



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

3035 Mt. Pleasant Blvd.

Roanoke, VA 24014

540-427-3064

OCTOBER 2018

mpumc.church

All-age trip to Pumpkin Patch - Nov. 4

November 4 is our annual “all age” trip to the Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze at Layman Farms. This year we’ll take the CHURCH BUS! Don’t miss it. Let’s get ALL AGES involved! We’ll leave the church building at 12:45 p.m. If the bus fills, we will bring extra cars as needed. You may either bring a sack lunch with you to church and eat before we leave, or you may purchase food at the farm!

Children must be accompanied by an adult or designated guardian. Middle school and up may attend on their own with a permission slip. Cost is \$12 for adults and children 3+. Just \$10 for seniors. You don’t need to pre-register. Just show up! We’ll stay long enough for the young ones to participate in all the activities (probably no more than 3 hours). If you prefer a shorter or longer stay, you may wish to take your own vehicle.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

OCTOBER 7 Exodus 19:3—20:17

God’s covenant and commandments

OCTOBER 14 Joshua 24:1-26

Joshua renews the covenant

OCTOBER 21 2 Samuel 11:1—12:9

David’s great sin

OCTOBER 28 1 Kings 3:4-28

Solomon’s wisdom

NOVEMBER 4 2 Kings 5:1-15a

Elisha heals Naaman

BISHOP’S BIBLE CHALLENGE

OCTOBER 1-6 Luke 1-5, John 1-4

Matthew 1-4, Mark 1

OCTOBER 7-13 Mark 2-3, John 5

Matthew 5:1—8:13, Matthew 11-12

Luke 6-7, Luke 11

OCTOBER 14-20 Matt. 8:14—10:42

Matthew 13-16, Luke 8:1-9:27

Mark 4-8, John 6

OCTOBER 21-27 Matthew 17-18

Mark 9, Luke 9:28—15:32, John 7-10

OCT. 28 – NOV. 3 Luke 16-19

John 11-12, Matthew 19-21, Mark 10-11

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

Churchwide Cleanup Oct. 20

Join the Churchwide Cleanup on Saturday, Oct. 20, 9 to noon – rain or shine. There will be all kinds of tasks, so come and lend some time. Many hands make shared work, so we hope to see you. Please see Ray Arthur or any of the Trustees for more info!

November 4 is All Saints Sunday

On the first Sunday of November we join many Christians in observing ALL SAINTS SUNDAY. In addition to thanking God for the lives of all the saints of the faith, we will remember those of our church family who have died in the last twelve months. We honor and cherish their memories.

Gideons speaker on Oct. 28

On Oct. 28 we welcome Loy King from Gideons as our morning speaker. As in years past, you will have the opportunity to make a contribution to the ministry of Gideons as a special offering. For more information, check the gideons.org web site!

Nov. 17 - Christmas at Old Salem

Save the date – Saturday, Nov. 17 – for an “all age” trip to CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT at the Old Salem Moravian village in Winston-Salem. We’ll leave early afternoon and enjoy an early supper, then participate in a special “Baking Christmas Tour.” In addition to seeing the beauty of Christmas at Old Salem, participants will have “hands on” experience in baking (and consuming) traditional Moravian goodies! Cost is \$50 per person (plus your supper and \$5 for gasoline). The event is suitable for all ages, from children to seniors! If we fill the bus, we will add cars. Please sign up by October 31 so we can reserve our spaces – this event does sell out.

OUR FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION

OUR PRESENCE

September 2	38	SEPT. 2018 AVG.	51
September 9	74*		
September 16	45	SEPT. 2017 AVG.	63
September 23	54		
September 30	46		

* includes Second Saturday

OUR GIFTS

September Budget Offerings	\$ 8,496.55
Average Monthly Need	\$ 9,625.00
**Other September Income	\$ 357.00
**Backpack (\$195), Ghana (\$155), Communion (\$7)	

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 time, energy and talents to make 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. Although our share is less than \$6 a month, the Africa University Fund is one of the most exciting items we support! AU serves students from 21 countries with high-quality higher education, enriched with Christian values, developing visionary leaders for tomorrow. Africa's greatest needs - sustainable agriculture, disease prevention, ethical leadership, and spiritual growth - have been and will be impacted by the graduates of Africa University (over 4,000 to date since its founding).

