

The Easter flowers were given to the glory of God and

In Memory of:

Bill & Joanne Cooper by Bob Cooper
Bob Duff by Delphine Duff
Brent Hawkins by Richard & Janet Hawkins & family
Carl, Mavis & Ronnie Edwards by Jimmy & Loyce Edwards
Carol Porter Johnson by Kaye & Mark
Clayton & Helen Gentry by David & Jan Bradley
David and Frances Crockett by Joe & Pat Crockett, grandchildren & great-grandchildren
Dennis Daniel by Kaye, Mark & Denise
Earl R. Pitt by Sherry Pitt & family
Evalyn Holliday by Sheryl & Dave Irby
Fran Fortner by Marie & George Strack
Frances Fortner by Bill Fortner
Fred Balarz by Mary Ellen
George, Martha & Bob Appleman by Jimmy & Loyce Edwards
Helen M. Welsh by Dave & Vickie Botkin
Irving Packett, Sr., by Kaye & Mark
Mary P. Botkin by Dave & Vickie Botkin
Mildred R. Norman by Gene Norman
Milton Cheatham by Marjorie Cheatham
Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Evans & Harold Wildman by Don & Anita Wildman
My parents, Grace & James Adams, by Marjorie Cheatham
Our grandparents by Greg & Nicole Brown
Patsye & Carroll Irby by Sheryl & Dave Irby
Russell & Nellie Bailey by Joe & Pat Crockett, grandchildren & great-grandchildren

In Honor of:

Bill Smith by Kay Smith
Elizabeth Gundlach by Mark, Kirby & Sarah Gundlach
Kay Adams by Children's Ministry
Marjorie Cheatham by Kaye, Denise & families
My four children: Kaye, Denise, Gaye & Faye & their families by MaMa
Our children & grandchildren by Kaye and Mark
Our parents by Greg & Nicole Brown
Tom, Stephanie, Elena & Freddie Douglas by Mom/Granny



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

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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 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
 April 1 2018
 Easter Sunday



Gathering for Worship

Welcome
 Prelude *Rejoice! He is Risen!* Mocklebust
 * Call to Worship
 Leader: Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope. Christ is risen!
 People: **Christ is risen, indeed!**
 Leader: We run to the tomb to see for ourselves, and it is true. Christ is risen!
 People: **Christ is risen, indeed!**
 Leader: We hear a voice call our name, and we know our risen Lord is with us now and always.
 People: **Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed. Thanks be to God!**
 * Hymn No. 302 *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*
 * 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 *Life is Given, Hallelujah!* Nagy
* Scripture p. 114** *John 20:11-18, 30-31*
Children's Moment 11:00
* Hymn No. 303 *The Day of Resurrection*
Message Sermon Series - *Giving It Up* Bob Cooper
Giving Up Religion
Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the good news. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to your ways to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

* The Peace
Receiving our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory *Christ is Risen! Christ is Alive!* Larson
* 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. 322 *Up from the Grave He Arose*
* Dismissal and Benediction
Postlude *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* Smith

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

Christ, the Light of the World

Christ is the Light of the World, and today we gather to celebrate the re-entry of that Light into the world, with Christ's resurrection. The darkness of the crucifixion has been dispelled by the arrival of that Light. Several events of that first pre-dawn Easter morning parallel those of the pre-dawn hours of Jesus' incarnation. At the arrival of the Christ child, the darkness of the night sky was overcome by a spectacular display of heavenly light, amazing Bethlehem's shepherds and filling the Jews with hope, and John tells us: "Early on the first day of the week, 'while it was still dark', Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance." (In 20:1) It was still dark in another way; the disciples that early morning were in a very dark and depressed mood. Their leader had died and was buried, so they were shattered and robbed of hope and hiding in fear, still not understanding that He would rise from the dead. Unknown to them, the real Light and hope of the world was soon to be revealed to them with the rising of the sun. Mary, alarmed, alerted Peter and another disciple, who ran to the tomb and found the strips of cloth used to wrap Christ's body--like the strips of swaddling cloth in which he was wrapped at his birth--lying in the tomb. Mary remained, but the disciples soon departed. At that moment, Jesus chose to reveal himself to Mary, proving to her, and later to the gathered disciples, that he had indeed overcome death. The prophet Malachi spoke of Jesus as the rising of the sun of righteousness with healing in its rays (4:2), and it is through this Son/Sun that the faithful will have light and life in the hereafter. As carriers of the light in this world, we are assured of walking in eternal light. "Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father" (Mt 13:43). The hope that Easter brought transformed the followers of Jesus from despair to hope, from grief to celebration, as it does for us. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life." (In 8:12) Walk forth as children of the Light that will never be overcome! That Light is still overcoming darkness and we can be a part of it!
Marty Hines

