

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

May 2023

the pelican



www.mppc.net

843-884-4612

from rev. dr. de beer

Pastor Nominating Committee



We are finally at the place where the Session determined that MPPC is ready to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) to begin the search for the next senior pastor for our congregation.

The PNC is elected by the congregation from among their own members. The Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) is in a process of nominating this group of people, who will serve the congregation by being on the PNC. The CNC looks for people who are involved in congregational life, who are dedicated to and invested in the future of MPPC, and who ideally understand where we are in the life cycle of the church. An understanding of our history, cultural context, demographics, finances, mission, and vision for the future is also important when we choose a new leader. And maybe this shouldn't be said, but here it is—they should be without any agenda of their own or of a specific grouping of the congregation!

Searching for a pastor is a process of spiritual discernment, where a group of people work with God to find the next spiritual leader for this congregation in a specific location, in this time of our history. The PNC becomes the body who affirms someone's call to ministry in a specific geographic location.

Choosing between candidates who believe that God has called them to ministry in a specific congregation takes patience, a solid process, and above all, spiritual discernment.

When we choose a new leader, we must keep in mind that the only head of the Church is Jesus, the Christ, and no pastor can ever be expected to fill this position.

Please keep everyone who will be nominated in your prayers.

Peace,

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

When is the last time you logged into Realm?

...have you ever logged into Realm...?

We know what you're thinking, *"Ugh, this is just another account I have to make for something."* But Realm is way more than just an online directory and it's easier to use than you may think. The staff uses it daily to keep track of worship attendance, giving, event registration, accounting, contact information and much more!

We ask (*well, we are kind of begging now*) that you keep your Realm account as up to date as possible because we use the email, phone number and mailing addresses on file for communicating with you all. It's also helpful if you can upload a picture to your profile so that

we know what you look like and can say hello when we see you around!

Please take a look at your account and make sure that all your information is updated including your birthday. You'd be doing us a huge favor. Visit <https://onrealm.org/mppc> to log in!

If you need an account or can't remember your login information, reach out to Alanna Barrett at abarrett@mppc.net in the church office and she can get you set up. Thank you in advance!!

connected through worship



Village Concert Series: Charlotte Master Chorale Chamber, May 27th

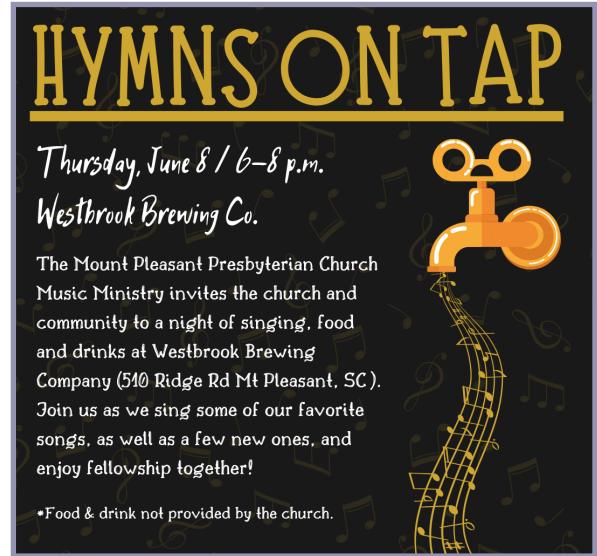
The closing concert of our 2022-2023 Village Concert Series and the closing concert of Charlotte Master Chorale's 71st Season puts the spotlight on what sets choral music apart: text.

Chamber Singers' Poets highlights the work of six lyricists who have played an out-sized role in the choral world: William Shakespeare, Laurence Hope, Sara Teasdale, Ogden Nash, Paul Laurence Dunbar, and Maya Angelou. Settings range from the light-hearted (Eric Whitacre's Animal Crackers) to the masterful (Matthew Harris's Shakespeare Songs), the powerful (Jake Runestad's Why the Caged Bird Sings) to the inspirational (Tom Trenney's Maya's Prayer for Peace). Audiences will be left with a refreshed appreciation for the power of the written word and ability of choral music, beautifully sung, to lift those words off the page and into our hearts and minds.

