

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

Notes from the Grove

A monthly publication for
Myrtle Grove United Methodist Church

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

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September 2021

Senior Pastor's Note

Greetings in Christ!

Isn't God good? While we live in challenging times, we must also remember that God is not bound by times or seasons and He is STILL a good God! Praise is something that we ALL can do and shouldn't be held back just because we aren't on the "victory side" of things yet.

Often, our problem as human beings is that we ONLY praise when we see the answer, but quite often in the Bible, we see how Praise should go first!

2 Chronicles 20:21-23 (NKJV) 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: "Praise the LORD, For His mercy endures forever." 22 Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated. Clearly, in this portion of scripture, the army was poised and ready, but Jehoshaphat said, "hold on" because there's something far more critical than swords and spears, horses and chariots, and it's called Praise!

I would encourage you to stop waiting until every prayer is answered the way you feel it should be and begin to walk and praise God in ADVANCE of the answer! Pray and Praise in Faith!

The Bible lets us know that without Faith it is impossible to please God! When I hear of Faith, it is not something that follows an answer to a battle; it's something that precedes an answer to a battle or crisis!

I believe there is power in saying, "God, I may not understand it all, but we know you're going to move in America one more time!" You're going to move in the church one more time! You're going to move in my family one more time. The God who did it before can do it again! We praise you in advance in Faith and not just after because comfort has been restored to our lives.

I pray you will be encouraged today, and you will also be an encouragement to others around you!

Blessings in Christ!

Pastor Riley

September Birthdays

5 - Celeste Shubert
9 - Jim Byrd
9 - Isaac Richardson
10 - Anthony Bushey
12 - Chuck Boyd
12 - Duane Savage
13 - Jim Benton
16 - Beth Moulder
16 - Linda Martineau
26 - Amy Lee
28 - Nancy Norman
29 - Joyce Lewis
30 - Elrena Greeney

Our Vision Statement:

"Every member a good neighbor."

Our Purpose Statement:

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

SOME WORDS FROM THE EDUCATION DIRECTOR

A special thank you to those that helped out so much during the summer. We had an awesome "End of school Year" party and two "End of the Summer" parties for the youth and the children. There was a great graduation luncheon for our children and youth. The youth had many summer activities that included 2 day trips and 1 out of town weekend trip. Jonathan and his volunteers worked hard to make sure the youth were busy all summer.

The Silver Patrol was busy as well. We have expanded the program to include 9 teams of visitors and now have a coordinator, Emy Bennett. If you have a loved one that needs to be on the list for visitations, please let us know. If you would like to participate in the program as a visitor, we welcome that as well. In September, thanks to a donation from a church member, we will be delivering fruit baskets again! By far, our most popular and requested gift.

We also honored the older men of our church on Father's Day this past June. A special award, "John Wesley Volunteer Spirit" was given to Grady Lea, Bill McDurmont and Vernon Ard. All, by the way, over 90 years old! We also honored all of our teachers with Teacher Appreciation Gifts in July.

We were so glad to honor our rising 3rd graders with their first adult Bibles on Promotion Sunday, August 15. Congratulations to Claudia Coon, Violet Macho, Cameron Wateman, Liam Denny, Grace Colyer and Arrionna Roberts! In addition, we commissioned all of our volunteers to serve this church with God's anointing in the coming year. We also had 24 volunteers at the annual Volunteer Dinner and Orientation.

The next Ladies' Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, September 18th at 9 am. If you would like to participate in this program, please contact me for more information. Usually the date is on the third Saturday of each month (during the school year) at 9:00 am.

Wednesday Night Community classes will begin on Wednesday, September 8, at 6:00 pm. We will have classes for all ages. The classes that are presently scheduled are listed in the Wednesday Night column in this Newsletter. The Nursery and Children's Department will be expanding this fall. For more details, take a look at the Nursery and Children's Department articles in this newsletter. That would be two separate articles. Come by and introduce yourself to our Nursery workers. We have two new faces: Amanda Glass and Tiona Fountain!

Also, in September will be Grandparent's Day (Sunday, September 12). We will also celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with information in the bulletin each week and on the website: atthegrove.church.

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!

