

*Monroe Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming congregation.  
Our deacons and pastors 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.*

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**Gathering Music** Lord God, We Worship Thee *J.S. Bach, 1725*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Moment of Quiet & Lighting of the Candles**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: The universe is full of God's handiwork,

*People: God's Holy Wisdom is the source of life.*

Leader: We celebrate your works, O Holy One,

*People: For you are our Creator, your Spirit gives us hope.*

Leader: We will sing God's praises as long as we have a voice,

*All: We bless you God with our whole being! Come, let us worship!*

**Opening Prayer** Rebecca Cicarelli, Deacon of the Day

**\*Our Church's Covenant** inside front cover of hymnal

**Children's Message**

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

**\*Hymn** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise NCH #1

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

*Ever-present God, your grace is beyond our capacity to understand. When we begin to believe you're confined to holy places, forgive us. When our vision is narrowed to our own preferences and traditions rather than relationships, forgive us. In all the past generations, you have been faithful, and in all the future generations, you will be faithful. We seek you, O God, and your forgiveness that we may be made and re-made in your image, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, your Word made flesh, 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.*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Mustard Seed Shop**

Peggy Villani

## 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

My Lighthouse

*Rend Collective, 2013*

*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

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:27–30, 41-43, pg 304

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

#### Sermon

*God’s Architect*

Rev. Jennifer Gingras

#### \*Closing Hymn

Lord, Make Me More Holy

NCH #75

#### Benediction

#### Postlude

Thankful Praise

*F. Sanford, 1983*

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**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.



#### Assisted Listening Devices

As part of the ongoing Homeland Security grant project, we added four wireless assisted listening units to our sound system in the Meetinghouse. We are thrilled to be able to enhance the experience of those needing greater accessibility. If you are interested in trying one out, asking Scott Young or an usher is a perfect way to get started!



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:** Rebecca Cicarelli    **Usher:** Melissa Quinn    **Lay Reader:** Chris Hisey  
**Trustee:** Bill Brett    **Counter:** Bill Stadler    **Web Steward:** Scott Young  
**Coffee Host:** Ann-Marie Campbell

**The flowers this morning are given by *The Mustard Seed Shop* in Celebration of 50 Years!**



**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)

Shirley Dotoratos <sup>(29)</sup>

James Allen <sup>(3)</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)

Andrea & Bruno Crosnier <sup>(28)</sup>    and    Joyce & Gilles Rousseau <sup>(2)</sup>

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**Today we are celebrating 50 years of the Mustard Seed Shop!**



**Daylight Savings ends, NEXT Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Remember to turn your clock back 1 hour before you go to sleep on Saturday, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>!



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**Outreach**

**Thanksgiving Baskets**



The **MCC Covenant to Care Thanksgiving Fundraiser** is on! If you would like to make a donation to supply a family in need with a Thanksgiving meal please see the poster and donation basket at coffee hour. You can also donate from our website -**please memo Covenant to Care!**

<https://mcc-ucc.org/donate.html>

Thank you for your past and present support!  
Diane Prall, Covenant to Care Liaison



Join us from 5-8 pm on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> for a **Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo Night** to benefit **Church World Service Hurricane Relief & Project Warmth.**

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, or 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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### Christian Education

**Registration Season** has begun! If you haven't already registered your child for Sunday School or for Junior PF, please let Pastor Jenn know at [Jenn@mcc-ucc.org](mailto:Jenn@mcc-ucc.org) so she can send you the form.



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!

### Junior PF November Schedule

We had a wonderful start to the program year! Remember that friends are always welcome, regardless church membership. Here is a recent pic of some of us from our Halloween party. We are a fun group of middle schoolers who enjoy playing games, serving others and building friendships!