The concert will take place in the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church Sanctuary on Saturday, May 27th at 3 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. We hope to see you there!

Children's Choir Announcements

The MPPC Children's Choirs will be singing during worship on Sunday, May 14th for Mother's Day!



Hymns on Tap: June 8th Westbrook Brewing Co.

The Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church Music Ministry invites the church and community to a night of singing, food and drinks at Westbrook Brewing Company (510 Ridge Rd Mt Pleasant, SC) on Thursday, June 8 from 6-8 p.m. Join us as we sing some of our favorite songs, as well as a few new ones, and enjoy fellowship together!

**Food & drink not provided by the church but are available for purchase at Westbrook Brewing.*



Kirkin' O' the Tartan Service

Read more about this service on page 7.

connected through education

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities through May 21

As summer quickly approaches and family schedules become inundated with family events and trips, adult Sunday School remains a main stay in adult faith formation. Regular Sunday School continues through May 21 with the following options:

Christianity and World Religions. (Connect 3, 9:30 a.m.)

Popular author and pastor Adam Hamilton leads participants in exploring four major world religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism—and compares the beliefs of each with those of Christianity. He deals openly and honestly with questions people ask about other religions, such as:

- Why are there so many different religions?
- How should Christians view other religions?
- How is God at work in other religions?
- What is the fate of those who earnestly pursue God through other religions?
- In examining these major world religions and the beliefs of their followers, Hamilton urges us as Christians to build bridges with others so that we might grow in our faith, seek peace in our world, love our neighbors, and find positive ways to share the gospel.

Love to Stay: Six Keys to a Successful Marriage. (Youngish Adults, 10 a.m.)

The idea of a lasting marriage has almost vanished. But in *Love to Stay*, Adam Hamilton explores how, with God's help, it doesn't have to be that way. Drawing upon a survey of thousands of couples and singles, interviews with relationship and marriage therapists, the latest research in the field, and wisdom from the Bible, Hamilton looks at what it takes to create and sustain healthy, meaningful romantic relationships across the course of a lifetime. Contents include:

- More Than a Piece of Paper
- What She Wants; What He Wants
- The Significance of Sexual Intimacy
- Habits That Hurt, Habits That Heal
- Clothe, Bear With, and Forgive
- A Love That Lasts a Lifetime

Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws. (The Middle, 10 a.m.)

In our Lenten study *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*, pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton explored the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's stories we found Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomed sinners and outcasts. As we studied Luke and saw Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we heard a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today. Through the end of May, The Middle dives deeper into the themes of our Lenten study and the Gospel of Luke.

Signs and Wonders: A Beginners Guide to the Miracles of Jesus. (Academy of Saint John, 9:30 a.m.)

In *Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus' words and actions.

Chapter topics include:

- Giving sight to the blind: Metaphors of understanding (Mark 8, John 9)
- "Take up your pallet and walk" (the paralyzed man): On the role of caregivers
- A bleeding woman and a dead girl: The importance of women's bodies
- Walking on water and stilling the storm: Ecological readings of the Gospels
- The feeding of the 5,000 (or more): The centrality of bread
- The raising of Lazarus: Taking death seriously

The Book of Romans. (The Harbor, 9:30 a.m.)

Through open discussion this class is working its way through Romans, looking at each verse and the stories that surround Paul's writing to the church in Rome.

connected through education



SUMMER ADULT *Sunday School*

Summer Adult Sunday School Study 1 & 2 Peter and Jude (10 a.m.)

