



Monthly Newsletter

Sept 2025

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m.

Check us out on our web site www.monticelloumc.com

From Pastor Anne:

In May, the Council of Bishops in conjunction with the Connectional Table, announced a new vision statement for the United Methodist Church. This vision reflects the Church's deep commitment to embodying God's dream for the world, and complements our longstanding mission statement, inspired by Matthew 28:1-20: "The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." The new vision states: The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, **love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously** in local communities and worldwide connections.

The vision encourages United Methodists to embody the following principles:

- **Love Boldly:** Passionately love God and, like Jesus, embrace and include people of every age, nation, race, gender and walk of life. (Inspired by Matthew 22:37-39 and John 13:34-35)
- **Serve Joyfully:** With a Christ-like heart, journey alongside the most vulnerable, offering care and compassion with joy. (Inspired by Psalm 100:1, Nehemiah 8:10, John 13:14-15 and 1 Peter 4:10)
- **Lead Courageously:** Follow Jesus' example by resisting and dismantling all systems of evil, injustice, and oppression, striving for peace, justice and reconciliation. (Inspired by Joshua 1:9 and Ephesians 6:10)

A further strength of the new vision statement is that it corresponds extraordinarily well with the vows of our baptism:

- Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?
- Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

Our Sympathies to...

-Dave Shiley and family on the passing of his mother-in-law, Catherine Kellogg, who passed on July 5th. Services were held here at MUMC on August 18th.

-Marilyn and Debbie Olson and their extended family on the passing of husband and father, Max, on August 19th. Visitation, services, and family luncheon were held here at MUMC on August 25th.

Bible Study

There is a new Women's Bible Study beginning September 10! Join the group Wednesday afternoons at 1:15. The 5 week study with videos by Max Lucado is entitled ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING. Each video is around 20 minutes long and we'll follow it up with study questions. You will need to order a study guide which you can get through various online sources or through me. If you have any questions please contact Wendy Schupmann, 217-220-9219.

Stained Glass

Our goal of collecting \$110,000 for the stained glass is complete. Our Church Family really came together on this project. A huge thank you to all who contributed. A final detailed drawing of the project by Corrie Art Glass will soon be on display at Church.

Help Wanted

Jeannie Goble is leaving us to move out of state. We appreciate her many years of service as Nursery Supervisor and will miss seeing her there. This means we are looking to hire another Nursery Supervisor and will develop a rotating volunteer system for the required second adult. Applicants must be 18 or over and be available to work Sunday mornings (approx. 3.5 hours) and Wednesday evenings (approx. 2.5-3 hours). Applications are at the Welcome Center or apply online at www.monticelloumc.com/apply

In addition, Dave Shiley has decided to retire from his position here as custodian and we are looking for someone to take over. This is a flexible 12 hour per week, part-time position that entails general cleaning of all but the sanctuary as well as furniture set-up for events. Anyone interested may fill out the general application at the Welcome Center or contact the office.

St. Jude's Run 2025



On August 1st and 2nd, the annual St. Jude Monticello to Peoria Run took place. This is an annual run to raise money for kids of St. Jude who are fighting the battle of cancer. The Monticello team had approximately 35 on their team, including two participants from our church, Will Pontious and Elise Wildman, who laced up their running shoes and took part in the 90 mile run. The run left from here at the church on Friday around 5:15 pm, and all the runners ran across the bridge and ended at the Peoria Civic Center around 3 pm on Saturday. Monticello was one of 34 teams that took part in the

run. Teams came from all over the state of Illinois to take part in this run. One team even came all the way from Memphis, TN. As the team from Memphis crossed the finish line, all the other teams followed them in a runners parade. With cheers coming from the kids and their families, runners high-fived the kids and made one final lap into the Civic Center. Our team from Monticello was able to raise \$107,000 for the kids of St. Jude and their families. All the teams combined raised \$6,508,376!

Music Ministry

Fall is upon us and that means that rehearsals are beginning again for all our Music Ministry ensembles. New members are always welcome in our Sanctuary Choir, Hand Bell Choir, and New Day ensemble. Are you looking for a way to get involved or an opportunity to share your musical gifts and talents? Join us for rehearsal every Wednesday, beginning September 3! Our schedule is:

Choir 6-7 PM

Handbells 7-8 PM

New Day 7-8 PM

We'd love you to join us and, of course, it is possible to sing AND ring, if you'd like!!!

Mark your calendars now for this year's **Sounds of Christmas** concert performance, scheduled for Sunday, December 14, at 3:00 PM at which our Sanctuary Choir will present the cantata, *Tidings of Joy!* Inspired by Celtic music traditions and time-honored carols, this year's cantata is a brilliant mix of jubilant new songs and familiar tunes. MUMC's **Sounds of Christmas** is an annual concert event that brings together all ensembles from within our Music Ministry to celebrate Advent and the holiday season. Plan to join us after the performance for a light fellowship meal.

Family Ministry News

Thank you so much to all of our VBS volunteers!! We had approximately 50 kids attend each night and raised \$543.63 for Operation Kid to Kid!

We are looking forward to Sunday School starting 9/7. We would love some volunteers to help each week! Please reach out to Anne or Sarah if you are interested in helping!

Also, if you have a child that is in 2nd grade or older and interested in bring an acolyte please let Sarah or Anne know also!

