

March 2020

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

# THE PELICAN





# FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Peter Bynum

Pastor & Head of Staff



## Children in Worship

*Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” (Mark 10:15)*

If you have not noticed, we are trying some new things in worship in the hope that our children will be drawn more deeply into this sacred practice. During our 10:30 a.m. services, Sarah Harbin-Coleman and the Children’s Ministry Team are facilitating a special time of “Children’s Worship,” which allows kids to experience “big church” in the sanctuary or the Net before leaving to have their own, child-friendly worship time in Grace Hall. On Confirmation Sundays, our newest and youngest members are putting their newfound knowledge and faith to work by writing and leading our worship liturgies. And, next month, our MPPC Youth Group will resurrect the tradition of having young people lead an entire morning of worship, with high school seniors preaching at all services.

All of these efforts are being made as part of a sacred trust we have been given – the calling to pass the faith of Jesus Christ on to a new generation. For decades, the church watched as young men and women somewhat predictably drifted from the church in their twenties.

However, when those people began to settle down, marry, and start families, most of them -- just as predictably -- found their way back to the church. They did so because they had lived enough and experienced enough to realize how formative their childhood in the church had been. They realized how much they had absorbed just by hearing scripture read from the pulpit, what a blessing a Sunday School teacher had been, or how deeply their faith had been affected by a youth mission trip. Tragically, more and more children are growing up without any of these experiences. As they age, it is highly unlikely that they will ever find the church, because they never learned, at a young and impressionable age, the power, the comfort, and the security they are missing.

I hope we will all remember these troublesome trends the next time we hear a baby fussing a bit during worship, or when a little boy down the pew can’t seem to sit still. That baby is not a nuisance, but a child of the covenant. That little boy is not a distraction, but someone who is forming deep memories of faith and practice – memories that are not built on words, but around the feeling of what it means to worship God. If we are lucky, those children will be back – maybe next week, maybe next year, maybe in ten or twenty years. But I guarantee you this: they are watching us right now to see what it means to be a disciple. So, as Jesus says, “*Let the little children come, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs*” (Matthew 19:14).

Peace,

# Lenten Worship Schedule

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## Fat Tuesday

Feb. 25 at 5 p.m.  
Pancake Supper in the  
MPPC Fellowship Hall

## Ash Wednesday

Feb. 26 at MPPC  
Imposition of Ashes from  
7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Worship service at 7 p.m.

## Thursday Noon Worship Services

Mar. 5 @ MPPC  
Mar. 12 @ Palmetto  
Presbyterian  
Mar. 19 @ MPPC  
Mar. 26 @ Sunrise  
Presbyterian  
Apr. 2 @ MPPC

## Palm/Passion Sunday

Apr. 5 with Communion  
at MPPC

## Maundy Thursday

Apr. 9 at 7 p.m. at  
Friendship AME

## Good Friday Prayer Vigil

Apr. 10 from 8 a.m.  
to 5 p.m. at MPPC

## Good Friday Ecumenical Prayer Walk

Apr. 10 at 3 p.m.  
Meet at MPPC

## Easter at MPPC

Apr. 12

**7:30** in the Sanctuary

**9:00** in the Sanctuary  
(Overflow in the  
Fellowship Hall)

**10:30** in the Sanctuary  
and The Net



# HOPE HOUSE

## Grateful Hearts

*"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18*

"THANK YOU." Two simple words. Yet how powerful when coming from the heart.

At Hope House we often hear those two words: From guests who are saving every penny for their loved one's medical care and were sleeping in hospital waiting rooms or their car until being referred to Hope House.

From our volunteer Caretakers who have witnessed first-hand guests taking it upon themselves to help around the House, lifting the spirits of other guests by praying with them or making them a meal.

From the members of MPPC who went room by room through this 106-year-old house and the

Cottage behind it on the Sunday after Valentine's... learning more about what we do, the guests who stay here, why we volunteer, and more importantly how they can help.

Some expressed an interest in volunteering. Others were surprised to learn that Hope House relies solely on donations, like the Adopt-A-Day program, to keep it operating - and has for all of these ten years.

So once again, we thank YOU – for believing in and continuing to support this ministry aimed at providing a safe haven for people who find themselves far from home caring for a loved one in the hospital.

