



The Monroe Doctrine

Monroe United Methodist Church

A Light on the Hill

May 2025

Building a Legacy That Lasts

May is a month filled with milestones — Mother’s Day, graduations, and the winding down of the school year. It’s a season that naturally turns our thoughts toward family, growth, and the legacy we’re leaving behind.



Legacy isn’t just about what we leave in a will. It’s about the deeper things — the values, wisdom, and faith we pass along to the people who matter most. Whether you’re cheering on a grandchild at a soccer game or helping a child memorize their spelling words at the kitchen table, you are shaping a story that will outlast you.

The Bible speaks to this calling in a powerful way. In the Old Testament, God encourages parents and grandparents to “teach [these words] diligently to your children and talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 6:7). In the New Testament, we hear about the sincere faith passed from Lois to her daughter Eunice and on to her grandson Timothy — three generations linked not just by family blood, but by living faith (2 Timothy 1:5).

You don’t have to be a Bible scholar to pass on something meaningful. Sharing

you through a hard season — these are gifts that stick with people. And sometimes, the quiet example of showing up, encouraging others, and living with hope speaks louder than any sermon ever could.

No matter what season of life you’re in, it’s never too late — or too early — to build a legacy that lasts. Every encouraging word, every act of patience, every moment of pointing someone toward hope plants seeds that can grow for generations.

At Monroe UMC, we’re here to help each other plant and water those seeds. We invite you to join us this month as we celebrate

“One generation shall commend your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.”

— Psalm 145:4 (NRSV)

family, honor the generations, and lean into the lasting difference God calls each of us to make.

You are shaping a legacy. Let’s make it one that points to love, hope, and lasting faith.



The family of Ed MacDonald would like to invite everyone for a reception to celebrate Ed’s 99th birthday on **Sunday, May 4th** after church from **12:00-2:00pm**. No gifts please.

Today sharing an entry from my prayer journal..... submitted by Monica Bolton

Good morning ☀️ Lord! You are such an amazing God and are up to your old tricks. So, I have to take time to record it.

So, I have been feeling a little overwhelmed lately. Feeling the need to do so many things and unable to get it all done and feeling like I am running around in circles, chasing my tail. This morning my mind was racing, and I didn't know which direction to turn on today's list of "to do's." Almost in a panic. And then I knew exACTly what I needed to do first. And that was to start with YOU Lord, by getting in the word. Sometimes I have to dig and search before I find what I'm looking for and what I need. But today, Lord, you led me right to it. I started with an Upper Room my friend Connie sent to me titled, "Praying With." The scripture to read was Philippians 4:4-7 and verse 4:6 was shown.



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

That was it..... exactly what I needed to hear today. (I thought.) So, I read the devotional. It was about a hospital administrator, who said she often prayed with patients. This day she prayed with a man who teared up and said, "No one has ever prayed for me before." She was amazed at this concept and realized the importance of not only praying for someone (people), but to pray WITH someone (them.) She stated, "As Christians, we are to be the hands and feet as well as the eyes and ears of Christ. Each of us in our daily prayers can continue to pray for people --and pray WITH them as well.

Today's prayer was..... Loving God, be with us today as we encourage one another by praying together for your will to be done in our lives. Amen

Thought for today was.... Prayer has the power to connect me with God and to others.

Prayer focus was..... Someone I need to pray with face-to-face.

This was all great stuff. Then I went to look up the full scripture listed as I always like to do after reading the devotional. And on the way to finding Philippians 4:4-7, I first stumbled across your message for ME today. The heading jumped right off the page at me..... Press On Toward The Goal. Eagerly I read on to receive your truth, your encouragement for me today. I read Philippians 3:12-21.

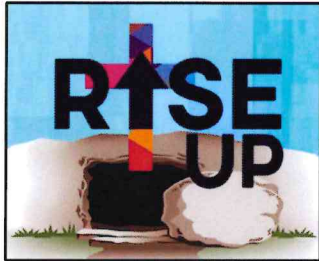
I am always amazed and grateful how God meets me right where I am, if I will just choose to make a little effort to reach to him. He knew I was busy. He knew I was panicked. So, he was kind and gracious and led me immediately to what I needed to hear that moment, so I could get on with the busyness of my day and be successful, with him leading the way, instead of me floundering and chasing my tail, trying to figure it all out on my own. A few of the key verses that spoke to my heart.

