

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

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 Hulien Brown

Carol Laguens

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 10

October 2022

Senior Pastor's Note

The Grace of Giving - 2 Corinthians 8

When Paul met with the original apostles, they agreed to divide the mission field. Paul would focus on the gentiles, and they would focus on the Jews (Gal. 2:9). But they did make one request of Paul: that he remember that many believers in Jerusalem needed financial help (2:10).

Therefore, as part of his work with the gentile churches, Paul coordinated an offering for the saints in Jerusalem (Rom. 15:25-28; 1 Cor. 16:1 etc.). He described the importance of this offering in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. He began by describing how generous the believers in northern Greece had been: "And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity" (8:1-2). Although they were very poor, they were very generous, and Paul attributes this to the grace of God. God had given them the willingness to give what little they had, and to do it with joy.

Since the Macedonians were poor themselves, Paul did not ask them to give anything to the poor in Jerusalem, but they learned about the collection and wanted to help. They gave more than Paul thought they could. "And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us" (8:5). Why did they give? Because they gave themselves to Christ, which would include a willingness to use all that they had to further his work. As they submitted themselves to Christ, they wanted to participate in this offering.

I love the story that Paul tells about this little community of believers who had such big hearts. The Macedonian churches had very little and were going through a "severe trial" themselves; however, they learned about the collection and wanted to help.

I have had the privilege to serve Myrtle Grove UMC for 14 years! Over those years, the leadership had come before the people to ask for offerings to meet needs, buy air conditioners, and repairs for our ageing buildings. Each time we have asked MGUMC to give, you have exceeded our expectations! I tell you the truth when I say; I am amazed at the generosity of the membership of this church. Today, as I write to you, my heart is filled with joy and thanksgiving! I thank God for the grace of giving he has placed in the hearts of this community of believers. I wish I could write a letter to the Apostle Paul and tell him I serve a church like the one he writes about. I would tell him that they also give their hearts first to Christ, and out of that devotion they give what they have to his work!

One Blessed Pastor!

October Birthdays

4 - Marjorie Byrd
5 - Nancy Jones
5 - Clark Cain
11 - Joan Carter
13 - Shirley Melvin
13 - Kathy Ralli
13 - Teresa Miller
14 - JoAnn Verwey
18 - Patty Northup
19 - Devon Few
19 - Rita Barton
22 - Paul Henderson
24 - Ken Lewis
27 - Max Norman
29 - Maureen Dunbar
31 - Bill Dunbar

Our Vision Statement:

"Every member a good neighbor."

Our Purpose Statement:

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

Some Words from the Education Director

It is good to be back into the routine of Fall with all of our favorite seasons and holidays just around the corner. In September, we kicked off the new school year by praying over our public/private school teachers, workers and students. We also offered new backpacks to everyone who needed them. In addition, we dedicated our many volunteers and workers in the church for their future service this year. We also celebrated Promotion Sunday by presenting the rising third graders with Bibles. Congratulations Chloe Leitman, Nathan Hewett and Jasmine Enfinger! It was fun to see some grandparents alongside their grandchildren taking part in a special service to honor Grandparents. A special thank you to Kris Verwey, the Men's Club and Pastor Riley for planning a "Back to Church" luncheon. We also enjoyed the Youth participating in their first annual Youth Sunday. Thank you to Rita Barton and her fine team of culinary helpers who put on a very nice luncheon for the first meeting of the Senior Adult Advisory Committee. Watch for upcoming programs for Senior Adults! Emy Bennett and her Silver Patrol Volunteers delivered gifts to our seniors for Grandparent's Day along with cards made by the Girls of Grace. We had a great time at the Ladies' Prayer Breakfast and spent some time in corporate prayer for our church, our church family, community and country.

The next Ladies' Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, October 15, at 9 am. If you would like to participate in this program, please contact me for more information. 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.

I have been meeting with a core group of volunteers to 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. **Right now there is a large bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall where you can write that information.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

The month of October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Sunday, October 2 World Communion Sunday

Wednesday, October 5 Daytime Community Classes start at 1:00 pm

Saturday, October 15 Ladies' Prayer Breakfast 9:00 am

Sunday, October 16 Laity Sunday

Children's Sabbath

Pastor Appreciation Day (FH) 9:30 am

Sunday, October 23 First Responder's Sunday

Sunday, October 30 Reformation Sunday

Monday, October 31 "Trunk or Treat" 5:00 pm

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

Address Change:

Sharon "Kay" Lemons
Life Care Center
3291 E. Olive Rd., Room 110-A
Pensacola, FL 32514

Death:

James Riddell

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.

