



Mount Pleasant
Presbyterian Church

New Study: *Grateful*

Begins Jan. 16

Get Fed on Wednesdays

Pastor Led



Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

Pastor & Head of Staff

Spiritual Exercises

I will confess at the outset that I've never been very good at New Year's resolutions. It's not that I don't believe in them, or that I see them as a waste of time. I just seem to lack the discipline to stick with them. A great example is physical exercise. Pretty much every year I resolve to be more active, but I tend to lose steam despite my best intentions. It makes me feel a little better to know that I am not alone in this struggle. According to U.S. News and World report, eighty percent (80%) of all New Year's resolutions fail by the second week of February. This year, however, I refuse to be a statistic! This year I will stick with my commitment to get more exercise... at least through the third week of February.

As you muster the courage to hold fast to your own resolutions this year, you may want to consider another kind of "exercise discipline." In 1524, Saint Ignatius of Loyola completed a work he called The Spiritual Exercises. As the founder of the Jesuits, a religious order committed to bold international mission, Ignatius was convinced that his monks would not succeed unless they were firmly grounded in disciplines of prayer and meditation. So, Ignatius compiled a collection of spiritual techniques to be used regularly by the Jesuits. With the help of these disciplines, Jesuit missionaries became elite spiritual athletes who soon spanned the globe doing incredible things in the name of Christ.

A few weeks ago, the elders of your session engaged in an Ignatian exercise known as "The Examen." Through prayer and contemplation, we reflected on times during the previous week when we felt that God was near, and also on times when God felt distant to us. We gave special focus to the way our sin may have kept us from God. The purpose of this "examination" was not to wallow in regret, but rather to let go of things that were standing between us and God. Having started our session meeting in this way, our discourse was changed for the better.

One of the best things about spiritual disciplines is that there are so many from which to choose. Some people pray by focusing on breathing. Others pray with music. Still others pray through painting, coloring, sculpture, or pottery. Fasting is a spiritual discipline, but so are journaling and poetry writing. Daily reading of the Bible is a time-tested practice of faithful people. In short, there are all kinds of "exercises" that you might try this year, disciplines that may help you get in good spiritual shape.

In this new year, my prayer for you is the same prayer that Ignatius often prayed for himself: *"Lord, teach me to be generous; Teach me to serve you as you deserve; To give and not to count the cost; To fight and not to heed the wounds; To toil, and not to seek for rest; To labor, and not to ask for reward - except to know that I am doing your will."*

Blessings and peace,

Januart 2019

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Text Alert Group

Send Name/Phone to jpassmore@mppc.net

SUNDAYS

Worship: 8:15 & 9:45 AM, Sanctuary
11:15 AM, Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall (The Net)
Sunday School: 9:45 am (All Ages)

Fellowship Breakfast

9:00 – 11:00 AM, Fellowship Hall

Childcare

Available during every service, Seabrook
Secure Check-In & Background Checks

WEDNESDAYS

Get Fed: Faith, Fellowship & Food

Resumes January 16

Events, Registrations & News

mppc.net > News & Events

Get fed

faith, fellowship + food

January 16 - April 24

mppc.net/get-fed

4:30 PM: LOGOS Recreation for Children (5K-5th Grade)

Register for the LOGOS program at mppc.net/events. For more information, contact Susan Dalton (sdalton@mppc.net).

5:00 - 6:00 PM: Dinner for All

Jan. 16: Chicken parmesan, pasta linguini w/marinara sauce, and alfredo sauce, green beans, garlic bread, garden salad, dessert; Children: spaghetti and meatballs, celery and carrot sticks, rolls, dessert....Jan. 23: Stuffed pork chop, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls and butter, garden salad, dessert; Children: Chicken strips, macaroni and cheese, fruits, dessert....Jan. 30: Meat lasagna, vegetables, garlic bread, garden salad, dessert; Children: Cheese burger, baked mashed potatoes w/cheese, dessert

5:30 - 7:00 PM: LOGOS Music and Bible Time (Ages 3 & 4)

6:00 - 6:30 PM: Angel Notes (Ages 3 & 4)

6:00 - 7:00 PM:

Adult Study, Grateful (Jan. 16 - Feb.27)

Our pastors will be leading a study based on Diana Butler Bass's book, *Grateful*. Using stories from the text as well as from our own lives, we will explore our understanding of gratitude, the difference real gratitude makes in our lives, and renew a thankful spirit in our hearts and actions. Please join join us!

