

MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER June 2017
3035 Mount Pleasant Blvd., Roanoke, Virginia 24014
Phone: 540-427-3064 website: mpumc.church

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

While Pastor Robert and Betsy are away on vacation (June 7-21), we will welcome guest preacher, Rev. Steve Hundley, on June 11. He served as district superintendent for Roanoke for several years! On June 18, we will welcome a special musical program shared by a local group, Revelation Praise. Don't miss these worship opportunities!

THE GREAT SONG TOURNAMENT CONTINUES

Round Two of The Great Song Tournament ends on June 4, and Round Three begins June 11. Pick up your ballot at church, or message Pastor Robert to receive it by email!

EXTENDING THE COMMUNION TABLE

You can help bring Communion to someone who can't attend. Please let Pastor Robert know if there is a need, or if you would like to help! We have folks ready to assist!

"VIRTUAL" MEN'S GROUP

Our virtual men's group continues its weekly meeting on Wednesdays at 9:36 p.m. The current topic is on what God's Word teaches us about finding "breathing room" in our life commitments! Check with Pastor Robert for more information on how to connect to this group!

"SECOND SATURDAY" JUNE 10

Join us downstairs at 5:30 p.m. on June 10 for our "SECOND SATURDAY" community-based casual worship! Heather will be our speaker this month! Help share the word about Second Saturday! This is great for folks who can't come on Sunday! Worship is followed by fellowship and food – feel free to bring munchies to share and stay a while! (Over half of our attenders come from beyond our own church family!)

"A WAY FORWARD" PRESENTATION ON JUNE 28

Pastor Robert will lead a one-session presentation on "A Way Forward" on Wednesday, June 28, at 6:45 p.m. The "WAY FORWARD" team is meeting to prepare recommendations for maintaining church unity during times of considerable disagreement over issues of human sexuality. Keep this team in your prayers (go to umcprays.org).

2017 SAMARITAN OFFERING - Please consider making a contribution to this important program. Your gift helps support residents who have been blessed by longevity but have outlived their financial resources. Envelopes are available from Winky or on the table in the sanctuary. Please make checks to Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church and designate the Hermitage in Roanoke.

FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION THROUGH

OUR PRESENCE – Worship Attendance for May

May 7	69	May 21	66
May 14	79**	May 28	55

**5/14 includes Second Saturday

May 2017 Average	67	May 2016 Average	57
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Online Views (to date)

May 7	91	May 21	183
May 14	82	May 28	125

OUR GIFTS

May Offerings/Income	\$ 7,164.57
Average Monthly Need	\$ 10,337.00
**Other May Income	\$ 281.00

**Other offerings/income for the month include Ghana (\$135), Backpack (\$97), Memorial (\$40), and Communion (\$9).

Please remember that your regular generous support enables the whole work of Christ's church to remain strong.

OUR PRAYERS, SERVICE AND WITNESS

Thank you for your daily prayers for our ministry, for sharing your prayer requests and praise reports, for giving of your time, energy and talents, and for making a positive witness for Christ and his church!



BISHOP'S BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

JUNE 4-10	Job 11-34
JUNE 11-17	Job 35-42, Psalms 1-25
JUNE 18-24	Psalms 26-65
JUNE 25 – JULY 1	Psalms 66-95
JULY 2-8	Psalms 96-119

(The day-by-day list is available online, on the handout at church, or in the weekly worship bulletin.)

PASTOR CHATTER

It's conference season for United Methodists, and for many of us this serves as a great "family reunion." Some of you realize that I actually have two conferences and two bishops. I serve as a pastor in the Virginia Conference but my home membership remains in the Texas Conference. Both of these conferences welcomed new bishops in the past year – Bishop Scott Jones in Texas, and Bishop Sharma Lewis in Virginia.

My roots in United Methodism sink very deep. Beginning July 9, I want us to spend some time thinking together about what I call "Good Roots!" Our Sunday messages will look at some of the unique distinctives about our faith tradition, and how those strong beliefs are so helpful to vital life in Christ!

I'll also be offering an evening class that will look at some of the popular teachers, preachers and writers of our day and time – many of whom are considered "non-denominational." Though I will make every effort to be respectful and fair, it will be important for us to understand some of the differences between our faith approach and theirs. You'll be hearing more about both of these series.

And one more thing, to be honest, these are pretty difficult times for many church groups, and United Methodists are no exception. An international team is working hard to help provide direction amid serious differences of opinion about current issues. I will be offering a one-session overview on Wednesday evening, June 28. (See related article.) If you are interested in knowing more about these efforts, I hope to see you then!

Pastor Robert

PLEASE CONSIDER helping us to collect items for the **Health Kits** that will be delivered to the **Virginia Conference in June**. Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. There are collection baskets downstairs and in the sanctuary. Thank you.