The butterfly is a universal symbol of resurrection, whose life cycle begins as an egg, which hatches into a caterpillar, which eats and grows for a time, before forming a chrysalis (cocoon) around itself, within which it is completely transformed into a beautiful new flying creature--the butterfly. Our sanctuary is filled with butterflies today, as well as other symbols of the resurrection on our banners: the peacock feather and glory and flower crosses.

Worship at MPUMC Today - Jesus' rising from the dead turned the entire order of the universe on its head. Death does not have the last word. God has the last word, and that word is Life. Suffering and Death will end, but God's Kingdom will last forever.

Next Sunday - God's wisdom is found in creation. Creation speaks to and cares for our souls. We should return the favor.

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



Scripture for April 8, 2018
Proverbs 8:22-31

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, April 1

8:15 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 am Easter Breakfast - CFLC
10:45 am ARISE Worship - CFLC
11:00 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
4:00 pm Cub Scouts Den 9 - JB Hall

Monday, April 2 - Church Office Closed

10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair
Cosby's Home
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
6:30 pm Trustees Branch - 214

Tuesday, April 3

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer
Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall
7:00 pm Creation Care Branch - 303

Wednesday, April 4

11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study - 107/109
6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study - 107/109
7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC
7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Music Room
7:30 pm Mission Branch - 214

Thursday, April 5

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry - 217
1:00 pm Martha Circle - 107/109
7:00 pm District Roundtable - CFLC, 301
-303
7:00 pm Chancel Bells - Music Room
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, April 6

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, April 7

8:00 am UMM Meeting - 107/109
8:00 am UMW District Prayer Breakfast
- CFLC & Sanctuary
1:00 pm UMW District Meeting -
107/109

Announcements

Shalom Farms Needs Our Help! Buy some beautiful geraniums, which will help the farm provide food and education to the rural Richmond areas! Sign up on the UMW board in the Gathering Room or CFLC bulletin board. Orders are due today and will be delivered Friday, April 6. Make checks out to UMUMR.

Youth Missions Car Wash & Bake Sale - Dirty car? Sweet tooth craving? Come out to support our youth missions car wash & bake sale fundraiser on Saturday, April 14 from 9:30 am to 12 pm (rain date April 21)! Proceeds will go towards our summer 2018 mission trip to Pittsburgh (any extra will go into our general youth ministry fund). See you there!

Upcoming Bible Study: Serving from the Heart - In each believer there is great potential. The challenge most of us face is that we are unaware what our gifts are. Would you like to discover how God has uniquely gifted you? Join us on Wednesday, April 18, at 11 am or 6:30 pm in room 107/109. Visit our webpage to sign up.

Day of Service - Mt. Pisgah's second day of service is scheduled for Saturday, April 28. There are six different project areas for you to volunteer and have an impact on our community. Please use the link on the church's website to sign up. If you want a t-shirt please let us know by April 12. If you have any questions, contact George Hudson at gehudson12@gmail.com.

Friday Fun Fest will be held Friday, May 4. Mark your calendars now and plan to be a part of this wonderful outreach to our Midlothian community!

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.

If you're part of the Made for a Miracle Class, please note the following: Session 5 will meet on Wednesday, April 4, at 11 am and 6:30 pm and session 6 on Wednesday, April 11, at 11 am and 6:30 pm.

The Mission Box Offering for April is for helping more children attend summer camp at Westview on the James. Many families cannot afford to send their children; at least not pay the entire fee. By our donations to the "care and connect" scholarship fund, more children will be able to experience a great week at camp this summer. You can write a check to Mt. Pisgah UMC and in the memo write *April Mission Box - Camp Scholarship*.