



# FIRST NEWS



324 Pineville Road ~ Monroeville, AL 36460  
251-575-2790 [fumc324@gmail.com](mailto:fumc324@gmail.com) [www.firstumcmonroeville.org](http://www.firstumcmonroeville.org)

**Volume 46 Issue 7**

**July 2024**

Summertime, sweet summertime... 2024 is my 30th Summer in Monroeville, and I believe they feel hotter and shorter every year. Summer days mean different things to all of us, memories of family trips, casual dress worship, camp, swimming holes, and of course Vacation Bible School. While many things change over time, the need to gather for learning, fellowship, and worship is timeless. Additionally, First UMC makes certain that we are serving the community and the world in tried and true and new and exciting ways, during the dog days of Summer and all year long.

Thankfully we have laity and staff who ensure that we collect diapers for Embrace Kids (the United Methodist Children's Home), plant Zinnias to deliver to folks, take ice cream to children who are participating in Summer Learning Programs, make food bags to give to local needy, chaperone weeks at Blue Lake Camp, teach Sunday School and Children's Worship time, organize meals for families, plan special events for Mother's and Father's day, and of course, offer Vacation Bible School at our church and the YMCA Day camp.

Our laity led an exciting worship service at the end of June and reminded us that we've got lots to do in furthering God's Kingdom, such as bringing canned foods to VBS for RSVP and looking forward to a School Kick off celebration in August. It's a great time to invite a friend or neighbor to be a part of our mission and ministry.

As you may know I've been asked to serve as Sr. Pastor for the foreseeable future, as we won't be receiving a minister this Summer, but are hoping to this Fall. When people have asked if I am apprehensive, I simply respond – leading Monroeville UMC just means leaning into the amazing talent of our laity, I'm not worried a bit.

And never forget, I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers.

Ephesians 1:16

Always,

Rev. Pam Barnhardt

YTD Giving Received: \$148,095.89
YTD Giving Needed: \$277,816.00

# Children & Youth



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

Youth meet Wednesdays at 4:15 and Sundays at 5:00; Children meet Sundays at 5:00 as well.

Preschoolers through 5th graders are invited to join us for Vacation Bible School July 7-10 from 5-7, where we will learn what it means to put our trust in God. Invite children to come as we worship, eat, sing, create and play together.

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

A team from our church will present Vacation Bible School at the YMCA July 8-11 from 10:30-12. If you can volunteer on any or all days please see Pam Barnhardt or Melody Bradley.

Our VBS Mission project will be a canned food drive for RSVP. Canned items can be dropped off in Wesley Hall July 7-10

Our youth bought and assembled bags to feed local hungry persons. These will be given out as the Pastor sees weekly needs, as people stop by asking for help with food items.

**Special Thanks** to Misty Powell for leading the campaign to provide several packs of donated diapers as well as donations to purchase over \$1,100 in diapers for EmbraceKids.

**Volunteers had a great time taking ice cream to the Summer Learning Students at MES in June.**

# *Notes from Nancy*

When I moved to Alabama, I had no idea what God had in store for me. I only knew that He had told me that it was time to leave a place that I loved dearly with friends that called me “family.” In obedience to that word I packed up and left. I knew that to stay would be disobedience.

Once again, I find myself beginning to say “good-bye” to a place and to people who have meant so much to me. You have been my Church Family for nearly 33 years. I’ve shared your joys, made music with you and your children, played for so many weddings and funerals during those years and felt like “family”! You have supported me and taken care of me through my life’s difficult times in more ways than I can recount. I have been most humbled by your gracious generosity and the love expressed to me during those times. It has been my privilege to be here and I will always remember you with love and with thanks to God for each of you.

Nancy



## **July Worship Services**

July 7 Chancel Choir

July 14 Chancel Choir

July 21 Chancel Choir

July 28 Chancel Choir



CHANCEL CHOIR will lead in worship as noted above. They will rehearse at 5:30 on Monday July 1st and will be taking a break from rehearsals for the rest of July.



- 2 Jana Jaye
- 10 Zac Chambers
- 12 Miles Barnhardt
- 14 Pam Barnhardt; Kate Byrd
- 15 Marilyn Stacey
- 16 Amelia Ward; James Brown
- 17 Bonnie Chandler
- 18 Beth Barnes
- 19 Caleb Powell; Matthew Hilburn;  
Meri Palmer Hilburn
- 22 Christi Wiggins
- 23 Ron Day
- 24 Will Coxwell; Miller Kilpatrick
- 25 Mary Kathryn Morgan; Samantha Morgan;  
William Rainey
- 26 Karen Robinson; Derrick Black; Sara Bibeau
- 27 Conner Morgan
- 28 Norma James; Collins Brown; Taylor Barnes
- 30 Laura Grace King
- 31 Dent Stallworth

#### FUMC CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Pam Barnhardt	Minister of Education
Nancy Carleton	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Caroline Hardin	Church Business Manager

#### Regular Church Service

##### Sunday:

9:00 am Sunday School  
10:05 am Morning Worship  
11:00 am Church After Church  
5:00 pm Children/UMYF

##### Wednesday:

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

##### Monday:

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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