Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

February 2023

the pelican



from rev. dr. de beer

Forty Days of Lent



Another season in the church year is upon US...

Lent is the Christian season of spiritual preparation before Easter, which begins on Ash Wednesday.

During the forty days of self-examination and reflection, which begins on Ash Wednesday, many Christians make a commitment to give up something in their lives, typically chocolate, coffee, sweets, watching TV, or whatever. This period is meant to be a time of spiritual discipline and self-denial, fasting, repentance and moderation.

The purpose of the Lenten season is to set aside intentional time for reflection on the suffering and sacrifice, life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And in common with Advent. to slow down our lives for some time.

The forty-day period is based a well-known biblical measurement of time around which many events revolve. During the Flood. It rained 40 days and 40 nights (Genesis 7), Moses spent 40 days and 40 nights in Gods' presence on the mountain; the Israelites spent 40 years in the wilderness after the flight out of Egypt (Deuteronomy 1:3 and Numbers 33:38), the spies spent 40 days in Canaan (Numbers 13:25); Elijah travelled for 40 days and 40 nights to reach Sinai, the mountain of God; and Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness as he was tempted by Satan (Mathew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13 and Luke 4:1-13).

Every story that revolves around the 40 days involves changed lives through spending a long time doing something!

So, what if instead of giving something up without we'll easily survive, we take something on during this year's 40 days of Lent?

What if we try to restore balance in our lives after COVID, to walk the Ravenel Bridge for excercise, or stop a few minutes to marvel at rivers, trees, ocean and marshlands—the beauty around us?

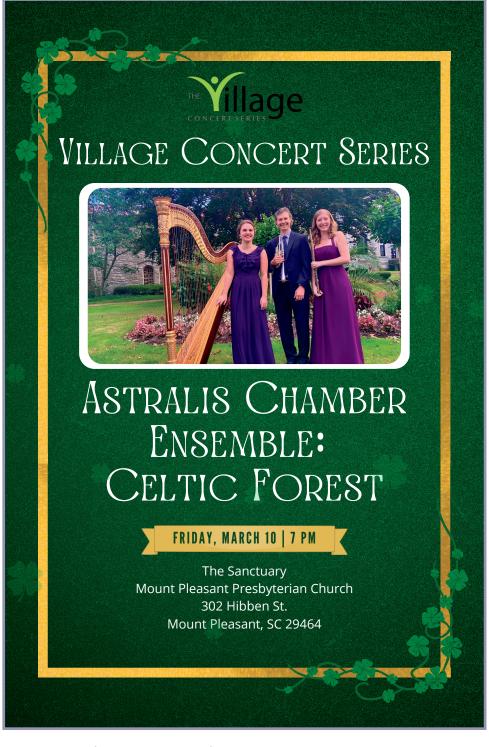
Or to be intentionally friendly and nice with everyone that we meet, and see the risen Christ in the face of every person around us?

Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Danie de Beer

Interim Pastor & Head of Staff

connected through music



Village Concert Series: Friday, March 10 at 7 pm

On Friday, March 10 at 7 p.m. the Astralis Chamber Ensemble will be performing the program "Celtic Forest" as part of the Village Concert Series. Celtic Forest is a flute, trumpet and harp Celticinspired program for St. Patrick's Day. Please join us in the Sanctuary at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church to enjoy their performance!

The Astralis Chamber Ensemble is an innovative and dynamic ensemble performing with much acclaim across the globe. Through creative programming and presentations on the works performed. ACE aims to make classical music more accessible and for audiences to make a lasting connection to the music. These musicians have performed together for many years and some for over a decade on major concert series and at notable venues. Another focus of the ensemble is to support the development of art through new compositions and bring recognition to the composers that surround us today.

MPPC Children's Choir February Schedule

- February 5- Rehearsal 4:30-5pm
- February 12- NO REHEARSAL!

- February 19- Rehearsal 4:30-5pm
- February 26- Kingdom
 Choir and Angel Notes sing
 in Worship for the 9am NET
 service.



Tony SaneDirector of Music Ministries



Our Fellowship and Congregational Life Committee works hard to make sure that there is enough food for everyone at Sunday Night Live.

While you can pay at the door, we ask that you please try your best to register in advance if you know you'll be coming for dinner on Sundays. The registration links are available every week in the eNews as well as at mppc.net/events. You will need to sign up each week for dinner using the corresponding link.