Middle School Study - For more info, contact Courtney Kraus (ckraus@mppc.net).

High School Rec. - For more info, contact Chris Sarkowski (csarkowski@mppc.net).

6:30 - 7:00 PM: Preschool Bible Time

6:30 - 8:00 PM: Adult Choir

For questions about the schedule, contact Ann Burdette (aburdette@mppc.net).

For childcare, contact Quana Grant (quanag2nd2none@gmail.com).

Thank You from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Below is a portion of a thank you letter for your open hearts and generosity, sharing of God's love following Hurricane Florence from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance:

...Your gift of \$2,093 for DR000194 Disaster Relief—Hurricane and Typhoon Relief—Hurricane Florence on 10/3/2018 is perfect, a blessing from God above in a moment where it is most needed here below. It is a privilege to serve together in a Church that makes such giving reliable and provides constant faithful partnership to our siblings across the world and here at home shadowed by the challenges and changes brought by disaster and war.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](http://mppc.net/news) at mppc.net/news

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Our Missions

LAMB Mission Trip Info Meetings

Jan. 13, 12:15 pm - Conference Room

We are looking for members to be the hands and feet of Christ as part of our inter-generational mission team traveling to the LAMB Institute in Tegucigalpa, Honduras on July 20-27. LAMB is a Christ-centered multifaceted ministry that operates an elementary school in one of the most poverty-stricken areas of Tegucigalpa, a residential home for over 55 formerly abused and neglected children, a community development program helping women in poverty grow their businesses, and a large outreach and gang-prevention program for inner-city youth. Come learn more about the trip at our informational meeting listed above. For more information, contact [Shelley Scruggs](mailto:Shelley.Scruggs@gmail.com) (shelleyscruggs@gmail.com).

Honduras Medical Mission Trip Donations Through Feb. 15, Church Office

Our medical team is traveling to Trinidad de Copan on February 23 to provide medical care and dental services to rural communities in Honduras. We are requesting donations of new reading glasses (any strength), multi-vitamins, toothbrushes, soccer balls, and jump ropes to take with us. For more information, please contact [Leigh Brandenburg](mailto:leigh.brandenburg@agentowned.com) (843-270-7760, leigh.brandenburg@agentowned.com).

ESOL Information / Orientation Mtg.

Jan. 8, 6:30 PM - Grace Hall 220

Start off the New Year by helping our community. There will be an information/orientation meeting for volunteers in our ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) program on Tuesday January 8th at 6:30 p.m. in Grace Hall Room 220. We need assistants, teachers and those willing to help with administrative tasks. No prior experience is required. For more information, contact [Greg Nevers](mailto:neversgreg@gmail.com) (neversgreg@gmail.com, 843-412-7621).

News & Events

Oyster Roast & Chili Cook-Off: Jan. 9

5:30-7:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Oysters, Chili & Hotdogs

Register by Jan. 6 for Discounts:

1. mppc.net/oyster or
2. by cash/check via envelopes located at
 - reception desk
 - Fellowship Hall table on Sunday
 - Pew Friendship Pads

FREE: Children 12 and Under & Chili Cook-off Entrants

Village Concert Series: Feb. 1, 7:00 PM

The 2018-2019 season of the Village Concert Series continues with a concert by Chamber Music Charleston. The performers will be Jenny Weiss, violin; Regina Helcher Yost, flute; and Irina Pevzner, piano. The concert will feature music by Vivaldi, Handel, Mozart, and Franaix. For more information, contact [Jason Pedeaux](mailto:jpedeaux@mppc.net) (jpedeaux@mppc.net).