Not that I have already obtained all this or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me. Heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14..... many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their God is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind

Rise Up: How to Start Living Again

Easter isn't just the celebration of a past event—it's an invitation to a new life here and now.

Through Jesus' resurrection, God offers us the freedom to rise from grief, fear, regret, burnout, shame, and brokenness into hope, healing, calling, and bold love.



This Easter season at Monroe UMC, we're launching a powerful new series called *Rise Up: How to Start Living Again*.

Each week, we'll dive into real-life stories from the Bible and discover how God still meets us today—right in the middle of our struggles—and lifts us into a new way of living. No matter where you are on your faith journey, there's a fresh start waiting for you.

On Easter Sunday, we heard a message that reminded us that when everything looked finished, Jesus rose and that means we can, too.

- **April 27 – Joy Interrupted:** How to reclaim joy when fear and worry try to steal it.
- **May 4 – What Are You Waiting For?:** God calls us to move beyond guilt and fear into bold new life.
- **May 11 – It's Not Too Late to Get Back Up:** Even after the hardest falls, restoration is possible.
- **May 18 – Love Beyond Limits:** True freedom in Christ means loving with no boundaries.
- **May 25 – Do You Really Want to Be Well?:** Healing begins with the desire to be made new.
- **June 1 – Vision Check:** Seeing yourself and your future through God's eyes.

- **June 8 – Catch the Fire:** Living with the courage and purpose of the Holy Spirit. No matter what you're carrying today—wounds, doubts, longings, or hopes—God's Spirit is ready to lift you up.

Come experience the hope of resurrection for your own life.

Join us for worship Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m., in person or streaming live on Facebook and YouTube.

Monroe UMC is a place where you can come as you are—and rise up to live fully, freely, and faithfully.

Honoring Women – May 11



We will honor all women, including mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, daughters, nieces, friends, and spiritual mentors in worship on **Sunday, May 11**.

We will also remember those women who have finished their earthly race, kept the faith, and inherited their crown in glory.

We invite you to attend and bring the beloved women in your life with you for this special time. We will offer a special gift to each one present.



We cannot find the wooden music stands or the lights we had for the bell choir. If anyone knows where they are or what happened to them, please let Terry Chapman know. Her number is 479.234.1676.

Graduate Recognition Sunday – June 1

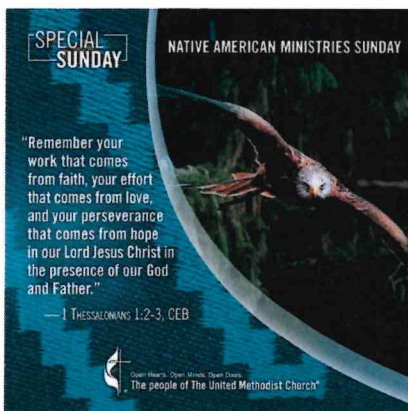
Monroe UMC will the honor graduates of high school, college, technical



programs, and others who have completed training or education during worship on **Sunday, June 1**. We will also pray for God to guide them in their future endeavors.

Please submit the names, contact information, education information, graduation information, and future plans to our office at MonroeOHUMC@gmail.com no later than **May 23**.

Native American Ministries Sunday – May 4



Marilyn Anderson has spent her life living on the Seneca Territory, surrounded by family and friends, both Traditional (Longhouse)

and Christian. She is an enrolled Seneca. Her father was a product of the Thomas Indian Boarding School. She and Kae Wilbert wrote the following as part of a report on Native American Ministries in the UMC.

“I live a stone’s throw from the Four Corners Methodist Church and have gone there my entire 74, almost 75 years, said Marilyn Anderson. We had a pastor who was the physical education teacher at our school and so a lot of young people attended our church. I also remember when another

pastor – who was Seneca – lived in a small trailer behind the church. We had a large Sunday school and a lot of young people. ...

“Our most recent pastor embraced our culture, respected us and our traditional teachings, and he brought enthusiasm back to our dwindling congregation, but we do not have him with us anymore.

“We don’t have young people anymore – the youngest is about 50 years old. Many of the young people on our territory attend the Longhouse (Traditional Way). ...

