

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

August 2022

# the pelican



[www.mppc.net](http://www.mppc.net)

843-884-4612



# from rev. dr. de beer

## Power in The Church



Talking about power and authority always gets me going. Although we use the terms in the same sentence, they are not the same.

Power may be seen as physical strength, or as the rightful or legitimate exercise of authority. Someone may have authority, primarily by virtue of the position one holds, and not by physical coercion of power, intimidation, victimization, or bullying.

In the church there can never be talk about power and authority, as if it belongs to someone or to some group.

The disciples of Jesus had to learn a valuable lesson about being important. Maybe it was about power and authority as disciples, which means that it is also important for us to learn from this.

Jesus' disciples often argued about who was the most important. They disagreed, and became angry, and sometimes even backstabbing each other in an effort to occupy the honorary positions in the kingdom (Luke 9:46–48, Mark 9:34–35). James and John asked Jesus outright to have the most important positions in the kingdom (Mark 10:35 v.v.). Maybe they even had their mother trying to sway Jesus to give them the most important positions (Matthew 20:20–21). And who knows why they did it? Was it for the sake of power, and having authority? Or did they want to be important?

Jesus' reaction to the requests of and the arguments among his disciples is noteworthy.

*"You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. <sup>43</sup>But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:42–45).*

*<sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me" (Mark 9:35–37.)*

*Even when they wondered who the greatest in the kingdom of heaven is, Jesus responded, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven (Mt 18:3–5)."*

I've heard much talk about "the people with power" in MPPC. We assign authority to people through specific positions, and having specific responsibilities. We allow people to have power over us, if we have "a failure of nerve" (or "a failure of heart"). In the church there is no place for people who are power hungry!

There is only be one Head of the Church—Jesus the Christ, who must be central in our thinking and doing.

Blessings,

**Rev. Dr. Danie de Beer**  
Interim Pastor & Head of Staff

# connected through mission

## Join our ESOL Mission!

We are blessed at MPPC to be a part of a missional church that focuses on our neighbors here and far away. As part of this focus, we have offered ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes since 2015 with a goal of helping adult students learn or improve their English so that they may participate more fully in the life of our community. We have now served more than 275 students from 26+ countries and 18+ spoken languages.



We are excited to be back on campus (Tuesday & Thursday Nights) with in-person classes this fall, and we are currently looking for volunteers to be assistants for the levels 1, 2 and 3 classes. If you speak English and have a heart for service, you are qualified. No other experience is required!

We will have a kick off meeting on August 30th to prepare for our first class on September 6th. If this sounds like something you'd like to be part of, please reach out to Maryanne Davis at [maryanne.biddix@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.biddix@gmail.com) for more details.

## How ESOL Makes An Impact:

Recently, one of our past ESOL teachers received this email from a previous student:

*"My children and I will be moving to Japan next week due to family reasons. My husband will stay here for a while, so I will work as a nurse in Japan and make money for the cost of plane tickets to the US! All of my three children really want to go back to the US after they graduate from high school in Japan.*

*I really appreciate all you have done for ESOL, I couldn't survive life in US without your help. Thank you so much for all your support. You and all of the ESOL teachers are the best! Thank you again, and have a wonderful summer!*

*- Yoko Takemoto"*

It's amazing how all these years later, ESOL continues to make an impact on the lives of those in our community! We would love to have you join this effort so please reach out to Maryanne Davis, [maryanne.biddix@gmail.com](mailto:maryanne.biddix@gmail.com), for more information.

## Your Endowment Gifts Help More Than Just MPPC



### Our International Mission Partners

In May, the MPPC International Missions committee used a portion of the "Non Local Missions" disbursement from the

Endowment Fund, to send support to the medical clinic in Haiti. Our mission partner in Haiti, Haiti Outreach Ministries, has an onsite clinic that services over 100,000 people with one doctor and four nurses. With this staff, they can see 100 patients a day. When an American team is in town, they can see 300+ patients a day.

For over two years, no American teams have been able to go to Haiti due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. This is putting a tremendous strain on the clinic for supplies and basic medicines. Our International Missions Team sent \$10,000 to the clinic over the summer to bolster critical supplies running short - \$4,000 of the money sent was supported by Endowment Fund gifts. If you would like to read more about Haiti Outreach Ministries, check out their website [haitiom.org](http://haitiom.org).

