

Service Opportunities

UMCOR Baby Layette Kits - Mt. Pisgah UMC will be collecting for the UMCOR Baby Layette Kits until February 18. A detailed list of requested items is available in the Gathering Room. Place your donations by February 18 in the labeled bin in the Gathering Room. If you have any questions, contact June Adams at jpasea4ever@gmail.com or 379-0096. Thank you for your donations!

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.

The Worship Branch is looking for assistance with several areas of Worship. If you are looking for a way to become involved at our church, get to know more of the people and more importantly assist in making worship at Mt Pisgah meaningful. We are currently looking for Acolyte Coordinator, Scripture Reader Coordinator, and Arise Service Altar Coordinator. Contact Brenda Sizer at brendasizer@yahoo.com if you are interested in becoming involved in one of these areas.

Small Groups and Meetings

Rebekah Circle will be meeting Thursday, February 8 at 7 pm in room 107/109.

Please join the United Methodist Women on Saturday, February 10, for their General Meeting. The meeting will be held in Room 107/109 beginning at 10 am. Facilitator Kristin Blankenship will lead us in an activity to nurture your spirit and creativity. Come, fellowship with us and enjoy and hear an inspirational message. All are welcome! For more details, please see one of the UMW Circle Leaders - Shirley Williams (shirleyW8@verizon.net), Kay Smith (ksbridge@comcast.net), or Sherry Pitt (earlsherry@aol.com).

Please join us for a church wide luncheon on Sunday, February 11 at 12:15 pm in the Christian Family Life Center to celebrate Mt. Pisgah's successes during 2017 and hear what's planned for 2018. Additionally, immediately following the luncheon celebration will be the annual Nominations & Leadership Development Orientation Meeting. All are welcome to attend to learn more about Mt. Pisgah's various committees and branches and their roles in supporting Mt. Pisgah. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Fried chicken and drinks will be provided. See you there!

New Grief Sharing Group Forming - Our grief is personal—our feelings of loss. Our mourning is personal—what we do to express those feelings. This 8-session group will meet starting February 11 from 6 to 7:30 pm. Contact Clair Cosby for further information at dr.clair@comcast.net, or 501-6961. Please call Clair to let her know if a different weekday or time would be more convenient.

Hearts of Justice Tea on February 17 at Ramsey Memorial UMC - The speaker this year is Rev. Ben Campbell. Rev. Campbell is an Episcopal priest who for decades has been a champion of racial reconciliation, social justice, and ecumenical activities in Richmond. Registration will be at 9:30 am with the program from 10 am until 12 pm. More information is located on the UMW Bulletin Board in the Gathering Room.

Upcoming Bible Study for Lent: Made for a Miracle - Join us each Wednesday beginning February 21 in room 107/109 at 11 am and 6:30 pm during the Season of Lent for a new study entitled *Made for a Miracle* by Mike Slaughter. We are going to explore some of the great miracle stories in the Bible. Visit the church webpage to sign up. Study books will be available beginning February 14.

The Spring Tea will be held Saturday, March 10, beginning at 3 pm. Ladies and girls of all ages are invited to join us for this wonderful afternoon of fellowship. More information coming soon! If you would like to host a table for the tea please contact Kay Adams at children@mtpisgahva.org.

Around Mt. Pisgah

Altar Flowers - The 2018 flower signup sheet is located in the Narthex. There is a current opening for March 4. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

The next JB Hall future town hall meeting will be Sunday, February 18 at 12:15 pm in the sanctuary. At this meeting the JB Future Committee will provide answers to some questions raised at the last town hall. Further discussion and ideas are welcome and encouraged.

Congregational Luncheon - Our annual covered dish gathering for patients from McGuire Hospital will be held on Sunday, February 25. We will be honoring veterans from the spinal cord injury unit and Guitars for Vets Ministry will serenade us. Contact Mike Lewandowski at 512-6769 with any questions or how to help.

