

July 7, 2024

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

Monroe Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming congregation.

Our deacons and pastor hope you will feel at home here. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, we welcome you in Christ's name.

May we be aware of others and feel the Spirit of God.

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Gathering Music

In the Garden

C. Austin Miles, 1912

Welcome & Announcements

Moment of Silence & Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to worship our God, who speaks the words of peace we need in chaotic times.

People: We remember Joseph the dreamer, and we will trust God in the deepest of dark wells and in the sunshine.

Leader: We gather to follow Jesus, who encourages us to never fear, for he is near.

People: We gather to be filled with the Spirit, who anoints us so we can better serve our world.

Leader: From the loftiest mountains to the crashing waters of the sea,

All: There God's greatness stands majestically!

Prayer of Preparation

Michelle Correll, Deacon of the Day

***UCC Statement of Faith**

Reading #885 in hymnal

***Hymn**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

NCH 593

Prayer for Senior PF Mission Trip

Holy One, we are so excited, and we ask you to bless these young people and their advisors on their way to the Appalachian South Folklife Center. May their hearts, muscles and minds experience the joy of selfless service. Direct all their steps in safety and strength. Give their parents, spouses and children peace knowing they are doing good things. May we all celebrate their safe return. Thank you for the opportunity to serve your people. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Hymn *(seated)*

As We Gather at Your Table

NCH #332

Invitation and Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one

another, and send us into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Call to Confession – Unison Prayer - Silent Prayer

Merciful God, forgive us when we are paralyzed by confusion and doubt. Strengthen our faith, that we may not only believe, but may be filled with the power to help and heal. Grant us the courage to accept those things that cannot be changed, that we may be freed from anger and resentment. Forgive us when our disappointment clouds our wisdom and confuses our actions. Guide us on our path, that we may be filled with joy. Amen.

Words of Assurance

***Passing of the Peace**

*In order for those tuning in from home to feel included,
please turn and greet the webcam as you share signs of peace with one another.*

Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer -- Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Time for Giving

Invitation

Offertory

Reflections in D Duke Ellington, 1953
*Our offering plate will be passed among us today.
You may give online at www.mcc-ucc/donate.*

***Doxology and Presentation**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, the Word in flesh, born low,
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore,
One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen!*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Scripture

Genesis 37:1-11, page 33

If you would like to read along, Bibles may be found underneath the pew in front of you.

Communion Reflection

Rev. Jennifer Gingras

***Closing Hymn**

America The Beautiful

(Lyrics on the following page.)

***Benediction**

Parting Music

This Land Is Your Land

Woody Guthrie, 1944

America The Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare of freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!

Inspired by a trip to Pikes Peak in 1893, Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929) wrote the poem America the Beautiful. Her poem first appeared in print on July 4, 1895 in The Congregationalist, a weekly journal. Ms. Bates revised the lyrics in 1904 and again in 1913.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Written from the context of African Americans in the late 19th century, the hymn is a prayer of thanksgiving to God as well as a prayer for faithfulness and freedom, with imagery that evokes the biblical Exodus from slavery to the freedom of the "promised land." Featuring lyrics by NAACP President James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) it was set to music by his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954).

**Please rise, in body or in spirit*

You are invited to
Pancakes with PF!

Sunday, July 7th



Senior PF wants to thank MCC for our support of their 2024 West Virginia Mission Trip to the Appalachian South Folklife Center! Join them for **pancakes** and a **silent auction** of PF services after worship.

God is still speaking, welcome to all who are worshipping with us today, in-person and online! Worship is live streamed on church's You Tube Channel under CCLI Streaming License #2169137 on: <https://www.youtube.com/monroecongregationalchurchucc>, as well as on our Facebook page "Monroe Congregational Church, UCC"

We are an **Open & Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ, and we invite everyone to join in the full life and ministry of this church. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance and welcome to all persons, inclusive of every age, race, ability, economic and social status, nationality, faith background, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital standing and family structure

Please join us for a time of **fellowship** following the service in Wilton Hall.



If you'd like to **give online** during worship (or anytime), simply scan this QR code, which will take you to our VANCO electronic giving page. Thank you so much for your support.

Thank you for assisting in this morning's worship!

