

Service Opportunities

The Worship Branch is looking for assistance with several areas of Worship. If you are looking for a way to become involved at our church, get to know more of the people and more importantly assist in making worship at Mt Pisgah meaningful. We are currently looking for Acolyte Coordinator, Scripture Reader Coordinator, and Arise Service Altar Coordinator. Contact Brenda Sizer at brendasizer@yahoo.com or 938-8875 if you are interested in becoming involved in one of these areas.

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. Visit the church webpage to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Davison at helen.davison@comcast.net.

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.

Fund Raising Opportunity - The Midlothian Ruritan Club is in need of church groups to prepare meals for the following meeting dates: April 26, CFLC; May 23, JB Hall; September 27, CFLC; October 25, CFLC; and November 15, CFLC. The Club will pay \$260 for 28 plates, set up and clean up. Contact Mike Colley at 467-1498 if interested or if you have questions.

Small Groups and Meetings

The Spring Tea will be held Saturday, March 10, beginning at 3 pm. Ladies and girls of all ages are invited to join us for this wonderful afternoon of fellowship. More information coming soon! If you would like to host a table for the tea please contact Kay Adams at children@mtpisgahva.org.

There is a Soul Art workshop on Saturday, March 17, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm in room 301/302. 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.

Get some exercise and help Mt. Pisgah! If spring is approaching, then it's time for the Westchester Shamrock 5K & Kids' 1K Fun Run, on Saturday, March 17! Mt. Pisgah has fielded a team of runners, walkers and volunteers for the last two years and has won a \$500 prize each of those years for having one of the largest teams. Cost is \$25 to run or walk, \$15 for the kids' fun run, and free to volunteer. You can register at www.westchestersharmrock.com (click Register Now or Volunteer) as part of Team Mt. Pisgah UMC (password: pisgah). Prices go up a bit after February 28, so register soon! For more information, contact Dan Farrell (runners) at dfarrell999@verizon.net or Mary Ellin Scarberry (volunteers) at mary.ellin@gmail.com.

Time of Prayer - During Lent, the chapel will be open each Wednesday from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm for prayer. There is no set program and you can stay as long as you'd like. A handout of prayers and scriptures will be available for your use. As you focus on spiritual disciplines during Lent, we encourage you to come and pray.

Around Mt. Pisgah

A town hall meeting focusing on JB Hall will be held in the sanctuary today at 12:15 pm. Come join the discussion!

Annual Veterans Fellowship Dinner - On February 25 we will again be hosting veterans from the Spinal Cord Injury Unit at McGuire Hospital. Now in its 9th year, this covered dish dinner is one of our best-attended and supported fellowship dinners throughout the year. Members of the Youth Group and Boy Scout Troop 897 will be on hand to lend assistance, and Guitars 4 Vets will provide entertainment. Come on out and help us support these men and women who served our country. Questions? Want to help? Contact Mike Lewandowski at 512-6769.

Altar Flowers - The 2018 flower signup sheet is located in the Narthex. Current available dates are March 4 and March 25. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

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
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 Milton Cheatham by Marjorie Cheatham and all of his family who attended our wedding on February 22, 1992.

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
February 18, 2018
1st Sunday in Lent



Gathering for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome this day to the beginning of a journey.

People: Where will this journey take us?

Leader: It will take us to the cross of Christ.

People: How much time do we have to get ready?

Leader: The time is now at hand for this journey.

People: Help us to be ready, O Lord. Amen.

* Hymn No. 269

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

* 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 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 *Precious Lord* arr. Arnold Sevier
Scripture p. 3** *Matthew 4:1-11*

Children's Moment 11:00

* Hymn No. 365 *Grace Greater than Our Sin*

Message Sermon Series - *Giving It Up*
Giving Up Control Bob Cooper

Prayer of Confession

We have lists of things to do, for all the areas of our lives. Our lives are so time bound and duty bound that we feel imprisoned in them. Now we are challenged by Christ to take a journey of discipleship. We don't feel ready for this journey. We need more time. And we complain and cry about how much we have to do.

Forgive us, Lord, when we place so many "duties" in the path to serving you. Reset our priorities so that we will be ready to commit our lives in your service. Lord, help us to be ready when you call us. Help us to courageously answer the summons you bring. Let us place our trust in you in all things. Amen.

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

* Offering Response No. 95 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go Forth

* Hymn No. 2130 *The Summons*

* Dismissal and Benediction

Postlude

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.

