



The Messenger

“To know Christ and to make Him known” September 2018

Dear Friends,

Prayer is at the heart of our worship and relationship building with God. We were created to be in relationship with our Creator. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ we are given the privilege of enjoying a vibrant and full relationship with God. The Holy Spirit empowers and guides our prayers helping us to experience God fully each time we pray.

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, wrote and preached profusely on prayer. Prayer is a means of grace for all believers. I think sometimes we are hindered from praying because we feel our words are not adequate enough. Perhaps we fear that God is desiring something more from us in prayer than we are able to give. John Wesley wrote a beautiful prayer that I would like to suggest you add to your prayer life.

*“O merciful God,
whatever You may deny me,
do not deny me this love.
Save me from the idolatry of loving the world,
or any of the things of the world.
Let me never love any creature
but for Your sake and in subordination to Your love.
Take full possession of my heart;
raise there Your throne
and command there as You do in heaven.
Being created by You, let me live to You;
being created for You,
let me ever act for Your glory;
being redeemed by You,
let me render to You what is Yours
and let my spirit ever cleave to You alone.”*

James 5:16^b says, “The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” On September 29th at 8 AM we will begin our first prayer vigil — the first of many, I pray. There will be a sign-up board in the Narthex beginning Sunday, September 9th, for one hour shifts. I hope that you will commit to join us for prayer. For our out of town friends, we will be hosting a 24-Hour Prayer vigil online as well. You can sign-up to host a one hour online live prayer session by emailing me at mfierbaugh@memorialumc.com. I know that God will bless us as a community, church, and individuals if we will commit to pray as a church.

Blessings,
Melanie



Spotlight
on Memorial's Missions



YOUTH
FOR Highlands County
CHRIST

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of Youth for Christ, Highlands County, thank you for supporting our middle and high school camps this summer through your prayers and donations. We were able to take a total of 32 youth whose lives were forever changed by the love of Jesus Christ! Each camper wrote a thank you, and the following are some quotes taken from their heartfelt letters:

"I let go of my feeling luggage at camp." "I decided to say 'yes' to Jesus, because I wanted peace." "Now I want to get closer to God." "I said 'yes,' because I need God in my life." "Jesus helped me by meeting people to show me the right path." "I was in a very dark place before I was able to go to YFC. Thank you for giving me this week to reconnect with not just God, but myself." "There was a lot of release that I let go of, and I needed that." "Jesus loves us no matter what kind of mess we are in, and He will help me with my messes." "I wanted to go home a new person. Now I can." "My experience was life changing." "Camp taught me not to hold grudges and burdens." "Camp helped me face my fears. It was the best week of my life." "Camp helped me forgive my mom." "Thanks to camp, I was able to realize how much I actually mean to God." "I am taking home a fearless person who gives all of me to God and not a person who only half heartedly lives for Him like I used to." "Jesus has taught me not to look at my past but what is ahead of me." "Jesus changed my life again by letting me give up all of the pressure I had on my shoulders, and I honestly appreciate that." "During this week, I learned I needed to forgive and move on."



YFC Middle School Camp Grace in GA.

As you can see, YFC Camp is truly a place “Where Everything Changes!” We would love to be able to share the entire letter of every camper, however we hope this gives you a glimpse of the tremendous impact this experience had on our youth, and we give all of the praise and glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Your prayers would be appreciated as we begin our Campus Life Clubs, Girl Talk, and Dude Stuff Ministries at the middle and high school campuses. Please continue to pray for our young people as they journey into this new school year and thank you again for being on mission with Youth for Christ!

God bless you! Bob and Melinda



YFC High School Camp Carolina Point in NC.



