



THE Messenger

March/April 2023

Memorial UMC of Thomasville is a Safe Sanctuaries Church

101 Randolph Street, Thomasville, NC 27360

Phone: (336) 472-7718

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

Email: office@mumctville.org

Website: www.mumctville.org

The name “Marvelous” Marvin Hagler may ring a bell with any who are boxing fans. It may ring a bell for those who aren’t as well. Like many athletes, when their playing days are done, Hagler became a broadcaster. I happened to hear a portion of Hagler’s comments regarding a young boxer. Hagler said, “He’s got a bright future behind him.”

There are a couple things that come to mind when hearing such a comment. Immediately it made me wonder if Hagler took too many shots to the head when he was a boxer, and his words are a bit jumbled. Then I concluded that he was making a negative statement regarding the young boxer’s abilities. He was suggesting that the young boxer had seen his better days and he was in a decline.

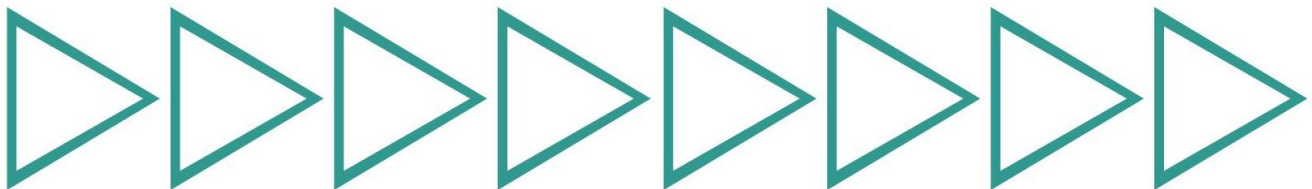
Because my thinking somehow always goes back to the church, I begin to wonder if it appears to the world sometimes that the statement may be a commentary on the church. It is certainly not a positive assessment. I am proud to announce that the statement does not accurately describe life at Memorial. Someone characterized the flurry of activities at a busy church as akin to ‘tying your wagon to a goat.’ You’re not always sure where you are headed but you are going there fast! There are certainly days where this description fits life at Memorial. And that is ok with me.

On any given week if you visit the church, it is possible that you might see the Red Cross collecting life-saving blood here. You may notice a group of young mothers, with their babies in tow, participating in the Baby Café, a program to assist new moms with breastfeeding. It is likely that you will encounter one of the many students who participate in our Arts Academy where they are attending lessons to learn musical or art skills. There is a good chance that you will happen upon an individual who is here to receive the free income tax services that are being offered during this season. These programs are often attended by members of our community. Our reach extends far beyond the property lines of our church.

Because of your great leadership and participation in the events and activities here, our lives are being enriched as well as those in the community. It is exciting to be part of a church that is living into our mission. Years ago, a group of Memorial folks determined that “we are called by Christ to grow in faith, build relationships and serve all people.” That is why we exist and that is what we are doing.

Thank you for sharing your prayers, presence, gifts, and service and living out your faith at Memorial. Our future is bright.

Danny



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

Children's Calendar

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

3/12- 2-2:30pm GLOW Kids
3/19- 4-6pm Mission Possible Kids
3/26- Bowling
4/9- 10am Butterfly Release
12pm Easter Egg
4/16- 11am Children's Choir Performance
2-3:30pm GLOW Kids
4/23- 4-6pm Mission Possible Kids

Youth Calendar

3/5- 10-11am Confirmation Classes Begin
4-6pm Youth Group- Program Night
3/12- 10-11am Confirmation Class #2
10:30-1pm ASP Lenten Lunch
4-6pm Youth Group- Ceiling Tiles
3/19- 10-11am Confirmation Class #3
4-6pm Youth Group- Hughes Park
3/24-26- Spring Retreat
3/26- No Youth
4/2- 10-11am Confirmation Class #4
4-6pm Youth Group- Hike, Cook Out
4/9- 10-11am Confirmation Class #5
4-6pm No Youth Group
4/16- 10-11am Confirmation Class #6
4-6pm Youth Group- Service Project
4/23- 10-11am Confirmation Class #7
4-6pm Youth Group- Program Night
4/30- 10-11am Confirmation Class #8
4-6pm Youth Group- Yard Games
5-6pm ASP training

