

### Service Opportunities

**J. B. Watkins Elementary School** - On Tuesday, August 29 from 10 to noon we will bless the teachers by helping set up their classrooms. Question, contact Helen Davison at 305-6903 or helen.davison@comcast.net.

**UMCOR School Kits** - Thank you to all of you who are contributing the supplies for the UMCOR school kits. At this time the MOST NEEDED supplies are: crayons, blunt scissors, sharpeners and paper (spirals and notepaper). Please bring your donations to the Gathering Room and place them in the wooden bins labeled UMCOR School Kits.

### Small Groups and Meetings

**Upcoming Bible Study: *The Epic of Eden: Understanding the Old Testament*** - On Wednesday, September 6, we will begin a new study on the Old Testament. Come join us each Wednesday at 11 am or 6:30 pm in room 107/109. Visit our webpage to sign up or contact the church office.

**Prayer Ministry Meeting** - The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, at 5:30 pm in room 214. All are welcomed to attend.

**Richmond District Mini Mission Encounter: A Call to Community, A Call to Missions** will be on Saturday, September 9 at River Road UMC (8800 River Road, Richmond, 23229). Registration will be 12:30 to 1 pm. Program will be 1:15 to 1:45 pm. Studies will be 2 to 5 pm. Mission studies offered include Missionary Conferences of the UMC in the United States (Red Bird Mission, Oklahoma, Alaska), Living as a Covenant Community, and Climate Justice. Registration deadline is Friday, September 1. Registration forms are on the UMW board in Gathering Room. Mail \$3 and form to Richmond District UMW (Rosa Lewis 829 Old Denny St. Richmond, VA. 23231). Contact Kay Smith at 370-1591 for further details.

**New Small Groups Beginning in September** - September 10 from 6:30 - 8 pm a new Grief Support Group; September 11 from 10:30 am - 12 pm Prayer and Bible study of the Gospel of Luke; September 15 from 10:30 am - 12 pm using The Workbook of Living Prayer. Contact Clair Cosby at 501-6961 for more information.

**MOPS Kick Off: September 26** - Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) groups are gatherings of moms coming together for community, conversation, and friendship. They meet to support each other, share experiences, and learn from presenters in the field of early childhood. We believe a MOPS program at Mt. Pisgah will be a great way to invite and support young families in our community. MOPS at Mt. Pisgah is going to meet on second and fourth Tuesdays from 10 am to noon starting on September 26. To register, please visit [www.mops.org/join](http://www.mops.org/join). Use code OX59 (that's the letter O, not the number zero) for direct access to our MOPS group.

**MOPS Planning Meeting** - We are having a planning meeting for our fall kickoff on Tuesday, August 29, at 6:30 pm in room 214. We are seeking volunteers for childcare, hospitality, and to serve as mentors. Come to the meeting to learn more about these opportunities.

### Around Mt. Pisgah

**Parents of College Students** - The UMW would like to communicate with your students throughout the year to help them feel that Mt. Pisgah is supporting them with their prayers and gifts. Fill out the paper that is on the credenza in the Gathering Room in a graduation hat box! Questions, contact Linda Uphold at 794-4209.

**Will you be included in Mt. Pisgah's Pictorial Directory for 2017?** We are waiting for you to sign-up! Currently we have 82 members/families that have reserved their sitting, and our Directory will not be complete without you! If you have internet at home, click on the link in your Wednesday or Friday e-mail notes from Mt. Pisgah to register your sitting. If you are unable to sign-up on the internet, call our office Monday - Friday from 9 am to 1 pm, and William will assist you in getting your sitting reserved.

**Columbarium Niches and Cemetery Plots** - Effective January 1, 2018 the prices will be changing. The price of a cemetery plot will change from \$250 to \$500. The price of a columbarium niche will change from \$2,200 to \$2,500. Questions, contact Dave Irby at [dirby1206@comcast.net](mailto:dirby1206@comcast.net).

