

Myrtle Grove United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 3225
Pensacola, Florida 32516

Return Service Requested



Myrtle Grove
United Methodist Church
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 3225
1030 N. 57th Avenue
Pensacola, FL 32516
Phone: 850-456-7463/7464
Fax: 850-456-1897

Office Hours:

Mon-Thu, 9:00 am - 3:00pm
Closed Noon - 1:00pm Lunch
Closed Friday

Pray for Your Staff:

Senior Pastor:

Riley Richardson

Choir Director:

Jamie Broxson

Youth Director:

Isaac Richardson

Pianist: Volunteers

Church Secy./Receptionist:

Cheryl Johnson

Finance Secretary:

Connie Boyd

Education Director:

Janet Boston

Mothers Morning Out:

Carrie Disouryavong

Membership Secretary:

Cheryl Johnson

Librarians:

Lou Hulien Brown

Carol Laguens

Office Manager:

Jim Reynolds

Notes from the Grove

A monthly publication for
Myrtle Grove United Methodist Church

Web:<https://www.atthegrove.church> **Email:**church.office@mgumc.org

Volume 22 Issue 1

January 2025

Senior Pastor's Note

Making New Year Commitments

And he said to them all, If any person will come after me, let them deny themselves, and take up their cross daily, and follow me. Luke 9:23

When missionary Dr. David Livingstone was working in Africa, a group of friends wrote him: "We would like to send other men to you. Have you found a good road into your area yet?" Dr. Livingstone sent this message in reply: "If you have men who will only come if they know there is a good road, I don't want them. I want men who will come if there is no road at all."

There is a big difference between just being interested in doing something and actually making a commitment to doing it! Just being interested allows us the freedom to do a thing only when our circumstances permit. But making a commitment to do that thing means accepting no excuses and no reservations -- it means putting aside our fears and reservations moving forward till we see the end result! Dr. Livingstone was looking for results, and this required men of commitment!

It's the start of a New Year so we all begin thinking towards those resolutions. Actually, I am not a big fan of them. I think that we generally don't follow them anyway. Instead of making New Year Resolutions, why not make New Year Commitments? What commitments could we make to our Lord, our families, our jobs and our congregation?

I hope that the New Year will hold peace and happiness for you. However, beyond that, I hope that 2025 is a year of spiritual growth for you. If you make the right commitments, 2025 can be a year in which you grow closer to God, spend more time reading His Word, and make prayer and reflection a part of your everyday routine. Those are lofty-sounding goals, but they are not out of reach with the right attitude, the right tools, and a bit of personal discipline. A good example to follow would be that of the church in the book of Acts: "***They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.***" (Acts 2:42)

In Closing: I do want to thank all of you for the commitments you accomplished in 2024! Thanks be to God for your commitment to the Mission and Ministry of MGMC. Thank you for your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness!

January Birthdays

3 - Ronnie Marie Ingram
5 - Mabelle Reynolds
5 - Sharon Cacciatore
9 - Lisa Toquothy
12 - Linda Stump
16 - Marianne Fuller
18 - Rebecca Black
20 - Patricia Cain

Our Vision Statement:

"Every member a good neighbor."

Our Purpose Statement:

"Our Journey - Knowing, Loving, Serving, Sharing."

Some Words from the Education Director

Mark your Calendars:

Sunday, January 5 Epiphany Sunday with mini drama
 Communion Sunday
 1:00 pm Handbell Choir
 4:00 pm Prayer Team

Monday, January 6 5:00 pm TOPS

Wednesday, January 8 6:00 pm Child & Youth Sunday School Teacher Planning Meeting

Thursday, January 9 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study/Small Group
 5:30 pm Guild Circle
 6:00 pm Men's Club

Sunday, January 12 Baptism Sunday with Mini Drama
 1:00 pm Handbell Choir
 4:00 pm Prayer Team

Monday, January 13 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
 5:00 pm TOPS
 6:30 pm Scouts

Wednesday, January 15 1:00 pm Wednesday Daytime Classes resume
 5:00 pm Dinners resume
 6:00 pm Wednesday Night Classes resume
 Newsletter Articles due

Thursday, January 16 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study/Small Group
 10:00 am Arbeiter/Joy Circle Meet

Saturday, January 18 9:00 am Ladies Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, January 19 Human Relations Sunday
 1:00 pm Handbell Choir
 4:00 pm Prayer Team

Monday, January 20 Office closed for Martin Luther King Jr Day

Wednesday, January 22 1:00 pm Wednesday Daytime Classes
 5:00 pm Dinner
 6:00 pm Night Classes/Choir/Youth

Thursday, January 23 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study/Small Group
 11:00 am Senior Activity TBA
 6:00 pm Sisters In Service

Addresses & Other Changes, New Members, Baptisms, Transfers, & Deaths

No changes this month.

If you move, please let the office know your new address. Also, if your phone number has changed, please let the office know.

Reminder to All Sunday School Classes, Groups and Scouts

We ask that you be sure to clean up the room(s) that you use whenever you are here. There is a vacuum in the custodian's closet (M5) for you to use. Please return the vacuum when you are finished. Thank you for helping to keep the church clean.