Giving

MPPC Giving Statements

Thank You for your financial gifts in support of the mission and ministry at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church. Our Finance Department is working diligently to finalize the congregational giving statements which will be sent to you electronically. You can also access your personal giving records through MyMPPC. Once you have accessed your giving records, please confirm that our statements records agree with your giving records. If you find any discrepancies or have any other questions, please contact [Glenn Hair](mailto:ghair@mppc.net), Director of Finance (ghair@mppc.net, 843-884-4612, ext. 240). Thank you for your generosity.

Ms. Sylvia Mwia Musengele >

Below: Katangi Women group members.



BAPTISMS

Isabelle Grace Chaney, December 2

William Dowling McNair, December 9

Annalee O'Brien Townes, December 16

DEATHS

Billy Masche (DG #26) MPPC member, father of Robert Masche (DG #20) & grandfather of Kelley Hindman (DG #21); November 26.

Gary Miller, brother of Karen Prohaska (DG #37); November 18.

Frank M. Henderson, father of Elaine Fowler (DG #47); November 19.

J. Patrick Ford, brother of Susan Ford (DG #27) & uncle of Jessica Hofford (DG #27) & of John Hofford; November 27.

Carol Green, mother of Lucy Davis (DG #41); November 27.

Richard Skipper, father of Elizabeth Huffines (DG #21); December 10.

WEDDINGS

JoAnne Harwell & Stephen Denby, Dec 28

HOPE HOUSE

Gifts were presented to the Hope House by Avis and Jeff Griffith.

In MEMORY of

Glenn Bradley, given by Mark & Shelley Scruggs

Jim McClintock, given by his wife and former guest at Hope House, Dorothy McClintock.

Bosie Carter, given by Fletcher.

Phil Holmes, given by Garner Family Dentistry, LL

ENDOWMENT

Gifts were presented to the Endowment by Jason & Melissa Herring.

In HONOR of

Jim Hollingsworth's 100th birthday, gifts were presented to the Endowment by Dal & Linda Schreck.

MPPC and Daystar University Nairobi Launch Second E2L Project

“Empowered to Lead” (E2L) is a collaboration between the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church (MPPC) International Missions Team and Daystar University in Nairobi, Kenya focused on creating long-term, transformational change in communities struggling to overcome persistent challenges in economic well-being, public health and/or education.

The collaboration involves Daystar University graduate students returning to their villages, working alongside community leaders to execute competitively-selected, multi-year community development projects. Daystar University provides the mentoring and oversight for the participating students throughout their project; MPPC provides resources for infrastructure and other costs critical to overall project success.

The new project is titled “Indigenous improved chicken farming and school health initiatives in the quest for better livelihoods among the rural poor.” The key partners are the Katangi Community (45 miles southeast of Nairobi), Daystar University and MPPC.

The project strategy is twofold: First, to address school health initiatives which expose both the primary school pupils and the local secondary school students to healthy lifestyles. Second, to foster sustainable livelihoods at the community level through economically viable improved indigenous chicken farming approaches and health promotion strategies.

This three-year project will involve working with three schools and 25 groups that will focus on training the community on how to rear the chicken cost effectively, including chicken housing construction, and will focus on compliance with water and sanitation standards, improved personal hygiene and environmental conservation.

One of the lessons our Kenyan International Mission Team learned throughout the initial three-year project was how important it is to have a project leader who can marshal community support, execute the planned program of work, and persevere through challenges that inevitably will arise during the course of a lengthy project.

The Katangi project will be led by Ms. Sylvia Mwia Musengele. Sylvia is a 2018 graduate of Daystar University with a degree in Community Development. She brings to the project experience in community mobilization, training, proposal writing and social work.

As this new project launches and begins to execute, our Kenyan International Mission Team is seeking additional volunteers from our congregation to join us in this exciting endeavor. If you feel a call to service in this ministry, contact Russ Keller (russ.keller@ati.org). We would love to have you join our team.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](http://mppc.net/news) at mppc.net/news



Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

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Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

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Tween Night Ornaments

Our Middle School Youth made goodie bags filled with ornaments and cards to spread holiday cheer to homebound church members and those over 90 years young. Way to go!



Learning Center Christmas Pageant Dec. 11

For More Photos, Visit
[facebook.com/mtpreasntpres](https://www.facebook.com/mtpreasntpres)

