

Service Opportunities

CARITAS Volunteers Needed - Our church will be hosting homeless families in the CFLC this week. Can you help pack lunches, lead activities, or spend the night at church? You will never work alone, there is always a CARITAS staff member on site and either Doug or Sharon Macauley will be present to supervise. Please go to the church website to sign up. If you cannot work a whole shift, perhaps you can spare a few hours. Questions, contact Sharon Macauley at 739-1616 or slmacauley@comcast.net.

Music @ The Mines - On Sunday, August 19, we'll be engaging our community in a big way – with a community concert and family fun event featuring our own Arise band. The event, Music at Mid-Lo Mines, will be held from 3 to 5 pm at Mid-Lothian Mines Park on Woolridge Road. In addition to the band, we will have a variety of family-friendly activities, including face-painting and crafts for the kids, corn-hole, a raffle with prizes, and refreshments. Can you help us with this event? We need people to work at the event, donate snacks and bottled water, and just join in the fun and invite some friends, pick them up, and bring them along with you to the event. To help, please visit the Signup Genius on the church website. See you at the park on August 19!

UMCOR School Kits - It's back-to-school time already, and that means Mt. Pisgah will be collecting donations for the UMCOR School Kits from now until September 9. The list of supplies is available in the CFLC, Sanctuary, and on the labeled UMCOR School Kit collection bin in the Gathering Room. You do not need to buy all the items on the list. This is a great way to engage your children in sharing with others. Thank you for helping school children all over the world. If you have any questions, contact June Adams at 379-0096.

Do you enjoy working with children? Do you have the gifts of serving and hospitality? If so, we have an opportunity for you to use these gifts by serving as the church's liaison with J.B. Watkins Elementary School, with which Mt. Pisgah has an active, ongoing partnership. The volunteer liaison works with Watkins' principal and staff to coordinate needed assistance and hospitality several times during the school year (e.g. helping teachers prepare classrooms for the start of school, arranging volunteers to help kindergartners at lunchtime, and showing appreciation to teachers by coordinating and delivering baked goods). This opportunity would be ideal for anyone with interest in our schools, especially a Watkins parent already involved at the school or a retired teacher. For more information, contact Mary Ellin Scarberry at mary.ellin@gmail.com or 852-3557.

Small Groups and Meetings

Two Bible Study and Prayer Groups this Fall - The Monday Group will be studying William Barclay's *New Daily Study Bible: Luke*. The Friday Group will be studying Maxie Dunnam's *Workbook of Living Prayer*. Each group will meet from 10:30 am to 12 pm to discuss weekly readings and create a prayer list. Please contact Clair Cosby at 501-6961 or dr.clair@comcast.net for further information about either of these groups.

Grief Support Group Forming - A new opportunity for those who have had personal losses will soon be available. There will be 8 sessions from 5:30 to 7 pm on Fridays, starting on September 14. There is no special timetable or progression for grief. Some of us seem to muddle through; some may get stuck. Just as God made each of us to be unique, our mourning will be different for each person and every loss. For many of us, sharing memories with understanding friends helps the healing. These group meetings will be held at Dr. Cosby's home. Please contact Clair for further details at 501-6961 or dr.clair@comcast.net.

The Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Women invite you to join them for some upcoming events. More information and registration forms on these and other UMW events will be available in the Gathering Room and the CFLC Bulletin Board. If you have any questions or cannot find forms, please contact Kay Smith at ksbridge@comcast.net or 370-1591 or Sue Townsend at ttonysue@yahoo.com or 379-0902. **Saturday, August 18** – Richmond District UMW trip to Shalom Farms; **Saturday, September 8** – Richmond District UMW Mini Mission Encounter - Sacred Spaces: Encounters with God and Neighbor Through Mission; **Saturday, September 27 and Sunday, September 28** – Second "On the Road In the Mission Express" to The Eastern Shore of Virginia; **Saturday, October 13** – Mt. Pisgah UMW General Meeting: Memory Lane

Around Mt. Pisgah

Buildings Closed for Floor Work - During the week of August 20-24 all buildings (except JB Hall) will be closed both day and night so floors can be waxed, carpets can be cleaned and areas allowed to dry. Due to the large amount of furniture to move and number of rooms and halls, the floor crew does not have time to go back and redo any compromised areas. Please help by planning accordingly and avoid entering the buildings August 20-24. Thank you, the Trustees.

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 honor of Molly Morgan's 18th birthday on August 16 by Todd and Kimberly Morgan.

Welcome To
Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church
August 12, 2018
12th Sunday of Pentecost



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: As Abraham and Sarah welcomed the strangers,

People: so God welcomes us

Leader: God greets us with joy

People: and says, "Rest here for awhile."

Leader: God brings out water to wash our dusty feet.

People: God prepares a meal to nourish our weary spirits.

Leader: So let us receive the gracious hospitality of our God.

People: Let us rest in this holy place where there is shade and water, food and laughter.

