

# Long Memorial UMC

*August 2024*

## Worship With Us Each Sunday

8:45 AM – Early Service - Chapel

11:00 AM – Worship Service – Sanctuary  
and  
Live Stream on Youtube  
Anytime – Youtube (Long Memorial UMC)



Long Memorial United Methodist Church  
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We are on the web at: [longmemorialumc.org](http://longmemorialumc.org)  
Like us on Facebook: Long Memorial United Methodist Church

## PRAYER TEAM

Members of the Prayer Team are offering daily prayers for those on our congregational prayer list and for other loved ones. If you would like to request prayers for someone -- whether they are part of our congregation or not -- please call Martha Butler (336-597-3946). If you would like to be on the Prayer Team, please let Martha know.

## **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*“Be still and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10*

I am having trouble finding the words to express how thankful I am to you all for supporting our ministry together, specifically for being so gracious in allowing me to take a month of renewal leave. This is my first day back at the pastor's desk, and I can honestly say that my heart is filled with joy to reconnect with our other ministers – those who are a part of our church staff, and those who are members.

I am thankful to pastors Julia Alliger and Milton Hadley for preaching and leading worship and spending time with those in need of pastoral care, for Pastor Amanda Dixon at Longhurst and Pastor Rodney Mullen for covering pastoral care. Peggy Wade went above and beyond to help keep the church office going.

I am thankful for all of those who assisted with worship, some in new ways; and for the incredibly talented 14-person staff of the Summer Literacy Program, especially Site Director Autumn Snow and Volunteer Coordinator Tracey O'Briant who made good on the church's commitment to create a “great place to work, a great place to learn, and a great place to serve” for the 30 kids, their families, and community volunteers. They also helped secure abundant local donations in funds, time, and supplies. Our church treasurer Billie Oakley deserves an extra big hand for handling the payroll and other critical financial oversight. The Coordinating Committee and staff/church members like Stacey Paith, Ashley Knott and Noah Blick really helped make the experience a blessing.

Some of you followed my month away on Facebook, but I am not a prolific post-maker. Jackie and I and our families were able to spend a lot of time together – we traveled to northeastern Ohio to visit Jackie's parents early in the month. The visit was peaceful and beautiful, as they live in a community similar to (but smaller than) Hyco Lake. Then after a week or so home I took a solo trip to visit an old friend named Mike ComesAtNight (CAN for short), who is a lifetime resident of the Blackfeet reservation outside of Browning, Montana. He is a tribal elder, a newly elected member of the Blackfeet Tribal Council, and in that capacity, his role is part county-commissioner and part tribal representative in dealings with the US Federal government. He lives on a ranch at the end of basically a 1.5 mile driveway surrounded by the Great Plains, with the peaks of Glacier National Park on the horizon to the west. While Mike was at work, I enjoyed plenty of peaceful solitude under Montana's big sky. I hadn't seen Mike in 20 years, and it was a joy to reconnect; I hope and pray the future holds many more visits between us for both of our families. While there, Mike gave me a joking-nickname of “No Animal” because in the several sight-seeing trips into the mountains we didn't see a single grizzly, mountain goat, elk or moose, which are typically very common sightings.

(For example, a news report said that a man was mauled by a grizzly bear only two miles from our car at the same time we were on a trip through Glacier one evening!)

I don't know exactly how to describe the effect of renewal from the trip, but I know it was important and needed. Before I left, the cumulative weight of the requirements of ministry were weighing heavy on my shoulders. I can honestly thank God for lifting that weight. There is a once again a spring in my step and a restored emotional capacity to walk with and pray for and love those with whom God brings me together.

There was no single moment that it happened. There was no heavenly lightning coming down from the sky, no booming voice from the clouds. Instead, it was a grasshopper that I noticed one day landing on my leg for a few minutes; a northern harrier hawk crying while it hunted; a hummingbird coming to a backyard feeder, a nap in a chair, a giggling wagon pull for our grandson around the big oak tree in the yard. It was a sing along on a road trip with Jackie, and a grilled cheese sandwich dipped in tomato soup, and a quiet Lord's prayer before bed. It was the blessed silence, devoid of even still small whispers, while the sun rose in the parsonage back yard. It was a profound passage in a book gifted from a friend. That's what renewal looked like for me. Thank you for showing me love by letting my soul take some deep breaths in God's beautiful creation.