October Prayer List

October 1

Barbara Boston
Janet Boston
Nancy Bowman
Chuck & Connie Boyd
John & Barbara Boyden
Hobey & Louise Brown
Bill Brown

October 2-8

Douglas Brown, Jr.
Danny & Jamie Broxson, Cameron & Grace
Lynda Brunelle
Tom & Mary Buntin
Robert Burns
Sue Burr
Jim & Marge Byrd

October 9-15

Tom & Sharon Cacciatore
Clark & Paddi Cain
Richard & Judy Cannon
Mary Carrick
Billy & Joan Carter
Joyce Childers
Elaine Clark

October 16-22

Deborah Cooper
Lavern Cooper
Tom & Linda Danks
Diane Darville
Patsy Dean
Kay Dickey

October 23-31

Nora DuBois
Bill & Maureen Dunbar
Shirley Dunn
Marcus English
Ola Farrington
Janet Faxon

Sunday Activities

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

Wednesday Activities

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

**Worship
Service
Opportunities**

Sisters in Service

The SIS mission circle serves the hands and feet of Jesus in the Pensacola community. We support the Washburn Center for the homeless, the Gulf Coast for Kids House, the Ronald McDonald House, Mission Fishin', the H.E.R. Foundation for homeless women veterans, Safe Harbor, and Loaves and Fishes.

Through the generosity of our church family, we recently made our quarterly trip to the Washburn Center last month taking a hot chili lunch, delivering laundry detergent and bath towels to their shower/laundry area, and offering an assortment of gently used clothing, toiletries, bug spray, and sunscreen to the homeless. If you are cleaning out your closets this fall, we would welcome any clothing items that are appropriate for individuals who are living in the woods or on the street and we are ALWAYS in need of NEW men's and women's underwear to pass along on our visits.

We are supported through financial donations and when people purchase the fundraiser coupon books from us in the spring and fall. THE COUPON BOOKS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS ARE ON SALE NOW.

If you are seeking a place to serve others less fortunate than yourselves, please join us at our monthly meeting the fourth Thursday in the fellowship hall at 6:00p.m.

Submitted by,
Carol Laguens

MGUMC Church Library

The library is located across from the church kitchen. The small bookcase to the left when you enter has selections appropriate for young readers. All the shelves on either side of the windows have adult fiction books. The back wall and the right side shelves have non-fiction, Bible studies, devotionals, and books about grieving. There are card catalogs on top of the filing cabinet to the right if you are looking for a particular topic or author. Simply fill out the card in the back of the book and leave it in the file box on the library table. The table by the kitchen has books that are free to anyone who is interested.

We hope you will receive a blessing by choosing a good read from our library!

Submitted by,
Carol Laguens

Harvest Sunday November 13, 2022

Harvest Sunday is a time for our congregation to share their bounty with others who are not so fortunate. Because Elijah's Pantry is so overwhelmed by the number of families who need our help, we will add the "Harvest" to the bags we give in the coming weeks.

Suggested items we would like to add:

- Boxed dressing
- Cranberries
- Canned vegetables
- Boxed potatoes
- Canned sweet potatoes
- Turkey gravy
- Canned fruit
- Desserts

Please bring your donations to the altar on Harvest Sunday. PLEASE, NO-OUTDATED FOOD.

Mothers Morning Out

Mother's Morning Out is a weekly pre-school program designed to provide a child with academic and social skills, as well as spiritual training to create a foundation for further growth in the church, in God, and in Jesus. We are very thankful that we can provide this pre-school ministry for our community.

We currently offer a 3-day program (Tue-Thu) for children ages 2-4. Class placement is determined by the child's age as of September 1st. Classes for ages 2-4 feature a Bible-based/center-based curriculum focusing on number, letter, and word recognition. We also encourage the development of fine and gross motor skills, cooperation, listening, and following directions.

Our teachers are all Christian women with a heart for children. We have an excellent teacher to child ratio in the classroom which provides more individual attention for each child. Please help me pray for these teachers and the 23 families we are serving this school year.

Many Blessings - Carrie Disouryavong
c_disouryavong@mgumc.org

Nursery

Hello and welcome to the MGUMC nursery. We are here to serve the youngest members of our church and their families. We are located in the Education Building, the first classroom when you come in the building. We have ages birth-three years old in the nursery. Mrs. Amanda & Mrs. Katie and I are there to teach and love on your precious little ones during the Sunday school hour and the church service. If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out.

