

The Monroe Doctrine



January 2017

Make - Be - Invite



I was in a meeting once and had a parishioner point his finger in my face and say, “Why aren’t you bringing more people into church?” I paused a moment hoping that he would lower his finger (and his tone), so that the “pastoral” Joel would win the day rather than the “defend myself” Joel. He did and I did.

I then tried to explain that only 3% of folks who join a church join because the pastor asks them. To be honest, I think most folks do not take pastors seriously when we invite people to church. They think we’re “supposed to” or that we invite folks to “feather our own nest,” and then we are seen as self-serving.

That means that when you subtract the 3 - 5% who find their way to church on their own, well over 90% of the people who come to church and join a church are invited by parishioners. If we think of a church as a business, then the parishioners are the sales force. If we expect the staff to be the sales force, we will close up shop soon.

I ended my discussion with my red-faced and angry parishioner by saying, “I have my role here as Shepherd and I’m always trying to get better at feeding, leading and protecting the sheep, but

what a Shepherd does *not* do well is make new sheep. Sheep make sheep.”

If you don’t have any friends who don’t go to church, it’s time to make some new ones. Once you have befriended someone, be a real friend. Do stuff together. Talk on the phone. Hang out. Do what you do with friends. But, be a real friend. Then somewhere along the way, invite your friend to church. It might be to a concert or to a potluck or to worship or to a small group or whatever. But, you invite them to come with you to church.

It’s as hard and as simple as that. Make a friend who doesn’t have a church home. Be a real friend to her or him. Invite the person to church.

Make – Be – Invite. Make this your number one New Year’s Resolution this year. Invite people to church.

Grace & Peace,

--Pastor Joel

January Worship Schedule

- | | | |
|----|---|--------------|
| 1 | Special Covenant & Communion Service
Single service – 10:00 AM in Sanctuary | |
| 8 | “Opening Their Chests”
Epiphany Sunday | Matt 2:1-12 |
| 15 | “Not You, But Me!”
Baptismal Renewal | Matt 3:13-17 |
| 22 | “Gone Fishin” | Matt 4:12-23 |
| 29 | “Blessed Are ...” | Matt 5:1-12 |

Monroe UMC Staff Changes



After 15 years of leading our praise band, "Rekindled," **Chuck Garitson** is stepping down. Christmas Sunday was his last Sunday as Worship Leader in charge of the 9:30 Service.

While he will continue to work with our Audio-Visual Ministries and play in the band, he will not have the leadership responsibilities for Rekindled that he has shouldered all these years. We are thankful for all the time that Chuck has given us, and we have been deeply blessed by his ministry. We will have a cake and punch reception for Chuck after the 9:30 worship service January 15.

While we seek a permanent replacement, **Brittany Gould** will add interim Worship Leader to her responsibilities as our Director of Youth Ministries. She will lead our Worship Team through August. We plan to have a permanent Worship Leader in place by that time.

After about 5 months of leading our Children's Ministry, **Rick Drake** has decided that he does not have the energy to do this work as well as it needs to be done. We have accepted his resignation as of December 30, 2016. We respect Rick's decision and are thankful for the time he was able to give to us. We are currently accepting resumes for the Director of Children's Ministries (20hrs/wk).

New lights in sanctuary



You no longer need to look up before taking a seat in the sanctuary. The trustees have completed the installation of the new lights, and the old lights dangling from their power cords are gone. The new lights are all LED and use less energy than the old incandescent fixtures. Atchley Hall lights were

also changed to LED. This will be a continuing program until all our lights are switched to LED.

The trustees would like to thank all the people who contributed funds to pay for the new fixtures as well as those folks that helped with the installation of the new LED lights and fixtures. We especially want to thank **Jim Huston** and **Herb Gansheimer** for all their hard work and support. We also appreciate all those who took the time to come out and help move pews so the lift could get in place to install the light fixtures.

Men's Breakfast

There will be no Men's Breakfast for January. The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 4, at 9:00 AM in Atchley Hall.

Altar Flowers



The 2017 altar flower calendar for the sanctuary is hanging on the bulletin board in the narthex; cost is \$25.00 per Sunday. Envelopes are available on the table below the sign-up sheet.

A sign-up sheet and envelopes for the 9:30 worship service are available in Atchley Hall. The cost is \$15.00 per Sunday.

Caregivers Support Group

Our next Caregivers Support Group meeting will be Monday, January 2, at noon in Melvin's Room. If you have responsibilities in caring for another adult, please join us for lunch, fellowship, and support.

Make it and Take it Workshop

Jodi Blacklidge from Wright State University will be returning for another "healing oils" educational session on Tuesday, January 10, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. This workshop will focus on any medical/psychological concern you may have and let you make your own individualized oil

specifically for your needs. Cost will be approximately \$7 - \$10 per bottle depending on the oils used. To make sure we have enough supplies, please RSVP the church office.

Yoga, anyone?

