

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

Return Service Requested



Myrtle Grove
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 Methodist Church

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

Volume 22 Issue 3

March 2025

Senior Pastor's Note

Dear Church Family,

“To grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.”—Isaiah 61: 3

A faint spirit, the oil of mourning, the ashes of grief—God promises to deliver us from these. What a blessing it is to serve a God who turns the sorrow of grief into a time of praise!

This coming March 5th is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the Lenten season. On Ash Wednesday, we recall the biblical custom of covering ourselves in ashes. By doing this, we mark ourselves in two ways: as those who are in mourning for our crucified Christ, and as those who are filled with a heart of sorrow for their sins.

While our Advent celebrations are filled with joy as we remember the birth of our King, Lent is when we focus on the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Traditionally, many believers choose to participate in some sort of fasting during this time—people have been known to fast from various foodstuffs as well as television and Internet usage. Others decided to study the Bible more closely or experience a time of solitude. Perhaps you will commit to attending services from now until the glory of Easter or dedicating a larger portion of your day to a time of prayer.

Whatever your personal preference, Lent can be the time when you decide to let go of old habits and develop a more joyful, Christ-filled way of living. I would like to invite you and your family to join me as we prepare for a time of tremendous spiritual growth and renewal.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Riley

March Birthdays

3 - Rose Blank
4 - Kay Dickey
9 - Grady Lea
14 - Barbara Boyden
18 - Jimmie Macon
22 - Janet Boston
24 - Jean Rogers
26 - Richard Cannon
28 - Nancy Bowman
29 - Bill Ralli
30 - Jim Reynolds
30 - Tina Ayers

Our Vision Statement:

“Every member a good neighbor.”

Our Purpose Statement:

“Our Journey - Knowing, Loving, Serving, Sharing.”

Some Words from the Education Director

March is Women's History Month

Mark your Calendars:

- Sunday, March 2** Communion Sunday
 Transfiguration Sunday with mini drama
 Pastor's Wife Appreciation Sunday
 11:30 am Handbell Choir
 4:00 pm Prayer Team
- Monday, March 3** 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide
 5:00 pm TOPS
 6:30 pm Scouts
- Tuesday, March 4** 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide
- Wednesday, March 5** 10:00 am Ash Wednesday Daytime Service & Brunch
 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
 Lent Season Begins
- Thursday, March 6** 9:30 am Ladies' Bible Study/Small Group
- Saturday, March 8** 1:30 pm Widow/Widower's Walk Symphony
- Sunday, March 9** Scout Sunday
 Daylight Savings Time Begins
 11:30 am Handbell Choir
 4:00 pm Prayer Team
- Monday, March 10** 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide
 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
 10:00am Guild Circle
 5:00 pm TOPS 6:30 pm Scouts
- Tuesday, March 11** 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide
- Wednesday, March 12** 1:00 pm Wednesday Daytime Classes
 5:00 pm Dinners
 6:00 pm Wednesday Night Classes
- Thursday, March 13** 9:30 am Ladies' Bible Study/Small Group
 6:00 pm Men's Club
- Saturday, March 15** 9:00 am Ladies' Prayer Breakfast
- Sunday, March 16** Wesleyan Women's "Pi" Day
 11:30 am Handbell Choir
 4:00 pm Prayer Team

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

Marriage

Katharine Hewett married Daniel Marlow
 2-2-2025

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.

March Prayer List

March 1

Bull & Lisa Toquohty
 Emma Tucker
 Gerald Turman
 Anna Van Buuren
 Kris & JoAnne Verwey
 Marian Wallace
 Ray Ward

March 2-8

Doug Waters
 Linda Webb
 Larry White
 Joelin Williams
 Sue Wing
 Ted & Barbara Woolcock
 David Yates, Karla Adams, Bella

March 9-15

Bob & Lilibeth Zimmerman, Bella
 Vernon Ard
 Tina Ayers
 Diane & David Bailey
 James & Judy Barbour
 Rita Barton
 Jackie Bashaw

March 16-22

Lee & Lucinda Bateman
 Chris Bates
 Emy Bennett
 Chad Benson
 Frank & Elise Benson
 Jim Benton

March 23-31

Don & Trisha Birtsch
 Nuke Black
 Rebecca Black
 Virginia Blackshear
 Rose Blank
 David & Genevieve Bookman

Sunday Activities

Sunday School 8:30 am
 Worship 10:00 am
 Handbells 11:30 am
 Prayer Team 4:00 pm

**Worship
 Service
 Opportunities**

Wednesday Activities

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

Mothers Morning Out

We are thrilled to share the wonderful opportunities our Mother's Morning Out program offers to children and families in our community. Our program provides a nurturing and educational environment where children can learn, play, and grow. With a curriculum designed to foster social, emotional, and fine and gross motor skills, our experienced staff ensures each child receives personalized attention and care.

