Memorial Methodist Messenger

Memorial United Methodist Church, Norman Ramsey, Pastor P.O. Box 9, 403 Court Street, Appomattox, VA 24522 (434)352-5705 <u>memorialumc5705@gmail.com</u> Our Mission is to help others grow in the love and joy of Jesus Christ



He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:57

Pastor's Note ...

I am so thankful I know Jesus as "the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Because of Him, I have access to the Father. Because of Jesus nothing can separate me from the love of God.

Why? Because it's in Him. His love is not based on my outward circumstances or how well or poorly I may be doing. It's all because of His steadfastness and perseverance.

So, I want to pattern and adjust my life after His way of grace. I know Jesus is coming soon. The moment of judgment is almost upon us. So, while the sun is shining, I want to get ready for that Day.

How do I do this? One way is to notice the patterns of sin and grace that are active in the world. That way I can avoid the one and align myself to the other.

So, to help each of us I want to remind you and show you one of the expressions of the way sin follows. The Apostle Paul calls it the way Satan works. (2 Thessalonians 2: 9-10) When you notice a person or group of people mimicking this behavior you will know better than to associate with them or repeat these kinds of things yourself.

- 1. Repeat lies.
- 2. Raise doubts instead of faith.
- 3. Resist responsibility for things and instead resort to blame.

- 4. Reserve the right to be bitter.
- 5. Resigned to death or at least when bad things happen to other people you think they deserve it.
- 6. Rejoice in destruction. Of course, you rejoice because of the "good" you want to do after the destruction. Yeah, keep telling yourself that.

When I see this pattern of behavior, I give thanks God sends His Holy Spirit to do three big things in us.

- 1. Convict us of sin.
- 2. Convict us of His righteousness.
- 3. And convince us of judgment.

Again, that makes me remember Jesus is coming soon. So, I can give thanks all over again. And remember, no matter what happens this month, you can give thanks for Jesus and His saving and sanctifying grace.

Love, Norman



Give Thanks: The Way You Get Through Everything 9:30 am – Worship in the Sanctuary

Remember to turn your clocks back 1 hour on November 1st

November 1, 2020: Talk with Your Hands. (2 Samuel 22: 47 - 50)

All Saints Sunday

Holy Communion, in the parking lot following our 9:30am service.

November 8, 2020: Do God's Will. (1 Thessalonians 5: 18)

November 15, 2020: Get into a Rhythm of Giving Thanks. (1 Chronicles 16)

November 22, 2020: Chosen to Give Thanks. (1 Chronicles 16: 11 – 36)

November 29, 2020: The King is Coming for the Little Ones (Micah 5: 2)

First Sunday in Advent

Memorial Book Nook

Do you love to read? Lots of us do . . . so let's share!

The Memorial Book Nook is now located in the upstairs landing of the Legacy Hall Stairwell, brought to you by the "Ready Set Grow" Team. This is not the "Church Library", but a good old fashioned Book Swap! With vacations cut short, quarantine, working and playing from home...it's always good to have some new choices of reading material! AND....we are including DVD's and jigsaw puzzles...more choices!

We have a good start on novels; but need more donations of books you have read and would like to share as well as DVD's and puzzles. Just bring them in and put them on the cart! This includes all genres! Children's books are also welcome...if someone donates them...we will have them to share with other kids.

So, if you need a new book to read, a DVD to watch or a jigsaw puzzle to work on, just pick one out and take it home. When you finish, you can bring it back or pass it on.

There are no check-out rules . . . just take a book and/or leave a book and enjoy!



Youth United for middle and high school students meets at the church every Sunday from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. Dress for outside.

Call or text Tori Rothgeb at 434-664-7272 to be added to the text reminder list.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER WILL BE NOVEMBER 16th. THE NEWSLETTER MAILING TEAM WILL MEET MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH AT 9 AM IN LEGACY HALL.



Nov 2 - Skeeter & Betty Armstrong







Nov. 1 Barrett Davis
Nov. 3 Jeanne Amos
Nov. 3 Bob Holt
Nov. 4 Shannah Wilbun
Nov. 5 Sandy Wilbun
Nov. 5 Angie Dillon
Nov. 6 Rachel Drinkard
Nov. 9 Donna Irvine
Nov. 12 Cindy Ranson
Nov. 12 Harry White
Nov. 15 Ronnie Henderson
Nov. 16 Jason Gilliam
Nov. 18 Tina Blondek
Nov. 23 Savannah Webber
Nov. 23 Debbie Parris
Nov. 23 Eddie Wells
Nov. 29 Benny Drinkard
Nov. 30 Charles Wilbun
Nov. 30 Mindy Blake





The Missions committee of Memorial United Methodist Church exists to reach out to the needy and to spread the gospel. Its main focus is to involve the congregation in Missions. It is equally committed to local, national, and international needs. If you want to experience the joy of spreading the gospel and helping the needy, join us in one of our hands on Missions Opportunities! If you are interested in finding out more information or giving ideas on missions opportunities, please contact Sue Waddell at 434-660-0367.

