

Service Opportunities

UMCOR Health Kits - Mt. Pisgah will be collecting UMCOR Health Kits in March and April. A detailed list is available in the Gathering Room. Purchase whatever you feel called to donate and place the items in the labeled bin in the Gathering Room. Contact June Adams at jpasea4ever@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Red Bird Mission Opportunity - Douglas Macauley is coordinating a mission trip to Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY from June 17 to June 23. If interested in signing up or for more information please contact him at ddmacauley@comcast.net or 380-8082.

Fund Raising Opportunity - The Midlothian Ruritan Club is in need of church groups to prepare meals for the following meeting dates: April 26, CFLC; May 23, JB Hall; September 27, CFLC; October 25, CFLC; and November 15, CFLC. The Club will pay \$260 for 28 plates, set up and clean up. Contact Mike Colley at 467-1498 if interested or if you have questions.

Small Groups and Meetings

The last JB town hall meeting before the expected April vote will be this afternoon at 12:15 pm, in the Sanctuary. This town hall will be an open discussion of the implications of voting "sell" or "keep." Ideas for new programs or activities for JB Hall that invite others, engage the community, provide fellowship and spread God's love are still being sought.

Get some exercise and help Mt. Pisgah! If spring is approaching, then it's time for the Westchester Shamrock 5K & Kids' 1K Fun Run, on Saturday, March 17! Mt. Pisgah has fielded a team of runners, walkers and volunteers for the last two years and has won a \$500 prize each of those years for having one of the largest teams. Cost is \$25 to run or walk, \$15 for the kids' fun run, and free to volunteer. You can register at www.westchestersharmrock.com (click Register Now or Volunteer) as part of Team Mt. Pisgah UMC (password: pisgah). For more information, contact Dan Farrell (runners) at dfarrell999@verizon.net or Mary Ellin Scarberry (volunteers) at mary.ellin@gmail.com.

On Saturday, April 7, the UMW of Mt. Pisgah UMC will be hosting the "Richmond Prayer Breakfast". The guest speaker will be Reggie Stewart, Chickahominy Indian Tribe - 2nd Assistant Chief - Tribal Land in Charles City County. Special music by Jack Ryan, Mt. Pisgah's Director of Music for Children & Youth. Registration begins at 8:30 am in the CFLC followed by breakfast and then worship (9 to 11 am). Cost is \$8.00 per person. Registration ends Monday, March 26. If you are interested in attending, please contact one of the circle leaders or pick up a form from the credenza in the Gathering Room.

Richmond Bottle Club - On Wednesday, April 11, at 7 pm, the Richmond Bottle Club will be hosting its monthly meeting in JB Hall. The Richmond Bottle Club is a non-profit organization supporting collectors of historical bottles, jars, and related items. Their goal is to promote the collection, study, and preservation of historical bottles and related artifacts and to share this information with other collectors and individuals. All Mt. Pisgah church members are invited to attend. Guest speaker, Phillip Townsend will be presenting a talk on the history of JB Hall. Feel free to bring any old store item to display and discuss. Hope you can attend.

Time of Prayer - During Lent, the chapel will be open each Wednesday from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm for prayer. There is no set program and you can stay as long as you'd like. A handout of prayers and scriptures will be available for your use. As you focus on spiritual disciplines during Lent, we encourage you to come and pray.

Around Mt. Pisgah

Easter Flowers - You have the choice of a lily or a colorful mum and can dedicate it in honor or memory of someone. The cost is \$12. Order forms are available in the Narthex. The deadline has been extended to **TODAY**.

Will you help? Mt. Pisgah is our church home and, like other homes, has to be updated and refreshed. The Trustees need volunteers to help identify and prioritize areas in the buildings and on the grounds that require attention. If you are willing to share your time and talents, please contact Jayne Shultz at j_shultz@verizon.net or 794-0658 by Friday, March 23. Thank you for your support.

Altar Flowers - The 2018 flower signup sheet is located in the Narthex. There is an opening for March 25. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

Friday Fun Fest will be held Friday, May 4. Mark your calendars now and plan to be a part of this wonderful outreach to our Midlothian community!

The March-April newsletter can be found on the website. Printed copies are located in the Narthex, CFLC Kiosk, and Gathering Room.

Prayer Concerns: Prayer request cards are in the pew racks and Gathering Room. All information is confidential. Please keep these church members in your prayers.

