

Myrtle Grove United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 3225
Pensacola, Florida 32516

Return Service Requested



Myrtle Grove
United Methodist Church
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 3225
1030 N. 57th Avenue
Pensacola, FL 32516
Phone: 850-456-7463/7464
Fax: 850-456-1897

Office Hours:

Mon-Thu, 9:00 am - 3:00pm
Closed Noon - 1:00pm Lunch
Closed Friday

Pray for Your Staff:

Senior Pastor:

Riley Richardson

Church Secy./Receptionist:

Cheryl Johnson

Finance Secretary:

Connie Boyd

Pianist:

Patsy Dean

Choir Director:

Jamie Broxson

Membership Secretary:

Vernon Ard

Mothers Morning Out:

Carrie Disouryavong

Nursery:

Lyxy Long

Librarians:

Lou H Julien Brown

Carol Laguens

Youth Director:

Isaac Richardson

Education Director:

Janet Boston

Notes from the Grove

A monthly publication for
Myrtle Grove United Methodist Church

Web:<http://www.mgumc.org>

Email: church.office@mgumc.org

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Senior Pastor's Note

True Thanksgiving!

Capt. Miles Standish spent a lot of his time by his wife Rose's bedside. As much time, that is, as he could spare from stalking game, guarding against savages, and felling trees to construct crude homes on shore. A bitter wind whistled through chinks and cracks in the Mayflower anchored in Plymouth harbor that winter of 1620-21. Rose's chills would turn to uncontrollable shaking and high fever. Herbs from the surgeon's chest did little to relieve her. By spring, only five wives remained out of the eighteen who had sailed to Plymouth. Rose was not among them.

Thanksgiving? What was that? The golden dreams of a New World that Miles and Rose had cherished together had evaporated into hollow hopes. Yet that fall, Capt. Standish joined other bereaved Pilgrims in the first Thanksgiving celebration.

The real test of thankfulness is whether we can give thanks from the heart for what we do have, despite the wounds and pains of yesterday's struggles. Ours is not some fair-weather faith but a resilient trust in the midst of pain. The Pilgrims lived close to the edge of survival. Perhaps that is why they were so thankful. The most intense moments of thankfulness are not found in times of plenty but when difficulties abound.

Think of the Pilgrims that first Thanksgiving. Half their number dead, men without a country but still there was thanksgiving to God. Their gratitude was not for something but in something. It was that same sense of gratitude that lead Abraham Lincoln to formally establish the first Thanksgiving Day in the midst of national civil war when the butcher's list of casualties seemed to have no end and the very nation struggled for survival.

I believe Moses understood this concept all to well. When you have time, read Deuteronomy 8:1-10. For years, Moses has been dealing with the hardships of living in the wilderness. In this reading, Moses is reminding the people before they enter the Promised Land to remember God and keep all of His commandments. He also reminds them of how God humbled them in the wilderness to teach them that they must rely only on God, His blessings, and His word to live. Moses also describes the bounty of the land they are about to enter. He tells the people of all that God is providing for them. Then he tells them that when they have eaten and are full, they will bless the Lord for the good land that He has given them.

In a time of great struggle and uncertainty, Moses points to the goodness of God! I don't know what struggles and hardships you might be facing this Thanksgiving Season, but like Moses, and Jesus, and Paul, let me point you to the only one who can provide for your need.....Almighty God! Give thanks to God for He is good....Amen? Amen!

November Birthdays

4 - David Johnson
6 - Wanda Rankin
8 - John-Annie Roberts
14 - Christine Clary
16 - Mildred Hubbard
17 - Gertrude Wright
19 - Louie Smack
20 - Bob Chapman
21 - Robert Miller
24 - Susie Gordon
27 - Barbara Boston
28 - Doug Waters
28 - Cathy Prouty

Our Vision Statement:

"Every member a good neighbor."

Our Purpose Statement:

"Our Journey - Knowing, Loving, Serving, Sharing."

