

**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:**

Isaac Richardson

**Pianist:**

Patsy Dean

**Church Secy./Receptionist:**

Cheryl Johnson

**Finance Secretary:**

Connie Boyd

**Education Director:**

Janet Boston

**Mothers Morning Out:**

Carrie Disouryavong

**Membership Secretary:**

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](mailto:church.office@mgumc.org)

*Volume 21, Issue 9*

*September 2024*

## *Senior Pastor's Note*

The longer I live in this fallen and broken world the more I understand the importance of maintaining spiritual endurance and stamina in the Christian life. In Hebrews 10:19-39, the biblical writer turns to the theme of spiritual endurance and maintaining stamina in the Christian life. Instead of giving up or turning away from Christ in challenging times, he urges believers to "hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful" (Hebrews 10:23).

The expression "hold unwaveringly" in the original language means "to hold fast" or "stick to firmly." We are to grab hold of Jesus Christ and never let Him go. Even if we suffer for our faith, we must never give up on our commitment to Christ because God who promised is faithful to keep His Word. "Not one of all the LORD's good promises to Israel failed; everyone was fulfilled," says Joshua 21:45. When we draw near to God, we experience Christ's power to endure (Ephesians 1:19-23; 2 Corinthians 12:9).

Many times in this life, we have to hold on to Christ as we wait for the fulfillment of His promises. Even as we wait on the Lord, God is faithful to provide the strength and stamina we need to endure (1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 2 Corinthians 13:4). God reminded Paul of this truth in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am made strong."

Scriptures teaches us to hold tightly to the hope we profess. God understands our weaknesses. We can count on God's mercy and grace to supply us with whatever we may need whenever we may need it.

Walking closely with the Lord involves a life of faith, clinging to God's promises. It has been this way since the days of Abraham, the founding father of our family of faith. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises" (Romans 4:20-21, NLT). In Hebrews 11:1, the author describes faith as trust in the unseen promises of God. He then showcases a multitude of faithful believers who held on to the hope they professed. In the end, these heroes of faith will inherit the fullness of God's promises (Hebrews 6:12-15; 11:32-33).

In 40 years of being a Christian, I have learned that spiritual staying power and consistent obedience to God have rich returns: "So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised" (Hebrews 10:35-36).

Regardless of what you are going through this day, hold steadfastly to Christ and to the hope we profess in Him, "He who promised is faithful" to bring those assurances into our present-day experiences.

In Colossians 1:27, Paul taught that, because Christ is alive in us, we already have the hope of eternal life with Him. His indwelling Spirit provides the guarantee of sharing in the riches of His glory. Romans 5:2 says, "Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory" (NLT).

Remember, He who promised is faithful means we can always count on God and His Word. "For the word of the LORD holds true and we can trust everything he does," declares Psalm 33:4 (NLT). The Lord's promises for our future infuse us with hope for today. We can stand, walk, sleep, and wake secure in this truth: God is trustworthy to keep His Word.

### *September Birthdays*

12 - Chuck Boyd  
13 - Jim Benton  
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**

**Mark your Calendars:**

**Wednesday, September 4** 1:00 pm Community Classes  
 5:00 pm Dinner (\$7 Adults; \$3 Kids; Kids Under 4 –Free)  
 5:00 pm Handbell Choir (any age) (you do not have to be able to read music)  
 6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth

**Thursday, September 5** 9:00 pm Breakfast Club Hardee’s on Pine Forest Road

**Saturday, September 7** 8:00 am Cub Scout Car Wash

**Sunday, September 8** Grandparents Sunday

**Monday, September 9** 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 5:00 pm TOPS  
 6:30 pm Pack 2 & Troop 2 Scouts

**Tuesday, September 10** 10:00 am Senior Brunch & Games

**Wednesday, September 11** 10:30 am Young at Heart Brunch  
 1:00 pm Community Classes  
 5:00 pm Dinner/Handbells  
 6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth

**Thursday, September 12** 5:30 pm Guild Circle  
 6:00 pm Men’s Club

**Sunday, September 15** Back to Church Sunday & Cook-out  
 Open House

**Monday, September 16** Newsletter Articles are due  
 5:00 pm TOPS  
 6:30 pm Pack 2 & Troop 2 Scouts

**Tuesday, September 17** 10:00 am Joy Circle

**Wednesday, September 18** 1:00 pm Community Classes  
 5:00 pm Dinner/Handbells  
 6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth

**Thursday, September 19** 10:00 am Arbeiter’s Circle  
 11:30 am Lunch Bunch  
 6:00 pm Scout Open House

**Saturday, September 21** 9:00 am Ladies Prayer Breakfast

**Monday, September 23** 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 5:00 pm TOPS  
 6:30 pm Pack 2 & Troop 2 Scouts

**Tuesday, September 24** 12 noon Widow’s Walk (place TBA)

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

**Deaths:**  
 Maxine Lea  
 Pat Orr  
 Renee Hedden

**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**

**September 1-7**

Lori Mulcahy  
 Max & Nancy Norman  
 Steve & Patty Northup  
 Norma Owen  
 Bill & Elisabeth Parker  
 Yvonne Parsons  
 Alice Pecue

**Septembe 8-14**

Louise Perkins  
 Merriah Perkins  
 Shirley Perkins  
 Bill & Kathy Ralli  
 Jim & Machelie Reynolds  
 Emma Richardson  
 Isaac & Lyxy Richardson, Cohen

**September 15-21**

Riley & Angie Richardson  
 Ardis Riddell  
 John-Annie Roberts  
 Joseph & Kimberly Robinson  
 Brenda Rogers  
 Bud & Jean Rogers  
 Robert Rogers

**September 22–28**

Sheila Romaine  
 James Rueff, Jr.  
 Lavanda Russell  
 Kevin & Linda Saighman  
 Claudia Savage  
 William & Ellen Scott

**September 29-30**

Mark & Sherry Silva  
 Clyde Smack  
 Ron & Cindy Small  
 Bonnie Smith  
 Karl & Kathy Snyder  
 Joe & Melissa Stevenson

Sunday Activities

Sunday School 8:30 am  
 Worship 10:00 am  
 Elevate (Youth) 3:00 pm  
 Prayer Team 4:00 pm

**Worship  
 Service  
 Opportunities**

Wednesday Activities

1:00pm Daytime Classes  
 6:00pm Evening Classes  
 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal

### Sisters in Service

The Sisters in Service Mission Circle has had a quiet summer. After distributing all our warm weather clothing, toiletries, and food supplies to the Washburn Center for the homeless in June, we are now collecting winter items to be taken before Christmas. Thank you for providing underwear on Undy Sunday and for other clothing donations we have received from many of you.

We delivered lunch to the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in August. And we have started our main fundraiser by selling the Coupon Books in the Fellowship Hall before worship. These books continue to be \$20 each and we are able to keep 50% from each book to support our ministry in Pensacola. The coupons allow you to receive great discounts at local restaurants and attractions.

We thank our church family for helping us serve as the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need!

### Back to Church Sunday

September 15th is "Back to Church Sunday" where we get together and invite old members and new people to church! On that day we will have a church wide picnic. Those who plan to attend, will purchase a ticket for \$1.00. This will be used to insure the purchase of chips, hot dogs, hamburgers and buns for everyone. Those attending are asked to bring their best side dish to share with everyone so we will have enough to go around. The ticket sale will start September 1st in fellowship hall.

### Wednesday Community Classes

#### Mark your Calendars:

- Wednesday, September 4** 1:00 pm Community Classes  
5:00 pm Dinner (\$7 Adults, \$3 Kids, Kids Under 4 Free)  
5:00 pm Handbell Choir (any age)  
(you do not have to be able to read music)  
6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth
- Wednesday, September 11** 1:00 pm Community Classes  
5:00 pm Dinner/Handbells  
6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth
- Wednesday, September 18** 1:00 pm Community Classes  
5:00 pm Dinner/Handbells  
6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth
- Wednesday, September 25** 1:00 pm Community Classes  
1:00 pm Gardening Class "Color Your Garden"  
5:00 pm Dinner/Handbells  
6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth

This **Fall on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm**, we will be having two Bible studies: Learn to Pray like Jesus and another on the Letters of Paul. There will also be a crocheting class, the Chosen Video Series (from the beginning) and an Art class. There will be one gardening class this month on September 25.