Many Blessings - Carrie Disouryavong
c_disouryavong@mgumc.org

**Pastor Appreciation Day
Sunday, October 16, 2022
9:30am
Reception In Fellowship Hall**



CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Welcome to Fall and the "slightly" cooler weather that it brings!

Congratulations to the rising 3rd Graders who received their Bibles on Promotion Sunday: Chloe Leitman, Jasmine Enfinger and Nathan Hewett! We sent our students, teacher and school workers off to school with prayer in the service before school started. It was fun to see the children and their Grandparents participating in the service on Grandparent's Sunday.

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Sunday, October 16 Laity Sunday
Children's Sabbath
Pastor Appreciation Day 9:30 am

Sunday, October 23 First Responder's Sunday

Sunday, October 30 Reformation Sunday

Monday, October 31 "Trunk or Treat" 5:00 pm

The annual Children's Sabbath is coming up on Sunday, October 16. If you would like for your child to share their skills in music or singing or doing a speaking part, please let me know.

Watch the bulletin for upcoming Children's Department events!

Janet Boston,
(850) 456-7463 x5

jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com

MEET YOUR CHURCH FAMILY...



Megan Sturm is a fifth grader who attends our church with 3 generations of her family and also her extended family. Her parents are John and Kimberly Sturm and her grandmother is Lou Sturm. She has a little brother named John Isaac and a little sister named Aria. Megan has been an Acolyte for over 2 years. She attends

Pensacola Christian Academy along with her little brother. She participates in the 3rd - 5th Grade Sunday School class under the guidance of her teacher, Lilibeth Zimmerman. Megan is in her second year of learning to play the flute and joined the band at her school this year. She loves swimming and camping as well. Her mom said that "Megan is a joy to be around and has a real giving heart". We agree!!



It's getting colder and dark earlier, one might say it's Spooky! Which means the Youth have gotten settled into school and Fall Activities. We have had great numbers to start Wednesday Nights, close to 15 every meeting, which is awesome seeing this group slowly grow. It's crazy when I took over, there were some nights we only had one or two at most and that's God working! We had an amazing turnout for the Yard Sale and I want to thank everyone again who helped with the sale or made donations. We made close to \$2,000 which was incredible! Things to look forward to on the Youth Calendar are some Hangouts on Sundays and Halloween Lock-In and seeing the Lights at Hank Aaron Stadium. We also will be hosting our Trunk or Treat Sunday Night October 30th! Look out for sign-ups and more information coming soon on that!

G.O.E. - Jonathan

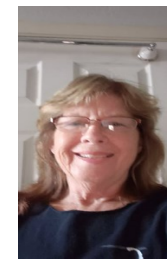
Some Words from the Education Director - Continued from Page 2

The first few weeks of November are "All Saints Sunday" and "Veteran's Sunday". If you lost a loved one, please get their picture and information to me so they can be included in this special honor. If you are a Veteran, I need your picture (preferably in uniform) and information such as rank, branch of service, years served etc. If you gave it to me last year, then you are good for this year as well.

KEEP IN MIND THAT WE ARE ENTERING THE "BER" MONTHS AND THAT MEANS ONE OF OUR BUSIEST SEASONS! 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

Finally, MEET YOUR FAMILY...



Suzie Leitman is a Children's Department Sunday school teacher for the Kindergarten through 1st grade. She also teaches "Jesus and Me" to the youngest scouts on Wednesday Nights. She teaches once a month on the Children's Department rotation for Children's Church. Suzie has been a part of this church for many years. She recently buried her son, Ian and had taken over the responsibility for her granddaughter Chloe. She has volunteered to be a part of the newly formed Senior Adult Advisory Committee and helps out with the scout program as well. Thank you Suzie!

Wednesday Night Community Program

I AM SO EXCITED ABOUT OUR FALLTERM FOR 2022!

The most exciting addition to our Community Classes program will be the start of a daytime program for seniors or others who cannot get out at night. We will be having an Art Class, a Coloring and Coffee Class, the Computer Class and several others.

We will kick off this new addition on **Wednesday, October 12 at 1:00 pm**. It will be 6 weeks long and act as a trial program to see what kind of participation we get. Anyone else who would like to share a hobby or skill with others is welcome to call me and arrange a group. In the past, we have had book clubs, adult coloring classes, Art classes, CPR classes, Sign Language classes, quilting groups, etc. These classes allow people from the community to experience our church in a non-threatening way and perceive Christians a little differently. The more classes the better!

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