

Service Opportunities

Teacher Blessing Day for J. B. Watkins Elementary School Monday, August 28 – It will soon be Back to School time and Mt. Pisgah is again celebrating teachers and staff at J. B. Watkins Elementary School. We will need volunteers to prepare breakfast food. A second opportunity to bless the teachers is to help set up their classrooms on Tuesday, August 29 from 10 to noon. Visit our website to sign up. Question, contact Helen Davison at 305-6903 or helen.davison@comcast.net.

UMCOR School Kits - Would you believe the school supplies are in the stores? YES! Now is the best time to get them while the prices are lower. This is the list of items that go into one school kit: pair of scissors (blunt tip only), 3 units of paper (70 sheets in a spiral notebook) or loose leaf paper, hand-held pencil sharpener (at least 1 1/2 inches), 30-centimeter ruler, 6 unsharpened pencils, 2 1/2 inch eraser, and box of 24-count crayons. Please bring your donations to the Gathering Room and place them in the wooden bins labeled UMCOR School Kits.

Small Groups and Meetings

Prayer Ministry Team - The next Prayer Ministry Team meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 15 at 6 pm at Arby's (next to the church). All are welcomed to attend.

Prayer Walk - The next Prayer Walk will be held on Saturday, August 19, at 1 pm. We will start in the courtyard near the Educational Building. Please join us.

Usher Training will be held Wednesday, August 23, 6:30 - 8 pm, in the Sanctuary. All ushers and any interested members of the congregation are invited to attend. Topics will be evacuating our buildings, active shooters, simple first aid rules and a demonstration of our AED equipment. There will be an opportunity to practice using the AED. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Church Office, Charlie Simmons at 794-2899 or Gwen Turbeville at 379-3671 so enough handouts can be prepared.

Upcoming Bible Study: *The Epic of Eden: Understanding the Old Testament* - On September 6, we will begin a new study on the Old Testament. Come join us each Wednesday at 11 am or 6:30 pm in room 107/109. Visit our webpage to sign up or contact the church office.

MOPS Kick Off: September 26 – Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) groups are gatherings of moms coming together for community, conversation, and friendship. They meet to support each other, share experiences, and learn from presenters in the field of early childhood. We believe a MOPS program at Mt. Pisgah will be a great way to invite and support young families in our community. MOPS at Mt. Pisgah is going to meet on second and fourth Tuesdays from 10 am to noon starting on September 26. To register, please visit www.mops.org/join. Use code OX59 (that's the letter O, not the number zero) for direct access to our MOPS group.

Around Mt. Pisgah

Buildings Closed For Floor Work - August 14-19 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 Aug 14-19. Thank you, the Trustees

The deadline for the September/October Newsletter is Tuesday, August 15. Please submit your articles to William Marriott at office@mtpisgahva.org.

Parents of College Students - The UMW would like to communicate with your students throughout the year to help them feel that Mt. Pisgah is supporting them with their prayers & gifts. Fill out the paper that is on the credenza in the gathering room in a graduation hat box! Questions, contact Linda Uphold at 794-4209.

Pictorial Directory – Lifetouch has been selected as our photographer for our new pictorial directory. Two sessions have been scheduled. The first session will be Sept. 15, 16, 17 (Fri. Sat. Sun.) and the second session will be Oct. 7, 8, 9, 10 (Sat. Sun. Mon. Tue.). Portraits taken during these sessions will arrive in time for Christmas gifts. Visit our website to sign up.

Columbarium Niches and Cemetery Plots – Effective January 1, 2018, the prices will be changing. The price of a cemetery plot will change from \$250 to \$500. The price of a columbarium niche will change from \$2,200 to \$2,500. Questions, contact Dave Irby at dirby1206@comcast.net.

Altar Flowers - We have an opening for Sunday, August 27. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

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.

Dave Barnes
Kaila Blackburn
Dick Bolon
Nelson Bowen
Dave Browning
Betty Dye
Virginia Ewing
Trudy Farmer
Bill Fortner
Janet Friedline
Elizabeth Gundlach
Lorraine Hesbach

Robin Hoerber
Warren Hoerber
Red Howson
Mac Jackson
Bob Lucas
Don Kennedy
Mary Helen Kennedy
Sarah Reed
Marie Strack
Diane Treadway
Millie Webb

Military Members

Spec Austin K. Brown, Army, Overseas
Col. Stephanie K. Gerber, Army
Sgt. Benjamin Gregg, Army, Schofield Barracks
Spec Jeremy Gregg, Army, Fort Riley
Sgt. Trevor Jerome, Marines, RS Albany
Pvt. Nathaniel Johnson, Army, Fort Jackson
Chp. Donald Smith, Army, Germany
Sgt. James D. Webb, Army, Fort Lee
Spec Jason Zinn, Army, Fort Bragg



The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Kathren Loren O'Connell's birthday on August 12, by Jan DeBaugh and Erin, Keira, and Ainsleigh Mayberry.

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 or Chapel; 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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Email: office@mtpisgahva.org - Website: www.mtpisgahva.org
Preschool: (804) 794-1720, preschool@mtpisgahva.org
Rev. Dr. Robert E. Cooper, *Lead Pastor*
Elvin Nicely, *Director of Traditional Music and Worship Arts*

Welcome To Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church August 13, 2017 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: Let us worship the eternal God,

People: the Source of love and life, who creates us.