January Prayer List

January 1-4

David & Donna Johnson
 Heather Johnson
 Robert & Donna Johnson
 Shep & Nancy Jones
 Carol Laguens
 Dannie Law
 Grady lea

January 5-11

Susie Leitman, Chloe
 Kay Lemons
 Eunice Lewis
 Joyce Lewis
 Jesse & Phyllis Lough
 Tommie & Lynn Love
 Jimmie Macon

January 12-18

Daniel Marlow, Brianna & Logan
 Brenda Matchett
 Michael & Donna Matthews
 Travis & April McDaniel
 Bill McDurmont
 Mike & Brenda McHatton
 Shirley Melvin

January 19-25

Paul & Becky Mickelson
 Teresa Miller
 Charlie Mills
 Karin Morrow
 Lori Mulcahy
 Max & Nancy Norman

January 26-31

Norma Owen
 Bill & Elisabeth Parker
 Yvonne Parsons
 Alice Pecue
 Louise Perkins
 Merriah Perkins

Sunday Activities

Sunday School 8:30 am
 Worship 10:00 am
 Prayer Team 4:00 pm

**Worship
 Service
 Opportunities**

Wednesday Activities

1:00pm Daytime Classes
 6:00pm Evening Classes
 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Sisters in Service

The Sisters in Service Circle wishes to thank our church family for their support as we served the needy in our Pensacola community. We were able to provide supplies for the homeless and to disburse the funds raised in 2024 to other charities that we work with. We are so grateful for your assistance when we served as the hands and feet of Jesus in our city. We are asking God to bless all of you in the new year for your faithful generosity.

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Prayer Team

Looking for a New Year's resolution? How about becoming a member of the Myrtle Grove Prayer Team? We meet once a week - on Sunday afternoon at 4 pm for about an hour. We pray for our church, our families & friends, our community and our world. We'd love to have you join us. Just let me know if you can attend.

Beth Herndon bh2522@gmail.com 850-324-5224

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Wesleyan Women

Wesleyan Women will meet on February 4, 2025 at 10 a.m. Sisters in Service will be our hostesses. We will be spending the money we have made for missions. Come out and help us start off the new year helping others!

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Church Forms

The church office has the following forms that **must be completed/submitted** for various requests. This will be the official request and placed on the church calendar. Please **do not request these items verbally** to staff members.

These forms are available from the church office in 2 formats: PDF (computer fillable) and printed. The printed version may be available outside of the church office. If you are unable to locate a form please contact the church.

Activity / Events – to reserve church spaces for an activity/event. Submit to Cheryl Johnson/Church Secretary

Equipment Checkout – for borrowing equipment/tables/chairs from the church. Submit to Cheryl Johnson/Church Secretary.

Budget/Check Requests - for reimbursement for pre-approved purchases. Submit to Jim Reynolds/Office Manager

Some Words from the Education Director - Continued from Page 2

Sunday, January 26 1:00 pm Handbell Choir
4:00 pm Prayer Team

Monday, January 27 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
5:00 pm TOPS
6:30 pm Scouts

Wednesday, January 29 1:00 pm Wednesday Daytime classes
5:00 pm Dinner
6:00 pm Night Classes/Choir/Youth

Thursday, January 30 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study/Small Group

This month will be the first time we try out our new schedule for seniors in the church. We will have one designated day of the month, the fourth Thursday at 11:00 am, every month. What we do on that day will change each month in a cyclical fashion. Once a quarter will have "Lunch Bunch", once a quarter we will have "Young at Heart". The last month of the quarter will be "Games & Puzzles". I will send out reminders and you only have to remember one day and time: fourth Thursday at 11:00 am!

Classes and dinners start back on Wednesdays on January 15. Classes will be at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm (this includes Youth and Choir). Dinners will also resume with prices remaining the same: Adults \$7, Children under 12 \$3 and children under 4 are free. Watch for class listings in upcoming bulletins and brochures.

The next Ladies' Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, January 18 at 9 am. Bring breakfast food to share. If you would like to participate in this program, please contact me for more information. I would also encourage you to invite your praying friends to participate regardless of whether or not they attend our church. Unity at a time like this is vital to our community.

We are still building a group of volunteers in our church who are willing to help **clean Sunday School rooms** once a week and help **wipe down tables in the Fellowship Hall**. I would like to know who would like to participate in a **phone ministry**? We would like to call our Silver Patrol list at least once a month and perhaps others who may need a loving touch from their church family. Also, if anyone would like to be a part of a **hospital visitation team**. We have a few volunteers already-is God asking you to help? Let me know.

I have been meeting with a core group of volunteers to take a look **at present and potential programs**. We would love your input about what you would like to see happen in our church and community. We really want to be a "cradle to the grave" church! If there is a program that we no longer do that interests you and your family or a program that you see other churches doing, let me know and we will look into it.

Please watch the weekly bulletins for any other upcoming dates and events.

Janet Boston (850) 456-7463 x5 jlbpensmgumc@gmail.com
[Facebook Messenger as well](#)

Birth of Jesus



**“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
he is Christ the Lord.”**

“This will be a sign to you;

You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

**Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared
with the angel, praising God and saying,**

**“Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace to men
on whom his favor rests.”**

Happy New Year

*The staff of Myrtle Grove Methodist wishes everyone a
Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year 2025!*