Lord, Make Me A Servant

The term "servant-leader" sounds like an oxymoron, but it is both a description of Jesus Christ's teaching method and a "sometimes" successful 1970's business philosophy. Jesus taught his disciples in the servant-first model, saying, "Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be servant of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:43-45). The highest priority of the servant-first leader is to encourage, support and enable individuals to attain their full potential and use their abilities for the good of the community. That was certainly what Jesus did, meeting the needs of his disciples and other followers, by restoring health to many, helping them grow as individuals, giving them knowledge, a sense of purpose and assurance and freedom to act and to become servant-leaders themselves. He succeeded, because he turned fishermen and other unlikely candidates into evangelists who spread the Good News throughout the known world in the face of immense persecution. Jesus' approach was opposite that of prevailing leadership practices of his day, which concentrated power at the top and stressed the accumulation of wealth and control over others. Christ never sought earthly power or position or prestige. Our Lord came into this world as a servant and remained committed first and foremost to offer Himself as a servant. Servant-Leadership only works "sometimes" now, facing great obstacles, because the world enables and promotes individuals who focus on being leaders first, satisfying their egos, greed for power and need to control and climb to the top. People who possess the virtue, character and courage to be servant-leaders in today's society are very rare. They must subjugate promotions and recognition for themselves in order to lift up others and give them a chance to excel. Few organizations encourage servant-leadership, not recognizing that it will in the long run produce better employee performance, customer loyalty and recognition of excellence for themselves in the community, and, ultimately, result in a more caring world. It worked for Jesus in a hostile environment, and can work today for those organizations brave enough and committed enough to try it. We have the opportunity in this church-Christ's body-to demonstrate servant-leadership at its best. Christ gave his life to give us this opportunity, and we accepted the spiritual obligation to serve Him and others at our baptism.

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - In the modern world, we are used to having control over so many things. We often fail to seek God's will for our lives as we try to call all the shots. God wants us to have the final say in the direction of our lives.

Next Sunday - Sometimes we just can't know what's coming next. As Abraham and Nicodemus discovered, God doesn't guarantee an easy journey. However, we can trust that God is with us, even in the most hopeless of places.



The scripture for next Sunday is shown here with its QR Code. Scripture for February 25, 2018 John 3:1:17

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, February 18

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
12:15 pm JB Hall Future Town Hall - Sanctuary
3:00 pm Youth Choir - Music Room

Wednesday, February 21

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 304
11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study - 107/109
12:00 pm Watlington-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 Pastor's 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

Monday, February 19

9:00 am UMW Puppet Team Practice - 304
10:30 am Caring and Sharing - Clair Cosby's Home
4:30 pm Upward Basketball Practice - CFLC
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 897 - JB Hall

Thursday, February 22

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

Tuesday, February 20

6:30 am Ecumenical Men's Prayer Breakfast - CFLC B, Kitchen
9:30 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

Friday, February 23

10:00 am Guitars 4 Vets - JB Hall
10:30 am Prayer Group - Clair Cosby's Home
4:30 pm Upward Basketball Setup - CFLC, 301-304
5:30 pm Drama Kids - 107/109

Saturday, February 24

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

The Mission Box Offering for February is for Heart Havens. This non-profit organization was created in 1996 by the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Heart Havens supports men and women with intellectual disabilities by building and operating 12 group homes throughout Virginia. Please help support this mission in your own backyard by donating, volunteering, or advocating for Heart Havens. Please make out checks to Mt. Pisgah UMC and put Heart Havens in the memo. For more information: www.hearthavens.org | 804-237-6097 | info@hearthavens.org

Our Stewardship of Gifts and Presence—February 11, 2018

	8:15	10:45	11:00	Total
Attendance	78	49	164	291

Year-End Report from Finance Branch: Mt. Pisgah ended 2017 favorably receiving \$775,832 for the Ministry Fund while expenses totaled \$728,965. This created a surplus that allowed us to send an additional payment to the Conference for our 2017 apportionments. Mt. Pisgah was able to pay 93% (\$120,773) of our District and Conference apportionments for 2017. The Mortgage & Maintenance Fund received \$211,595 for 2017. All mortgage expenses were paid and \$33,520 was placed in the Maintenance Fund. The amount pledged for 2017 was \$561,888 for the Ministry Fund and \$212,776 for the Mortgage & Maintenance Fund.

The 2018 budget is \$750,000 for the Ministry Fund and so far we have \$561,644 pledged. For the Mortgage & Maintenance Fund the 2018 budget is \$221,748 and we have \$196,124 pledged.