**Missed it?** If you were unable to attend the August 23 safety presentation, extra copies of the handout are available at the church office. Special thanks to Red Cross instructor Julie Fitch and media technicians Deanna & John Kim and Elvin Nicely for their support of the event.

**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.

Dave Barnes  
Kaila Blackburn  
Dick Bolon  
Nelson Bowen  
Dave Browning  
Betty Dye  
Virginia Ewing  
Trudy Farmer  
Bill Fortner  
Janet Friedline  
Elizabeth Gundlach  
Lorraine Hesbach

Robin Hoerber  
Warren Hoerber  
Red Howson  
Mac Jackson  
Bob Lucas  
Don Kennedy  
Mary Helen Kennedy  
Sarah Reed  
Marie Strack  
Diane Treadway  
Millie Webb

### Military Members

Spec Austin K. Brown, Army, Overseas  
Col. Stephanie K. Gerber, Army  
Sgt. Benjamin Gregg, Army, Schofield Barracks  
Spec Jeremy Gregg, Army, Fort Riley  
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 celebration of our 46th wedding anniversary on September 4, by Jim and Janet Friedline.



With sadness we express **Christian sympathy** to the **family of Mac Jackson** on his passing on August 18.

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 or Chapel; 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](mailto:office@mtpisgahva.org) - Website: [www.mtpisgahva.org](http://www.mtpisgahva.org)  
Preschool: (804) 794-1720, [preschool@mtpisgahva.org](mailto:preschool@mtpisgahva.org)  
Rev. Dr. Robert E. Cooper, *Lead Pastor*  
Elvin Nicely, *Director of Traditional Music and Worship Arts*

## Welcome To Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church August 27, 2017 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

\* Call to Worship

Leader: God has blessed each and every one of us.

**People: We want to serve God**

Leader: Each talent, each skill can be used for peace and justice.

**People: Lord, help us be part of ministries that promote hope and peace.**

Leader: Come, let us praise the Lord who has called us here.

**People: Let us open our hearts and spirits to God's word for us.**

**AMEN.**

\* Hymn No. 400

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

\* We Affirm Our Faith

*A Statement of Faith  
of the United Church of Canada*

**We are not alone, we live in God's world**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God: We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. AMEN.**

\* 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 285\*\* *2 Samuel 12:1-7a*

Children's Moment 11:00

\* Hymn No. 98 *To God Be the Glory*

Message *David* Bob Cooper

We Make Our Confession

**Thou who art over us,  
Thou who art one of us,  
Thou who art:  
Give me a pure heart, that I may see thee;  
a humble heart, that I may hear thee;  
a heart of love, that I may serve thee;  
a heart of faith, that I may abide in thee. 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. 357 *Just As I Am, Without One Plea*

