

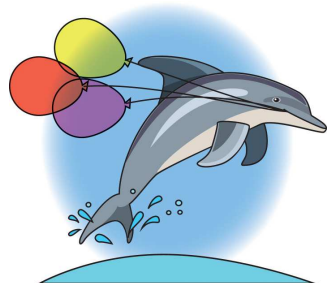


# THE MOUNT PLEASANT MESSENGER

A publication of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

June 2022

- 7 Senior Fellowship 12:00pm
- 14 Leadership Board 6:00pm
- 21 UMW Salad Luncheon 12:30pm
- 23 Lunch Bunch 11:30am



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kristi St. Clair
- 2 Barbara Blankenship
- 3 Samantha Garcia
- 15 Aden Akers
- 16 Denise Gray

### From Pastor Robert ...

Our nation has been shaken to its core by the tragic mass murders at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York, and at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas. Although any act of violence is disturbing, events like this shake us to the core. They leave us feeling so vulnerable. They make us realize how quickly so many lives of so many people can change.

The grocery store should not be a place of fear. Nor should we be fearful when dropping off children at school. There is much that we are yet learning. Some suggest that we just need more weapons in more hands. I am not an expert on firearms, but I find it hard to believe that we were worse off from 1994 to 2004 when many of these weapons were banned in the U.S. Since the ban expired, the number of these large-scale events has clearly been on the rise.

There are those who focus less on weapons and more on interventions for those who are in a bad place emotionally or mentally. These folks do make a valid point. The vast majority of these events involve a young male killer. Professor Scott Galloway has written extensively about this demographic group. He suggests that "the most dangerous person in the world is a broke and alone male, and we are producing too many of them."

Galloway goes on to say that "men who fail to attach to partners, careers or communities often grow bitter and seek volatility and interest. They're more

*(continued on page two)*

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[www.mpumc.church](http://www.mpumc.church)  
Robert Stutes, Pastor



Our series "We Make the Road by Walking" will be making its transition into the final section, "ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF GOD!" The final chapters of the book center on how we experience and respond to the moving of the Holy Spirit in our lives, in our church, and in our

world! For June, we are on chapters 39-42 of the guidebook. Read these Bible selections as you prepare for worship.

- June 5            Isaiah 40:27-31    Acts 9:1-25    2 Corinthians 6:1-10; 11:22-33
- June 12          John 3:1-21    Acts 2:1-41    Romans 6:1-14
- June 19          John 15:1-8    Galatians 3:19—4:7; 5:1, 13-26
- Colossians 2:6-7; 3:1-17
- June 26          Psalm 116    Romans 8:1-17    Ephesians 3:14-21

## From Pastor Robert *(continued from page one)*

susceptible to fringe theories, and they over-index on online forums filled with conspiracy theories, misogynistic content, and misinformation.'

Lest you think this is something that only happens "somewhere else," I have indeed had conversations with a local family (not from our church though) about this very concern with their son.

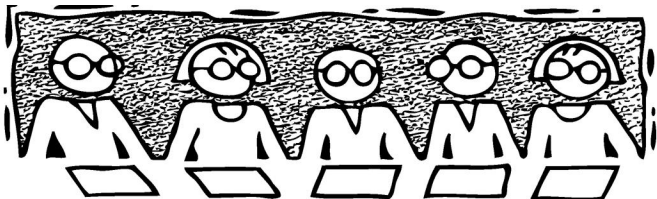
We are going through a time of testing. Our nation needs Christlike communities more than ever. Yes, we need to offer "thoughts and prayers." AND we must also remember that when we get up off of our knees, it is time to get to work.

-- Pastor Robert

## General Conference Update

On Sunday, June 12 at 5 p.m. we will host an informational meeting about current and future developments related to UMC stands on LGBTQ inclusion. You are welcome to attend.

Note that there will be no UMC General Conference meeting in 2022. (This is the worldwide gathering, and there are still difficulties for some countries in securing international travel.). The next General Conference is now scheduled for 2024.



## Leadership Board Meetings

The next meeting is Tuesday, June 14 6:00 pm; check-in at 5:50pm. This meeting will serve as both the June and July meeting.

Mark your calendar now for upcoming dates:

Tuesday, August 9  
Tuesday, September 13

Meetings are at 6:00pm. We ask you to be here and check in at 5:50 pm.

Meetings are always open to anyone from the congregation! If you have something you would like to bring up on the agenda, please let our Board Chair Jenny Basham know in advance.

## Virginia Annual Conference June 16-18

The 2022 Virginia Annual Conference will be June 16-18 in Hampton. The theme is "UNITED AS ONE IN WORSHIP," based on the verse "God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth (John 4:24 CEB)." Guests are welcome to attend sessions and worship events, or to follow the proceedings via online streaming! For more information, including the schedule of events, go to [vaumc.org/ac2022](http://vaumc.org/ac2022). Joyce Ison will be the conference member representing MPUMC.

One interesting proposal would reduce the number of districts from sixteen to eight. Our superintendents now serve two districts each, but this proposal go farther. The current 68 churches of the Roanoke District and the 78 churches of the Staunton District would likely become one large district! The large district would retain offices in both ends of the district. Keep this conference in your prayers.

