

October 6, 2024

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

10:00 am

**Neighbors in Need ~ World Communion Sunday**

*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**

Morning Has Broken

Bell Choir

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Moment of Silence & Lighting of the Candles**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: God's way is not always easy to see,

*People: So we come from many places to expand our perspective and broaden our hope.*

Leader: God's guidance is not always easy to trust,

*People: So we join our different journeys together to see the bigger picture.*

Leader: God's call is not always easy to hear,

*All: So we come, seeking to discover faithful life in worshipping together!*

**Prayer of Preparation**

Jessica Pfalzgraf, Deacon of the Day

**\*UCC Statement of Faith**

Reading #885 in hymnal

**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.*

**Choral Response**

Bread of the World

*Students may transition to Sunday School with their teachers.*

**Call to Confession – Unison Prayer - Silent Prayer**

*Compassionate God, you know that anxiety can be difficult to hold. In our worry, we become rigid. In our fear, we'll do anything to keep the peace, protect ourselves, and solve the problem. In our nervousness, we replace you with something easier to focus on and control. In our stress, we forget the wonders we have seen and the gifts*

*you have given. Forgive us for our short memories and help us to trust in your goodness. Forgive us our controlling ways and help us trust in your providing. Forgive us for our narrow vision and help us trust that you are at work even when we can't see what you are up to. Help us turn toward your kingdom of hope. Amen. (silence)*

## **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**

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me *Music by Thomas Grassi, 2010*

*Text by Edward Hopper & Charles Wesley*

*Our offering plate will be passed among us today.*

*You may give online at [www.mcc-ucc/donate](http://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**

Exodus 32:1-14, page 77

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

### **Sermon**

*Waiting on God*

Rev. Jennifer Gingras

### **\*Closing Hymn**

Come to Tend God's Garden

NCH # 586, vs 1 & 3

### **\*Benediction**

### **Postlude**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing *18th Century Sicilian Melody*

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*\*Please rise, in body or in spirit*

**God is still speaking, welcome** to all who are worshipping with us today, in-person and online!

Worship is live streamed on the church's YouTube Channel under CCLI Streaming License

#2169137: <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:** Jessica Pfalzgraf
- **Usher:** Julio Morales
- **Lay Reader:** Linda Fracassini
- **Trustee:** Caleb Nealon
- **Counter:** Mike Ganino
- **Coffee Host:** Caleb Nealon
- **Web Steward:** Scott Young

**Communion Team #1**

Jessica Pfalzgraf, Rebecca Cicarelli,  
Marc Cardentey, Jim Hisey &  
Michelle Cardentey



**The flowers this morning are given by *Gloria Ganino* in loving memory of her dad, *Anibal Rodrigues*.**

**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](http://MCC-UCC.org)



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

Lorraine Zeiner <sup>(07)</sup>

Rob McClenathan <sup>(08)</sup>

Joe Gilberti <sup>(12)</sup>

Lucas Cuseo <sup>(08)</sup>

Jackie Bleakney <sup>(10)</sup>

Liz Sampson <sup>(12)</sup>



**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)  
Lois & David Spence <sup>(06)</sup> Christine & Gary Hare <sup>(06)</sup> Jenn & Clark Gingras <sup>(10)</sup>  
and Kayla & Bill Allen <sup>(12)</sup>

Mental health is a  
Universal human Right

"God will not falter or lose heart until justice prevails throughout the earth." - Isaiah 46:1

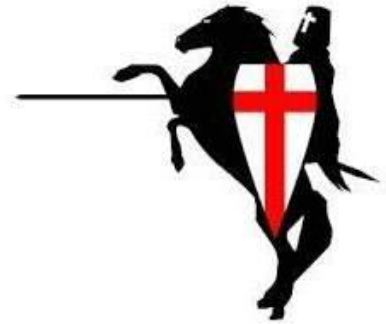


### Outreach

The **Neighbors in Need** offering, which we will receive on October 6, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. In addition to this year's focus on mental health, Neighbors in Need also supports our indigenous neighbors. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM).