"I'll never grow up." Sometimes we all feel a little like Peter Pan. We'd rather be children, free of obligations and responsibilities. Sometimes we even feel that way about our Christian lives. The writers of 1 and 2 Peter and Jude understand how difficult it is to grow into maturity. As Carolyn Nystrom leads us through these letters in this Bible Study, we see how God provides direction and comfort when we travel dark roads. And we discover what it takes to be mature in Christ. We hope to have rotating facilitators using this easy-to-follow curriculum (provided by the church). Sign up here: signupgenius.com/go/805084ca8af2aa3fe3-affsummer#/

Chapter topics include:

- 6/4 - Stranger in the World (1 Peter 1:1-12)
- 6/11 - Called to Be Different (1 Peter 1:13-25)
- 6/18 - Do I Want to Grow Up? (1 Peter 2:1-12)
- 6/25 - In His Steps (1 Peter 2:13-3:7)
- 7/2 - NO CLASS
- 7/9 - If I'm Living Right, Then Why Do I Hurt So Much? (1 Peter 3:8-22)
- 7/16 - Christians of Risk (1 Peter 4)
- 7/23 - TLC for Trying Times (1 Peter 5)
- 7/30 - The Long Way Home (2 Peter 1:1-11)
- 8/6 - If I Should Die . . . (2 Peter 1:12-21)
- 8/13 - Follow Which Leader? (2 Peter 2)
- 8/20 - The Fire Next Time (2 Peter 3)
- 8/27 - The Twisted Fate of Twisted Faith (Jude)

Adult Faith Formation Ministry Team

Did you know there is a group of people who dialogue and set the direction for adult faith formation at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church? Meeting via Zoom and in person, the group talks about ways to strengthen and enrich the faith formation experience of adults across the age spectrum and then helps implement the ministry with the Director of Christian Education. If you would like to help shape the future of adult faith formation at MPPC, consider serving on the faith formation team. Not only will you see first-hand the wealth of available resources, but you will also shape lives for Christ! Contact Dan Wiard at dwiard@mppc.net at the church for more information or to volunteer.



THIRD ACT

*Celebrating, Utilizing
& Enhancing the Gifts of Aging*

Third Act: South Carolina Aquarium on May 22

Join Third Act: Celebrating, Utilizing and Enhancing the Gifts of Aging for a covered dish lunch on Monday, May 22 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy a presentation by the South Carolina Aquarium. Register at mppc.net/events.

connected through education

**WELCOME
CARTER!**

**CARTER
LIMBERT**
Summer Youth Ministry Intern



"Growing up at MPPC and serving as an Elder has taught me so much about myself and our greater community. I just finished my first year at Ohio University and can't wait to be more involved in Youth Ministry here!"

Welcome, Carter!

We welcome home and introduce Carter Limbert as our Youth Summer Intern. Carter will be working with MPPC's youth ministry in the coming weeks with two key responsibilities: program and research. Working 30 hours each week, Carter will be meeting with young people in grades 6-12 on a regular basis. As part of his research, he will be interviewing young people to learn about MPPC's youth ministry, its strengths, opportunities, and their hopes for MPPC's youth group moving well into the future. In programs, you will see Carter at BIB and throughout the week during ministries we schedule and provide once he is on board, such as helping youth lead VBS and going on all three summer youth trips. Welcome back, Carter!

Middle School Montreat

Registration is open for the Middle School Montreat trip July 19-23. CAP provides the transportation for this trip and has set a deadline of May 5 to reserve space on the bus. Therefore, registration after May 5 will be on an "as room is available" basis. Payment in full must be received no later than June 5. Registrations are non-refundable once registered with Montreat.





Youth Sunday Loading...

Youth Sunday, May 7th

Youth Sunday is May 7 during the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services!

Youth Sunday is an opportunity for youth to design and lead worship from a total youth perspective. Youth from 6th-12th grade participate in both reading and non-reading roles, and high school seniors write and share their own sermons. Come and support the youth ministry!

