



# THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

3035 Mt. Pleasant Blvd.

Roanoke, VA 24014

540-427-3064

MARCH 2019

mpumc.church

## Lent begins March 6

The 40 days preceding Easter (excluding Sundays) is observed by Christians as the season of LENT. This year Lent begins on Wednesday, March 6. Note below the information about our annual community-wide Ash Wednesday worship service. This year we will also have a special devotional booklet.



### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

- MARCH 3      Matthew 16:24–17:8  
*Transfiguration*
- MARCH 10     Matthew 18:15-35  
*Forgiveness*
- MARCH 17     Matthew 20:1-16  
*Laborers in the vineyard*
- MARCH 24     Matthew 22:1-14  
*Wedding banquet*
- MARCH 31     Matthew 25:1-13  
*Parable of the bridesmaids*
- APRIL 7        Matthew 25:31-46  
*The last judgement*

Copies are available in the sanctuary, starting in March. If you would like an electronic copy, one will be posted on the newsletter section of our church web site (mpumc.church under "About Us").

### Ash Wednesday community worship at Riverland Road Baptist Church



You are invited to begin your Lenten observance by attending the community-wide worship on Ash Wednesday, March 6, at 6:30 p.m. at Riverland Road Baptist Church, 459 Riverland Road SE. Pastor Nathan Colwell of Rockingham Court UMC will bring the inspirational message, and you have the opportunity to receive the mark of ashes as a part of the worship time.

### BISHOP'S BIBLE CHALLENGE

- MARCH 1-2    Exodus 29-33, James 1-2
- MARCH 3-9    Exodus 34-40, Job 1-10  
James 3-5, 1 Corinthians 1-4
- MARCH 10-16      Job 11-29  
1 Corinthians 5:1–10:18
- MARCH 17-23    Job 30-42, Proverbs 1-2  
1 Corinthians 10:19–14:40
- MARCH 24-30     Proverbs 3-21  
1 Cor. 15-16, Titus 1-3, Hebrews 1
- MAR. 31 – APR. 6    Proverbs 22-31  
Leviticus 1-7, Hebrews 2-8

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

### MARCH 10 - Welcome Krae Heath and SCOUT SUNDAY

"Second Sunday" is always a special time – and that's really true this month. We will recognize birthdays and anniversaries after worship on Sun day, March 10. PLUS we will observe SCOUT SUNDAY in our worship time together. PLUS it is our Sunday to have an official "PIZZA PARTY" welcome reception after worship for Krae Heath, our brand new director of children and youth ministries, along with his wife Colleen!

### Scout Sunday



You will NOT want to miss this day!

## OUR FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION

### OUR PRESENCE

February 3	52	FEB. 2019 AVG.	53
February 10	79*		
February 17	40	FEB. 2018 AVG.	44
February 24	40		

\* includes Second Saturday

### OUR GIFTS

February Budget Offerings	\$ 7,935.86
Average Monthly Need	\$ 8,826.00
Other February Income	\$ 627.00
Backpack (\$431), Hunger Busters/PCC (160), Communion (\$26), Upper Room (\$10)	

### 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!

Because of your faithful yearround giving we were able to complete 100% of our apportionment giving for 2018! We could not have done it without you! As always, 100% churches are recognized by the Virginia Annual Conference! The conference and district express their grateful thanks!

### NOTES OF THANKS

TO MPUMC,

On behalf of LOA, I thank you for your generous donation of \$368.50 to Meals on Wheels. These funds will serve our frail elderly clients with nutritious meals and help them remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

Ron D. Boyd

TO MPUMC,

Pastor, it is our joy to regularly pray for all pastors in this area, but today we chose to pray specifically for you, your church, and your ministry in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Roanoke East Gideons

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you for partnering with UMCOR to help provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupts life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own. UMCOR is able to provide

  
United Methodist Committee On Relief

comfort, food, and health care to those impacted by disasters like earthquakes and storms. 100% of your gift goes directly to those who need it the most. Thank you for your gift of \$286 (US disaster response) and \$368.50 (December special offering). These gifts will bring hope to those who need it most.

Roland Fernandes  
Russell Pierce  
General Bd. of Global Ministries

## Events near and far...

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

SHANE CLAIBORNE will be at Bonsack UMC – 6 p.m. on March 11 for a 90-minute presentation against violence. It features music, art, and stories of those impacted by gun violence, culminating with the transformation of a gun into garden tools. Free – but please register – go to [roanokeumc.org](http://roanokeumc.org).

150<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN is celebrated on March 23.

DISTRICT WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT is April 13 at Crockett Springs UMC/Camp Alta Mons.

BISHOP'S SCOUTING DINNER is May 23 at St. Mark's UMC Daleville.

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. There were also be an areawide 5K walk/run for early risers at 6:15 a.m. on June 22!

THE NEXT MONTHLY DISTRICT NEWSLETTER is posted mid-March at [roanokeumc.org](http://roanokeumc.org). More news is also available at the [vaumc.org](http://vaumc.org) web site.