This **Fall on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm**, we will have a Bible Study of Prayer, The Chosen Television series (from the beginning), Sign Language and Choir practice. There will also be classes specific to children and youth. In addition, this year we are adding a dinner for anyone who is interested in eating before the classes. The cost will be about \$7 Adults, \$3 Kids, Kids Under 4 Free). If you want to be placed on the reservation list, let me know.

One of our new additions this year will be a Handbell Choir for all ages that will be at 5:00 pm. You do not have to be able to read music to participate.

We would love to expand our Wednesday daytime and evening classes, so if you have an idea for a class or would like to share your hobby with others-talk to Janet!

NURSERY IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. PLEASE LET CARRIE OR MYSELF KNOW BY 3 PM ON TUESDAYS THAT YOU WILL NEED A NURSERY. THANK YOU!

Please watch the weekly bulletins for any other upcoming dates and events.

Janet Boston (850) 456-7463 x5

[jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com](mailto:jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com)

[Facebook Messenger as well](#)

### Some Words from the Education Director - Continued from Page 2

**Wednesday, September 25** 1:00 pm Community Classes

1:00 pm Gardening Class "Color Your Garden"

5:00 pm Dinner/Handbells

6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth

**Thursday, September 26** 6:00 pm Sisters in Service

**Friday, September 27** 5:00 pm Men's Club Fish Fry

This **Fall on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm**, we will be having two Bible studies: Learn to Pray like Jesus and another on the Letters of Paul. There will also be a crocheting class, the Chosen Video Series (from the beginning) and an Art class. There will be one gardening class this month on September 25.

This **Fall on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm**, we will have a Bible Study of Prayer, The Chosen Television series (from the beginning), Sign Language and Choir practice. In addition, this year we are adding a dinner for anyone who is interested in eating before the classes. The cost will be about \$7 Adults, \$3 Kids, Kids Under 4 free). If you want to be placed on the reservation list, let me know. NURSERY IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. PLEASE LET CARRIE OR MYSELF KNOW BY 3 PM ON TUESDAYS THAT YOU WILL NEED A NURSERY. THANK YOU!

The next **Young at Heart** will be Wednesday, September 11, 10:30 am. Bring food to share. We will have a speaker about scams and frauds common against seniors. Bring your neighbors and friends-this is important information.

If you are a **Grandparent** raising (in full or part time status) your **grandchildren**, let Janet know. We have been asked to start a support group for those of us in this situation. Don't know what that may look like, but I do need to know who is interested in participating.

Speaking of Grandparents-**Grandparent Sunday** is September 8. I would love to have a team of grandparents and grandchildren singing together or playing music together. Are you interested? Let me know.

The other groups that are presently meeting is a **Book Club, Puzzle Group** and **Handbells**. Handbells will be meeting Wednesdays at 5:00 pm. Time to be determined for the Book Club and Puzzle Group. Watch upcoming bulletins for details.

The Tuesday/Thursday **exercise classes** will be temporarily postponed until after the holidays. A work issue has come up and Sharon has to cover another nurse with a different schedule. When the class comes back online in January, it will be a beginning Yoga class on Tuesdays and a Chair exercise class on Thursdays.

"**Back to Church**" Sunday is September 15. There will be an **Open House** for your family to see what we offer and what programs are in the church. There may also be volunteer opportunities that you can look over together. In addition, there will be a **cook-out!** Bring your family and friends!

The **Silver Patrol** will be delivering Grandparent's gifts and cards to our church's seniors and shut-ins during the month of September. If you would like to add someone to our list, let either myself or Emy Bennet know. Also I encourage you to show your love and appreciation to Emy and her incredible band of volunteers who make sure our senior members do not feel forgotten.

The next **Ladies Prayer Breakfast** will be **Saturday, September 21 at 9 am**. Bring breakfast food to share and enjoy a guest speaker this month. 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.

