

The Monroe Doctrine



November 2023

“Make Space”: A Journey of Stewardship and Grace



Let's face it: Many today feel hard-pressed to find the time and resources to grow our lives spiritually and to make a meaningful difference with our lives.

We will embark on a transformative journey together in our upcoming sermon series, "Make Space," from October 29 to November 26, 2023. At Monroe United Methodist Church, we believe that stewardship goes far beyond managing our finances—it's about offering our entire lives to God. This series explores the profound concept that making space in our hearts, homes, and minds is essential to fully engage with God and what God is doing in our lives.

Along the way we'll reflect on our first memories of money and the truth that everything we have is a gift from God. We'll examine how contentment and gratitude are elements of a joyful life. We'll explore how seeking divine guidance can lead to a fulfilling and purpose-driven life. We'll consider how we have been blessed and how we might be a blessing to others and realize the transformative power of generosity. Then, on November 26, we will give thanks for the blessing God has given us and recognize how giving thanks is an essential part of our life's journey with resources of time, talent, treasure, and our lives.

Throughout the series we'll offer tools and

resources to help each of us assess our stage in life, including our finances, develop plans for every aspect of our lives, and grow in grace through generosity. On November 26, we'll have the opportunity to return our Annual Campaign Estimate of Giving Card for our projected giving to God through Monroe UMC for 2024. This information is invaluable as our Finance and ministry teams plan for the coming year.

We invite you to join us every Sunday as we dive deep into these meaningful topics, exploring the depths of stewardship and grace. Through thought-provoking questions and insightful discussions, we'll grow together in faith and understanding.

Let's make space in our lives for God, embracing God's wisdom, generosity, and love. Together, let's experience the joy of stewardship that goes beyond our finances, transforming every aspect of our existence.



All Saints' Sunday to be observed

We will pause to remember those loved ones who have passed away since last year's All Saints' Sunday in worship on November 5, 2023. Names will be read and a candle lit for each one as we pray. Family members have been invited to attend these services. Please help them feel welcome and comforted as we celebrate saints who have joined the great cloud of witnesses that cheer us on in faith.

Church Conference Set

Monroe UMC will hold its annual church conference on Sunday, November 19, at 4 pm. All church members are invited to participate; church council members are expected to be present. We will review membership, set pastoral compensation, elect officers and team members, and set goals for 2024.

Angel Trees go up Nov 12

Choose a tag and go shopping for a child in need. If time is limited, ask Gina...she LOVES to shop! Please place your wrapped/tagged gift under the Angel Tree or in Gina's office by December 16.

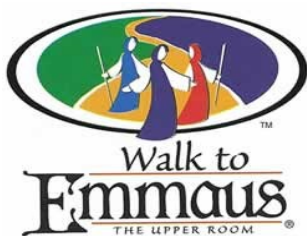
Poinsettias



Poinsettias will again be available to decorate the sanctuary and Atchley Hall for Christmas. The cost is \$10.00 each. Envelopes are available in the pews in the sanctuary or on the table at the back door in the

airlock. Orders must be received by November 19. If you have questions, contact **Pam Kilburn**.

Three complete Walk



Hannah Peatrowsky said she "felt the presence of Christ through others" as she completed the Northern Lights Women's Walk to Emmaus here at

MUMC. **Sharon Sinclair** said "it was absolutely amazing and has made such a difference in my life." **Tessa Sinclair** said she "knows God will be with her."

The next Northern Lights activity will be a Girl's Chrysalis Flight on Martin Luther King Day weekend and a Boy's Flight on President's Day weekend. The community also plans Men's and Women's Walks in the spring. See **Anne** and **Jerry Lapham** for more information.

Financial brief -2nd quarter

Actual Budgeted Over/(Under)

Income \$240,330.38 \$251,400.00 (\$11,069.62)
(giving, grant, fees, donations)

Expenses \$209,670.65 \$253,771.65_(\$44,101.00)
(operations, maintenance, ministry)

Totals \$30,659.73 (\$2371.65) \$33,031.38

Interpretive Notes:

1. We experienced a "summer slump" in giving (\$60,772.71 compared with an average of \$89,778 in the two prior quarters). Because our expenses remained lower than budgeted, we continue in a positive trend for the year. We are grateful for staff and ministry leaders who strive to be responsible with the resources God provides.