*If you would like to get to know our many wonderful guests who stay at Hope House and Hope Cottage, please contact Beth Moore at (843) 532-4892 or [bmoore@carolinaone.com](mailto:bmoore@carolinaone.com) for information about volunteer opportunities.*



## Adopt-a-Day at Hope House

### **MAR. 1**

To the glory of God and in appreciation of the volunteers and supporters of Hope House, Given by Beth Moore

### **MAR. 3**

Happy Birthday to my Husband Dick Query, Given by Susanne

### **MAR. 4**

In Honor of our Daughter, Christy Rowe, GiveN by Ken and Donna Widener

### **MAR. 8**

In Honor of my Children and Grandchildren, Given by Beth Moore

### **MAR. 13**

In Memor of Patsy Quattlebaum, Given by Lauren and Jason Haney

### **MAR. 17**

In Memory of Majorie Zurbruegg, Given by Miff Cone

### **MAR. 20**

In Honor of Susa and Bob Fitzgerald For their support of Hope House, Given by the Hope House Ministry Team

### **MAR. 30**

In Honor of Mike and Claire Walsh for their support of Hope House, Given by the Hope House Ministry Team

# CONNECTING TO MISSIONS

## Hope House, a widowed mother, her son, and a Sunday School Class



In the early fall of this past year, a 32-year-old young man with multiple health issues entered a local hospital for treatment. Samuel has been constantly in and out of hospitals as he struggles with the same genetic illness that took his father's life at age 50.

the gills with couches, tables, a tv and computer, dishes, linens, pots and pans, lamps and rugs.

As Nancy would say, with the “awesome love” shown by this MPPC Christian community, she was able to lease a small apartment within their limited income that is close to Mayo and where she and Samuel will not have to live the lonely, nomadic life of motels and short term rentals...but to get a fresh start.

Nancy said, “You’ve given us everything to turn this small apartment into a home.”

Samuel said, “Even when I go back to the hospital, I know I have this home to come back to.”

Medical bills and living in hotels and temporary housing while searching for answers and treatment had consumed all their savings by the time Samuel was admitted. His mother, Nancy, was referred to the Hope House while Samuel was being treated. They had little left, living on her Social Security and Samuel's disability. Then a severe medical issue hit Nancy as well.

With Christ's love in our hearts, even what appears at first to be too big a task to undertake can be transformed into a miracle, when we enlist the help of our Christian community. All we've got to do is to open our eyes and our hearts to see the opportunities around us every day.

Weeks became months after checking out of Hope House with both mother and son in and out of the hospital. Motel rooms, Airbnb's, sleeping in one another's hospital rooms, all became their life style.



In November, Samuel and Nancy had found a program for extensive treatment for his medical problems at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. They returned to Jacksonville with the clothes on their backs and little else. In Jacksonville, they continued the cycle of scraping by, living day to day.

The Hope House volunteer that had checked Nancy in that morning in the early fall had stayed in touch with them and learned of their plight. She told it to her Sunday School class, the Connect Three class. “Connect Three” stands for **C**onnecting to God, **C**onnecting to each other, and **C**onnecting to missions. The class saw an opportunity to serve.



In a few short weeks, the class had committed to donating all the things required to set up a “home” apartment in Jacksonville. Members volunteered to drive a large rental truck packed to



# YOUTH MINISTRIES

Many thanks to everyone who made our Youth Fundraiser a success last month. They say it takes a village, but I prefer to say it takes a church family to make anything possible. Your generosity brought in so much monetarily, but more importantly, relationally. On Wednesday February 12, the Fellowship Hall was beaming with energy from our youngest believers to our eldest believers. How amazing is it to have a room full of generations sharing a meal together? That my friends, is what it means to be a church family. My wish for all of you is to continue that sense of excitement as we enter the Lenten season during our church wide book read of, *Neighborhood Church*.

I am especially interested to see what *Neighborhood Church* means to our youth, so stay tuned as the youth answer some of the difficult questions and talk to friends about this topic. This will be shared through social media and published in next month's Pelican.

Courtney Kraus,  
Director of Youth Ministries



## HOW CAN I GET CONNECTED TO THE YOUTH AT MPPC?

Questions? Please contact Courtney Kraus

### Pray for Our Youth

If you are passing the youth at church, introduce yourself and catch their name. I guarantee you they will be kind and glad you spoke to them. Middle and High Schoolers have a lot going on in their busy world and for someone to take the time to pray for them would mean a lot!

### Chaperone a Youth Trip This Summer!

We are still looking for chaperones for the following trips: (please know that we cannot go on these great trips without the help of adults like YOU and I promise you will get just as much out of the trip as the youth!)