Church Events

3/17- Empty Bowls 4:30- 7:30
4/7- Thomasville Crosswalk 11am
4/7- Tenebrae Service 7:00
4/9- Butterfly Release 10am
4/9- Easter Egg Hunt 12pm
4/14- Mel Jones and his Bag O' Bones 7:30- Jarrett Hall
4/26- Rise Against Hunger

March & April

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: James Carmichael, tcsdir@aol.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

Wednesday Night Dinner and Programs are in full swing. If you aren't coming, it isn't too late to start. Dinner starts at 5:30 and programs start at 6:20. Please remember to make your reservation by noon the Monday of that week and if you cancel after Monday be aware you had already been in the count.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, April 10th for Easter.

VITA is preparing taxes for people in the community and is using space in our Christian Enrichment Center on Mondays (12-6pm) and Wednesdays (1-7pm). Also, the Saturdays of March 5th and 25th (9am-12pm) This will run through April 12th.



R.L. Pope Sunday School Class

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

March Teachers are (5) Jim McGhee, (12) Allen Brown, (19) Richard Herman, and (26) Kyles Wallace.

April Teachers are (2) Richard Herman, (9) Allen Brown, (16) Tracy Brinkley, (23) Kyles Wallace, and (30) Stan Styers.

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)



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.

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.



2023 Vacation Bible School

Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24



PETS UNLEASHED

WHERE JESUS CARES 'FUR' YOU

If you are interested in helping with VBS this year in any capacity, please contact Lynda Hepler by calling (336-472-7718) or email (lhepler@mumctville.org).

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



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 **5:00 on Tuesdays**, in the Christian Enrichment Center and you don't need a mat to start. There are a few extra props to use.



Lenten Lunches

We hope you plan to attend and enjoy some great food and fellowship!



**Each Sunday-
February 26th through April 2,
following the 11:00 Service**

2/26/23- R.L. Pope/ Rise Against Hunger

**3/5/23- Missions Committee/ UMCOR
Earthquake Relief**

3/12/23- Youth/ ASP Mission Trip

3/19/23- Choir/ Choir & Special Music

3/26/23- Fellowship Class/ CCM and ASP

**4/2/23- United Women of Faith/ ASP,
Girl Scouts, & Middle School Retreat**

Each group is followed by the mission of their choice to donate to.



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 James Carmichael at tcsdir@aol.com or 336-259-6920 if you have any questions.



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

THOMASVILLE CROSSWALK 2023

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7

11 AM – 12 NOON

START at Brown-New Calvary
Baptist Church

FINISH at Memorial United
Methodist Church

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.



It is time to sign up for Spring Lay Servant Ministry Courses! See below for Course descriptions. Sign up at this link:

<https://wncreg.brtaapp.com/LayServantMinistrySpringCourses2023YadkinValley>

Lenten Food Drive 2023

Our Missions Committee is
hosting a Food Drive for CCM.

2/26- Canned Chicken

3/5- Peanut Butter

3/12- Breakfast Things

3/19- Canned Fruit

3/26- Pork and Beans

4/2- Hygiene Products

**Please bring in your items into the Christian Enrichment
Center and place them on/under the shelves**

If you are unable to pick up items and would still like to help, you may
submit a financial gift. Please note Food Drive in the memo line.



Thanks so much for the many who worked hard on Fat Tuesday to help make our pancake missions so successful, also a shoutout to all who purchased tickets. Our profit was **\$5214.46** and was given to Cooperative Community Ministry (CCM) and Meals on Wheels! Stay tuned up for next year.
David Williams





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: MEETS EVERY SUNDAY EVENING*

4 – 6 PM (unless otherwise announced)

We offer a variety of events and activities including spiritual formation, service projects and fellowship programming. We make every attempt to make the programming fun, relevant and experiential! We have a vetted and experienced group of caring adults who volunteer as well.

