



THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

A publication of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

July 2022

- 12 UMW Salad Luncheon and Business Meeting 12:30 pm
- 28 Lunch Bunch 11:30am

No Leadership Board meeting in July!!



- 4 Hope Patsel
- 5 Alex Workman
- 7 Pat Musselwhite
- 11 Julie Burrell
- 19 Naomi Bolling
- 22 Rick Beck
- 29 Conner Whitehead
- 31 Emily Fisher

3035 Mt. Pleasant Blvd.
 Roanoke, VA 24014
 540.427.3064
www.mpumc.church
 Robert Stutes, Pastor
 Jenny Basham, Lay Leader

From Pastor Robert ...

I recently heard an interview with the author of a new book called WONDER DRUG. It's written by a prominent New Jersey physician, Dr. Anthony Mazzarelli.

You might expect to read about some new pharmaceutical product that had amazing results in addressing some difficult health condition. What could it be?

But if you looked a little closer at the cover you would realize that this is not some new chemical available at your local pharmacy. In fact, the subtitle of the book might shock you: "Seven scientifically proven ways that serving others is the best medicine for yourself."

Seriously? Is THAT the wonder drug?

So what do you think? If there were a new drug that could bring you longer life, better health, more energy and resilience, less burnout, depression, and anxiety, more happiness, fulfillment, and well-being, more personal and professional success (including an increase in income), surely you would be interested. (And you would surely want to know about the side effects!)

Mazzarelli has spent considerable time investigating the ways in which serving others helps with all these things! It not only benefits those whom you are serving, but is also a benefit to you!

(continued on page two)



During July we continue our emphasis on how we experience and respond to the moving of the Holy Spirit in our lives, in our church, and in our world! For July, we are on chapters 43-47 of the guidebook. Read these Bible selections as you prepare for worship:

July 3	Acts 10:1-48	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	
July 10	Proverbs 4:1-27	Romans 12:3-21	James 1:2-8; 3:13-18
July 17	Proverbs 8:1-36	John 17:1-23	Ephesians 4:1-16
July 24	Matthew 23:1-12	John 13:1-15	Philippians 2:1-11
July 31	Ephesians 5:15-6:9	Philemon 8-19	Hebrews 13:1-8
	James 5:1-6		

From Pastor Robert *(continued from page one)*

Isn't that amazing! Mazzarelli suggests that serving others is not just the right thing to do. It is actually a smart thing to do. He suggests that a focus on others may be a potent antidote to the weariness that so many of us feel these days!

Serving others is a significant part of our life together as a church family. This is true in the ways we spend our time. And this is true in the ways in which we direct our offerings. If you have been struggling with meaning and happiness, you might want to pick up a copy of WONDER DRUG. And you might want to stop by God's house next Sunday morning!

- Pastor Robert

WE ARE NOW THE VALLEY RIDGE DISTRICT!

Last month the Virginia Annual Conference approved moving the conference from 16 districts to 8 districts. The former Roanoke and Staunton districts are now combined, and our new name is the Valley Ridge District. We look forward to a continued focus on mission under the leadership of our district superintendent Doug Forrester.

LAY SERVANT ACADEMY TRAINING

This year's Virginia Lay Servant Academy weekend will be a hybrid event with in-person and online options. The date is August 5-6. Basic and advanced courses will be offered. This role was formerly known as "lay speaker."

OCTOBER MISSION TRIP

A district mission trip is scheduled for October 16-22 in partnership with the Carolina Rebuilding Ministry, doing home repairs and upgrades in a poor, rural area near Plymouth, N.C. Cost is around \$100 per person. See Pastor Robert for contact information if you are interested in this trip.

GENERAL CONFERENCE UPDATE

Some UMC congregations are pursuing options to explore disaffiliating from The UMC due to dissatisfaction with the provisions or practices on issues related to human sexuality. If you missed the June 26 session and have questions, please contact Pastor Robert or any member of the Leadership Board. You can also find more information online at this site on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/hGAK4okLj7o>



When I left Roanoke on May 28 for annual conference in Houston, I certainly did not expect to be absent from church for three Sundays. Bringing Covid back with me as a souvenir was not a part of my plan! I am grateful that my symptoms were mild. My nagging cough is hanging around for a while, but I have been glad to be back with you in the pulpit. Thank you so much for your love and prayers and concern, and thanks to ALL who helped cover the bases in my absence - especially Joyce Ison for reading my sermon on June 5!

