



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

A publication of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

April 2022

- 5 UMW Fellowship Lunch 12:30pm
- 9 UMW Spiritual Life Retreat at Alta Mons
- 10 Leadership Board 5pm
- 28 Lunch Bunch 11:30 K&W

From Pastor Robert ...



“What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding ...”

I love that line from the song “Pass It On.” When we included that song in worship on the last Sunday of March little did I know that the wind chill would be around 30 degrees on that day! Such is spring in the Blue Ridge.

Spring in Texas was marked by the appearance of the beautiful bluebonnets. It was a necessary rite of passage to bring your small children and plop them into a field of bluebonnets for spring pictures.

I do miss the bluebonnets, but I really love the beautiful trees in our area. I especially like how they choreograph their entrance, each taking their turn to shine!

The days are getting longer, and Easter is at hand. Soon we will follow up the “forty days of Lent” with the “fifty days of Easter!” I always look forward to the hopeful message of Easter, and I hope you will be able to join us in person for worship during the Easter season!

One more thing. Please read the short “VISION QUESTIONS” article on pg. 2 and share your responses. This will help us greatly as we seek to clarify our church’s vision for 2022 and beyond!

Pastor Robert



- 3 June Sink
- 5 Connor Workman
- 9 Kameron Louis Tuck
- 10 Bobby Hylton
- 13 Michelle Krawczyk
- 14 Sarah Dyess
- 14 Gabe Leslie
- 20 Peggy Akers
- 22 Xander Hastings
- 22 Brayson Whiler
- 23 Laken Marie Musselwhite
- 24 Ethan Hastings
- 29 Janet McMillan
- 30 Larry Fisher



None this month!



Our series “We Make the Road by Walking” continues to focus on finding our place in the story of Jesus. For April, we are on chapters 32-34 of the guidebook. Read these Bible selections as you prepare for worship:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 3 | Guest preacher |
| April 10 | (Palm Sunday) Zechariah 9:9-10 Psalm 122 Luke 19:29-46 |
| April 17 | (Easter) Ezekiel 37:1-14 Luke 24:1-32 Colossians 1:9-29 |
| April 24 | Psalm 133 John 20:1-31 Acts 8:26-40 |



Holy Thursday

All are welcome to attend the Holy Thursday Communion service on April 14 at 7 p.m. This is the night when we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples before his journey to the cross.

Help Fill our Sanctuary with Color on Easter Sunday!

You can help us prepare the sanctuary to celebrate our Risen Christ on Easter Sunday morning by providing colorful fresh spring flowers (in pots or vases, please). Terri Beck, leader of our Worship Ministry Team, will be at the church on Saturday the 16th from Noon to 1:00 to receive your flowers.

If you would like to place them in honor or memory of someone special to you, let Terri know and that information will be included in Sunday morning bulletin.

If you are unable to bring them on Saturday, you can bring them on Sunday morning prior to worship. Someone will be available to receive them.

Confirmation on Easter Sunday

Confirmation will be part of our worship on Easter Sunday at 11 a.m. Continue to keep the members of this year's confirmation class in your prayers:

Landon Dyess, Xander Hastings, Connor Whitehead, Emory Whitehead, Cort Workman and Reid Workman.

VISION QUESTIONS

Our Leadership Board had a great discussion in March, as we worked to clarify God's calling for our church family in this place and time. These questions were used to help spark discussion. We would appreciate your input also. Please share written responses to these three questions and pass your responses along to Pastor Robert or Board Chair Jenny Basham.

1. In your eyes, what is the difference between being a devoted follower of Jesus and someone who is a kind person with strong moral standards but no particular religious beliefs?
2. In your eyes, what makes the United Methodist Church distinct from other denominations?
3. In your eyes, what makes MPUMC unique or distinct from other congregations in Roanoke?

Thanks so much!



We are discussing the possibility of a unique gasoline outreach day, helping with the cost of gasoline for our neighborhood. We will follow up with more details, but please keep this in your prayers. This is a form of servant ministry, sharing God's love in practical ways with no strings attached!

Offering Totals Year-to-Date

January	\$8,993.00
February	\$9,431.66
March	\$8,006.00

*Amount needed each month to meet our budget: \$8,564.44
Thank you for your continued generosity!*



UMCOR

Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

Continue to pray for peace and relief efforts in Ukraine and surrounding areas. **UMCOR** work is receiving donations. You can donate online by going to umcor.org. You can also donate through the church by marking your checks or envelopes with **UKRAINE** for contributions for the work in that area or **UMCOR** to support all the ministries of UMCOR worldwide.

Youth Information!

There are once again teens in our Fellowship Hall! Our youth met on Sunday, March 20th with 10 youth in attendance to stuff eggs with candy for the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church Egg Hunt. While a MPUMC Easter Egg Hunt was considered, time and manpower seemed to be an obstacle this year. Scott Whitehead reached out to MP Baptist Church to see if we could assist them instead. We will be providing two boxes of stuffed Easter Eggs, juice boxes, and hopefully some manpower to assist with serving food and cleaning up during their Egg Hunt on April 16th. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Sarah Dyess at 309-4840.