In addition to our comprehensive curriculum, our dedicated teachers also incorporate Bible stories and lessons about God's love. We believe in nurturing the spiritual growth of our children, teaching them about prayer and the importance of faith in their daily lives.

Parents can enjoy a few hours of a much needed break, knowing their children are safe and cared for. The benefits extend beyond the children, as families form lasting connections.

We are pleased to announce that registration for our fall session will begin on March 10, 2025.

If you know anyone who may be interested in enrolling their child, please encourage them to reach out to me to schedule a tour and learn more about what we offer.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping us spread the word about this valuable program.

Carrie Disouryavong MGUMC MMO/Nursery Director

c_disouryavong@mgumc.org

Some Words from the Education Dire

(Continued from Page 2)

Monday, March 17- Sunday, March 23 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide

Spring Break - No School

No Scouts

Monday, March 17 - Newsletter Articles Due

Tuesday, March 18 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide

Wednesday, March 19 No Classes Due to Spring Break

Thursday, March 20 9:30 am Ladies' Bible Study/Small Group

10:00 am Arbeiter/Joy Circle Meets

Sunday, March 23 Ladies' Sunday & Suzanne Wesley Honors

11:30 am Handbell Choir

4:00 pm Prayer Team

Monday, March 24 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:00 pm TOPS

6:30 pm Scouts

Tuesday, March 25 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide

Wednesday, March 26 1:00 pm Wednesday Daytime Classes

1:00 pm First Gardening Class of the Season

"Organic Gardening"

5:00 pm Dinner

6:00 pm Night Classes/Choir/Youth

Thursday, March 27 9:30 am Ladies' Bible Study/Small Group

11:00 am Young at Heart

6:00 pm Sisters In Service

Monday, March 31 9:30 am – 3:30 pm AARP Tax Aide

5:00 pm TOPS

6:30 pm Scouts

The **Widows of our church** have decided to invite the **widowers of our church** to participate in our occasional outings of the Widow's Walk group. This month we will be going to the dress rehearsal of the symphony. It will be in the day time and only costs \$10. I must have a head count soon, so let me know if you want to participate.

Each year before Easter, we participate in the **season of Lent**. It is a time to reflect and prepare for the death and resurrection of Christ. We start the Lenten Season with **Ash Wednesday Services**. If you find it hard to get out at night, then join us at 10 am on Wednesday, March 5 for a daytime Ash Wednesday service. We will have the service and share a brunch together. You only need to bring food to share and your friends. There will still be the traditional Ash Wednesday service the same day at 6 pm. There will be no dinners or classes on Ash Wednesday.

There will be a table set up in the Fellowship Hall during the season of Lent. There will be **Lent devotional guides** for seniors, youth/young adults, children, families and adults. All material is free-take what you need.

The month of March is a busy month for recognitions. We start with **Pastor's Wife Appreciation** on March 2. March 9 is **Scout Sunday**. They will have their new Camp Cards available for sale on March 9 as well. Since this is **Women's History month**, we are honoring our women on Sunday, March 23. We will be honoring some of our ladies with the Suzanna Wesley Volunteer Award. If you want to have a speaking part or share a skill such as playing an instrument or singing, let Janet know.

Church Congregation,

The financial results for January are listed below. There are yearly expenses paid upfront that appear to exceed our budget income/expenses. Also, tithing income expectantly drops after the end of the year. The Financial Committee will monitor and adjust the church budget as needed. As of now, the church's financial position is sound.

Our annual vehicle insurance and pest control were paid in January. The vehicle insurance will be prorated, and a portion will be returned after selling the Church van. We received a discount for pest control paying for the year.

Operating Revenues January

\$29,457.43

Expenses January

\$35,853.60

Excess Income/Expense January

-\$6,396.17

A one-time charge for a new air conditioning unit will occur in February. We are awaiting the bill of \$9,000.00 to replace our oldest A/C unit, which failed last month. The church has 16 air conditioning/heating units the trustees manage. We are fortunate to have a failed unit that lasted 23 years!

Blessings,

Kevin Saighman,
Finance Chairman

**Some Words from the Education Director
(Continued from Page3)**

We will have one designated day of the month for a **“Senior’s Activity”**, 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 we will have “Lunch Bunch”, once a quarter we will have “Young at Heart” and once a quarter we will have “Games & Puzzles”. I will send out reminders and you only have to remember one day and time: fourth Thursday at 11:00 am! **March will be Young at Heart!** Bring food to share and a friend! (You do not have to attend this church to participate.)

The next Ladies’ Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, March 15 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.

My new cell number is: (850) 384-6963

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](#)