We are still building a group of volunteers in our church who are willing to help **clean Sunday School rooms** once a week and help **wipe down tables in the Fellowship Hall**. We have a small group of volunteers who have started a **card ministry** to church families who suffer the loss of a loved one, is hospitalized, recovering, ill, etc. Now I would like to know who would like to participate in a **phone ministry?** We would like to call our Silver Patrol list at least once a month and perhaps others who may need a loving touch from their church family. Also if anyone would like to be a part of a **hospital visitation team**.

Janet Boston (850) 456-7463 x5 [jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com](mailto:jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com) Facebook Messenger

### Children's Department

Still so hot, but school has started and Fall is around the corner!

#### Mark your Calendars:

**Wednesday, September 4** 5:00 pm Dinner (\$7 Adults, \$3 Kids, Kids Under 4 Free)

5:00 pm Handbell Choir (any age) (you do **not** have to be able to read music)

6:00 pm Classes/Choir/Youth

**Saturday, September 7** 8:00 am Cub Scout Car Wash

**Sunday, September 8** Grandparents Sunday

**Wednesday, September 11** 5:00 pm Dinner/Classes/Choir/Youth/Handbells

**Sunday, September 15** Back to Church Sunday & Cook-out

Open House

**Monday, September 16** Newsletter Articles are due

**Wednesday, September 18** 5:00 pm Dinner/Classes/Choir/Youth/Handbells

**Thursday, September 19** 6:00 pm Scout (Troop & Pack) Open House

**Wednesday, September 25** 5:00 pm Dinner/Classes/Choir/Youth/Handbells

**Friday, September 27** Men's Club Fish Fry

**Sunday, September 29** Youth Sunday

This **Fall on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm**, we will be having the "**God & Country**" Bible study series for the children. This series encompasses three age appropriate levels and the children/scouts will earn a medal when they complete the study. We will also have "**God's Little Explorers**" (a Christian science/exploration based class) for the children that have already completed the God & Country for their age group. In addition this year, we are adding a dinner for anyone who is interested in eating before the classes. The cost will be about \$7 Adults, \$3 Kids, Kids Under 4 Free). If you want to be placed on the waiting list, let me know.

If you are at least a third grader this year, we can place you on a waiting list to be an **acolyte**. When anyone retires off the list, then you will fill that spot. Let Miss Janet know if you wish to be on the waiting list. You have to have your parent's permission to participate. You have to be patient!

The next **Family Fun Night** will be Thursday, October 31 at 5:00 pm. We will have our annual Trunk or Treat. There will be games, cars to get treats from and hot dogs and soda! Everything is free!

Thank you to everyone who participated in **Vacation Bible School** this summer. We had 39 children total who participated in the program and we raised just under \$500 for our Children's programs. You guys were great!

If you are a **Grandparent** raising (in full or part time status) your **grandchildren**, let Janet know. We have been asked to start a support group for those of us in this situation. Don't know what that may look like, but I do need to know who is interested in participating.

Speaking of Grandparents-**Grandparent Sunday** is September 8. I would love to have a team of grandparents and grandchildren singing together or playing music together. Are you interested? Let me know.

"**Back to Church**" Sunday is September 15. There will be an **Open House** for your family to see what we offer and what programs are in the church. There may also be volunteer opportunities that you can look over together. In addition, there will be a **cook-out!** Bring your family and friends!

If you are interested in learning about **Scouts**, then come and see us at our Open House here at the church on Thursday, September 19. There will be leaders and scouts to meet and plenty of information about our local Pack 2 and Troop 2. This involves boys and girls from Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade.

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 interests you and your family or a program that you see other churches doing, let me know and we will look into it.

Please watch the weekly bulletins for any other upcoming dates and events. **WE ARE GOING TO TRY TO SLIP IN A FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER-WATCH THE BULLETIN!**

Janet Boston (850) 456-7463 x5

[jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com](mailto:jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com)

[Facebook Messenger Janet Boston](#)

### SENIOR'S DEPARTMENT

Still so hot, but Fall is around the corner!

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Please watch the weekly bulletins for any other upcoming dates and events.

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