

MUMC Children & Youth Ministry

December 14, 2025



Xtreme Kids Sunday School is for kindergarten and up. Every Sunday at 9:15. Dismissal is at the end of the first service (usually between 10:30 and 10:45). Let your kids have fun while learning about Jesus! Invite friends too! Engaging activities will help your child grow socially and spiritually.

Nursery: for newborns to 4 years old.
Sundays during the 9:30 and 11:00 services.



The Amanda Outreach / Slinky Tutoring Center

First day back - Mon., Sept. 8th - 3:45/4:20 - 5:30 at Amanda UMC

Tutoring is on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout the school year between 4:20 and 5:30.

Amanda Elementary children and parents appreciate your Christian love and academic encouragement.

LINK Adult Readers

As a tutor for an adult reader, you determine the schedule and meeting place (church or library).

Contact Gina for more details (gmatcraft@gmail.com/937-514-3793).

The Breakfast Club Christmas Show

(Dec. 14th at 9:30am). Practice is every Sunday until noon.

*Dress rehearsal is on Sat., Dec. 13th from 10am - 12pm.



Giving Trees – Choose a tag, go shopping, and make a child very happy! No time for shopping? Ask Gina – she loves to shop! Please tape the original tag to the present (wrapped or bagged) and bring it to church by Dec. 21st.



Through prayer, scripture, and service, 5th–12th graders **ENCOUNTER** the journey that Jesus set before them.

Holiday Schedule:

Dec. 17th - White Elephant Party at church

Dec. 24th - Jan. 7th - Winter Break

Jan. 14th - Bible Study

Jan. 21st - Mt. Pleasant

Jan. 28th - Bible Study

December 14th Announcements

Altar Flowers – The Sanctuary altar flowers are given by Barb Conley in honor of Rhonda Finley's birthday December 24th. The Atchley Hall flowers are given by Giselle & David Sanvee in honor of David's birthday December 10th.

Altar Flowers – the 2025 and 2026 altar flower calendars for the sanctuary are hanging on the bulletin board in the narthex; cost is \$25.00/Sunday for 2025. Envelopes are available on the table below the sign-up sheet. **Sign-up sheets and envelopes are available on the bulletin board in Atchley Hall for the 9:30 worship service.** The cost is \$15.00/Sunday for 2025.

NOTE: Beginning in January 2026 the price of altar flowers is going to increase. As soon as we get more details, we will let you know.

Prayer Concerns – Prayer Concerns are welcome and encouraged since we believe in the power of prayer and scripture directs us to pray. Please legibly write down your prayer requests on a card in the envelope marked "PRAYER CONCERNS". You may hand this to an usher to give to the pastor, or you may give it to the pastor during the first song.

The Nazarene Food Pantry – They need canned potatoes, boxed potatoes, pasta side packets, plain rice, mandarin oranges, fruit cocktail. All items are appreciated.

CAROL NO. 237

Sing We Now of Christmas

vss. 1-3

*GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:39-56

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

(Please put your completed communication card in the offering plate)

Special Music

Breath of Heaven

Chancel Choir

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

MESSAGE

Mary's Song of Joy

Rev. Jeff Motter

SENDING FORTH

We Ask, We Answer (responsively)

R: What child IS this?

*SONG NO. 246

Joy to the World

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*RESPONSE NO. 219

What Child Is This?

refrain

*Indicates Congregation to Stand if Able

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GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays – Free Seminar, **CANCELLED**.

Newsletter Deadline – The deadline for the January newsletter is **TODAY**. If you have an article you wish to submit, please send it to monroeumc@cinci.rr.com.

Step into the Story as we celebrate Christmas Eve with your church family on **Wednesday, December 24th**. At 4:30pm, we offer a Christmas Eve service with an interactive pageant, carols, and candlelight, suitable for all ages. And at 7:00pm, our Classic Christmas Eve service features carols, choir, and candlelight. Join us in person or online...and invite your whole family to be part of this Christmas Eve tradition.

Liturgist/Scripture Reading – One way to serve in our church is to be a liturgist at 11:00 or Scripture Reader at 9:30. In these roles, you help provide important hospitality to those joining us and leadership for the service. Training is offered to help prepare you. Talk to Pastor Jeff for more information or to indicate interest/curiosity.

Important Tax Change on Charitable Giving – Beginning in 2026, you may be able to deduct up to \$1,000 (\$2,000 for married couples) of your charitable giving, even if you take the standard deduction. Your generosity to Monroe UMC Church not only advances God's mission, it may also reduce your tax bill!

The Details: Starting with gifts made in 2026, as set out in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, individuals may deduct up to \$1,000, and married couples filing jointly may deduct up to \$2,000, from their taxable income for gifts to qualified charities, including their church. This is above the standard deduction. The universal tax deduction will reduce taxable income, not adjusted gross income. This applies only for cash donations, but gifts to donor-advised funds do not qualify.

[Source: "Good News for Givers in 2026." <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/good-news-for-givers-in-2026>. 11/5/2025. Accessed 12/09/2025.]

This Week at Monroe UMC

TODAY	9:30am	Praise Worship/AH
(Dec. 14)	9:30am	Christmas Play/AH
	11:00am	Traditional Worship/Sanctuary
	2:30-4:30pm	GriefShare/Library
		Newsletter Deadline
Monday		Church Office Closed
	6:00pm	Yoga/AH
	7:00pm	Scouts/AH
Tuesday	10:00am	Share Group/Parlor
	1:00pm	Finance Committee/Library
Wednesday	11:00am	Yoga/Narthex
	6:00pm	Youth
	7:00pm	Praise Team/AH
Thursday	7:00pm	Trustees/Library
Friday	10:00am	Exercise/AH
	11:00am	Yoga/AH
Sunday	9:30am	Praise Worship/AH
(Dec. 21)	11:00am	Traditional Worship/Sanctuary