Leader: Let us worship Jesus Christ,

People: the Risen One, who lives among us.

Leader: Let us worship the Holy Spirit,

People: the Living Presence, who renews us.

All: To the one true God be praise in all times and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Hymn No. 421

Make Me a Captive, Lord

* 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 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

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 *As the Deer* Wilhelmi
11:00 *Sizohamba Naye* Trad. South African
(We Will Walk with God)

Scripture 127** *Acts 9:10-19*

Children's Moment 11:00

* Hymn No. 2128 *Come and Find the Quiet Center*
Message *The Apostle Paul* Bob Cooper

We Make Our Confession

O God, source of all that makes life possible, giver of all that makes life good: We gather to give you our thanks, yet we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness. What we have we take for granted, and we grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty, with little thought of those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less. Forgive us, O God. In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving; and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life; through the grace of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

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. 2130 *The Summons*

* Dismissal and Benediction

Postlude

**Please Stand as You Are Able*

*** New Testament Page Number 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.

Divine Grace for Sinners

Saul, a Hellenistic (Greek-speaking) Jew—a Pharisee, born in Tarsus, and tentmaker by trade, was guilty of violently persecuting Jerusalem's Jewish Christians, causing them to flee far and wide as he pursued what he perceived as a righteous crusade in support of the one true God, believing that Jesus' teachings violated Mosaic Law. Saul came to Damascus to get permission from their synagogues to arrest all Hellenistic Christians who had fled Jerusalem and return them for trial and prosecution. As he and his companions were traveling on the Damascus road, a bright light from heaven flashed, and, visible only to Saul, Christ appeared and asked him why he was persecuting him (his church). Saul was likely stricken with the knowledge that in his zeal he had actually been fighting against God, and realized that Stephen, the first martyr of the church, in whose execution he was complicit, had preached the truth about Jesus being the Messiah. Saul was rendered blind by light emanating from Christ—his spiritual blindness had become physical blindness. He was led to a room in Damascus, where he prayed and fasted for 3 days, awaiting the Lord's instructions. God appeared to Ananias, a Damascus disciple, in a dream, and instructed him to go to Saul and restore his sight. Ananias protested, knowing Saul's past reputation, but obeyed when God said Saul is "my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel" (Acts 9:15). When Ananias laid hands on Saul, Saul's sight was restored. Ananias baptized him, and Saul, filled with the Holy Spirit, immediately departed and began preaching the Gospel in the synagogues. The Lord said, "I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." (9:16), and Paul definitely suffered—being jailed, physically abused, harassed and eventually taken as a prisoner to Rome, where he was beheaded, but he never faltered in his mission or failed his Lord, preaching, teaching and writing 13 of the 27 books of the New Testament—ensuring that we would receive Christ's message, and expanding Christianity far into the Gentile world. He who inflicted pain, suffering and death on those who worshiped Jesus as the Messiah, later endured pain and suffering—and, finally, death—for the sake of Jesus his Messiah. The good news is that, if the Lord could change his fiercest opponent into his most loyal servant, then he has the ability to redeem the most sinful of people today—by Divine Grace. As Paul said, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst." (1 Tim 1:15)

- Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - Before he was Paul the apostle, he was Saul the persecutor. Thinking he was doing God's will, Saul made the lives of many miserable. But the irony of all of this was that his actions showed a blindness to the very God he claimed to be serving.

Next Sunday - Judas followed Jesus for more than three years. He saw lives changed in dramatic ways. But something happened along the way. How could someone be around Jesus that much and still not get it?

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



Scripture for August 20, 2017
John 12:1-8

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

Who are you going to invite, Pickup and Bring to church?

Sunday, August 13

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 14 - Friday, August 18

Tile Floors Waxed & Carpets Cleaned -
All buildings closed except JB Hall

Monday, August 14

2:00 pm Trustees - JB Hall
7:00 pm Search Committee - JB Hall

Tuesday, August 15

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer
Breakfast - JB Hall
10:00 am Trustees - JB Hall
7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall

Thursday, August 17

6:00 pm High School Small Group -
Bedell's Home
7:00 pm Thursday Night Small Group -
Kirns' Home
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, August 18

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall

Saturday, August 19

9:00 am Scrapbook Day - JB Hall

The Mission Box Offering for August will go to CCHASM (Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Alliance for Social Ministry). CCHASM is a non-profit 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, organization working cooperatively with government and community agencies to care for the emergency needs of the citizens of Chesterfield County, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, and Prince George. CCHASM provides food, financial assistance, and career clothing to area residents who are experiencing an emergency situation which threatens their survival needs. Mt. Pisgah annually contributes 35-40 Thanksgiving Food Basket Gifts to the CCHASM program, and we also give financial assistance to this important effort through the Mission Branch and Mission Box Offerings. This organization is often the first and only defense for those in need in the community. Please give generously to this local mission.

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—August 6, 2017

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	87	44	152	283
	Ministry Fund		Mortgage/Maint. Fund	
Funds Needed YTD	\$479,830		\$136,460	
Funds Received YTD	\$466,434		\$130,033	
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$13,396)		(\$6,427)	

We have received pledges of \$561,888 for the Ministry Fund (72% of our target) and \$212,776 for the Mortgage and Maintenance Fund (96% of our target). Thanks to those who have pledged for 2017. If you haven't done so, we encourage you to do so and become a part of God's work in 2017.



QR code for online giving