Youth Ministry

Youth group is off to a great start! We have two new youth leaders with us this year. Katie and Kylie Krahn, former members of the MUMC youth group, have said yes to being youth leaders! They were involved in a college ministry program and are excited to help lead our group! We meet each Sunday night. A typical youth group night consists of a lesson, small groups, dinner and an activity. We do fun outings on occasion also. On September 14th, we will have our Food Pantry Scavenger Hunt. This is where we will go as a group to collect food for our food pantry here at the church. Unfortunately, we will not be able to stop by everyone's house, so if you buy food and we do not make it by, please just bring it by the church.

Food! One of the favorite parts of youth group on Sundays is when we eat dinner together. You can sign up to make a meal for the youth group. Maybe your Sunday school class would like to provide a meal, or maybe a small group of families. If you would like to sign up, please contact Will Pontious!

Fun & Fellowship News

Boo! Can you believe it's time to think about our annual Tent or Treat? This year's event will be held on Sunday October 26th and we will be collecting candy (nut free) and give aways! And of course we'd love it if you'd join in the fun by helping or hosting a booth! If you are interested in helping in any way please reach out to Kelly.

Looking Ahead! We are also starting to plan fellowship events around the holidays. Be on the look out for more to come in October! Mark your calendars for Sunday November 30th for a 5th Sunday luncheon paired with Hanging of the Greens!

Outreach Ministry News

New in Outreach this month:

- We are grateful for all the garden-fresh produce donated by folks in the community as well as the Master Gardeners, FFA, and 4H.
- Mat Weaving - Our 14th sleeping mat is on the loom! Join us each 3rd Monday at 9 am for weaving.
- Our next work day at the Midwest Missions is Thursday, September 11th. If you've never been before and would like to join us, meet in the church parking lot to carpool or follow along in your own car. Talk to Jean Holmes if you have any questions.

Thrift with a Mission!

Love a good garage sale or thrift store? Don't just shop, **SERVE!**
Here's what you can look for on your next trip:

Medical Equipment:

- ☐ Foldable Walkers
- ☐ Wheelchairs
- ☐ Crutches
- ☐ Canes
- ☐ Orthopedic Supplies



Sports Equipment:

- ☐ Volleyballs
- ☐ Basketballs
- ☐ Soccer Balls
- ☐ Soccer Cleats



Lawn Tools & Hand Tools:

- ☐ Metal Rakes
- ☐ Hoes
- ☐ Shovels
- ☐ Saws
- ☐ Hand Tools
- ☐ Brooms



Midwest Mission Staples:

- ☐ Bicycles
- ☐ Sewing Machines
- ☐ Fabric over 1 yard
- ☐ Sewing Notions



Please donate items in good, working condition so we can give the best supplies.

You can bring supplies to a Midwest Mission location or a Permanent Collection Site near you.
Visit midwestmission.org/collect-donate to learn more.

Please think about
Midwest Missions
when you come
across these items
at thrift sales,
estate sales or even
when you are
downsizing.

Bring to the
church and our
Outreach
group will
deliver them to
the Distribution
Center.

Stewardship News

Stewardship is in full swing of planning and looking ahead at 2026 as we wrap up 2025. Over the next couple of months you'll hear new messages, new plans and new numbers for the coming year. We are excited to share our vision for what's ahead and tell you that it's time to Say Cheese! We finally have a pathway for the directory! All of those details and more will be shared on Sunday September 14th!

Meetings & Events

Typical Weekly events:

Worship Services, Sunday at 8:30 and at 10:45, with Sunday School in between at 9:45.
T.O.P.S., Monday, 4 pm
Food Pantry, Tu & Th 12:45-3 pm, Wednesday, 5:30-7 pm
Boy Scouts, Monday, 7 pm (if school is in session)
Mat Weaving for Midwest Missions - Every third Monday of the month at 9 am
“Just Walking” - Tu & Th, 8:30 am - Half hour devotional followed by indoor walking
Bible Study Wednesdays, 1:15 pm
W.A.T.Ch. Meals - Wed, 5 pm (September through mid-May)
Sanctuary Choir rehearsals, Wed, 6 pm; Bell Choir & New Day rehearsals -Wed, 7pm*
Youth Group, Sunday, 5-7 pm; mid August through mid-May
Summer Singers - Thursdays at 6:30 pm, June through mid-August
*(Sanctuary Choir and New Day take rehearsal hiatus June through August;

Monday, September 1

OFFICE CLOSED for Labor Day

Wednesday, Sept 3

W.A.T.Ch. meals resume, 5 pm
All Choirs resume, 6 and 7 pm
These will continue on Wednesdays

Sunday, Sept 7

Kids' Sunday School resumes

Monday, Sept 8

Outreach Mtg, 9 am
Fun & Fellowship, 6:30

Wednesday, Sept 10

Trustees mtg, 5:30 pm

Thursday, Sept 11

Midwest Missions-all day
Finance mtg, 7 pm

Monday, Sept 15

Mat Weaving, 9 am
P.E.O. , 6:15 pm

Tuesday, Sept 16

NO Church Council -
rescheduled for Oct 14

Tuesday, Sept 23

Worship Comm Mtg, 7 pm

Sunday, Sept 28

Blessing of the Animals, 1pm