



THE MOUNT PLEASANT

MESSENGER

A publication of Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church

October 2022

- 4 Ladies Brunch and Bible Study 10am
- 5 WOW Wednesday
- 9 CROP Walk 2pm
- 11 Ladies Brunch and Bible Study 10am
- 11 Leadership Board 6pm
- 12 WOW Wednesday
- 18 Ladies Brunch and Bible Study 10am
- 19 No WOW this week!
- 25 Ladies Brunch and Bible Study 10am
- 26 WOW Wednesday
- 23 Pastor Appreciation Sunday Breakfast 10am
- 27 Lunch Bunch 11:30
- 30 Charge Conference 5pm



- 4 Beau Heath
- 7 Claudine Wagner
- 11 Charlotte Myers
- 16 Emory Whitehead
- 23 Mark Workman
- 27 Hunter Musselwhite
- 31 Tommy Booth

From Pastor Robert ...

Greetings from the North Atlantic. At the time I am finishing this article, we are approaching the country of Iceland. We have already learned that it is called the "land of fire and ice," because it is known for volcanoes and glaciers, as well as steaming hot springs. There is even a slight chance of viewing the famed Northern lights!

Reykjavik, Iceland is also known for the stunning architecture of a Lutheran church called Hallgrímskrkja. Completed in 1986, it is both a church and a national monument. It is dedicated to a 17th century Icelandic poet, Hallgrímur Petursson. He is best known for fifty hymns he wrote about the passion of Christ. We'll be sure and come back with photos!



Spending so much time on the ocean gives me such an appreciation for the wonders of creation. It is stunning to spend so much time on the vast waters. Our speaker on board the cruise ship reminded us that 71% of the earth's surface of water.

It is also a reminder of the importance of creation care. The Lord created earth and gave human beings a special responsibility to be good stewards of creation.

Thank you for giving Betsy and me the opportunity to be away for these two weeks and savor new sights. Beginning October 9, we will start a journey through the five chapters of the First Letter of Peter. You can start reading your way through this brief letter. Pay attention to what you notice. We will be looking for life lessons that especially connect to our faith journey at MPUMC.

See you soon!

- Robert Stutes

THIS YEAR'S CHURCH CONFERENCE

All are invited to this year's Church Conference, to be held immediately after worship on Sunday, October 30. This provides an overview of where we have been and where we are going, and includes the election of officers for the coming year, along with setting the pastor compensation package for 2023. Don't miss it.

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

FINDING WORSHIP ONLINE

Our video version of worship is now distributed on Sunday morning for your convenience. It is a shorter version of the day's music and message. We seem to be having more viewers by posting it earlier in the day.

How do I find MPUMC worship online? Glad you asked! The fastest way is to go to our Facebook page. Newest posts are found at the top. Just scroll down to locate the worship video. You do NOT have to be a Facebook user to find our page! Remember that there are a lot of Mount Pleasant churches! If you have trouble, try typing in MPUMCROANOKE. You can also try entering facebook.com/mpumcroanoke.

You might prefer to go directly to YouTube on your cell phone or computer. After you get to YouTube, just type in "Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church Roanoke" and it should pop up! If you are logged in to YouTube, go ahead and hit "SUBSCRIBE." This will make it easier to find next time. Another way to find our YouTube page is to enter <https://tinyurl.com/2wvv8td7>. That should work for you!

Remember that worship services from previous weeks are found on both the Facebook page and the YouTube page. Occasionally there is additional devotional content, especially on Facebook.

We have now discontinued our "Sermon by Phone" service. Most weeks, our number of calls had dropped to zero. If you would like to hear or watch the worship service, but do not have access to the Internet, one way is to watch or listen with a friend who has access to a phone or computer! You might even get them interested!

Remember also that you can make your offering online. If you can't be present, you can drop your check in the mail! If it is a gift for a special purpose, be sure to mark your check. If it is more convenient, just use the link for online giving. The Virginia Conference makes this available to us.

Go to vaumcdonations.org - then to "Local Church Online Giving." To be sure you get it to the right church, enter our GCFA number - 482808 - and enter Roanoke, Mount Pleasant, and the amount. Gifts online will not show on a MPUMC giving statement as they are recorded as gifts through the conference. They are tax deductible, and you should receive an acknowledgement. Let us know if you have any questions about that!

From Hope's Heart ...

