



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

3035 Mt. Pleasant Blvd.

Roanoke, VA 24014

540-427-3064

AUGUST 2018

mpumc.church

August 19 is Back To School Sunday!

Back to School Sunday is August 19! Our 11 a.m. worship will be our closing celebration for Wonderful Wednesdays with the AMAZONIA theme! We're inviting all of our kids and their families to be with us! We'll celebrate the ways God's character impacts our daily lives!

You will have the opportunity to sing and learn just a bit of the experiences we shared this summer! It will be a great day of celebration! And you'll find out the results of the Pastor Challenge as well

(see below). Following worship we will continue

celebrating with a POTLUCK PICNIC! Hot dogs (with all the trimmings) and beverages are provided.

You help bring the rest!

Please join us! It would also be a great blessing if

a few extra people could stay and help clean up!



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

AUGUST 5 2 Timothy 3:1-16

All scripture is inspired

AUGUST 12 John 12:44-50

He came not to judge, but to save

AUGUST 19 Jeremiah 32:16-27

Nothing is too hard for God

AUGUST 26 Romans 5:1-11

We rejoice in our sufferings

SEPTEMBER 2 Genesis 9:8-17

The rainbow as a sign of promise

BISHOP'S BIBLE CHALLENGE

AUGUST 1-4 Isaiah 64-66

2 Kings 20-21, 2 Chronicles 32-33

Nahum 1-3

AUGUST 5-11 2 Kings 22-23

2 Chronicles 34-35, Zephaniah 1-3

Jeremiah 1-17

AUGUST 12-18 Jeremiah 18-40

Psalms 74, 79

AUGUST 19-25 2 Kings 24-25

2 Chronicles 36, Habakkuk 1-3

Jeremiah 41-52

Lamentations 1:1-3:36

AUG. 26-SEPT. 1 Lam. 3:37-5:22

Ezekiel 1-19

SEPTEMBER 2-8 Ezekiel 20-39

The complete day-by-day list is available in printed form or online at vaumc.org.

2018 Pastor Challenge

August 19 is when we find out the results of the PASTOR CHALLENGE! Our kids voted to decide which of these jungle challenges they want to see Pastor Robert perform: 1) Jungle face paint makeover; 2) Eat jungle insects; or 3) Get covered in jungle slime! Should be interesting!

Welcome to MPUMC

We are happy to welcome KATHY RAY as the newest member of the MPUMC family. Kathy was baptized at MPUMC and we are delighted to welcome her back now by transfer locally from another UM congregation!

What's a pastor to do?

Pastor Robert will give a repeat of the presentation "WHAT'S A PASTOR TO DO" on Sunday, August 19 at 5 p.m. We'll discuss what pastor roles are most important and how to effectively schedule availability! Your input will be very helpful!

THANKS from Henry Fork!

The children and staff of Henry Fork send a big THANK YOU for the school supplies our church delivered on July 24. This was possibly our largest school supply donation ever! Your generosity is appreciated!

OUR FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION

OUR PRESENCE

July 1	62	JULY 2018 AVG.	56
July 8	54		
July 15	64*	JULY 2017 AVG.	57
July 22	49		
July 29	51		

* includes Second Saturday

OUR GIFTS

July Budget Offerings	\$ 9,809.01
Average Monthly Need	\$ 9,625.00
**Other June Income	\$ 777.87
**Wonderful Wed. (\$320), Ghana (\$225), Backpack (\$89), Kroger Rebate (\$68.87), Upper Room (\$37), School Supplies (\$21), Communion (\$17)	

THANK YOU for your strong giving during the month of July!

OUR PRAYERS, SERVICE AND WITNESS

Thank you for your daily prayers for the ministries of MPUMC, 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!

YOUR GIVING HAS RESULTS!

Part of our giving supports UMC apportionments - "a portion" of each offering "meant" for the work of Christ around the world. Have you ever heard of the **EQUITABLE COMPENSATION FUND**? Our church budget supports this fund with \$22 per month. But this small amount does big things. This fund is used to assist smaller Virginia congregations to be able to afford the compensation to have a pastor. It is a perfect example of the spirit of sharing among United Methodists!

