



**Myrtle Grove
United Methodist Church**

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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

Church Secy./Receptionist:

Cheryl Johnson

Finance Secretary:

Connie Boyd

Pianist:

Patsy Dean

Choir Director:

Jamie Broxson

Membership Secretary:

Vernon Ard

Nursery/Children's Director:

Amy Lee

Librarians:

Lou Hulien Brown

Carol Laguens

Youth Director:

Isaac Richardson

Notes from the Grove

**A monthly publication for
Myrtle Grove United Methodist Church**

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

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Senior Pastor's Note

Is March one of your favorite months of the Year? March is one of my favorite months because of a few things, like daylight savings time and the season of Lent! Lent is a forty-day season of preparation for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. The season begins on Ash Wednesday when pastors mark the foreheads of Christians with ashes as a reminder that we are created from dust and to dust we shall return. Ashes are also a symbol of repentance, an outward symbol for one's inner sorrow for having sinned. By putting ashes on our forehead, we are acknowledging that we have sinned and feel remorse for those sins.

A Biblical example of ashes being used as a symbol of repentance can be found in Job 42:6 in which Job says, "Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes" (NIV). Ashes used as a symbol of mourning can be found in 2nd Samuel 13:19: "Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the ornamented robe she was wearing. She put her hand on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went" (NIV).

During The season of Lent, we follow Jesus from his adult ministry through his suffering during Holy Week which begins with Palm Sunday, also called the Sunday of the Passion, and continues through Holy Thursday (when Holy Communion was instituted at the Last Supper) and Good Friday, when Jesus was tried, crucified, and buried. Because the Last Supper was celebrated during the Feast of the Passover, which is calculated on the phases of the moon, Easter is called a movable feast. Lent is scheduled backwards from Easter. Easter falls on the first Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox. The forty days of fasting and penitence during Lent do not include Sundays. Christians always celebrate Sunday as the day Jesus rose from the dead, so it is never a day of fasting.

Lent is a time of stripping down to essentials, as each Christian focuses on his or her individual relationship with God. It is a time when Christians remember our baptisms, when Jesus washed away our sins, giving us newness of life to celebrate in the triumph of Palm Sunday and the glory of Easter. I am convinced that the quality of your Easter celebration will be greater enhanced if you participate more fully in the Lent experience. What books are you going to read? What commitments will you make? What worship services will you attend? What action will you take? What are your plans for your Lenten journey? Have you made any? If you have not, let me encourage you to take the season of Lent more seriously! If you are not sure what to do, give me a call or visit. I have some wonderful ideas! I hope and pray your journey through Lent will be one that erupts in praise and thanksgiving on Easter Sunday!

Our Vision Statement:

"Every member a good neighbor."

Our Purpose Statement:

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

United Methodist Women

Giving, it is all about giving...your talents, your time, and your tithes. That is what God wants from us, to show our worship of Him through these three things.

Are you just a "Sunday Pew Sitter"? Do you resist volunteering or plugging into other areas in the church? Do you sit back and wait for others to further God's kingdom? If you are one of these women, then you are not fulfilling God's plan/desire for you. He has more in mind for you and He has given you the talents to accomplish tasks in His name.

UMW is an organization of women that have discovered their talents and are using them each day, once a week, once a month, or sporadically throughout the year. They lead, follow, listen, hug, pray, read, present, fellowship, and sometimes they bake, cook, sew, crochet, knit or just glue. All using what small talent God gave them to help other women, youth and children. Each of the circles at MGUMC is unique; each has chosen an activity/purpose to support and accomplish to further God's work.

Why not find a place or make a place for your talent by joining one of our circles or starting another. MGUMC is the only church in our Pensacola District that has more than one circle. This means you have choices and can put your talent to work or maybe discover the talent God had for you all along.

Giving...that is what it is about; are you fulfilling God's plan for you?

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO JOIN IN:

March 2nd...Pensacola District Annual Day, here at MGUMC, registration at 8:30 am, light brunch, program begins at 9:00 am. Our speaker is our own Angie Richardson.

March 5th...UMW Meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00am. Salad lunch to follow (all members are reminded to bring a salad to share).

March 10th...Guild Sunday Dinner Fundraiser...support the missions by purchasing a dinner of: Chicken-cordon-bleu, Katie's Crack Beans, Twice Baked Potato Casserole, Asian Slaw, Roll, Dessert.

March 14...Guild Circle - Regular Meeting @ 6pm...MGUMC

March 19...Arbeiter Circle - Regular Meeting @7pm...Check for location.

March 21...Joy/Nadine Circle - Regular Meeting @10 am...Check for location.

March 28th...Sisters in Service Circle - Regular Meeting @ 6pm...Check for location.