### Updates from Camp Alta Mons

PAUL BUNYAN DAY is Saturday, March 16 beginning at 9 a.m. This volunteer day helps the camp gear up for spring and summer. There's a variety of jobs. Free lunch for all volunteers!

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION has begun, with overnight camps and day camps available for K-12. Summer staff applications are also available.

SUPPORTERS LUNCHEON for Alta Mons is Saturday, April 6. This free luncheon will help you learn more about the ministry of Alta Mons!

Go to [www.altamons.org](http://www.altamons.org) or call 268-2409 for more info!

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Mike Jenkins, Gail Thurman
- 7 Abigail Smith, Gabrielle Smith
- 9 Britney Nicole Glisson
- 10 Terri Beck, Mary Beth Richardson
- 11 Mary Workman
- 12 *Paul & Joanna Schroeder*
- 13 Ray Arthur, Krystal Coleman
- 14 Jordan Taylor
- 15 Jan McMillan
- 16 Annalise Grace Creel
- 18 Jackson Honaker
- 19 Ed Granger, Tariq Nowalish
- 21 Katie Fisher, Joyce Ison
- 26 June Lavelle
- 30 Wayne Myers
- 31 Janette Sandidge



# MINISTRY WITH ALL AGES!

## Updates from KRAE!

Good day everyone! I have not had a chance to meet all of you yet, but I am Krae Heath, the new Director of Children and Youth Ministries at Mt. Pleasant UMC.

I also work at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Center at Smith Mountain Lake as the Youth Programs Coordinator. My career is in Youth Development, and I am looking forward to applying those experiences to the Mt. Pleasant Youth!

I am extremely excited to meet you all, and excited to start some fun programs! Please be patient with me as I settle into this new position at the church, I will be working on newsletters and planning programs and outings so be on the lookout!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything, even if you just need someone to chat with or someone to listen! Feel free to text/call/email and add me on Facebook! My wife Colleen Heath will be involved and helping out a lot, so feel free to add her too!



Krae Heath 540-467-2406 wkheath@gmail.com

## MP YOUTH

We have 11 youth and 3 adults registered for the district youth retreat! How awesome! The event concludes with Sunday worship at the Wesley Foundation. Keep this group in your prayers, and watch 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 (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade).

## Watch for the lawn mowing list!

Even though it's still chilly, now is the time to sign up for 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!

## Learn more about the 2019 General Conference

Pastor Robert will be share info on the 2019 General Conference for your information. These are offered at multiple times for you – if you want to know more, please come to one of these sessions:

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 3:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27 11:00 a.m.

If you have other questions, feel free to message or call or come to an OUT AND ABOUT. Since I was able to attend the conference, I would be happy to visit with you! The paper copy of the newsletter also contains Bishop Lewis's letter on the conference. You can also watch her live "state of the church" message online at vaumc.org on Monday, March 4 at 10 a.m.

## 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, MARCH 9

Second Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Scout Sunday, after-worship pizza and welcome reception for Krae and Colleen (see front page)

### TUESDAY, MARCH 12

United Methodist Women meet at 3 p.m. for Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. UMW organization is 150 years old this month!

### THURSDAY, MARCH 14

"Dutch treat" lunch at 2<sup>nd</sup> Helpings. Meet at church at 11 a.m. to carpool.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 19

Senior Fellowship meets at noon for fellowship lunch. The program will be on nutrition! Guests welcome! For more info, contact Karen Tate (427-1884).

### THURSDAY, MARCH 21

Church Council meets at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 26

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

### SUNDAY, APRIL 7

We welcome Brenda Brooks, longtime lay leader of the Roanoke District, and member of Bonsack UMC, as our guest speaker for Sunday morning!

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3035 Mount Pleasant Blvd.  
Roanoke, Virginia 24014

Being able to attend two days of the 2019 United Methodist General Conference was both inspiring and difficult. (In fact, the first time I typed this sentence, I accidentally typed “UNTIED” instead of “UNITED.”)

PASTOR  
CHATTER

Our beloved church certainly felt a bit “untied” as we tried to navigate difficult and divisive issues.

I regret that people with a negative view of Christianity may have had their views reinforced by the headlines they read during February.

Nevertheless coming back to Roanoke, I was glad to be reminded that our ministry continues “on the ground” – as lives are touched with the powerful love of Jesus. THAT is what we are really all about.

As my mind settles out over the next couple of weeks, I am planning some opportunities to meet with you and share more about my experiences and impressions. I do not expect all of us to agree about the details, but I do hope we can all be agreeable. See the related article for more info about these gatherings, but if you have concerns that cannot wait, do not hesitate to contact me.

Pastor Robert

## **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.

*TUESDAY, MARCH 5*

*10:30 a.m. Subway  
Bennington*

*THURSDAY, MARCH 14*

*11:30 a.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Helpings  
Williamson Rd. NE*

*WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20*

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

*WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27*

*3:30 p.m. East County Café (Vinton Library)  
S. Pollard*

*TUESDAY, APRIL 2*

*3:00 p.m. Mount Pleasant Library  
2918 Jae Valley Rd.*

**If you have items for the April newsletter, prepare in written form by March 31 - give or email to Robert or Jenny!**