



# FIRST NEWS

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**Volume 45 Issue 8**

**August 2023**

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

**Mark 11:23-24 (NIV) “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.**

Among the many things that I have to work on to improve is my tendency toward procrastination. I actually planned on a strategy to conquer this shortcoming last year but, alas, I never got around to it.

One of the reasons, people tend to procrastinate is that the task is time-consuming or difficult. In this instance, avoiding what is unpleasant generates its own reward because you feel more comfortable doing something else. I was thinking about the many times I decided to lose weight or start a new exercise program. Both of these are admirable goals but it is easier to just put these things off because they are both difficult to do. This type of procrastination simply requires more self-discipline.

Another reason for procrastination, however, is that sometimes life presents us with mountains. We are faced with life’s mountains and decide they are too big for us to navigate. Maybe it’s a large mountain like getting accepted to a top university but you don’t have the tuition to go. Sometimes it is a gigantic mountain like the grief of losing a loved one. When one is facing life’s biggest mountains, we should always turn to Jesus’ words in the above Scripture. Our Lord’s most emphatic teachings always started with, “Truly I tell you” so we know this is really important. The same power with which God raised Jesus from the dead is offered to every believer so that we would know that nothing is impossible for God.

I have faced a mountain many times in my life and after dealing with it for a time, it will inevitably occur to me that this is one of those times to call on God for help. Your mountain might be a broken relationship or perhaps a financial crisis. Maybe your mountain is a worldly obstacle pulling you away from Jesus. Regardless what it is, the faith of a mustard seed is sufficient to move that mountain into the sea. (Mt17:20) In your Christian journey, meet your mountains not with fear but with the confidence of a true child of the King. It’s yours for the asking.

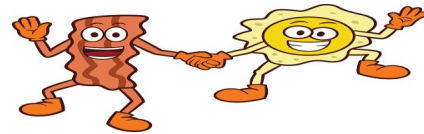
<b>YTD Giving Received:</b> \$221,463.50
<b>YTD Giving Needed:</b> \$317,504.00

# 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 13th  
August 20th  
August 27th



Youth Prayer Breakfast  
resumes Wednesday  
August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 in  
Norman Barnett Hall.



***Blessing of the Backpacks :***  
will take place during  
the Worship Service  
on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

*No evening  
Activities on  
August 6th!*

***Back to School Bash*** is on August 6<sup>th</sup> following Worship and begins with a **Lunch for Blue Lake Fundraiser**. Hot Dogs and Sausage Dogs with chips, coleslaw, dessert and a drink will be \$7 a plate. **Call the church office ASAP to reserve your plates**. After lunch, there will be **outside games and water slides** for the children.

Please know that you are invited to attend these adult classes:

**“Cornerstone”** - taught by Sage Smith (Education Wing, 2nd room on left) is studying the book of Romans.

**“Young Adult (at Heart)”** taught by Michelle Rainey (Education Wing, 2nd room on right) studies dated lectionary based curriculum.

**“Discussion”** taught by Sarah Dyess (Alice Lee Room) is studying Luke, looking at Outcasts and Outlaws.

**\*Nursery** available during worship and Sunday School

# Notes from Nancy

## August Worship Services

August	6	Blessing of Backpacks Children Sing
August	13	Chancel Choir
August	20	Chancel Choir
August	27	Chancel Choir



## Calling ALL Ringers!!

**Chancel Ringers** will resume after Labor Day at 4:30 on Wednesday September 13th. We hope to welcome back some who have been a part of ringing in the past as well as some new ringers. Please let Nancy know if you plan to be a part of this Choir.

## CHANCEL CHOIR . . .

A big THANKS to the Choir for their leadership in worship services throughout the Summer months!! We will resume rehearsals on August 7th at 5:30pm. Looking forward to seeing everyone and hoping to see some new faces in the "crowd"!! As we head toward the end of Summer and into the Fall, we will begin working on seasonal music. This is a **great** time to become a part of the Choir Family.

Wednesday Women's  
groups (10:00 and 5:15)  
are starting studies  
August 2nd.





- 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 Boulter
- 26 Chris King

***In Memoriam***  
***James Benjimen Johnston***  
***July 6, 2023***

**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 Sunday School	6:45 am Youth Prayer Breakfast
10:05 am Morning Worship	9:00 am Wednesday Men
11:00 am Church After Church	10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
5:00 pm Children/UMYF	4:15 pm Youth Bible Study
5:00 pm Bible Study	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 10:05 am by WMFC-FM Monroeville 99.3 Livestream each Sunday at 10:05 am Monroeville Fumc-Youth***

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