

MUMC Children & Youth Ministry

December 28, 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

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).

Giving Tree – Because of your generosity, the children will have a delightful Christmas.

Thank you for ALL the great gifts!



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

Holiday Schedule:

Dec. 24th – Jan. 7th – Winter Break
Jan. 14th – Bible Study
Jan. 21st – Mt. Pleasant
Jan. 28th – Bible Study

****Adults & Family****

Altar Flowers – The Sanctuary altar flowers are given by Don & Sharon Warmoth in honor of their 30th wedding anniversary.

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.

Altar Flower Price Increase – After 20 years at the same price, beginning in January 2026 the price of altar flowers is going to increase to \$48 for both vases in the Sanctuary and \$25 for the vase in Atchley Hall. Contact Pam Kilburn with questions.

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 the 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 strawberry jelly, mayo or Miracle whip. All items are appreciated. Merry Christmas!

Upper Rooms – The January/February Upper Rooms are available for pickup on the table in the airlock at the back door or in the rack in the Narthex.

We will be removing the sanctuary Christmas decorations **TODAY** after the 11:00am service. Anyone available and able to help will be appreciated. With enough help, we are usually done by 1:30pm.

Nuts/Candy – The UMW has a few extra nuts/candy to sell. Please see Pam Kilburn, Terri McGuire, Toni McDonough or Jane Majors.

United Methodist Women – The Executive Committee of the UM Women will meet **Monday, December 29th** at 10:00am in the parlor to plan meetings for next year.

Liturgist/Scripture Reader – 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 prepare you. Talk to Pastor Jeff for more information or to indicate interest/curiosity.

Habits for a Stronger Life is the next message series, starting Jan. 4, 2026 in both services. Invite a family member or friend to start the new year off on the right foot by “Putting First Things First.” Communion will also be shared.

Small Group for a Stronger Life – In conjunction with our message series, we’re forming small group studies to bring what we hear in the message into our daily lives. We’ll use two books that you can order from the church office (cost is \$15 per household for shared copies or \$15 each). Books take the weekly message into daily life through reading, reflection, and action. Group sessions will be announced soon. Contact the office to sign up today.

Thank You – Dear Pastor Jeff and the entire Monroe Methodist Church family, From all of us who serve on this end of the Monroe Food Pantry at the Monroe Church of the Nazarene, we wish to express to ALL of you, our gratitude. Thanks does not begin to express our wholehearted appreciation for all of you who donate items, money, and your time so selflessly to the wonderful communities we serve here in Monroe and the surrounding area. Thank you for serving Christ our Lord and Savior! *In His Love, Monroe Food Pantry* ☺

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 UM Church not only advances God’s mission, but 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 (Dec. 28)	9:30am 11:00am	Praise Worship/AH Traditional Worship/Sanctuary
Monday	10:00am 6:00pm	Church Office Closed UMW/Parlor Yoga/AH
Tuesday	10:00am	Share Group/Parlor
Wednesday		New Year's Eve
Thursday		Happy New Year Church Office Closed
Friday		Church Office Closed
Sunday (Jan. 4)	9:30am 11:00am	Praise Worship/AH Traditional Worship/AH

Please note the deadline for submitting information/announcements for the weekly bulletin is noon on Wednesday.

Communication Cards: your attendance in worship is very important to us; please take a moment to complete the card each week.

Want to Improve Your Spiritual Life. Pick up a current copy of *The Upper Room* or *Our Daily Bread* devotionals which are now available in the church lobby and at the Welcome Centers. Large-print versions are also available. Grab one today!

A pager system is used by our nursery staff for the convenience of our parents with small children in our nursery each Sunday.

We invite you to remember our Church in your will or other estate planning. Your thoughtfulness and kindness will help assure that the church continues vital ministry into the years to come.

Isaiah 45:3 God says, *"I will give you treasures hidden in the darkness—secret riches.*

I will do this so you may know that I am the LORD...