

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.

Upward Basketball - The 2018 season of Upward Basketball will begin Saturday, January 13. There are many opportunities to support this ministry. Please consider including this outreach ministry in your thoughts and prayers. Visit our webpage for the 100 days of prayer. For more information, contact Charlie Simmons at csimmons1000@comcast.net.

Missions 'til Midnight is coming January 14 and 15! All elementary school kids are invited to join us for a night full of missions! We will gather in the CFLC at 5 pm on January 14 and end our time together at 9 am on January 15. In between we'll do LOTS of missions, eat together, watch a movie, have a sleepover at church, and much more! Cost for this wonderful time of fun and fellowship is \$5/child plus a donation of a pair of new socks (adult sizes). Friends are welcome – the more kids, the more missions we can do!! For more information or to sign up to attend, please contact Sarah Gardner at rendragg@verizon.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!

Small Groups and Meetings

Thursday Night Small Group: *The Problem of Pain*, by C.S. Lewis - Join Deanna and John Kim beginning Thursday, January 18 to discuss C.S. Lewis' powerful *The Problem of Pain*. Lewis asks the universal question, "Why would an all-loving, all-knowing God allow people to experience pain and suffering." 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!

United Methodist Day at General Assembly Capitol Thursday, February 1 - Ever wanted to know how to create real change in our state government? Ever wanted to know more about real issues facing our legislature? United Methodist Day at the General Assembly is the place for you! We will meet at Bon Air UMC at 7 am and travel to the General Assembly from there. Join us for the briefing on Wednesday, January 31 at 7:30 pm at Bon Air UMC. Registration will close on January 12 and the cost is \$40. No refunds will be available. Call or email Kay Smith at 370-1591 or ksbridge@comcast.net for more details.

Around Mt. Pisgah

Church Wide Luncheon - Please join us for a church wide luncheon on Sunday, January 21 at 12:15 pm to celebrate Mt. Pisgah's successes during 2017 and hear what's planned for 2018. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Fried chicken and drinks will be provided. See you there!

Looking for Suggestions - Do you have a suggestion for how Mt. Pisgah can increase its use of JB Hall? If so, please send your suggestion to Gwen Turbeville at gsturba@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. Our church office will have some extra directories available to those who were not photographed by LifeTouch, and they are available for \$10 per directory, please see William Marriott in the church office Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.

Altar Flowers - The 2018 flower sign up sheet is located in the Narthex. Contact Marie Strack at 379-1281 for more information.

The January-February newsletter can be found on the website. Printed copies are located in the Narthex, CFLC Kiosk, and Gathering Room.

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

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
Nelson Bowen
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 Dot Akery from her family.



With sadness we express **Christian sympathy** to the family of **Thelma Morris** on her passing on January 2.



With sadness we express **Christian sympathy** to the family of **Nelson Bowen** on his passing on December 30.

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 7, 2018 Epiphany Sunday



Gathering for Worship

Welcome
Prelude

* Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come!

People: The glory of God has risen upon you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts and look all around,

People: Our hearts rejoice because Christ has done something new!

Leader: God sent the world the Christ-child,

People: God's love has been made known to us through the life of Jesus Christ.

Leader: Come, worship God, who is our Light

People: May we share the light in all we say and do! May we become God's light in the world, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Hymn No. 254

We Three Kings

* 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.

Proclamation and Response

Anthem *The Lord is My Shepherd* Allen Pote
 Scripture NT p. 34** *Genesis 37:18-28*
 Children's Moment 11:00
 * Hymn No. 250 *Once in a Royal David's City*
 Message *This is Us* Bob Cooper
 We Make our Confession

God, we confess that we do not live as children of light. We dwell on the hard times and the difficulties around us. Though we will say our hope is in God, we live as if we have no hope. We live as if there is no joy. We live as if we have nothing left to give for others. Call us into your light. Remind us that the light has come, that it is time to get up. Remind us that others will be drawn to our light, for we have become the light of the world. The light of the world is in us, and we must hold on to it, and we must claim it, not only for ourselves, but for the sake of others. In the name of Christ, who is the light of the world, the light that now shines in all of us. 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
We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. AMEN.

