

Service Opportunities

Tending the Community Garden - Our FOUR raised bed gardens are producing vegetables for Belmont's food pantry. This is a local mission project of the church. The fresh produce is a wonderful gift to those in need. You can help by signing up to weed, water and harvest on Sundays and Wednesdays. No expertise needed. We will be happy to train anyone who is able to help. Visit the church webpage to sign up. If you have questions or need some instructions, please contact Karen Rush at 794-2704 or Jeff Wing at 317-5929 or jwing23114@yahoo.com.

Our little ones need some loving! We are seeking 1 person to serve on our Sunday School nursery care team alongside Miss Tami, our nursery supervisor. You will serve on a rotating schedule, approximately once every 6-7 weeks, 9:20 am - 10:35 am. Job responsibilities include rocking babies and playing with toddlers. All nursery care team members must complete a background check. Please contact Kay Adams to express your interest. Our little ones thank you!!

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; however, the most needed items are blunt nose scissors, erasers, and hand held pencil sharpeners. Take advantage of back-to-school prices at Walmart, Target, and the Dollar Store, etc. 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.

Summer Volunteer Opportunity - Belmont UMC's Food Pantry (BCRS) needs your help on Friday mornings this summer. Helpers are needed to distribute food to those in need at Belmont UMC from 9 am to 1 pm every Friday. You can help every Friday, once per month, or whenever you can help out. You do not need to stay for the whole 4 hours, but we do ask that you stay for at least 2 hours. High School or college students, this is a great way to earn community service points for the coming year. Contact June Adams at 379-0096 if you can help out.

Small Groups and Meetings

The Rebekah Circle will have a social gathering on Thursday, July 26. Any woman, of any age, is welcome to attend and find out more about our circle. We are having a pool party potluck at Lisa Shipley's house, beginning at 4 pm, with supper served at 6:30 pm. Come stick your toes into the cool water even if you don't swim! The address is 13107 Lady Ashley Rd., Midlothian. If you have any questions contact Lisa Shipley at 794-2892.

Around Mt. Pisgah

UMW Reading Program - Calling all readers, you can catch up on your reading this summer by choosing books that are listed on the UMW bulletin board or in our Mt. Pisgah library on the right as you walk in the door. Let Kay Smith know how many books you have completed by August 12.

Altar Flowers - The 2018 flower signup sheet is located in the Narthex. Currently there is an opening for next Sunday, July 15. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

Continue Your Generosity

We're so grateful for the generosity of so many people who financially support the mission and vision of Mt. Pisgah. Your support allows us to partner with God and help feed the hungry, provide help to those dealing with natural disasters, spread the gospel in Cambodia through our sponsorship of our missionary, teach our children about Jesus, and so much more. As we head into the summer months, please remember that you have many ways to give, even if you are not in a worship service. We would like to encourage you to consider automating your giving. Our church website allows you to create an account and set up regular, recurring contributions. Online giving is safe and secure. It's a great way to be intentional about honoring God and being generous. **We now have a new way to give. You can text your donation to either the Ministry Fund and/or the Mortgage and Maintenance Fund** (text to 804-294-3493; in the message, type amount you want to give, space, and then type ministry or mortgage). For more detailed information about ways to give, please visit the church website - click on "About Us/Stewardship/Continue Your Generosity." Your giving matters. Your giving makes an eternal difference.

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 the birthday our grandson, Arthur S. Holland III, and his graduation from Columbia Law School, by Polly and Harold Gregg.

Welcome!

This morning at the 11:00 am service we are welcoming Vince and Lisa Jesaitis into membership.

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 July 8, 2018 7th Sunday of Pentecost



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Listen to the word of the Lord!

People: Help us to receive God's word and direction for our lives.

Leader: Proclaim the goodness of God's love!

People: Let our voices and our actions be filled with your love.

Leader: Come, now is the time to worship.

**People: Open our eyes, our hearts and our spirits this day, Lord
Amen.**

* Hymn No. 103

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

* We Affirm Our Faith

A Modern Affirmation

Pastor:

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true Church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

Pastor and People:

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

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.