** We will not meet on Easter Sunday or Mother's Day!*

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

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

SUNDAYS 10 AM

CLASS #1 – FEBRUARY 26

PARENT DINNER – MAY 25 (6 PM)

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – MAY 28

For more information, please contact Rodney (336) 906-3036

SPRING YOUTH RETREAT

MARCH 24-26

YMCA CAMP HANES

Igniteus – Sponsored by CCYM of Western NC

\$100 Per person (scholarships are available)

If you want to know more, please contact Rodney Denton. Our Minister of Youth and Young Adults (336) 906-3036

HOWEVER, we do post our weekly events on Thursdays or Fridays HERE:

CHURCH WEBSITE:

<https://mumctville.org/>

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/memorialyouth>

INSTAGRAM: <https://www.instagram.com/mumctvilleyouth/>

EMAIL: <http://eepurl.com/Miwz>

TEXT: text @mumyouth to the number 81010

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.

ALIVE

A T M E M O R I A L

We offer many opportunities to those who are interested in learning Music, Visual Arts, Adult Painting, Sewing, and Iconography.

Music classes now offered include Piano, Voice, Guitar, Mandolin, Ukulele, Violin, Cello, Flute, Saxophone, and more! For ALL Ages! Classes offered on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays each week.

Visual Arts I for the Beginner: Students will study concepts and techniques of visual art with a variety of media. Students will learn basic brush strokes, color creation, drawing and shading. Class is for students K-5th Grade. Class is on Mondays each week at 4:30-5:30 pm.

Visual Arts II for the Advanced: Students will study concepts and techniques of visual art with a variety of media. Includes a focus on drawing skills. Class is for students 6th - 12 Grades. Class is on Mondays each week at 5:30-6:30 pm.

Adult Acrylic Painting: In this 2-hour class participants will learn the basics of acrylic painting techniques on canvas. No previous experience required. Classes are on Tuesdays each week at 4:30-6:30 pm.

Sewing: Students will learn how to create works of art using various fabrics and sewing techniques. This class is ideal for any artist interested in fashion or liturgical arts. Lessons are for 1 hour per week. Material selections and patterns are students responsibility. For ages 9 and up.

Iconography: Holy Icons originated in the very early centuries of Christianity. The word icon comes



from the Greek "ikon" which means "image." Icon painting or "writing" is the process of bringing forth the light of Christ within the image of the person portrayed. As a viewer, we are looking into eternity. Dionysius, a 15th century iconographer said, "the successful

accomplishment of icon painting technique depends entirely upon the icon painter's devotion to prayer." The icon painting class uses all natural materials: wood, pigments, egg yolk, beeswax, and gold leaf just as the ancient artists with a focus on traditional orthodox painting style. Icons depending on the size and detail typically take 36-40 hours to complete. If you wish to learn more contact Lynda Hepler.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in any of the above mentioned classes, please contact Melanie Byerly, Arts Alive Academy Director at mbyerly@mumctville.org and 336-472-9721. We would love to begin your artistic journey!



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.

Paige Hepler, daughter of Philip and Lynda Hepler, is a music major at Greensboro College. At the top of her class, Paige served as a Junior Marshall at last year's graduation. She is currently working on her degree in Music Education which she will finish this May. Paige plays piano, sings backup vocals, and occasionally plays the oboe (her principal instrument) for the Awaken band.



MEL JONES AND HIS BAG O' BONES

Back by popular demand
A blend of old-time music.

Friday April 14, 2023, 7:30pm

\$20.00

Snacks and Bake Sale

Fund Raiser for Memorial UMC, Thomasville 101
Randolph St.