Sending Forth

- * Hymn No. 635 *Because Thou Hast Said*
- * 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.

The Light of the World

This Sunday we enter the season of Epiphany, completing the Christmas cycle of the liturgical year, which includes Advent and Christmas. Epiphany is January 6, the day following the end of the Twelve Days of Christmas, but the church celebrates on the closest Sunday. Epiphany is the oldest season of the church year, dating to the second century--originally celebrated on the winter solstice, emphasizing the re-birth of light, as daylight increased. The season lasts for six Sundays this year, always ending the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. "Epiphany" means a manifestation or revelation. During the Epiphany season, Christ's divine identity as the Son of God is revealed to mankind, just as his human identity--coming to us as a helpless infant--was revealed at Christmas. Epiphany uses three main events in Christ's life to reveal His divinity shining through His humanity: the Visit of the Magi--which we celebrate today--who, recognizing his divine nature, fell to their knees and worshipped Him; the astonishing events occurring at Christ's Baptism; and His first miracle performed at the wedding in Cana. The remaining Sundays of Epiphany will continue to reveal the divine nature of our Lord in some of His most amazing miracles. Light is the pervasive theme of this season, as the "light"--the knowledge--of Christ spreads outward from the glow of the Bethlehem star. His divine nature was at his birth revealed only to the Jews in the area and some poor shepherds, but soon the Gentiles were made aware, as the Magi returned to their faraway homelands, spreading the news of what they'd seen and heard. Throughout Epiphany, the light of God's glory is seen increasingly in Jesus, until the Transfiguration, when his clothes and face appear as bright as the sun. The light manifests itself in the world's darkness, as God reveals himself in Jesus, and God's glory is seen in Jesus. Man is not the light; at our best, as Christians, we can only reflect the light of Christ--which is our job. The church has throughout its history used the Epiphany season to emphasize the church's outreach and mission to the whole world. The light of Christ is to shine not only on Christians, but through them to all mankind. We are called to continue Christ's work, remembering His words: "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8.12)

Marty Hines

Worship at MPUMC Today - Relationships can be very difficult, especially when it comes to family. Time goes on, resentment builds, and confrontation becomes inevitable. How do we heal from these wounds?

Next Sunday - There are rules. If we follow those rules, we get rewarded right? WRONG! Sometimes the exact opposite happens and it's not fair!

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



Scripture for January 14, 2018
 Genesis 39:19-20

This Week At Mt. Pisgah

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

Sunday, January 7

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 Girl Scout Troop 344 - 107/109
 3:00 pm Youth Choir - Music Room
 4:00 pm Youth Group - CFLC, 301-303
 5:00 pm Youth Band - CFLC

Monday, January 8

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 JB Hall Committee - 107/109
 4:00 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 Girl Scout Leaders - 214
 6:30 pm Trustees Branch - 217
 7:30 pm Nominations & Leadership Branch - 304

Tuesday, January 9

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 - 107/109
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 876 - JB Hall
 7:30 pm Troop 897 Committee Meeting - 217

Wednesday, January 10

11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study - 107/109
 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 - 301/303
 7:15 pm Mission Branch - 217
 7:30 pm ARISE Rehearsal - CFLC
 7:30 pm Vision Council - 107/109
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Music Room

Thursday, January 11

6:00 pm Den 2 Pack 876 - 214
 6:15 pm Tiger Den 4 - CFLC & 301
 7:00 pm Rebekah Circle - 107/109
 8:00 pm NA Meeting - JB Hall

Friday, January 12

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

Saturday, January 13

8:00 am Upward Basketball Games - CFLC 301-304

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—December 31, 2017

Attendance - One Service at 10:00 (172)

Defying Gravity Update - As of December 17, we have received \$546,394 from 153 families for the Ministry Fund and \$193,174 from 122 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