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
Fran 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
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, Fort Lee
Spec Jason Zinn, Army, Fort Bragg



The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our son, Brent Hawkins who would have been 36 on February 7, by Janet and Richard Hawkins and family.



The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of our 73rd wedding anniversary on February 6, by Fran and Bill Fortner.

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
February 4, 2018
4th Sunday after Epiphany



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude 11:00

Fanfare of Praise

Frier

* Call to Worship

Leader: How wonderful it is to sing our praises to God!

People: Praise the Lord who gathers us together.

Leader: God's mercy is given generously to all in need.

People: We are never out of the reach of God's love.

Leader: Come, worship and celebrate. God is reaching out to you this day!

People: Praise be to God who continually heals and forgives us. Amen.

* Hymn No. 327

Crown Him with Many Crowns

* 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.

Proclamation and Response

Anthem 8:15 Kumbaya Arr. Paul Sjolund
 11:00 Rejoice, the Lord is King Ingram
 Scripture NT p. 48** Genesis 50:15-21
 Children's Moment 11:00
 * Hymn No. 2016 Glorify Thy Name
 Message An Inch at a Time Bob Cooper
 We Make our Confession

We know who you are, O Christ; you are the one who silences demons and casts out evil spirits; you are the one who creates new life out of utter chaos. We know who you are, O Christ. Forgive us, we pray, when we act otherwise. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

* The Peace
 Receiving our Tithes and Gifts
 Offertory
 * Offering Response No. 94 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
 * Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving No. 2257 B, C, D
 Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
 Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord
 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer
 Giving the Bread and the Cup
The serving team at the far left has gluten-free elements
 Prayer following Holy Communion

We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn No. 389 Freely, Freely
 *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.

Sharing the Light of New Life

Following his baptism, Jesus began to choose disciples to become the leaders of his church. His first few choices were fishermen, but then he astonished everyone by choosing Levi, a tax collector. Tax collectors, called publicans, were entrusted with collecting the taxes due to the emperor to administer the empire-oppressors of the Jews. Most publicans were Jews, and were considered traitors for extorting money for the enemy. Licensed to collect taxes, they submitted an established amount to the government, and then kept the remainder, leading to much corruption and abuse, since most took much more than was due. Levi followed Jesus around when he spoke to crowds, because he could walk up to people and collect taxes from them as they were gathered to listen to Jesus' message. Jesus, knowing that Levi had been affected by his message and was open to receive it, approached him and said, "Follow me", and Levi-called Matthew after his conversion--immediately walked away from his lucrative job. His acceptance by Jesus was the totally unexpected opening of a door to salvation--a light dawning in the darkness of his sinful life. Both the Pharisees and Jesus' followers were outraged by this choice, especially when Levi threw a party to honor Jesus and invited all of his friends, mostly fellow publicans--the only friends he would have had. Jesus saw the publicans as spiritually sick people--sinners to be healed. He dined with sinners to bring the light to those who dwelled in darkness. Jesus always saw the potential in unlikely people and wasn't concerned with society's disapproval. When the publicans came to be baptized, he rebuked them for their immoral practices, telling them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." (Luke 3:13), but He extended love and forgiveness to them. This was a lesson for the self-righteous, to whom Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you" (Mt 21:31), because they were open to the enlightenment of his message of salvation. This showed that everyone was worthy of salvation and--through acceptance, love and instruction--could be transformed and inspired to spread Christ's light to others. We are to share the good news of the gospel with those who most need it. True conversion is found in serving others, not ourselves. We are to "serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Gal 5:13-14). If we all did this, the light of Christ would grow exponentially.

Marty Hines

Ash Wednesday Service & Soup Dinner

There will be two opportunities for worship on Ash Wednesday, February 14.

1:00 pm in the Chapel
 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary

The youth will be hosting a soup dinner from 5:30 to 7 pm in the CFLC. We will take up a love offering, and proceeds will benefit our 2018 summer mission trip to Pittsburgh. Join us for some delicious homemade soups!