## Mission Encounter Starts June 30

This year's conference MISSION ENCOUNTER (formerly "School of Christian Mission") will be offered online on six Thursday evenings beginning June 30. The theme is "Building Communities of Hope and Joy." For further information, see Pastor Robert.

## October Mission Trip

A district mission trip is scheduled for October 16 thru 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.

## Gasoline Outreach

Our gasoline outreach project will be scheduled for the month of June. If you would like to help by pumping gasoline, cleaning windshields, making a donation, or just being charming, let Pastor Robert know!



Thanks to all who have made donations so far! We will be following up with the exact date and times!

## Celebrating Faith Commitments!

We welcome these newest members of the Mount Pleasant UMC church family. Surround these newest members of our church family with your care, love, prayers and encouragement!



On May 1, Xander Hastings completed his confirmation and made his confession of faith into church membership.



On May 15, we welcomed Patti Patsel into membership by transfer from another denomination.



Our prayers and best wishes are extended to Jackson Honaker, as he graduates from Virginia Tech, and to Rahim Brownell, as he graduates from Northside High School. We are so proud of these young men. Keep them in your prayers!

Josette McMillan will graduate from Virginia Commonwealth University in December. We will hold a graduation celebration event for all these young people at that time.



Jackson Honaker  
B.S. Business Information Technology



Rahim Brownell

# Hermitage Homecoming Celebration

The Hermitage Roanoke (1009 Old Country Club Rd.) invites you to a homecoming celebrating the 50th anniversary of The Waltons on Saturday, June 4 from 10 am to 2 pm. Special guest will be Michael Learned, four-time Emmy winner for her role as Olivia Walton. The day will include fellowship, music and food. "Meet and greet" will be \$10. Bring lawn chairs for music on the lawn. Cookout on the patio will be \$10, with proceeds benefiting the Adult Care Center of Roanoke Valley.



Our **United Methodist Women** will meet at Karen Tate's home pot-luck "Salad Luncheon" on Tuesday, June 21 at 12:30. All women – all ages – are welcome to attend!

Thank you for your generosity contributing items and money for **UMCOR hygiene kits**. Karen, Winky and Hope assembled 40 kits to be sent to Annual Conference.

## The Lunch Bunch

Thursday May 26 at 11:30 am at the K&W Cafeteria. Come join us for a "dutch treat" meal with great fellowship! If you need help with transportation, let us know!

## Offering Totals Year-to-Date

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

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

## From Hope's Heart ...

Doesn't it make you feel good to complete or accomplish something you've maybe put off for a long time? I'm a little bit like that about housework. No, I don't vacuum and dust every week, but I did it last week and yes, it took me three days! But it's done for a little while.

Some things we really should not put off: the phone call to a friend we haven't heard from in a while; a cheerful card to a shut-in; a smile and a kind word to the person who checks us out at the grocery store; a church bulletin sent to one of our shut ins; a friendly wave to a neighbor. There are so many ways to say, "I think of you!"

Let us use any means we can to spread the love of Jesus which is so badly needed!



*"The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease!  
Lamentations 3:22*

# Youth Information!

On May 22nd, seven of our teens came together to enjoy a delicious meal provided by Kim Gembala, share a devotional focused on the friend we have in Jesus, and to share fellowship and laughs playing cornhole together.

Stay tuned for future youth updates and please reach out to Pastor Robert if you know of someone who may be interested in being our Youth Director!

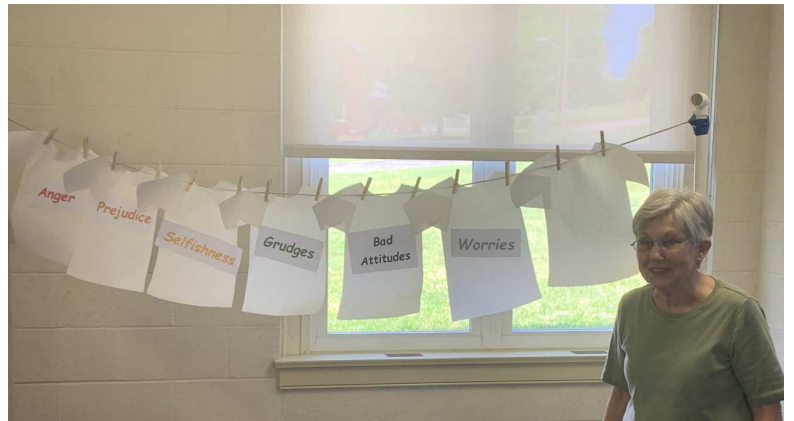
--Sarah Dyess



*Landon Dyess showing us how it's done!*

Jenny Basham provided the program for the May United Methodist Women's meeting. Her program "One Load at a Time" reminded us of all the many things we harbor that God is just waiting for us to allow him to wash us free of, hanging `em out to dry and blow away with the breeze! Thank you, Jenny. You are ALWAYS a blessing!

Ladies ... we would love for you to be a part of UMW. Plan to join us at our luncheon on the 21<sup>st</sup>!