- Pastor Robert

A great big thanks to all of you ! You are so very nice! I felt very welcomed at your recent Wednesday Bible Study. What a lovely group you all are! It was a superb Bible Study!

- Diane Caldwell
(Garden City Nazarene)

Darlene was one of three wonderful ladies from the Nazarene church who joined us during the Spring Ladies' Bible Study!

Offering Totals Year-to-Date

January	\$8993.00
February	\$9431.55
March	\$8006.00
April	\$7149.00
May	\$6639.00
June	\$6484.00

Amount needed each month to meet our budget is \$8564.44

Ways we SERVE

Meal Outreach

Mt. Pleasant and Roanoke City Fire/EMS

Thank you Joyce Ison for leading this ministry. Meals are delivered every other month. In June, Kim Gembala, Joanna Schroeder and Terri Beck helped Joyce prepare pulled chicken, pasta salad, chips and pretzels, and two cakes. Yum!!

Joanna Schroeder is pictured below with the men and women from the Mt. Pleasant squad.



Meals Delivered to Camp Alta Mons

On Saturday, June 25th Kim Gembala and Winky McCann delivered a meal to be served to 25 college-aged camp counselors scheduled to arrive for camp on Sunday at noon. Deli meat and cheese, veggie and fruit trays were taken, as well as chips, sodas and homemade deserts. Thank you Jenny Basham and June Sink for helping Kim prepare the meal!!

GASOLINE OUTREACH

What a grand time we had on June 25th, as we shared a blessing with 61 individuals and families at the Mount Pleasant Citgo. Thanks to your generosity, each driver was surprised to receive up to \$20 in gasoline as a gift with "no strings attached!" The news story about this outreach has been shared on Channel 7, WFIR talk radio, on a television station in Harrisonburg, and on the Facebook pages of our district and annual conference! None of our regular offerings were used! This was entirely funded through your designated gifts. As people received their gasoline, they also received this cheerful connect card:

Just For You, Just Because



We hope we have brightened your day. There are no strings attached! We just think the world needs a little more kindness. Please let us know if you have a need.

Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church
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Robert Stutes, Pastor 540-427-3064
www.mpumc.church facebook.com/mpumcroanoke
Come worship with us on Sundays at 11am!

Thanks again for making this possible. And thank you to Kim Gembala, Patrick Jennings, Jacob Jennings and Michael Rowe for joining Pastor Robert in being an on-site presence on Gasoline Day!



Each year on the first Tuesday of August, neighborhoods observe National Night Out as a way of connecting neighbors to one another and to local law enforcement.

This year, thanks to the Mount Pleasant Lions Club, along with other neighborhood groups, we will have a Mount Pleasant National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2nd, at 6:30 pm. Our church grounds will be the host site! Watch for more info, but be sure and show up with lawn chairs and goodies to share!



Recently, I was privileged to talk with two of my high school classmates. One lives in Maryland, the other in the New River Valley. We graduated on June 11, 1945. It was one of those milestones I will never forget.



Looking back, I'm amazed at all that's happened since then. World War II didn't end until later that year. Then there was the Korea and Viet Nam. To name only a few developments: television, space travel, open heart surgery, computers, and cell phones.

Of course, our country has been through and is still experiencing some very trying times; but ... we are still so fortunate and blessed to live in a land where we are free to come and go and to express ourselves.

As we celebrate this Independence Day, may we thank the Lord for bringing us to this point. God bless America!

"May the Lord bless his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!"
Psalm 29:11

UMW Salad Luncheon and Business Meeting Tuesday, July 12 12:30 pm

Once again, Karen Tate invites our women to her home for a "pot-luck" salad luncheon, followed by a brief UMW business meeting.

All women ... all ages ... are invited! Thank you Karen for always being such a gracious host to our group!

The UMW will be collecting school supplies for the Henry Fork Service Center in July. More information will be in your July Sunday worship bulletins!



Join us on Thursday July 28th for the Lunch Bunch at K&W Cafeteria on Hershberger. Good friends and good food!!!

We will gather at 11:30. Let us know if you need transportation!

Improvements ...

Have you been curious why the church sign has been empty? Keep watching! It's going to take on a new look: new paint, LED lighting and new letter-boards.



