

The Methodist Messenger

A Word from our Administrative Council Chair

As we move closer to our disaffiliation date of June 30th , 2023, I want to ask the congregation to prayerfully consider a contribution to our disaffiliation fund.

Total costs to disaffiliate have come in at \$86,325.75. Thanks to rising interest rates, this amount is dramatically less than first estimated. These costs include pension liabilities, 15 months apportionments, lawyer fees, and new church signage/ hymnals.

This amount will have to be paid no later than 30 days after May 21st which is when our disaffiliation will be voted on by the Annual Conference. Thanks to your contributions, we have already raised \$23,000 towards this goal!

We do ask you to prayerfully consider giving to our disaffiliation fund above and beyond your normal tithe. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

If you have any questions about this fund or disaffiliation in general, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Luke Lanier

Administrative Council Chair



Not Your Traditional VBS

This year, instead of VBS being a one-week or one-day event, it will be spread throughout the whole summer. On four Wednesdays during the summer, Whacky Wednesday Summer Nights are scheduled for kids from Pre-K through 5th grade.

Each Whacky Wednesday will include supper and a devotional, followed by a fun activity. The fun will last from 6 until 8 pm, and volunteers are needed to assist Miss Stephanie.

June 7—Block Party For Jesus

June 22—To Be Announced

July 12—To Be Announced

July 26—Splash in the Boro

All the fun cannot be revealed at this time!

Reminders will be sent the week before each event, and parents are asked to register their children ahead of time. Kids can bring a friend or the whole neighborhood!

See Miss Stephanie for more information or to volunteer to help.



Church Staff

Allen Cason, Pastor

Suzanne Tyson, Administrative Assistant

Kathy Martin, Treasurer

Chip Fleming, Youth Director

Stephanie Long, Children's Coordinator

Allen Lanier, Technology

Miriam Edenfield, Music Director

Terri Bland, Pianist

Angie Henderson, Nursery Provider

Andrea Quinones, Nursery Provider

Tina Davidson, Custodian

Steve Grantham, District Superintendent

David Graves, Resident Bishop

Contact Information

- Office hours—9 AM—12:30 PM
- Monday-Friday
- Phone: 912-685-2777
- Email: info@metterumc.com

Rev. Cason's Contact Information:

- Phone: 912-685-5261
- Cell: 478-290-8197
- Email: casonpreach@gmail.com

Sunday Activities

- 10 AM—Sunday School
- 11 AM—Morning Worship

Important Dates In May

May 3—Ice Cream Social at the Parsonage— 5:30-7:30 pm

May 7—Communion

May 7—Meet Coach Shaw—2-4 pm

May 14—Mother's Day

May 14—Muffins with Moms 10 am

May 15—Men's Fellowship Supper at 6:30 pm

May 21—Called Annual Conference—online at 4 pm

May 21—Graduation Sunday

May 29—Memorial Day (Office Closed)

Bricks in honor or memory of loved ones are available to be placed on the patio outside the church office. See Suzanne for more information. The following orders have been received:

In Memory of George W. Porter, Sr. by Angela Porter Giles
In Memory of Bessie W. Porter by Angela Porter Giles
In Memory of Betty M. Bell by Belinda, Trey, and Anna
In Loving Memory of Cal Rivenbark by Your Children and Family
In Loving Memory of Eleanor Rivenbark by Mike, Wayne, Sam, and Maryann
In Memory of Mary Anne Young by Her Family
In Honor of Charles H. Young, Sr., by His Family

Endowment Fund Balance as of 3/31/2023

Quarter Gifts	\$0
Last Quarter Balance	\$102,277.26
Realized Income (Net)	\$2.37
Unrealized Gain (Loss)	\$5975.54
Ending Balance	\$108,122.75

For information about the church endowment, contact Kathy Martin, church treasurer.

Giving Report:

Reported giving is based on gifts mailed in and received through online giving. The numbers reported are actual numbers.

Year to date contributions:

\$ 85,832.23

Year to date expenses:

\$ 80,614.60

Amounts reported are through May 1, 2023, and April payroll is included.

Other Giving for April 2023

April 2	\$22	Sunday School	\$1000	Disaffiliation Donations
	\$73.50	Communion Offering	April 23	\$18
	\$200	Disaffiliation Fund		\$328
	\$400	UMCOR		\$2200
	\$100	Davidson Love Offering		\$1000
April 9	\$12	Sunday School	April 30	\$32
April 16	\$27	Sunday School		\$169
	\$125	Back Pack Buddies		Methodist Children's Home

.	4/2	4/9	4/16	4/23	4/30
Attendance:					
Morning Worship	Online— 68 In Person— 94	Online— 60 In Person— 195	Online— 61 In Person— 101	Online— 51 In Person— 79	Online—73 In Person—102
Giving: Morning Wor-ship	\$ 3104 —reg. \$ 2370—online \$ 5474 —Total	\$ 3159—reg. \$ 2835—online \$ 5994—Total	\$ 4366—regular \$ 470—online \$ 4836—Total	\$ 3075 —regular \$ 1920—online \$ 4995—Total	\$ 2650—regular \$ 2270—online \$ 4920—Total