Humor Therapist and Caricature Artist  
Kyle Edgell will present  
"The Making of a Joyful Heart"

Kyle is engaging and entertaining.

She will bring you joy!

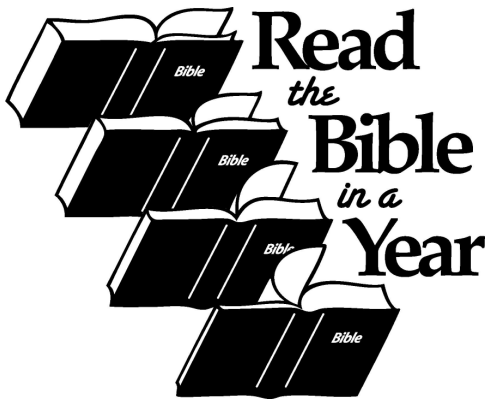
## Senior Fellowship is back!

Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>  
12:00 Noon

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

For questions or to RSVP  
call Kim at 540-588-8286  
or email [info@mpumc.church](mailto:info@mpumc.church)

It would be helpful for the lunch count  
if you RSVP'd BUT if you are unable  
to, please still come!



In the new year, consider accepting Bishop Lewis' challenge and join others in the Virginia Conference and read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

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

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

## June

	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalm	Proverbs
<input type="checkbox"/> 01	2 Samuel 18:1-19:10	John 20:1-31	Psalm 119:153-176	Proverbs 16:14-15
<input type="checkbox"/> 02	2 Samuel 19:11-20:13	John 21:1-25	Psalm 120:1-7	Proverbs 16:16-17
<input type="checkbox"/> 03	2 Samuel 20:14-21:22	Acts 1:1-26	Psalm 121:1-8	Proverbs 16:18
<input type="checkbox"/> 04	2 Samuel 22:1-23:23	Acts 2:1-47	Psalm 122:1-9	Proverbs 16:19-20
<input type="checkbox"/> 05	2 Samuel 23:24-24:25	Acts 3:1-26	Psalm 123:1-4	Proverbs 16:21-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 06	1 Kings 1:1-53	Acts 4:1-37	Psalm 124:1-8	Proverbs 16:24
<input type="checkbox"/> 07	1 Kings 2:1-3:2	Acts 5:1-42	Psalm 125:1-5	Proverbs 16:25
<input type="checkbox"/> 08	1 Kings 3:3-4:34	Acts 6:1-15	Psalm 126:1-6	Proverbs 16:26-27
<input type="checkbox"/> 09	1 Kings 5:1-6:38	Acts 7:1-29	Psalm 127:1-5	Proverbs 16:28-30
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	1 Kings 7:1-50	Acts 7:30-50	Psalm 128:1-6	Proverbs 16:31-33
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	1 Kings 8:1-66	Acts 7:51-8:13	Psalm 129:1-8	Proverbs 17:1
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	1 Kings 9:1-10:29	Acts 8:14-40	Psalm 130:1-8	Proverbs 17:2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	1 Kings 11:1-12:19	Acts 9:1-25	Psalm 131:1-3	Proverbs 17:4-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	1 Kings 12:20-13:34	Acts 9:26-43	Psalm 132:1-18	Proverbs 17:6
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	1 Kings 14:1-15:24	Acts 10:1-23	Psalm 133:1-3	Proverbs 17:7-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	1 Kings 15:25-17:24	Acts 10:24-48	Psalm 134:1-3	Proverbs 17:9-11
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	1 Kings 18:1-46	Acts 11:1-30	Psalm 135:1-21	Proverbs 17:12-13
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	1 Kings 19:1-21	Acts 12:1-23	Psalm 136:1-26	Proverbs 17:14-15
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	1 Kings 20:1-21:29	Acts 12:24-13:15	Psalm 137:1-9	Proverbs 17:16
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	1 Kings 22:1-53	Acts 13:16-41	Psalm 138:1-8	Proverbs 17:17-18
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	2 Kings 1:1-2:25	Acts 13:42-14:7	Psalm 139:1-24	Proverbs 17:19-21
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	2 Kings 3:1-4:17	Acts 14:8-28	Psalm 140:1-13	Proverbs 17:22
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	2 Kings 4:18-5:27	Acts 15:1-35	Psalm 141:1-10	Proverbs 17:23
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	2 Kings 6:1-7:20	Acts 15:36-16:15	Psalm 142:1-7	Proverbs 17:24-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	2 Kings 8:1-9:13	Acts 16:16-40	Psalm 143:1-12	Proverbs 17:26
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	2 Kings 9:14-10:31	Acts 17:1-34	Psalm 144:1-15	Proverbs 17:27-28
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	2 Kings 10:32-12:21	Acts 18:1-22	Psalm 145:1-21	Proverbs 18:1
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	2 Kings 13:1-14:29	Acts 18:23-19:12	Psalm 146:1-10	Proverbs 18:2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	2 Kings 15:1-16:20	Acts 19:13-41	Psalm 147:1-20	Proverbs 18:4-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	2 Kings 17:1-18:12	Acts 20:1-38	Psalm 148:1-14	Proverbs 18:6-7