

**MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER November 2016**  
**3035 Mount Pleasant Blvd., Roanoke, Virginia 24014**  
**Phone: 540-427-3064      website: mpumc.church**

**MPUMC RECEIVES INNKEEPER AWARD!**

MPUMC's commitment to the Hermitage in Roanoke has been recognized with the Virginia United Methodist Homes' Innkeeper Award. The award honors exemplary support of this ministry with older adults. Without it, the VUMH mission of providing facilities, services and programs to enhance the quality of life for older persons could not be fulfilled. VUMH and the Hermitage express deep appreciation for the commitment of time and talents of the members of the Mt. Pleasant congregation. Thank you for your continuing support of those who are aging in your congregation and the broader community. The award is being presented at the Hermitage Guild meeting on November 9!

**LOVING GENEROUSLY**

November is a time to focus on gratitude and generosity. Our LOVING GENEROUSLY worship series helps us look at these matters of the heart. We remember that we love because Christ first loved us. We can be generous in relationships because Christ was generous to us. We can love the unlovable because he showed us how. We can invite the outcast to our table, because he invited us! Use these worship times as a way to examine your love for God and for others!

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP NOVEMBER 20**

The annual neighborhood community Thanksgiving worship will be Sunday, November 20, at 6:00 p.m. at Brookhill Baptist Church, 4725 Bandy Rd. This is always a great time of fellowship, and a great opportunity to worship with our neighbor churches!

**"SECOND SATURDAY" NOVEMBER 12**

November 12 is the next "SECOND SATURDAY" – a monthly community-based casual worship time – the second Saturday each month at 5:30 p.m., hosted here at MPUMC. This month's message is shared by Heather St. Clair. Help spread the word about SECOND SATURDAY! Worship is followed by fellowship and food – so feel free to bring munchies to share! Be sure to invite someone you know to experience Second Saturday!

**EXTENDING THE COMMUNION TABLE**

Did you know that the UMC offers a way for you to be a Communion server to people who cannot be with us on Sunday? There is a simple training for those who wish to be responsible for bringing Communion to others early Sunday afternoon as an extension of the Lord's Table. If you would like to know more about how to be a server in this way, Pastor Robert will offer a short training on Sunday, November 27, at 12:15 p.m.

**WELCOME TO MPUMC**

We are happy to welcome Charles & Betty Grant, 5410 Timberland Trail, as they join MPUMC by transfer locally from another United Methodist congregation. We are delighted to say "Welcome!"

**FROM GIDEONS ROANOKE 10-22-16**

We regularly pray for all pastors in this area but today we chose to pray specifically for Mount Pleasant UMC and your ministry in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION THROUGH**

**OUR PRESENCE – Worship Attendance for October**

Oct. 2	67	Oct. 23	153
Oct. 8/9	89**	Oct. 30	63
Oct. 16	69		

(\*\*includes Second Saturday)

Oct. 2016 Average 88      Oct. 2015 Average 67

We knew October attendance would be AWESOME with our big celebration. Thanks for making it such a special time!

**OUR GIFTS**

October Offerings/Income	\$10,670.20
Average Monthly Need	\$ 9,961.00
**Other October Offerings	\$ 842.42

Thank you for every effort to be faithful in your weekly or monthly giving to the mission and ministries of MPUMC. \*\*Other offerings/income for the month include Backpack Program (\$402), Kroger Rebate (\$157.42), Ghana (\$157), Anniversary (\$80), Youth (\$20), World Communion (\$18) and Second Saturday (\$8).

**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!

**YOU MADE IT HAPPEN**

United Methodist World Service giving helps support the creative ministry work of United Methodist deacons. Deacons are ordained ministers who normally function in special areas of serving. The Rev. Stanislov Prokhorov is a United Methodist deacon in Russia, coordinating a ministry of hospitality to refugees escaping conflicts in Ukraine and elsewhere. The Rev. Cathy Byrd is a United Methodist deacon in Panama City, Fla., with a residential ministry helping women with issues related to substance abuse, incarceration and human trafficking. World Service is one of our important mission items, and our 2016 budget for World Service is approximately \$164 each month. Pooled with the giving of other generous United Methodists, great things are happening!

**OUT AND ABOUT IN NOVEMBER**

Pastor Robert will be OUT AND ABOUT this month at these locations. Stop by for chat, coffee, or prayer!

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4 - 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.**

Market Square downtown (outdoors weather permitting, or in Market Bldg.)

