



**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

**Mothers Morning Out:**

Carrie Disouryavong

**Nursery:**

Lyxy Long

**Librarians:**

Lou Hulien Brown

Carol Laguens

**Youth Director:**

Isaac Richardson

**Education Director:**

Janet Boston

# Notes from the Grove

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

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

**Email:** [church.office@mgumc.org](mailto:church.office@mgumc.org)

*Volume 16, Issue 10*

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## *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 eleven years! In the last eleven years, the leadership has 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!

**Our Vision Statement:**

*"Every member a good neighbor."*

***Our Purpose Statement:***

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

## Sisters in Service

The Sisters in Service Circle has been busy already this fall by hosting a guest speaker from the Gulf Coast Kids' House at September's UMW meeting and selling the newest edition of the Fund Rays Coupon Books to help everyone enjoy discounts at local restaurants and businesses. Please look for us in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday morning and at the Fall Yard Sale on Oct. 5th. The books sell for \$15 and using one coupon usually pays for the book. SIS gets to keep \$7.50 from each book sold and that money goes toward our support of the Washburn Center for the Homeless, the Gulf Coast Kids' House, Safe Harbor for Unwed Mothers, Ronald McDonald House, the HER Foundation, and Mission Fishin's work at Reimagine Pensacola events. These ladies meet on the 4th Thursday of each month in the MGUMC Fellowship Hall at 6pm. They have a light meal, share prayers and praises, a short devotional, and work on plans for upcoming activities with those less fortunate in Pensacola. Any ladies interested in mission work are invited to join us. Our community events are mostly on Saturdays to accommodate those with full time jobs. If you have any questions, contact Wanda Rankin at 501-4038?? or Carol Laguens at 456-5611. We are so blessed to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need!

Submitted by Carol Laguens

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## Myrtle Grove UMC Prayer Ministry

MGUMC takes pride in being called a House of Prayer. You can find prayer opportunities with the men's group on Friday mornings and the ladies Renew Crew on Wednesday evenings. We also have a church Prayer Team that gathers to lift the needs of the church each Sunday at 4:30pm in the Chapel. We are trying to get at least one representative from each Sunday School class to attend the Prayer Team and to share the requests from that group. Contact Beth Herndon if you have questions about joining in!

We have some new prayer materials available in the Fellowship Hall. Two lovely ladies from Renew Crew set up a prayer station with a bulletin board and a table of materials for you to read prayer requests and turn in slips of your own. A new addition is the table to the right of the Prayer Station which has letters to be sent to those who are needing to be remembered in prayer. People who are struggling at home with difficulties and needs would be so blessed to receive a letter from our church family, telling them that they are being prayed for. Each Sunday morning these letters will be available for someone to request prayer. Simply fill in the person's name at the top of the letter and provide the recipient's address on the back (unless they are in our MGUMC Directory already). Then we ask members of our church family to stop by this table, see what letters are available, note the name of the person you can be lifting to the Lord during your personal prayer time, and then sign the letter yourself. We have a person who will collect the letters with all the wonderful signatures and words of encouragement and get them mailed out at the beginning of the next week. We hope you will support this new prayer ministry to remind us that, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray...I will hear from Heaven." 2 Chronicles 7:14

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## Church Library

We hope to have soon some cooler weather that will encourage curling up with a good book and a cup of something hot! On the right hand shelf in our library you will see a collection of Max Lucado books that are being featured during the month of October. Thank you to those of you who have donated books to the library recently. Our librarians are sorting, recording, and shelving new books every week. Any that are not containing religious subject matter are on the "Free to a Good Home" shelf or will be placed in the yard sale being held on October 5th. Come visit us soon and expand your mind with a good book!