- **Deacon:** Michelle Correll
- **Usher:** Rob McClenathan
- **Lay Reader:** Susie Cuseo
- **Trustee:** Frank Wittenauer
- **Counter:** Mark Barnhart
- **Summer Coffee Host:** Susie Cuseo
- **Web Steward:** Scott Young

Communion Team #2

Michelle Correll, Larry Wissink, Michelle Cardentey, Leanne McEvoy & Jocelyn Allen

The flowers this morning are given by Michelle Correll in celebration of our MCC community in support of Senior PF mission trip to West Virginia



Flowers for Worship: Would you like to honor or remember a loved one, or celebrate a milestone? You can do so, while also helping Monroe Congregational Church continue its tradition of fresh **flowers** on the communion table. You can sign-up in Wilton Hall or online! You may choose to arrange flowers from your garden, purchase an arrangement, or send a check (\$25) to Monroe Congregational Church (memo: "flowers" & the date) or use our website to pay online, and we will order for you. If you are supplying the flowers yourself, please set them up between 9:30am and

9:45am, before worship. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAC2CA5FEC61-flowers> or [MCC-UCC.org](https://www.monroecongregationalchurchucc.org)



to the following people and to anyone we may have missed, we will keep you in our prayers. (Number is birth date)

James Vance ⁽⁰⁸⁾

Jessica Konkol ⁽¹¹⁾

Peter Hallgren ⁽¹²⁾

Eve Balestriere ⁽¹⁰⁾

Alex Gutierrez ⁽¹²⁾

Therese Zalenski ⁽¹²⁾



Happy Wedding Anniversary to the following couples and to anyone we may have missed, we will keep you in our prayers. (Number is anniversary date)

Gary and Gail Thompson ⁽¹⁰⁾



Diane is scheduled for vacation on Mondays throughout the summer. She will continue to work from home on Wednesdays where she will receive and respond to your voicemail and email messages.

Happy Summer!

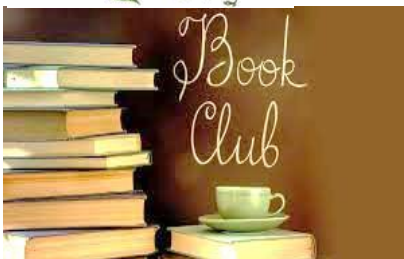
Fellowship



MCC Summertime Coffee Hour Hosts: Are you interested in providing refreshments for our church members and friends following Sunday worship! All you need to do is arrive at the kitchen by 9:45 to get the coffee going (instructions found on kitchen wall). Providing baked goods or other snacks are always welcome (but not mandatory). Please sign up in Wilton Hall. (Although one can do it, it's fun to serve with a friend). Thank you!



Morning Circle will not meet in July or August. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 11 at 11AM in Dineson Parlor.



We encourage anyone to join us on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We will continue to meet via zoom so that all members can join from wherever they may be. Questions can be sent to Paula via email pjsh55@gmail.com or home phone or 203-452-0850. **July 17th** 7 pm Horse by Geraldine Brooks Host: TBA



Young at Heart will meet Thurs., July 25 at noon. Red Rooster Pub, 160 South Main Street, Newtown