### St George's Supper –Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

Please join us for sandwich making in the kitchen following worship. Please consider a cash donation this month to help us feed our neighbors, look for the basket at coffee hour to contribute. Any amount would be gratefully received. Please memo on checks: "St George's Supper". Questions- contact Stacy at 203-500-1279



**Save the Date ~ Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo Night  
Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Have you cleaned out your junk drawers lately and come across those old prescription glasses/sunglasses/cases? There will be a collection basket in Wilton Hall this month by the serving table during coffee hour. These donations will be cleaned, screened and sent to those less fortunate to receive the care necessary to have a better life. Your glasses can brighten someone's day when they see the smile on a loved one's face, have the ability to read a food label, newspaper, watch their grandchildren play soccer or see what's coming at them while driving. Give the gift of sight by **donating your old glasses**. Please contact Susie Cuseo with any questions at [thecuseos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecuseos@yahoo.com) or 203-268-0280.





**Heifer International** is an organization that supports worldwide families by using your spare change to provide a sustainable living through livestock and plants. Families share with neighbors thereby making the community stronger and self-sufficient. Please consider dropping your spare change into the collection bottle that is on the serving table during coffee hour.

Contact Susie Cuseo with any questions at [thecuseos@yahoo.com](mailto:thecuseos@yahoo.com) or 203-268-0280.

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**Trustees**

We are excited to report we received **another \$500** toward our MCC Raise the Roof 2024 Capital Campaign! We now have a gap of just \$1,544! Thanks so much to everyone who helped!  
-Your Board of Trustees

<b><i>We Raised...</i></b>	<b><i>We Spent...</i></b>
<b>Updated:</b> Capital Campaign \$25,285	Original Bid: \$31,476
Less fees: (\$60)	Additional work: \$2,400
Insurance Recoveries: \$7,107	<b><i>Total Expense: \$33,876</i></b>
<b><i>Total Revenue: \$32,332</i></b>	

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**Christian Education**



Love working with youth, want to spread God's love to the children of our congregation in the **24/25 school year**? **Please consider teaching Sunday School** (Pre k - 6th) Speak with Jeanette to sign up and Thank you!

**Weekly Bible Study has begun – All Are Welcome!** We gather together in Dineson Parlor, on **Thursdays from 9:30-11 am**, to learn with and through one another. After a time of fellowship and prayer concerns, we read and discuss upcoming scripture texts or other faith-related topics. Bring your favorite Bible (whatever version you prefer) and a small notebook. Come as you are!

# Snack & Chat with NOOMA

Join us in Dineson Parlor after worship on these dates to enjoy some snacks, a short video and light discussion about life's big questions.

No prep necessary and all are welcome!

Sep 29 - SUNDAY

Oct 27 - YOU

Dec 29 - NOISE

Feb 23 - RAIN

Mar 30 - DUST

Apr 27 - FLAME



## GOT SNACKS?



Our Sunday School students love a yummy snack at coffee hour! Help us fill the snack cabinet by bringing in goodies or juice boxes!



## Fellowship

### Contra Dance ~Pumpkin Carving~ Pot Luck

**OCT. 26 ~ 5-8 pm**

Join us in Wilton Hall for a night of intergenerational Fun, featuring professional Contra Dance caller Rich Sbardella!  
Suggested Donation: \$5 individual or \$10 family  
BYOP (Bring your own pumpkin/carve kit)  
Nursery staffed and open for the littles!

***Sign up in Wilton Hall!***



**Young at Heart** will meet Thurs., **October 24 at Noon**

Details to be announced



**Morning Circle** invites the women of the congregation to our meeting on **Wednesday, September 11th at 11am** in Wilton Hall. We will have Ray Giovanni from Union Savings Bank to discuss the local scams occurring in our town. Lunch will be provided while we hold a short business meeting. Join them every second Wednesday of the month with the exception of January, February, July and August. Please contact Shari Carrano at 475-342-8145 with any questions, comments or concerns. Mark your calendars for the following meetings with Morning Circle:

- Wednesday, Oct 9, 11AM Dineson Parlor - Trick-or-Treat bags
- Wednesday, Nov 13, 11AM Kitchen/Wilton Hall - Bean Soup Jars/Giving Tree Tags
- Wednesday, Dec 11, 12PM - Christmas Luncheon - Location TBD
- Wednesday, Mar 12, 11AM Dineson Parlor - Birthday bags
- Wednesday, Apr 9, 11AM Dineson Parlor - CWS hygiene kits
- Wednesday, May 14 11AM Dineson Parlor - Women's hygiene products collection
- Wednesday, Jun 11 12PM - June Picnic Luncheon - Location TBD

Join us for the monthly Book Club on the **3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:pjsh55@gmail.com) or home phone or 203-452-0850.