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

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

Address Change:

Tina Ayers
8240 Lawton St.
Pensacola, FL 32514

Address Change:

Beth Herndon
5813 W. Shore Dr.
Pensacola, FL 32526

Address Change:

Kay Lemons
403 Cherokee Trl.
Pensacola, FL 32506

Address Change:

Miriam Storey
468 McKenzie Rd.
Cantonment, FL 32533

Address Change:

Shane & Bethe Buckles
213 S. Cedar Ave., #4
Elizabethton, TN 37643

Deaths:

Carolyn June Sublett
Betty Jackson
Sarah Annette Rothe
Sylvia Ward

Membership Transfer:

James A. and Suzanne (Kornowski) Ferguson
CT from Gonzalez UMC
158 Kathryn Dr.
Cantonment, FL 32533

Marriage:

Devin Few and Chasity Baggett
Married 5-15-2021
1316 N. 57th Ave.
Pensacola, FL 32506

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.

September Prayer List

Sept. 1-4

Charles Scales
Kelly Schlicht
Scott & Serena Schwartz, Austin
William & Ellen Scott
Aaron & Andrea Seeman, Austin &
Aiden
Barry & Kristie Shean, Barry, Brandy,
Cody

Sept. 5-11

Jade Shean, Levi, Kylar, Kalayla
Dan & Rosie Shepherd
Katanya Sheppard
Bryan Sherman
Brandon Sims
Truett & Anne Sims
Clyde Smack

Sept. 12-18

Allen Small
Ron & Cindy Small
Bonnie Smith
Ken & Cindy Smith
Stacey Smith, Cheyenne, Isaiah,
Joshua, Serenity, Nuke Black
Susan Smith
Karl & Kathy Snyder

Sept. 19-25

Helen Stanley
Kim Staple
Joe & Melissa Stevenson, Landon & Lida
Susie Stevenson
Miriam Storey
Harry & Linda Stump

Sept. 26-30

John & Kimberly Sturm, Megan, John, & Aria
Lou Sturm
Ruth Sumpter
Bruce & Linda Swanson
Renee Tessier, Zacharie
Joyce Thiam, Zakariya

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

Scouts

Summer is over and we are looking forward to a new school year full of scouting adventures and activities! We look forward to expanding our programs this fall since we will be able to recruit in the schools again!

Although scouting fees have increased, we are so pleased to say that we have received some donations toward the cause of the annual re-charter registration fees. We will continue on as the oldest Pack and Troop in the Florida panhandle!

We are also very happy that we have scout families attending our church: the Sears family, the Coon family, the Price Family, the Glass/Brown family, the Hogan/Marlow family, the Audorff family and the Few family. I hope I didn't miss anyone. This is the first time in many years that so many of our church family joined the scouting program.

If you would like information on a scouting program for you son or daughter (grandson/granddaughter) in grades K-12, please contact Janet at jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com or (850) 456-7463 x5 or on Facebook.

Thank you for supporting our scouts!

So proud to be the home to the oldest scout groups in the regional area!

Nursery Department

We are growing! We have enough children now that we will be dividing up the nursery into two rooms. Each room will have 2 workers. We will place the 2 & under in one room and the toddlers in another room. As per our standards, all workers have been background checked and trained. The 2 new workers, Amanda Glass and Tiona Fountain, will be CPR trained just as the other two workers have been (Christina Madai and Tiana Crup).

Starting in September, all of the nursery children will be exposed to Sunday School lessons. We will also be signing the children in at the doors of the nursery rooms assigned to them. There will be signs to let you know where to take your child. There will be hand sanitizer, tissues and wipes available at the sign-in tables as well. All new nursery families will be welcomed with a special gift starting in September. Again, starting in September, we will also have special gifts for all new babies born in our church!

Please be assured that we disinfect the nursery furniture and toys between every use and watch the children closely so that they do not share toys with each other. All children and workers take their temperature before checking any child into the nursery and even wipe the sign in pen down after each use. We will be changing our COVID rules about diapers and will now be changing them every hour as needed. If you do not want this for your child, please let Janet know and we will make alterations for your needs.

For the time being, we are limiting snacks to what parents provide and placing them at the tables where they are restricted and cannot share their food. This has allowed our nursery to be as safe as possible during these challenging times.

If you or your group is in need of a nursery for your special event, please let Janet know! We are ready for you!

Wednesday Night Community Programs

Welcome to a new schedule of classes for the Community Programs on Wednesday Night for the fall! Classes will begin for all ages on Wednesday Night, September 8, at 6:00 pm. We will offer the "God & Country" classes for the children and scouts. The youth will meet upstairs with Jonathan and his young adult volunteers. The adults will have the following options available to them: A Caregiver's Bible study led by Pastor Riley, a watch group for the television show based on the disciples called "The Chosen", a computer class led by Jim Reynolds, a CPR class, the Renew Crew and possibly other choices as well. (The Gardening class will be back in the Winter Term.)