- Spring High School Youth Awanita Trip in Marietta, SC: May 15<sup>th</sup>-May 17<sup>th</sup>
- High School Montreat Conference in Montreat, NC: June 13<sup>th</sup>-June 19<sup>th</sup>
- Middle School CROSS Mission Trip in Charlotte, NC

### Provide a Meal

Every Sunday night we have youth group in the basement and the youth share a meal before youth group begins. If you would like to cook a meal for us please email me directly at [ckraus@mppc.net](mailto:ckraus@mppc.net).

Volunteer to help lead a Sunday School Class THIS Summer

### Become a Youth Advisor

Woah...Courtney that sounds intense! Nope, you are just there for the youth when they need you. You would help on Sunday evenings (that you are available) for youth group and at any other youth gatherings (that you are available). This is flexible, we just need more adults to help grow this awesome program.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## Discipleship

When you think about being a kid in church, what do you remember? For so many adults, they remember adult leaders who nurtured their faith and spent time listening to them.

Who were these saints who showed up with cookies and construction paper each weekend? Often, they were members of the church who had already raised their children or did not have children but felt called to leadership in children's ministry.

This is how many of us came to understand church family, and this is how a generation that may not be currently raising children can impact the faith of the children with whom the church is entrusted.

When God called Moses to lead the Israelites to the promised land, Moses pretty much asked, "Who, me?" Of course, we all know now that he was the perfect person for the job.

We ask that you pray about how you might impact children's ministry through your time and leadership, especially if you are not a current parent/guardian in the ministry. Adult disciples are needed to help lead Children's Worship, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and children's events. You are needed to change the faith and hearts of children.

Sarah Harbin-Coleman,  
Director of  
Children's Ministries



## Family Mission Day!

On Saturday, February 8, families came together to create crafts and deliver them to some of our members who are not always able to get to worship. They enjoyed fellowship and made new friends



with the people they visited, and our children were able to participate in hands-on service. Thank you to all who organized this wonderful event!

### Vacation Bible School June 29 – July 2

Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Join us as we take up the gauntlet and learn our strength in God and share God's love with others! Games, science, snacks, mission projects, and more will fill our week with fun and learning!

### MPPC Arts Camp July 20-22

### Bethelwoods Summer Camp August 2-7

Kids and youth who have completed 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to spend a week in prayer and worship as they experience the traditions of sleepaway camp! Campers are grouped by grade and spend their week canoeing, swimming, learning archery, making crafts, and in Bible study, all in the beautiful foothills of York, SC. Housing is bunk beds in air conditioned cabins! Sarah Harbin-Coleman will be a camp worship leader for the week. Register online at [bethelwoods.org](http://bethelwoods.org).

## Third Grade Bibles

On Sunday, March 8, our third grade class will receive bibles from our church. It is my hope that these be well-loved and well-used! We will be teaching them some skills during Sunday School during March. I also encourage our parents and guardians to help their children, and maybe get a refresher themselves! Here are some easy ways:

- Books of the Bible Games: Write these on notecards or Jenga blocks! There are 54 blocks in a Jenga set, so you'll have to group some books together. Play Jenga as normal, but call out the names of the books as you pull the blocks

- Bible Divisions: Learning the divisions of the books helps us memorize them and understand the contents.
- Memory Verses: Find a list of easy but important memory verses for kids online.
- Navigation: Teach them to use the Table of Contents.

There are lots of resources available, and I can provide other games, challenges, and opportunities for children to get to know their Bible!

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

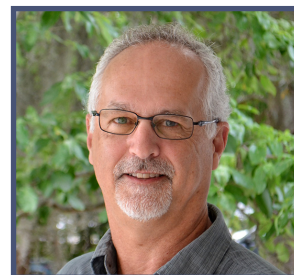
As you begin reading this month's Pelican, many of you (almost 290!) are participating in the Lenten Small Group study using the book *Neighborhood Church*. Through the five-week study, co-author Rob Mueller helps congregations reflect on what it means to be a neighborhood church. While some congregations have changed more than others through the years, co-authors of *Neighborhood Church* believe each congregation has rich opportunities to explore how God might be calling them to mission. This includes Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church.

MPPC has a rich history of mission; part of our identity is that we call ourselves a missional church. We are globally and locally engaged, but we also are a different congregation than we were five years ago. Our neighborhood has changed, Charleston has changed, the country has changed, but MPPC continues to serve Christ through people's lives. Small groups this year are left with a challenge: develop and commit to a new initiative that shapes and engages the lives of people we call neighbor using assets we have in our own backyard – good things that already

exist in ourselves, in our congregation, in the community and in our neighborhood – to better serve others. And this challenge is open to the entire congregation!

