa** to be presented at Easter. Much preparation went into this production as we staged our event around the outer perimeter of the Sanctuary building.



In March, we hosted a **Graduate's Senior Recital**.

This young lady has gone off to college to work on her music degree. She desires to serve in the church ministry through music. (Praise the Lord!)

On April 16th we presented our **"Via Dolorosa"** program. The church and community were invited to attend. We had several hosts as guides and one Hispanic interpreter. Music Students were assigned in stage band settings to present their music. Visual Art Students set up in the Jerusalem Market Scene and presented their art work. Many from the church and community attended. We presented the complete gospel story through music and art. Pictures from this event can be viewed on the bulletin board outside the Receptionist's Office in the Main Building.



In May, we hosted **Student Showcase Recitals** for three different nights. All music students presented their special selected songs and visual art students presented their masterpieces. Family members and friends were invited to attend. A lovely reception and awards were given at the end of each recital evening. More than 200 people attended this event. Many people commented on how beautiful the church facility is and were very appreciative to the church for providing the space needed for this ministry. Selected pictures can be viewed on the bulletin board outside the Receptionist's Office in the Main Building.

We spent the summer months continuing music lessons for all who desired to participate. August 13th, we held our **Fall Registration Event Day**. It was a fun day of registering students for the upcoming semester of lessons.

September 6th began our **new semester** with **42 students** excited to begin their journey.

November 28th, several selected music students presented **Christmas Music for the UMW's Christmas meal**.

December 4th, Melanie Byerly (Art Academy Director) presented **Christmas Music at the Linbrook Heritage Estates**.



We praise God for all that was accomplished in His name through the Arts Alive Art Academy ministry in 2022. We also express our appreciation to Memorial UMC for sharing church space with us as we seek to reach our community and beyond in the name of our Lord Jesus.

We are preparing future church leaders in music and ministry. We are very excited to see what 2023 holds for this ministry and the continued mission of reaching the community for Christ!

Every student and each family member is greeted with love as they enter the church facility. To God be the Glory, great things He has done and continues to do!



United
Women
in Faith

faith

action

sisterhood

UMW/United Women in Faith invite all women in the church to join us when we meet! We have general meeting every other month and circle meeting on the other months. Dates of meetings for 2023 will be announced after our executive committee meeting on January 22. This will be our planning meeting for the year! So, watch for dates if meeting and join us. We are a united group of women who work to assist women, children and youth locally and beyond! We also assist each other in our spiritual growth!

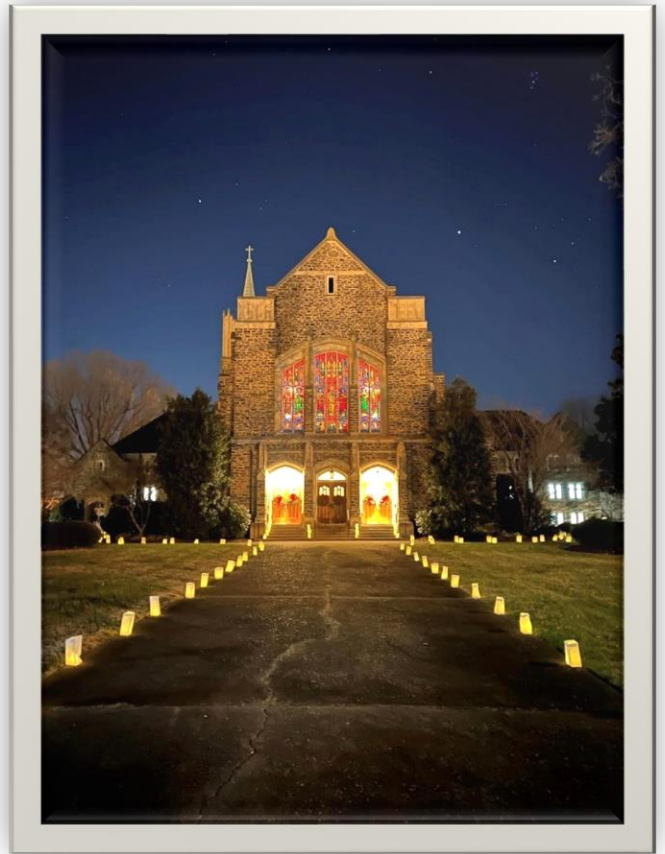
Anyone interested in organizing a group of mothers in starting a circle please contact Elaine Rabon at 336 442-4790. Our organization will assist in any way, including providing childcare during the get togethers! Many options are available for this group! A wonderful opportunity to meet for support of each other as well as help other mothers locally and beyond who need your support. Our organization would assist with getting someone to come speak with you regarding issues in which you are interested in increasing your knowledge.