### Our Local Mission Partners

Recently our church was able to purchase new benches and rocking chairs for the MPPC campus! The money to purchase these chairs was distributed to the Property and Grounds team from a Board Designated Endowment Gift.

We were happy to replace the rocking chairs on the Fellowship Hall porch, but we didn't just want to throw out the previous chairs. Instead of just taking them to the dump, Stacy Hanling (MPPC Director of Daily Operations) reached out to Meals on Wheels and they found four recipients who were thrilled to receive the rocking chairs! On July 18th, one of our church members, Rick Spivey, delivered the chairs to the recipients and said that they were so excited and appreciative!

When you leave a gift to the Endowment Fund, it doesn't just benefit MPPC but it also extends out into our community! For more information, visit [mppc.net/endowment](http://mppc.net/endowment) or contact Harry Smith or Katie Edwards.





# connected through education

## What a Summer!

Thank you all for an amazing week of Vacation Bible School! The children were able to raise and donate \$2,384.44 to Hands of Christ along with a large amount of socks and undies for the children! This is so amazing, and I hope all the children are so proud of themselves for helping those less fortunate than themselves! I hope this instills the importance of Mission work and helps them see that they truly have an impact on the world around them! Thank you all again!

God Bless,

**Jessica Kluesner**

*Asst. Director of Christian Education*



## Children's Mission Morning

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on **August 6 at 10 a.m.** for a fun-filled morning of mission work! We will be making on-the-go meal kits for the children and families that are staying at the Ronald McDonald house here in Charleston.

These families often have to grab a quick meal on their way to various medical appointments or surgeries. We will be putting these kits together for them so that they do not have to worry about finding a meal between hospital visits. In these bags, we will place various non-perishable items such as an entree, side, plastic utensils, and a beverage. We hope you all sign up at [mppc.net/events](https://mppc.net/events) and help instill that love of mission work in all of our children!



## Nursery, Childcare & MORE!

Childcare for children (infant through pre-K) is available for all worship and education times. Wiggle Bags are available for children who remain in worship. These bags include age-appropriate activities for children to do while they are in worship and are available on the child-size coat racks at each Service of Worship.







Sundays  
Nights for  
Children,  
Youth &  
Adults

# Fall Programs

## Upcoming Changes This Fall

Keep your eyes on the September Pelican as fall programs move from Wednesday evenings to Sunday evenings. This change impacts all ministry and allows for a Sunday night church-wide evening with meals and programs available for children, youth, and adults. Interspersed with programs will be church-wide mission opportunities such as Rise Against Hunger scheduled for Sunday, September 25. If Sunday evenings are your family nights, we hope you might consider bringing those to the campus of MPPC and making it a church-wide family night.

## Special Events Coming this Fall!

Sunday, Sept. 11 – Rally Day Brunch, 10-11 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 25 – Rise Against Hunger  
Mission Event

Sunday, Oct. 23 – Mission Event

Sunday, Oct. 30 – Fall Festival

Sunday, Nov. 27 – Advent Workshop

Sunday Schedules	Children	Adults
4:30 PM	Kingdom Choir, Angel Notes	Conversations Interest Groups
5 PM	Dinner	Dinner
5:30-6:30 PM	Bible Time & Crafts, JAM, Kids Alive	Adult Studies



Sunday Schedules	Youth
4 PM	Confirmation Class
5 PM	Youth Choir
5:30 PM	Dinner
6:15-7:15 PM	Youth Groups



# connected through education

## God is Good!

What a Summer it has been in CornerStone Youth Ministry at MPPC. We have been traveling all over growing our faith in many ways. We are excited about the school program year to start with new and exciting activities. We are always looking for adults to volunteer with these various activities so I hope you will pray about becoming a MPPC CornerStone Youth Advisor- this involvement can be as little or as big as you wish. Our youth group is growing so we need more hands on deck to facilitate these activities. Below you will find what we will be up to beginning this Fall. I am so happy that we have many energetic youth ready to start the school year off at MPPC! God is Good!!