“I feel that everything goes back to the impact that boarding schools have had on our lives. The Doctrine of Discovery and the purpose of the boarding schools combine to make unacceptable social/cultural threats to native people. We still experience the effects of boarding schools today – as individuals and a community.

“Non-natives cannot understand the effect that boarding schools have had on us – and sometimes we natives don’t understand it either. Immigrants to America can probably relate to these feelings, especially those that were imprisoned for being who they are.

“The Methodist Church (the organization) pays respect to Natives, but they don’t understand who we are and the struggles that we face. Education can help to build respect, but it takes time. For the time being, they (the Church) should listen to us and take their direction from us when working with Natives. I don’t know what the future holds for our church, but I know that it’s not easy being a quarter-time pastor on a Native territory. I don’t think that the Church “organization” truly understands our needs, our challenges, and our culture and how important it is to have a pastor who respects us.”

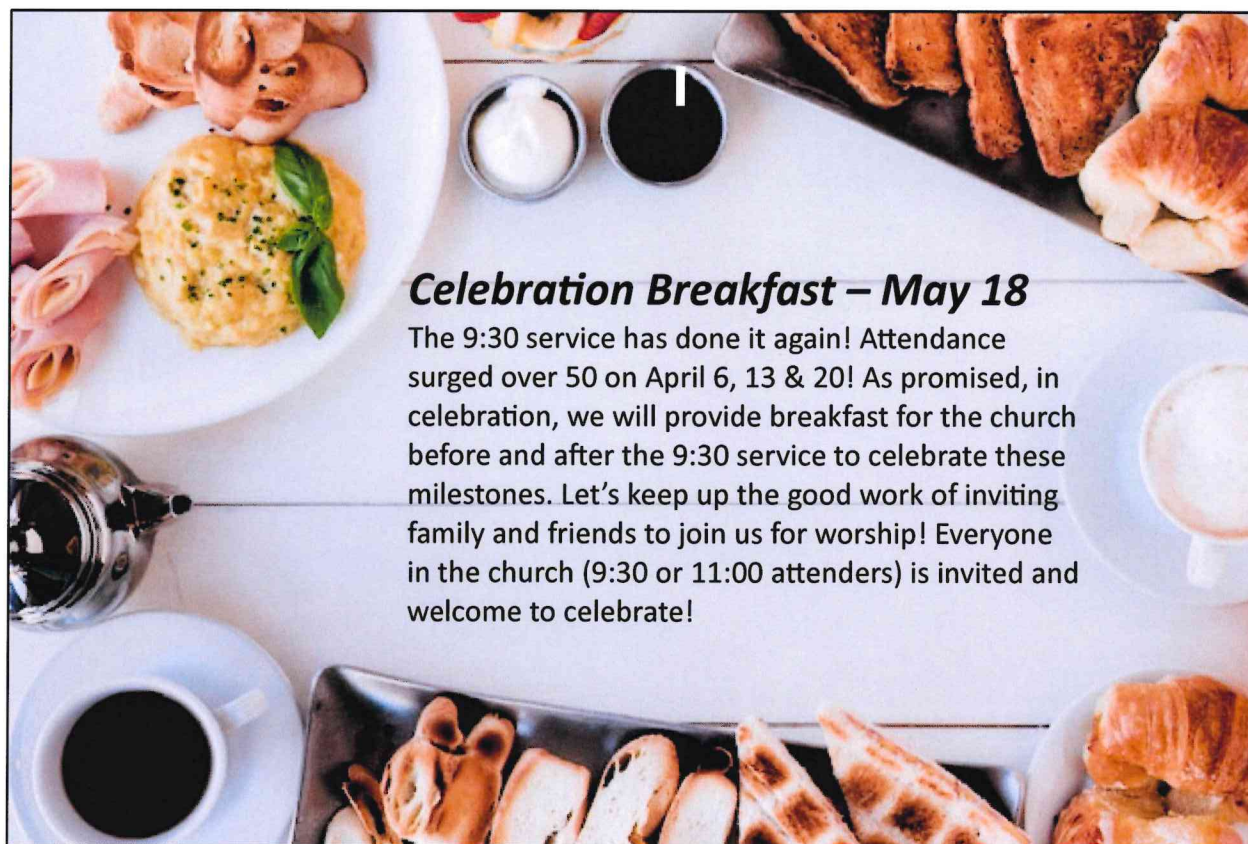
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One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, Native American Ministries Sunday serves to remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. The special offering supports Native American outreach across the United States and provides seminary scholarships for Native Americans.