Worship Assistants

Greeters	
May 7	Sunshine Class
May 14	Youth/Children's Classes
May 21	Sturdy Spirits
May 28	Abundant Blessings Class

Sanctuary Computer

May 7	Mary Emma Gainous
May 14	Hunter Cason
May 21	Grant Anderson
May 28	Ty Riggs

Ushers

May 7	Tietgen & Cason Edenfield
May 14	Children & Youth Sunday (Mother's Day)
May 21	Luke Lanier & Charlie Hendricks
May 28	Chappell Long & Matthew Gainous

Acolytes

May 7	Ellee Cason & Amelia Burton
May 14	Charlie Lanier & Easten Thigpen
May 21	Tanner Cason & Emsley King
May 28	Elsa King & Hagan Anderson

Prayer Room Team

May 7	Heather Hendricks & Shirley Lott
May 14	Matthew Gainous & Joey Holloway
May 21	Doris & Kelton Cook
May 28	Terri Underwood & Kathy Martin

Flowers

May 7	Communion (No Flowers)
May 14	Terri Bland <i>in memory of Bernice Bland</i>
May 21	Jan Trapnell <i>in memory of Ruby Trapnell Becker</i>

Muffins with Moms— During the Sunday School hour on May 14, Mother's Day, the children will honor all of the women of the church by serving muffins, coffee, and other breakfast drinks. The children recognize that all of the women of the church are "mothers" to them as they grow in the faith. Please come and share a time of celebration with our youngest members.

Prayer Requests

Chappell Long	Angela Hammond
Shirley Lott	Sandra Dowd
Don Braswell	Robert Cowart
James Welton Rocker	Paula Royce
Hugh F. Smith	Charlie Woolf
Kristy Brown	Raymond Morris
Janet Tootle Sears	Carla Pollett
Shirley Jones	Carter Gainous
Bonnie Lanier	Carol Tyson
Jeanette & Arvil Barton	
Jane & Jimmy Hendrix	

Homebound

Sandi Carpenter Dowd, Linda Bolduc (Bethany-Statesboro), Mary Towns

Military

Dan Chicola, Trey Neville, Heath Stuckey

Missionaries

Whatleys (Navajo), Nelson (I See Jesus Ministries, Panama), Shafes (Mission: Hope –Congo, Coker/Cook Family (Thumbs Up Mission), UMCOR

Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones

Chris Padgett Family
Rev. John Bagwell Family
Austin Scarboro Family
Lance Holloway Family



May 7	Stephanie Long
May 14	Heather Hendricks (Mother's Day)
May 21	Lynette Long
May 28	Heather Hendricks (Memorial Day)

Anyone who is interested in helping with the Children's program should contact Stephanie Long, Children's Coordinator. Her number is 912-687-6920. Remember—help is needed for the Whacky Wednesday activities during the summer!

Welcome Coach Shaw—There will be a “Welcome to Metter” drop in on Sunday, May 7 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the Social Hall to meet Metter High School’s new coach, Lee Shaw. Shaw was previously at many other places including Flower Branch High School where he coached the grandsons of Kelton and Doris Cook.

Anyone who would like to help with refreshments (finger foods) is asked to contact Felix Johnston at 912-682-3368. He can also be contacted for more information about this Meet & Greet.



Men's Fire Retreat— Men of the church (above) gathered at Charles & Vickie Chandler’s cabin to have a time together that included fun activities, lots of delicious food, and inspirational teaching by Pastor Allen. Thanks to all who provided food and those who attended. A highlight was the ax throw, pictured below.



Wedding Bells—Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Jordan Bland. Jordan, son of Mark and Terri Bland, and Katie Barber who were married on February 25, 2023 at the Brice House in Vicksburg, GA. The couple is making their home on Lake Sinclair, near Milledgeville.



Special Days

May Birthdays— Charlie Lanier (5/1), Jeremy Nease (5/3), Ray Tootle (5/3), Mariann Porter (5/5), Stephanie Boyd Andeson (5/7), Pam Smith (5/10), Emma West (5/12), Grant Andeson (5/15), Tatum Taylor (5/15), Paul MacGregor (5/17), Linda Bolduc (5/19), Al Edenfield (5/20), Jason Monroe (5/22)

May Anniversaries: Larry & Charlotte Bowen (5/3), Greg & Jerri Wolff (5/5), Jason & Paige Jones (5/6), Jason & Pam Monroe (5/20), David & Laura Lott (5/21), Allen & Kristen Cason (5/30), Steven & Brandi Snell (5/30)

If your special date is not listed, please send the information to the church office. Call 912-685-2777 or email info@metterum.com.

Wednesday Night Activities

Family Night Supper and Wednesday night activities are over for the 2022-23 school year. Thank you to everyone who took part in making the year’s activities a success. Teachers and leaders made sure lessons were pertinent and interesting. Cindy Tootle and the kitchen crew worked miracles each week by feeding those present at such a low cost. Activities will resume in August.

More Wedding Bells

Logan Nease, daughter of Jeremy and Heather Nease, became the bride of Austin Bell on April 2, 2023, in Destin, FL. The couple resides in Colbert, GA. Congratulations to the happy couple.





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Metter United Methodist Church
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