Let's help our food teams out by pre-registering for SNL dinners!

Sunday Night Live Update

We encourage you to participate in Sunday Night Live by signing up for classes and weekly dinners. Registration for class is only once, but dinner registration is weekly. Sign up through Realm. If you need help, please reach out to Trish or Alanna. SNL will not meet on Sunday, February 12.



4:30-5 p.m. Children's choirs (Angel Notes, Kingdom Choir)

5-5:30 p.m. Dinner for all ages (Signup on Realm)

Youth Music

5:30-6:30 p.m. CornerStone Youth Group

Children's Programs (Bible Time & Crafts, JAM, Kids Alive)

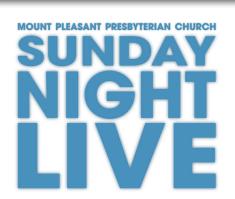
Programs for Adults



February 5 - Part of God's Story: Let's Talk about Beliefs (Adult elective) (GH 226). We continue our conversation about what we believe and what beliefs are most valuable to us that we feel are worth sharing and telling others. We will include what we believe as part of the PCUSA in this conversation.

February 19 – Churchwide Lent Kickoff (Intergenerational, church-wide) - Register on Realm

February 26 – April 2 – Lent Small Group Study (Adults) by Adam Hamilton, *Luke: Jesus and the Outsider, Outcasts, and Outlaws.* Register on Realm.



A VBS Bible Time Experience Like No Other!

Join us **June 19-23, 2023** on an epic adventure as we travel to Jesus' time in Jerusalem!



Welcome to Marketplace 29 A.D.! News is alive with amazing stories of Jesus. Jewish shops in the market are busy as the shopkeepers open their stores for business. The jewelry maker, carpenter, basket weaver, brick maker and baker are at their shops early getting a head start on the day. The candle and soap shops are unpacking their supplies. Fresh leather hangs from the tent ceilings. Synagogue school is open this week and the Arena has a full slate of games.

Vacation Bible School at Mount Pleasant
Presbyterian Church this year comes alive with
sights, sounds and smells of the First Century
Jewish Marketplace and Temple. Children will live
in family tribes and travel throughout the day with
their families as they experience life as it might have
been during the times of Jesus. Authentic Jewish
customs, music, dancing, and crafts are employed.

Look for more information to come! An important volunteer meeting will be held on Sunday, February 12 following the 11 a.m. worship service! Come and see what this awesome adventure is all about! You'll want to be part of Marketplace 29 A.D.!





2nd & 3rd Grade Bibles Class

The 2nd & 3rd Grade Bible Class is in full swing as you read this newsletter. Meeting through March 8, children are actively engaged in learning the books of the Bible, how to use their Bible, and what each book is about. After two sessions, children are past the first 17 books of the Old Testament as they learned about the books of Law and History through games, activities, handson Bible exploration, and discussion. The next time you see a 2nd or 3rd graders at MPPC who is in the class, ask him or her to name some of the books of the Bible. You might be surprised how well they are doing!





Sunday School Children's Locations

For children and youth, Sunday School is from 10-10:50 a.m.

- Nursery and Childcare SB 110
- PreK SB 103
- K-1 Grade SB 203
- · 2-3 Grade SB 204
- 4-5 Grade SB 205
- Youth (Middle & High School) -Basement

2023 Youth Trips

HIGH SCHOOL BETHELWOODS

February 24-26th, Registration Open Now on Realm.

ALL YOUTH RETREAT TO AWANITA VALLEY

April 28-30th, Registration Opens February 6th.

HIGH SCHOOL MONTREAT

June 11-17th, Registration Open Now on Realm.



MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

June 25-30th, Registration Opens March 6th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTREAT

July 19-23rd Registration Opens April 3rd.

HIGH SCHOOL LAMB MISSION TRIP

July 29-August 5th Registration Open at mppc.net/missions.





Corner Stone Youth Ministry Typical Week & Updates

Announcements

- Beginning Feb. 5th youth group will meet 5:30-6:30 pm. Please note this time change moving forward!
- High Schoolers please plan to attend youth group February 5th, so your voices can be heard! You will be meeting separately from middle school.

Tuesdays

 Middle School Prayer Breakfast at 7 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Thursdays

 High School Prayer Breakfast at 7 a.m. at the Chick-Fil-A on Longpoint

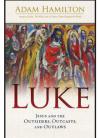
Sundays

- Breakfast in the Basement at 10 a.m.
- Confirmation Class at 4 p.m.
- SNL Dinner from 5-5:30 p.m.
- Youth Group from 5:30-6:30 p.m.