Isn't God the most wonderful artist?

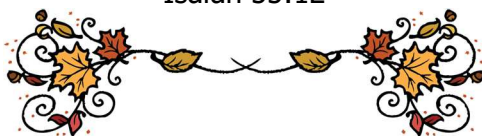
Have you noticed that at times the sky is a brilliant blue with a few white puffy clouds floating by? The berries on the dogwood tree are turning red and the leaves are all changing colors. There's a weed of some kind in the field behind my house that is covered with beautiful yellow flowers. (I kind of think that's what is making me sneeze and my eyes wat - either that or ragweed! Oh well!!) The maples are changing colors and dropping their leaves all over the yard. Mums are showing their red, bronze and gold blooms. It's a time of nature slowing down.

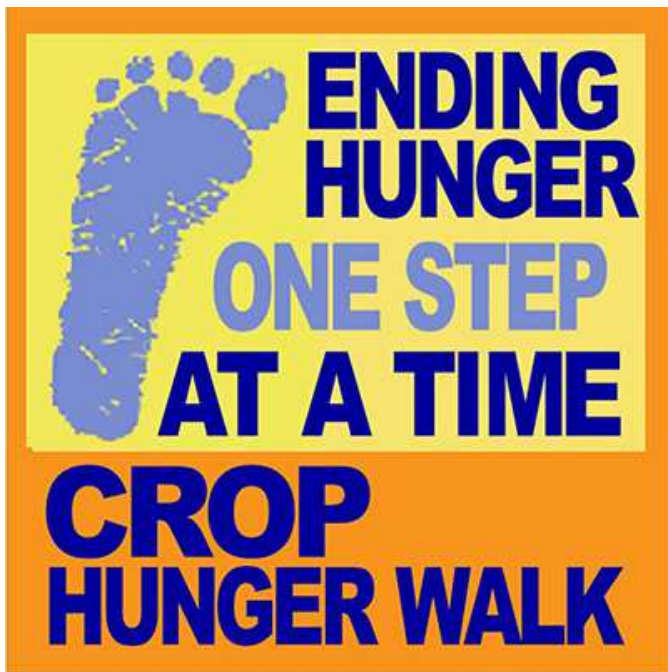


As busy as most of us are, there are times when we need to slow down a little, look around and thank our dear Heavenly Father for all the beauty He has created for us. Can we do that? I trust that we will!

*"For you will go out in Joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and hills before you
Shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands!"*

Isaiah 55:12





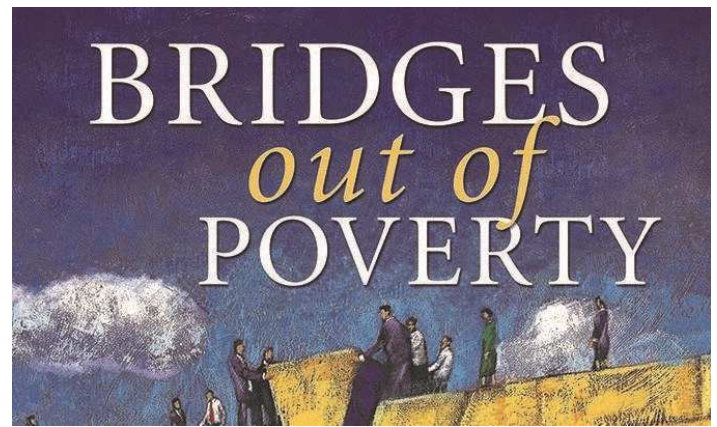
Pastor Robert will participate in the "CROP HUNGER WALK" on Sunday, Oct. 9. This is a 4-mile loop walk starting at 2 p.m. at First Presbyterian, 2101 S. Jefferson. You can also be a walker (and find people to donate to support you). Or you can help by giving a donation to sponsor Pastor Robert and others from our church. (Pastor Robert will "match" any offerings that come in to support him, up to \$1,000.)

Last year the Roanoke walk raised nearly \$24,000. Funds are used for hunger relief globally and locally! Make your check to MPUMC and note "CROP WALK" on your check or envelope. If you want to walk, start gathering donations and bring them with you (checks, not cash) on Oct. 9. You can also be a "virtual" walker if you need to do your walk at a different time. Thanks for your support!

