

Service Opportunities

Connecting with the Community - We have volunteer opportunities here in our community with J. B. Watkins Elementary School. The school is in need of a few volunteers to help as lunch buddies for kindergarten children in the main lunchroom from 10:55 am to 11:55 am through the school year. Volunteers will help with opening yogurt containers, etc. It is a fun way to help and the kids love to see you there! Visit the church webpage to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Davison at helen.davison@comcast.net.

Souper Bowl of Caring 2018 - On Sunday, January 28, our youth will be collecting funds to support CCHASM (Chesterfield-Colonial Heights for Alliance for Social Ministry). CCHASM helps to care for the emergency needs of the citizens of Chesterfield County, Colonial Heights, Dinwiddie, Hopewell, and Prince George. We will be collecting spare change at all three of our morning worship services, so bring your spare change to spark change in our community!

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 all kits 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!

Small Groups and Meetings

Thursday Night Small Group: *The Problem of Pain*, by C.S. Lewis - Join Deanna and John Kirn beginning Thursday, January 18, to discuss C.S. Lewis' powerful *The Problem of Pain*. We will meet Thursday nights at 7 pm in our home for this relaxed and informal 10 session study. Please contact us at kirnva@gmail.com or 378-5772 for more information. We'd love to have you!

Women's Anxiety Class - St. Mark's UMC (11551 Lucks Lane) is offering a 10 week Women's Anxiety Class, beginning on Tuesday, January 30 through April 3 from 7 to 8:30 pm. The fee is \$100 for the 10 classes. An informational session will be on Tuesday, January 16 from 7 pm to 8 pm where you can meet the two professional counselors teaching the class, learn more about the class, and talk to participants. Please contact Marion Bartels at 314-4326 to register for the class.

Please join the United Methodist Women on Saturday, February 10, for their General Meeting. The meeting will be held in Room 107/109 at 10 am. 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).

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.

There is a Soul Art workshop on Saturday, March 17, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm in room 301/302. Take time to nurture your spirit and creativity as we gather, for our next Soul Art workshop! We will spend the day reflecting and connecting with each other as we use our hearts and hands to make our very own SoulBooks. This workshop is open to all adult women at Mt. Pisgah. Absolutely no art experience is necessary. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. A \$5 fee will be collected to cover the cost of supplies. Space is limited. Please register before March 3. For additional information or to register, contact Kristin Blankenship at twofromjmu@verizon.net or 378-0767.

Around Mt. Pisgah

Got a question? If you have a question or comment about JB Hall and its future, please contact Gwen Turbeville at gsturb@aol.com or 379-3671.

The pictorial directories have arrived and are ready for pick up in the Gathering Room with your name on a label. Extra copies are available for \$10. Contact the church office to buy one.

2018 Offering Envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Gathering Room.

Can you sew? Our childrens' angel costumes are starting to look a little tired and ragged so we'd like to have some new costumes made. We will supply the fabric and pattern; you supply your time and sewing skills. There's no rush - we won't need the new costumes until December! If you are able to serve your church family in this way, please contact Kay Adams at children@mtpisgahva.org.

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
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
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 appreciation of my Mt. Pisgah church family by Clair Cosby.



With sadness we express **Christian sympathy** to Shirley Yankowsky on the passing of her brother Stuart Gordon on December 21.

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 January 14, 2018 Baptism of the Lord Sunday



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: From the waters of creation, the earth sprang forth.

People: From the waters of a womb, God's blessed Son was given to us.

Leader: From the waters of a river, people were baptized and marked as God's children.

People: Praise be to God, whose loving gifts and presence have called us together.

Leader: Let us shout our love to God for God's abundant love.

All: Amen.

* Hymn No. 605

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

* 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

Scripture p. 36** *Genesis 39:19-20*

Children's Moment

* Hymn No. 608 *This is the Spirit's Entry Now*

Message *Sermon Series: The Burdens We Carry*
It's Not Fair! Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

Almighty Father; we enter your presence confessing the things we try to conceal from you and the things we try to conceal from others. We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused, that make it difficult for others to forgive us, the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong, the harm we have done that makes it hard for us to forgive ourselves. Lord have mercy and forgive us through 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

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Covenant p. 50

We Go Forth

* Hymn No. 337 *Only Trust Him*

* 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.

