

FIRST NEWS

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A Word From Pastor John

Acts 20:28 (NCV) “Be careful for yourselves and for all the people the Holy Spirit has given to you to oversee. You must be like shepherds to the church of God, which he bought with the death of his own son.

Well, it has certainly been an exciting and an emotional winter season so far for the United Methodist Church. As churches go through discernment journeys where some decide to move towards disaffiliation while others decide they prefer to remain with the denomination. In the information I gathered from these church proceedings, I discovered that the reaction among members of the churches ranged from passionate to oblivious. Indeed, some members have asked for an explanation of what a General Conference does? These kinds of requests and comments have prompted me to take a hard look at how Methodism is understood among the membership. Truthfully, we have life-long Methodists in our church, we have recent converts to Methodism from other denominations, and we have folks who have joined our church and have no familiarity with what Methodism is or our history. This wide range of familiarity (or unfamiliarity) presents an obstacle in a church where we operate based on certain foundational principles. My intention is to address this. I have been praying recently about a special theme we could emphasize for Lent (The five-week period before Easter) to make the season more meaningful. I had received no direction from the Lord until a little while ago. The answer came through a discussion with another pastor, that a lot of folks would benefit from a class in Methodism that explains some of our doctrine, polity and history. Therefore, (Trumpets Sounding), On the following dates: Feb 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th, during Sunday School time, I will be conducting the class, “All About Methodism” Each of those Sunday mornings from 9:00 am - 9:50 am in the Shomo Feagin Classroom (first room on the left in the Education Wing (room 410).. Hope to see you all there!

YTD Giving Received: \$61,694.64

YTD Giving Needed: \$79,376.00

Children & Youth



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

Sunday Nights:

*March 5 Youth 5-6:30/ Children 5-6
March 12 Youth 5-6:30/Children 5-6
March 19 Youth 5-6:30/ Children 5-6
March 26 (No Meetings)*



Youth Prayer Breakfasts:

Wednesday's 1, 8, 15, & 22

"Youth Sunday School Away"

Is launching in March, we will occasionally meet offsite for breakfast. In March we will meet on the 19th at Huddle House at 9:00. Invite a friend to Breakfast and Worship.

Confirmation Retreat:

At Blue Lake

March 10-12

SAVE THE DATE - CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

- 3/19, Sunday: Play & Praise - Preschoolers (4:00)
- 4/2, Sunday: Palm Sunday Processional
- 4/8, Saturday: Egg Hunt
- 4/16, Sunday: Children's Easter Program
- 5/7, Sunday: Play & Praise - Preschoolers (4:00)
- 5/14, Sunday: Muffins with Mom (9:15)
- 6/18, Sunday: Donuts with Dad (9:15)
- 6/25 - 6/28: Vacation Bible School
- 7/9, Sunday: Play & Praise - Preschoolers (4:00)



Wednesday Ladies Studies

Meet March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

We will begin Lenten studies based on the book of Luke. March 1st, it's a great time to join a study!

Blue Lake Summer Camp

For children age 3rd through 5th grade and youth age 6th through 12th grade is July 24-28.

Notes from Nancy

The Season of Lent has begun and continues as we Journey toward Easter.

Looking ahead:

Palm Sunday is on April 2nd

Maundy Thursday is on April 6th

Easter Sunday is on April 9th



March Worship Services

Second Sunday of Lent

March 5

Chancel Choir

Third Sunday of Lent

March 12

Chancel Choir

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 19

Chancel Choir

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 25

Chancel Choir

The Worship Committee invites anyone who would like to be a part of this Committee. We would like to have a list of those who are willing to be on the **Usher Ministry** or on the **Altar Guild**. We always welcome those who would like to be on the **Worship Committee**. Please be in touch with Nancy if you have questions or have an interest in volunteering.

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank you for the cards, calls, visits, food and flowers; but especially for your love and support. We are so blessed to have an amazing and caring Church Family. Special thanks to those who provided the food and fellowship to feed our village of a family! We have appreciated the love and prayers during this most difficult time. Please, please continue to keep us in your prayers. Stevens always said and wrote that he was a child of God ... and that is thanks to each of you. Much Love, Robbie, Steve, Watson and Skylar



- 6 Roy Adams, Brooks Wiggins
7 Caroline Rainey
9 Ricky Powell; Kathryn Wiggins
12 Jerry Dyess
17 Jonathan Byrd
23 Rick Dorrance
24 Michael Wiggins, Mary Boyd Robinson;
Sarah Baker Barnhardt
26 Christi Dunn
28 Bryan Rhea
29 Katie Lee
31 Chip Hare

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 Sunday School
10:10 am Morning Worship
11:00 am Church After Church
5:00 pm Children/UMYF
6:00 pm Bible Study

Wednesday:

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

Monday:

1:00 pm Ladies Sewing Group
5:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

*First United Methodist Church services are broadcast by radio every
Sunday at 10:00 am by WMFC-FM Monroeville 99.3
Livestream each Sunday at 10:00 am Monroeville Fumc-Youth*

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