CornerStone Weekly Schedule

Middle School Youth Events

- The last Middle School Prayer Breakfast for the school year will be May 2nd at 7 a.m. in the BASEMENT.
- Sundays:
 - Breakfast in the Basement at 10 a.m.
 - Dinner with entire church at 5 p.m. Last SNL dinner is May 7th.
 - Youth Group from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

High School Youth Events

- The last High School Prayer Breakfast for the school year will be at 7 a.m. on May 4th at IHOP in Mount Pleasant.
- Sundays:
 - Breakfast in the Basement at 10 a.m.
 - Dinner with entire church at 5 p.m. Last SNL dinner is May 7th.
 - Youth Group from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

CORNERSTONE
youth ministry @ mppc

Other Important Dates:

- **May 14** - Mother's Day. No youth group.
- **May 21** - End of Year party- more details to come!
- **June 11-17** - High School Montreat
- **June 25-30** - Middle School Mission Trip
- **July 19-23** - Middle School Montreat

connected through education



Vacation Bible School Donations Needed!

Many VBS donations are needed to have a successful program that the children will talk about for years to come! Please check in those closets that need to be cleaned out, those junk drawers and in that garage that holds so many treasures and see if you have any of the following:

- **6 canopy tents – need to borrow!**
- Yarn – ALL colors
- Lots of Old Fabric – NO florals
- Old Sheets – NO florals
- Old Wicker Baskets
- Wood Glue, 2x2 inch wood
- Flower or Herb Seeds or Seedlings
- Dowels, ½ to ¾ inch
- Old newspapers or magazines
- Working Blender
- Working crockpot – 2
- Lima Beans and Gold spray paint

Items can be brought to Lynn Wiard's office. Thank you in advance!

Sunday School Updates

Children's "regular" Sunday School continues through Sunday, May 21. After Memorial Day weekend off (May 28), summer Sunday School begins Sunday, June 4, during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday School hour. Stay tuned for an exciting summer study for children!

Save the Dates!

Wacky Wednesday

Wednesday, July 12 & Wednesday, August 9

Come join in the fun for some wacky water games and snacks from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (For rising kindergarten-second graders)

3rd-5th Graders in Mission

Monday, July 24 and Tuesday, July 25

Rising third-fifth graders are invited to come together for two days of service in our local community. Projects TBD. Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please look for an upcoming Sign-Up Genius to register your child for this important mission.



Children's "Drive In" Movie Night Friday, June 2, 6:30-8 p.m.

Children ages four through second grade are invited to a "Drive In Movie Night" in the Fellowship Hall Friday, June 2, 6:30-8:00 p.m. What do children need to bring? Their own car! Using large boxes, we encourage parents and children to work together at home and create and build their own box car! All you need to do to create this awesome car is find a box big enough for your child to fit in, paint and decorate it to look like a car, and then bring the car to movie night and "park it" in one of the spaces to watch a movie! Pirates' booty and slushies will be served! We will also have crafts for the kids! Register at mppc.net/events no later than May 30.

Kirkin' O' The Tartan Service

Sunday, May 21, 2023

Please join in the procession of bagpipes, Beadle, Crucifer, and Tartan Flags as we celebrate The Kirkin' O' the Tartan service on May 21st at 9 and 11 a.m. (Procession will take place during the 11 a.m. service).

After the Battle of Culloden, 1746, the British forbade traditional Scottish heritage for nearly 50 years. During that time, the Scots would wear a piece of tartan cloth to be blessed by the clergy, in secret.

In 1942, Rev. Peter Marshall began the Scottish American tradition to further bond the US and UK during WWII.

The Kirkin' O' the Tartan service represents "a blessing of the family." It is a worship service that allows us to reflect on the gift of our Presbyterian heritage and the gifts God has given us through our past, present and future kith and kin.

You are encouraged to wear your own tartan apparel - or kilt if you have one! Please join us at either 9 or 11 a.m. on May 21st (also Presbyterian Heritage Sunday!) for this special service!

connected through mission

A Successful Spring with Rakes on Wheels

The Spring Yard Cleanup for Meals on Wheels recipients also known as Rakes on Wheels, was a success by many measures this year. Some 14 homebound Meals on Wheels recipients received assistance from 71 adults and children from our church during the month of March.

