

## 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 2 people 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!!

## Around Mt. Pisgah

**Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School is coming again!** Our second session of VBS, this time for rising 1st-6th graders, will be July 9-13, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Cost for VBS is \$15/child with a \$30 family max; 1 CD with all the VBS music is included per family. Registration will close TODAY; don't miss out on the fun! Please visit the church website to register for VBS. For more information about Rolling River Rampage, please contact Kay Adams, Director of Children's Ministries.

**Rolling River Rampage Needs YOU!** We need LOTS of support to help make VBS amazing for all the kids! Please prayerfully consider how you can help with VBS. You don't have to commit to every day - we can use your help throughout the week of July 9-13! We have jobs for every interest - from crafts to recreation to storytelling to snacks - so don't be shy!! Please contact Kay Adams for more information.

**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 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  
Jeff Mullin  
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 our 52nd wedding anniversary on July 1, by Marie and George Strack.



Congratulations to Melissa and Philip Robinson on the birth of their daughter, Eleonora Winter Robinson, on June 25.

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 1, 2018 6th Sunday of Pentecost



## Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

\* Call to Worship

Leader: Come into the presence of the Lord with thanksgiving!

People: **Serve the Lord with great gladness!**

Leader: Know that God is truly with you!

People: **Rejoice!**

Leader: Come, let us worship the ever-present God!

People: **Let us celebrate God's love for us with song and prayer.**

\* Hymn No. 696

*America the Beautiful*

\* We Affirm Our Faith

*The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Proclamation and Response

Anthem

Scripture p. 19\*\*

*Genesis 24:15-21*

Children's Moment 11:00

\* Hymn No. 362

*Nothing but the Blood*

Sermon Series - Top 10 Women of the Bible

Message Rebekah (#9)

Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful Lord, we are so fearful these days. We encounter anger, fear and hostility, and we feel as though we are about to drown. We want to place our trust in you. Help us to truly trust your mercy and love. Heal and forgive our fears and sins. Open our hearts to receive your mercy and help us to become your disciples. For we ask this in Jesus' name.**

**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

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Sending Forth

\*Hymn No. 2158

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

\*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.

### God's Always in Control

Abraham, growing old and feeble, and confident of God's promise that his descendants would be God's chosen people, sent his trusted servant, Eliezer, to his homeland, in search of a suitable wife for Isaac. The faithful servant was assured that an angel would accompany him on his quest, and, having encountered the righteous, generous and unassuming Rebecca at a well, he felt certain that God had led him to her. Eliezer approached her family, requesting that she depart with him immediately to become Isaac's wife. The decision was left to her, and, without hesitation, she accepted his offer, also convinced that it was God's will. For 20 years she awaited a child, still confident that God would fulfill his covenant with Abraham through her child with Isaac. Isaac prayed to God for Rebekah to have a child, and his prayer was answered with the birth of twins-Esau and Jacob. Rebekah, enduring a difficult pregnancy, had asked God what was happening, and his answer was, "Two nations are in your womb...and the older will serve the younger." Rebekah favored Jacob, the younger, also convinced he would be the better ruler. However, Esau, the elder, was favored by Isaac, and should, traditionally, inherit the birthright and Isaac's blessing. In spite of God's assurance that Jacob would be the chosen son, Rebekah either became concerned that God had forgotten his promise or she decided she should help God by speeding up the process. So, to accomplish her purpose, she convinced Jacob to join her in deceiving Isaac and underhandedly cheating Esau, successfully obtaining the birthright and blessing for Jacob. Her manipulation achieved her goal, but God blessed Jacob because that was his plan, not because of Rebekah's intervention. She was a godly woman, but she didn't trust God enough to wait for God to act in his own time. God had always been faithful to Abraham and Isaac, so they trusted that God would provide, and God delivered a wife and children, all in his own time. Rebekah's human desire to control things overcame her trust in God to provide. Her lapse of faith lost her the company of her favored son for the remainder of her life, since he fled to Rebekah's homeland to escape Esau's wrath after their deception was discovered. There he found love in Rachel, but, as just punishment for his role in the deceptions, he suffered through years of servitude and deception himself before being allowed to marry her.

Marty Hines

**Worship at MPUMC Today** - We seek direction for our lives. Can we be sure that we are not left on our own? Does God's direction come only by an audible voice or can it come to us in more ordinary ways?

**Next Sunday** - 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.

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



Scripture for July 8, 2018  
Judges 4:1-10

## This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

**Wednesday, July 4**

Church Office Closed

**Sunday, July 1**

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

**Thursday, July 5**

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry - 217

8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

**Friday, July 6**

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall

12:30 pm CJW Bridge - CFLC

**Monday, July 2**

10:00 am Traditional Worship Design  
Team - 217

10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair  
Cosby's Home

11:00 am Staff Meeting - 303

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall

7:30 pm ARISE Design Team - 303

**Tuesday, July 3**

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer  
Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall

7:00 pm Staff Parish Meeting - 303

**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—June 24, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	53	35	122	210

As of June 24, we have received \$325 for our June mission box, Camp Rainbow Connection, a week-long respite camp held once in June and once in July for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Thank you for your generous support of our missions.



QR code for online giving