Worship at MPUMC Today - Many of us carry burdens. We have wounds that are not seen. How do we forgive those who have injured us? Are we supposed to simply forget about it? Forgiving others can take time.

Next Sunday - Sometimes things paralyze us. Can faith free us? Can we let go - of our worries, of our concerns for others, of our insecurities - and trust God to meet our needs?



The scripture for next Sunday is shown here with its QR Code. Scripture for February 11, 2018 Mark 2:1-12

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, February 4

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
 2:00 pm Youth Band - CFLC
 3:00 pm Youth Choir - Music Room
 4:00 pm Cub Scouts Den 8 - JB Hall
 5:00 pm Youth Super Bowl Party - Amy Crisp's Home (note the change)

Monday, February 5

9:00 am UMW Puppet Practice - 304
 10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair Cosby's Home
 11:00 am Staff Meeting - 303
 4:30 pm Upward Basketball Practice - CFLC
 6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
 6:30 pm Girl Scout Leaders - 107/109
 6:30 pm Trustees Branch - 214
 7:30 pm ARISE Design Team - 303

Tuesday, February 6

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
 6:15 pm Bear Den 8 - 107/109
 6:30 pm Troop 876 Den 12 - 303
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall
 7:00 pm JB Hall Future Committee - 214

Wednesday, February 7

9:00 am UMW Puppet Practice - 304
 11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study - 107/109
 6:00 pm Carol Bells - 206
 6:00 pm Cherub Choir - 209
 6:00 pm Youth Bells - Music Room
 6:15 pm Cub Scouts Pack 876 - JB Hall
 6:30 pm Wednesday Bible Study - 107/109
 6:45 pm KidzJaM - 211
 6:45 pm ECHO - 301/302
 7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Music Room

Thursday, February 8

6:00 pm Den 2 Pack 876 - 214
 6:15 pm Tiger Den 4 - CFLC & 301
 7:00 pm Thursday Night Small Group - Kirns' Home
 7:00 pm Chancel Bells - Music Room
 7:00 pm Rebekah Circle - 107/109
 8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, February 9

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall
 10:30 am Prayer Group - Clair Cosby's Home
 4:30 pm Upward Basketball Setup - CFLC, 301-304
 5:30 pm Drama Kids - 107/109
 6:00 pm Epiphany Team - JB Hall & Chapel

Saturday, February 10

8:00 am Upward Basketball Games - CFLC 301-304
 10:00 am UMW General Meeting - 107/109

The Mission Box Offering for February is for Heart Havens. This non-profit organization was created in 1996 by the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Heart Havens supports men and women with intellectual disabilities by building and operating 12 group homes throughout Virginia. Please help support this mission in your own backyard by donating, volunteering, or advocating for Heart Havens. Please make out checks to Mt. Pisgah UMC and put Heart Havens in the memo. For more information: www.hearthavens.org | 804-237-6097 | info@hearthavens.org

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—January 28, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	73	44	167	284

Year-End Report from Finance Branch: Mt. Pisgah ended 2017 favorably receiving \$775,832 for the Ministry Fund while expenses totaled \$728,965. This created a surplus that allowed us to send an additional payment to the Conference for our 2017 apportionments. Mt. Pisgah was able to pay 93% (\$120,773) of our District and Conference apportionments for 2017. The Mortgage & Maintenance Fund received \$211,595 for 2017. All mortgage expenses were paid and \$33,520 was placed in the Maintenance Fund. The amount pledged for 2017 was \$561,888 for the Ministry Fund and \$212,776 for the Mortgage & Maintenance Fund.

The 2018 budget is \$750,000 for the Ministry Fund and so far we have \$558,044 pledged. For the Mortgage & Maintenance Fund the 2018 budget is \$221,748 and we have \$193,724 pledged.