OFFERING TOTALS YEAR-TO-DATE

January	\$8,993.00	July	\$7,724.65
February	\$9,431.55	August	\$7,989.00
March	\$8,006.00	September	\$5,999.00
April	\$7,149.00	October	
May	\$6,639.00	November	
June	\$6,484.00	December	

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



Nicole Jennings, Director of Family Programs at the Presbyterian Community Center (and a member of our church family!), has invited us to participate in their upcoming Bridges out of Poverty training on Tuesday, November 6th from 9:00 to 4:30 (location to be confirmed). There is no cost to us; however, donations would be accepted. Lunch is provided.

Bridges Out of Poverty provides ideas and concrete tools a community needs to reduce, alleviate, and work with those in poverty.

Nicole's contact information:

Phone 540-982-2911 ext. 116

njennings@pccse.org

Reminder ...

Our collection of after-school snacks for the PCC's Pathways program will be ongoing through the school year. Donation boxes are located in the narthex and also in the downstairs hallway. Thank you for your generosity in September!!

RAM HOUSE COLLECTION

Our United Methodist Women will be collecting disposable razors and toothbrushes for Roanoke Area Ministries during the month of October.

RAM House is the largest day shelter in Roanoke, and is open 365 days a year. Every day they provide its guests with a continental breakfast and nutritious hot lunch. Their safe environment is a refuge for those in need where they can receive toiletries, clothing, and other necessities. They offer laundry services and a safe place to store their possessions for the day. Guests in the shelter can sign up to work through a day labor program which allows them to earn a small income. They also provide emergency financial assistance that helps with rent and utility bills. *(from their website raminc.org)*



On Sunday, October 2nd United Methodists, in conjunction with other denominations and believers worldwide, will participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. In Pastor Roberts absence, The Rev. Rob Lough, formerly pastor of St. Mark's UMC in Daleville, will preside over our worship service, including the Lord's Table. Rev. Lough currently serves as the Executive Director of the Botetourt YMCA.



October is Pastor Appreciation Month! We will be celebrating Pastor Robert on Sunday, October 23rd, beginning with a full breakfast at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. Following breakfast, Pastor Robert will have the unusual opportunity to sit with his wife Betsy through morning worship as we give him the morning off!

Please hold this date on your calendar and plan to be with us!

"And now, friends, we ask you to honor those leaders who work so hard for you, who have been given the responsibility of urging and guiding you along in your obedience. Overwhelm them with appreciation and love!" 1 Thessalonians 5:23

"Made for More"

A Neighborhood Bible Study for Women with Hannah Anderson

Tuesday Mornings
September 20 thru October 25

Brunch served at 10am; Bible Study follows at 10:30. 22 women are participating in Hannah's study.

Week One's message taught us that because God made us in his image, we belong to Him. We have a special calling to reflect His glory. She invited us to rest in the truth of no matter our season of life or what changes around us, we will always belong to God.

In Week Two Hannah taught that God made us all in His image, so that everyone one of us bears His likeness. But none of us can do that alone. We need each other and depend on each other. She invited us to celebrate the relationship that God has given us and to look for ways to love God by loving our neighbors.

It's not too late for you (and a friend) to join us!

Youth Mystery Trip



On Sunday, Sept. 18th Pastor Robert organized a "Mystery Trip" for our youth to lunch at Cracker Barrel and a visit to the Sunflower Festival at Beaver Dam Farm in Buchanan. The kids loved having Krae along!

WOW! WEDNESDAY



The WOW Team



Joyce Ison leads the kids from Mt. Pleasant Elementary to their first Wednesday at WOW. Seventeen children were present that first afternoon!



Jenny Basham leads the Bible Study



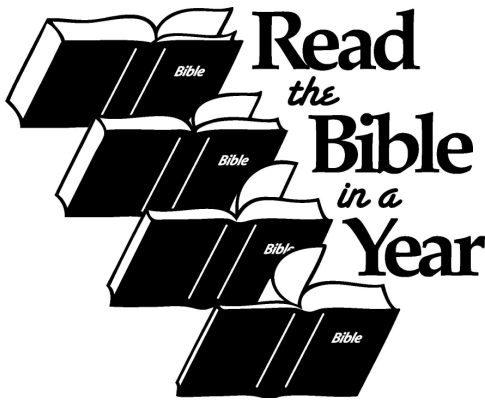
Role Play



Snack Time



Music Time
(the rhythm section!!)