Don't forget we have yoga classes three times per week offered in the gym for a nominal fee of \$3.50 per session (coupon books are 4 sessions for \$12). De-stress from the holidays and begin 2017 with a healthy start.

Eating habits seminar

Sheila Agee, RN, will lead a seminar on eating habits that promote health and prevent diseases such as cancer and heart disease. Learn what foods can help prevent cancer. Sheila is trained in holistic health practices and has presented seminars for many hospitals and companies in Ohio. She will have samples of healthy foods for you to try. This seminar will be held in Atchley Hall on Tuesday, February 7, from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. Cost is usually \$20 per person; however, for the first 30 people who register the cost will be \$10 per person, which includes all handouts and food. Call the church office to sign up. See **Ann Copeland** if you need child care.

Living With Cancer

Did you know that cancer survivors with fewer social ties are 43 percent more likely to have their cancer return. They are 64 percent more likely to die from their cancer. Social connections and group support can help cancer victims and their families in many ways. Our Living With Cancer Support Group provides education, fellowship, and support for cancer victims, cancer survivors, and their families in our community. It meets the second Wednesday of every month in the parlor from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Our next meeting will be held January 11. Please see **Pat Collins** or **Ann Copeland** with any questions.

Want to join MUMC?

We will be having Monroe 101 on Sunday, February 5, at 3:00 PM or Wednesday, February

8, at 7:00 PM in Melvin's Room. Hear about what it means to be a United Methodist, a part of Monroe UMC, and ways you can be involved. We will receive our new members at their choice of worship services on Sunday, February 12.

Confirmation Class

Parents, if you have a student in 7th - 12th grade who is interested in Confirmation classes to learn more about the history of the church, meet more teens in our faith family, and grow in your faith with the help of a friendly adult mentor, we invite you to join us starting in January. Please contact **Brittany Gould** to sign up or ask questions.

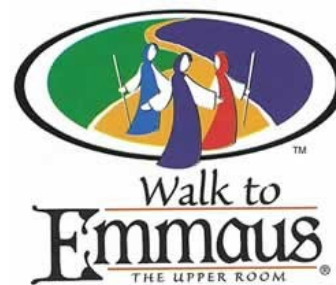
Chrysalis Flights coming



Don't forget the Northern Lights Boys' Chrysalis Flight over Martin Luther King weekend, January 14 - 16, and Girls' Chrysalis Flight over Presidents Day

Weekend, February 18 - 20. Chrysalis is for teens at least 15 years old and a high school sophomore. Both Flights will be held at Lebanon United Methodist Church. It's not too late to sign up. For more information, contact **Brittany Gould**.

Emmaus Walks



The Northern Lights Emmaus Community has not announced any Walks for 2017. If you feel ready to go on an Emmaus Walk, the Greater Dayton Community has Men's Walks in January and

August and Women's Walks in February, July, and September. The Greater Cincinnati Community has scheduled a Men's Walk in February and a Women's Walk in April. Contact **Anne** or **Jerry Lapham** for more information and to sign up for one of them.

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Holy Communion New Year's Day 10:00 AM One Traditional Service/Sanctuary	2 Church Office Closed 12:00 PM Caregivers Support Group/MR 6:30 PM Yoga/AH	3 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Clergy Cluster/MR 10:00 AM Share Group/Parlor 2:00 PM Loss Recovery Group/Parlor 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Sm. FH/Rms 6 & 7 7:00 PM Congregational Health Team/Parlor	4 11:00 AM Yoga/AH 6:30 PM Youth Sunday Rehearsals 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	5 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM NA/MR 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scouts/Small Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Rekindled/AH	6 11:00 AM Yoga/AH	7 9:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Atchley Hall
8 Blood Pressures taken in the Narthex 10:45 AM Youth Learning Group 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Confirmation Class	9 6:30 PM Yoga/AH	10 10:00 AM Share Group/Parlor 7:00 PM Finance Committee/MR 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Healing Oils Workshop/AH	11 11:00 AM Yoga/AH 6:30 PM Youth Sunday Rehearsals 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	12 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM NA/MR 7:00 PM Rekindled/AH	13 11:00 AM Yoga/AH	14
15 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Confirmation Class	16 6:30 PM Yoga/AH 7:00 PM Missions/S.A.I.L./MR	17 10:00 AM Share Group/Parlor 2:00 PM Loss Recovery Group/Parlor 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Sm. FH/Rms 6 & 7 7:00 PM Trustees/MR	18 11:00 AM Yoga/AH 6:30 PM Youth Sunday Rehearsals 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	19 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM NA/MR 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scouts/Small Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Rekindled/AH	20 11:00 AM Yoga/AH	21
22 Newsletter Deadline 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Small Groups	23 6:30 PM Yoga/AH	24 10:00 AM Share Group/Parlor 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Sm. FH/Rms 6 & 7	25 Dine & Donate at Chipotle 11:00 AM Yoga/AH 6:30 PM Youth Dinner, Games & Worship 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	26 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM NA/MR 7:00 PM Rekindled/AH	27 11:00 AM Yoga/AH	28
29 Casserroles to Go 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Confirmation Class	30 6:30 PM Yoga/AH	31 10:00 AM Share Group/Parlor 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Sm. FH/Rms 6 & 7	1 11:00 AM Yoga/AH 6:30 PM Youth Sunday Rehearsals 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	2 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM NA/MR 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scouts/Small Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Rekindled/AH	3 11:00 AM Yoga/AH	4 9:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Atchley Hall