The Youth in attendance made suggestions for future events including bowling, a movie night, a board game night, a picnic in the park, and a corn hole tournament.

While this is a **temporary** solution, Scott Whitehead and Sarah Dyess are going to hold several youth events to get things moving again while Pastor Robert works hard to find our new Youth Director. We will be in need of meals to feed the teens during these events. If you are interested in providing a meal, please reach out to Sarah Dyess.



Youth Working Together to Fill Easter Eggs



Easter Egg Hunt

and Hot Dog lunch

Saturday, April 16th at 11:00am

At Mount Pleasant Baptist Church



Hosted by Mount Pleasant Baptist Church & Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church



Youth Game



Friday Night

April 22nd

6pm – 8pm

Expect good food (Walking Tacos!), good games, and lots of laughter.

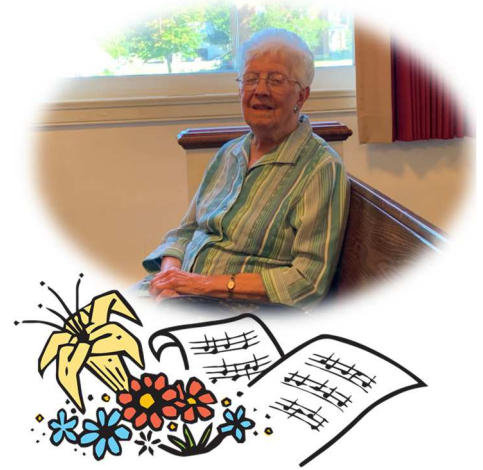
Friends are always welcome!

From Hope's Heart ...

Easter has always been a special time for our family. When we were children, Mother did her best to see that we each had something new to wear to church on Easter Sunday morning. Usually on Saturday before Easter, we would have a fun (and often messy) time dying eggs, then hiding them all over the place. If we hid them in the house, we had to be sure all were accounted for!

Worship on Easter Sunday morning has been and always will be very special. The sanctuary is beautifully decorated. We sing Resurrection Hymns and hear the joyful message: Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

I hope you will be with us on Easter morning!



For Ladies only ...Hannah Anderson will be with us on Wednesday mornings, beginning April 27th to lead ...

**The Heavens Declare:
A five-week Bible study to
discover the God of creation**
(from Psalm 19)

11:00 am with lunch provided following the study. It would be helpful to know in advance how many to plan for. And please, Invite a friend!

Hannah and her family live in our Mt. Pleasant community. She is the author of multiple books and also cohosts Persuasion Podcast where she hopes to spur good conversation about all that's good, true, and beautiful.



Karen Tate will host the United Methodist Women at her home on Tuesday, April 5th for a spring pot-luck luncheon. The group will meet at 12:30. This is open to ALL women of the church. We'd love to have you! (

A group of our women will be attending the District UMW Spiritual Life Retreat on April 9th at Camp Alta Mons. The speaker will be Helen Moe, a certified chaplain at Carilion Clinic. Ms. Moe is also one of the founders of Carilion's "No One Dies Alone" program. Gifts cards will be given to support Alta Mons Summer Camp programs.

The UMW will be collecting UMCOR Hygiene Kits to take to Annual Conference this summer. Each kit has a \$12 dollar value plus an additional \$2 cost for mailing. Information on how to assemble a kit is available on the tables at the church. You can assemble a kit, donate individual items, or make a financial donation.

UPDATE ON HEALTH PROTOCOLS

As pandemic numbers improve, we are in the process of updating our health protocols. Here is a working statement we are using. Please share any feedback with Pastor Robert or Leadership Board Chair Jenny Basham.

We will continue to use every other pew for seating on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary where the attendance level permits. Wearing masks is now optional for all attenders. Attenders are asked to respect the personal space of other worshippers, especially while coming forward for Communion.

When food and/or beverage service is offered at church, we will use gloved servers where feasible.

Hand sanitizing stations will be improved by adding permanent installations at major entrances.

We continue to ask all persons (including the pastor and all church leaders) to be diligent in monitoring their personal health before making a decision to attend worship in person. This is useful advice regardless of changes in pandemic status. When you have cold, flu or COVID symptoms, please stay home.

At present, we are not offering regular Kids Church. We have not had parents utilizing child care. More specific policies regarding these ministries will be developed in consultation with the families who are participating.

We rejoice that it is becoming safer for us to gather and to see each other face-to-face; however, we recognize that people in our congregation and community have varying comfort levels and vulnerabilities. Please practice hospitality by respecting the boundaries and masking choices of those around you. We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we continue to navigate the changing landscape of pandemic and post-pandemic precautions.

