



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

3035 Mt. Pleasant Blvd.

Roanoke, VA 24014

540-427-3064

FEBRUARY 2019

mpumc.church

Bluegrass Sunday Feb. 10

How exciting that we'll be celebrating BLUEGRASS GOSPEL SUNDAY on February 10 at our 11 a.m. worship. We had such a great time with this last year, with the great music from Pat Musselwhite, his brother, and friends from the MP Lions Club. Wonderful to have them back!



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

- FEBRUARY 3 Matthew 6:7-34
Treasure in heaven
- FEBRUARY 10 Matt. 7:1-14, 24-29
The golden rule
- FEBRUARY 17 Matthew 13:24-43
Parable of the kingdoms
- FEBRUARY 24 Matthew 14:13-33
Feeding of the 5,000
- MARCH 3 Matthew 16:24-17:8
Transfiguration



BISHOP'S BIBLE CHALLENGE

- FEBRUARY 1-2 Isaiah 28-31
 Mark 7
- FEBRUARY 3-9 Isaiah 32-46
 Mark 8-11
- FEBRUARY 10-16 Isaiah 47-66
 Mark 12-14
- FEBRUARY 17-23 Exodus 1-18
 Mark 15-16, 1 Thessalonians 1-4
- FEB. 24 – MAR. 2 Exodus 19-33
 1 Thess. 5, 2 Thess. 1-3, Philemon
 James 1-2
- MARCH 3-9 Exodus 34-40, Job 1-10
 James 3-5, 1 Corinthians 1-4

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

They call themselves the "RIGHTEOUS RACKET!" You'll have to decide if that's a good description or not. Don't forget this is a GREAT opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor! Give them a call, send them a text, or just tag them on Facebook.

Welcome KRAE HEATH as our new Children/Youth ministries director!

We look forward to welcoming KRAE HEATH as our brand new director of children and youth ministries at MPUMC. Krae grew up in our church family, living next to the elementary school! His dad Walter Heath is an active member of our church!

Krae is a 2010 graduate of William Byrd HS, and served in the US Navy from 2012 to 2016. Since 2017 he has been youth program coordinator at the W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center in Franklin County. He continues in that position while taking the part-time position at the church.



On January 19, he married Colleen Dooley in a ceremony at the 4-H Center with Pastor Robert officiating! Once he has had FOUR WHOLE WEEKS to adjust to married life, we'll be excited to welcome him officially (beginning Feb. 16) to this new position with our church family!

Our children and youth ministry took a giant step forward under Heather's leadership for six years! We rejoiced with her when she accepted her new position at Penn Forest Worship Center last fall. Now we look forward to Krae helping guide our shared ministries with children, youth and families of our church and community. You'll be hearing more from Krae in the near future!

"SOUPER SUNDAY" February 10

On Sunday, Feb. 10 we will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries with a fellowship meal after worship. Please join us and bring a pot of soup, some sandwiches or dessert to share! This is always one of the most fun and rewarding times we have as a church family! Youth group will meet after the meal from 1 to 2 p.m.

OUR FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION

OUR PRESENCE

January 6	61*	JAN. 2019 AVG.	51
January 13	cancelled (snow)		
January 20	42	JAN. 2018 AVG.	63
January 27	49		

* includes Second Saturday

OUR GIFTS

January Budget Offerings	\$ 7,809.59
(includes additional "December Special" giving)	
Average Monthly Need	\$ 8,826.00
Other January Income	\$ 304.00
Backpack (\$265), Upper Room (\$28), Communion (\$11)	

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!

Our total DECEMBER SPECIAL offering received during December and January amounted to \$3,652! Your generosity made it possible for us to complete our 2018 support of UMC ministries again at a 100% level. MANY THANKS!

For two months in a row, we have lost a week of offering receipts due to inclement weather on Sunday morning. We appreciate your faithful giving, even when we aren't able to open the doors on Sunday morning. Of course, you know the financial obligations of our church continue, even during bad weather! THANKS A LOT!

NOTES OF THANKS

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all your kindness during my recent hospitalizations and recuperation. Your phone calls, visits, cards, food, especially your prayers, and all other kindnesses shown me are appreciated more than you will ever know. I'm so happy and thankful to be with you again. God bless each of you!

Hope Patsel

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank everyone for all of your prayers and for all of the cards I received. While I have been recuperating, please know that I pray for my church family every day!

Claudine Wagner

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Michael Hastings
- 5 Shelby Krawczyk
- 6 Brenda Musselwhite
- 7 Debra Heath
- 13 Alisa Felicita
- 14 Ed & Helen Granger
- 15 Landon Beckner
- 17 Eileen Wimmer

Events near and far...

HEART HAVENS MONTH in Virginia is February. Go to hearthavens.org for more info or to donate online.

SOLAR POWER FOR PUERTO RICO is a project of area churches to help in the ongoing recovery from Hurricane Maria. Gasoline for generators is often unavailable, so solar can be a big help! See Pastor Robert for more info.

UMC GENERAL CONFERENCE called session is Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis. Please be in prayer (umcprays.org).

DISTRICT YOUTH RETREAT at Virginia Tech March 1-3.

CHRYSALIS is a weekend Christian growth experience for teens – a girls' event March 7-10 and a boys' event March 14-17. Go to swvaemmaus.org for info.

LAY SERVANT TRAINING March 9 at St. Mark's Daleville.

PAUL BUNYAN WORK DAY at Camp Alta Mons March 16.

150th BIRTHDAY OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN is celebrated on March 23.

