



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

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

OCTOBER 2019
540-427-3064 mpumc.church

Charge conference is Oct. 30

Charge Conference is one of those good old Methodist traditions and it is our official annual visit with our district superintendent, Rev. Kathleen Overby Webster. This year we will again share our meeting with neighbor congregations. Charge Conference will be hosted at West End UMC, 1221 Campbell Ave. SW on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 6:30 p.m. The conference is for Mount Pleasant, West End, St. Paul's and Trinity. Everyone is welcome! We will have a small amount of important official business to take care of, but more importantly will be our opportunity to have conversation and prayer together about where we see God leading. Please come and share! It is only a one-hour meeting but it is a great opportunity. Here are the conversation questions that we will be sharing this year. Be thinking and praying about them:

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

OCTOBER 6	Genesis 37:1-36 <i>Young Joseph</i>
OCTOBER 13	Genesis 41:37-57 <i>Joseph in Egypt</i>
OCTOBER 20	Genesis 43:1-5; 45:1-18 <i>Joseph reconnects to his family</i>
OCTOBER 27	Numbers 1:1-16, 44-54 <i>Moses and Aaron register the leaders</i>
NOV. 3	Numbers 14:1-12; 16:1-5, 23-25 <i>The rebellion and complaints of the people</i>

BISHOP'S BIBLE CHALLENGE

OCTOBER 1-5	Ezekiel 27-39 John 14:1—18:18
OCTOBER 6-12	Ezekiel 40-48 Song of Solomon 1-8 John 18:19—21:25, Ephesians 1-2
OCTOBER 13-19	1 Samuel 1-18 Ephesians 3-6, 1 Peter 1-2
OCTOBER 20-26	1 Samuel 19-31 2 Samuel 1-5, 2 Peter 3, 1 Timothy 1-6
OCT. 27 – NOV. 2	2 Samuel 6-22 1 John 1-5, 2 John, 3 John

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

NOTE: If you have items for the November newsletter, prepare in written form by October 27 and give or email to Robert or Jenny!

What does "moving forward in God's mission" look like for your congregation?

How do you keep from moving backward?

How do you avoid moving aimlessly?

How do you keep it God's mission and not your own?

What questions do you have for the other churches in the room about the challenges, impediments, and opportunities of "moving forward in God's mission?"

What one thing should I pass on to the next DS about how your church is "moving forward in God's mission?"

Supporting Samaritan Inn

We have a long relationship supporting the mission work of Samaritan Inn, 543 Salem Ave. Between now and November 3 we will collect RAIN PONCHOS and DISPOSABLE RAZORS! Good buys can be found in the dollar stores!

If you prefer, you may make a donation by marking your check or envelope "SAMARITAN INN," or give your contribution to Karen Tate.

Samaritan Inn provides lunch and daily noon worship to those going through hard times. Volunteers and local congregation help keep the ministry going. Thanks for your continued support and prayers for this vital, Christ-centered mission field! You can also support Samaritan Inn thrift store with your donations and/or purchases. Lawrence Clark was a long-time booster for the ministries of Samaritan Inn.

OUR FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION

OUR PRESENCE

September 2	55	SEPT. 2019 AVG.	54
September 9	68		
September 16	60*	SEPT. 2018 AVG.	51
September 23	43		
September 30	45		

* includes Second Saturday

Your faithful attendance helped us to show a small increase over last September!

OUR GIFTS

September Budget Offerings	\$ 7,935.40
Average Monthly Need	\$ 8,826.00
Other September Income	\$ 827.11
New Window Shades (\$338), Repair Project (\$337.75), Backpack Ministry (\$99), Communion (\$52,36)	

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!

We have seen the signs of suffering and loss in the Bahamas, in Texas, in North Carolina and other areas due to recent storms. Our October Communion offering will go toward domestic and international disaster relief ministries through UMCOR. We were happy to learn that UMCOR is partnering with Bahamas Methodist Habitat to address immediate human needs in the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. UMCOR is also at work in areas of the U.S. affected by tropical storm Imelda. Some of the households affected had only begun to rebound from Hurricane Harvey's devastation in 2017. In addition to our Communion offering, you may make your offering during this month by marking your check or envelope "UMCOR," or you may donate online at umcor.org.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Gary Noble
5	Isabella Marie Barnette, Kathy Ray
6	Nancy Jennings
7	Jacob McMillan, Claudine Wager
10	Jason Bradford
11	Charlotte Myers
14	Paul Workman
16	Emory Whitehead, <i>Danny & Sarah Dyess</i>
23	Mark Workman, <i>Chuck & Della Mattox</i>
27	Hunter Musselwhite
30	Lyn Maley
31	Tommy Booth

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!

Watch for scams ☹️

Sadly churches and church members have recently been the victims of scams and fraud, so please be aware. It has been reported that some Virginia UM churches have had checks stolen from their mailbox, and the culprits had opened up fraudulent accounts and deposited the checks, withdrawn the cash, and then closed the accounts. The giver may never realize the church did not receive the funds until receiving their giving record statement some time later. One church had over \$10,000 stolen. Fortunately we retrieve our mail regularly, but please keep an eye on this if you use the mail to send in your contributions. Another recent scam uses emails that appear to be sent from the pastor seeking assistance with a particular project, but the email is actually from a phony account using the pastor's name. Please know that Pastor Robert will not be contacting you by email to ask for you to send him funds directly! Kindhearted church members have been victimized by this scam elsewhere.



Events near and far...

PASTOR ROBERT will attend the annual Pastor's School continuing education event at Duke Oct. 7-8. Hope he learns something!