Remember Your Baptism

Baptism is the sacrament of the church by which we repent of our sins and are incorporated through a profession of faith into discipleship in Christ's church. The baptisms performed by John the Baptist in the Jordan River-at God's command-were for the purpose of spiritual cleansing-demonstrating a desire to repent and receive forgiveness, following a promise to turn away from future sin, and profession of faith in Jesus as God's Son. Jesus, though sinless, stepped into the Jordan River, having taken on all the sins of mankind by becoming human, and his baptism in that water was to take away our sin, not his. His baptism for us gave us an example to follow. Since Jesus came as the Lamb of God, to be sacrificed for our sin, he enabled mankind to begin anew-as a new creation in God, infused with the Holy Spirit. The descent of the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, and the voice of God the Father announcing that this Jesus of Nazareth is His Beloved Son, with whom He is well pleased, is Christ's spiritual anointing as God among us and marks the beginning of Christ's public ministry. Epiphany (revelation of Jesus as God's son) is progressing steadily: the birth of Jesus at Christmas, revealing the Messiah to Israel; the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles, through the visit of the Wise Men; and, now, the Baptism of the Lord, revealing to the world the Trinitarian nature of the one true God--Father, Son and Holy Spirit-all present at Jesus' Baptism. New Testament baptism is a forever covenant with God, so it occurs only once in one's life, but, today, we have the opportunity to reaffirm our baptism. God's commitment to us never waivers, but we sometimes need to renew our covenant-to reaffirm our faith and vow support for others within the Body-here and universally-in God's service, where we're needed. At our baptism, we became beloved children of God, purposed with spreading the Gospel, striving, with compassion and love, to eradicate the violence, hatred and injustice that exist for many of God's children, just as Christ always sought to relieve suffering and change lives, especially for those on the fringes of society. As Peter said in Acts 2:38, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit".

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - There are rules. If we follow those rules, we get rewarded right? WRONG! Sometimes the exact opposite happens and it's not fair!
Next Sunday - We pray, hoping for a miracle but none comes. We find ourselves in a dark place and wonder "Where is God?" Are we alone?



The scripture for next Sunday is shown here with its QR Code. Scripture for January 21, 2018 Genesis 40:1-23

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, January 14

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
5:00 pm Missions 'til Midnight - CFLC
7:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Leaders - 107/109

Monday, January 15

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 304 & 217
10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair Cosby's Home
11:00 am Staff Meeting - 303
4:00 pm Upward Basketball Practice - CFLC
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
7:00 pm JB Hall Future Committee - 214
7:00 pm Staff Parish Meeting - 303

Tuesday, January 16

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
7:00 pm Finance Branch - 107/109

Wednesday, January 17

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 304
11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study - 107/109
12:00 pm Walington-Bowen Circle - 214
6:00 pm Carol Bells - 206
6:00 pm Cherub Choir - 209
6:00 pm Youth Bells - Music Room
6:30 pm Wednesday Bible Study - 107/109
6:45 pm Carol Choir - 211
6:45 pm ECHO - 301/302
7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC
7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Music Room

Thursday, January 18

6:45 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting - CFLC
7:00 pm Thursday Night Small Group - Kim's Home
7:00 pm Chancel Bells - Music Room
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, January 19

9:30 am CM Advisors & Friends - 301-303
10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall
10:30 am Prayer Group - Clair Cosby's Home
4:00 pm Upward Basketball Setup - CFLC, 301-304
5:30 pm Drama Kids - 107/109
6:00 pm Epiphany Team - JB Hall & Chapel

Saturday, January 20

8:00 am Upward Basketball Games - CFLC 301-304
5:00 pm Scrapbook Night - CFLC

The Mission Box Offering for January will be given to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund. It is used discretely by the pastors to assist church members who are in need of help financially, as well as members of the community with occasional emergency needs. Please help the pastors with this important local ministry.

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—January 7, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	47	49	161	257

Defying Gravity Update - As of December 31, we have received \$558,044 from 157 families for the Ministry Fund and \$193,724 from 124 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). We hope that all families will pledge so we can partner with God to accomplish great things for his glory. We have been blessed by a generous God so we can be a blessing to others.



QR code for online giving