Blessings,

**Courtney Kraus**

*Director of Youth Ministries*



**Here are a few things that you have to look forward come the fall...**

- **Mini Montreat Mid Month Mondays**
- **Breakfast in the Basement (BIB) with Small Groups** held on Sunday mornings- formerly known as Sunday School
- **Prayer Breakfast(s)**
- **Confirmation** a registration email was sent out in July
- **Sunday Evenings:** Youth Choir, Youth Band, Youth Handbells, Dinner, Middle School Youth Group, High School Youth Group
  - Everything is moving to Sunday Nights church-wide! There will be events for children, youth and adults on Sunday evenings beginning in the fall.
- **Quarterly "Mom Meeting" Happy Hour:** This will be to discuss our youth on a personal level...parenting is HARD...let's come together to vent
- **Youth Book Club:** Love to read? Join us monthly as we dive into various books throughout the year- this will be offered in person and on Zoom.





# connected through education

## Part of God's Story: Leaving Your Legacy

What will be our story when we are no longer here? It is a question I think many of us wonder but what is amazing about our story is that it is part of God's story. Our story is there alongside God's work through Moses and Abraham and Jacob. We are called to discipleship like Peter, James, Martha, Mary, and John. Our life is informed by strong and loving women like Esther and Ruth. And Jesus prayed for us along with so many others before he died. We are part of God's amazing story and that's what makes our story amazing.

Beginning this fall, MPPC will offer a three-part program as part of a new Sunday night ministry titled *Part of God's Story*. Whether we are in our twenties, single and free, married with or without children, or whether we are in our eighties, we have a story to tell and we find stories fascinating. We like to tell stories about life's encounters, and we like to hear stories from other voices who experience life differently. *Part of God's Story* is an opportunity to begin to preserve our story, leaving a legacy of who we are and whose we are for those we choose to tell.

We begin in September with *Part of God's Story: Me*. During this time, we will write and share our stories using guided questions. We will hear the stories of biblical characters and identify which character we most closely identify. We'll wonder if that identity says something about us and our story. Finally, we will begin creating a tangible account of our story that we can add to and then leave for our children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, or significant others to read some time down the road. All of this will be done through fellowship, small and large group conversation, and the stories we each bring to the table.

In the winter we continue the story with a slight shift. *Part of God's Story: Us* will look at our family connections and genealogy. Genealogies are important in the biblical text, and I believe they are still important today. Many of us want to know who we are within our lineage. *Part of God's Story: Us* will be an opportunity for participants to leave their legacy through genealogy and understanding their lineage.

Finally, in the spring we conclude with *Part of God's Story: Beliefs*. What of our beliefs do we want to leave for others to contemplate or understand? Who is God? How does God work in our life? What does forgiveness mean? What about grace? And what does it mean to love God? Who was Jesus? We could go on about beliefs.

*Part of God's Story* will help you leave your legacy to those you love. It is not a financial legacy, but a story of God's amazing love for us seen in and through our individual stories. Participants will have numerous options from which to write and reflect. Participants will receive journals and pens the first night and our Sunday gatherings will be enriched when we talk about and share our weekly exercises. Whether you are young, youngish, or not too young anymore, *Part of God's Story* will enrich your life as you begin to create your written legacy. You will recall stories and memories from your life that you can add to year after year so that your loved ones might know a little about you and a lot about our amazing God. Participating in *Part of God's Story* is an opportunity to begin to leave a written testimony of your life. It is not the end, though, because you and God will continue to write your story long after our class is done!

I hope to hear your story this fall! Signup through Realm or by calling the church office.

Peace,

**Dan Wiard**

Director of Christian Education

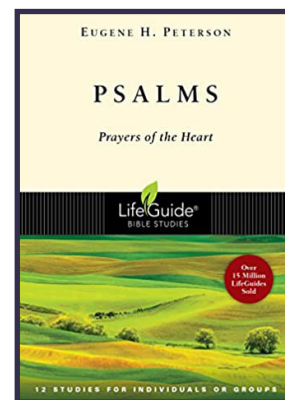


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## Psalms: Prayers of the Heart

The Sunday summer adult education study *Psalms: Prayers of the Heart* continues through the end of August. With shared leadership, the following Psalms will be studied:

- August 7 – Psalm 6: Praying Our Tears
- August 14 – Psalm 73: Praying Our Doubt
- August 21 – Psalm 90: Praying Our Death
- August 28 – Psalm 150: Praying Our Praise



The class meets on Sunday mornings in GH 210 from 10-10:50 a.m. and is open to anyone who would like to attend.



# connected through hope

## Friendship Forged Through Faith

*"Be strong and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord." – Psalm 31:24*

Since Hope House reopened after COVID, we are once again seeing guests come and go. Some stay for a few days; others for a week or so. All are experiencing a myriad of emotions as they focus on loved ones in nearby hospitals.