*"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10*

I believe it doesn't require a four week hiatus, although for it I am grateful. May we all create time in our lives to experience a little stillness, rest, listening.

Yours in Christ,

Ed



## **SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED & BACKPAL PALS VOLUNTEER NEEDED:**

From South Elementary to North Elementary School supplies are being needed for the upcoming school year. Items requested include: wide ruled notebook paper, glue sticks, crayons, colored pencils, pencils, pens, book bags, and items such as Kleenex or hand sanitizer for the classroom. Two baskets are in the Narthex sitting on a pew that your supplies may be placed in. Also, see Cheryl Allen to be a volunteer with Backpack Pals – 757-404-0633. Please help with these needy causes.



### **PRAYERS FOR MEDICAL CONCERNS**

Conrad Kimbrough  
Dan Butler  
Alicia Puryear

Jim Owen  
Tom Hill Clayton

(Others)

Paula Gentry Seigel  
Whitney Foster

Jimmy Winslow  
Steve Westenberger

### **SYMPATHY**

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Jill Strickland and Janet Clayton in the death of their aunt, Rita Morrow Popp.

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### **FLOWER CALENDAR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER**

AUGUST 4 - Tom & Teresa Fitzgerald  
AUGUST 11 - Deb Burke  
AUGUST 18 - Ashley Bailey  
AUGUST 26 - Connie Mundy

SEPTEMBER 1 - Claudia Berryhill  
SEPTEMBER 8 - Mark Galloway  
SEPTEMBER 15 - Susan Wilkerson  
SEPTEMBER 22 - Autumn Gentry  
SEPTEMBER 29 - Danny Talbert

## CHARGE CONFERENCE!

Long Memorial's Charge Conference, the annual church business meeting convened by the District Superintendent, is scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup>. Reports from committees are due to the conference two weeks prior (mid-September). Long Memorial will again this year be the host church.

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## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:



(Please call Church  
Office at 599-1193  
for your birthday or someone in your home.)

August 03 – Courtney Craig Harding  
August 04 – Chuck Higgins  
August 07 – Danny Bumpass  
August 08 – Ashley Castelo  
August 09 – Nick Clements  
August 10 – Sherry Clayton  
August 11 – Milton Hadley  
August 12 – Michelle Young  
August 13 – Jean Andrews  
August 14 – Rachel Blanchard  
August 16 – Connie Mundy  
August 16 – **Tom H. Clayton – 100th birthday!!!!**  
August 18 – Nicky Webster  
August 19 – Noah Paith  
August 21 – Jim Priest  
August 22 – Anniston Denny, Lilly Sandy  
August 23 – Sam Bailey, Aubrey Hess  
August 25 – Barbara Winebrenner  
August 26 – Agnes Bacnik  
August 28 – Donna H. Kimbrough  
August 29 – Kevin Clayton, Susan Wilkerson  
August 30 – Kenneth Strachan  
August 31 – Olivia Hess

## **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**



(Please call Church  
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### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

September 01 – Emily Humphries  
September 02 – Kerry MacIntosh  
September 03 – Sarah Illsley, Lilly Atkins, Angie Bryant  
September 04 – Cornelia Loftis  
September 05 – Woody Garrett, Grier Briggs  
September 06 – Robert Allen, Connee White, Linda Bridges, Corey Harding  
September 08 – Jim Owen  
September 17 – Keith Burnette, Mark Galloway  
September 18 – Elizabeth Sabiston  
September 19 – Briggs Atkins  
September 21 – Debbie Pergerson  
September 25 – Oliver Bolen  
September 26 – Luna Castelo, Karen Kerrick, Bill Westenberger  
September 28 – Caroline Strickland