Submitted by,  
Carol Laguens

### Sunday Activities

Sunday School 8:30 am

Worship 10:00 am

Prayer Team 4:30 pm

### Wednesday Activities

Youth Elevate - 5:00pm

Small Groups - 6:00pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7:15pm

**Worship  
Service  
Opportunities**

**Fall Flea Market & Craft Fair**

United Methodist Women will be having a Fall Flea Market and Craft Fair on Saturday, October 5th from 8:00am - 1:00pm. We will begin collecting items at church for the flea market September 26th through October 4th. Should you wish to have a space to sell your own items (flea market or crafts), please fill out the form (on the website, or you may get it from the office) and once you have paid your \$25, you will be included in the event. You must provide your own tables and chairs.

The United Methodist Men will be having their fish fry that day as well, so please plan to eat with us. UMW will have a baked goods table and will be requesting items for that from you soon. Girls of Grace plan to sell drinks and chips.

Please pray for good weather for us so we can hold this event outdoors as planned.

Submitted by,  
Beth Herndon,  
UMW President

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**United Methodist Women**

The UMW is collecting used Bibles, Sunday School materials, Reference materials, books, magazines, devotionals, CD's, DVD's, BluRay music, movies, teachings from well known speakers, all tracts, Bible games, puzzles, etc. for kids.

We will be sending a box approximately once a month to an organization called Love Packages which came about when God spoke to their founder, Steve Schmidt, one day about "wasting" some Christian literature that was sitting around his home. When he wrote to a few pastors and evangelists overseas asking if they could use English literature, the response was definitive. The ministry has grown over the past 40+ years to where they now ship over 1000 tons of used donated Bibles and other Christian literature overseas every year.

There will be a box in the chapel labeled LOVE PACKAGES where you can drop off items that you wish to donate. We are trying this out to see how much the postage will be to send it to an address in Decatur, AL to be included with their shipment. If you would like to help out, we will take any of the items listed above (the list is also on the box and at their website: [lovepackages.org](http://lovepackages.org)) or you can donate to help with postage.

Thank you for helping us help others to find Christ.

Blessings, Beth Herndon, MGUMC President

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**Harvest Sunday  
November 17, 2019**

Please bring your can and box goods to church and place them at the altar on the above date. The food will be going to Elijah's Pantry to pass out on Tuesday, November 19th. Keep in mind that the food will be the pantry clients food for Thanksgiving such as gravy, green beans, corn, etc. Money is also acceptable if you would like to do that. Just mark your check "Pantry". Thank you for helping Elijah's Pantry in this outreach!

## Elijah's Pantry News

In the month of August, we provided food to 202 households for the total of 753 people.

As you can see, your donations of food helps many families. Also, the food bought at the Bay Area Food Bank provides additional food for the families.

Thanks so much for your support! It means a great deal to the families that come to the Pantry.



## Thought for the Month

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:9-13 NIV



Fall is in full swing and October is here! Hopefully you're ready for cooler weather! Well, although we live in Florida, I'm hopeful for cooler weather. I'm also hopeful for the growth of our youth program. We have started Elevate back last September and I have been encouraged with our growth. Still, I would love to see as many new faces as I possibly can. If you know someone who would enjoy our group, please do not hesitate to make me aware. I have exciting things planned for our group and I do not want anyone to miss out. Please be thinking and praying for the growth of our group and for God to place in your life a student who could use our ministry.

Also, I have been enjoying our new service. It has been a joy to worship with everyone and the youth have experienced a positive change because of it. There are exciting days ahead for MGUMC as a whole. Let's be aware of the move of God and see where it takes us.

Blessings,  
Isaac

## Invitation to MGUMC

The choir would like to invite all the families of the church to join us at a baby shower for Jamie and Danny Broxson. She is having a little girl (Gracie) due in January and is registered at Target and Amazon. The shower will be held on Sunday, October 27th, from 2-4pm in fellowship hall. Families, including children, are invited. There will be cake and finger foods.