JANUARY

January Birthdays

- 1 Peggy Hesson
- 3 Jim Aumann
Tarin Yalich
- 4 Hailey Stevens
- 5 Linda Barnet
- 6 Muriel Hardin
Laura Moak
Elbert Tannreuther
- 8 Don Alleman
- 9 Sue Garver
Judy Halsey
Greg Stevens
Marguerite Stillman
- 11 Frank Hickman
Lois Shay
Janet Ivins
- 12 Mary Ann Leeds
- 13 Betty Jo Hadley
Sandra Stein
- 14 Melissa Evans
- 18 Ruthann Tracy
- 19 Glen Rowlett
- 20 Arica Ratliff
Pam Routson
- 21 Brad Jonas
Sally Jonas
- 24 David Finley
- 25 Chelsey Sanvee
Lee Magrino
- 27 Crosley Uitto
- 28 Jason Osterman
- 30 Catherine Fields
- 31 **Jeanne Snyder (94)**

January Anniversaries

14 Joe & Jenny DeBord

Statistically Speaking

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
November 20	231	\$3,859
November 27	189	\$2,831



Director of Children's Ministry Position

Monroe United Methodist Church is seeking to fill the part-time (20 hours/week) position of "Director of Children's Ministry". Our church needs someone who is able to create a loving and caring environment for the purpose of providing Christian Education for children from the ages of pre-school through the 6th grade. The ultimate goal of this education is to lead the children to experience the love of Christ. This position requires someone with a collaborative spirit as it will involve extensive communication with other staff members, volunteers, students, and other church members.

Following are the primary responsibilities of this position:

- Oversee and coordinate all aspects of the children's ministry including, but not limited to: Sunday School, Nursery, VBS, and other special events
- Approve all Children's Ministry programs, curricula, activities and disbursement of funds for supplies and projects, keeping within budgeted amount.
- Oversee and ensure that:
 - Classrooms are organized, orderly, and safe
 - Policies pertinent to the Children's Ministry are developed, posted, and enforced
 - Ongoing records of attendance of both of workers and children are kept
 - Bulletin inserts and newsletter articles are prepared as needed to communicate Children's Ministry events to the congregation
- Be available to counsel and pray with children regarding spiritual matters
- Staffing the Children's Ministry Department:
 - Recruit and maintain an adequate group of volunteers to staff the Children's Ministry programs
 - Screen potential staff members before placing them in ministry
 - Organize training and planning sessions for children's leaders/workers
 - Schedule all teachers and find substitutes when necessary
- Maintain communications with prospective new members

To apply for this position, please forward your resume and references to one of the following:

- Email: monroeumc@cinci.rr.com, Subject: Children's Ministry Director Position
- U.S. Mail: Monroe United Methodist Church
- 206 East Avenue, PO Box 310
- Monroe, OH 45050-0310

Or place them in the mailbox located outside the Church Office labeled "Office"

Dearly beloved of Monroe UMC,

In this holy season, I bring sad news to you. Rick Drake has served as our Director of Children's Ministries since August 1, 2016. He has decided to step down from that position. He has found that he just doesn't have the energy to do the job the way it needs done. We are accepting his resignation as of December 30, 2016.

Some of you may have heard of a controversy about Rick in recent days. I have personally investigated this claim and found that the evidence of wrong-doing is not proven. There are claims and allegations against Rick for which he has reasonable explanations. We regret that these claims have surfaced. But, be assured that there have been absolutely no allegations made regarding his care of children, youth or their families of the church.

Let me be clear. Rick is not leaving our employment because of these claims and allegations. We are simply accepting his resignation because Rick has found that he just doesn't have the energy to be our Director of Children's Ministries. Rick and Annette are welcome to be involved at Monroe UMC, but because of the controversial allegations against Rick, he has been asked to not be in a leadership role in our congregation at this time. This arrangement can be modified in the future, of course.

I sincerely ask for you to be in prayer for the Monroe UMC, for Rick and Annette Drake, for me, your pastor and all the church leaders and staff as we navigate the next steps in our ministry together.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Joel

MONROE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
206 East Avenue, P.O. Box 310
Monroe, OH 45050-0310

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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Linda Larkin, Nursery Attendant
Jerry Lapham, Newsletter Editor
Jeremy Uitto, Website Developer
Melanie Flower, Organist
Steve Rizkallah, Custodian
Treasurer, Connie Wesner
Fin. Secretary, Lindsay Fields

MINISTERS: CONGREGATION



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