



MESSENGER

"To know Him and to make Him known"

December 2017

Memorial United Methodist Church
500 Kent Avenue
Lake Placid, FL 33852

Special Christmas Events

Memorial's Christmas Musical

Sunday, December 17

10:45 AM

"O Night Divine

Dawn of Love's Pure Light"



**Sounds
of the
Season**

It was over 2000 years ago that our Lord came to the earth He had created to find a world lost in darkness and one without hope. We invite you to come be reminded once more of the hope that Jesus brings to our world, including hope for our future. Just as He came long ago when the time had, so He will return one day, when the time has come. Until then we have cause to celebrate! Come join us as we celebrate the good news of our Lord!

Pot Luck follows at noon

Lakeview Christian School Musical

Thursday, December 14

6:30 PM

Sanctuary



Sunday, December 24

Normal Worship Service Times

8:30 AM and 10:45 AM

5:30 PM—**Special Music**

6 PM—**Candlelight Service** with Songs, Scripture, and Lessons

Love Offering for Staff:

Collecting through December 17

It's the time of year when we like to offer a special "thank you" to the folks behind the scenes of our church that make things happen. SPRC is collecting a love offering from now through Dec. 17 for our staff. We are so blessed to have such dedicated and loyal staff here at Memorial. Please take an opportunity to tell them how important they are to you. If you would like to make a financial gift to towards the staff love offering, please indicate so by writing "Staff Love Offering" on your check. Whether it's through a financial gift, your prayers, or simply a word of encouragement, be sure to let them know that you love them.

-Staff Parish Relations Committee

Bring JOY to Others!



I am asking the congregation to provide cookies for the December JOY bags. Please bring the cookies to the Narthex on December 17. A container will be provided for them. JOY bags will be packed on Monday, December 18 at 9 AM. Thanks so very much.

Pastor Jerry

UMW

All women of Memorial are invited to the UMW luncheon and meeting on December 5 at noon in Rob Reynolds Hall.

The meat will be provided. Bring a favorite dish to share and a gift to be given to those that Manna serves. Some things that would be appreciated are a \$10 grocery gift card, personal hygiene kits, etc.

Our special guest will be Marlene Christiansen who we hope will share some highlights of her 10 years as the director of Manna. She is retiring from this position at the end of the year.

This will be a time of fellowship and celebration of the Christmas Season. Please plan on joining your sisters in Christ.

Staff - Parish Relations Committee

With bittersweet emotions the Staff – Parish Relations Committee received and accepted the resignations of Jennifer Koukos, Finance Administrator and Katie Robinson, Director of Children and Family Ministry and Receptionist. Both have chosen to explore new opportunities with family and career. While we accepted the resignations with a certain degree of sadness, we sincerely celebrate what both have contributed to our church and ministries over their long tenures here at Memorial. We heartily thank them for their loyal service and excitedly wish them the best as they pursue what God has in store for them!

In addition, we also received and accepted the retirement announcement of Cheryl Mysliwy's (Administrative Assistant). We congratulate Cheryl and celebrate her years of service to Memorial. With heart felt appreciation, we wish her happiness on her next chapter of life's journey.

All have graciously agreed to help train and assist their replacements and/or assist in making these transitions as smooth as possible. We are proud to announce replacements have been chosen and they are on staff and learning quickly. We welcome; Marie Whitcomb: Finance Administrator and April McQuaig: Administrative Assistant. You will undoubtedly be blessed if you take the time to meet these ladies and welcome them to Memorial.

In addition, we are very excited to announce that we have filled our Director of Student Ministries position. Stuart Upton has immediately begun working at Memorial part-time basis and will come on board full-time in January. We are excited about the many gifts that Stuart brings to help continue and build upon the legacy of our Youth Ministry program.

As we say good-bye with heart felt sincerity to Jennifer, Katie and Cheryl, let us welcome and support: Marie, April and Stuart. We have been blessed that all 6 have chosen to share their gifts and talents with Memorial. While this amount of change may possibly seem a bit overwhelming at the moment, we are very excited as we move forward together opening new doors of opportunity and ministry that God is providing us with. We know and are assured God is leading Memorial United Methodist Church to new heights.

**Church Office Closed
December 25 and 26**



Birthdays to Celebrate

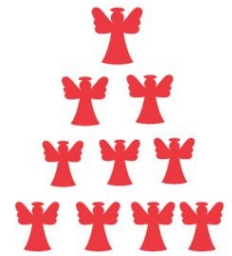
- 4—Marguerite Ryan
- 4—Hilton Teal
- 5—Sue Schmidt
- 7—Betty Kristoff
- 7—Riley Howes
- 8—Jackie Canevari
- 8—Elliott Whitesides
- 9—Finn Taylor
- 10—Lori Barber
- 11—Carey Howerton
- 11—Jo Ann Whitesides
- 14—Jim Steckley
- 17—Sally Durban
- 17—Joan Wegman
- 18—Nancy Houser
- 19—Bob Devlin
- 22—Clayton Crooks
- 25—Marcy Irwin
- 27—Myssi Veronee
- 28—Sherry Wolfe
- 29—Kay Degler
- 30—Gene Polk
- 30—Gillie Russell
- 30—Thom Zentner
- 31—Melissa Main