NOTES OF THANKS

Thanks to all for your prayers and words, hugs, and cards during my dad's illness and passing. I'm truly blessed to have such wonderful people in my life.

Janet & Jan McMillan & family

Thanks so much for the use of the church bus for our Bible quiz team trip to Lynchburg! The bus is fantastic. Thanks times 1000!

Andrea Wilhelm & the Bible quizzers

Thank you for your contribution to help God's work at the Henry Fork Service Center. Your loving generosity is greatly appreciated. May you be blessed by God's love.

Judith Anderson, Henry Fork

The joy of the Lord is our strength. We are praying for you and your ministry!

VAUMC Clergywomen

Good people of the Lord, you are too good. We are not millionaires, but we give for Christ's sake. A day will come when our things will be left behind for others. We do not render an account to God concerning our property but as to how we utilize our property while here on earth impacting lives for his glory. The children are doing great. They received some of the money to pay as Parent Teacher Association fees. Thank you very much for your kindness. May Christ grant all your wishes in Jesus' name.

Pastor Abraham Gaisie

Events near and far...

HEALTHY CHOICES FOR KIDS is for parents of youth in grades 4-8 - 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 10 at Windsor Hills UMC.

RIVERDALE AREA MEET AND GREET and history presentation, 7 p.m. on Oct. 11 at Riverdale Baptist.

DISTRICT UMW DAY and prayer breakfast is Oct. 13 at 9 a.m. at Southview UMC.

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

PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT supporting Children's Outreach Program on Oct. 20 at 3:30 p.m. 342-3103.

MEN'S SPIRITUAL WEEKEND is Oct. 26-27 in Virginia Beach.

INFLUENCE 2018 is a conference worship training event viewable by live stream at 9 a.m. on Oct. 30 at Thrasher UMC. See Pastor Robert if interested.

CONFERENCE FALL RETREATS for youth are Nov. 9-11 (middle school) and Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 (high school) in Lynchburg.

2018 DISTRICT CONFERENCE and worship is Nov. 18 at 3 p.m. at First UMC Salem. More info to follow. A food packing event for hunger ministries will be included. Singers are welcome to be a part of the district choir.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING worship Nov. 18 at Garden City Church of the Nazarene.

DRIVE-THROUGH NATIVITY Dec. 1-2 at Rockingham Court needs many volunteers for serving as costumed characters or helping with support. Call 427-0112 to volunteer.

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

VOICES OF YOUTH mission choir trip to Poland is June 19 - July 10. Apply now.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for annual conference here in Roanoke June 20-22. Call 989-3335 for more info.

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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Gary Noble
- 5 Izzy Barnette
- 6 Nancy Jennings
- 7 Jacob McMillan, Peggy Richardson, Claudine Wagner
- 10 Jason Bradford
- 11 Charlotte Myers
- 16 Danny & Sarah Dyess
- 23 Chuck & Della Mattox
- 27 Hunter Musselwhite
- 31 Tommy Booth, Lyn Maley

MINISTRY WITH ALL AGES!

MP Youth mini-mystery trip

Due to storm uncertainties, the September mini-mystery trip had to be cancelled. So we are planning a "rain or shine" mystery trip for Saturday, Oct. 20. Meet at church at 5:30 p.m. A light meal will be provided, and then we will head out. Cost is \$5 for youth in grades 6-12. If money is a problem, let Pastor Robert know and we will make a way! We will return to the church by 9 or 9:30. Next "regular" youth meeting will be Sunday, Oct. 14 at 5 p.m.

Nov. 11 is Hokie Sunday!

On Sunday, Nov. 11 we'll welcome Rev. Bret Gresham, director of Virginia Tech Wesley Foundation, along with VT students to lead us in worship. This is also our fellowship lunch day. Save the date - let's make this a great day for MPUMC!