Sisters in Service

The Sisters in Service Circle has been busy already this fall by hosting a guest speaker from the Gulf Coast Kids' House at September's UMW meeting and providing lunch for the October UMW meeting. We just finished selling the newest edition of the Fund Rays Coupon Books to help everyone enjoy discounts at local restaurants and businesses. Many thanks to all who purchased one of these books during our sale. SIS gets to keep \$7.50 from each book sold and that money goes toward our support of the Washburn Center for the Homeless, the Gulf Coast Kids' House, Safe Harbor for Unwed Mothers, Ronald McDonald House, the HER Foundation, and Mission Fishin's work at Reimagine Pensacola events, which we attended and helped with on October 26th at Bellview Elementary School. Now we are back to sorting, shopping, and preparing clothing and toiletries to take to the homeless in December. Please think of us if you are doing any fall cleaning out of your closets. These ladies meet on the 4th Thursday of each month in the MGUMC Fellowship Hall at 6pm. (This month's meeting will be on the third Thursday since the fourth one is Thanksgiving Day). They have a light meal, share prayers and praises, a short devotional, and work on plans for upcoming activities with those less fortunate in Pensacola. Any ladies interested in mission work are invited to join us. Our community events are mostly on Saturdays to accommodate those with full time jobs. If you have any questions, contact Wanda Rankin at 501-4038 or Carol Laguens at 456-5611. We are so blessed to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need!

Submitted by Carol Laguens

Myrtle Grove UMC Prayer Ministry

MGUMC takes pride in being called a House of Prayer. You can find prayer opportunities with the men's group on Friday mornings and the ladies Renew Crew on Wednesday evenings. We also have a church Prayer Team that gathers to lift the needs of the church each Sunday at 4:30pm in the Chapel. We are trying to get at least one representative from each Sunday School class to attend the Prayer Team and to share the requests from that group. Contact Beth Herndon if you have questions about joining in!

We have some new prayer materials available in the Fellowship Hall. Two lovely ladies from Renew Crew set up a prayer station with a bulletin board and a table of materials for you to read prayer requests and turn in slips of your own. A new addition is the table to the right of the Prayer Station which has letters to be sent to those who are needing to be remembered in prayer. People who are struggling at home with difficulties and needs would be so blessed to receive a letter from our church family, telling them that they are being prayed for. Each Sunday morning these letters will be available for someone to request prayer. Simply fill in the person's name at the top of the letter and provide the recipient's address on the back (unless they are in our MGUMC Directory already). Then we ask members of our church family to stop by this table, see what letters are available, note the name of the person you can be lifting to the Lord during your personal prayer time, and then sign the letter yourself. We have a person who will collect the letters with all the wonderful signatures and words of encouragement and get them mailed out at the beginning of the next week. We hope you will support this new prayer ministry to remind us that, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray...I will hear from Heaven." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Church Library

We hope to have soon some cooler weather that will encourage curling up with a good book and a cup of something hot! On the right hand shelf in our library you will see a collection of holiday books for Thanksgiving and Christmas that are being featured during the months of November and December. Thank you to those of you who have donated books to the library recently. Our librarians are sorting, recording, and shelving new books every week. Any that are not containing religious subject matter are on the "Free to a Good Home" shelf. Come visit us soon and expand your mind with a good book!

Submitted by,
Carol Laguens

Sunday Activities

Sunday School 8:30 am
Worship 10:00 am
Prayer Team 4:30 pm

**Worship
Service
Opportunities**

Wednesday Activities

Youth Elevate - 5:00pm
Small Groups - 6:00pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7:15pm

Addresses & Other Changes, New Members, Baptisms, Transfers, & Deaths

Deaths:

Lola Church
Sylvia Ard

Change of Address:

Bill & Janie Brown
7830 Pine Forest Rd., G11
Pensacola, FL 32526

If you move, please let the church office know your new address.

Reminder from Hospitality

All November birthdays will be celebrated in fellowship hall on November 3rd during the Fellowship time at 9:30a.m.

Reminder to All Sunday School Classes, Groups and Scouts

We ask that you be sure to clean up the room(s) that you use whenever you are here. There is a vacuum in the custodian's closet (M5) for you to use. Please return the vacuum when you are finished. Thank you for helping to keep the church clean.