At Hope House, complete strangers become fast friends, lifting up one another as they share their stories. Volunteers have seen it time and again.

Recently two guests, both men, learned they were going through similar difficult times. Their wives of 35+ years were seriously ill, battling every day to survive. The men, of different faiths, often prayed together, shared meals together and found healing as they shared their feelings.

They also discovered they live not far from each other and promised to keep in touch. And they have. When one man's wife recently passed away, the other took a day off from going to see his wife in the hospital to visit him.

A true bond.. forged out of heartache and hope.

If you would like to help and 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).



## Adopt-a-Day at Hope House

### AUGUST 1

In Honor of our Hope House;  
Given by George Smyth

### AUGUST 2

In Memory of Lisa Hay's Mother, Linda  
Henderson; Given by Ann and Rob Crowder

### AUGUST 4

In Honor of Ali and Poppy Muller for their  
introduction of MPPC to our Family;  
Given by Camille and Paul Fisher

### AUGUST 6

In Honor of our grandson David de Holl;  
Given by Mark and Jennifer Davidson

### AUGUST 8

In Honor of our Hope House;  
Given by Charlene Miller

### AUGUST 12

In Honor of Marcus Googer;  
Given by Marc, Angela, Austin and Dylan  
Googer

### AUGUST 12

In Memory of Margret Stiepel;  
Given by her daughter Angi Case

### AUGUST 16

In Memory of Louise Sisk;  
Given by The Murrell Family

Visit [mppc.net/hope-house](http://mppc.net/hope-house) to make a  
donation.



# connect with the staff

## All About Trish Snead:

Trish is one of our awesome Administrative Assistants! She has been a member of our staff since July 2000!

She always dreamed of living close to the ocean and decided to move down here from West Virginia. She chose Charleston because it was close to the beach and wasn't as congested as Myrtle, but still close enough to her family in WV. So, she packed her bags & her van, without ever seeing or visiting Charleston, and moved here as a single mother of 4.



Trish will tell you that looking back on these moments - it was all by faith. She didn't know anyone here and didn't have a job lined up nor did she know how she was going to provide for her family. God had a plan for her life and it all worked amazingly!

She has 11 grandchildren! Six of her grandchildren live in TX and five here in SC. Trish loves spending time with her family and can't wait to retire and travel - and start marking off her bucket list. Her life has been quite a story and she wants to finish writing that legacy for her children.

### What is one thing you wish people knew about you?

I was taking my test for black belt in Tang Soo Do when the cartilage behind my knee cap split and I wasn't able to finish - I hope to start that back up one day with Master Glenn (who had the same instructor as Chuck Norris).

### What did you do after high school?

I got married right out of HS, but then, I went to Southern Tech and got an associates in computer science. Then to Art Institute and WV State College. I was a student at CofC and Trident Tech after I moved to SC. I thought I wanted to be a teacher until I was a sub for 1 year and then changed my mind - lol.

### Favorite place you've traveled to, & why?

On a mission trip to Honduras. It was my first trip on an airplane AND my first time out of the US. I learned so much going on this mission trip and it literally changed my life for the better!

### What was your dream job growing up?

As far back as I can remember, I dreamed (and still do) of being a cartoon artist for Disney.

### Favorite TV Show, Movie and/or Book

I'm a Marvel nerd!

### Favorite Food/Snacks/Drink

Salad, chips and cold brew



# connected through community



## NEWS FROM THE LEARNING CENTER

### CLASS OPENINGS

The Learning Center has openings in our Kindergarten program. If you or someone you know is looking for a Christian based learning environment, a smaller class size for more individualized learning and a curriculum that not only meets, but also exceeds CCSD and SC state standards, please contact us. We also have a few openings in our 3K & 4K classes.

### WE ARE HIRING!

We are currently searching for PreK Lead Teachers and PreK Assistant Teachers. If you or someone you know is interested in any of these positions, please email your resume to Lori Baney at [lbaney@mppc.net](mailto:lbaney@mppc.net).