While you may or may not be participating in a small group, you can engage in our study through worship. Sermons are focused on Scripture that speaks to the themes of *Neighborhood Church*. You can reach out to existing small groups; hear how they are challenged to be a neighborhood church and the initiatives they are discussing. Pray for MPPC. Volunteer your assets, things you do well, to help serve our neighbors. Most importantly, actively be the Body of Christ.

Dr. Dan Wiard  
Director of  
Christian Education



## Families with Children, Have You Considered...?

With the addition of Children's Worship during the 10:30 a.m. Services of Worship, have you considered participating in 9:00 a.m. Sunday School as a family before attending worship? The addition of Children's Worship provides families an opportunity to worship together, but then allows children to experience worship in their own way while adults continue in a worship familiar to them in the Sanctuary and in The Net. Sunday School offers a chance for young and old alike to dive into Scripture, explore life application principals and shared experiences, and to build close friendships across generations. Sunday School and Worship/Children's Worship is a great way to begin any week and a way to praise God while making a shared family memory.

## MEN'S

## Stepping Up: Calling Men to Courageous Manhood

## RETREAT

Friday, April 17, 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Dinner and Opening  
Saturday, April 18, 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Breakfast, Plenary,  
Conversations, Lunch

Today, more than ever, the world needs godly men. Men who will step up and courageously lead at home, at church, at work, and in their communities. That's the message of Stepping Up. In a world where too many men are shrinking back, Stepping Up gives men vision and tools to live godly, courageous lives.

### Presenter: Rev. Dr. Ralph R. Herbert

Ralph is a retired PCUSA pastor. His ministry includes pastoring two churches in Ohio and Virginia for 34 years, teaching continuing education courses at Princeton Theological Seminary, and leading men's retreats in Pennsylvania and Virginia.

(Topics include Living courageously as a disciple of Christ, mentoring, and leadership. A few of the notable speakers: Tony Dungy, Bill Bennett, and Matt Chandler. The retreat includes 3 major components: short video clips, talks by Ralph, and small group time. It is an opportunity to dialogue with other men the challenges of living our faith in transitional times.)



# WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRIES

Greetings from your Worship and Music Ministries,

Our season of Lent has been full of meaningful worship experiences. We began with our Ash Wednesday all day observance, culminating with a worship service which invited us to remember our mortality as we were renewed through repentance and the assurance of God's grace and forgiveness.

As we continue our Lenten journey be sure to note the special worship opportunities of the season. The Lenten Worship and Lunch Series on Thursdays at noon gives us time to stop in the middle of our busy schedules to worship and reflect on the life and death of Christ. We have joined forces with two of our sister churches again this year.

## Upcoming services:

- **March 5** – at MPPC, Communion, Charlton Singleton, jazz trumpeter
- **March 12** – Hosted by Palmetto Presbyterian Church - 1720 Carolina Park Blvd (up N17)
- **March 19** - at MPPC, Communion, Christopher Teves, classical guitar
- **March 26** - Hosted by Sunrise Presbyterian Church - 3222 Middle St. (Sullivan's Island)
- **April 2** – at MPPC, Communion, Ann Caldwell, gospel singer



## Looking ahead:

### **April 9**

- Maundy Thursday Service at Friendship AME Church at 7:00 p.m.

### **April 10**

- Good Friday Prayer Vigil is held in the sanctuary from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Good Friday Ecumenical Prayer Walk – leaving from the steps of MPPC at 3 p.m. This walk combines some of our churches in the Old Village on a walk which remembers Christ's crucifixion and death through scripture and song.

### **April 12**

- Resurrection of the Lord Sunday – the most glorious and well attended Sunday of the church year. Services at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

## **Don't miss these upcoming concerts!**

- **March 6 – Citadel Cadet Chorale – 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary – Free admission**  
This auditioned choral ensemble is comprised of 19 cadets who come from a variety of backgrounds and areas of study. The concert will include Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus," "Down In The River To Pray," and "The Prayer." Kayleen Sánchez directs the ensemble and our own Jason Pedeaux serves as collaborative pianist.
- **March 13 – Village Concert Series – 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary – VOXIE**  
This dynamic duo will captivate you with ballads and tunes from all over the British Isles featuring Lara Brooksbank as vocalist and Abigail Kent on Celtic harp. Abigail will also share some classical harp solos.

# RAKES ON WHEELS

**Our church's Lenten Small Group study this year is focused on the book, *Neighborhood Church*.**

Co-author Rob Mueller was our guest speaker on Sunday, February 23, during the Lenten Study Small Group Kickoff and Dinner.

As we study, discuss, and pray about how to be a true neighborhood church, consider joining our MPPC "Rakes on Wheels" initiative with our partner agency, Meals on Wheels.

