

FIRST NEWS

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May 2022

A Word from the Pastor

**Ecclesiastes 3 (NIV) 1. There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
7b. A time to be silent and a time to speak.**

Recently I was outside with my dogs late at night and there was no sound except for the melody of the frogs near the house. It was a clear night so the stars were bright and numerous. It was a most peaceful night. I was so overcome with a sense of calm and I whispered a prayer of thanks to God for the quiet moment. In this busy world, there doesn't seem to be a lot of time for quiet. The old adage, "Silence is Golden" doesn't just apply when your parents are saying it to you but is also an invaluable gift to oneself when a quiet moment is stolen from the din of the chaotic world.

As I watched my dogs, I realized that they communicated just fine without saying a word to each other. Couples that have been together for a long time learn this invaluable mode of interaction where a simple glance speaks volumes. We as a culture don't like silence in our interactions. Whether we are on a date or sitting with a few friends, silence is so feared that we often will invent something to say; anything rather than suffer the void of the "uncomfortable silence." Conversely, many other cultures like the Japanese have learned to appreciate silence and I have marveled as I observed Japanese couples sitting together in a park and no words are being spoken. They're just enjoying *being*. In Psalm 46:10, we are instructed to "Be still and know that I am God." Remember that some of the best times you will ever spend with the Lord is when you are quiet, together, as friends neither having to weigh thoughts nor measure words.

As I ushered my dogs toward the door, I said from my heart, "Thank you Lord for the quiet. I feel VERY close to you in the silence of this evening and thanks also for making dogs that don't talk because they surely would have ruined the moment, AMEN."

We welcome Ron Day who joined the church on April 17th.

Starting in June we will be going to a causal dress code.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 8 Mother's Day
- 15 Senior Sunday (11:00 Service)
Fellowship Meal-Noon (Wesley)
- 30 Memorial Day (Office Closed)

CHILDREN & YOUTH



Keep up to date on upcoming events on our website, Instagram and Facebook pages!



We will honor our high school graduates during the 11:00 worship service Sunday, May 15th. At noon we will have lunch in Wesley Hall! The church will provide meat and dessert please bring sides to share, we will celebrate our graduates!

If you know of college, any post secondary or graduate school graduates, please share them with the church office so we may list them on graduate Sunday.

Congratulations to our 2022 High School Graduates:
Reid Hines

Youth/Children Schedule for May:

May 1, 15, 23
Children 5:00-6:00 / Youth 5-6:30

May 8 (no evening program)
May 30 (no program time)

Youth Prayer Breakfasts May 4th and 11th!

At 6:45 am in Norman Barnett Hall

Youth Girl's Small Group
Wednesday's 4:15 pm-5:15 pm
May 11, 18 and 25.

Coming up...



Give us this day our daily bread.
(Matthew 6:11)

VBS
July 10-13th
5:00-7:00 pm



Summer Camp at Blue Lake!
Suggested Dates for children (3rd-5th grade) and youth (6th-12th grade) are July 25-29, see Pam asap to sign up!

<https://firstumcmonroeville.mycokesburyvbs.com/register-volunteer>

Notes from Nancy



Please NOTE:
Chancel Choir Rehearsals are on Mondays at 5:30. We are hoping that this "move" to a new time will enable some of you to get back in the Choir!!

Service Choir Schedule	9:00	11:00
May 1	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir
May 8	Ensemble/Solo	Chancel Choir
May 15	Chancel Choir	Ensemble/Solo
May 22	Ensemble/Solo	Chancel Choir
May 29	Chancel Choir	Ensemble/Solo

Many Thanks . . .

- . . . the Chancel Choir for their leadership in Worship on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday!
- . . . Bill and Sebrena Moncus, Micheal Ard, Emily Williams and Ann Farish for being a part of the Maundy Thursday Service!
- . . . the Altar Guild and Worship Committee for preparing the Sanctuary for Worship during



We will honor the women of the church with a gift on Mother's Day (May 8th) at both worship services.

Women's Studies

Women's Bible study groups will start new books on may 11th! The 10:00 group will be doing a study based on the book of Acts and the 5:15 group will study Good Enough by Kate Bowler. It's a great time to join one of these groups. Please let Pam know if you need a book.

***Groups will not meet May 11th**

Highlights From Our Bicentennial Celebration!!





- 1 Emily Williams; Emory Dunn
- 2 Carter English
- 4 Corey Lane Barnes
- 6 Jim Hines
- 9 Sharon Brooks; Marie Klepac;
Ben Smith; Max Lee
- 11 Shannon McKenzie; Isaac Brewton
- 13 Hunter Lindblom, Anna Claire Bradley
- 14 Faye Estes
- 17 Mary Carter English
- 19 Julia Brown
- 20 Misty Powell
- 21 Chase Bradley
Melody Anne Bradley
- 22 Sage & Ree Smith (Anniversary)
- 24 Bryce Black
- 28 Sarah Countryman; Maddy Ard
- 29 Robert English
- 31 Harrison Martens

Newsletter submissions will be due by
the 22nd of each month

FUMC CHURCH STAFF

Rev. John Woodrow	Senior Pastor
Rev. Pam Barnhardt	Minister of Education
Nancy Carleton	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Caroline Hardin	Church Business Manager
Christi Dunn	Nurse Director

Regular Church Service

Sunday:

9:00 am Morning Worship
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship
5:00 pm Children/UMYF

Wednesday:

6:45 am Youth Prayer Breakfast
9:00 am Wednesday Men
10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
4:15 pm Youth Girls Bible Study
4:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
5:15 pm Ladies Bible Study
6:00 pm ZOOM Bible Study

Monday:

1:00 pm Ladies Sewing Group
5:00 Men's Book Group
5:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

*First United Methodist Church services are broadcast by radio every
Sunday at 9:00 am by WMFC-FM Monroeville 99.3
Livestream each Sunday at 11:00 am Monroeville Fumc-Youth*

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