Joni Baker

Dave Barnes

Kaila Blackburn

Dick Bolon

Dave Browning

Betty Dye

Virginia Ewing

Bill Fortner

Janet Friedline

Elizabeth Gundlach

Robin Hoerber

Warren Hoerber

Cade Holliday

Red Howson

Bob Lucas

Don Kennedy

Mary Helen Kennedy

Sarah Reed

Bill Smith

Marie Strack

Diane Treadway

Millie Webb

Military Members

Spec Austin K. Brown, Army, Overseas

Christopher Durand, Army, Fort Campbell

Erin McNeill Durand, Army, Fort Campbell

Col. Stephanie K. Gerber, Army

Sgt. Benjamin Gregg, Army, Schofield Barracks

Sgt. Trevor Jerome, Marines, RS Albany

Pvt. Nathaniel Johnson, Army, Fort Jackson

Chp. Donald Smith, Army, Germany

Sgt. James D. Webb, Army, Germany

Spec Jason Zinn, Army, Fort Bragg



The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of his wife, Barbara, from Rocky Robison.

We are glad to have you worship with us today. We invite you to make Mt. Pisgah UMC your church home. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance.

Nursery Care is available for children age 5 and younger from 9:15 am until 12:15 pm. The church nursery is located in rooms 101 & 103 in the Education building.

Blessing Bags are available in the Narthex for young children to use during worship. When the worship service has concluded, please leave the bag and its contents in the bin in the Narthex.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex. Please see an usher if you would like to use one of these devices.

Large Print Hymnals are available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one of these.

Enjoy our furnishings and help us keep them clean. Please do not bring food or drinks into the Sanctuary; and please, turn off or silence your cell phones.

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Purpose Statement: To celebrate LIFE.

Love God

Invite others

Fellowship together

Engage the community



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 Telephone: (804) 794-5856 - Facsimile: (804) 379-3970
 Email: office@mtpisgahva.org - Website: www.mtpisgahva.org
 Preschool: (804) 794-1720, preschool@mtpisgahva.org
 Rev. Dr. Robert E. Cooper, *Lead Pastor*
 Zeb Roberts, *Director of Traditional Music and Worship Arts*

Welcome To
Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church
 March 11, 2018
 4th Sunday in Lent



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude 8:15

Praise Unfolding

Eithun

* Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to share in our love of God.

People: Open our hearts and let us share your good news.

Leader: We gather to share our witness to God's goodness.

People: Let your lives bear witness through service to your people.

Leader: We gather to praise God whose love is eternal.

People: Open our hearts today to sing your praises. Amen.

* Hymn No. 374

Standing on the Promises

* We Affirm Our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* The Christian Greeting

We Hear God's Word Proclaimed

A Time of Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem 8:15 *Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho* Thompson
11:00 *Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace* McDonald

* Scripture p. 5** *Matthew 5:38-48*

Children's Moment 11:00

* Hymn No. 454 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Message *Sermon Series - Giving It Up*
Giving Up Enemies Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy and patience, remind us that our lives are meant to be gifts to others, for healing, hope, comfort, peace and love. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the details of living that we neglect to help others. Enlighten us again with your spirit and your words of healing love. Heal and forgive us. Give us hearts for joyful caring and sharing; for it is in Jesus' name, we offer this prayer. Amen.

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

* Offering Response No. 95 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go Forth

* Hymn No. 419 *I Am Thine, O Lord*

* Dismissal and Benediction

Postlude

**Please Stand as You Are Able*

***New Testament Page in the Pew Bibles*

No. 1-904 are found in the red United Methodist Hymnal

No. 2001 and above are found in the black The Faith We Sing Hymnal

† † †

Hearing Assistance Devices, Large Print Bulletins and Large Print Hymnals are available. Please ask an Usher.

Loving His Enemies

We celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17--honoring the British-born missionary who Christianized Ireland in the 5th century. Patrick was raised in a Celtic Christian family, within the Roman Empire, but his faith was weak when, at age 16, he was kidnapped by Irish pirates, enslaved and forced to herd cattle in Ireland for 6 years, before escaping and returning home, with a much deeper faith, serving there as a parish priest for 20 years. At age 48, past his life expectancy for that time, he had a dream in which his former captors appealed to him to return to Ireland. He interpreted this as a call to carry the Christian faith to Ireland and appealed to his superiors to be sent. They agreed, and ordained him as a bishop. He left with a small team in about 432, and ministered in Ireland until his death in about 460. The Irish Celts were a mostly pagan (pre-Christian), barbaric people, living in communal tribes. Patrick was very successful in establishing the church there, mostly because he understood the importance of incorporating the local culture into his introduction of Christianity. He established monastic communities adjacent to the tribal settlements, and he and his helpers interacted with the people, got to know them, learned their ways and developed loving, trusting relationships. He preserved the parts of their culture compatible with Christian doctrine, while adding Christian values and teachings. The Celtic Irish loved and worshipped nature and believed in a divinity, and were a very creative, imaginative, emotional people with a proud legacy of song, dance and visual arts, which he incorporated into his ministry. The beautiful Celtic knot artistry with its many intricate, interwoven triangular and circular designs and spirals were transformed into Christian symbols, including those adorning the Celtic crosses we still use today. The Irish religious leaders were druids, and the Irish worshipped among standing stones--similar to Stonehenge in Britain--which represented to them a link between heaven and earth. The Christianized Irish painted or carved Christian symbols on those stones, and three-sided and three-lobed designs came to represent the Trinity, including the Shamrock--now the national emblem of Ireland--a three-lobed clover previously revered as a symbol of Spring's rebirth. Patrick's single-minded passion was to reach the unreached "lost sheep"--his former enemies, invoking criticism from church leaders, but he reminded them of Christ's priority commandment to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation (Mt 28).