\* Dismissal and Benediction

Postlude

*\*Please Stand as You Are Able*

*\*\* Old Testament Page Number in the Pew Bibles*

*Numbers 1-904 are found in the red United Methodist Hymnal*

*Numbers 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.**

**Sins Punished But Forgiven**

David managed to disobey three of God's Ten Commandments--coveting, adultery and murder--and still be described as "a man after God's own heart". David was captivated by Bathsheba's beauty when he saw her bathing as he strolled on his palace roof. He ordered that she be brought to him, even though he learned she was the wife of one of his most loyal warriors. As a result, Bathsheba became pregnant. Instead of owning up to his sin, David attempted a cover-up designed to convince the husband, Uriah, that the expected child was his. That plan failed, so he instructed Joab, his military leader, to send Uriah to the front lines of battle and then withdraw his supporting troops, resulting in Uriah's death. God was greatly angered by David's sinfulness and sent the prophet Nathan to tell David a parable of a rich man who, although he had many sheep, chose to sacrifice a poor shepherd's only lamb for a guest's meal rather than one of his own. David, a former shepherd, became enraged at this selfish act and said the evil man deserved death and should pay 4-fold for the lamb. Nathan told David that he was the rich man in God's story. David immediately took responsibility for his actions and repented, so God spared his life, but, as punishment, God caused his infant son with Bathsheba to die, and the 4-fold price David said the sinner should pay was exacted from his family, with the violent deaths of four of his sons, along with other suffering and public embarrassment that befell his family and brought shame and dishonor on him and his kingdom, including rape, murder and the attempted overthrow of David's throne by his son. Later 70,000 Israelites died as God's punishment for David authorizing a census of all Israelites, not trusting God to make him victorious, regardless of numbers--which David repented even before God's confrontation. God forgave David's repented sins, but there were serious consequences for his lapses of moral judgment and sacrifice of others for his self-interests. Sin always has consequences. David loved and served God obediently, faithfully and contritely, seeking divine blessing for his actions, giving God the glory for his victories and lavishing thanks and praise on him--often in his Psalms, becoming the golden standard by which other kings were measured. God knew David's heart, but David's favored position with God continued not because of David's righteousness, but because of God's great mercy and his plan for David's descendants. When God forgives a sin, the slate is wiped clean--forgotten forever.

- Marty Hines

**Worship at MPUMC Today** - He was a man after God's own heart, but he was a man who grieved the heart of God as well. So willing to serve, but so self-centered, a man of faith and a sinful man--David is a contradiction in so many ways. Does this sound familiar?

**Next Sunday** - God calls real, ordinary people into ministry each day. God spoke to Moses through the burning bush, but how is God speaking to us today?

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



Scripture for September 3, 2017  
Exodus 3:1-15

**This Week At Mt. Pisgah**

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

**Sunday, August 27**

8:15 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary  
9:15 am Fellowship Time - CFLC  
9:30 am Family Sunday School - CFLC  
10:30 am Fellowship Time - CFLC  
10:45 am ARISE Worship - CFLC  
11:00 am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary

**Monday, August 28**

8:30 am J.B. Watkins Teachers  
Breakfast - CFLC  
6:30 pm Healing Touch Ministry -  
301/302  
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - Chapel  
7:00 pm Sunday School Teacher  
Training - 214

**Tuesday, August 29**

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer  
Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen  
10:00 am Classroom Setup - J. B.  
Watkins Elementary School  
6:30 pm BSA Popcorn & Peanut Sales  
Training - CFLC  
6:30 pm MOPS Planning Meeting - 214

**Wednesday, August 30**

1:00 pm Pictorial Directory Meeting -  
107/109  
7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC

**Thursday, August 31**

6:00 pm High School Small Group - Amy  
Crisp's Home  
7:00 pm Thursday Night Small Group -  
Kirns' Home  
8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

**Friday, September 1**

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall

**The Mission Box Offering for August will go to CCHASM** (Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Alliance for Social Ministry). CCHASM is a non-profit 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, organization working cooperatively with government and community agencies to care for the emergency needs of the citizens of Chesterfield County, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, and Prince George. CCHASM provides food, financial assistance, and career clothing to area residents who are experiencing an emergency situation which threatens their survival needs. Mt. Pisgah annually contributes 35-40 Thanksgiving Food Basket Gifts to the CCHASM program, and we also give financial assistance to this important effort through the Mission Branch and Mission Box Offerings. This organization is often the first and only defense for those in need in the community. Please give generously to this local mission.

**Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—August 20, 2017**

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
<b>Attendance</b>	76	40	147	263
	<b>Ministry Fund</b>		<b>Mortgage/Maint. Fund</b>	
Funds Needed YTD	\$509,819		\$144,988	
Funds Received YTD	\$490,832		\$135,416	
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$18,987)		(\$9,572)	

We have received pledges of \$561,888 for the Ministry Fund (72% of our target) and \$212,776 for the Mortgage and Maintenance Fund (96% of our target). Thanks to those who have pledged for 2017. If you haven't done so, we encourage you to do so and become a part of God's work in 2017.



QR code for online giving