

Service Opportunities

Host Families Needed - Two Chilean students will travel to Richmond for two months (December 17 through February 15). Each student has met high standards of academic accomplishments, English aptitude, and church involvement. For information about Bastin (17 year old boy) and Maria Fancisca (16 year old girl), search Chilean Youth Exchange Program on Facebook or contact coordinator, Cheryl Lafferty at 314-4925 or cheryllafferty@msn.com. Deadline is December 1 and references from previous host families are available.

Salvation Army Stockings - Every year we fill Salvation Army Stockings. The empty stockings are on the UMW bulletin board in the Gathering Room. They need to be returned to the Gathering Room by Sunday, December 3. Questions, contact Kay Smith at 370-1591.

Volunteers for Hopkins Elementary - If you would like to show God's love to the children of Hopkins Elementary School, please prayerfully consider becoming a volunteer. This only requires an hour a week. Call or email Kathy Epperson at kathyne2010@gmail.com or 794-6612 or for information or to sign up.

Thanksgiving Bags - Through your generosity, 44 Thanksgiving bags (our goal was 35) and 42 gift cards were donated to less fortunate families so they can celebrate Thanksgiving dinner. Praise God and thanks for blessing these families.

Small Groups and Meetings

Service of Thanksgiving - There will be a Service of Thanksgiving on Tuesday, November 21, in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm.

Church Conference - There will be a Church Conference on Sunday, December 3, at 12:15 pm in the CFLC. We will be voting on our Nominations Report, budgetary items, and other business.

Around Mt. Pisgah

Poinsettia orders are due *TODAY*. The cost is \$12.50 each and order forms can be found in the Narthex, Christian Family Life Center (CFLC), or Gathering Room. Help make our church buildings look festive for Advent while honoring a loved one!

Angel Breakfast - You're invited to join us for the Angel Breakfast on Saturday, December 2, starting at 9 am! We will have a delicious pancake breakfast, an angel "selfie" station, angel crafts and games, puppet shows, and storytime. This event is open to the community so please invite your friends and neighbors to bring the whole family for a morning of fellowship to start the Advent/Christmas season! Tickets are available from the church office. Tickets are \$5/person; children under age 3 are free. For more information, please email Kay Adams at children@mtpisgahva.org.

Concert Set Up - The Richmond Concert Band will present a free Christmas Concert in the CFLC on Tuesday, December 5 at 7 pm. We are seeking a few volunteers to help set up the CFLC for this popular community event. Set up will begin at 4 pm. Please contact William Marriott in the church office to volunteer.

Richmond Concert Band - The Richmond Concert Band will give a concert at 7 pm on Tuesday, December 5 in the Christian Family Life Center. Refreshments will be served after the concert. If you can make or bring cookies or brownies or help with clean-up, please visit the sign-up genius on the website. Thank you!

The November/December newsletter can be found on the website. Printed copies are located in the Narthex, CFLC Kiosk, and Gathering Room.

Want to know more about what is going on at Mt. Pisgah? Weekly e-mails are sent with information about upcoming events and mission opportunities. To be added to the distribution list, please contact William Marriott in the church office at office@mtpisgahva.org.

From the Trustees - All of us want Mt. Pisgah to be a welcoming, open, and safe place to worship, play and learn. In light of recent events, the Trustees have decided to begin a review and assessment of our vulnerability and safety. Are there simple steps we can take to improve our security while remaining the warm and open church we enjoy? If you would like to share your thoughts, concerns and ideas, please contact Gwen Turbeville at 379-3671 or email gsturba@aol.com or leave a note in the Trustees mailbox.

Altar Flowers - The 2017 flower signup sheet is located in the Narthex. There is currently an opening for Sunday, November 26. 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.

Joni Baker
Dave Barnes
Kaila Blackburn
Nelson Bowen
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
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
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 celebration of our grandchildren - Samuel Crockett, Annabelle and Jonathan Philp, by Joe and Pat Crockett.



This morning at the 11:00 am service, Byron Yankowsky will receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

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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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
November 19, 2017
Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude 11:00

Give Thanks

Youth Hand Bell Choir

* Call to Worship

Leader: Lord, be with us when our lives seem embedded in sorrow and sadness.

People: Lord, have mercy on us.

Leader: Open our hearts to receive your healing grace.

People: Prepare us to be children of the light rather than dwellers in darkness.

Leader: Throughout all our days, you have been with us.

People: Be with us again. Remind us of your presence and healing mercy. Amen.

* Hymn No. 144

This is My Father's World

* We Affirm Our Faith

Leader: Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

People: We believe and trust.

Leader: Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

People: We believe and trust.

Leader: Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

People: We believe and trust.

Leader: This is the faith of the Church.