*YFC Middle School
Camp Grace in
Georgia. Bobby D
getting pied!*



Born in September

						1 Ed Goodyear Luke Hendrie
2 Faye Hamilton	3	4 Luann Steffen	5 Louise Walker	6 Jason Rogers Richard Reaney	7	8
9 Christena Villarreal	10	11	12	13 Dot Hogan Kelly Reynolds	14 Bonnie Brown	15 David Mathias
16 Elon Walker	17 Sandy Rossborough Beth Simmons Katie Robinson	18	19	20	21 Bonnie Arbogast Joy Dean MaryLou McCauley	22 Jason Robinson
23	24	25	26 Dave Allen Landon Smoak	27 Shirley Rose Sonny Stalls	28 Eleanor Lee	29
30						



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Office Closed  Labor Day	4 10:00AM Change of Pace (LBC) 7:00PM CPP Training (RRH)	5 9:00am Craft Class (LH) 5:30PM Kids Club Dinner (RRH) 6:30PM Youth Deep Dive (LH) 7:00PM Choir (Choir Room)	6	7	8
9 Communion Sunday 3:45PM Lake Placid Health Care Worship Service	10 6:00PM Children's Leadership Team (LH)	11 10:00AM Change of Pace (LBC) 6:00PM Finance (LBC)	12 5:30PM Kids Club Dinner (RRH) 6:30PM Youth Deep Dive (LH) 7:00PM Choir (Choir Room)	13	14	15
16	17 6:00PM Youth Leadership Team (LH) 6:00PM Chat n' Chew (Sonny's BBQ)	18 10:00AM Change of Pace (LBC) 7:00PM Trustees Meeting (LBC)	19 5:30PM Kids Club Dinner (RRH) 6:30PM Youth Deep Dive (LH) 7:00PM Choir (Choir Room)	20 3:30pm Manna Board Meeting (LBC)	21 Newsletter Deadline  <i>Just a friendly reminder...</i>	22
23	24 9:00AM Joy Bags (RRH)	25 10:00AM Change of Pace (LBC) 6:30PM Church Council (LBC)	26 8:00AM See You At the Pole 5:30PM Kids Club Dinner (RRH) 6:30PM Youth Deep Dive (LH) 7:00PM Choir (Choir Room)	27	28	29
30 12:00PM Covered Dish Dinner-(RRH)						

Legacy Youth News

Don't you just love it when you have friends who really push you to be your best in your faith? Several years ago I met a couple from Lake Wales who liked the same band that I liked. We wound up hanging out more and more, and they've become my main connection to go watch hockey in Tampa. I'm now obsessed. Thanks Chris and Tracy!

But the friendship that has developed between Chris and me has had far greater benefit than just music or hockey. Chris has this incredible ability to get people together, and over the last three years, a group of guys have begun hanging out talking about music, hockey, and faith. A couple weeks ago, I was at Chris' house and he and I were hanging outside by his grill just talking about how good God is.

He told me that he's kind of made a practice of waking up in the morning and before he does anything else, he thinks about the 3 best things about the day before. I'm not nearly so disciplined, but I have begun really taking moments to be thankful.

Thankful in my joy. Thankful in my grief. Thankful in my stress. Thankful in my relationships.

This was all a roundabout way of saying that I'm thankful for this youth group! These are the kinds of kids we have: A couple Wednesday nights ago, we finished a lesson early. And there were a couple cool things that happened. We had about a half-hour to kill and instead of everyone scattering to various gaming tables and every corner of the Lighthouse, everyone just gravitated to the couch area. And we just started hanging out; the students, the leaders, together, just talking, laughing, and being a group. For a youth pastor, that's a pretty cool scene. But before we got too far into that chill hang-out session, one of the students raised her hand and said, "Before we hang out, can we pray? I want to pray for the group." Wow. If you'd have asked me the next morning what my 3 best things about the day before were, Thing #1 would have been that very moment.

The really fun thing to me is that these moments seem to be happening more and more. It's becoming easier and easier to notice God's hand at work in the lives of your Youth program. If you'd like to witness it, come talk to me about being a part. There are a ton of easy ways that you can be involved. But also, be involved by praying. Thanks, Church!

Stuart Upton
Director of Youth Ministries



Please join us for the monthly Worship Service at **Lake Placid Health Care Center** on Sunday, September 9th at 3:45PM. What a blessing this service is to all the

residents who look forward to it and especially to those volunteers that participate in it. Last month there were 28 in attendance! We can use your help! If you would like to join the Healthcare Worship Service Team to help in any way please see Ginger Keimel or give her a call at 863-465-7930. You will be richly blessed.