### Endowment Gifts

In Honor of Marcus Googer  
Marc and Angela Googer

In Honor of Dick & Ginny Giffen's  
70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
Dorothy Anne Bowers

In Honor of George & Barbara  
Smyth's 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary  
Dorothy Anne Bowers

In Memory of Betty Douty  
Betty and Ralph Jenkins  
Circle #3  
Susan Hufham  
Susan Mellichamp  
Elton and Kathy Carrier  
Jim and Janet Deavor  
Dorothy Anne Bowers  
David and Donna Smith  
Jane Parker  
Kay Browne



### Pacesetters Present: Gary Pecorella

The Pacesetters are back! On **Friday, Sept. 9**, join us in the **Fellowship Hall** for dinner and a performance provided by Gary Pecorella. Gary performs in venues from Charleston, to Kiawah and Seabrook Island. Gary is a renowned solo artist on piano and vocals, will be performing popular songs from 40s, 50s, 60s and 70s plus a mixture of pop, standards and Broadway genres for our FIRST PACESETTERS EVENT on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

For dinner, we will be having a Summer Picnic Buffet complete with jumbo hot dogs, 1/4 pound pub burgers, fresh buns, housemade

potato salad, fresh sliced fruit, lettuce, tomato, onion, cheese, and all the fixins, tea, lemonade, cookies, and ice cream.

We can't wait to all be back together again!

Please RSVP to Susan Mellichamp at [susanmell@mac.com](mailto:susanmell@mac.com) or 843-697-2111 by September 5<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$15.00 paid at the door; RSVPs are required.

Doors open at 5:30 PM, dinner is served at 6 PM, and the program will begin at 7 PM.

# connected through community



## U.S. Flag Retirement Box

Jacob Garris, a Scout from Troop 20, recently finished his Eagle Scout Project, a U.S. Flag Retirement Box. Flag Retirement is the term used to define the proper, dignified way of destroying United States flags that are no longer fit to serve the nation. The Scouts from Troop 20 will dispose of the old flags using a scout flag retirement ceremony. If you have old American Flags, please bring them to the new Flag Retirement Box found in front of the Scout Hut on the MPPC campus (on Church Street).

## Registration Now Open for S.T.E.P.S. 2022

This presbytery-wide event is a wonderful opportunity for high school youth and adult church members, teachers, ministry teams, worship/music leaders, officers, and staffs to enrich their faith and understanding of the church. S.T.E.P.S. will take place Saturday, August 27. Saturday will offer a morning of in-person at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church and virtual workshops that can be taken from anywhere. We will conclude the day with a community gathering with David LaMotte for all. Register at [capresbytery.org/steps-2022](https://capresbytery.org/steps-2022). We hope to see you there to explore the ways we can grow and share our faith as living stones. The pre-registration deadline is Aug. 10. Cost is \$20.

As fall quickly approaches we want to extend an invite for YOU to participate in our music ensembles. You... yes, you! We have opportunities for all ages and ability levels to join with us in making music and worshipping together. Do you sing? Consider joining our adult choir, we meet weekly and help in leading worship each week for out 11 a.m. service. Do you play an instrument? Talk to Tony Sane, Director of Music Ministries, about ways you can participate in worship!

Do you love praise and worship music? Talk to him about The Net Band who leads worship each week for out 9 a.m. worship service! Children's and youth music will be gearing up in just a few short months with more information to come soon! There are opportunities for YOU to serve in our music ministry. Will you consider being a part? Please reach out to Tony at [tsane@mppc.net](mailto:tsane@mppc.net) or call the church office. He would love to talk with you about ways you can serve the church through music and worship ministry.

## Join Our Music Ministry!

Tony Sane, Director of Music Ministry

3:50

-1:60



**s.t.e.p.s.**

Charleston Atlantic Presbytery

Studying • Teaching • Equipping • Praying • Serving

## PLANKS AND PIECES: SURVIVING AND THRIVING





## Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

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**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

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# CONNECT WITH US

## **\*SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

9 a.m. The Net

10 a.m. Education Hour + Fellowship Time

11 a.m. Sanctuary + Live Stream Worship

Visit [mppc.net](http://mppc.net) to learn more about faith formation opportunities for all ages!

## **SERMONS**

Live Streaming: [mppc.net/watch-live](http://mppc.net/watch-live)

Sermons: [mppc.net/sermons](http://mppc.net/sermons)

Podcasts: [tiny.cc/mtpleasantpodcasts](http://tiny.cc/mtpleasantpodcasts)

## **EVENTS, REGISTRATIONS & NEWS**

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

## **FOLLOW US**



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## **OTHER WAYS**

[mppc.net/contact](http://mppc.net/contact)

843-884-4612

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

[mppc.net/prayer-requests](http://mppc.net/prayer-requests)