Welcome Rev. Jay Fields

Pastor Jay Fields will be our preacher for this month's Second Saturday worship on Oct. 13 at 5:30 p.m. This is a non-denominational monthly time of prayer, praise and fellowship. Pastor Jay is retired now but served for many years at Garden City Baptist. We're so glad to welcome him back!

October collection for Samaritan Inn

Please help SAMARITAN INN with these specific items during our October collection:

KITCHEN: jelly, coffee, creamer, sugar

CLOTHING: men's white socks

Samaritan Inn is a day shelter located on Salem Ave. in Roanoke. It is open six days a week and serves breakfast and lunch. A gospel message is given at noon each day. Mt. Pleasant UMC men have supported this mission for over ten years, and it was near and dear to the heart of Lawrence Clark. There is a box in the downstairs hallway for your donations.

Alta Mons winter camp

Registration is open for 2018 Winter Camp, Dec. 14-16 at Alta Mons! The theme is "Beauty of Thy Peace" – and no, we don't sleep under the stars in December! Visit altamons.org for more information or to register your child. Open to grades 2-12. It's a blast!

Box tops for MPES

Mount Pleasant Elementary is conducting a drive to collect 3,500 GM "Box Tops for Education." We have a large manila envelope on the downstairs bulletin board to help them out. Let's start clipping!

Wonderful Wednesday afterschool resumes!

We're off and running!

THANKS to all those who are making this ministry a success for the second year. We have some new volunteers - Heather Nock, Barbara Blankenship, Joyce Ison, Mutsumi White and Betsy Stutes (focusing on kindergarten). Elijah and Peanut are back as youth helpers, and Lindy Manuel bring us programs through the library. We have our max of 20 students! They are great kids who respond excitedly to God's Word during our lesson. We began with four weeks on "Angry Words." We learned that words are powerful things which can heal or destroy. God's Word teaches us how to respond to angry words and to know that God has our back. It's amazing how attentive they are after being in school all day!

I also want to thank those who have contributed snacks and paper products, and especially those who have been praying for us. Please continue to uplift those prayers, not only for the ministry, but also for the children and their families. We have some who are going through difficult times. THANKS!

Jenny Basham

Don't miss these...

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

Meet at 11 a.m. at church to carpool to 2nd Helpings for a "Dutch treat" lunch.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Second Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m. with Pastor Jay Fields preaching.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

"Second Sunday" reception after worship to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16

Senior Fellowship meets at noon for lunch and program in Fellowship Hall. Rita Perina of "Silver Sneakers" will speak.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

Finance Committee at 6 p.m. Open meeting – you are welcome to attend.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

MP United Methodist Women will have a short business meeting and devotion at 12 noon.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23

Lunch Bunch at K&W Tanglewood – meet in entrance area at 11:30 a.m.

MOUNT PLEASANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3035 Mount Pleasant Blvd.
Roanoke, Virginia 24014

Funny things happened during September. In three different places (within a very short time, I saw typos in which 2018 mysteriously became 2019.

(One of those was in the article I typed on the front page of last month's newsletter!)

As a child, I remember how hard it was to get used to writing numbers for a new year. Now some of us seem to have flipped the calendar to 2019 before it is really happening!

Time does seem to fly faster and faster as the years go by. Although I also remember saying that as we age, the years go by faster, but a day can last forever!

The real challenge is to place all of our time in God's hands. When Jesus said "take no thought for tomorrow (Matthew 6:34)," I suspect he didn't mean to put the future entirely out of our mind.

I believe he was warning us of the danger of allowing worries for tomorrow to keep us from being at our best today.

Last time I checked, it really is still 2018 (no matter what your Sunday bulletin may say). I hope to see you in worship during the Sundays of this month as we gather to put Christ first.

Pastor Robert

If you have items for the November newsletter, prepare in written form by October 28 - 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.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

*11:30 a.m. Arby's
1401 Jameson Ave.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

*4:00 p.m. Mt. Pleasant Library
2918 Jae Valley Rd.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

*11:30 a.m. Lucy Kat's
3808 Yellow Mountain Rd.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

*5:15 p.m. Morningside
Community Garden
917 Morgan Ave. SE*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

*4:00 p.m. Mt. Pleasant Library
2918 Jae Valley Rd.*