People: This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 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 11:00 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* Arr. Mark Hayes

Scripture p. 120** *Acts 2:42-47*

Children's Moment 11:00

* Hymn No. 571 *Go, Make of All Disciples*

Message *The Church Getting Busy* Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

Leader: In the midst of our thanksgiving, let us pause in silence to recall how we so often lose sight of the gifts of each day and of their Giver.
(a moment of silence)
O God, we know that we forget about you, we forget to love you, we forget to help our neighbors, we forget to thank you.

People: Forgive us. Grant us clear minds to know you, new hearts to love you, strong hands to serve you. Help us to live this day, this week, and always so that our whole life is a thanksgiving to you. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sacrament of Baptism 11:00

A Season of Thanksgiving: Children and Youth

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. 572 *Pass it On*

* Dismissal and Benediction

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able*

*** New Testament page number in the pew Bibles*

Numbers 1-904 are found in the red United Methodist Hymnal

Numbers 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 Body of Christ "Revived"

Early Christians lived, fellowshiped and prayed together, apart from the culture in which they lived, meeting in small groups in individual homes. They stood out as different, taught by the apostles and transformed by the power of the Spirit. They had surrendered their lives to Christ and lived Christ's message in their words and deeds. They were unified in the belief that Jesus was God's son and the only path to a personal relationship with God. They were characterized by joyfulness, love, fearless and active participation in life, and were known for sacrificial giving to the needy—all in the midst of a hurting, apathetic, threatened and hopeless population. Two of the differences that attracted people were the promise of eternal life and salvation through grace for all believers—neither offered by any other faith. They doggedly adhered to Christ's teaching but, even more importantly, they put that teaching into action. Their active, energized lives within small bodies accomplished the seemingly impossible—the worldwide spread of Christianity, changing the world and history in the process. The Church of England in John Wesley's day had become ineffective and lacked vitality, leaving the common people without a meaningful religious experience, and his early goal was not to establish a new denomination, but to revive his church. Wesley's early church communities mirrored those of the early Christians, as he hoped to restore or recreate an authentic, primitive Christian community. They met in small societies and classes, meeting weekly to pray, read the Bible, discuss their spiritual lives, and collect money for charity to, as Wesley often put it, "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." Wesley's movement was reminiscent of the ministry of Jesus, with ministries of mercy, justice and evangelism among the common people, especially the poor and those in physical, material or spiritual need, giving them a new sense of identity and belonging, and enthusiasm was a characteristic of the Wesleyan movement. It is through the church that God takes people with different personalities and gifts and of different races, ethnicities and locations and unifies them as a single body, equipping them to care for each other and reach out to a world in need of practical help and loving care and introduce them to Christ's message.

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - What does it mean to be part of the Body of Christ? The early church had characteristics that made it unique to the dominant culture. Its followers were devoted to certain things and had all things in common.

Next Sunday - What does it mean to be part of the Body of Christ? Many struggle with this passage of scripture. It is viewed as antiquated and out of step with the times. Yet, it paints a beautiful picture of how Christ views and loves the church.



Scripture for November 26, 2017
The scripture for next Sunday is shown here with its QR Code. Ephesians 5:21-33

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, November 19

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 Youth Choir - Music Room
4:00 pm Youth Group- CFLC & 301-303
5:00 pm Youth Band - CFLC

Monday, November 20

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 217 & 303
10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair Cosby's Home
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
7:30 pm Staff Parish - 303

Tuesday, November 21

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
10:30 am Kindermusik - 209
6:15 pm Bear Den 8 - 301/302
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall
7:30 pm Thanksgiving Service - Sanctuary

Thursday, November 23

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 24

Church Office Closed

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, November 25

9:30 am Richmond Scrappy Quilters - 107/109

The Mission Box Offering for November will be given to Shalom Farms. Begun in 2008, Shalom Farms is a nonprofit community farm project with the goal of increasing food security in the Richmond region, particularly in low-income urban neighborhoods. The goals are achieved by providing fresh and healthy produce to underserved communities, providing educational training on growing food, nutrition, and food-based entrepreneurship, and linking community groups to a wide range of food security resources and committed partners including: Belmont Food Pantry, United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond, Camp Westview on the James, Virginia Cooperative Extension, FeedMore (Central Virginia Food Bank), Richmond Public Schools, Society of St. Andrew, and others. Your donations will help grow healthy food, families, and friends.

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—November 12, 2017

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	66	31	236	333

Defying Gravity Update - As of November 12, we have received \$494,084 from 131 families for the Ministry Fund and \$164,594 from 104 families for the Mortgage & Maintenance Fund. Thank you to those who have pledged; we appreciate your generosity.

If you have not pledged yet, you still can. Pledge cards are located in the pew racks and in the Gathering Room (on the window ledge). Through your financial investment, you have a great opportunity to participate in God's work in this world and make an eternal difference. We have been blessed by a generous God so we can be a blessing to others.



QR code for online giving