March 23rd...Pensacola District Spiritual Day Apart at Gulf Breeze UMC, registration at 8:30, light brunch, Speaker is Rev. Pam Avery. If anyone needs a ride, contact one of the current UMW members.

Submitted by,
Paddi Cain – Communication Chair

Sunday Activities

Traditional Worship 8:30 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Youth Encounter 9:45 am
Contemporary Worship 11:00 am
Prayer Team 4:30 pm

Worship Service Opportunities

Wednesday Activities

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

SISTERS IN SERVICE

Our mission circle will be going to the Washburn Center for the Homeless on Saturday, March 30th. We have purchased laundry detergent, bug spray, sunscreen, toiletry items, and new underwear to give out along with a hot meal. We will also pass on lightweight clothing items that have been donated to us. If anyone is spring cleaning their closets and comes across any gently used clothing or bath towels that they would like to give away, please leave them in the SIS basket by the piano in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to those who have already purchased their new coupon book for discounts at various local restaurants and activities. The books run for 6 months at a time and the spring/summer edition can be used from now until Oct. 1st. The cost is \$15 per book and we get to keep 50% from each book sold. One of our ladies will be selling these in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday following the first worship service. Thank you so much for supporting our ministry and helping us to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

This group meets the 4th Thursday of each month here at the church at 6pm. We start with a light supper, then a devotion and prayer time, and finally plan the charity events that we are going to participate in. All MGUMC ladies are invited to join us. If you have any questions, please contact Carol at 456-5611 or Wanda at 501-4038.

ANGLER'S NIGHT

Are you a person who enjoys fishing the local waters in and around the Pensacola area? Then we hope you will consider attending Angler's Night at the Pensacola Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 6th. A Christian group called Mission Fishin' sponsors this event each year. The doors open at 4:30pm and there will be boat displays, goods and services from area merchants and agencies, tips from local fishing and outdoor enthusiasts, and a kids activities area (run by the Sisters in Service Circle from MGUMC). Tickets are available at the door (for \$5) and the first 500 people get a Sonny's BBQ plate and door prize entry. The program begins at 6pm and features information from professional fishing charter captains and a presentation by our guest speaker, Gordon Godfrey (pastor at Marcus Point Baptist Church), who is an avid local fisherman, hunter, and outdoors man. Individual door prizes will be given away throughout the program, with grand prizes drawn for at the end (a Jon boat, a kayak, and a surfboard). You must be present to win any of the prizes. The program will be over by 7:30pm. Please join us for a fun evening of food, facts about fishing, and fellowship.

MGUMC CHURCH LIBRARY

Our church library is open on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. At least 100 titles have been added to our Library shelves in the past 6 months. We have books on classic sermons, devotionals, Bible studies, great fiction authors, a Guidepost's mystery series, and selections on grief donated by those who have walked this path themselves. Just inside the Library on the right side is a shelf of books that are free to a good home, since they are duplicates of copies already in our Library or ones that have not been checked out in many years. Come on in and find yourself something interesting to read. We hope you can expand your mind and draw closer to the Lord through various editions you will find here. Thank you to all who have donated appropriate books for others to enjoy!

Submitted by,
Carol Laguens

All Children's Ministry

Spring is here! Birds are chirping, flowers are starting to bloom and the skies are turning blue. God's beauty is all around. He is in the faces of loved ones, the kind words of a friend, the helping hands of a neighbor and the laughter of a child. Thank you God for all of your beauty!

This month the Children's Sunday school classes will learn about Observing Lent with Your Family. They will experience lessons on Stories of the Lost, Forgiving Father, Two Debtors, The Last Supper, and In the Garden. The Bible verse for the month is from Mark 1:15 — "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

Our middle elementary Sunday School class (2nd & 3rd grade) is in need of a teacher. This is a small but mighty group who is looking forward to meeting you and learning about Jesus! All materials are provided—we just need you!

Thank you and God Bless!
Amy Lee 776-7514
A_lee@mgumc.org



No Article Turned In For March.

Frolic 2019 April 27th (Rain Date-May 4th)

We will start collecting items for the Silent Auction about the first of April. You may give them to Isaac Richardson or Beth Herndon (new and GENTLY used items only—gift cards, baskets, etc.). The UMM will collect items for the yard sale starting on Monday, April 22nd (after Easter). Food donation sheets and other information will be available on a bulletin board in fellowship hall in the coming weeks. Thanks for helping fund our youth activities through this event.

Huntingdon College Choir Performing at MGUMC

Friday, March 15th at 6:00PM
All are invited to attend this performance.