November Prayer List

November 1-2

Bryan Sherman
Mark & Sherry Silva
Brandon Sims
Truett & Anne Sims
Darlene Sistrunk
Clyde Smack
Allen Small

November 3-9

Ron & Cindy Small
Bonnie Smith
Kenneth & Cynthia Smith
Stacey Smith, Cheyenne, Isaiah, Joshua,
Serenity, Nuke Black
Susan Smith
Helen Stanley

November 10-16

Kim Staple
Anthony Stevens
Joe & Melissa Stevenson,
Landon, Lida
Susie Stevenson
Jim & Miriam Storey
Sharon Strickland
Harry & Linda Stump

November 17-23

John & Kimberly Sturm, Megan, John, Aria
Lou Sturm
Ruth Sumpter
Malinda Talercio, Gianna, Giacchino
Renee Tessier, Zacharie
Joyce Thiam, Zakariya

November 24-30

Charles & Patricia Thompson
Joshua Toquothty
Bull & Lisa Toquothty
Tom & Rachel Toquothty
Shirley Towne
Emma Tucker

Harvest Sunday

Please bring your food items to church on Sunday, November 17th and place them at the altar. The food will be used to add to the bags at Elijah's Pantry for the people who come to the pantry. The suggested items are: boxed dressing, mushroom soup, canned vegetables, turkey gravy, boxed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, cereal, and desserts. **PLEASE, NO OUT DATED FOOD.**

There will be decorated bags in the Narthex for you to take home to put your donations in for Harvest Sunday. Thank you to Brianna Marlow for her decorating talents.



All Saints Sunday

November 3rd

The names of our members who have passed since last year will be read during the worship service.



United Methodist Women

The UMW meeting is on Tuesday, November 5th, at 10:00am in the fellowship hall. Don't forget about our fundraiser luncheon on Sunday, November 10th. We will be serving Cheesy Chicken Casserole, rolls, green beans, and dessert. Take-out is available following the Sunday school hour (9:30am and after). Donations welcome with an \$8.00 suggested amount.

Blessings, Beth Herndon, MGUMC President

Wednesday Night Community Programs

After the holidays, it will be time for the Winter Term 2020 for the Community Program on Wednesday nights. I am presently compiling a list of classes for winter. If there is a specific type of class you would enjoy or a class you want to teach, please let the Education Director know at jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com. We have been asked again about Sign Language classes and a quilting class. If you can do either of these classes or know someone who might be able to teach them, please let me know. We will be having the Gardening class again after the first of the year. I know everyone loves that class and we are excited to have them back. I am excited to say that even without the gardening class, we have had attendance as high as 90 people this fall. You are awesome!

Submitted by,
Janet Boston

Transportation Ministry

The Transportation Ministry has been picking up children, youth, families, and adults on Sunday morning, Wednesday nights, and Monday nights for many years now. We are presently bringing the largest group since we started the ministry. For the first time in a long time, that includes parents and entire families. If you can help by committing to picking up a family on a regular basis, please contact Janet at jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com. There are other ways you can help too. We need volunteers to watch the children who are dropped off at the beginning of the pick-up process. You can sit with them and get to know them. While you are keeping them occupied, then they can stay out of trouble and learn that church people are loving and interested in them.

We are currently in need of volunteers who would like to occasionally drive the van. You must be at least 24 but not older than 70 for the insurance to approve your status as a driver. To get the process started, you must see the church secretary. Barbara will be having knee replacement surgery in the near future and the recovery period is extensive. We do not want the program to falter and will need volunteers to step up even if it is only temporary.

Submitted by Janet Boston

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

The following events are coming up in November:

Sunday, November 10, we will host a Veteran to talk to the Children in Sunday School or may be Children's Church.

Sunday, November 17, is Harvest Sunday and the children will be asked to bring in non-perishable food for the pantry. There will be a display in the Fellowship Hall that will show their contribution.

Sunday, November 24, is National Bible Week and they will be reminded to bring their Bible to Sunday School and Children's Church. Anyone who does will receive a prize bag. The children who do not have Bibles will get a new Bible.