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 - 11:11 a.m. – 12:11 p.m.**

Libby's, 3808 Yellow Mountain Rd.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.**

Garden City Bistro, 3322 Garden City Blvd.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.**

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

REMEMBER that OUT AND ABOUT can be an opportunity to bring a friend to "meet your pastor" in a non-threatening setting.

## PASTOR CHATTER

**October.** Wow. How much can happen in one month? October was a time for celebrating a new furnace. And a new roof. And a new church bus. And 175 years of God's work! What an amazing time it has been! A big THANK YOU to those responsible for special gifts that made all this possible. Keep up the good work! October was a month in which we celebrated our history. And we remember that we are participating in "HIS STORY" which is still being written!

**Giving Tuesday, November 29.** I have enjoyed participating in Giving Tuesday, a time to share charitably by making special gifts to non-profit organizations. In addition to other local and global causes, remember that you can support special Methodist mission projects, and you can even make your gift online! Go to [umcmmission.org/giving-Tuesday](http://umcmmission.org/giving-Tuesday) for some creative giving ideas!

Robert Stutes

P.S. Thanks to all those who participated in the "Help Pastor Robert" survey. If you have a survey out, please return it ASAP. Initial results will be shared at the November Council meeting!



## FROM THE CHILDREN, TEENS, AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT

And here we are... just like that... wrapping up the year in what will seem like a blur over the next 8 weeks so fasten your seat belts and enjoy the ride! (and hopefully soon in our NEW BUS!!!!)

Speaking of the new bus... do you have your CDL already? We're looking for someone who can drive us around until a few of us are able to obtain our CDLs... let me know (because we have a few trips already planned!)

Coming up...

### For the Children....

**"From Heaven Above"** is our Youth Performance this year and it will take place during the worship service on December 11. We would LOVE to have you (and your youth... all ages...) be a part!! Please let Heather know if you are interested in helping. Rehearsals will take place during the kids' church time and Sunday school leading up to the performance. A full schedule will be provided.

Crafternoon is back! **Crafternoon will take place on Sunday, December 11, at 12:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. A hot dog lunch will be provided. Children will make at least four home-made gifts for their family during this time. Crafternoon takes place from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Advance registration is required by December 1. Cost: \$5

Join us for Winter Camp December 17-19 at Camp Alta Mons! Love summer camp and don't want to wait until next year to go back? There will be many of the same activities as summer camp (hiking to the falls, having s'mores, going to worship) as well as a few different ones such as decorating the Christmas tree, making ornaments, and other fun surprises! You don't want to miss out, so register today! Cost is \$99. Scholarships available. Open to students in grades 2-12.

### For Youth (Grades 6-12)

**Youth Group continues on Sunday nights** through November 20 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.! (Note - youth group on November 6 is to Layman Farms at 12:30 p.m.) We just finished up our "What's Your Kryptonite?" Series and will focus on thanks and giving in November. It seems appropriate!

Fifth Annual Teen Christmas Party happens Saturday, December 10! Join us for Second Saturday at 5:30 p.m. for a time of worship and then we'll divide into teams and head out for our FIFTH annual photo scavenger hunt!! We'll come back and play a round of Dirty Santa so make sure you bring a gift valued at \$5 to play!

We'll be helping Rockingham Court again for their **Live Nativity Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4.** Bring a dish to share and dress warmly! Sign up with Heather to participate! (It's going to be so much fun!!)

**Winter Camp at Alta Mons...** yes teens... this is for you, too!!!!

**Resurrection** is an awesome annual event of worship and spiritual growth for youth and youth mentors. Each year over 12,000 come together in Pigeon Forge, TN, to celebrate the God of The Resurrection. Through inspirational words and music led by nationally-known speakers and musicians, young people encounter the Lord in new and deeper ways. And it's SO MUCH FUN!!! This event takes place **January 20-22.** (Students will need to miss school on Friday.) Advance registration required. Cost is \$120 plus 4 meals. (This is a GREAT Christmas present for your teen from mom and dad or grandma and grandpa!) **Deposit of \$50 due by December 15.**

### Family Events...

**Layman Farms...** it's not too late to join us... we'll be leaving the church about 12:45 p.m.... and there's fixings in the fellowship hall to make a sandwich! (Plus.. there are fried oreos and potato spirals there!) Join us for a fun-filled afternoon at the Pumpkin patch!

**RACKing..** Our 5th annual Random Acts of Christmas Kindness will take place **December 23.** We're looking for donations of quarters, \$5 gift cards to various fast food/coffee shops, and wrapped candy to make our gift bags. All families are welcome to participate in this event. Please let Heather know if you will be participating!

