



The Mount Pleasant Messenger

September 2021

We Make the Road by Walking

We have begun a year-long journey through the Bible, based upon the outline of the book WE MAKE THE ROAD BY WALKING, by Brian McLaren. These books can be ordered online, either new or used, or contact Jenny Basham for assistance in ordering a book. Each week's material includes some core Scriptures and then a short chapter of about 4-5 pages.

Between now and Advent, we will primarily focus on the core readings of the Old Testament. Here are the themes and Bible readings for upcoming Sundays:

Sept. 12: A World of Meaning

Psalm 145:1-16
Proverbs 8:1-36
John 1:1-17

Sept. 19: The Drama of Desire

Genesis 3:1-13
Psalm 32
Philippians 2:3-11

Sept 26: In Over Our Heads

Genesis 4:5-17, 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 8:1, 9:7-17
Psalm 51
James 4:1-8

Oct. 3: Plotting Goodness

Genesis 12:1-9
Galatians 3:6-9
Mark 11:15-19

Check our church Facebook page regularly for additional resources for this series.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Pastor Robert will be attending 2021 Leadership Institute at Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, Sept. 29 - Oct. 1. This is one of the largest IMC congregations in the USA, pastored by Adam Hamilton. In addition to help for pastors and congregations coming out of the season of COVID, there will be updates on UMC denominational issues. Look forward to hearing more about this event!

--Pastor Robert

Welcome Brenda Brooks, Sept. 5th

Pastor Robert will be out of town on Sunday, Sept. 5, and we will welcome Brenda Brooks as our guest lay speaker. Brenda is a longtime lay leader in the Roanoke District and the Virginia Conference, and she recently served as our District Lay Leader! She is an active member of Bonsack UMC, and you will appreciate her message for our church family!



Note that Communion was included in our August 29 worship service, and the next Communion will be Sunday, October 3. Pastor Robert will be away Sept. 1st thru 8th. Please contact Jenny or Winky or Pastor Robert if there are any emergency pastoral needs during this time. We have a couple of area pastors available on call as needed.

September Calendar

1-8		Pastor Robert out of town
5	11 am	Guest Speaker: Brenda Brooks
12	Noon	UMW Business Meeting
13	6:30 pm	SRCP Meeting
18	2-4 pm	Celebration of Life for Tom McCann
19	6 pm	Church Council Meeting

September Birthdays

4 th	Jane Taylor	14 th	Kim Gembala
6 th	Landon Dyess	15 th	Ryan Krawczyk
10 th	Linda Schoonover	18 th	Mike Gray
11 th	Jacob Jennings	19 th	Ryan Krawczyk
12 th	Betsy Stutes	22 nd	Nicole Jennings
13 th	Jenny Basham		David Krawczyk
	John Leslie	24 th	Shayna Hastings

September Anniversaries

9th David & Liz Mortlock

Children and Youth

A Return to Kids Church

Greetings from Krae and Colleen! Many of you have watched our Kid's Church videos on the 1st and 3rd Sundays every month, and I will continue to post those.; however, we have been talking about returning to in-person Kid's Church. With the Delta Variant of COVID-19 on the rise in the Roanoke Valley, many of us are taking extra precautions, including not attending in-person worship, which is perfectly acceptable. If you decide to attend in-person worship, I will host Kid's Church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays! We have a few safeguards in place to protect against COVID-19.

- Masks are required for those who are not fully vaccinated.
- Any adult working with those 12 and under is required to be vaccinated and masked.
- All participants will follow social distancing guidelines.
- There will be no food or drink given out.

Nursery Update

We can provide care if you have nursery-aged children, but we ask you to give us advanced notice to ensure we will have someone to man the nursery!

Youth Update

Pastor Robert is holding a Confirmation Class for those who are at confirmation age! We look forward to seeing you there!

As always, feel free to call, text, or email me at 540-467-2406 or wkheath@gmail.com.

--Krae Heath
Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Baby Shower Brunch for Colleen

Ladies, of the Church ... The UMW invites you to celebrate the soon-to-arrive Baby Heath (Colleen and Krae are not sharing the name with us yet!)

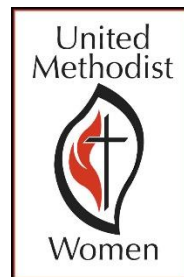
Saturday, September 25th 10:30 am
at the home of Karen Tate
3305 Cedar Meade Dr.

Colleen is registered at Target and Amazon
Please RSVP to Karen at 540.427.1884 or
Kim 540.588.8286.(kimgem57@gmail.com)

Post Covid Response Group and Simplified Accountable Leadership Team Updates

The PRG team continues to monitor Covid statistics in the Roanoke Valley. We currently recommend masks in worship and other church activities; however, those fully vaccinated (over the age of two) are not required to wear a mask. This is subject to reconsideration if Covid outbreaks rise in our area and also at the recommendation of the District. The team is scheduling meetings with individuals who represent a good cross-section of our congregation to gain feedback as we consider what our new "normal" may look like as we resume church programs and activities. If you've not been contacted and would like to meet with the team, please let us know.

Twenty-three attended our lunch and presentation of the Simplified Accountable Leadership structure last month. Your questions and feedback were appreciated! Consensus was reached to proceed with a discernment phase to see if this would benefit our congregation and its leadership. Administrative Council meetings will resume this month and the team will communicate it's progress and recommendations and seek feedback. If you would like to be a part of this team, please let Pastor Robert know.



MPUMW delivered \$480 in school supplies and \$160 in cash to Henry Fork Outreach on July 30th. It was our largest "Back-to-School" collection in the past five years!
Thank you!

Join us for a short business session after worship on Sunday, September 12th. All women are welcome to attend!

--Karen Tate
UMW President

Celebration of Life

Winky McCann and Vicki Henschel invite you to join them for a celebration of life for their husband and father, Tom McCann, on Saturday, September 18 from 2:00 to 4:00 in the Church Fellowship Hall. Tom was a long-time member of Mount Pleasant UMC where he was active in the Choir, led the Evangelism Committee and along with Winky, led the United Methodist Youth program for many years.