Just a reminder that the first week in Advent is the Sunday following Thanksgiving.

The Children's Department is expanding to include another Sunday School class. The 2nd & 3rd grade class has gotten so large that we have to break into two groups. Now there will be a 3rd grade class and it will need a teacher. This is a great problem to have!!

There are many opportunities for your child to participate in at MGUMC. If you want to know more about Scouts, please come up on a Monday night and meet the leaders and ask any questions you may have about the programs. There are 3 scout groups that cover girls and boys Kindergarten through High School.

The newest and most exciting program for the children of the church and community is the addition of the "Westside Children Choirs" on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm. There will be 2 choirs: Early Elementary four-year-olds - 2nd Grade and Older Elementary 3rd - 5th Grades. They will be singing a combination of current Praise music, Sunday School songs and even Hymns. Watch for performance and concert dates! **THEIR FIRST PERFORMANCES WERE AT THE ANNUAL CHILDREN'S SABBATH. THEIR NEXT PERFORMANCE WILL LIKELY BE A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT. IF YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO BE A PART OF THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, THEN THEY NEED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CHOIRS.**

Watch the bulletin and newsletters for upcoming Children's Department events!

Submitted by, Janet Boston



I hope everyone had a wonderful October! The youth group experienced a wonderful month of growth, and are going into November excited for the future. Recently, the youth added a new member to our leadership team. You may see Jonathan Abbot at church helping with the youth. With the youth group doubling in size, he has done an excellent job at assisting me with handling a larger group. He will continue to be a great help.

On another note, one of my roles at the church has become the manager of our church website. Please talk to me, or email me, about anything you want on the website. Whether it is an announcement, or a change to incorrect information, please let me know for it to be on the website.

I hope everyone has enjoyed the cooling weather, shorter days, and fall breeze. Thanksgiving is just around the corner, so do not forget to be thankful I am thankful for this church and it's congregation, because it is through all of you that this youth group is successful. Thank you.

Isaac Richardson

Scout Department

The scouts in Troop 2 are looking forward to Veteran's Sunday. They will be doing the flag ceremony in the service and also have a flag burning ceremony in their new Flag burning fire pit. Join them Sunday, November 10th after church in the cemetery. Bring your flags to be burned. If they cannot be burned because of their material, then they will be properly retired.

We presently have eight scouts participating in the God & Country Awards on Wednesday nights this fall. You can congratulate them on Scout Sunday in March 2020 when they receive their awards.

Submitted by,
Janet Boston, Scouting Coordinator

Some Words from The Education Director

We have started a new Sunday School class for young adults who have aged out of the Youth Program. The class will be for participants starting at age 18. Please come up and join us on a Sunday morning. This is an important addition to our Sunday School family since most young people leave the church after they graduate from high school. They are planning on attending the Toby Mac concert together! Contact me for more information.

We are also starting a new class for young couples ages 18-30ish. I will keep you posted with details as I have them.

The most exciting of all is that we have to expand our Children's Sunday School classes again. We only had a few 3rd graders when we started this fall and now the 2nd and 3rd grade is bursting at the seams. We need to open a new class just for 3rd graders. If you want to join the team and teach 3rd graders, please let me know at jlbgpensmgumc@gmail.com.

We look forward to the upcoming November dates: Sunday, November 1st, is all Saints Day. If you have lost a loved one, check with the office and make sure they are on a list to be acknowledged. Sunday, November 10th, we will have a Flag ceremony by Troop 2 to honor our Veterans and a Flag burning ceremony following the service in the cemetery. Sunday, November 17th is Harvest Sunday and we encourage all classes and individuals to participate by bring in non-perishable food for the pantry. Advent starts on the Sunday following Thanksgiving.

Thank you for your volunteer spirit and prayers for our church programs!

Submitted by,
Janet Boston, Education Director
(850) 791-8223 / jlbgpensmgumc@gmail.com

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Myrtle Grove UMC Charge Conference Sunday, November 3rd 4:00PM

All staff and committee heads are asked to attend.