A huge "Thank You" to the Chancel Choir for their beautiful and moving singing throughout the Advent season at MUMC! They are a wonderful group of musicians who are a joy to work with - they are the "Rock Stars of the Rock Church." Chancel Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, January 18 @ 6:30pm --- "old" and new faces welcome!

Also, we're gearing up to restart Handbells - please contact Norris if you'd like to ring, we have openings! Rehearsals will be Wednesdays, 4:30pm - 5:30pm (start date TBD.)

— Norris Norwood



awaken
AT MEMORIAL

Awaken is a contemporary service held at 8:50am on Sunday mornings in the Christian Enrichment Center. We welcome you and your family to join us.

Meet the Awaken Praise Band....

Colby Jernigan is a bass player and band leader who performs regularly throughout the region with his band, Colby Jack & the Boogie Men, as well as Kelley and the Cowboys and many other groups. He performs on both the electric bass and the double bass (standup bass) and is an excellent singer and front man. He lives in Stokesdale with his wife, Kelly Jernigan, and two dogs. Be sure to come and hear Colby perform with the Awaken band on Sunday mornings and with his other groups during the week.



Children's Corner

In the month of November Glow Kids took a trip to the grocery store to fill food bags for Cooperative Community Ministry (CCM)'s fill the bag campaign.

We will meet January 15th and February 19th, 4-6 pm.



Ages 3yr old's - kindergarten

Children's Sunday School classes are offered for children of all ages every Sunday at 10am.

We have a nursery during both church services and Sunday School for our smallest members, friends, and guests with wonderful nursery staff to take care of your littles.

On Wednesday nights when there is an Adult Bible Study, we offer a Kids version of the Bible Study.

Once a month we have Mission Possible Kids and GLOW Kids meetings for ages 3-7 yrs. The children will learn about the Bible, God's Love, participate in Mission projects, go on adventures, and have fun.