DAYS FOR GIRLS fundraiser Oct. 9 at Hollywood's Restaurant – a portion of all sales supports this ministry providing hygiene supplies for girls and young women around the world. Northview UMC sponsors this ministry.

CROP WALK Oct. 13 at 1:30 p.m., raising funds for local and global hunger relief. Starts at First Evangelical Presbyterian on S. Jefferson.

ELISABETH VON TRAPP in concert on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. at Bonsack UMC.

DISTRICT UMW DAY on Oct. 19 at 8:30 a.m. at First UMC Salem.

VOICES OF APPALACHIA concert Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. at Thrasher UMC. This is a community chorale for post-collegiate young adults from across the Roanoke and New River Valleys.

FAMILY PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT benefiting Kids Soar Oct. 26 at 3:30 p.m. Go to kidsoar.org for info. Kids Soar (formerly Community Outreach Project) also celebrates their 30th anniversary on Oct. 27.

CAMP ALTA MONS ANNUAL MEETING Nov. 10 at 1:30 p.m. at Thrasher UMC.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE Nov. 10 at 3 p.m. at Thrasher UMC. All are invited!

MISTLETOE MARKET fundraiser for the Hermitage on Nov. 15. Save the date!

MINISTRY WITH ALL AGES!



Children & youth ministry update from Krae!

MP Youth (6th-12th) continues on Sundays at 5 p.m. starting on Sept. 8. Keep in touch with the MP Youth Facebook (@mtpleasantyouth) page for updates, changes or special events.

Kids Church (K-5th) meets on Oct. 6 and Oct. 20. We go downstairs after the offering time for a special age-friendly lesson! On other Sundays, we work to include kids in special ways!

Updates from Camp Alta Mons

WINTER CAMP. Hard to believe – but registration is now OPEN for Winter Camp 2019. Dates are Dec. 20-22 and this is for grades 2-12. S'mores over a campfire, hikes to the (potentially frozen) waterfall, starry nights, and camp friends are all waiting for you. Winter Camp incorporates the highlights of summer camp along with fun Christmas activities (decorating cookies, making ornaments, and other fun surprises). You can register online now at altamons.org. Print brochures will be in the mail soon!

ANNUAL MEETING for Camp Alta Mons is Sunday, Nov. 10 at 1:30 p.m. Thrasher Memorial UMC. There will be updates on camp programming, finances, updates and improvements. All are welcome to attend.

SUMMER STAFF APPLICATIONS are available online at altamons.org/summer-staff. This might be your best summer job ever. Check it out, along with a list of available positions and job descriptions! It's never too early to apply for that summer job!



Ways you can help

Flowers and plants add much to our worship, and can be placed in memory or recognition. Contact Jenny Basham (797-4003) or Joyce Ison (761-4341) for more info.

If a pew pencil needs sharpening, just turn it "point up" in place and we'll know that it needs attention!

Interested in helping decorate for Christmas, either by designing, craftiness, people power or donations? Contact Terri Beck (343-0035)!

If you shop at Kroger, you can add our church family as a recipient of a quarterly donation from Kroger Community Rewards. See Terri Beck (343-0035) for help in doing this! A certain unnamed pastor just went online and realized that his account was no longer linked – so he fixed it! You can log in to your Kroger account at kroger.com and see if your Community Rewards account is up to date!

Mark these dates...

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Next Step – a 15-20 minute online devo for men on Wednesdays at 9:36 p.m. We continue the series "Lessons From Football For the Game of Life." See Pastor Robert for info.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

2nd Helpings "Dutch treat" lunch – meet in church parking lot around 11 a.m. to carpool. (Due to Bible study we will be a little later getting off this time!) You can also meet us there around 11:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Second Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m., with food and fellowship afterward! Our guest speaker is the Rev. Jay Fields who served for many years as pastor at Garden City Baptist before his retirement. All are welcome!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

"Second Sunday" reception after worship to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and other special events.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Senior Fellowship meets at 12 noon for lunch and gospel music. Open to the community!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

"District UMW Day" at 8:30 a.m. at First UMC Salem – meet at church at 7:35 a.m. to carpool.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

Brief UMW business meeting right after worship. Women of all ages are welcome!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

Finance Committee meets at 7 p.m. "Open meeting" – you are welcome to attend!

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Roanoke, Virginia 24014



After a few weeks on the Old Testament character Joseph, we will then take a journey through parts of the Book of Numbers. This is not the most frequently used Old Testament book and yet there are some very interesting teachings as you work your way through it.

Someone once noted that God must love numbers since it's one of the books in the Bible! We often find lists of numbers in the Old Testament. We have references to how many years someone lived. We have lists of how many persons represented each tribe.

When I think of numbers I also think of the beautiful story Jesus told about the lost sheep. Even though 99 of the sheep were present and safe, the shepherd showed his care for the lost sheep.

Big numbers are always attention getting, but this story reminds us that the small and seemingly insignificant has great value in the eyes of God! Elsewhere Jesus reminds us that even the hairs of our heads are numbered. This means that every teeny tiny bit of our lives is of great value to the Lord.

Charge Conference time always means turning in lists of numbers to the district office, but as someone once says "Every number represents a person, and every person matters to God!" Never forget that important lesson.

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.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

*12:30 p.m. Lucy Kat's
3808 Yellow Mountain Rd.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

*11:45 a.m. 2nd Helpings
1502 Williamson Rd. NE*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

*4:00 p.m. Roanoke River Greenway
near Bennington*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

*3:30 p.m. Mt. Pleasant Library
2918 Jae Valley Rd.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

*10:00 a.m. Subway
1724 Bennington*

