

MUMC Children & Youth Ministry

October 11, 2026



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.



Candy donations needed for Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 18th, 2-4PM (south parking lot). Prizes for best decorated trunks!



Christmas Play (December 13th) practice is every Sunday from 10:45 - noon through December 6th

The Amanda Outreach / Slinky Tutoring Center

First day back – Monday, September 14th – 3:45/4:20 – 5:30pm 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).

ENCOUNTER YOUTH GROUP



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

Wednesdays during school year from 6:00-7:30pm

1st Wed. – Bible Study at MUMC

2nd Wed. – Visit members at Mt. Pleasant in Monroe & McDonalds

3rd Wed. – Bible Study at MUMC

4th Wed. – Bull's Run Arboretum in Middletown w/picnic
(weather permitting)

5th Wed. – TBD (campfire, game(s), guest speaker, movie, etc.)

****Adults & Family****

Altar Flowers – **Altar Flowers** – The Sanctuary flowers are given by Smittie & Jane Majors, Pam Kilburn and Janet Majors in memory of Bobby Majors. The Atchley Hall flowers are given by Shelia Holbrock in memory of Ina Young and Elizabeth Galliers.

Honor Someone, Celebrate Something Meaningful.

Mark a birthday, anniversary, special memory, or someone you love by providing flowers for worship – or by making a gift to a church ministry in their honor or memory.

Sanctuary flowers are \$25 for one vase or \$48 for two. At 9:30 worship, flowers are \$25. Sign-up sheets and envelopes are available in the narthex and Atchley Hall.

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 canned pineapple, canned potatoes, Helper meals, mashed potato flakes. They really appreciate our help.

UMW Salad Luncheon – All ladies of the church are invited to the United Methodist Women’s salad luncheon on **Thursday, October 15th at 12:00pm** in Atchley Hall. Please bring a salad to share. Chicken and ham salads, pimento cheese and desserts will be provided.

Join the Choir! Larry Daniel invites all singers to be a part of the Chancel Choir at the 11:00am Traditional service! Rehearsals are at 10:00am right before the 11:00am service. We have some very enjoyable music to sing! We will be singing several different styles of music, and I look forward to seeing you soon. If you have questions, please reach out to me at 513.827.1483 or email ldaniel5867@yahoo.com.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER yard signs to promote our new series are available now. Pick yours up today – no charge (though a \$10 donation would help defray costs). Use them as a way to start a conversation with a neighbor and make an invitation to join you in worship.

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP – It’s not too late to join this fall’s **GriefShare** support group on Wednesdays, 1-3pm, in the church Library. Contact Pastor Jeff to get signed up and learn how to get involved.

Help Everyone Feel at Home

A warm welcome can make all the difference. Serving as a greeter is a simple way to help people feel seen, valued, and connected from the moment they arrive. Share a smile, offer hospitality, and help make our church a place where everyone knows they belong. At the 9:30am service, talk to Andy Garitson; for the 11:00am service, see Ginny Gansheimer.

Looking for Ways to Serve?

You don’t have to be an expert to help make worship meaningful. By serving as a Communion server, Scripture reader, or liturgist, you can help others connect with God, feel included, and experience worship more deeply. Your voice and presence can make a difference. Talk to Pastor Jeff at either service; we will equip you with training.

PASTOR JEFF IS NOT TEXTING TO ASK YOU TO BUY GIFT CARDS (or anything else, for that matter). Many of you have been receiving text messages from what appears to be Pastor Jeff’s phone number. It has been *spoofed*. He will NEVER TEXT OR EMAIL to ask you to buy gift cards or other items. If you receive such a message, DELETE IT IMMEDIATELY; do NOT reply to it or message the number it references (a scammer’s number claiming to be in Georgia). We are sorry for this inconvenience and for any confusion this has caused. If you receive a message and doubt its veracity, call Pastor Jeff on his cell or at the office to verify.

Thank You - Thank you for your generosity in support of World Communion Sunday’s offering for scholarships. To date, we have received \$76.06 for this ministry. You can still give by marking your envelope or check memo for “World Communion” or giving online at MonroeUMC.org to Fund 8408-World Communion Sunday, or texting \$amount WCS to 513.547.9908.

Men’s Meeting – The men’s meeting will be **Tuesday, October 13th** at 7:00pm in the Parlor.

SLINKY Tutoring Cooperative Ministry between Monroe & Amanda UMCs was recently featured in the Great Miami River District News and Notes. The brief news article is below. You can help as a tutor/mentor or by donating to the ministry. Contact Gina Craft.



Slinky Cooperative Tutoring

For the past eight years, Monroe United Methodist Church has received a district grant to support its Slinky Tutoring Center. What began as a tutoring ministry has grown into a cooperative learning center shared by Monroe UMC and Amanda UMC, where young students receive support in developing essential literacy skills. While much of the focus is on helping primary students learn to read, the program also encourages creativity and self-expression.

Creative writing gives children an opportunity to practice and strengthen their reading skills in a fun and engaging way. Because classroom schedules do not always allow time for writing and sharing, Slinky tutors help students explore their imaginations and express themselves freely.

As tutors, discovering that writing down the words students hear in their heads, or say out loud, can serve as a bridge to sounding out words in a book. With limited time together, we do not focus heavily on correct spelling. Instead, creative spelling gives students the freedom to remain engaged in the writing process without interrupting their artistic flow. The tutors think of themselves as “story navigators,” helping students include the essential elements of a story: setting, characters, a problem or goal, and a solution or outcome.

Through this practice, we have witnessed how writing stories brings greater joy to reading. Students begin sounding out words with more confidence, predicting what comes next, and reading entire sentences rather than isolated words. Moments of encouragement naturally arise as students make discoveries on their own and recognize their growth. Being part of that journey is both rewarding and inspiring.

To find out more about the Slinky Cooperative Tutoring, contact Gina Craft - gmatcraft@gmail.com

This Week at Monroe UMC

TODAY (Oct. 11)	9:30am	Praise Worship/Sanctuary
	11:00am	Traditional Worship/Sanctuary
	12:15pm	Staff Appreciation Luncheon/AH
Monday		Church Office Closed
	6:00pm	Yoga/AH
	7:00pm	Scouts/AH
Tuesday	10:00am	Share Group/Parlor
	10:00am	Sewing Group/YR
	7:00pm	Men's Meeting/Parlor
Wednesday	11:00am	Yoga/Narthex
	1:00pm	GriefShare Group/Library
	6:00pm	Youth
	7:00pm	Praise Team/AH
Thursday	12:00pm	UMW Salad Luncheon/AH
	7:00pm	Trustees/Library
Friday	10:00am	Exercise/AH
	11:00am	Yoga/AH
Sunday (Oct. 18)	9:30am	Praise Worship/Sanctuary
	11:00am	Traditional Worship/AH
	1:00-5:00pm	Birthday Party/Hannah Motter/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* devotional which is now available in the church lobby and on the table at the back door. 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...