If you have any other classes that you may have an interest in participating in or leading, please let me know. I would love to see book clubs, art classes, sign language classes, etc. If you know someone that would be a good teacher in any of these areas, let me know.

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

September Activities

Wednesday, September 1st - Choir Rehearsal starts @ 7:15pm

Sunday, September 5th - Holy Communion - 10:00am Worship

Monday, September 6th - Labor Day - Office Closed

Wednesday, September 8th - Small Groups Starts @ 6:00pm

Sunday, September 12th - Bloodmobile @ MGUMC 8:30am - 12:30pm

Sunday, September 12th - Grandparents Sunday

Friday, September 24th - United Methodist Men's Fish Fry @ 5:00pm



CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Thank you to everyone who made the summer season so much fun! Thank you to everyone who planned for, participated in, set-up and cleaned-up for the End of School year Bash and the End of Summer Bash. A special thanks to our cook: Jonathan!

We also want to do a great big thank you to everyone who helped make VBS so much fun this year. Thank you to Jonathan, Chris Jones and Marcus English (Riley the sloth) for the opening programs each day. Thank you to all of the story tellers: Isaac, Jonathan, Treyshawn and Aniya. Thank you to Barbara for being the craft lady again and helping to put together the family grab bags.

Thank you to Rain and his family for the science segments. I am sure there are more people to thank as well. I look forward to coming back to an in-house VBS next year!!

We were so glad to honor our rising 3rd graders with their first adult Bibles on Promotion Sunday, August 15. Congratulations to Claudia Coon, Violet Macho, Cameron Wateman, Liam Denny, Grace Colyer and Arrionna Roberts!

Thanks to the Lion's Club and several volunteers, we were able to pass out over 50 back packs. I still have some new ones if you need one for your family member.

We honored our 4 acolytes who worked hard to make sure that the candles were lit each Sunday during this difficult time. At their dinner they were awarded with a Methodist Church Acolyte medal and a t-shirt that says "Acolytes put the 'lit' in liturgy". We love our acolytes and are pleased to say that we now have enough children in the right age category to go back to 2 acolytes each week!

We are excited to welcome the following teachers to the Children's Sunday School Department: Susan Leitman (Kindergarten & First Grade) and Amanda Glass and Tiona Fountain (3 & 4 year olds). We welcome back Dannie Law (2nd and 3rd grade) and Lilibeth Zimmerman (4th & 5th grade). If your counting that means 4 classes instead of 2. We are growing!!

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, scout, athletic projects, etc.

Watch the bulletin for upcoming Children's Department events!

Janet Boston,
Education Director



Thank You, I feel like as much as I'd like for those two words to mean so much. I still feel like they come up short with the gratitude I have for this church. It is hard to imagine that I am entering my 5th month here not long after this is printed. I've let it slip to a few people but being your Youth Director brings realization that I'm in my "dream job". Because of the love and support of the Youth Ministry, I was able to give an amazing summer for the Youth. We were able to build relationships., which will aid in a strong foundation to spring forward into the school year. I started the summer wondering if I would even have 5 kids show up for any event, but I trusted the plan Pastor Riley and I made and left it in God's hands. Through His will, our roster more than doubled and on our trip to Wild Adventure we had a group of 30 go, only 7 were adults. We had a Lock -In, took the kids to a movie, Game Nights, day trips to Waterville and Vortex Springs. All these wonderful events sharing God's Love with these kids and giving them a place to be over a long hot summer. I tell you all this because I know this Church was a huge part of that, not only by your generosity but also for your prayers. So again, thank You. I still wish those words meant more. But now it is time to turn the page from summer to the school year. Elevate on Wednesday Nights from 6-7pm will resume in September. Sunday Hangouts will continue bi-weekly, plan for those to be on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. We will also have other events planned on certain Fridays as the school calendar allows. Finally, if you know any College age or Young Adult looking for a place to call home, I would love to meet them. This fall, I will be starting a new College Ministry. We will have a meeting soon for those interested to decide when would be best for meeting each week. I've already lined up a wonderful teacher to support this ministry and I'm excited to see where God leads it. G.O.E.

Jonathan

Mothers Morning Out

Mother's Morning Out is a weekly preschool 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 preschool 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 numbers, letters, 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 families that we will be serving this school year.

Carrie Disouryavong,
Mothers Morning Out Director

Thought for this Month

"Be Joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus".

