



## Monthly Newsletter

### September 2022

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m.  
2020 E. Washington St. Monticello, IL 61856

Check us out on our web site [www.monticelloumc.com](http://www.monticelloumc.com)  
217-762-2579

### ***Upper Room Devotionals***

The September-October Upper Room devotionals are available in the entry and at the Welcome Center.

### ***Mortgage Update***

As of August 14, 2022, our Mortgage balance is \$191,417.97! Your faithfulness makes a difference!

### ***Sharing Christ's Love***

Our Midwest Mission Distribution team will serve on September 15. If you would like to join them, please call the church office or Jean Holmes.

### ***Food Pantry***

We are always looking for volunteers to serve in the Food Pantry. If you are willing, please call the Church Office.

### ***Our Sympathy...***

- Kevin Graves on the death of his wife, Dale
- The family of Danny Heckman
- Chris Reetz on the death of her husband, Harold. Harold's funeral will be September 12 at noon with visitation 10-12 pm in our Sanctuary.

### ***Women's Bible Study***

The Women's Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 1 - 2:30 pm. Beginning September 14, we will be studying, "Twelve Women of the Bible - Life-Changing Stories for Women". This is a DVD series; no book.

### ***Wednesday Night Meal***

WATCH Meals return! We plan to begin our Wednesday Night Meal on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Our first dinner will be Wednesday, September 14! We'll eat at 5 pm. We are looking forward to welcoming this important ministry back into the lives of our congregation! We hope you're hungry!!

### ***School Bags***

Thank you to so many for sharing their sewing skills in making school bags (over 100!) and your generosity is providing the supplies to go into the bags. The Youth will be assembling the bags on September 14.

### ***Scholarship Recipients***

O'Dell Scholarship: Emma Brown and Katie Krahn

Valentine Scholarship: Oscar Barrett, Rachel Koon, and Kylie Krahn  
Congratulations!

## ***Thank you...***

- Jerry Schauf for sharing his painting skills in the Youth Room.
- Jim Holmes for power washing our main entrance and moving the TV in the Youth Room, and all other jobs as requested!
- Kevin Graves for cleaning up the coffee pots on Sunday morning.

## ***Upcoming meetings***

Staff Parish—September 13 at 7 pm  
September 14—Trustees at 5:30 pm  
Finance Committee—September 15 at 6 pm  
Church Council—September 20 at 7 pm  
Church Conference—October 23, 2-4 pm at Decatur Grace UMC

## ***Memorial to Pastor Leah***

A group of folks have requested that a tree be planted on our property in memory of Pastor Leah Pogemiller. If you would like to contribute, please designate on the envelope or check that it's for Pastor Leah's memorial tree. It will not be planted until later in the Fall.

## ***Email List***

We try to communicate via email as much as possible. We have a weekly ENews that is sent on Mondays and our Newsletter is also sent out via email—please email the Church Office—[office@monticelloumc.com](mailto:office@monticelloumc.com) if you would like to be added to the list.

## ***Card Shower***

Margaret Bateman will be 90 years young on September 19. Cards may be sent to: 1370 E. 1800 N. Road, Monticello 61856.

## ***Natalie McDowell Nursing Scholarship***

The Natalie Susan (Mauck) McDowell Scholarship Foundation is working to endow a Scholarship in Natalie's name. The Scholarship will be presented to a graduating senior at Monticello High School who is going into the nursing field.

This scholarship is being administered through the Monticello Area Education Foundation. If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to the Monticello Area Education Foundation (MAEF) and drop it off at First State Bank of Monticello. Forms are available on the Hospitality Desk with more information.

## ***Youth News***

The fall semester of youth group started on August 14th. We had a kickoff night and we had 22 students show up! Everyone had fun and it is great to have regular youth group meetings once again.

One part of youth group each week is a meal. Anyone in the church who would like to make a meal for the youth is welcome to. To sign up either find Will Pontious or find the link on the church Facebook page. Thank you for helping support this ministry!

### **September Youth Calender:**

September 4: **No** Youth Group-Labor Day  
September 11: Regular Youth Group  
5pm -7pm; dinner at 6 pm  
September 14: Whole Hearts 6:30-7:30 pm  
September 18: Food Pantry Scavenger Hunt 4-7 pm; dinner 6:15pm  
September 25: Regular Youth Group  
5pm -7pm; dinner at 6pm

## **Family Ministry News**

We had a wonderful summer with several fun family activities. Thank you to all who joined us and to all who volunteered to make them possible! Now that the school year has begun, let's have an equally fun and impactful school year!