Lent Small Groups

This year's Lenten Small Groups begin with an intergenerational Lenten Dinner Kickoff on Sunday, February 19. As part of that kickoff, we will introduce our study and begin thinking about what Lent means. The evening concludes with a family activity that will



be used throughout Lent to help us focus on mission and serving those outside our family.

Our study this year, *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*, is written by pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton. In this DVD based study Hamilton explores the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through stories we find Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As participants study Luke and see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.

"Jesus came to lift up the lowly." Hamilton says. "Throughout his ministry to his final days on the road to the cross, we find stories of his relationships with ordinary, flawed, and unexpected people. He met, dined, and traveled with people who were not perfect. Many of them were struggling, some were outsiders or even outlaws. Whoever they were, from those he healed to the outlaws with him at his crucifixion, Jesus brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who most needed to hear it."

There will be more than 15 different small groups this year that meet throughout the week. To see a complete listing of small groups and to sign up with a small group currently listed, please use your church Realm account. You can also contact Dan Wiard or Trish Snead in the church office, and we will assign you to a small group. While some small groups are currently full as of this writing, many are open, and we invite anyone in the church to lead and host a small group if you would like to gather a group of your friends together. Ideal small groups are no more than 12 people. Groups can be with couples or singles or mixed, and meetings can happen anywhere, any time. Books (\$15 suggested donation) available in the church office.

We hope many of you will participate in a Lenten Small Group this year.

Dan Wiard

Director of Christian Education



An Older Adult Luncheon

We invite "new" and "old" older, or mature, adults to a covered dish luncheon on Monday, February 20, 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall as the group continues to establish itself and gets a name! Bring a friend, bring a dish, and come ready to meet new friends.

Adult Sunday School Offerings

9:30

Connect 3 – Powerful discussions and engaging activities looking at 1 Corinthians by Jaime Clark-Soles. February 19 the class begins studying Courage: Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith by Tom Berlin. (Parlor)

Academy of Saint John – Conversation around MPPC's Congregational Diagnosis and Discussion. February 26 the class begins studying *Finding Jesus in the Psalms*, by Barb Roose. (Seabrook Building 206)

The Harbor – In-depth Bible study. (Grace Hall 222)

10:00

Youngish Adults – Conversation around MPPC's Congregational Diagnosis and Discussion. February 26 the class begins the Lenten study *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws.* (Seabrook Building 209)

The Middle – The Big Picture: Seeing God's Dream for Your Life by Jevon and Nicole Caldwell-Gross. February 26 the class begins the Lenten study Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws. (Grace Hall 226)

Adult Classroom Locations:

Connect 3 – Parlor The Harbor – GH 222 Academy of Saint John – SB 206 Youngish Adults – SB 209 (Library) The Middle – GH 226

mppc missions

connected through mission

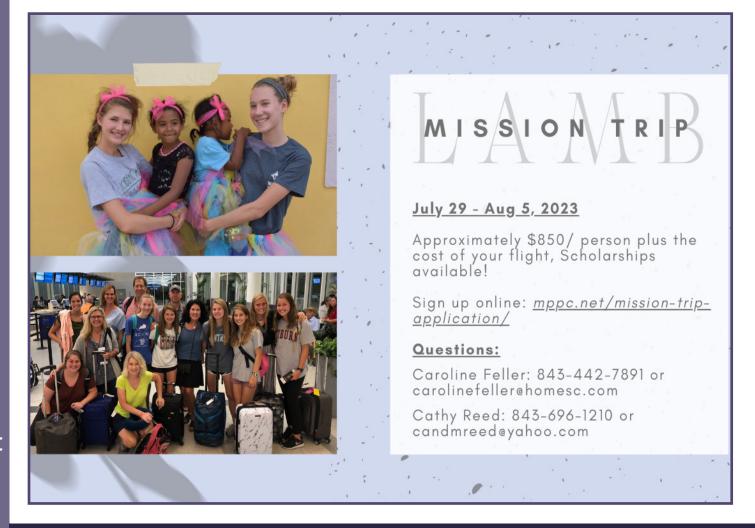
Donations Needed for the February Mission Night