Hymn Sing

Scripture p. 220**

Judges 4:1-10

Children's Moment 11:00

* Hymn No. 421

Make Me a Captive, Lord

Sermon Series - *Top 10 Women of the Bible*

Message

Deborah (#8)

Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Reception of New Members 11:00

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. 575

Onward, Christian Soldiers

* 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.

Deborah—Chosen by God to Lead

Deborah was a judge, ruling the Israelites in the Old Testament days before kings were anointed. Deborah was also a prophetess, having the ability to discern the mind and purpose of God and to declare it to others. The divine inspiration of prophets and prophetesses was the medium used by God at this time in biblical history to reach his people with his direction for their lives. The Israelites had endured 20 years of enslavement and merciless treatment by the Canaanites because of their faithlessness, but finally turned back to the one true God, pleading for deliverance. God responded to the despair of his people under the rule of Jabin, king of Canaan, and provided a leader in Deborah to deliver them from oppression, following their repentance. She sent for an experienced leader, Barak, and relayed to him God's instruction to lead an army against Sisera, commander of Jabin's army—and God guaranteed victory. He was to lead a volunteer force of Israelites up Mount Tabor, while Sisera would be lured into the valley below, through which the Kishon River flowed. Barak, lacking faith to engage Sisera alone, agreed if Deborah would accompany him. There, greatly outnumbered, Barak led his men down the mountain and, in a God-sent violent rainstorm, swept down on Sisera's army—900 chariots useless on flooded ground—and chased them until all were destroyed. Sisera fled on foot and found refuge in the tent of Jael, wife of Heber, an ally of Jabin. She initially feigned hospitality, but then, while Sisera slept, crept up on him and violently murdered him, an act we assume was in obedience to God's will. When Barak insisted that Deborah accompany him to the battle, she told him that, in that case, Sisera would be delivered into a woman's hands. He undoubtedly thought Deborah was that woman. However, it was the fearless Jael who took Sisera's life, ushering in a 40-year period of peace for the Israelites in Canaan. Deborah and Jael are examples of faithful women who were chosen by God to fulfill vital roles in his plan to free his people—submitting unquestioningly to his will and zealously acting to accomplish his purpose, without putting conditions on their obedience. God's enemies will perish, but those who serve him to defeat evil—in whatever form it appears—will prosper. God expects us to always be open and available to following unquestioningly the urgent voice of the Spirit in our lives.

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - It has been said "never judge a book by its cover." Deborah knew what it was to be judged by others. She knew the sting of being dismissed. But in her resided gifts and abilities that God found a way for her to live out.

Next Sunday - Tragedy can cloud our vision. But faith finds a way to bring us the clarity we need. Instead of staying in a place of confusion and frustration, Martha reaches for hope found in the resurrection.



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

Scripture for July 15, 2018
John 11:17-27

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, July 8

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, July 9

9:30 am Rolling River Rampage
Vacation Bible School
10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair
Cosby's Home
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
6:30 pm Worship Branch - 107/109

Tuesday, July 10

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer
Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
9:30 am Rolling River Rampage
Vacation Bible School
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall

Wednesday, July 11

9:30 am Rolling River Rampage
Vacation Bible School
7:00 pm Mission Branch - 214
7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC

Thursday, July 12

9:30 am Rolling River Rampage
Vacation Bible School
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, July 13

9:30 am Rolling River Rampage
Vacation Bible School
10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall

The Mission Box Offering for July is for CARITAS. Its mission is to provide immediate assistance to those in need through the help of over 185 congregations in the Richmond area. Through its three programs – Shelter, Furniture Bank, and Works – CARITAS provides material needs, shelter, food, job training, and school enrollment for children of CARITAS recipients. The final goal is to break the cycle of homelessness and restore stable, productive lives. Mt. Pisgah will host CARITAS August 11-17. Please give to this important local mission and participate in hosting and welcoming our families in August. 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 CARITAS.

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—July 1, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	68	45	141	254

As of June 30, we have received \$373,814 for the 2018 Ministry Fund budget. Expenses through June total \$354,022 giving us a surplus of \$19,792.

The 2018 Mortgage & Maintenance Fund budget has received \$107,468. This has covered our mortgage payments with the extra principal payments and \$22,649 has been added to the maintenance fund this year.



QR code for online giving