Our Missionary Partners:

YoungLife (Appomattox, VA) Central Virginia VA27, P.O. Box 3543 Lynchburg, VA 24503-0543; (*giving.younglife.org*) The Jesus Center (Appomattox, VA) P.O. Box 322 Appomattox, VA 24522

Clara Biswas, Street Children Ministries (Cambodia) <u>clarabiswas@online.com.kh</u> (<u>advance.umcmission.org/p-1509-biswas-clara-mridula.aspx</u>) Chris & Paula McNutt, Hope of Life, Mt. Comfort (Guatemala) 445 Abbitt Branch Rd. Appomattox, VA 24522 (<u>passion4guatemala.com</u>) Charles & Becky Jackson, Generous Hands (Philippines) <u>charlesbeckyjackson@msn.com</u>

Emi Monges, Ambassadors for Christ (Paraguay) <u>emimonges@hotmail.com</u> <u>https://afciworld.org/what-we-do/focus-on-the-heart/</u> The Mathers, Stepping Forward Ministries (Romania) Stepping Forward Ministries, PO Box 20065, Salem, Oregon 07307



We will be sending Christmas cards to the troops again this year; there is a basket outside the church office & in the narthex. These also need to be returned





We will be volunteering at Gleaning for the World on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 1:30- 3:30pm.



Mark your calendars for

November 18th!



APPOMATTOX YOUNGLIFE IS ON!!!!

CLUBS & TOGETHERNESS MAY LOOK DIFFERENT BUT WE ARE STILL IN THE GAME!!!

KEEP UP W/ ALL THE HAPPENINGS ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS: INSTAGRAM (appoyl), SNAP CHAT, FACEBOOK (Appomattox YoungLife)



The missions committee and others packed 92 shoeboxes at the church on October 17th!

Thank you to everyone who donated items, gave money, or helped with packing!











Yves

When my mother was eight months pregnant with me, our neighbors in Rwanda tried to murder us. My father, a pastor, was well-respected in the community. So, it was shocking when those who had lived down the road from them for 20 years came down that same road with the intent to kill us.

My family literally ran for their lives. I was born in a refugee camp in Congo. When conflict arose there, we sought safety in Kenya. But conflict arose there, too, so we had to move again. It seemed like everywhere we went, war followed us.

After the atrocities I'd seen, my heart was filled with hate—and not just for those who had committed those atrocities. I hated humanity because I had found little of it in people.

In Togo, we finally found a place to call home. My father began serving as a pastor again. Our community in Togo was heavily influenced by witch doctors. They taught people to never step foot into a church. These villages were dangerous—some Christians who went there never came back. The villagers wouldn't come to church and you couldn't go see them. So, how could you reach them for Christ?

Through a shoebox.

The village children didn't go to school because they didn't have any school supplies. So, their parents were willing to come to the church to receive free school supplies from an Operation Christmas Child shoebox distribution. The witch doctors warned the villagers to stay away from the church, but many of them went anyway.

Thinking that there was no way we'd ever come in contact with these villagers again, one of our church's pastors preached an emboldened message emphasizing the supreme love and power of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Many of the people from the villages were shocked to learn that such a God exists.

They started to come to church to hear about the all-powerful God who is also ever-loving—even one of the witch doctors. When he made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, that opened the floodgates for the villagers to follow. The people said: If this powerful man needs Jesus, so do we. Three more churches were formed as a result.

As for me, my heart had been hardened by my early childhood as a refugee. I didn't understand why people hated other people enough to kill them just because they were different from them. I hated people, because they were capable of such blind violence—all people, except my family.

But when I received my shoebox at age 11, it changed everything.

A stranger loves me enough to give me a gift? How can someone love me when they don't even know me? How is that possible, when our neighbors in Rwanda had tried to kill us?

I thought I had the world figured out, and the shoebox turned my world upside down. In fact, it turned my life right side up. I put my faith in Christ later that year.

At the shoebox distribution, I had tried to trade one of my gifts for a soccer ball. I had received a wool scarf. I lived in the tropics. I had no idea what to do with this thing. But I had been taught to save everything and waste nothing, so I stored the scarf away.

Three years later, years after our initial application, my family received refugee resettlement in Buffalo, New York. It's one of the coldest cities in the U.S.

Was this a coincidence? No way.

My precious scarf is still meaningful today. It is a promise to me that Jesus knew my past, and He knows my future and what I will need.

Jesus is always a step ahead, waiting at the end of the line to keep me warm like a loving father does. The scarf not only kept me warm, it warmed my heart.

To those whom God used to send me this gift—thank you for keeping me warm. Not only did the scarf keep me comfortable physically in the cold Buffalo weather, but it helped to thaw out my heart. I became brave enough to take a chance on people again.

I love people now. I want to help them in Jesus' Name. In that vein, this summer I'll be helping to dig water wells at three village churches in Togo.

These churches formed as a result of the spread of the **Gospel through the shoebox distribution there** more than 10 years ago.





