

Monterey United Methodist Church

Phone: 931.839.2597

Office Hours: 9-2 Mon. & Fri.

August 2026 Newsletter



Dear Monterey United Methodist Church Family,
Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As the psalmist declares, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1).

My heart is filled with gratitude and joy as I see what the Lord is doing among us. I give thanks for the new families who have joined us, for the blessing of celebrating a baptism, and for every sign of God's grace at work in the life of our church. These moments remind us that God is faithful, present, and still working in ways that we can see—and in many ways that we have yet to discover.

Throughout July, we shared the sermon series *Core Faith*. Together, we learned how the Lord calls us to live under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, affirms our identity as His children, gives us hope in the midst of suffering, and reminds us that through Christ we are more than conquerors.

As we begin the month of August, my prayer is that it will be filled with God's blessing, favor, and renewed strength. I believe the Lord is preparing us for a new season of ministry and mission. Our church anniversary is quickly approaching, giving us a special opportunity to remember God's faithfulness in the past, celebrate His presence among us today, and look with hope toward the future He has prepared.

May we continue walking together in faith, loving one another, welcoming new people, and serving our community with the heart of Christ. Let us remain open to the leading of the Holy Spirit and expectant for all that God will continue to do through Monterey United Methodist Church.

With gratitude and pastoral love,
Rev. Fabian Valtierra



Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to be a greeter. It is such a nice welcoming when you

arrive to church, whether you are new to the area or a member. If anyone would like to be a greeter, catch me in church or text/call me at 717 587 2881. It's easy, give it a try. Thanks so much, Beth Carter.



Agape Thrift Is Growing!

More and more people are discovering **Agape Thrift**, and we are excited to see this ministry growing! During the first half of the year, we received **\$1,088.93 in**

donations, with **more than \$500 received in July alone!**

Please help us spread the word! Agape Thrift has clothing for **men, women, and children**, along with many nice household items. Stop by to shop and enjoy a cup of coffee while we're open, or take a walk through the shop when you're at church on Sunday. There is always something new to discover!

We are also grateful to be able to give back to our community. Agape Thrift recently donated **\$100 to Mountain Mamas in Monterey** to help provide meals and school supplies for local children. During their summer lunch program, Mountain Mamas also referred families to Agape for school clothing.

New Hours Beginning in September

Monday: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

Friday: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

As Agape Thrift grows, **so does our need for volunteers!** We especially need volunteers to help in the shop on these upcoming Mondays:

August 31 • September 7 • September 14

If you are available to work on **any of these days**, please contact **Pastor Fabian or Marcia Halpin**. Even a few hours of your time would be a tremendous help!

You don't have to make a big commitment to make a difference. Whether you can volunteer regularly, occasionally, or simply fill in when needed, **we would love to have you!**

Volunteers help sort donations, organize clothing and household items, straighten the shop, welcome shoppers, and assist with the everyday tasks that keep Agape running smoothly.

Many hands make light work, and every volunteer helps make this ministry possible.

A heartfelt thank-you to our **Agape Thrift Advisory Team and volunteers** who have worked so faithfully to make the shop a welcoming place for our church and community.

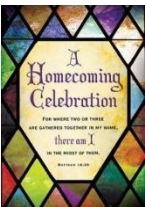
Come be part of Agape Thrift—shop with us, volunteer with us, and help us spread the word!



A storage container is in the hallway for items for the Burks Christmas Shopping in December. Men’s and women’s winter hats and gloves, cozy socks, wallets and billfolds are needed. Any questions just ask. Thank you! Suzy Jackson.



August	4	Suzy Jackson
August	19	Penny Pepper
August	27	Gay Teeple
August	30	Deb Maki
August	31	Terry & Catherine Harris



SAVE THE DATE — HOMECOMING CELEBRATION!

Monterey United Methodist Church warmly invites you, your family, and friends to join us for a very special **Homecoming Celebration on Saturday, September 12, 2026**, featuring **Bishop David Graves** as our special guest speaker!

Come reconnect with old friends, share cherished memories, and worship together as we celebrate our church’s history and give thanks for **God’s faithfulness through the years.**

Fellowship begins at 5:00 p.m.
Homecoming Service begins at 6:00 p.m.

📍 **Monterey United Methodist Church**
124 N. Holly St., Monterey, TN 38574

We would love to celebrate with you! Please RSVP.

📷 Help Us Celebrate Our Church History!

As we prepare for our **Church Anniversary Celebration**, we are creating a special display filled with memories from throughout the years. If you have **old photographs, church bulletins, directories, newspaper articles, or other church memorabilia**, we would love to include them!

Catherine Harris has placed a collection box on the table in the hallway where you may drop off items for the display. Please be sure to **label anything you would like returned.**

Help us tell the story of Monterey United Methodist Church and celebrate the people, memories, and moments that have made our church family so special through the years!



🌿🧄 Garden Club Road Trip to Galena Garlic Company! 🧄🌿

Join the **Monterey Garden Club** for a fun summer outing to **Galena Garlic Company Store & Farm in Grimsley, Tennessee**, on **Tuesday, August 11, 2026!**

We’ll meet at the **Monterey Activity Center** at **9:15 a.m.** to sign in, then **carpool and leave at 9:30 a.m.** Our group is expected at **Galena Garlic Company** at **10:00 a.m.**

We’ll have a chance to browse the store, which features **flavored balsamic vinegars, olive oils, and other specialty goodies**, along with tasting samples of their delicious oils and vinegars. There will also be an option to visit the farm and see the **drying barns** and learn a little more about what happens behind the scenes.

🌱 **Everyone is welcome!** Come enjoy a morning of exploring, tasting, learning, and fellowship with the Monterey Garden Club. We would love to have you join us!

Questions? Contact Jan Stansell.