

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

Pray for Your Staff:

Senior Pastor:
Riley Richardson
Choir Director:
Jamie Broxson
Youth Director:
Jonathan Abbott
Pianist:
Patsy Dean
Church Secy./Receptionist:
Cheryl Johnson
Finance Secretary:
Connie Boyd
Education Director:
Janet Boston
Mothers Morning Out:
Carrie Disouryavong
Membership Secretary:
Vernon Ard/Cheryl Johnson
Librarians:
Lou H Julien Brown
Carol Laguens

Our Vision Statement:
“Every member a good neighbor.”

Notes from the Grove

A monthly publication for
Myrtle Grove United Methodist Church

Web:<http://www.atthegrove.church> Email:church.office@mgumc.org

Volume 19, Issue 5

May 2022

Senior Pastor’s Note

A teacher gave her class of second graders a lesson on the magnet and what it does. The next day in a written test, she included this question: “My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I pick up things. What am I?” When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost 50 percent of the students answered the question with the word Mother.

While many of us may get a chuckle out of this little story, we must also agree that there is a powerful truth being shared here as well. There is something “magnetic” about a Mother, especially when that Mother is one who seems to put her family before so much of what she does in daily living. Of course, the same can be said about Fathers who are also sacrificial for their family in so many ways. What a tremendous blessing it is to have 2 people who are both in love with God, and are also deeply in love with each other, and in turn, sharing that love with their family and people around them.

We are going to take some time on Mother's Day just to honor the ladies in attendance who are Mothers, Step-Moms, and Mentors who have impacted our lives in so many ways. The Bible tells us in Ephesians 6:2; “Honor your father and mother”– which is the first commandment with a promise – and where is that promise found?

We read it in Deuteronomy 5:16; “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.”

I love the following little story that shows the simple love and appreciation a child can have for Mom:

A little boy forgot his lines in a Sunday school presentation. His mother was in the front row to prompt him. She gestured and formed the words silently with her lips, but it did not help. Her son's memory was blank. Finally, she leaned forward and whispered the cue, “I am the light of the world.” The child beamed and with great feeling and a loud clear voice said, “My mother is the light of the world.”

Of course, we know the Light of the World is Jesus, but He wants His light to shine in, and through each one of us to a world darkened by sin and despair. The love of a Godly Mother, Step-Mom, or Mentor can serve as a tremendous example of the kind of love we all should be sharing and living on a daily basis.

To all the ladies who make an impact on so many lives, we hope that you know you are appreciated and loved!

In Christ,
Pastor Riley

Our Purpose Statement:
“Our Journey - Knowing, Loving, Serving, Sharing.”

Some Words from the Education Director

Did you notice that your classroom carpets look so much better? Thank you to the Building & Grounds crew and Chuck & Kris for making sure we had our carpets cleaned!

We need to say “thank you” to the **many volunteers who made the Easter Season so special**. First a thank you to Emy Bennett and her **Silver Patrol volunteers** who put together and delivered 35 Easter Baskets to our senior most members of our church. Especially Dottie Ford, Lynda Brunelle, Barbara Boston and Emy Bennett for dying over 100 boiled eggs for those baskets. Thank you also to Rose Blank for helping to assemble the baskets and Judy Barbour for hand making the beautiful Easter cards! Welcome our newest Silver Patrol volunteers: Richard & Judy Cannon, Judy Barbour and Lynda Brunelle.

The Last Supper Play was awesome and there are so many people to thank for that experience. Our fearless leader was Richard Cannon. Thank you to the following actors: Daniel Marlow, Clark Cain, Dannie Law, Larry White, Jonathan Abbott, Chad Few, Karl Snyder, Devon Few, John Untereuber, Marcus English, Rain Fitchett and Tom Cacciatore. The Bible verse readers: Jesse Lough, Sharon Hogan and Paddi Cain and the narrator, Beth Herndon. We especially thank our prompter Jim Reynolds for keeping us on track! Nothing of this magnitude can be done without the background workers such as the many costume and set workers under the watchful eye of Sharon Hogan. Thank you to Paddi Cain, Judy Cannon, Maureen Dunbar, Nell Potter, Suzie Leitman, Claudia Savage, Teresa Miller and Gail Carter. Thank you to the AV/lighting team who worked with us through practices and the actual play: Beth Herndon, RC Miller, Kevin Saighman and Joe Stevenson. Our biggest thank you goes out to Chuck Boyd who did everything from putting the curtain on the stage to organizing the AV/lighting team and even videotaping. We could not have made the evening possible without his direction and assistance. Now lastly, thank you to the beautiful and talented Christina Jones for coming from Mobile to perform for us. Can’t wait to say, “I knew her when...”.