Please RSVP to Marge Fox (203)706-2132 or MargeFox48@gmail.com



Your Are Invited To Join MCC at

Arts *In The* Park

FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

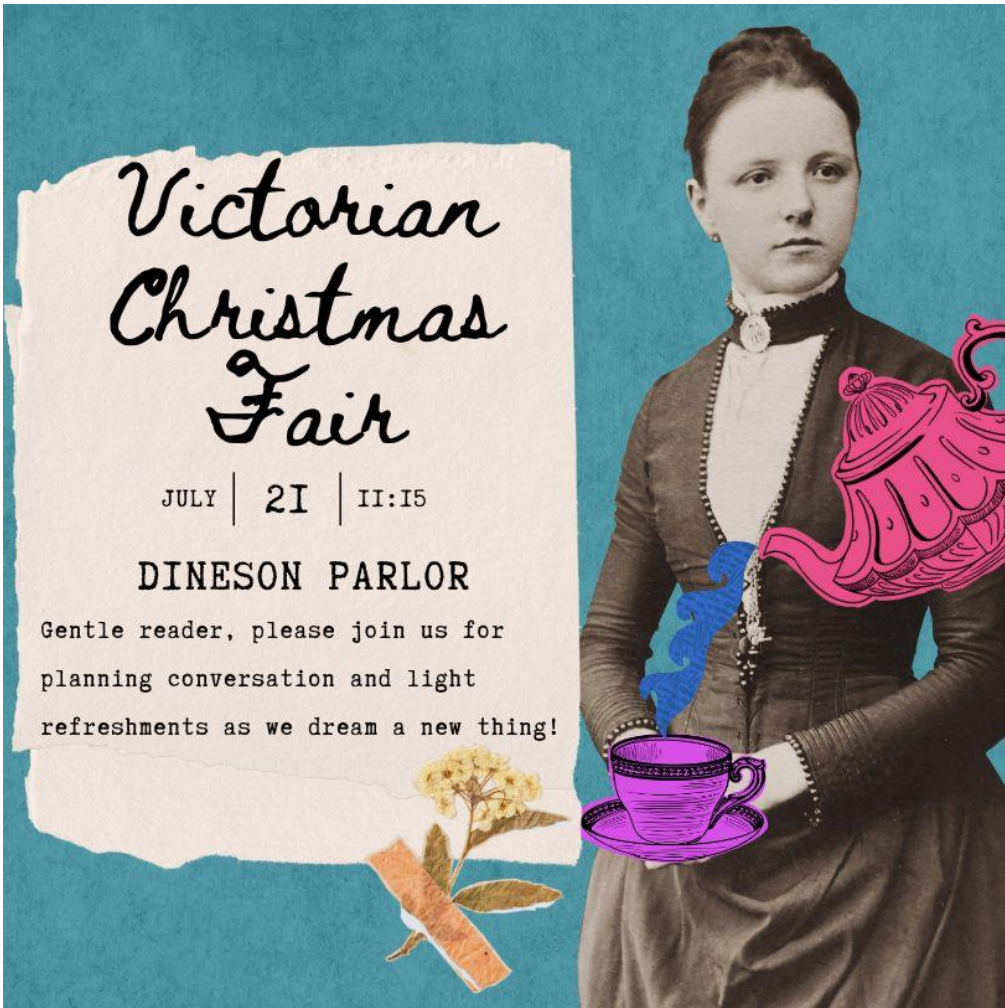
Get ready to soak up the small town vibes and relish the joy of the great outdoors! **Bring a picnic dinner or snacks, wear a red shirt and find us!**

We can't wait to share these wonderful summer nights with you! **All shows start at 7:30 pm at Wolfe Park in Monroe.**

- 7/19 Psychedelic Relics
- 7/26 Creative Music Studio Showcase
- 8/2 Mass Conn Fusion Band
- 8/9 Simply Swifties Band



Galaxy Note20 Ultra 5G



From the Historian's Notebook

Victorian Christmas Fair

**Believe it or not, December is only 6 months away -
Let's get planning!**

The initial planning meeting for the Victorian Christmas Fair will be on **Sunday, July 21 at about 11:15**. Grab a coffee and join us in the parlor! Thanks so much for your time and interest in this exciting new event!

Trustees



The **Monroe Summer Day Camp** will be renting our MCC campus again this year. The camp will provide added income for the church during the months of June, July and August. If you need to enter the building between 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday please stop into the office and ask Diane to notify the camp director. **If the office is closed, please use the walkie-talkie provided to notify the camp director, Karen or Krissy, of your presence.** Thank you!

Capital Campaign Update - MCC Meeting House Roof

As you may have noticed, the **Meeting House Roof has been replaced**, so we should be leak-free for the next 50 years! With an original estimated cost of \$31,476, the roof repair project cost over \$33,876 due to the replacement of damaged plywood found under the old roof. While we are waiting to hear back from the insurance company about whether we'll get any coverage for storm damage to the roof, the Capital Campaign contributions currently stand at just under \$21,000 - so **we are well short of covering the cost** of the roof repairs. **A big thanks to everyone who has contributed to the capital campaign, contributors are honored on our *Raise the Roof* poster in Wilton Hall, - your donations are much appreciated.** If you would like to contribute to the campaign or increase your initial contribution, you can send your donation to the Receiver via the MCC church office, drop your donation in with the Sunday offering, or via the "Donate" button on our web site.