"CHAT AND CHEW 3.0" discussion with Bishop Lewis April 6. Location to be announced.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for annual conference here in Roanoke June 20-22. Call 989-3335 for more info. You can give just a few hours to be a greeter, an usher, or help unload food donations.

CAMP ALTA MONS is taking applications for summer staff, and registration for 2019 summer camp is now open! Go to altamons.org for more info.

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

In case of snow or ice...

As in past years, we work with Channels 7 and 10 to announce closings. Do note that there are several Mt. Pleasant UMC's in other counties! You can also find the info at wdbj7.com or wsls.com. We make every effort to be open but PLEASE use good sense and discretion if your roads or sidewalks are hazardous.

We try to open the doors for anyone who shows up! And even if we must cancel worship, we do our best to use live audio on Facebook, depending on power! This audio is available to you live or later!

Ghana ministry update

Beginning this year, if you wish to make a contribution to Pastor Abraham and the ministry in Ghana it will be sponsored by Christ's Fellowship Church. Make your check to Christ's Fellowship Church, marked for "Ghana." These may be mailed to Cindi McMillan, 3830 Sun Valley Lane, Roanoke VA 24014. Thanks for the difference you have made in the lives of so many youngsters. Cindi will coordinate forwarding the money to Ghana.

MINISTRY WITH ALL AGES!

February is HUNGER BUSTERS month!

Hunger Busters at Presbyterian Community Center is our involvement to provide food to those in need. Eligible clients (in SE/NE Roanoke or Vinton) receive emergency food to last a few days. February is our collection month at MPUMC. Please consider helping us once again with this opportunity to make a difference.

“Protein” items are ALWAYS in low supply (canned chicken, tuna, beef stew, chili, canned or dry beans). Other special needs include dry cereal, oatmeal, and jelly. (We don’t need peanut butter currently!) To help with the process, please attach your store receipt and mark each item with its price. This saves a step in getting the food ready for distribution. If you prefer to make a financial gift, just mark your check or envelope with “HUNGER BUSTERS” and we will do the shopping for you! Donations are needed by Sunday, Feb. 24.

Backpack program update

You have been so generous with your prayers and donations! Now we need your help to finish out the year. Our church provides the small individual servings of Beane-Weenees, cereal boxes, and mac & cheese (microwave). We currently serve 47 children at MPES. Cost for one child is \$7.16 each month. For all 47 children that is \$336.52 a month. Make checks payable to Mt. Pleasant UMC and mark for “Backpack Program.” Remember that this mission is not part of our general budget. It is supported by your designated gifts! It is OUR MISSION!



MP YOUTH

Mark your calendars for the following:

YOUTH GROUP after worship and churchwide lunch, 1-2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 10.

DISTRICT YOUTH WEEKEND at Virginia Tech is March 1-3. We always have a good group for this. \$20 per person. Info at vtwesley.com/roanoke-district-youth-retreat. Sign up with Pastor Robert by Feb. 19.

LOOKING WAY AHEAD – Roanoke District Night at Skate Center on Sunday, May 19!

Watch also for updates on the MP Youth Facebook page! Our new youth director Krae will be in touch as more opportunities are announced! MP Youth is for those in middle school and high school age (6th-12th grade).



Don’t miss these...

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Next Step – a 15-20 minute online Bible study/devotional for men – Wednesdays at 9:36 p.m. See Pastor Robert for info on joining this online group!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Second Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

“SOUPER SUNDAY” after worship (see article).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

“Dutch treat” lunch at 2nd Helpings. Meet at church at 11 a.m. to carpool.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

MP United Methodist Women will have a short meeting after worship!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Senior Fellowship meets at noon for fellowship lunch. Program on “scams” by Brad Salois of Better Business Bureau. Guests welcome! For more info, contact Karen Tate (427-1884).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25

UMW will serve the Hermitage birthday party at 3:30 p.m. Pat Musselwhite will provide music. Come check it out!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

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

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Community Ash Wednesday worship at Riverland Road Baptist Church (time to be announced).

Watch for the lawn mowing list!

It won’t be long before we’ll be looking for volunteers with monthly lawn mowing duty! Our church finances are helped tremendously by relying on volunteers to help with this task. See Ray Arthur if you would like to “take a turn” at mowing duty in 2019!



MOUNT PLEASANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Roanoke, Virginia 24014

The season of Lent runs very late this year. It moves early or late depending on the timing of Easter. This year we have a late Easter so we will also have a late Lent – beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 6.

Even though Lent is a month away, it is often a time for reflecting on personal spiritual disciplines, so February is a good time to think about these things. Reflecting on Lent, pastor and author Adam Hamilton shared some thoughts:

PASTOR
CHATTER

“When I fast during Lent it is a way of identifying with Jesus and his 40 days of fasting. It is a way of focusing my attention on him. Every time I feel hunger, it is a reminder of my desire to serve Christ and it prompts me to pray. There's more, but at minimum it serves in this way for me.

Some take on spiritual disciplines rather than giving something up for Lent. Some do both. What ideas do you have for fasting this Lent? Here's one idea I heard about. Try fasting from bread. Jesus resisted the temptation to turn stones to bread, so it may be one way of identifying with him.”

Think about these things. Is there at least one thing you can ADD and one thing you can SUBTRACT this year for Lent?

Pastor Robert

If you have items for the March newsletter, prepare in written form by February 24 - give or email to Robert or Jenny!

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.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7
11:30 a.m. Subway
1724 Bennington

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14
11:30 a.m. 2nd Helpings
1502 Williamson Rd. NE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22
9:00 a.m. Hope's Cafe
3327 Garden City Blvd.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
3:00 p.m. Mt. Pleasant Library
2918 Jae Valley Rd.