Our first annual **Good Friday Brunch and Communion service** was attended by 30 people. We enjoyed a brunch provided by Rita Barton and her 2 cooking volunteers, Judy Cannon and Rebecca Black. Again, thank you to Chuck for coming out and setting up the sound system so that we could enjoy the message prepared by Jonathan Abbott. Thank you Jonathan and Pastor Riley for the beautiful service. Thank you to Barbara Boston, Joan Carter and Brenda Matchett for the set up and or clean up afterward. Thank you to Judy Cannon for playing the piano for our service.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the **Easter Egg Hunt** so awesome! We had 50 children participate and over a dozen youth helpers. Thank you to Barbara Boston for stuffing eggs, Lilibeth Zimmerman for handling the crafts, Sharon and Michael for doing the Bunny pictures and Barbara and Teresa Miller for handling the story time. If it were not for Jonathan and Rain and the youth who hid eggs, acted as team leaders and helped with crafts, we would never have had so much fun! They also were an outstanding clean-up crew! Thank you to Joyce, Suzie, Marcus and Sarah for helping take care of our families who needed another pair of hands!

Palm Sunday was impressive thanks to the teachers, parents and grandparents who practiced with the children so that they could sing on Palm Sunday. We had 13 children sing and 8 call in sick or with car problems. That meant that we had 21 children prepared to sing. Since last year we had 9 children sing that represents a lot of growth! We were so glad to welcome some of the little ones from the nursery in our annual Palm Processional. We even had one of the students from the “Sonshine” class. We are so excited about the edition of our **“Sonshine Class”** for autistic and special needs children. Please see the article for the Children’s Department and the Nursery for more details. We also welcome the addition of a **“Babysitter’s Support Group”** on Monday nights at 6:00 pm. We presently have 11 young people participating in the program. Thank you Teresa Miller for taking on this group.

The next Ladies’ Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, May 14 at 9 am. This is a change from our usual 3rd Saturday, so please put the new date on your calendar. If you would like to participate in this program, please contact me for more information. Nursery is available. I would also encourage you to invite your praying friends to participate regardless of whether or not they attend our church. Unity at a time like this is vital to our community.

We are celebrating our **military** at the end of the month and I need to information from you about your family members. Who is still **activity duty**? I need names, a picture, branch of service, rank, etc. Who has **passed away, but served in the military**. Again, names, pictures, branch of service, years served, rank and any details such as medals, etc.

I have been meeting with a core group of volunteers take a look at present and potential programs. We would love your input about what you would like to see happen in our church and community. We really want to be a “cradle to the grave” church! If there is a program that we no longer do that interested you and your family or a program that you see other churches doing, let me know and we will look into it.

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Sunday Activities

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

Worship
Service
Opportunities

Wednesday Activities

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

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

New Member:

Brenda Matchett (PF)
1009 Trenton Dr.
Pensacola FL 32505
(850) 698-6182

Deaths:

Gladys (Betty) Brooks
Wilma Gropp

If you move, please let the office know your new address. Also, if your phone number has changed, please let the office know.

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.

May Prayer List

May 1-7

Bill & Elisabeth Parker
Yvonne Parsons
Alice Pecue
Merriah Perkins
Nell Potter
Lonnie Price
Bill & Kathy Ralli

May 8-14

Wanda Rankin
Jim & MachelRe Reynolds
Betty Rice
Emma Richardson
Riley & Angie Richardson
Jim & Ardis Riddell
John-Annie Roberts

May 15–21

Bud & Jean Rogers
Robert Rogers
Sheila Romaine
Jim Rueff, Jr.
Kevin & Linda Saighman
Claudia Savage
William & Ellen Scott

May 22-28

Brandon Sims
Truett & Anne sims
Clyde Smack
Ron & Cindy Small
Bonnie Smith
Susan Smith

May 29-31

Karl & Kathy Snyder
Joe & Melissa Stevenson, Landon & Lida
Susie Stevenson
Harry & Linda Stump
John & Kimberly Sturm, Megan, John, Aria
Lou Sturm

Sisters in Service

It has been a busy spring for our SIS Mission Circle. We have been preparing for our first trip of the year to the Washburn Center for the Homeless on April 30th. We wish to thank our wonderful church family for all their help towards our ministry by purchasing coupon books and by generously donating men's boxers and ladies' panties on Undy Sunday. With your support we are truly able to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. God bless you all!