Thanks for your support! *John O'Rourke - MCC Receiver*



In Our Prayers

Alison Abrams (Jessica Pfalzgraf's sister); **Allie** (Colegrove's friend); **Jennifer Bittar** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend); **Jackie Bleakney; Byron Brown & Bruce Bryant** (friends of Will Duchon); **Lori Cimeno** (Peggy & Ron Villani's Daughter); **Kevin Daly** (Gary Thompson's friend); **Dawn** (Donna Konkol's Friend); **John Dominic** (Pfalzgraf's neighbor); **Dot Dralus; Matt Duchon; Elaine** (Wendy Colegrove's Aunt); **Bruno Forte** (Nancy Hedine's friend); **David Fischman** (Sue Granello's Friend); **Dave Fuller** (Gail Olson's brother); **Lehre Fuller** (Gail Olson's sister-in-law); **Bryan Garvin** (Mike Pfalzgraf's cousin); **Mary & Rachel Heerema** (Julia Gutierrez's mom & sister); **Brad Heines** (Susie Cuseo's friend); **Bob Heffernan** (Ann Zeiner's son-in-law); **Heather Henning; Brian Hopkins** (Donna Konkol's cousin); **Vera James** (Jenn Wissink's mother); **Jonathan** (Matt Colegrove's brother); **Kelti** (friend of Liska Gutierrez), **Monica Lynch** (Bethany Dupuis' friend); **Nicole Malia; Betty McKeown** (Donna Konkol's mother); **Mike** (Janie Allen's son); **Jean Moffat; Olivia Morrison** (Donna Nickdow's niece); **Joe Mumper** (Julie McClenathan's friend); **Pat Nugent; Ocampo family** (friends of Liska Gutierrez); **Nancy Olofson; Missy & Gail Olson; Dean Perosino** (Gayle Hammond's brother); **Josh Post; P.T. Philip** (Liz Sampson's father); **Regina Roberts** (Kathy Maiolo's niece); **Alfredo Rodriguez** (Osirus Gutierrez's cousin); **Noah Santiago** (Shari Carrano's great-grandson); **Carlos Serrano** (Kathy Maiolo's cousin); **Yessika Siccardi** (Sampson family friend); **Ed Simonovich** (Nancy Hedine's friend); **Bernie Sippin; Gary Sippin** (Lori Sippin's son); **John Skarupa** (Barb Pellegrino's brother); **Sheldon Smith; Nancy Smith; Christine Stadler; Christian & Dain Steiner** (Julie McClenathan's nephews); **Claire Stenzel** (June & Myron Winger's granddaughter); **Wayne Thompson** (Gary Thompson's brother); **Richard Turco** (Jack Fracassini's cousin); **June Wilkes, Charles L. Wynn, Sr.,** (and his mother) **Alleane** (friend of Will Duchon); **Allen Zeiner** (Ann Zeiner's son); **Ann Zeiner**

The concerns of our world: The people of **Ukraine** and the **Middle East; LGBTQ+ children and their families** facing discrimination; those who serve or live in **war** or **conflict zones** around the world; **first responders** and those who serve in **law enforcement**; those who suffer **discrimination**; those who struggle with **mental illness, addiction, divorce** or **separation; Caregivers**; the **homeless, homebound** and **refugees**.

Those serving in the military, veterans & their families:

Stateside: **Lt. Col. Rachel Hoffman**, Tacoma, Washington (Vaughan Askue's daughter) **Justin Riffard**, Pensacola Naval Air Station, **Zachary Gingras**, 395th Combat Sustainability Support, **Joel Smith**, 250th Engineering Company **Chris Meneses** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend)

Kuwait: **Jon Sanchez** (Don Whiteley's grandson-in-law)

MCC Community Calendar

Week of Sun. Jul 7th

Communion

10:00 am Worship

11:15 PF Pancake Breakfast & Auction

Mon. Jul 8th

Diane on Vacation - Office Closed

Tue. July 9th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

Week of Sun. Jul 14th

10:00 am Worship

5:00 pm Senior PF

Mon. Jul 15th

Diane on Vacation - Office Closed

Tue. July 16th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

Wed. July 17th

7:00 pm Book Club

Fri. July 19th

7:30 Arts in the Park Meetup

*Senior PF Mission Trip July 21 - 28
Appalachian Folk Life Center,
Pipestem WV*

Week of Sun. Jul 21st

10:00 am Worship

11:15 am Victorian Christmas Fair
Meeting (Dineson)

Mon. Jul 22nd

Diane on Vacation - Office Closed

Tue. July 23rd

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

Thurs. July 25th

12:00 pm Young @ Heart, Red Rooster

Fri. July 26th

7:30 Arts in the Park Meetup

Week of Sun. Jul 28th

10:00 am Worship

Mon. Jul 29th

Diane on Vacation - Office Closed

Tue. July 30th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

Fri. Aug 2nd

7:30 Arts in the Park Meetup

Week of Sun. Aug 4th

*Communion Carra McFadden,
Guest Preacher*

10:00 am Worship

11:30 am Trustees

Mon. Aug 5th

Diane on Vacation - Office Closed

5:30 pm Outreach Planning

Tue. Aug 6th

9:30 am Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

Week of Sun. Aug 11th

10:00 am Worship

Mon. Aug 12th

Diane on Vacation - Office Closed

7:30 pm Deacons