The book club selections for upcoming months:  
**October 16<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm - On Beauty by Zadie Smith

THE MONROE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
34 CHURCH STREET \* MONROE

# Victorian Christmas Fair

Sunday, December 1, 2024



- 10 AM VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS WORSHIP  
1-5 PM LOCAL CRAFTERS & SOUP/BAKED GOODS/WREATH SALES,  
WILTON HALL  
HISTORICAL CHURCH TOURS, MEETINGHOUSE  
CAROLING BY JUST VOICES  
5 PM COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING ON THE CENTRE GREEN

BONUS "TIME TRAVEL" PASSPORT... (\$5 PER PERSON)  
VICTORIAN MODEL RAILROAD DISPLAY (DINESON PARLOR)  
CHILDREN'S CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES (REXFORD HOUSE)  
VISIT WITH VICTORIAN FATHER CHRISTMAS! (BEARDSLEY HOUSE)  
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

DONATIONS OF UNWRAPPED TOYS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED FOR  
COVENANT TO CARE



## In Our Prayers

Family and friends of **David Coffey**, who passed away on September 30; **Alison Abrams** (Jessica Pfalzgraf's sister); **Allie** (Colegrove's friend); **Jennifer Bittar** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend); **Jackie Bleakney; Kevin Daly** (Gary Thompson's friend); **Dawn** (Donna Konkol's Friend); **Dealmira** (Jonathan Ganino's grandmother); **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); **Holly Hallgren; 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), **Samia Khoury** (Will Duchon's friend); **Monica Lynch** (Bethany Dupuis' friend); **Nicole Malia; Mary** (Kate Brigg's Mother); **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); **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 & 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; Natica Williams** (Will Duchon's friend); **Don Whiteley; Allen Zeiner** (Ann Zeiner's son); **Ann Zeiner**

**The concerns of our world:** The people of **Gaza; Israeli hostages** and their families, the people of **Ukraine, Sudan** 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 Rifflard**, Pensacola Naval Air Station, **Zachary Gingras**, 395th Combat Sustainability Support, **Joel Smith**, 250th Engineering Company **Chris Meneses** (Lorraine Zeiner's friend)

## **MCC Community Calendar**

### **Week of Sun. Oct 6<sup>th</sup>**

*World Communion Sunday*

*Neighbors in Need Special Offering*

10:00 am Worship

11:15 am Trustees

2:00 pm Junior PF – Webb Mountain

5:00 pm Senior PF

### **Mon. Oct 7<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 pm Outreach (Zoom)

### **Tue. Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

### **Wed. Oct 9<sup>th</sup>**

11:00 am Morning Circle

### **Thur. Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Bell Choir

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

7:30 PM Confirmation Class

### **Week of Sun. Oct 13<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am St. George's Pack (kitchen)

5:00 pm Senior PF

### **Mon. Oct 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Indigenous Peoples Day –office closed*

7:30 pm Deacons (zoom)

### **Tue. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

### **Wed. Oct 16<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm Book Club

### **Thur. Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Bell Choir

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

7:30 PM Confirmation Class

### **Week of Sun. Oct 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Baptism of Juliet Aravena*

10:00 am Worship

5:00 pm Junior & Senior PF

### **Mon. Oct 21<sup>st</sup>**

7:30 pm Council

### **Tue. Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

1:30 pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

### **Wed. Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>**

7:00 pm Fairfield East Association  
Fall Meeting

### **Thur. Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Bell Choir

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

7:30 PM Confirmation Class

### **Fri. Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>**

5–9 pm Contra Dance~Pumpkin~Pot Luck