Your Local Missions Team is looking ahead to the SNL Missions Night for February 26th on behalf of the Charleston Animal Society. We'll be making bandanas for dogs and catnip toys for cats. We need help with the following items:

- Fabric –Cotton or cotton blend fabric thin enough to use for bandanas. No thicker upholstery type fabric could be used.
- Socks Small adult sized socks or larger youth sized socks. Do you have a sock who's lost its mate? Then donate it to us for the kitties. Toddler or baby socks are too small.
- Catnip We need bagged or jarred catnip.
 No plants, please.
- Fiberfill One large bag of fiberfill stuffing is needed

Please drop these items off in the bin in the church office by February 5th. We can't wait to see you for this fun event on February 26th at 5:30 p.m.! For questions, contact Theresa Reed at theresareed 2000@gmail.com.





connected through mission

God's Goods Thrift Store

God's Goods Thrift Store is non-profit that sells gently used clothing, furniture, and housewares. It is located in the East Cooper Plaza near Aldi Grocery Store. We are staffed completely by volunteers. All proceeds, after deducting general operating expenses, are disbursed to various Christian charitable organizations. For the period September to December 2022, we're excited to announce that we have distributed \$11,500 to the following ministries:

Hope to Home: "Our mission is to deliver essential home furnishings to displaced or homeless individuals and families who recently secured housing. We transform their empty living space into a comfortable home. We source, warehouse, repair and provide basic home furnishings to individuals and families in our community who are coming out of distressed situations and striving toward a new life on purpose. We collect new and "gently used," donated home goods and work with community service agencies to get those goods into the hands of those who need them most, at no cost to the recipient."

One80 Place provides temporary and permanent housing, meals, and supportive services to homeless men, women, and families. Last year One80 Place moved 945 clients into housing, relocated 488 veterans, prevented homelessness for 482 individuals, served 95,000 meals and resolved 619 legal issues. One80 Place provides counseling, case management, a health clinic, and various services. Go to One80 Place. org/help-out for volunteer opportunities.

Hibben Cold Weather Shelter offers warmth, safety, hospitality and the love of Christ to anyone suffering. The shelter at Hibben is the only warming shelter in Mt. Pleasant. This life changing ministry opens on nights when temperatures are projected to be 33 degrees or lower. They provide clean cots, home cooked meals, showers, fellowship, breakfast, and transportation. Volunteers setup before the cold evening, break down afterwards, prepare meals, and offer hospitality. Come to volunteer and experience the Holy Spirit with us as we share the love of Jesus Christ.

Charleston Port and Seafarers Society: At the water's edge in the ports of SC, Seafarers partners with individuals, churches and Christian organizations to provide a verbal and visible witness regarding the love of Christ.



We climb gangways and board ships to welcome our seafarer quests. We walk about the workplaces of our ports to welcome members of our port family and offer to them our prayers and spiritual support. We drive vans transporting seafarers to where they can ship, wire money, or seek medical attention. We shop for needed items and supplies as requested by ship captains and crews. We deliver gift bags including Gideon Bibles, devotionals and snacks.

Creations of Hope/ HEPI: Creations of Hope was established in 2009 after several visits to Haiti. Once we became familiar with the beauty of the Haitian people and the beauty of their cut-metal artwork, we knew Creations of Hope could help the artisans to eliminate some of the poverty which surrounds them. Creations of Hope purchases products directly from about 50 artisans for sale in the United States. The artisans are paid in full as soon as their products are finished. HEPI's mission is to help the people of Haiti have a better quality of life. Our focus is two-fold: education for the children of Haiti and training for the parents of these children with skills that can provide an opportunity to earn an income.

Through God's grace and mercy, we have become His hands and feet!

If you would like to donate gently used clothing, furniture, or housewares or volunteer, please call 843-654-9821 or visit God's Goods at The Plaza at East Cooper, 607-A Johnnie Dodds Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464.

connected through hope

Celebrating a House of Hope

"...in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Incredible as it may seem, it wasn't all that long ago that Hope House was a dilapidated old building in need of a purpose...and much repair. After much prayerful discussion, the mission-minded members of Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church decided to fix it up and turn it into a hospital hospitality house.

12 years ago this month, Hope House officially opened its doors to people far from their own homes who are caring for loved ones in nearby hospitals. And guests have been coming ever since, more than 1,800 so far – many finding comfort and peace within these walls... making lasting friendships and inspiring us with their grace and generosity.