Our Sunday School and Kids Choir has resumed to our normal schedule. We began using a new Kids Check-in system. Please make sure your child/children are registered. We will continue to Dig Into God's Word and learn about His heart for each of us. If you would like to serve in our Children's Ministry, please let Melanie know.

## **Kid's Early Out Program**

Beginning on September 14th, we will begin our Early-Out Wednesday Kids Program. This will be from 1:00-5:00pm and will occur on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. This will be for students in K-5th grade. More details regarding transportation and curriculum will be available soon! If you would like to help with this program, please contact Melanie ASAP.

## **Newsletter Deadline**

September 21 is the deadline for our October Newsletter.



## **Music News**

Summer is coming to a close and the ensembles of the Music Ministry are gearing up to resume rehearsals in September! We will start back up on Wednesday, September 7!

Sanctuary Choir	6-7 PM
Bell Choir	7-8 PM
New Day Praise Team	8-9 PM

Perhaps your spiritual gifts include singing or playing an instrument! If you're high school age or older, join us in the Sanctuary Choir or Bell Choir! Come make a joyful noise with us!

The Sanctuary Choir will hold their first Choir Retreat on Wednesday, August 31, from 5-8 PM. We'll meet for a potluck supper at 5. Please bring a dish to share. Table service, iced tea, and water will be provided. After dinner we will rehearse for the rest of the evening - including a read through of our Christmas cantata. Questions? Reach out to Kathy Brown for more information.

## **Willow Tree**

Willow Tree has as their mission to eliminate Domestic Violence in Piatt County. In 2021 they purchased a building in downtown Monticello that enables them to greatly expand their services. They are now in the process of renovating the space.

Are you interested in volunteering your time and skill? Are you interested in financially supporting this organization? If so, check out their web page "[willowtreemissions.org](http://willowtreemissions.org)" OR their Facebook Page – Willow Tree Missions.

## ***Faithfulness from the past...***

*The Monticello United Methodist Church has been fortunate in the past to have been named in the Wills of friends and members of the church. Some of those people include:*

- • **Bonnie Forth**—Bonnie returned to Piatt County after she retired as a dietician. She had lived in Rochester, NY. She was active in our Church as well as the community. She died in 1982 at the age of 80. Bonnie Wachter (who was named after her) is a 2nd cousin and a current member of our Church. We received approximately \$100,000.00 unrestricted from her estate and \$75,000.00 has been spent.
- • **Faith Garver**—We have no record of Faith Garver ever belonging to our Church. She died in 1981 and left us approximately \$35,000.00. There was no designation for how to use these funds. Our Church Council had designated their use for missional needs. In 2019 the gains were designated to help pay off a 2nd mortgage we had.
- • **Dorcas Herren**—Dorcas had been very active in our Church as the Organist. She died in 2006 and we received an undesignated amount of \$64,403.77. Our Church Council designated this account to be a permanent music fund. This fund was used for various music-related expenses when we moved to 2020 E. Washington St. Currently there is a principle of \$18,000.00.
- • **Jannetta Milligan Trust**—Janetta died in 1985 and in a codicil to her Will she left her Estate in Trust to her son, Robert, and upon his death our Church was to receive a %. He died in 2012 and we received \$95,547.20. The Will designated that the money be used for Local Church items

such as repairs, maintenance, capital improvements, or programs benefiting residents of Piatt County. We currently have a principle of \$70,000.00.

- • **Milligan Farm**—Also a part of the Milligan Trust is approximately 400 acres of farmland. We receive a check every Spring which represents 10% of the income on the previous year's crop. This check is deposited into an interest-bearing account and the Trustees use these funds for Building Maintenance. Currently there is \$8,093.00.

It is important to know that when we receive funds they are categorized as:

- • Funds not designated
- • Funds that our Church Council has designated (and therefore can always be re-designated)
- • Funds that have been designated (restricted) by the giver

We currently have an Investment Committee consisting of: Kim Alvis, Kim Baker, Starla Carr, Brian McDowell, and Amy Pilcher.

Our Investment funds are invested with Wespath Investments in Glenview, IL. Wespath provides investment solutions rooted in the principles of The United Methodist Church.

The Investment Committee is accountable to the Board of Trustees and our Board of Trustees is accountable to the Church Council.

We will highlight more of these funds in the coming months. ***Have you included the Monticello United Methodist Church in your Will?***