Mel Jones has been playing his brand of Americana music for more than 25 years, blending blues, jazz, bluegrass, and soul and appearing alongside the likes of David Holt, Rhonda Vincent, Sam Bush, Doc Watson and more. He began his musical journey in his hometown of Chapel Hill, NC as a drummer playing blues, R&B, and soul but, moving to Western NC he discovered, his native state's rich heritage of bluegrass and old-time music. Wailing on the harmonica and belting out the blues, Jones proves himself a timeless musician skillfully combining these many influences to create a fast-paced show that keeps the crowd involved. The Bones have played numerous festivals and venues up and down the east coast since the early 1990's and have released 3 CD's featuring Mel's original material. Stellar musicianship is at the heart of every Bones performance, but Mel has always believed that the audience should be a part of the show and enjoy themselves. As he is fond of saying "It's very important that our audience has fun. At the end of the show, we want a big smile on everybody's face."

The Bones are:

Don Story, guitar- One of the finest guitarists in North Carolina, Don is constantly in demand for live performances and studio work. He keeps a busy schedule teaching, playing solo shows, and touring with the likes of Split Decision, Face the Music, Mel Jones and His Bag O' Bones, and The Toneblazers, among others. He has played every Merlefest since its inception.

Calvin Johnson, dog house bass- Growing up in a musical family from Winston-Salem, Calvin is a veteran multi-instrumentalist that has played blues, country, jazz, and rock and roll with Russ Wilson, Mel Melton and the Wicked Mojos, Max Drake, Armand Lemchek, the Mystery Hillbillies, Mel Jones and His Bag O' Bones, and many more. He is also an accomplished sound technician that operates his own Calarama Studio.

Kip Snow, mandolin- From Western NC, Kip is also a fine banjo player and guitarist and teaches at his own Counterpoint Studio in Mocksville. His original instrumental compositions have become staples of the Bones' song list. He has played with Dixie Creek Revival, Caleb's Bridge, the Brad Ratledge Band, and numerous other acts.

Children's Corner



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 3yr old's - kindergarten



Ages 5-7yr old's

LENT/EASTER CALENDAR

- Ash Wednesday Service 6:30pm in Sanctuary**
(No children's programming)
- Children's Choir each Wednesday 6-6:30pm**
beginning Mar. 1
- Children's Lent Bible Study : Jesus' Last Week**
each Wednesday Mar. 1 - Apr. 5, 6:30-7:30pm
- GLOW Kids Mar. 12 & Apr. 16, 2-3:30pm**
Mission Possible Kids Mar. 19 & Apr. 23, 4-6pm
- Caterpillar Orders Due Mar. 5th**
- Butterfly Release: Sun. Apr. 9th at 10am**
on front lawn
- Easter Egg Hunt Apr. 9th at Noon**
on front lawn after worship
- Children's Choir Performance**
Apr. 16th at 11am service

The first general meeting of 2023 was held February 20th.
Laura Bodenheimer, Administrator of Guardian Ad Litem
In Davidson County presented the very informative program.

Important dates:

District Mission Study-March 11, registration due by March 4th. Contact Lynda Stone.

Morning Circle- March 20th at Piedmont Crossing, 11:00 with lunch. Contact Bonnie Craig for reservation.

Evening Circle- March 20th 6:00 PM with dinner. Contact Elaine Rabon 336 442-4790 for reservation.

Sunday Circle in Library/History Room 1st and 2nd Sunday's 10:00 AM.

Lenten Luncheon-April 2nd.

Next General meeting April 17th at 6:00 with dinner at church in CEC. Contact Lynda Stone.

All women in the church are invited to join us for spiritual growth, fellowship, service to our community and world, informative programs and sharing.

We seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual fellowship, leadership development, fellowship, and education so that we inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.

Please join us as we bring faith, hope and love in action to the world.



United
Women
in Faith

faith

action

sisterhood



COMMUNITY OUTREACH THROUGH MEMORIAL UMC

Through your kindness and generosity, We are off to a great start of supporting our local and global ministries.

Thus far we have been able to help:

Cooperative Community Ministries (CCM)
Meals on Wheels of Davidson County
Project Divine Interruption (Thomasville City Schools)
UMCOR- Earthquake Relief
and
World Service Church- Blanket Sunday

by contributing **\$21,738.46.**

Blood Drive

March 16
&
April 20

1:30-6:00pm **First Presbyterian at 21 Randolph St.**

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!

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
Caned Vegetable

Hygiene items needed:

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