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- 11/3 – JPF Service, Making Gingerbread cookies for the Victorian Christmas Fair
- 11/10 – Game Night, bring your favorite board game to share
- 11/17 – Friendsgiving, bring your favorite dish to share
- 11/24 – *No Junior PF, Happy Thanksgiving!*

### Senior PF Mission Trip Presentation & Parent/Guardian's Meeting

Mark your calendar! **Sunday, November 3rd** after worship the Senior PF will give the church a presentation on their summer mission trip. Later, at 5:00 pm in Rexford House is a Parent's/Guardian's Meeting in which adult leadership will introduce themselves, answer any questions, and share plans for the annual retreat, to be held December 6-8<sup>th</sup> at Camp Hazen. We look forward to seeing you!



**Thursday Morning Bible Study** - Join us in Dineson Parlor at 9:30 am every Thursday\* for prayer, conversation and discovery. As we approach Advent, we will begin reading together On the Way to Bethlehem by Rob Fuquay, available on Amazon (paperback or kindle).

11/7	Jonah and God's Mercy, Jonah (the whole thing)
11/14	Rome, A Place of Longing
11/21	Jerusalem, A Place of Waiting
11/28	No Bible Study – Thanksgiving Break

*\*except when it's a holiday or school is delayed or closed for weather*

## 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





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### Fellowship



**Young at Heart** will meet Thurs., **November 21 at Noon**  
 Details to be announced



**Morning Circle** invites the women of the congregation to join them every second Wednesday of the month (except 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:

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.

- November 20<sup>th</sup>** The Briar Club by Kate Quinn
- December 18<sup>th</sup>** The Women by Kristin Hannah
- January 15<sup>th</sup>** The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride
- February 19<sup>th</sup>** The Keeper of Hidden Books by Madeline Martin

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## Blood Drive

**Friday, Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 9am – 2pm**

at **The United Methodist Church**, 515 Cutlers Farm Road, all welcome.

Schedule an appointment below:

[https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/driveresults?zipSponsor=UMC&cid=siebel&med=email&source=bdc\\_email&utm\\_source=siebel&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=bdc\\_email](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/driveresults?zipSponsor=UMC&cid=siebel&med=email&source=bdc_email&utm_source=siebel&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=bdc_email)

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## Trustees



Whether you can give an hour, or a morning, please come help maintain our church campus! Your help would be greatly appreciated on **Saturday, November 9, 8:00am – 12:00pm**. Call Dave Allen with any questions: 203-767-0883 Thank you!



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

*Please see the signup sheet in Wilton Hall to be a part of this exciting  
new MCC event!*



## In Our Prayers

**Alison Abrams** (Jessica Pfalzgraf's sister); **Allie** (Colegrove's friend); **Jennifer Bittar** (Loraine 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); **Tom** (Wendy Colegrove's dad); **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** (Loraine Zeiner's friend)

## **MCC Community Calendar**

### **Week of Sun. Oct 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Celebrating 50 years of the Mustard Seed Shop*

10:00 am Worship

11:15 am NOOMA

5:00 pm Senior PF

### **Tue. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

### **Thur. Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>**

9:30 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Bell Choir

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

### **Week of Sun. Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*Daylight Savings ends – FALL Back*

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Mission Trip Presentation

11:30 am Trustees

5:00 pm Junior & Senior PF

### **Mon. Nov 4<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 pm Outreach

### **Tue. Nov 5<sup>th</sup>**

*Election Day*

1:30 pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

### **Thur. Nov 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Bell Choir

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

7:30 pm Confirmation Class

### **Sat. Nov 9<sup>th</sup>**

8-12 pm Church Fall Clean Up Day

### **Week of Sun. Nov 10<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 am Worship

5:00 pm Junior & Senior PF

### **Mon. Nov 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Veterans Day – Office Closed*

7:30 pm Deacons (zoom)

### **Tue. Nov 12<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag

### **Wed. Nov 13<sup>th</sup>**

11:00 pm Morning Circle

### **Thur. Nov 14<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. Nov 17<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 am Worship

5:00 pm Junior & Senior PF

### **Mon. Nov 18<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 pm Council (zoom)

### **Tue. Nov 19<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 pm Mustard Seed Sort & Tag