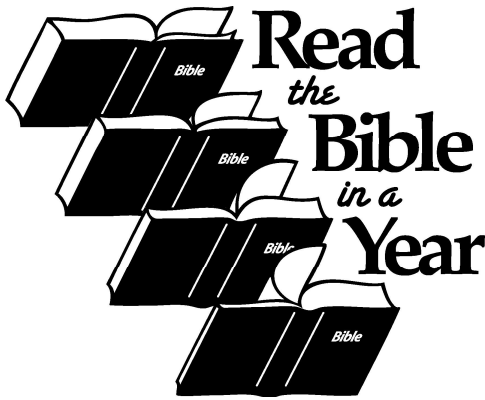


After a long Covid absence, **THE LUNCH BUNCH** gathered at the K&W Cafeteria in March. A good time was had by all! Come join us for lunch in April ... Thursday the 28th at 11:30 at the K&W on Hershberger Rd. If you need help with transportation, let us know!



The annual Mount Pleasant Rec Club Chicken BBQ will be Saturday, April 30, serving from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a great (and yummy) neighborhood event. Let's support them with our participation!

ALTA MONS SUMMER CAMP 2022 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! The staff is excited about welcoming new and returning families for an amazing time together at camp. Despite the constraints of the pandemic, summer 2021 had a marvelous turnout! Go to altamons.org for full registration information!



Accept Bishop Lewis' challenge and join others in the Virginia Conference and read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

Below are the readings for April. You can find the full year of readings on the Conference website:

<https://vaumc.org/2022biblechallenge/>

April

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Proverbs</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> 01	Deuteronomy 18:1- 20:20	Luke 9:28-50	Psalm 73:1-28	Proverbs 12:10
<input type="checkbox"/> 02	Deuteronomy 21:1-22:30	Luke 9:51-10:12	Psalm 74:1-23	Proverbs 12:11
<input type="checkbox"/> 03	Deuteronomy 23:1-25:19	Luke 10:13-37	Psalm 75:1-10	Proverbs 12:12-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 04	Deuteronomy 26:1-27:26	Luke 10:38-11:13	Psalm 76:1-12	Proverbs 12:15-17
<input type="checkbox"/> 05	Deuteronomy 28:1-68	Luke 11:14-36	Psalm 77:1-20	Proverbs 12:18
<input type="checkbox"/> 06	Deuteronomy 29:1-30:20	Luke 11:37-12:7	Psalm 78:1-31	Proverbs 12:19-20
<input type="checkbox"/> 07	Deuteronomy 31:1-32:27	Luke 12:8-34	Psalm 78:32-55	Proverbs 12:21-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 08	Deuteronomy 32:28-52	Luke 12:35-59	Psalm 78:56-64	Proverbs 12:24
<input type="checkbox"/> 09	Deuteronomy 33:1-29	Luke 13:1-21	Psalm 78:65-72	Proverbs 12:25
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Deuteronomy 34:1- Joshua 2:24	Luke 13:22-14:6	Psalm 79:1-13	Proverbs 12:26
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Joshua 3:1-4:24	Luke 14:7-35	Psalm 80:1-19	Proverbs 12:27-28
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Joshua 5:1-7:15	Luke 15:1-32	Psalm 81:1-16	Proverbs 13:1
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Joshua 7:16-9:2	Luke 16:1-18	Psalm 82:1-8	Proverbs 13:2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Joshua 9:3-10:43	Luke 16:19-17:10	Psalm 83:1-18	Proverbs 13:4
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Joshua 11:1-12:24	Luke 17:11-37	Psalm 84:1-12	Proverbs 13:5-6
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Joshua 13:1-14:15	Luke 18:1-17	Psalm 85:1-13	Proverbs 13:7-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Joshua 15:1-63	Luke 18:18-43	Psalm 86:1-17	Proverbs 13:9-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Joshua 16:1-18:28	Luke 19:1-27	Psalm 87:1-7	Proverbs 13:11
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Joshua 19:1-20:9	Luke 19:28-48	Psalm 88:1-18	Proverbs 13:12-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Joshua 21:1-22:20	Luke 20:1-26	Psalm 89:1-13	Proverbs 13:15-16
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Joshua 22:21-23:16	Luke 20:27-47	Psalm 89:14-37	Proverbs 13:17-19
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Joshua 24:1-33	Luke 21:1-28	Psalm 89:38-52	Proverbs 13:20-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Judges 1:1-2:9	Luke 21:29-22:13	Psalm 90:1-91:16	Proverbs 13:24-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Judges 2:10-3:31	Luke 22:14-34	Psalm 92:1-93:5	Proverbs 14:1-2
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Judges 4:1-5:31	Luke 22:35-53	Psalm 94:1-23	Proverbs 14:3-4
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Judges 6:1-40	Luke 22:54-23:12	Psalm 95:1-96:13	Proverbs 14:5-6
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Judges 7:1-8:17	Luke 23:13-43	Psalm 97:1-98:9	Proverbs 14:7-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Judges 8:18-9:21	Luke 23:44-24:12	Psalm 99:1-9	Proverbs 14:9-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	Judges 9:22-10:18	Luke 24:13-53	Psalm 100:1-5	Proverbs 14:11-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Judges 11:1-12:15	John 1:1-28	Psalm 101:1-8	Proverbs 14:13-14