

****From Our Members****

Keep In Prayer

*Ethan S Linda S Lewis P Rollie H Nathan D
Pastor Wayne C Lonnie H (Brandon S's friend)
Bethany, Stephen & Baby Athena C.
Mike H (Val B's brother-in-law) Jane S (Jean K's sister)
Our shut-ins: Allen R Joan G Carol J Eloise H*

Worship

Worship shapes us into the people God is calling us to be, forming habits and language that teach us why we are in relationship with God, and how to be in relationship with God.

Celebration of Communion will be on Christmas Eve at 4pm. No communion on Dec. 7.

December Worship

December 7 – Isaiah 11:1-10, “That Persistent Shoot of Hope”

December 14 – Luke 1:46-56, “My Heart is Filled with Joy”

December 21 – Matthew 1:18-25, “In the (New) Beginning”

December 28 – **No worship**

December Worship Sponsors

December 7 – Lisa Sparks, in celebration of Sarah's birthday

December 14 – Judy Smith, in celebration of great granddaughter's birthday

December 21 – Becky Sparks, Happy Holiday Week

December 28 – Betty Rhoad, in celebration of daughter's birthday

Season of Advent

Advent is a season of preparation and expectation as we ready ourselves and our world for the coming of the Christ-child. Amid all the busyness of this holiday season, give yourself room to reflect on what it means that Jesus, the Messiah, came into the world as a helpless and vulnerable child. Surely that tells us something of what God is like. Have a blessed Advent!

Christmas Eve

Because of Pastor Wayne's treatment schedule, our Christmas Eve worship with communion and candlelight will be at 4:00pm only and will be led by Rev. Wendy Schindler-Chasney. For those who prefer a later time, you are invited to attend St. John's UCC Christmas Eve worship at 7:30pm at the corner of Mason & Thomas Roads.

Sunday School

The purpose of our Sunday school is to help children & youth better know God through the stories of the Bible and relationships with one another and the adults around them.

Christmas Dinner, Friday, December 5, 6pm

Hope you signed up for our Christmas Dinner hosted by our Christian Education committee. Looking forward to a time of food and fellowship and perhaps some special visitors. Maybe the Magi coming from the east? (see Matthew 2)

Sunday School meets each Sunday in Advent to learn the stories of Jesus' birth

December 7 - A Prophet Is Born (Luke 1:5–21, 57–80)

December 14 - A Baby Is Born (Luke 2:1–7)

December 21 - Surprise Visitors (Luke 2:8–20)

January 4- Visitors from the East (Matthew 2:1–12)

Our prayers & blessings will follow **Joan Ghrist**, as she has moved to a facility in Louisville to be closer to her son, Jim.

Thoughts and prayers for **Pastor Wayne** as he begins his course of treatments.



*Wishing you the true,
deep blessings of the season.*

Financial Report

October 2025

Current Income: \$7672.38
Current Expenses: \$7724.66
Current Balance: \$-4261.15

NFB Income: \$1451.00
NFB Expenses: \$1937.07
NFB Balance: \$57,485.35

Building Balance: \$2239.80
Christian Ed Balance: \$4857.54
Mission Balance: \$2259.54
Memorial Balance: \$3299.48
Total Spending: \$9881.73
Total Income: \$9278.38
American Funds Balance \$96,218.09(9/30/2025)

We hope you will consider an “end-of-year” donation to the ministry of the church. We rely on your gifts to continue providing our mission and ministry to God’s people within the church, around the community, and throughout the world. Your gifts make it happen!

Thank you to everyone who has given in 2025. We look forward to doing even more for God’s kingdom in 2026!

Here is how YOU can invest in the mission and ministry of our church.

- Write a check, put it in a church envelope, (or any envelope) and leave it in the offering basket on Sunday.
- Write a check, put it in a church envelope, (or any envelope) and mail it to the church.
- You can also use PayPal. It’s easy.
- You can also direct your bank to make the church a recurring bill through online banking. This is one of the best ways as it is free and the church receives the gift whether you remember to write the check or not!



Come and join with us,
To know God,
To share God’s love,
And to serve God together!