In the new year, Bishop Lewis' challenged us and others in the Virginia Conference to join her and read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

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

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

October

	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalm	Proverbs
<input type="checkbox"/> 01	Isaiah 62:6-65:25	Philippians 2:19-3:3	Psalm 73:1-28	Proverbs 24:13-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 02	Isaiah 66:1-24	Philippians 3:4-21	Psalm 74:1-23	Proverbs 24:15-16
<input type="checkbox"/> 03	Jeremiah 1:1-2:30	Philippians 4:1-23	Psalm 75:1-10	Proverbs 24:17-20
<input type="checkbox"/> 04	Jeremiah 2:31-4:18	Colossians 1:1-17	Psalm 76:1-12	Proverbs 24:21-22
<input type="checkbox"/> 05	Jeremiah 4:19-6:15	Colossians 1:18-2:7	Psalm 77:1-20	Proverbs 24:23-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 06	Jeremiah 6:16-8:7	Colossians 2:8-23	Psalm 78:1-31	Proverbs 24:26
<input type="checkbox"/> 07	Jeremiah 8:8-9:26	Colossians 3:1-17	Psalm 78:32-55	Proverbs 24:27
<input type="checkbox"/> 08	Jeremiah 10:1-11:23	Colossians 3:18-4:18	Psalm 78:56-72	Proverbs 24:28-29
<input type="checkbox"/> 09	Jeremiah 12:1-14:10	1 Thessalonians 1:1-2:8	Psalm 79:1-13	Proverbs 24:30-34
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Jeremiah 14:11-16:15	1 Thessalonians 2:9-3:13	Psalm 80:1-19	Proverbs 25:1-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Jeremiah 16:16-18:23	1 Thessalonians 4:1-5:3	Psalm 81:1-16	Proverbs 25:6-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Jeremiah 19:1-21:14	1 Thessalonians 5:4-28	Psalm 82:1-8	Proverbs 25:9-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Jeremiah 22:1-23:20	2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	Psalm 83:1-18	Proverbs 25:11-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Jeremiah 23:21-25:38	2 Thessalonians 2:1-17	Psalm 84:1-12	Proverbs 25:15
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Jeremiah 26:1-27	2 Thessalonians 3:1-18	Psalm 85:1-13	Proverbs 25:16
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Jeremiah 28:1-29:32	1 Timothy 1:1-20	Psalm 86:1-17	Proverbs 25:17
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Jeremiah 30:1-31:26	1 Timothy 2:1-15	Psalm 87:1-7	Proverbs 25:18-19
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Jeremiah 31:27-32:44	1 Timothy 3:1-16	Psalm 88:1-18	Proverbs 25:20-22
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Jeremiah 33:1-34:22	1 Timothy 4:1-16	Psalm 89:1-13	Proverbs 25:23-24
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Jeremiah 35:1-36:32	1 Timothy 5:1-25	Psalm 89:14-37	Proverbs 25:25-27
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Jeremiah 37:1-38:28	1 Timothy 6:1-21	Psalm 89:38-52	Proverbs 25:28
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Jeremiah 39:1-41:18	2 Timothy 1:1-18	Psalm 90:1-91:16	Proverbs 26:1-2
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Jeremiah 42:1-44:23	2 Timothy 2:1-21	Psalm 92:1-93	Proverbs 26:3-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Jeremiah 44:24-47:7	2 Timothy 2:22-3:17	Psalm 94:1-23	Proverbs 26:6-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Jeremiah 48:1-49:22	2 Timothy 4:1-22	Psalm 95:1-96:13	Proverbs 26:9-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Jeremiah 49:23-50:46	Titus 1:1-16	Psalm 97:1-98:9	Proverbs 26:13-16
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Jeremiah 51:1-53	Titus 2:1-15	Psalm 99:1-9	Proverbs 26:17
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Jeremiah 51:54-52:34	Titus 3:1-15	Psalm 100:1-5	Proverbs 26:18-19
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	Lamentations 1:1-2:22	Philemon 1:1-25	Psalm 101:1-8	Proverbs 26:20
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Lamentations 3:1-66	Hebrews 1:1-14	Psalm 102:1-28	Proverbs 26:21-22
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	Lamentations 4:1-5:22	Hebrews 2:1-18	Psalm 103:1-22	Proverbs 26:23