## Young at Heart

It is time to gather once again for fun, games, and food. Young at Heart will meet on Wednesday, October 2, 2019, at 10:30am in fellowship hall. The menu is soup, salads, sandwiches, and dessert. If two ladies would bring soup or beans, it would be great. I will bring hot sandwiches. I need someone to work the kitchen. Please let me know who that person will be. Just so you know, if the numbers for people that come don't improve, we will be closing down. Let's make this one great!

Submitted by,  
Miriam Storey, President



## Trunk 'N' Treat

On Thursday night, October 31st, at 6:00pm, we will be hosting Trunk 'N' Treat. The members of the congregation and invited guests park their Halloween decorated vehicles in the church parking lot where designated spaces will be assigned. Trick or Treaters can move from car to car to show off their costumes and collect treats.

Nothing will replace house to house Trick or Treating but this will provide a safe place to trick or treat. This is a great outreach to the community and it gives members of our church time to relax and enjoy an evening being a kid again!

You can choose to help make Trunk 'N' Treat happen. If you have a vehicle, you can volunteer your "trunk" for use in this event or you can donate treats so we will have enough to go around.

The most fun will be if you sign up as a participant and start planning how you are going to decorate your trunk. We will also need donations of hot dogs and buns.

### Rules and Registration

1. Each trunk needs to be signed up by October 28th.
2. Each trunk team must have treats available.
3. Be creative.
4. Bring a chair to sit on to pass out candy.

### Trunk 'N' Treat Time

5:00 - 6:00pm Parking Lot and Trunk Set-Up

6:00 - 8:00pm Trunk 'N' Treat



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

### Deaths:

William Creeden

### Baptism:

Aria Madison Sturm

Baptized 9-8-19

Parents John & Kimberly Sturm

### New Members:

Gerald Turman

722 N. 65th Avenue

Pensacola FL 32506

If you move, please let the church office know your new address.

## Reminder from Hospitality

**All October birthdays will be celebrated in fellowship hall on October 6th during the Fellowship time at 9:30a.m.**

## 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 1-5

Russell & Suzanne Riley

Mary Rivenbark

Frank & Stephanie Rivera, Micah, Jace

Mark & Angela Robbins

John-Annie Roberts

Joseph & Kimberly Robinson

Val Roblyer

### October 6-12

Elizabeth Rodgers

Brenda Rogers

Bud & Jean Rogers

Robert Rogers

Sheila Romaine

Steve & Kalie Romancheck, Parker

Jim & Barbara Roth

### October 13-19

Annette Rothe

Tierra Ruffin

Sean & Dawn Ruppert

Lavanda Russell

Richard Russell, Jr.

Kevin & Linda Saighman

Cecil Sasser

### October 20-26

Duane & Claudia Savage

Charles Scales

Kelly Schlicht

Scott & Salena Schwartz, Austin

William & Ellen Scott

Aaron & Andrea Seaman, Austin, Aiden

### October 27-31

Barry & Kristie Shean

Jade Shean, Levi, Kylar, Kalayla

Katherine Sheffield

Dan & Rosie Shepherd

Alexis Sheppard, Cameron, Chanancy, Kenneth, Maalik

Katanya Sheppard

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Return Service Requested

## *October Birthdays*

- 1 - Joyce Dean
- 4 - Marjorie Byrd
- 5 - Nancy Jones
- 5 - Clark Cain
- 6 - Ken Jones
- 8 - Frances Asbjornsen
- 11 - Joan Carter
- 13 - Shirley Melvin
- 13 - Kathy Ralli
- 13 - Teresa Miller
- 14 - JoAnne Verwey
- 15 - Jim Potter
- 18 - Patty Northup
- 19 - Devon Few
- 19 - Rita Barton
- 20 - Elsie Rhodes
- 22 - Paul Henderson
- 24 - Ken Lewis
- 25 - Bart Hulien
- 26 - Sharon Cotner
- 26 - Heather Jones
- 26 - Christa Murphy
- 27 - Max Norman
- 28 - Marlene Cooper
- 29 - Maureen Dunbar
- 31 - Bill Dunbar