Mother's Day
May 8, 2022



Memorial Day
May 30, 2022



Thank you to all who served in the U.S. Military.
Thank you to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice
defending freedom around the world.

Continued from Page 2
Some Words from the Education Director

- MARK YOUR CALENDARS:
- Sunday, May 1 Native American Ministries Sunday
 - National Sunday of Prayer (see the display)
 - Teacher Recognition Sunday
 - Sunday, May 8 Mother's Day (special gift for our moms who attend)
 - Saturday, May 14 9:00 am Ladies' Prayer Breakfast
 - Sunday, May 15 Christian Family Week Friendship Sunday for children in Sunday School
 - Sunday, May 22 Armed Forces Sunday Heritage Sunday (Circuit Rider and horse will be here)
 - Wednesday, May 18 6:00 pm "End of School Year Bash" & Fifth Grade graduation for youth and children
 - Sunday, May 29 Memorial Sunday
 - Make sure I have the details of your deceased military family member)
 - Ascension Sunday

Please keep an eye on the bulletin for other events and any calendar changes. Thank you for your volunteer spirit and prayers for our church programs! I also post things regularly on our website: atthegrove.church and Myrtle Grove Neighborhood Scoop on Facebook. Check it out!

Janet Boston
Education Director (850) 456-7463 x5 jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com

MEET YOUR FAMILY

We will be having a new segment in the Newsletter each month to introduce the children and teaching volunteers to everyone. We have been highlighting the youth in the bulletin on Sunday mornings. I hope you enjoy it!



TEACHER
Amanda Glass

Ms. Amanda is a mom of four boys still at home ranging from 2 years old to 16. She also has 2 boys and a girl that are grown and raising their own families-so now she is a grandma too! Amanda works in many capacities at our church. On Wednesday Nights, she teaches the "Little Explorer's" Science class to the children ages 4- 5th grade. On Sundays, she works in the nursery and teaches the 3 & 4 year old Sunday School class. If that wasn't enough, she also works with the scouts. She is an Assistant Cub Master and Wolf Den leader to the 2nd grade scouts. She has been working with these same scouts since they were Lions in Kindergarten. She teaches the "God & Country" Bible study to the Kindergarten and 1st grade scouts and has even earned the award from the United Methodist Church for Adult Scouters called the "Cross & the Flame". Seems like every planning meeting I have for any department I get to see here there! Way to go Amanda!



CHILD
Alayna Hunter

Alayna's mother participated in MGUMC during her childhood and youth years. Alayna is an only child to mother Tiona Hunter-Fountain and dad Aaron Fountain. Her mother, Tiona, teaches in the two year old room in the nursery. Alayna is four years old and is a member of our Sonshine Class. She also participates in the "Little Explorer's" Science class on Wednesday Nights.

CHILDREN’S DEPARTMENT

Welcome to Spring and the warmer weather that it brings! Watch the newsletter to see features on a child and a teacher each month so that you can get to know everyone from this department.

Thank you to all the teachers, parents and grandparents who worked with the children to prepare them to sing on Palm Sunday. We had 13 children singing with 8 calling in sick or car problems. That means 21 children were prepared to sing on Palm Sunday. I looked at last year’s pictures and there were 9 singers last year. Now I call that moving in the right direction!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Easter Egg Hunt so awesome! We had 50 children participate and over a dozen youth helpers. Thank you to Barbara Boston for stuffing eggs, Lilibeth Zimmerman for handling the crafts, Sharon and Michael for doing the Bunny pictures and Barbara and Teresa Miller for handling the story time. If it were not for Jonathan and Rain and the youth who hid eggs, acted as team leaders and helped with crafts, we would never have had so much fun! They also were a great clean-up crew. Thank you to Joyce, Suzie, Marcus and Sarah for helping take care of our families who needed another pair of hands!