Craft Class

Please join us for a time of fun, fellowship and crafting, Wednesday Sept. 5th at 9:00am in the Lighthouse. We will be decorating bags, making cards and treats for our homebound church family Fall Joy Bags. All we need is U!



Wednesday Night Kids Club

Wednesday Nights at Memorial have returned! Join us in the Rob Reynolds Hall for family dinner and worship at 5:30pm. Then kids Pre-K through 5th grade will travel to The Clubhouse, Legacy Youth will head out for The Lighthouse for Deep Dive, and adults will have Bible Study with Pastor Melanie. This year we will explore and build our Bible Skills through Art, Drama, Cooking, Science, Games and more! Please plan on joining us as we look forward to fun, fellowship and learning about Jesus with you!

Please plan on joining us for **Chat n' Chew** Monday, September 17th at 6:00pm. We will be meeting for food, fun and fellowship. Call Julie Wadel at 863-465-1931 to reserve your spot.



Potluck & Celebration Dinner

Join us for a Potluck & Celebration Dinner as we conclude our **Exciting Church** series, Sunday, September 30th following the 10:45am service. Please bring a dish to share with the group. This will be a Sunday of celebration and fun as we commit to be an Exciting Church.





Upcoming Mission Trip

On October 7, I will depart from Miami for Havana, Cuba and travel to the Holguin Norte District of the Methodist Church in Cuba. While I am in Cuba I will meet the good people of our sister church for the first time. The District Superintendent in Cuba has matched us with Valle Dos Methodist Church in Mayari Cuba. Their Pastora is, Yolanda Hernandez and she has sent a message to our congregation. Valle Dos has been fasting and praying for us all. They are praying for us to be strengthened and for us to know more of the depth of God's love. She is very thankful for the Hearts for Missions money that has already been sent this year. These funds will help her to build a better facility to worship and out of which to do ministry.

I cannot wait to form a relationship with our Sister Church and bring many of you to Cuba to join in the Gospel work being done there. You can support our sister church by contributing to the Hearts for Missions fund.

You can help support our mission's trip to Cuba this October by donating to the "Missions Trips Fund." I will be collecting first aid supplies, baby wipes, toiletries, children's underwear, markers and colored pencils, and flip flops

beginning Sunday September 2nd, in the Narthex and in the Church Office. The fees to bring items into the country are usually around \$400, if you want to contribute to that just let the office know.

Many Blessings,

Pastor Melanie



The Church & Pastor's Living Room



The Church & Parsonage Bathroom

Pastor Yolanda & her husband



The Church & Parsonage Kitchen



Sunday School Classes at 9:30am

Nursery	Martha Oliveras	Birth-5 years old	Nursery
SonShine Club	Volunteers	K-3rd Grade	Clubhouse
45 Zone	Scott & Sally Durban	4th & 5th Grade	Upper Room
Youth Class	Cory Fierbaugh	6th-12th Grade	Rob Reynolds Hall
Ladies Bible Class	Team of Teachers	Discussions & Lectures	Ladies Bible Class
Men's Bible Class	John Causey	Discussion Class	Men's Bible Class
Pathfinders	Melissa Russell	Discussion Class	Room 203
Wesley Fellowship	Troy White	Discussion Class	Room 204

Small Groups-Heart Groups

Weekly Opportunities

Monday	Ladies 6:00pm	217 N Main St.	Sunday Worship	8:30am&	Sanctuary
Tuesday	Adults 7:00pm	114 Lakefront Ct	Sunday Fellowship	9:15-10:40am	Rob Reynolds
	George Hill	863-465-2503			
Thursday	Adults 7:00pm	158 Blue Moon	Sunday School	9:30am	Various
	Hartman's	Ave	Sunday Youth	5:00pm	Lighthouse
		863-465-0695			
Friday	Men's 8:00am	McDonald's	Wednesday Youth	6:30pm	Lighthouse
	Claude Burnett	863-464-0330			

Memorial United Methodist Church

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Office Hours 8:30am-4:30pm Monday-Friday

201 Carole Richie-Receptionist

203 Claude Burnett-Pastoral Assistant

204 April McQuaig-Church Business Admin.

206 Melanie Fierbaugh-Senior Pastor

207 Stuart Upton- Youth Director

214 Lakeview Christian School