SAMARITAN OFFERING REPORT

Thanks to those who contributed to the Samaritan Offering between Mother's Day and Father's Day. A check for \$205 was forwarded on July 21, with a request that the amount be used at The Hermitage in Roanoke for residents in need of some assistance. Winky McCann, Hermitage rep.

THANKS FROM PASTOR ABRAHAM IN GHANA!

We do not have words to describe what you have done for us. It is over 10 years when you started giving to support the needy children. Some have completed Secondary School - at least 3 out of the 8. Your good works towards these children would never be forgotten, even after death. You all have something to show to the Lord when we depart from here one day. The Souls you fed would also testify on your behalf. I would also say something good about you in the last days. Let us therefore do the best we can while we are alive. May God Almighty continue to guide our path so that we shall not depart from his ways. We are the conscience of the nations. Without us the world will die. We need the strength of God to keep us moving. Thank you all. I believe our prayers have been answered Amen.

Baptism celebration at Alta Mons

As part of this year's district cookout and celebration at Camp Alta Mons, you will have the opportunity to renew your baptismal vows. In addition, anyone who has NEVER been baptized may be baptized AT Alta Mons. To do this, you must contact Pastor Robert ahead of time.

All are welcome to this year's celebration on

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 11 a.m.

It includes worship, potluck lunch, and activities for all ages until 5 p.m.

Across the area...

CREATING SAFE SPACES is a workshop on housing and care for vulnerable and underserved populations - Tuesday, Aug. 7 at Greene Memorial.

"LOOKING FOR HUMOR IN AGING" with Jeanne Robertson - hosted by the Hermitage - Aug. 9 at 4 p.m. at Roanoke Country Club. RSVP 767-6800. No charge - donations appreciated.

LAY SERVANT ACADEMY for the conference is August 17-19 at Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Center.

YOUNG WOMEN'S RETREAT sponsored by Virginia Annual Conference is Sept. 14-15 at Camp Overlook.

ALTA MONS SQUARE DANCE FUNDRAISER is Saturday, Sept. 15. Watch for more info!

BISHOP LEWIS'S CONVOCATION ON PRAYER is Saturday, Sept. 15 in Richmond. Register now!

RE-GENERATIONS WORKSHOP on Sept. 29 at Greene Memorial UMC. Learn about ministry with all generations. See Pastor Robert to register.

ACADEMY FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION is Oct. 14-19 at Roslyn Retreat Center. Sign up ASAP!

WESLEY HERITAGE TRIP TO ENGLAND with Bishop Sharma Lewis, April 23 - May 1, 2019. Don't miss it!

THE NEXT MONTHLY DISTRICT NEWSLETTER is posted mid-August at roanokeumc.org. More news is also available at the vaumc.org web site.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Kirk & Judy Gibson
- 6 Blanche Hill
- 10 Michael & Shayna Hastings
- 12 Marie Carter
- 16 Benny Basham
- 24 Timber Marie McMillan
- 25 Samara Jacobson, Robert Stutes
- 26 Robert & Betsy Stutes
- 29 Ruby Layne McMillan
- 30 Elijah Manuel
- 31 Eleanor Fisher, Jacqueline Ratliff

MINISTRY WITH ALL AGES!

Children/Youth/Family Stuff!

And that's a wrap! The summer was a blast and we're already talking about next year!! Please continue to keep the families of those who attended Wonderful Wednesday in your prayers as they transition from summer back to school.

And many thanks to Alisa Felicita, Jenny Basham, Sarah Dyess, and Pastor Robert for the countless hours with the kids this summer. Also my fabulous team of teen helpers – Emory Whitehead, Grace St.Clair, Isaac St.Clair, Phoebe Anderson, Lucy Burchette, Chelsea Doss, and Elijah Manuel, and my junior helpers Kara Rickey, Brittany Stanley, and Peanut Manuel.

MP Youth. We had a great summer with our friends at Brookhill Baptist ending with a fun trip to Kings Dominion this week!!

Movies on the Market happens on Friday, August 10, leaving the church at 6 p.m. Bring a blanket to sit on and snacks to share

Bible Quizzing kicks off with quiz camp August 24-26. This is a great way to get immersed in quizzing and see what it's all about. Cost is \$80 and includes meals and lodging. RSVP to Heather by Aug. 7. Quizzing is for grades 6-12. There will be weekly practices and monthly quizzes September through March.

