

Welcome To
Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church
April 15 2018
Third Sunday of Easter



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: How joyful it is to celebrate the good news of God's love!

People: We are called to be Easter people!

Leader: Darkness cannot claim us!

People: Fear cannot bind us!

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen!

* Hymn No. 304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

* We Affirm Our Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, Of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

* The Christian Greeting

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 celebration of Larry and Rita Sykes' 46th wedding anniversary.

Service Opportunities

Day of Service - Mt. Pisgah's second day of service is scheduled for Saturday, April 28. There are six different project areas for which you may volunteer and have an impact on our community. Please use the link on the church's website to sign up. If you have any questions, contact George Hudson at gehudson12@gmail.com or 912-3967 or PJ Smith at 370-0408.

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.

Small Groups and Meetings

Upcoming Bible Study: Serving from the Heart - In each believer there is great potential. The challenge most of us face is that we are unaware what our gifts are. Would you like to discover how God has uniquely gifted you? Join us on Wednesday, April 18, at 11 am or 6:30 pm in room 107/109. Visit our webpage to sign up.

The Richmond District is hosting an informational gathering on the work of the Commission On a Way Forward on Saturday, April 28 from 9 am to 11 am at Trinity UMC (903 Forest Avenue). Come and receive up-to-date information on the issue of human sexuality, learn to speak together around hard topics, and explore options that help maintain and strengthen the unity of the Church. If interested in attending, please contact the church office by Tuesday, April 24.

There will be a called Church Conference on Sunday, April 29, in the sanctuary at 9:45 am. The purpose of the called Church Conference is to vote whether the church should keep or sell JB Hall. The UMC Book of Discipline states only the professing members of the congregation in attendance are eligible to vote. We urge all members to participate in this vote.

United Methodist Women - On May 4 will be the first "On the Road Again Mission Express" to Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church in Alexandria, VA and then to The Heartwood Ministry in the Rappahannock District, Stafford. May 18-20 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio will be the "When Women Unite, Bold and Courageous Actions Happen." Registration fee is \$330, which includes two healthy lunches for attendees. Plan now to attend! Members of the Virginia Conference are again going by bus. If you are interested in the details of this trip, be in touch with Joyce Winston at buckrowbeach@gmail.com or mail your interest to her at 2411 E. Pembroke Avenue, Hampton, VA 23664. More information and registration forms on these and other UMW events will be available in the Gathering Room on the UMW Bulletin Board.

Around Mt. Pisgah

The deadline for the May-June newsletter is TODAY. Please submit your articles to William Marriott at office@mtpisgahva.org.

Altar Flowers - The 2018 flower sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

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



1100 Mt. Pisgah Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113
 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*

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 *I'll Fly Away* Brumley

Scripture p. 118** *Acts 1:1-5*

Children's Moment 11:00

* Hymn No. 393 (2x) *Spirit of the Living God*

Sermon Series - *The Early Church: Presence, Power, Purpose*

Message *Actively Waiting* Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you call us to be people of courage and hope; and yet we run and hide, doubting and fearing. You challenge us to proclaim our faith; but we huddle in darkness whispering our words of discouragement. Shake us up, Lord! Forgive us when we seem to need prodding over and over again. Help us to see the presence of Jesus in our lives; and remind us of all that He taught us, to help us to live as disciples, serving you by serving others. Change us! Renew us! Make us truly the disciples you have called us to be. In the name of the Risen Christ, Amen.

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *Old Rugged Cross* Bennard

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

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go Forth

* Hymn No. 307 *Christ Is Risen*

* 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.

The Importance of Waiting

During the first 40 days of his post-resurrection life, Jesus appeared to the Apostles on many occasions, as proof of his resurrection and to continue their instructions for completing his mission on earth. Following those 40 days, he led them out to Bethany, to the Mt. of Olives, blessed them and ascended into heaven, hidden from their view by a cloud. Then, assured of his future return, they joyfully returned to Jerusalem, to the upper room where they had been staying, in obedience to Jesus' command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about."(Acts 1:4) For the next 10 days, the Apostles and other disciples of Jesus, including the women who had followed and supported his ministry, and his family--Mary and his brothers--totalling 120 by the Day of Pentecost--WAITED. Of utmost importance was their obedience to God's command to "WAIT", without knowing why that was necessary, unlike their disobedience and fearful scattering at the time of Jesus' arrest. This waiting period was time well spent--much of it in corporate prayer with those who knew Jesus best. Scripture doesn't tell us the content of their prayers, but praise and supplication for forgiveness, enlightenment, guidance and strength for their task ahead and for the arrival of the indwelling, empowering Holy Spirit were undoubtedly included. They also recognized the importance of fellowship with each other, which became an essential ingredient in the early church structure, much like John Wesley's small groups within early Methodist congregations, which we continue today. Peter assumed the leadership position in this group, guiding them through the process of choosing a new Apostle, Matthias, to fill Judas' vacant spot from among those who had followed Jesus throughout his ministry. It's likely they also carefully studied Old Testament prophecies pertaining to the Holy Spirit--scriptural references included in Peter's first speech (Acts 1:15). God used those 10 days to accomplish important things in the lives of his disciples, looking forward, planning their ministry and the work of the Church he was going to found with them as its leaders. Waiting is extremely important, but it is not an inactive thing. Just as there was plenty for the disciples to do while waiting, there is plenty for us to do while we are waiting for Christ's return: we must do our best to pray, study, and to draw closer to God and to one another, just as the first disciples did.

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - One of the hardest things to do is to wait. But that's exactly what Jesus instructs his disciples to do. But this type of waiting was not passive. It was highly active and focused.

Next Sunday - A new community is being birthed. It is marked by certain traits that make it stand out. To be people of this new community is to live distinctly.

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



Scripture for April 22, 2018
Acts 2:43-47

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, April 15

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
3:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 344 - 107/109
3:00 pm Troop 876 - 214
3:00 pm Youth Choir - Music Room
4:00 pm Youth Group - CFLC & 301-303
5:00 pm Youth Band - CFLC

Monday, April 16

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 304
10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair Cosby's Home
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
7:00 pm Staff Parish Meeting - 303

Tuesday, April 17

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
9:30 am Kindermusik - 209
6:15 pm Tiger Den 4 & Bear Den 8 - CFLC
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall
7:00 pm Finance Branch - 107/109

Wednesday, April 18

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 304
11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study - 107/109
12:00 pm Watlington-Bowen Circle - 214
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
7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC
7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Music Room

Thursday, April 19

6:30 pm Cub Scouts Pack 876 - CFLC
7:00 pm Chancel Bells - Music Room
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, April 20

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall
10:30 am Prayer Group - Clair Cosby's Home
12:30 pm CJW Bridge - CFLC
5:30 pm Drama Kids - 107/109

The Mission Box Offering for April will help more children attend summer camp at Westview on the James. Many families cannot afford to send their children; at least not pay the entire fee. By our donations to the "care and connect" scholarship fund, more children will be able to experience a great week at camp this summer. You can write a check to Mt. Pisgah UMC and in the memo write *April Mission Box - Camp Scholarship*. 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 westview.

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—April 8, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	68	39	142	249

As of March 31, we have received \$196,692 for the 2018 Ministry Fund budget. Expenses through March total \$157,060 giving us a surplus of \$39,633. Recall we received \$40,000 in 2017 for 2018 which would normally be given throughout the entire year.

The 2018 Mortgage & Maintenance Fund budget has received \$56,597. This has covered our mortgage payments with the extra principal payments and \$8,128 has been added to the maintenance fund this year.



QR code for online giving