Mark your calendars:

Sunday, May 1 National Sunday of Prayer (they will have take-home material on prayer)

Teacher Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, May 8 Mother’s Day

Friendship Sunday (they will have passports to travel the world to learn about how Christians live in other countries)

Sunday, May 15 Christian Family Week

Wednesday, May 18 6:00 pm “Out of School Bash” & graduation of 5th graders

Sunday, May 22 Armed Forces Day

Heritage Sunday (the Circuit Rider and his horse will be back)

Sunday, May 29 Ascension Sunday

Memorial Sunday

Since the end of the school year is around the corner, I need to know what grade everyone is graduating into so I can prepare for the annual graduation party. Especially if you have any fifth graders going into Middle School.

If your child or grandchild has anything that they have accomplished, let me know and we will put their name and accomplishment in the newsletter and bulletin. This can certainly include school, scouts, athletic projects, etc.

Watch the bulletin for upcoming Children’s Department events!

Janet Boston

(850) 456-7463 x5

jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com



He Is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! The Tomb has rolled away just like the busy month of April for the church. We have hit the calm but exciting time of the year for the Youth. As they focus on end of the year testing and finishing up the school year, the Youth calendar takes a fresh breath of air. But its not too far from our big summer plans. We have many amazing things planned for the summer including a trip back to Blue Lake for Summer Revive and fun activities. We also will be out in full force helping Ms. Janet with Vacation Bible School. We have also been blessed with our numbers steadily growing and are looking to upward of sixteen kids. I invite you to introduce yourself to the Youth. They are some of the brightest and most exceptional kids I’ve had in any of my past Youth groups. It is a special time to be doing ministry here at Myrtle Grove UMC. You all make this place so special and I appreciate your love, support and prayers for not only this ministry but all the ministries here. From someone who has been on staff at other places in supporting and official roles, I sadly can’t say this is a norm. So thank you for being You. God Bless and as always G.O.E. which for those of you that has noticed that tag line at the end of my messages. It simply means God Over Everything. So in life as long as you put God first above all else He will provide and clear you the path He has chosen for you!

G.O.E - Jonathan

Wednesday Night Community Programs

Thank you to all of the hard working teachers who made the Wednesday night programs so meaningful. Whether you taught in the nursery, with the children or youth or adults, you make a difference in our church and community. A special shout out to the Escambia County Extension office who teaches Gardening Classes for us. Due to high demand they will be coming for a few classes over the Summer Break. Watch upcoming bulletins for details!

The last day of the Spring Session will be Wednesday, May 18 and we will start again on Wednesday September 7!

The “End of School Bash” for children and youth will be Wednesday Night, May 18, starting at 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. We will have dinner and bounce house and a slide! Come on out!

Janet Boston
Education Director
(850) 456-7463 X 5
jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com

NUSERY DEPARTMENT

We are growing again! So many new babies mean that the two year olds will be moving across the hall into their own room. Thank you Miss Tiona for taking on the twos!! Watch for this change the first Sunday in May.

I hope you will take the time to look at the Nursery bulletin boards in the hallway. Each month we will feature a new theme and list the birthdays of our children and workers!

We were so happy to welcome little Miss Willow Barnhill for her first time in the nursery. The worker’s are in love and didn’t want to return her.

The workers also put up a monthly themed bulletin board to showcase your child’s craft work during the month. Last month was Easter and this month’s theme is May Flowers!

We still have the “Sonshine Room” for our children who are graduating from the nursery, but are not quite ready for the older Sunday School classes due to autism or other special needs. Thank you Miss Katie for loving our special members and teaching their class! We welcome anyone who wants to volunteer to help her in that room.

If you or your group are in need of a nursery for your special event, please let Janet know! We are ready for you! **If you have been wanting to attend the Ladies’ Prayer Breakfast or participate in scouts with your older kids, we have a nursery available for these events.**

SCOUT DEPARTMENT

Thank you to all of the scouts and their families and volunteers who turned out to honor Scoutmaster Everett Auditorff with a Memorial Service. Keep his family in your prayers during this difficult time. Thank you to everyone from the church who made this service possible.

Three of our scouts have been working with tutors to bring their grades up this Spring. Thank you Connie Few and Teresa Miller for taking your time to tutor these scouts on Wednesday Nights. We are looking for good things from Logan, Abbi and James! If your scout has anything they accomplished in scouts, school, sports, church, etc., please contact me and I will put them in the monthly newsletter.

If you would like information on a scouting program for your son or daughter (grandson/granddaughter) in grades K-12, please contact Janet at jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com or (850) 456-7463 x5 or on Facebook. So proud to be the home to the oldest scout groups in the regional area!