Note: I heard this young man give his testimony at a church in Lynchburg a few years ago. Quite a testimony of the power of "a simple gift". -Rena





Family of Dr. Paul Harvey Family of Pual Kvasnicka Famiy of Dan Puckette Andrew Nitzel, fell & in coma (25-yr-old Kathy Dickerson's cousin) Coach Doug Smith, bone cancer Butch Taylor, early alzheimer's, (friend of Pastor Norm) Betty Guthrie, fall & kidney issues Louie (Carolyn Jolly's brother) - recovering from surgery Doreen Parsons, broken femur Mike Coles - heart attack (Kelly Coles' father) Carolyn & Tom Jolly and family Skeeter & Betty Armstrong Mara Martin - spot on lung (Virginia Williams' neighbor) Roy Woody (Beverly Thomas' uncle; Healthcare Ctr.) Wayne Smith, heart issues (Relative of a friend of the Bergdollls) Judy Ferguson & family (aunt of Dawn Elliott) Kindliee Faith Evans (friend of Kelly Coles) Susan Book (Hip replacement- pain management) Barbara Metcalf (stroke- cousin of Loretta Layne) Danny Dickerson, addiction Bobby Garrett (testing for spot on lungs) Bethany Nadolson (Targeted Cancer treatments) Greg Knight (Francis Knight's son) Darlene Clark (Gerald Wilbun's cousin- heart attack) Jennifer Tucker (friend of Cindi Williams, breast cancer) Charlotte Fenchum (Butch Thomas' girlfriend) Linda Thomas Turner (Beverly Thomas' cousin) Frances Parsons (Bob Parson's mother) Nick Vancil (Beverly Thomas kin) Doug Doss Jr., (father of Melissa Doss) Cayden Walsh (Walsh's grandson) Brandon Coles (Kelly Coles' brother) Robin Parsons (daughter of the Parsons- cancer) Michelle Denis (Hospice, friend of Parsons) Olivia Baldwin (Bob & Doreen Parson's friend) Patricia Wallace (Melissa Doss' aunt) Timothy Lloyd (Skeeter & Betty's Grandson) Ethan Nadolson (Bear Nadolson's son) Carrie B. Lloyd (Rick & Mindy Blake's daughter) Carina Bergdoll – leg issues (Daughter-in-law of Bergdolls) Barbara and Gary Shaffer (great aunt and uncle of Kelly Coles) Shawn & Jennifer Walsh (Jean Walsh's son & daughter-in-law) Tommy Bryant (Beverly Davidson's brother-in-law- surgery)



Cure for the COVID-19 Virus MDC Karen Ramsey Bob Dunnam Betty Guthrie Bobby Waddell Joanne Burger Cora Coles Benny Harvey Sharee Whitmer Gary Lindsey Cassidy Richardson Cathy Bates Phil Bass



Pray For Our College Students



Continuing Concerns:

College Students: Adam Dillion, Gordon Baine, Ginny Baine, Christopher Bruhnsen, Hallie Drinkard, Kincaid Robinson, Parks Robinson, Bethany Wilbun,, Sophia Romano -Babcock Manor: Anne Weakley & Lorene Lucado & Estaline McCraw -Valley View Retirement Community: Mary Martin 401A -Bentley Commons: Daphne Jackson -St. Joseph's Home: Frances Rogers Capt. Fred Underwood, Victor & Susan Vernon, Manning & Myrt Harrell, Sara Baine, Myrtle White, Anna Johnson, Cheryl Skipper VA Conference Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, District Superintendent Denies Bates, Pastor Norman & MUMC Leaders, Youth United, Members of our Armed Services stationed overseas and here at home, Police Force & Special Agencies, President Trump/World leaders/ The United States of America, All Refugees

WANT SOMEONE TO PRAY WITH YOU?

Our prayer ushers haven't left you! We still want to pray with you even though church may look differently now! We encourage you to contact us by phone or email and we will be delighted to talk with you and pray for you! Romans 8:38-39 tells us "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor principalities, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." We are still the body of Christ even though we aren't physically together. God still loves you and so do we! So, do you wish for someone to pray with you? Then please contact one of us!

Anne Robinson	434-248-6924	arkindon@aol.com
Cindy Ranson	434-665-8837	rranson@jetbroadband.com
Janet Noble	434-352-7461	mrsray777@gmail.com
Joan Holt	434-426-4197	<u>bojoappo@hotmail.com</u>
Marie Milton	434-665-4875	mcmorgan112@gmail.com
Mitch Eggleston		mitchegg1031@gmail.com
Nathan Putney	239-821-2905	nputney52@yahoo.com
Norman Ramsey	540-309-1776	normanramsey@vamuc.org
Penny Mongold	434-352-7023	
Rodney Deaner	434-664-7831	rdeaner@jetbroadband.com
Sue Eggleston	434-664-7325	sueeggleston918@gmail.com
Sheila Webb	434-352-7333 or 434-390-2602	appwebbtr@aol.com
Steve "Bear" Nadalson	740-507-0717 or 434-352-7598	bear@soarr.com



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2452 AV ,xottemoqqA 9.0. Box 9 Memorial United Methodist Church Return Service Requested

Sunday, in-person worship at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary. Enter at front entrance (Court Street). (Also Online service at MEMUMC.ORG/ FB), or **LISTEN- (89.3FM)**



Our Vision is to Help People Grow in the Love and Joy of Jesus Christ