When you give generously for Native American Ministries Sunday you equip seminary

students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You empower congregations to find fresh, new ways to minister to their communities with Christ's love.

Mark your offering envelope or check memo line for "NAMS." Or give online at MonroeUMC.org/Give and choose Fund 8413-Special Sundays. You can also text \$amount NAMS to 937.547.9908.





May Birthdays

- 1 – Arlene Horton
- 2 – Sharon Warmoth
 Melanie Flower
- 5 – Ed MacDonald (**99 years**)
- 10 – Peggy Hesson
- 20 – Ken Cobb
 Rob Kilburn
- 22 – Joann Kersh
- 26 – Monica Bolton
- 28 – Reed Musgrove
 Jennifer Lacefield
- 31 – Giselle Sanvee

May Anniversaries

- 11 – Phyllis & Jerry Michael (**57 years**)
- 12 – Roger & Penny Miller
 Jane & Danny McWhorter, Jr.
- 21 – Arthur & Arlene Klemushin (**53 years**)
 Pastor Jeff & Becky Motter
- 23 – Monica & Dillis Bolton
- 24 – Anne & Jerry Lapham (**50 years**)
- 28 – Giselle & David Sanvee
- 31 – Herb & Ginny Gansheimer (**62 years**)
 Don & Linda Kobert (**56 years**)





June Newsletter
Deadline
Wednesday, May 21st



May 11th



May 26th

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	4:30pm -8:30pm Emmaus Gathering/AH	28	29	30	1	2	3
	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	10:00am -12:00pm Sewing Group/Youth Room 10:00am Share Group/Parlor	11:30am -12:15pm Yoga/Narthex 6:00pm Youth Group				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
12:00pm -2:00pm Celebration for Ed MacDonald	Happy Birthdays! 	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	10:00am -12:00pm Sewing Group/Youth Room 10:00am Share Group/Parlor	11:30am -12:15pm Yoga/Narthex 6:00pm Youth Group	10:00am Exercise/AH 11:00am Yoga/AH	8:00am -2:00pm Women's Emmaus Walk Team Meeting/AH 3:00pm -9:00pm Andy Garlison/AH	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
	Happy Mother's Day! 	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	All Church Potluck  10:00am -12:00pm Sewing Group/Youth Room 10:00am Share Group/Parlor 6:00pm Potluck Dinner	11:30am -12:15pm Yoga/Narthex 6:00pm Youth Group	10:00am UMW Going to LaComedia 7:00pm Trustees/Library	10:00am Exercise/AH 11:00am Yoga/AH	8:00am -12:00pm Women's Emmaus Walk Team Meeting/AH 12:00pm -7:00pm Baby Shower/AH
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	10:00am -12:00pm Sewing Group/Youth Room 10:00am Share Group/Parlor 1:00pm Finance Committee/AH	11:30am -12:15pm Yoga/Narthex 6:00pm Youth Group	7:00pm Trustees/Library	Church Office Closed for Memorial Day 10:00am Exercise/AH 11:00am Yoga/AH		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Memorial Day  Church Office Closed	10:00am -12:00pm Sewing Group/Youth Room 10:00am Share Group/Parlor	11:30am -12:15pm Yoga/Narthex 6:00pm Youth Group	10:00am Exercise/AH 11:00am Yoga/AH			

MONROE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
206 East Avenue, PO Box 310
Monroe, OH 45050

REQUESTED RETURN SERVICE

Mission Statement:

*Shining the light on the hill by connecting with Jesus Christ,
connecting with each other and connecting with the world.*



MONROE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Monroe UMC Staff

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Larry Daniel, Choir Director

Melanie Flower, Organist

Linda Larkin, Nursery Attendant

Arlene Horton, Treasurer

Jerry & Anne Lapham,
Financial Sec'y

MINISTERS: CONGREGATION

OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY-FRIDAY 9:00AM-4:30PM



FACEBOOK: *Monroe United Methodist Church*



C/*MonroeUnitedMethodist*



TWITTER: @MonroeUMC

