



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church
3035 Mt. Pleasant Blvd. Roanoke, VA 24014

MAY 2019
540-427-3064 mpumc.church

You can help “SHARE THE LIGHT!”

SHARE THE LIGHT is a project of the UMC churches of the Roanoke area. Between now and June 9, area churches are raising funds to help bring solar panel units to areas of Puerto Rico still recovering nearly two years after Hurricane Maria. The mission efforts of Roanoke area churches will specifically target the island of Vieques. Vieques is an “island off an island,” and there are no plans to restore the underwater

cable that brought electricity from the mainland. The aim is to replace the cable with more resilient systems, but in the meantime the small island is still running on generators.

SHARE THE LIGHT



SHARE THE LIGHT gifts will be used to purchase and deliver solar panel power systems that offer a clean, renewable energy source without the need for expensive generators or fuel.

MPUMC will use the month of May to raise funds by dedicating “DOLLARS AND DIMES” for this project. All “loose” one dollar bills and “loose change” in our Sunday offerings during May will go to this project. (This is in addition to our regular weekly and monthly offerings for our general ministries!)

Use these four Sundays as an opportunity to share the light! (In addition to your dollars and dimes, you may wish to write a special check for this effort. If so, please mark your check or envelope for “SHARE THE LIGHT!”)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

- MAY 5 Acts 10:1-17, 34-48
Peter’s vision
- MAY 12 Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18
The beginning of Paul’s mission
- MAY 19 Romans 1:1-17
The gospel as the power of salvation for all
- MAY 26 Romans 3:28-30; 5:1-11
God’s love poured out
- JUNE 2 Romans 6:1-14
The hope of resurrection



BISHOP’S BIBLE CHALLENGE

- MAY 1-4 Numbers 9-19 Revelation 17-21
- MAY 5-11 Number 20-36 Jonah 1-4
Revelation 22 Matthew 1-5
- MAY 12-18 1 Kings 1-15 Matthew 6-9
- MAY 19-25 1 Kings 16-22 2 Kings 1-12
Matthew 10-13
- MAY 26 – JUNE 1 2 Kings 13-25
Hosea 1-4 Matthew 14:1–18:20

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

NOTE: If you have items for the June newsletter, prepare in written form by May 26 - give or email to Robert or Jenny!

May 19 churchwide potluck

Come one, come all! Join us after worship on Sunday, May 19 as we enjoy a “late Cinco de Mayo” potluck meal. (Think Mexican food!) We’ll celebrate Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Cinco de Mayo, and May and June birthdays and anniversaries, as well as other special events on this day!

Pat Musselwhite will provide music. Bring your favorite dish and join us!



OUR FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION

OUR PRESENCE

April 7	35	APR. 2019 AVG.	57
April 14	67**		
April 21	73	APR. 2018 AVG.	63
April 28	53		

* includes Second Saturday

OUR GIFTS

April Budget Offerings	\$ 7,537.15
Average Monthly Need	\$ 8,826.00
Other April Income	\$ 662.00
Memorials (\$330), Backpack (\$132), Building Use (\$100), Family/Social (\$100)	

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!

Thank you for your faithful giving during April. Remember to pray for the missionaries supported by UMC congregations of the Virginia Conference: Cambodia (Clara Biswas, Esther Gitobu), Chile (John Elmore), Dem. Republic of Congo (Poto Valentine Shutsha, Jacques Akasa Umembudi), Vietnam (Dr. Quynh-Hoa Nguyen), Mozambique (David McCormick, Ellen McCormick) and U.S. (Lisa Nichols, Mark Stransky, Nancy Robinson).

KROGER CARD UPDATE

Every 3 months we receive a rebate donation from those who link their Kroger cards to a church or charity. You can go online to set this up. See Terri Beck for more info. The organization number for MPUMC is XL958. In March we received a Kroger rebate of over \$94 but this came from only nine households. Maybe we could increase that number!

NOTES OF THANKS

During a time like this, we realize how much our friends really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered. Thank you all for everything.

Mary Beth Richardson

The Heath family is so very grateful for the use of the fellowship hall for our family gathering. Thank you for your support and care.

Sincerely, The Heath family

Hi Guys & "Gulls." We're finally totally moved out of Roanoke and the house got listed for sale. It's been a busy thirteen months of coming and going, but God finally has us home. May he continue to bless Mt. Pleasant always.

In Christ's love, Kirk & Judy Gibson, 507 Shoreline Dr., E. Sunset Beach NC 28468

On behalf of our family, we thank all of you for your many expressions of sympathy following the "home-going" of our brother Ken. The cards, calls, and especially the prayers were very comforting to us.

Hope, Kat and Winky

Time with Bishop Weaver

Bishop Pete Weaver invites you to a special "time with the bishop" Saturday, June 1, 3 to 5 p.m. at Bethlehem UMC, 13586 S. Old Moneta Rd. near Smith Mountain Lake. (Bishop Weaver is our interim bishop during Bishop Lewis's medical leave.) "Jesus most often journeyed in the company of others, and we can practice our Christian love for each other by having conversation 'on the road' together," said Weaver. "We will share Communion, care for one another, and look at the meaning of the Judicial Council decisions and their implications as we seek to follow the Book of Discipline which governs our church." All are welcome to attend this event in Moneta.

Events near and far...

BISHOP LEWIS'S SCOUTING DINNER has been postponed to 2020.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING May 11 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul UMC Christiansburg.

UMW DAY AT FERRUM June 1 at 9:30 a.m. at Ferrum College.

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN CAMP (for children with an incarcerated parent) needs volunteer mentors and drivers, June 16-21 or Aug. 11-16. Contact Lori Smith (571-245-9591).

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 walk/run supports the ministry of "Kids Soar" (formerly Community Outreach Project).