* Hymn No. 158

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

* 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 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 our community



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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 (8:15) *It Is Well With My Soul* Carter
(11:00) *Mungu ni Mwema* Burrows
Scripture p. 14** *Genesis 18:9-15*

Children's Moment 11:00

* Hymn No. 100 *God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us*

Message Sermon Series - *Top 10 Women of the Bible*
Sarah (#3) Kay Adams

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you reached into Abraham and Sarah's lives and asked them to dream the impossible dream—that you would transform what appears to have been a barren and lifeless situation into one overflowing with promise and hope— and, through faith in you, they believed your promises. Forgive us, O God, if we never get beyond thinking of your call on our lives as an impossible dream or even as an unwelcome interruption. Forgive us, O God, when we find it hard even to hear your promises above the clamor of false promises that tempt us away from you. Gracious and loving God, forgive our lack of trust in you; have mercy on us and forgive us. Help us when we hesitate, and strengthen us when we are weak. Breathe your Spirit afresh into our hearts and minds and lives so that we may have the courage to follow Jesus wherever he takes us. Amen.

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

* Offering Response No. 94 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go Forth

* Hymn No. 707 *Hymn of Promise*

* Dismissal and Benediction

Postlude

**Please Stand as You Are Able*
***Old 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.

All in the Lord's Time

God chose Abram as the father of his people and told him to move to the land of Canaan, at age 75, so Abram settled, with his childless wife, Sarai, in this new land, with the promise that he would have descendants as countless as the stars. Then, for 10 years, God was silent, and Abram and Sarai were confused, because they remained childless. It was then that Sarai decided to take things into her own hands to speed up the fulfillment of God's promise, by giving her servant, Hagar, to Abram, so she could give him a son, who would be Abram's legal heir. Abram accepted the gift, and Hagar became pregnant. During this pregnancy, quarrels arose between Sarai and Hagar, and Sarai complained to Abram, whom she also resented because he had agreed to this union. He told her to solve the problem herself, so Sarai began to abuse Hagar, who soon fled to the desert, where an angel of the Lord appeared to her and told her to return to Sarai and that God would reward her greatly, but that her son, Ishmael, would be a real problem child. Sarai couldn't wait for God, so she implemented a plan that caused terrible future consequences. When God is silent, there is always a reason. In this case, perhaps he was testing their faith and trust in His promises. James 1:2 says, "Count it such joy when you experience trials because those trials come so that you may develop patience with God." Sarai and Abram had to wait for another 13 years before God delivered on his promise. When God's time was right, He reappeared to Abram and to Sarai, told them that in a year they would have a son, and changed their names to Abraham and Sarah, to designate them as His people, with a great destiny—to be the parents of nations—and his Son's ancestors. God had taken that time to reshape them into the people He needed them to become for His purposes. At this news, Abraham laughed in joy, while Sarah laughed in bitter doubt at this occurring in her old age, but God heard her and asked, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" A year later, they had a son and named him Isaac, meaning "he laughs". We must believe in God, even when He is silent. He doesn't ask us to understand, just to trust. Nothing is too hard for the Lord, but answers will come only in His time.

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - "Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?" Well, maybe. Sometimes the claims of scripture surprise us, even disturb us. We find all of this hard to believe.

Next Sunday - So many had abandoned Jesus. But not everyone. In the midst of such agony was a woman who Jesus had delivered. With great courage, she stood at the foot of the cross.

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



Scripture for August 19, 2018
Mark 15:33-41

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, August 12

CARITAS Guests - CFLC
8:15 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
9:15 am Fellowship Time - CFLC
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

Monday, August 13

CARITAS Guests - CFLC
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall

Tuesday, August 14

CARITAS Guests - CFLC
6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer
Breakfast - JB Hall
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall

Wednesday, August 15

CARITAS Guests - CFLC

Thursday, August 16

CARITAS Guests - CFLC
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, August 17

CARITAS Guests - CFLC
5:30 pm Richmond Modern Quilt Guild - JB Hall

The Mission Box Offering for August is for scholarships for Mt. Pisgah Preschool.

Over the last several years there has been an increase in the number of need-based scholarship applications for children attending our preschool. The preschool program is a ministry branch of our church that reaches out to the Midlothian community. It is the preschool's goal to make the program affordable to as many families as possible. Each year the preschool designates a portion of its overall budget for scholarship funding. However, the increase in applications has surpassed the funding. Your donation could help a child attend a quality, faith-based preschool program. You can write a check to Mt. Pisgah UMC and in the memo write preschool scholarships. 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 preschool.

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—August 5, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	77	45	125	247

As of July 31, we have received \$434,433 for the 2018 Ministry Fund budget. Expenses through July total \$414,061 giving us a surplus of \$20,372.

The 2018 Mortgage & Maintenance Fund budget has received \$124,256. This has covered our mortgage payments with the extra principal payments and \$22,884 has been added to the maintenance fund this year.



QR code for online giving