Ways to Connect with us Online

Check out our web page at <https://www.monroevilleucc.org/> to find

- Information about upcoming events
- The worship bulletin for each Sunday
- The Weekly Meditation (also available directly to your email Inbox)

Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Monroeville-UCC-107496705953838/> for

- Sunday Worship Live Stream
- Monday Morning Prayer
- A link to the Weekly Meditation
- Regular posts and updates

If there are other ways you would like to connect with us, contact Pastor Wayne.

****Mission and Ministries****

Through mission we share the gifts God has given us to help create a better world for all.

Non-Food Bank

"To ease the burden of poverty by providing basic household necessities and offer a word of hope to those in need."

We served 179 households in November.

Next Date: December 17, 9:00 – Noon
(3rd Wednesday of the month)

We are collecting toothpaste this month.

LGBTQ+ Family & Ally Support Group

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 2, 6:30pm.
All are welcome.

Many of those who come to the support group meetings express thanks for a safe space to be themselves and feel a sense of support. Many feel more unsafe in the world today than ever before as attacks on the community increase. Come and be part of this community of support and hope as we work to make our world a more welcoming and accepting place.

Coffee & Fellowship

December 11 at 8:30am

Lyn Marie's Coffee on Main

Come and join us for a time of fellowship as we get together!



Blessing Box

Thank you to everyone who continues to donate to our Blessing Box. This is a valuable resource for the community, and we are grateful to be able to help our neighbors!

Monthly Mission Focus

Through mission we share the gifts God has given us to help create a better world for all.

December Mission Focus – The Christmas Fund (UCC)

For over one hundred years, **The Christmas Fund** has provided direct financial assistance to the healers in all our lives: retired and active UCC ministers, church workers, and their families. You are part of the community of **The Christmas Fund**, whether you donate at Christmastime, benefit directly from our grant or leadership programs, or simply believe in our mission to help secure the financial foundation of those engaged in the life of the church.

Please consider donating today to ensure more healers receive the loving support of the Church in their moment of deepest need. **The Christmas Fund was here for them.** And regardless of who you are or what brought you to the United Church of Christ, **The Christmas Fund is here for you.**

Your gift is more than just a testament to your belief in the values of the United Church of Christ, it is a critical lifeline for those who depend on our grant programs for care and support. Thank you again for your generosity and I offer a closing prayer for your continued safety and peace.



Monroeville Congregational Community United Church of Christ
Council minutes of meeting on November 10th, 2025

Members Present:

Wayne Chasney – Pastor
Brandon Stewart – President
Scott Horn – Vice President
Melissa Zehnder – Treasurer
Kail Tinker – Secretary
Becky Sparks
Scott Mercer

Pastor Wayne opened with prayer; members repeated the mission statement:

*Come and join us to know God,
Share God's love,
And serve God together!*

October council minutes reviewed by members – motion to accept with revisions by Scott M, seconded by Melissa; motion carried

Pastor Report:

- Correspondence – Becky Kimball – LifeWise; declined offer to be involved.
- Corso's poinsettias – In Memory Of... for Christmas; \$12 each
- Thank you from Flat Rock for \$100 donation

Financial report:

- Parsonage rent to current; negative balance – make congregation aware; motion made to accept financial report by Becky S.; seconded by Scott H; motion carried.

Christian Ed:

- Sunday School every Sunday through Advent
- December 5th – Xmas dinner/party; offering for parents to purchase \$20 gift for Santa to deliver to child.

Mission Committee: no report

NFB: no report

Building:

- Parsonage line drain – still waiting; gas line is marked; to be completed this year
- Bathroom updates – doors, Abe H. to quote
- Trash – made switch to blue bags with Republic; \$38 fee to pick up container

Business:

- Workers' Comp Audit – RESOLVED; they owe us \$189
- Communion – Nov 2 – Melissa; Dec 7 – Becky; Xmas Eve – 4pm Becky, 7pm Melissa
- Snow removal – awaiting response; Brandon and Brett will do sidewalks = all walks and steps.

Next meeting: December 8th, 7pm

Motion to adjourn by Scott M; seconded by Becky S; motion carried

Submitted by Kail Tinker