Our spring yard cleanup is scheduled for March 14 through March 28, for recipients of Meals on Wheels and for any MPPC members who are unable to clean up their yards.

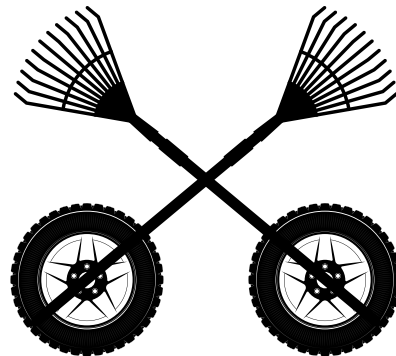
All Congregation groups and individual members are invited to sign up for this rewarding effort. Families with kids are invited to bring their children, giving the children an opportunity to learn and experience serving others in our Lord's name. (Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult).

Bring your gloves and rakes for 2-3 hours of yard cleanup on your choice of a Saturday morning or a weekday, whichever will work for you and/or your group. And to complete the morning's efforts, some groups have decided to find fellowship by putting together a post-work celebratory lunch!

To volunteer, call Alexis Wright-Singleton at the church, (843) 884-4612, or email Jim Ingham at [inghamsc@hotmail.com](mailto:inghamsc@hotmail.com).

**If you need help with cleaning up your yard for the spring, please let us know! MPPC members unable to clean up their yards should promptly call the church to be placed on our work list.**

*Rakes on Wheels!*



**Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church  
Yard Cleanup Project**

*For our neighbors in need*





# GET INVOLVED

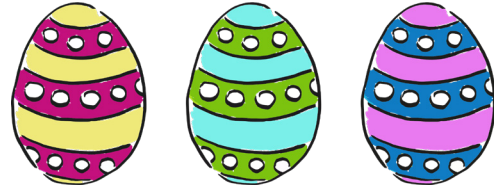


## MEN & KIDS BREAKFAST

FELLOWSHIP HALL | 8 A.M.  
SATURDAYS FEB. 22 & MARCH 28

### MEN AND KIDS BREAKFAST

Give Mom a Saturday morning off and bring the kids along for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from 8-9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 28.



### EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us as we get together on Saturday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for a fun Easter Egg Hunt!



### MEN'S OYSTER ROAST

The Men's Ministry team invites all men of MPPC to an Oyster Roast at Sullivan's Island Fry Shack from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6. We will have time for fellowship, food and fun! This event will also be a pot-luck so bring your best dishes! Registration is open on Realm.

### WALK FOR WATER

In many places, people walk miles per day to get the water their family needs, sometimes from sources that are dirty or dangerous to reach. Water Mission's goal is to provide water solutions that improve lives around the world. On March 21, we will walk so that hopefully others won't have to. You can join our team or sponsor us! Check your eNews for the link to register or sponsor.



### SECOND SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES

The Bridge Builders ministry team invites you to hear from Stephanie Kelley, executive director of East Cooper Community Outreach (ECCO), about the devastating effects of poverty, the stereotypes associated with it, and how her agency works to bring opportunity to the underprivileged in our community. We look forward to seeing you in the Fellowship Hall at 5 p.m. on March 8.

### LAMB MISSION TRIP 2020

Have you ever thought about going on a mission trip, or even better, taking your youth with you? Please join us on an intergenerational trip to LAMB Institute in Honduras. The trip dates are July 11-18, 2020. For more information, contact Cathy Reed (843-696-1210) or Caroline Feller (843-442-7891).





## Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

302 Hibben Street  
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# CONNECT WITH US

## **SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

9:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
10:30 a.m. The Net | Worship in the Fellowship Hall  
10:30 a.m. Children's Worship | Both Services

Sunday School:

9:00 a.m. (All Ages)  
10:30 a.m. (Connect 3 Adult Sunday School)

Fellowship Breakfast:

8:30–11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

## **CHILDCARE**

Available during every service in the Seabrook Building  
Secure Check-In & Background Checks

## **SERMONS**

Live Streaming: [mppc.net/watch-live](https://mppc.net/watch-live)  
Sermons: [mppc.net/sermons](https://mppc.net/sermons)  
Podcasts: [tiny.cc/mtpleasantpodcasts](https://tiny.cc/mtpleasantpodcasts)

## **EVENTS, REGISTRATIONS & NEWS**

[mppc.net/events](https://mppc.net/events)

## **FOLLOW US**



@mtpleasantpres

## **OTHER WAYS**

[mppc.net/contact](https://mppc.net/contact)  
843-884-4612