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

## FROM BISHOP LEWIS

Dear Members and Friends of Mount Pleasant UMC:

It is my great joy as Bishop of The Virginia Conference to join you in celebrating the 175th anniversary of the founding of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church.

For a century and three-quarters now, persons have stood before your church's altar for marriage, baptism and confirmation. Families have gathered with loved ones for a comforting "Service of Death and Resurrection." Pastors have read passages of scripture from God's Holy Word and expounded upon their meanings for faithful Christian living. Worshipers have gathered to sing, pray, and share with Christ and with one another in the blessed sacrament of Holy Communion. In other words, because of the fellowship of believers known as Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church, lives have been transformed, wounds have been healed, and Christ has been glorified.

I regret that my schedule does not permit me to be with you in person as you celebrate this glorious milestone in your congregation's history. Please know, however, that on this important occasion my fondest thoughts and prayers are with you.

Grace and peace, Sharma D. Lewis

## HAWAII 2017

Brochures are now available for this inspirational group trip – a cruise around Hawaii sailing on June 10, 2017. Pastor Robert is one of the trip hosts through Educational Opportunities, a leading provider of Holy Land and other learning and leisure trips for faith-based groups. If you have questions, see Pastor Robert. You'll be hearing more. Help spread the word to friends from other churches!

**A BIG THANK YOU** from the Family/Social committee to all who have helped with special events during August, September, and October. If you would be willing to serve on the Family/Social Committee, we'd be delighted for you to join us! It's not all work – there's great fun and fellowship.

**MANY THANKS** for your contributions of peanut butter, jellies, and men's undies for the SAMARITAN INN.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER. 9, 3:00 p.m.** – the MPUMW will have a business meeting and program. The topic will be "World Thank and Pledge Service."

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13**, after worship – Second Sunday reception celebrating October and November birthdays and anniversaries – also VETERAN'S Day! You are welcome to display a photo of your favorite veteran in fellowship hall on that day. Join us!

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14**, Lunch Bunch. Meet outside the entrance at K&W Tanglewood at 11:30 a.m.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**, at Noon – Senior Fellowship will meet for lunch and a program. Hannah Anderson will speak on her book HUMBLY ROOTS. The community is welcome.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** will meet on November 17 at 7:00 p.m. As this will be the last scheduled meeting for 2016, all members are urged to be present.

## ACROSS THE DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE

- Join other Christians in "gleaning" turnips at Windy Hills Farm, 1540 Creekside Lane in Riner, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Tuesday, November 8, or Thursday, November 24. Dress for the weather and ready to work! From the Society of St. Andrew.
- District Conference with Bishop Lewis speaking, Sunday, November 20, at 3:00 p.m. at Cave Spring UMC. Includes mission project preparing 10,000 meals to share through Stop Hunger Now!
- Pastor-Parish Relations Committee training is Tuesday, November 29, at 7:00 p.m. at Huntington Court UMC (alternate time Monday, November 28, at Fieldstone UMC).
- UMCOR has responded with nearly \$2 million in disaster relief funds for flooding in several U.S. States. Relief efforts also continue in Haiti and other areas affected by Hurricane Matthew.

## NOTE OF THANKS

The family here in Ohio is very grateful for all your prayers and cards you have been sending our mother – Joy Vilcheck – in her time of need. She is going through chemo and radiation so keep those prayers coming. God bless!

The Vilcheck Family

## TO ALL GIVERS OF MT. PLEASANT UMC

Thank you all for your support for the needy. After conducting a wedding, I decided to stay for several weeks to enable me to go around and visit the churches from one village or town. We organized joint services to help fellowship together. I had the chance of visiting one of the churches at Yorogo and discovered that another new church building and Bore-hole has been constructed there by the same people who built the first one at Vea.

I say a BIG THANK YOU ALL FOR SUPPORTING US TO REACH THE UNREACHED. God richly bless you all for your good works.

Abraham

## November Birthdays

- (1) Grace St. Clair; (4) Charles Grant  
(5) Dean Shell; (8) Josette McMillan  
(16) Winky McCann; (17) Danny Dyess  
(20) Judy Gibson; (23) Luke Bush

## November Anniversaries

- (4) Mike & Denise Gray; (16) Jan & Janet McMillan  
(18) Rick & Terri Beck

**DEADLINE** for the December newsletter is **November 27**.