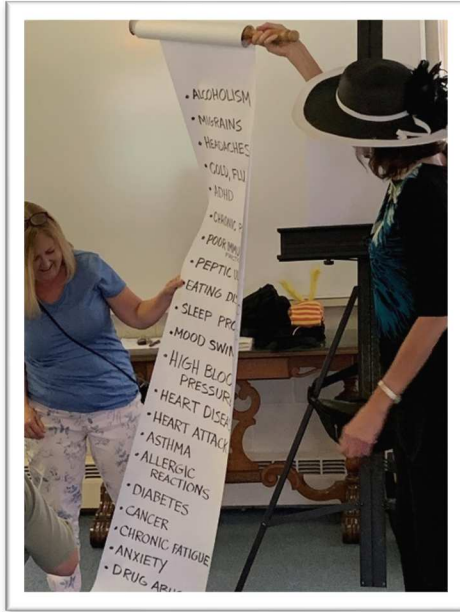
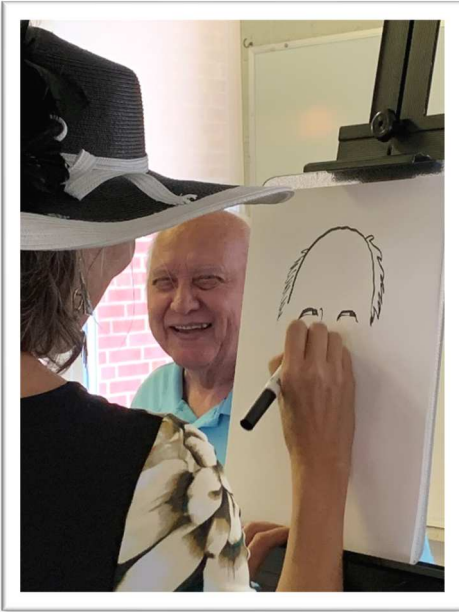
Work has also begun on the picnic shelter. Pressure washing, replacing rotten boards and new paint all over will be completed. We can't wait to get together for a church picnic!



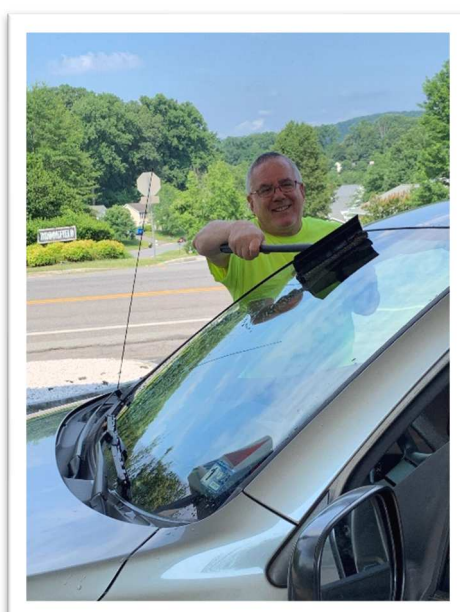
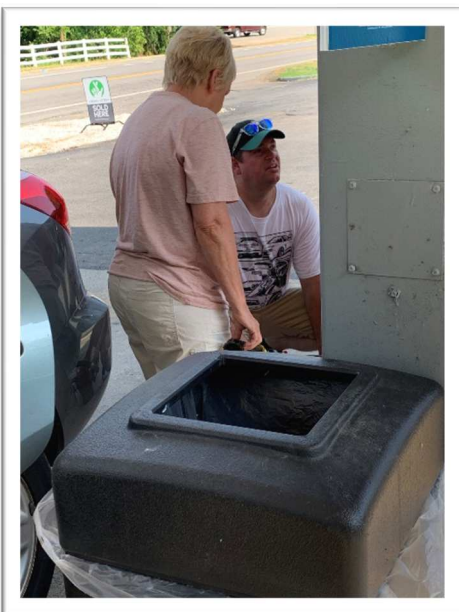
Attention Youth – Grades 6 – 12

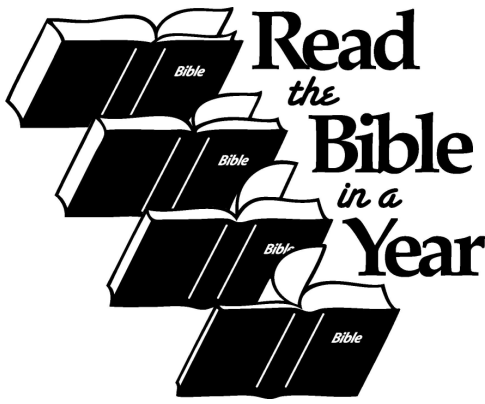
Plans are being made for an **Outdoor Movie Night** on Sunday July 10th at our church picnic shelter. More information will be coming your way soon!

