

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 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!

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.

Small Groups and Meetings

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. Please contact Marion Bartels at 314-4326 to register for the class.

Youth Super Bowl Party - Join the youth for a Super Bowl Party at the Gundlachs' house on February 4. The party will start at 6 pm. Parents, please make sure to pick up your youth at halftime. Boys, bring a snack to share. Girls, bring a drink to share. If you plan to attend, please email Amy Crisp at youth@mtpisgahva.org to let her know. Amy will email all who are coming with the address information.

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).

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

What is most important? In your opinion, what is the most important thing about JB Hall? Please share your thoughts with Gwen Turbeville at gsturba@aol.com or 379-3671.

Altar Flowers - The 2018 flower signup sheet is located in the Narthex. Current available dates are January 28, February 4, and March 4. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

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.

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 Mildred Norman by Gene Norman and family.

Welcome To
Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church
January 21, 2018
2nd Sunday after Epiphany



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: Christ is calling you as disciples.

People: Lord Jesus, let us follow you faithfully.

Leader: You will be led into fields of mission and service.

People: Lord Jesus, where you lead us, we will go.

Leader: Listen for Christ's call to you.

All: We are ready to serve the Lord. Amen.

* Hymn No. 89

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

* 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.

* The Christian Greeting

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



1100 Mt. Pisgah Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113
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*

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 *Bow The Knee* Tom Fettke
Scripture p. 37** *Genesis 40:20-23*

Children's Moment

* Hymn No. 140 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Message *Sermon Series: The Burdens We Carry*
When God Seems Absent Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, we listen to the stories of how you call others to follow you and find them interesting but unrealistic. We believe that we could not leave everything to follow you. We have many responsibilities and excuses which keep us from following. But you are persistent. You understand our confusion and doubts. You continue to call us. Forgive us for the very many times we turn our backs on serving you and focus on our own comforts. Forgive us when we look the other way when people are in need. Forgive us our angry attitudes and actions which hurt rather than heal. Wrap your arms around us, healing our wounds, binding us to you. Help us to follow you. Amen.

Words of Assurance
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. 328 *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

* 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.

Jesus Offers New Wine

On this third Sunday of Epiphany, we recognize another important event occurring in this season-after the visit of the Magi and the Lord's Baptism. This event took place at the wedding at Cana, attended by Jesus and his mother, Mary, and several disciples he had already chosen. We don't know the identities of the bride and groom or their relationship to Jesus, but it appears that Mary may have had some responsibility for the festivities. This event is significant partially because it was the site of the first miracle performed by Jesus-the first time he revealed himself as possessing divine powers, as he approached the beginning of his public ministry. It is recorded in only one Gospel account: John 2:1-11. The empty water jugs, which Jesus ordered to be refilled with water, prior to transforming the water into wine, had been used for ceremonial cleansing of those attending the wedding-part of the Jewish ritual of purification under the Mosaic covenant. In Palestine, wedding celebrations could last a week, and, had the wine supply run out, it would have caused great embarrassment to the couple. John's gospel is very complex, as there is a surface story and a story beneath the surface. It's equally significant that beneath the surface of the Cana wedding lies the theme of the final royal wedding-the wedding of Christ with humanity. Jesus' wine-described as the best wine of all-is symbolic of the new (replacement) covenant to be instituted by God with all believers, fulfilled by Christ in his life and ministry, but not yet fully realized within our sinful world. Within the season of Epiphany, the Church looks forward to the second coming of Christ, when the manifestation of Christ's divine nature will be complete. This miracle implies that the new wine that Jesus provides will never run out; it is a new creation. The old creation, burdened by sin, will no longer exist, and the new creation, enabled by the Holy Spirit, is now available to mankind. In the remaining weeks of Epiphany, the Gospel accounts continue to show Christ's divine power as he brought light into his world. The responsibility to radiate Christ's light in the darkness of our own world now rests upon us. We have received the light that originated in Christ. Matt 5:16 says, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - We pray, hoping for a miracle but none comes. We find ourselves in a dark place and wonder "Where is God?" Are we alone?
Next Sunday - We long for wholeness, to be right with others. Is it possible to let go of the grief, the pain, the resentment we feel? How do we start over?



The scripture for next Sunday is shown here with its QR Code. Scripture for January 28, 2018 Genesis 45:1-3

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, January 21

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

Monday, January 22

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
4:30 pm Upward Basketball Practice - CFLC
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall
6:30 pm Cub Scouts Den 3 - 303
6:30 pm Healing Touch Ministry - 301/302
7:00 pm Church Council - 107/109

Tuesday, January 23

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
10:00 am MOPS - 107/109
10:30 am Kindermusik - 209
6:15 pm Bear Den 8 - 301/302
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall

Wednesday, January 24

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 304
11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study - 107/109
6:00 pm Carol Bells - 206

Wednesday, January 24 (cont.)

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 25

6:00 pm Den 2 Pack 876 - 214
6:15 pm Tiger Den 4 - 107/109
6:30 pm Midlothian Ruritan Club - CFLC
7:00 pm Thursday Night Small Group - Kirns' Home
7:00 pm Chancel Bells - Music Room
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, January 26

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall
10:30 am Prayer Group - Clair Cosby's Home
12:00 pm Preschool Staff Training - 107/109
4:30 pm Upward Basketball Setup - CFLC, 301-304
5:30 pm Drama Kids - 107/109
5:30 pm Upward Basketball Open Gym - CFLC
6:00 pm Epiphany Team - JB Hall & Chapel

Saturday, January 27

8:00 am Upward Basketball Games - CFLC 301-304
8:00 am Upward Basketball Picture Day - 107/109
9:30 am Richmond Scrappy Quilters - 214

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 14, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	72	56	167	295

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