Deadline: Sunday, June 10

Materials needed for one Health Kit:

- **1 hand towel:** 15x25 inches to 17x27 inches
- **1 comb:** Comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches long;
- **1 metal nail file or nail clippers**
- **1 bath-size soap:** 3oz. and larger sizes only;
No Ivory or Jergens soap
due to moisture content;

Financial contributions are also needed.

We need to send \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste and \$1.00 for shipping. *UMCOR is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.



FROM THE CHILDREN, TEENS, AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT

YOUTH GROUP - SUNDAYS – NEW TIME AND LOCATION

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sundays beginning June 11. Join us this summer at Brookhill Baptist as we "hangout". There will be food, devotions, and a whole lotta fun! Let Heather know if you need a ride.



SUMMER CAMP

All the fun of summer camp is right around the corner. Pastor Robert will be the chaplain at camp the week of July 9-14 so if you're more comfortable sending your child when you know someone there ... that's the week to go! (but if that week doesn't work, there are many more opportunities). More information about camp is located here <http://www.altamons.org/summer-camp.html> (plus one of our teens will be there all summer as a counselor-in-training). Scholarships are available.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Mark your calendars for Wonderful Wednesdays this summer! The program **starts on June 14** and runs **through August 2** (no program on July 5). Registration is open for Mystery Manor. You can register online at www.mpumc.church/summer and there will be a limited number of spaces available (Grades 4-5 is currently full and on a wait list).

How can you help? We need adult volunteers. Our program can't happen without them! Even if you're able to help two or three Wednesdays through the summer. Money is always helpful and prayer. Please see Heather to volunteer.

Thank you for your support of the children and teen ministry at Mt. Pleasant.

Heather St. Clair
Director of Children, Teens, and Families

LUNCH, Monday, June 12 – Lunch Bunch - Meet outside the entrance at K&W Tanglewood at 11:30 a.m.

THANK YOU! for your generous contributions – you enabled the Presbyterian Community Center to provide 55 Easter Baskets for area children.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, there will be a short meeting of the United Methodist Women after worship. All women are welcome!

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, there will be a church-wide potluck picnic after worship service. Weather permitting, we will have our meal in the picnic shelter. Chicken and beverages will be provided. Join us for fun and fellowship.

OUT AND ABOUT IN JUNE

Pastor Robert will be OUT AND ABOUT this month at these locations. Stop by for chat, coffee, or prayer! This can be an opportunity to bring a friend to “meet your pastor” in a non-threatening setting.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

MP Ball Fields & Park, 3216 Mount Pleasant Blvd.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

R. T. Smith's Deli, 10 Campbell Ave. SE

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Mt. Pleasant Library, 2918 Jae Valley Rd.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Hope's Cafe, 3327 Garden City Blvd.

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Backpack Program through donations of money and food items, packing the bags of food, and prayers. We have completed our 6th year of service as a community effort to feed those children at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School who, otherwise, would not have food on the weekends. When we began the program, we helped to feed 20 children. Today we have 45 in the program. Please continue to pray that God will continue to bless our work and to, also, thank Him for giving us the opportunity to serve.

Blessings, Jenny

ACROSS THE AREA (go to roanokeumc.org or vaumc.org)

- YARD SALE/BAKE SALE June 16-17 at Rockingham Court UMC.
- ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be June 16-18 in Hampton, Va. Visitors are always welcome to attend. You are also welcome to attend “Annual Conference Orientation” on Sunday, June 4, at 3 p.m. at Locust Grove UMC in Salem.
- SUMMER CAMP AT ALTA MONS sessions begin June 25 and continue through July. Lots of options for children and youth. Registration info at altamons.org.

- MENTOR VOLUNTEERS are needed June 25-30 for the “All God's Children” camp for youngsters who have an incarcerated parent.
- MISSION ENCOUNTER WEEK in Virginia will be July 28-30 in Chesterfield, VA. The learning options for all ages are outstanding.

A NOTE FROM ABRAHAM

May the Lord bless you all for your continuous support for the children. It has always been our prayer that we would always meet their needs for them to become somebody in the future. School reopened some few weeks ago and have been able to supply them with all that they need to help them learn. Thanks to the Lord who touched your heart to support them to become what they are today and in the future what they would be.

Greetings to you all and we believe the good Lord will continue to bless you. Amen

Abraham



June Birthdays

- (1) Kristi St. Clair
- (14) Richard LaPradd (father)
- (15) Dwayne Smith
- (16) Denise Gray; Michael Wirt
- (17) Mark Bradford



June Anniversaries

- (11) Leon & Ruby Bradford
- (18) Pat & Earline Tabor
- (19) Richard & Sharon LaPradd



DEADLINE for the July newsletter is **June 25**.