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - Loving our enemies can feel like an idealistic notion. By caring for those who persecute us, we demonstrate a clear course of action based on Jesus' example. Peace isn't a far-off fantasy. We call Jesus the Prince of Peace, but do we really believe and live like peace is possible in our world today?

Next Sunday - God creates life from death, nothingness, and hopelessness. We are used to thinking of life in terms of fixed beginnings and ends, but the story of Jesus challenges us to reconsider these categories and embrace the larger vision that eternal life begins here and now.



The scripture for next Sunday is shown here with its QR Code.

Scripture for March 18, 2018
Matthew 16:24-26

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

*Who are you going to Invite,
Pick up and Bring to church?*

Sunday, March 11

8:15 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
9:15 am Fellowship Time - CFLC
9:30 am Confirmation - JB Hall
9:30 am Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am Fellowship Time - CFLC
10:45 am ARISE Worship - CFLC
11:00 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
12:15 pm JB Future Town Hall - Sanctuary
2:30 pm CM Advisors - JB Hall
3:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 344 - 107/109
3:00 pm Youth Choir - Music Room
4:00 pm Youth Group - CFLC, 301-303
5:00 pm Youth Band - CFLC
7:30 pm Cub Scout Leaders - 107/109

Monday, March 12

9:00 am UMW Puppet Practice - 304
10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair Cosby's Home
11:00 am Staff Meeting - 214
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
6:30 pm Cub Scouts Den 3 - 301/302

Tuesday, March 13

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
9:30 am Kindermusik - 209
10:00 am MOPS - 107/109
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall
7:30 pm Troop 897 Committee - 217

Wednesday, March 14

9:00 am UMW Puppet Practice - 304
11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study - 107/109
6:00 pm Carol Bells - 206
6:00 pm Cherub Choir - 209
6:00 pm Youth Bells - Music Room
6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study - 107/109
6:45 pm Carol Choir - 211
6:45 pm ECHO - 301/302
7:00 pm Mission Branch - 214
7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC
7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Music Room

Thursday, March 15

6:45 pm Cub Scout Pack 876 - CFLC
7:00 pm Thursday Night Small Group - Kirns' Home
7:00 pm Chancel Bells - Music Room
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, March 16

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall
10:30 am Prayer Group - Clair Cosby's Home
5:30 pm Drama Kids - 107/109

Saturday, March 17

8:00 am Soul Art Workshop - 301/302
9:00 am Richmond Modern Quilt Guild Sew Day - 107/109
9:00 am VA WCA Gathering - CFLC

The Mission Box Offering for March is for One Great Hour of Sharing. Your gifts lay the foundation for all of the United Methodist Committee on Relief's (UMCOR) work by covering their administrative costs. This means that every cent of all other gifts received by UMCOR goes directly toward covering the costs of their projects because their basic expenses have been covered. This offering helps deliver hope to those that need it the most. UMCOR is not subsidized by the United Methodist World Service Fund or apportionment funds, so without your gifts, UMCOR could not guarantee that 100% of all other funds raised will be used for a specific cause. Let's work together and **raise \$1,000 for UMCOR** by the end of March. If you'd like to donate, please make your check payable to Mt. Pisgah UMC and in the memo write "March Mission Box." If you'd like to text your donation, please text to 804-294-3493. In the message portion of the text message, include the amount, space one time, then type greathour.

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—March 4, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	91	37	171	299

As of February 28, we have received \$141,583 for the 2018 Ministry Fund budget. Expenses through February total \$102,531 giving us a surplus of \$39,052. Recall we received \$40,123 in 2017 for 2018 which would normally be given throughout the entire year.

The 2018 Mortgage & Maintenance Fund budget has received \$41,287. This has covered our mortgage payments with the extra principal payments and \$7,130 has been added to the maintenance fund this year.



QR code for online giving