Thought for the Month

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19 NIV

Annual Conference for Myrtle Grove UMC

Church Family,

Our UMC Annual Conference in June will again be accepting donations of items for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief). For the last several years, we have asked you to pack school kits for us to carry to the conference. Here are the items needed:

UMCOR SCHOOL KITS – FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In some countries, children don't have books or school supplies. Many have no schoolrooms; classes are held in inadequate or half-destroyed buildings, tents, or even the open air. School kits may be these children's only educational resources.

School Kit Materials

One pair blunt scissors *Round tip only * No plastic scissors

One box of 24 crayons *Only 24-count boxes are accepted

Three one-subject notebooks *No marble composition books *No 3 or 5-subject notebooks

One pack of loose-leaf paper *100-200 page packets are acceptable *Wide or college rule accepted

One hand-held pencil sharpener *1-inch or longer *Remove from packaging

One ruler *12 inches or 30 centimeters long *Sturdy or flexible material accepted

Six unsharpened pencils

One eraser *Two inches or larger

One two-gallon re-sealable plastic bag

Assembly Directions: *Stack all paper items on top of each other *Place all loose items on top of paper. (Small loose items may be placed in a smaller re-sealable bag.) *Place kit inside of re-sealable bag and seal.

Important Notes *Homemade or purchased cloth tote bags are no longer being accepted. *All items must be new. *Please do not include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. *Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.

Should you desire to help without completing a full school kit, our Pensacola District is being asked to send just the Erasers (2" or larger) and/or you may donate combs for the Hygiene Kits (sturdy comb with at least 6" of teeth, no pocket combs or picks; rattail combs and combs without handles are acceptable).

All items should be turned in at church no later than May 29 for us to carry to Annual Conference on June 2-5, 2019.

Thanks for your help.

Submitted by,
Beth Herndon

Church Picnic and Unity in the Community Rally

March 17th will be a busy day for our church. We have planned a full day of activities for those who want to participate. First, we are having a combined worship service. Sunday school will start at 9:15am and our worship service will be at 10:30am. Afterwards, a church picnic is planned with pulled-pork sandwiches in the fellowship hall. The church family is asked to bring food items that will go with our meat. At 4:00pm a youth rally is planned in the church sanctuary. People will start gathering in our church parking lot for the unity rally as early as 4:15pm. At 5:00pm we will leave the parking lot to march to Escambia High School's football field where we will have a worship service. Please be in prayer for all the activities planned for this day!

**YOU'RE
INVITED**

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 10th



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

Death:

Richard Russell, Sr.

Address Change:

Travis Carey

Address Change:

William Creeden

Address Change:

Justin & Jennifer Hall

Address Change:

Ken & Heather Jones

Address Change:

Dorothy Lee

Address Change:

Jeffrey Waugh

Bad Address:

Jaimie Rutland

Note: Addresses & phone numbers have been removed from this portion of the online version of the newsletter. If you need this information please contact the church office.

Reminder from Hospitality

All March birthdays will be celebrated in fellowship hall on March 3rd after the 8:30 service.



March Prayer List

March 1-2

Keith Horne
Tara Horton
Khloe Howard
Mildred Hubbard
Russell Hubbard
Lyndon Hudson
Ray Huffman

March 3-9

Bart & Sherry H Julien, Reese, Charles,
Camile
Peggy Hurst
Ronnie Marie Ingram
Joe Irvin
Joshua Irvin
Mary Irvin
Bob & Lou Irvin

March 10-16

Betty Jackson
Doug Jackson
James Jennings, Miranda & Joe
Joyce Jernigan
Michael & Sara Jinnett
Cheryl Johnson
David & Donna Johnson

March 17-23

Heather Johnson
Robert & Donna Johnson
Nancy Johnston
Christina Jones
Drayton & Nicole Jones, Nolan & Deacon
Shep & Nancy Jones

March 24-31

Ken & Heather Jones, Isabella & Hudson
Bryan & Renee Jordan
Michael & Joyce Kelly
Jean Kendall
Jerrimy & Ruby Knauer, William & Walker
Maclean & Tina Kumi

March Birthdays

3 - Rose Blank	30 - Jim Reynolds
3 - Shep Jones	30 - Tina Ayers
4 - Kay Dickey	30 - Natalie Moulder
4 - Shelly Leger'	
4 - Tabatha Miller	
7 - Janie Brown	
9 - Grady Lea	
12 - Donna Greene	
13 - Steve Northup	
14 - Barbara Boyden	
15 - Patsy Dean	
18 - Sarah Prouty	
18 - Janet Black	
18 - Jimmie Macon	
21 - Michael Prouty, Jr.	
22 - Janet Boston	
23 - Russell Hubbard	
23 - Lynn Lanneau	
23 - Richard Wallace	
24 - Jean Rogers	
26 - Richard Cannon	
27 - Reggie & Rusty Miller	
28 - Nancy Bowman	
28 - Penny Walker	
29 - Bill Ralli	