H.O.O.I. News

A group from H.O.O.I. will be going to celebrate Christmas with the children in the Dominican Republic Decembber 6 to 10. We covet your prayers and support. God Bless, H.O.O.I. Board of Directors

Children's Ministry Events

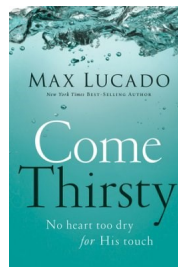
Angel Tree...It's time again to serve God by bringing joy and love to sweet little kiddos in need. Today, Memorial has a Christmas tree in the Narthex with names of local children who are in need of Christmas gifts. The tree is filled with angels that have the child's name, age, what size clothes they wear, what they need and also what they would like for Christmas. We really try and find children that have a real need and many come from hard circumstances. We would like each child to receive at least one toy and an outfit. You can always do more but that would be a good start. If you are unable to help with purchasing gifts you can always help in other ways. Last year we really spread God's amazing love far by helping 78 kids receive gifts. I know we are able to do just as many this year. We just need to work together as a family to get this mission done. Please have your unwrapped gifts labeled with your child's name to the Church by December 10th. Jesus is ready to use Memorial; we just need to get moving!



Wrap it up! Calling all you Elves! Get out all your ribbons, bows and wrapping paper its time to wrap up the gifts from the Angel Tree. December 15th at 5:00pm we are having a party to wrap the gifts and to spend some time with friends. We will have finger food and Christmas music to get you in the Holiday spirit.

ATTEN: We have additional families not taken off of the tree. Please contact the office as soon as possible if you can help these families.


Mary Martha Group



The Mary Martha Group will meet December 14 at 1 PM in the Men's Bible Classroom to discuss Max Lucado's book Come Thirsty with the following topics: Sin Vaccination and When Grace Goes Deep. With each topic we study how to: Come to the Well, Fill your Cup, and Drink Deeply. Won't you join us? *Ruth Shutts*



December Activities

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion 8:30 & 10:45 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School	4	5 10 AM Change of Pace 12 PM UMW Christmas Lunch	6 No Craft Class 6 AM Prayer Group 7 PM Choir	7	8	9 7 PM Lake Placid Christmas Parade
10 8:30 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School Noon Pot Luck 4 PM LPHCC	11 1 PM Angel Tree Letter Stuffing	12 10 AM Change of Pace	13 6 AM Prayer Group 7 PM Choir	14 12 PM Newsletter Deadline 1 PM Mary Martha 6:30 PM LVCS Musical	15 5 PM Angel Tree Wrapping Party-LH	16
17 8:30 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Musical 4-6:00 PM Christmas Open House	18 6 PM Chat 'n Chew 4-7 PM Wrapping Party-LH	19 10 AM Change of Pace	20 6 AM Prayer Group 7 PM Choir	21	22	23
24 8:30 & 10:45 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 6 PM Candlelight Service	25 	26 10 AM Change of Pace	27	28	29	30
31 8:30 & 10:45 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School		<div style="border: 3px double black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Church Office will be closed January 1. </div>				

Weekly Worship Schedule

Worship Services

8:30am and 10:45am

Fellowship

9:15am to 10:40am

Sunday School

9:30am

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Phone: 863-465-2422

Fax: 863-465-2826

Email: memorial@memorialumc.com

www.memorialumc.com

Staff

Melanie Fierbaugh	Senior Pastor
Claude Burnett	Pastoral Assistant
Jerry McCauley	Visitation Pastor
Stuart Upton	Director of Student Ministries
April McQuaig	Administrative Asst.
Marie Whitcomb	Finance Director
Sharon Coffin	Receptionist
Martha Oliveras	Nursery Assistant
Julia Burnett	Accompanist
"Rocky" Leong	Custodian
TBA	Children's Director



Are You In Sunday School?

Are You Missing from Sunday School? Come find a great opportunity to study God's Word plus have fellowship and fun!

Sunday School Classes

9:30am

Children & Youth Classes

Nursery and SonShine Clubhouse

Martha Oliveras / Volunteers

Birth to 3rd Grade

Lighthouse

Teacher: TBA

Middle /High School

45 Zone—Upper Room

Sally & Scott Durban

4th and 5th Grades

Adult Classes

Ladies Bible Class

Team of Teachers

Discussion & Lecture

Ladies Bible Class

Men's Bible Class

Teacher: John Causey

Discussion Class

Men's Bible Class

PathFinders

Teacher: Melissa Russell

Discussion Class

Upstairs Room 203

Wesley Fellowship

Teacher: Troy White

Lecture Class

Upstairs Room 204

Give Sunday School a try – You'll be glad you did!

Current Small Groups—Heart Groups

Monday	6 PM	217 N. Main Street	Ladies	Carlene Clark	863-441-0200
Tuesday	7 PM	114 Lakefront Court NE	Adults	George Hill	863-465-2503
Thursday	7 PM	158 Blue Moon Avenue	Adults	Hartmans	863-465-0695
Friday	8 AM	McDonald's	Men	Claude Burnett	863-464-0330