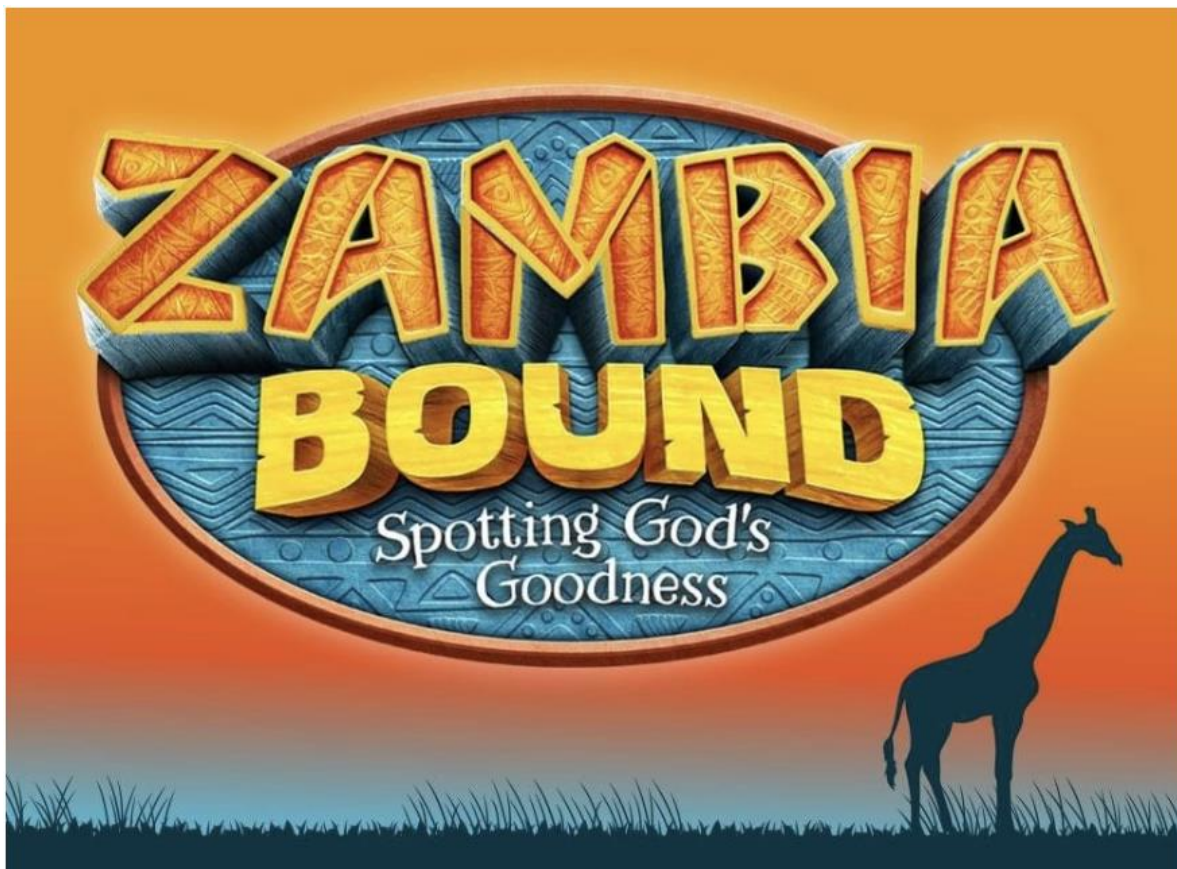
Ages 5-7yr old's

In the month of November MPKids took a trip to the grocery store to fill food bags for Cooperative Community Ministry (CCM)'s fill the bag campaign.

We will meet January 15th and February 19th, 4-6 pm.

Children's choir begins Jan. 18 at 6pm

Wednesday night Kids Club each Wednesday at 6:30-7:30 see details below.



Children ages 5 and up are invited to join Pastor Lynda as we go on a geographical mission study of Zambia!

Our Zambia Bound adventure begins Wednesday, January 18 from 6:30-7:30pm. We'll meet after children's choir practice that begins at 6pm.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH THROUGH MEMORIAL UMC

Through your kindness and generosity, the following organizations were helped and supported monetarily.

American Red Cross
Art's Alive Art Academy
Communities in Schools
Cooperative Community Ministry (CCM)
Crossnor Children's Home
Curamericas
Davidson Medical Ministries
Dragonfly House
Dress A Girl
Family Service of Davidson County
Fairgrove Family Resource Center
Girl Scouts #2558
Home Solutions of Davidson County
Meals on Wheels
Novant- Pink Chair Project
Project Agape
Project Divine Interruption
Salvation Army
UMCOR, World, Hurricane, Kentucky, Tornado Relief, & Ukraine
United Way of Davidson County
Zoe Empowers

\$51,420.67

Also, Toys, food bags, school supplies, various food drives,

Remember...

Cooperative Community Ministry (CCM) is always in need of non-perishable food for their food pantry as well as hygiene items for all ages.

You may place items for CCM in the Christian Enrichment Center (CEC) on the shelves as you walk in and they will be delivered to CCM.

Thank you!

Below is a specific list from CCM of their most needed items currently.

Needed Food Pantry Items:

Soup
Crackers
Peanut Butters
Mac & Cheese
Pasta Sauce
Pasta
Canned Pasta
Breakfast Items
Canned Meat
Beans
Canned Fruit
Canned Vegetable

Hygiene items needed:

Shampoo
Deodorant
Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Toilet Paper
Brush/ Comb
Soap/ Body Wash
Feminine Products

Cold Weather Items needed:

Socks
Gloves
Scarves
Blankets
Toboggan

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL (S.O.S.) TEAM

Do you want to make a difference in the life of a child? Memorial is partnering with Thomasville Primary School to create a caring community for the children.

Here's how you can help. In the Narthex you will find a list of opportunities in which you can use your gifts for ministry. Select which opportunities you would like to serve. You may place this sheet in the offering plate, and someone will follow-up with you.

If your interest is in helping at a different school in the Thomasville area, please contact Lynda Hepler (336) 472-7718 or lhepler@mumctville.org

Blood Drive

January 19

&

February 16

1:30-6:00pm in Jarrett Hall (Gym) of the Christian Enrichment Center.

Please register by visiting For appointments, please visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS and use sponsor code: Thomasville Community.

Additionally, please complete the Rapid pass Pre-Registration, as it will assist greatly with the electronic check-in process.

There is a great demand for blood donations during this time.

Register to donate and help save lives!