2. The Finance Team has committed to tithing (giving 10%) of our monthly general giving to pay toward our District and Conference apportionments. In taking this step of faith, we trust that God will provide so we can participate in Christ's work across West Ohio Conference and the Great Miami River District.

3. To-date, we have paid 42% of district and 35% of conference apportionments -- our fair share to support these ministries.

4. Please be aware that church income and expenses vary monthly.

5. The roof repairs and partial insurance payment received to date are not reflected here, because these are operating numbers rather than capital numbers. Insurance will pay for nearly all of the cost.

Stellar Christmas Play

Children of all ages needed! No auditions necessary. Practice Sunday after the first service until noon through December 10. Parents need to stay with children under 6. Snacks provided.

History Corner

A Little About Our Bell



On a Fall day in November 1970, the men of the Monroe United Methodist Church joined together to hang on the wall next to the new church entrance the 500-pound bell that the May 10, 1969, tornado that roared through the community brought down from the steeple of the old church.

This bell played a large part in calling people to worship on









Sunday mornings at what was then the Monroe Methodist Episcopal Church. Bells were often used as a signal that something of significance has happened in the life of the church or one of its members, such as a birth, death, or marriage. There are even times when many community bells are rung at the same time.

In 1860/61, the Niles Foundry of Cincinnati had cast it. Niles was one of several bell foundries that were in Cincinnati.



The bell remained in this location until it was taken down, briefly stored, then cleaned up and mounted in front of the sanctuary. The bell is a reminder and connection to the church's past history.

Roger Miller

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
29	 2:00pm –4:00pm Trunk or Treat	30	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	31	10:00am Share Group/Parlor	1	11:00am Yoga/AH 12:00pm Yoga/Narthex	2	 Kairos/AH & Kitchen	3	 Kairos/AH & Kitchen	4	 Kairos/AH & Kitchen
5	 Daylight Savings Time Ends	6	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	7	10:00am Share Group/Parlor	8	11:00am Yoga/AH 12:00pm Yoga/Narthex	9	9	10	10:00am Exercise/AH 11:00am Yoga/AH	11	 5:00pm –9:00pm Emmaus Gathering
12	12	13	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Missions/Library 7:00pm Scouts/AH	14	10:00am Share Group/Parlor	15	11:00am Yoga/AH 12:00pm Yoga/Narthex	16	1:00pm –3:30pm United Methodist Women/AH 7:00pm Trustees/Library	17	10:00am Exercise/AH 11:00am Yoga/AH	18	18
19	4:00pm Church Conference	20	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	21	10:00am Share Group/Parlor 1:00pm Finance Committee/Library	22	11:00am Yoga/AH 12:00pm Yoga/Narthex	23	 Church Office Closed	24	24	25	25
26		27	Church Office Closed 6:00pm Yoga/AH 7:00pm Scouts/AH	28	10:00am Share Group/Parlor	29	11:00am Yoga/AH 12:00pm Yoga/Narthex	30	30	1	10:00am Exercise/AH 11:00am Yoga/AH	2	5:00pm –9:00pm Emmaus Gathering/AH



November



Birthdays

- 11 – Dan Moak
JoAn Webb
- 16 – Donna Whitenack **(93 years)**
- 17 – Connie Grooms
- 20 – Jane Majors
- 22 – Ralph Carpenter
Pam Kilburn
- 23 – Eleanore Short
- 26 – John Hamilton
- 28 – Herb Gansheimer
- 29 – Joyce Schraffenberger **(91 years)**



Church Statistics...

	<u>Offering</u>
September 17	\$3,150
September 24	\$1,771
October 1	\$4,400
October 8	\$6,901
October 15	\$4,080



Happy Thanksgiving

November
23th



**Daylight Savings
Time Ends
Sunday,
November 5th
Don't forget to set your
clocks back 1 hour!**



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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Melanie Flower, Organist

Jerry Lapham, Newsletter Editor

Linda Larkin, Nursery Attendant

Arlene Horton, Treasurer

Jerry & Anne Lapham, Financial Sec'y

MINISTERS: CONGREGATION

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



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