Senior Fellowship - June 7



Gasoline Outreach – June 25





Consider accepting Bishop Lewis' challenge and join others in the Virginia Conference and read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation this year!

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

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

July

	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalm	Proverbs
<input type="checkbox"/> 01	2 Kings 18:13-19:37	Acts 21:1-17	Psalm 149:1-9	Proverbs 18:8
<input type="checkbox"/> 02	2 Kings 20:1-22:2	Acts 21:18-36	Psalm 150:1-6	Proverbs 18:9-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 03	2 Kings 22:3-23:30	Acts 21:37-22:16	Psalm 1:1-6	Proverbs 18:11-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 04	2 Kings 23:31-25:30	Acts 22:17-23:10	Psalm 2:1-12	Proverbs 18:13
<input type="checkbox"/> 05	1 Chronicles 1:1-2:17	Acts 23:11-35	Psalm 3:1-8	Proverbs 18:14-15
<input type="checkbox"/> 06	1 Chronicles 2:18-4:4	Acts 24:1-27	Psalm 4:1-8	Proverbs 18:16-18
<input type="checkbox"/> 07	1 Chronicles 4:5-5:17	Acts 25:1-27	Psalm 5:1-12	Proverbs 18:19
<input type="checkbox"/> 08	1 Chronicles 5:18-6:81	Acts 26:1-32	Psalm 6:1-10	Proverbs 18:20-21
<input type="checkbox"/> 09	1 Chronicles 7:1-8:40	Acts 27:1-20	Psalm 7:1-17	Proverbs 18:22
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	1 Chronicles 9:1-10:14	Acts 27:21-44	Psalm 8:1-9	Proverbs 18:23-24
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	1 Chronicles 11:1-12:18	Acts 28:1-31	Psalm 9:1-12	Proverbs 19:1-3
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	1 Chronicles 12:19-14:17	Romans 1:1-17	Psalm 9:13-20	Proverbs 19:4-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	1 Chronicles 15:1-16:36	Romans 1:18-32	Psalm 10:1-15	Proverbs 19:6-7
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	1 Chronicles 16:37-18:17	Romans 2:1-24	Psalm 10:16-18	Proverbs 19:8-9
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	1 Chronicles 19:1-21:30	Romans 2:25-3:8	Psalm 11:1-7	Proverbs 19:10-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	1 Chronicles 22:1-23:32	Romans 3:9-31	Psalm 12:1-8	Proverbs 19:13-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	1 Chronicles 24:1-26:11	Romans 4:1-12	Psalm 13:1-6	Proverbs 19:15-16
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	1 Chronicles 26:12-27:34	Romans 4:13-5:5	Psalm 14:1-7	Proverbs 19:17
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	1 Chronicles 28:1-29:30	Romans 5:6-21	Psalm 15:1-5	Proverbs 19:18-19
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	2 Chronicles 1:1-3:17	Romans 6:1-23	Psalm 16:1-11	Proverbs 19:20-21
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	2 Chronicles 4:1-6:11	Romans 7:1-13	Psalm 17:1-15	Proverbs 19:22-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	2 Chronicles 6:12-8:10	Romans 7:14-8:8	Psalm 18:1-15	Proverbs 19:24-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	2 Chronicles 8:11-10:19	Romans 8:9-25	Psalm 18:16-36	Proverbs 19:26
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	2 Chronicles 11:1-13:22	Romans 8:26-39	Psalm 18:37-50	Proverbs 19:27-29
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14	Romans 9:1-24	Psalm 19:1-14	Proverbs 20:1
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	2 Chronicles 17:1-18:34	Romans 9:25-10:13	Psalm 20:1-9	Proverbs 20:2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	2 Chronicles 19:1-20:37	Romans 10:14-11:12	Psalm 21:1-13	Proverbs 20:4-6
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	2 Chronicles 21:1-23:21	Romans 11:13-36	Psalm 22:1-18	Proverbs 20:7
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	2 Chronicles 24:1-25:28	Romans 12:1-21	Psalm 22:19-31	Proverbs 20:8-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	2 Chronicles 26:1-28:27	Romans 13:1-14	Psalm 23:1-6	Proverbs 20:11
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	2 Chronicles 29:1-36	Romans 14:1-23	Psalm 24:1-10	Proverbs 20:12