



# FIRST NEWS

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## **A Word *From* Pastor John**

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV) There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:**

In 1993, I dedicated the rest of my life to serving the Lord God which was, by far, the wisest and greatest decision of my life. I joined a church and bought a Bible. My new Bible was a New American Standard version and I still carry it as my personal Bible today. It has been dropped and rained upon. It has had multiple bookmarks in it. Now, some of the maps in the back are loose and the gold color has worn off the page ends but I would be heartbroken if it was lost. That Bible and I have been through a lot together.

This is how a lot of us feel about traditions. We hold onto our traditions and routines as if they were old friends. In any church, traditions are developed which give us a strong sense of security and comfort. Something as simple as the color of the carpet or where the flowers are placed during the worship service becomes part of our weekly tradition and it causes some anxiety when we change any of the things and routines to which we've grown accustomed. We even sit in the same places each week!

However, as the Scripture above reminds us, there comes a time when we have to consider change as part of God's plan. Indeed change is required for growth. If we were to reject all change, we would also be rejecting any chance to grow in a Godly direction. Some churches have actually made that choice to never change and they are suffering the consequences of that stagnation now. John Wesley reminded us that Scripture and tradition are very important parts of the Church but we are also to consider reason and experience. We are blessed in our church to have highly experienced and/or educated members who can look at our church and suggest ways that we might be able to get stronger! Let's everyone contemplate what we can do as a church to help our family grow! And to God be the glory . . . .Amen.

# Children & Youth



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

Youth and Children

Sunday Night Schedule:

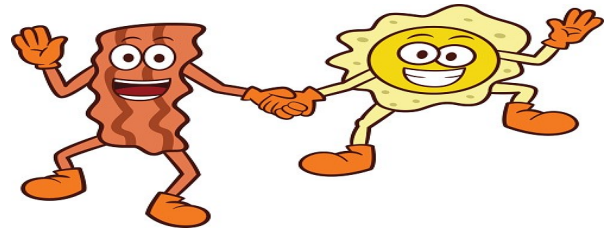
Children 5-6 / Youth 5-6:30

August 7<sup>th</sup>

August 14<sup>th</sup>

August 21<sup>st</sup>

August 28<sup>th</sup>



Youth Prayer Breakfast resumes Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup> at the church. All youth are invited to come at 6:45 for a time of Devotion, Prayer and Breakfast before school.

## Thank You

A special thank you to all of the volunteers who worked to make VBS an inspirational and exciting time for children, you are so appreciated.

## Thank You

Thanks to our Blue Lake Chaperones: Micheal Ard, Belinda Dorrance and Mike Stoops for spending a week discipling children and youth, you are the best.

The Monday Sewing Ladies need new volunteers to help smock, construct, and pack baby gowns. They meet Mondays at 1:00 in Norman Barnett Contact Marsha Lindblom.

Our Wednesday Women's groups (10:00 and 5:15) are starting new studies in August, it's a great time to join one of these.

# Notes from Nancy

A big THANKS to the Choir for their leadership in worship services throughout the Summer months!! Your ability to be flexible during these weeks has been a great asset to what we have been able to do together. Please know that your dedication is greatly appreciated!



## Service Choir Schedule

	9:00	11:00
August 7	Chancel Choir	Ensemble/Solo
August 14	Ensemble/Solo	Chancel Choir
August 21	Chancel Choir	Ensemble/Solo
August 28	Ensemble/Solo	Chancel Choir

**Chancel Choir** meets on Mondays at 5:30. As we head toward the end of Summer and into the Fall, we will begin working on seasonal music. ANY who would like to join us in lifting our voices to God are welcome!! This is a great time to become part of the Choir Family.

**Chancel Ringers** will resume after Labor Day on the 14th of September. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 4:30. We hope to welcome back some new ringers as well as some who have been a part of ringing in the past. Please let Nancy know if you want to become a part of this Choir.





*Birthdays and Anniversaries \**

- 1 Charlotte Chambers
- 4 Michael Ard,
- 5 Belinda Dorrance
- 6 Ditty Moore, Melvin Foukal
- 7 Rachael Daniels
- 8 Bridgett Glidewell , Pappy Marriott
- 10 Boyd Robinson, Robert Marshall
- 12 Sherry Daniels
- 13 Peggy Flowers
- 14 Laura King, Anna Ray Hilburn
- 18 Mike Cobb
- 20 Layla Daniels
- 23 Bill Rainey
- 25 Jane Bouler
- 26 Chris King

**CALENDAR OF EVENT**

**14 Shower for Samantha Morgan**

*In Memoriam*  
**John B Williams**  
*July 20, 2022*

**FUMC CHURCH STAFF**

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

**Regular Church Service**

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>Wednesday:</b>
9:00 am Morning Worship	6:45 am Youth Prayer Breakfast
10:00 am Sunday School	9:00 am Wednesday Men
11:00 am Morning Worship	10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
5:00 pm Children/UMYF	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*

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