UMW ANNUAL CONFERENCE BREAKFAST June 21 at 6:45 a.m. at Holiday Inn Valley View. Reserve tickets by June 12 with Phyllis Geoghegan (804-896-6297).

CAMP RAINBOW CONNECTION (for adults with intellectual disabilities) needs volunteers, June 22-28 or July 27-Aug. 2. Email StacyRoberts@vaumc.org.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION has begun for sessions at Camp Alta Mons. Go to altamons.org for full information.

KIDS SOAR (formerly C.O.P.) will celebrate its 30th anniversary in September!

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Patrick Jennings
9	Leelend Alexander Workman, William Ryder Workman
14	Amanda Jennings
17	Penny Arrington
18	Jeremiah McMillan
22	Mike & Linda Schoonover
31	Brent Beckner, Brian Fisher

NOTE: We include birthdays and anniversaries which are on file. Our list is not complete, so see Jenny Basham to make sure we have your info!

MINISTRY WITH ALL AGES!

Children & youth ministry update from Krae!

Summer is practically here! I hope everyone is enjoying this amazing weather. We are working on getting together a calendar of Youth/Children's events for the summer, and any input from parents would be greatly appreciated.

We won't have youth group on Mother's Day, May 12. Starting May 19, we'll meet every other Sunday. Try to make it out to Youth on the 19th (5 to 7 p.m. at the church)! We will be planning some fun events for the summer!

I would also like to hold a meeting for the parents of both the youth and kids on Friday May 17, at 5pm. There will be snacks!

KIDS CHURCH for the elementary age continues on the 1st and 3rd Sunday mornings each month, and Wonderful Wednesday afterschool wrapped up the season during April. Thanks to Jenny Basham and her team for making this such a special ministry and touching young lives!

Krae

It's "Health Kit" time again!

Each year we have a goal of making 25 UMCOR kits to bring to annual conference. Items needed include hand towels (15"x25" to 17"x27") combs (at least 6 inches of teeth), metal nail files or clippers, bath soap bars (at least 3 oz. – no Ivory or Jergens due to moisture content), common household Band-aids (3/4" or 1"). Please leave items in original packaging. Also needed - \$1 for UMCOR to purchase toothpaste and \$1 for shipping for each kit. We already have plenty of toothbrushes and wash cloths. Collection tubs are at the back of the sanctuary and in the downstairs hallway. Your help is much appreciated!!



Samaritan offering

It's Samaritan Offering time again! Gifts are received between Mother's Day and Father's Day (May 12 through June 16). This ministry offers financial assistance to Hermitage residents who can no longer afford the full cost of their care. Every dollar received goes directly to assist residents (not for operational expenses). Envelopes are available between now and Father's Day. Make your check to MPUMC and use the envelope or mark it for Samaritan.

Welcome Back to Pastor Liz on Sunday, May 26

On Sunday, May 26 we will say "Welcome Home" to Pastor Liz Mortlock as she brings the message in Sunday worship! Pastor Liz served as senior pastor here from 2008 to 2013. It was under her leadership that great strides were made with the blessing of receiving the Barton Fund, including building renovations and the revitalization of children and youth ministries!

Pastor Robert and Betsy will be away that Sunday attending their home conference session in Houston. Plan now to be present for an inspiring time of worship on May 26!

Mark these dates...

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY, MAY 9

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

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Second Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m., with food and fellowship afterward! All are welcome!

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Church Council at 7 p.m. All are invited to attend!

SUNDAY, MAY 19

"Second Sunday" celebration of May and June birthdays and anniversaries after worship (see front page article for more info)!

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Senior Fellowship will have our last meeting at 12 noon before summer break. We will celebrate a "mini" Cinco de Mayo party. Music provided by Pat Musselwhite. All seniors are welcome.

SUNDAY, MAY 26

The United Methodist Women (UMW) will have a short meeting after worship. Women of all ages are welcome!

TUESDAY, MAY 28

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

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

During last week's online men's study we looked at these unusual words of Jesus. As he sends out workers two by two into the mission field, he says: "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you (Luke 10:5-6)." Theologian Nadia Bolz Weber shares how she often acts when she offers peace that is not received. "I don't then tend to just peacefully walk away. Usually I become obsessed with all the ways that THEY are wrong and I am wrong, neither of which feels too great.

**PASTOR
CHATTER**

rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you (Luke 10:5-6)." Theologian Nadia Bolz Weber shares how she often acts when she offers peace that is not received. "I don't then tend to just peacefully walk away. Usually I become obsessed

with all the ways that THEY are wrong and I am wrong, neither of which feels too great. "And I tend to think about all of it way too much. But Jesus' words here make me wonder. How much do we allow other people to be the source of our peace? It's not helpful to do that. Because they were not really the source of your peace to begin with!

"Because God and God is alone is our real source. That's not just religious jargon. I mean it quite literally. You came from the BREATH OF GOD. There is that within you. The very image of God that cannot be hurt by rejection. It doesn't mean that this rejection won't hurt. But it does mean that it cannot hurt what really matters!"

Have there been ways in which you have made your peace way too dependent upon what someone else does or does not do? I hope these words of Jesus and of Bolz-Weber will challenge and bless you.

Pastor Robert

WHAT'S THE POINT?

If you see a sanctuary pencil that needs sharpening, put it in the slot "point side up" and we'll know to bring it for servicing! THANKS from your sanctuary angels!

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, MAY 9

*11:30 a.m. 2nd Helpings
1502 Williamson Rd. NE*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

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

TUESDAY, MAY 21

*4:00 p.m. Sweet Donkey
2108 Broadway*

FRIDAY, MAY 31

*1:00 p.m. Subway
1724 Bennington*