Backpack ministry update...

School is just around the corner, and it's time again to plan for the Backpack Program at Mt. Pleasant Elem. Students are starting back earlier this year. August 13 is the first day and we are planning to send home food the following week.

The program provides food each week for about 40 students who have little or no food to eat on the weekends. We combine our efforts with the Lions Club, Brookhill, Rockingham Court, MP Baptist and Bedrock Roanoke to meet this growing need.

HOW CAN WE HELP? Each group has certain items they are responsible for providing in the bags. Our church provides Beanee-Weenees (individual servings), the small individual boxes of cereal, and Mac & Cheese (individual microwave servings).

You can help by donating these items or by making a monetary donation. The cost of these items for one child is \$2.24 a week or \$8.96 a month. Please make checks payable to Mt. Pleasant UMC and mark for "Backpack Program." Please remember that this program is supported by your "above and beyond" giving. It is not a part of our general budget. It is a mission for us!

You can also help by signing up to pack the bags of food at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School. We will be packing the months of August and September. There is a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary.

Packing is usually done on Wednesdays at 9:30, but we can pack any day, other than Friday. They just have to be ready to go on Thursday by noon. You will definitely receive a blessing. It's wonderful fellowship! Any questions, contact Jenny Basham (427-5248 or 797-4003 or wbasham843@aol.com). I really need your help! **Thank you!**

August message series...

Pastor Robert's August message series is called "THE TRUTH ABOUT..." We'll look at topics that sometimes cause great confusion!

AUG. 5 – The Truth About Interpreting the Bible

AUG. 12 – The Truth About Predestination

AUG. 19 – Back to School Sunday

AUG. 26 – The Truth About Bad Things Happening to Good People

Nominations needs your help!

The Nominations Committee is working to make recommendations for our leadership positions for 2019. If you have an interest in serving, or if you know of someone who might be a good choice, please contact Pastor Robert or Jenny Basham, lay leader.

Don't miss these...

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Online men's study each week at 9:36 p.m. See Pastor Robert to connect.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

Staff-Parish Relations Committee 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

Second Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

MP United Methodist Women will have a short devotion and business meeting after worship. Women of all ages are welcome!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

Nominations Committee 2:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

Finance Committee meets at 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

Potluck picnic (replaces Second Sunday) – see article on front page!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28

Lunch Bunch at K&W Tanglewood – meet in entrance area at 11:30 a.m. (now on 4th Tues.)

MOUNT PLEASANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Roanoke, Virginia 24014

The last few weeks have been a blur for Betsy and me as we completed the process of house hunting. We had planned to spend 2018 and 2019 finalizing a decision on a house of our own! I really didn't realize how picky we were!

But things changed quickly, and instead of getting one of those delightful old Roanoke homes, we wound up deciding on new construction in Daleville!

I'll still be serving here even after our house is finished! It will be after the first of the year before all of this unfolds, but we have placed our order! Please keep us in your prayers. And I have a picture on my cell phone, so let me know if you haven't yet seen it!

In other news, I am looking forward to this August preaching series – THE TRUTH ABOUT! There are so many opinions tossed around that our understanding of doctrine can be quite challenged. I hope this series is beneficial to you!

Please note also the plea for suggestions for our Nominations Committee work. You are the best source of ideas for helping bring "new faces" on board! We appreciate your help! Our Charge Conference will be October 3, so now is the time to get to work!

Pastor Robert

If you have items for the August newsletter, prepare in written form by July 29 - give or email to Heather, Robert or Jenny!

PASTOR
CHATTER

PASTOR OUT & ABOUT

Stop by for chat, coffee or prayer. This can also be an opportunity to bring a friend to "meet your pastor" in a friendly setting. There were eight of us at the last "OUT AND ABOUT" in July – so fun!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

*6:30 p.m. Jackson Park
(National Night Out)
923 Montrose Ave. SE*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

*5:30 p.m. LEAP Mobile Market
2145 Mt. Pleasant Blvd.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

*4 p.m. Mt. Pleasant Library
2918 Jae Valley Rd.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30

*Lucy Kat's
3808 Yellow Mountain Rd.*