We often hear from former guests, like Chelsea Hess whose parents and brother were the first guests at Hope House while she fought for her life following a horrific auto accident. Her message this Christmas:

"Thank you for everything you've done for my family and continue to do for others in our great state and Low Country! Y'all are always in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless!"

Over the past dozen years, hundreds of MPPC members have volunteered as Caretakers and Team Leaders, making sure our guests have everything they need. Others of you have donated food, furnishings and various supplies. You've made prayer shawls and helped keep this old House, Hope Cottage and the grounds looking beautiful and inviting..efforts that do not go unnoticed by guests.

Our heartfelt thanks to all for entrusting us with this special ministry.



Adopt-a-Day at Hope House

FEBRUARY 1

In Memory of our dear friend, Joey Taylor; Given by Karl and Miff Cone

FEBRUARY 2

In Honor of our dear friend Beth Moore; Given by Jane and John Chapman

FEBRUARY 5

In Honor and Support of HH; Given Anonymously

FEBRUARY 7

In Memory of Alice Scoggins; Given by Jane and John Chapmar

FEBRUARY 9

In Honor of my Christmas Angel, Judy Barnette; Given by Miff Cone

FEBRUARY 12

In Honor of HH; Given by Manfred Brauch

FEBRUARY 14

In Honor of HH; Given by Kathryn Deleot

FEBRUARY 19

In Memory of Arthur Rooney, Sr., father of Debbie Goulding; Given by Pamela and Bill Marsh

FEBRUARY 22

In Loving Memory of Marjean Brauch;
Given by Manfred Brauch

Visit <u>mppc.net/hope-house</u> to make a donation.



upcoming events & updates

connected through community



Pacesetters: Celebrating Songs from the Heart

Join the Pacesetters for their February gathering with festive entertainment provided by Lyricc Jenkins, Timmi Winston and David Nagelkirk! We will be "Celebrating Songs from the Heart" on **Friday, February 10th in the Fellowship Hall**. Doors open at 5:45 pm, dinner begins at 6 & the program will start at 7.

RSVP: Susan Mellichamp by February 6, 2023 at SusanMell@mac.com or cell: 843-697-2111. \$15/per person, paid at the door.

Menu: Chicken parmesan with linguine, steamed broccoli, garden salad, dinner rolls, chocolate cake and ice cream.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Request

When things closed down for COVID, the shawls, hats, scarves, lap blankets and baby blankets that our Prayer Shawl Ministry made could not be given to several of the places that had been receiving them. The ministry team is attempting to re-



establish contacts to donate these items and hopefully make some new contacts too!

If you know of a group or organization that would benefit from these handmade items, please contact the church at 843-884-4612. Thank you!

Endowment Gifts

Donation to Endowment Fund:

Nancy Lewis



Pastoral Care Concerns:

Dear Church Family,

In talking to many of you over the last few months I often get the question, "what can I do to help MPPC?" That's a big question with many answers, but one thing we can all do together is keep open communication regarding pastoral care concerns for ourselves and other church members. I thought it would be a good idea to review the best way to let the pastors know of a concern. Danie and I want to be part of the joys and concerns of the congregation but if we don't know about it, we can't be involved. As I say frequently, we would rather hear something twenty times than not at all! A pastoral care concern could be an upcoming hospital visit, a scheduled surgery, a family loss, or just the need to visit with one of our pastors.... anything that you feel the pastors need to know concerning your welfare or that of another church member. Here is how to pass that information on:

- 1. During MPPC office hours, call the church office: 843-884-4612 ext. 235. If I don't pick up, leave a message. Your message will be instantly emailed to me, and I can respond when I am available. If it is not an immediate need send an email with the details to bedwards@mppc.net.
- 2. After MPPC office hours, call the Pastor on Call phone: 843-901-9977. If Danie or I do not answer, leave a detailed message. Our phone system will email a copy of your message to each of us.

We can do it! Let's look after each other and care for one another the way Christ cares and loves us!

Blessings, Pastor Bart



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 to learn more about faith formation opportunities for all ages!

SERMONS

Live Streaming: mppc.net/watch-live Sermons: mppc.net/sermons Podcasts: tiny.cc/mtpleasantpodcasts

EVENTS, REGISTRATIONS & NEWS

mppc.net/events

FOLLOW US







@mtpleasantpres

OTHER WAYS

mppc.net/contact 843-884-4612

PRAYER REQUESTS

mppc.net/prayer-requests