In total, 350 yard bags were filled with leaves and then moved to the street for pickup. The average number of yard bags filled from each yard was 25. A more subjective measure in this effort was the “fun” level. Children loved their smaller rakes and actively pitched in. The kids were distracted from their work in one yard when a neighbor’s cat appeared and decided it needed petting and attention. The work on all yards was begun and completed within two hours. Even the weather cooperated by postponing rain until scheduled work was finished. Thanks go to all the young families who participated in large numbers this year. Kudos also go to John Royall, of Royall Ace Hardware, who contributed rakes to this year’s effort to ensure everyone had a rake in their hand at the right time!

We had beautiful yards to clean up during Rakes on Wheels as well as more modest ones. The common denominator was the deep appreciation of all the homeowners.



Stephen Minister Commissioning on May 21st

Seven members of MPPC have come to a training class for the internationally known program, Stephen Ministry, every Thursday evening since January to learn about everything from listening skills, to confidentiality, to learning how to deal with grief, depression and suicide.

On May 21st at the 11 a.m. worship service, these four women and three men will join the already eight active Stephen Ministers in the congregation to become one-on-one listeners, prayer partners and care partners to people in need, as they are commissioned to be MPPC’s newest Stephen Ministers. All active and resting Stephen Ministers are also encouraged to attend this service! Read about each new Stephen Minister to the right.



1. Buddy DeLizza - Originally from Charlotte NC, Buddy was raised in Asheville, NC before spending 25 years in the Concord, NC area where he was a member of First Presbyterian Church. He served as Deacon, Elder, Sunday School Teacher and volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Boy Scouts, Opportunity House, and VBS. He moved to Mt. Pleasant in 2022.

2. Susan Fitzgerald - Susan joined MPPC in 2016. She is a part of the Member Care Ministry Team, the PW Circle of Sisters, a resting deacon, a Deacon Hospitality Co-Chair for Reception for Staff, an usher, a Sunday Breakfast Volunteer and part of Pacesetters.

3. Sue Verner - Sue has been a member of MPPC for 20 years. She has served as an elder, deacon, treasurer, PW Circle Leader, and member of various ministry teams, such as Ushering, Worship, Missions, Finance, and CAJM. She has

volunteered for Sunday School and VBS and participated in Mission Trips. She is blessed to be a part of the MPPC faith family and looks forward to serving as a Stephen Minister.

4. Harry Olsen - Harry has been a member of MPPC since 2017. He is a member of the Finance Committee, helps with the Sunday streaming video, is the church treasurer and an ESOL teacher. Harry is married with 2 children and 6 grandchildren. He got an MBA from Northwestern University, and has lived in Chicago and Hong Kong.

5. Julia Royall - Julia joined MPPC in 1978, and has served as an elder, I-Beam mentor and on the Pastor Nominating Committee. Currently, she is a deacon, is in the Handbell Choir, St. John Sunday School Class, and Bridge Builders. She was drawn to Stephen Ministry because God calls us to bear each other’s burdens. She wants to be a better listener and more helpful

in responding to those who are experiencing difficult life situations.

6. Clay Boyd - Clay moved to Charleston in 1996 where he attended The Citadel like his father. He was married at First Scots Presbyterian Church by Daniel Massie. He has been a member of MPPC since 2016. He and his wife live in Old Mt. Pleasant with their 2 boys and their English bulldog.

7. Lindsey Demos - Lindsey has been a member of MPPC for about a year and a half but has been attending church here for about 10 years. She serves as a hospital liaison with Hope House and is currently a deacon. She became interested in Stephen Ministry during the pandemic as she became more aware of the need for people to have someone to support them through difficult times. She hopes that by serving as a Stephen Minister she can be a source of love and support to those in need.

connected through hope

God's Healing Power

Every Hope House guest has a story to tell. Some are heartbreaking; others are uplifting; and still others are inspiring.

This is the story of two recent guests - sisters from New Jersey and a brother, a drifter, they had not seen in 20 years.

On March 1st Velma and Terisitia were notified that their brother, known as "Shorty", was in a hospital in Columbia, SC. He was on life support and doctors said they needed to come there and "make a decision."

They and some cousins were there the next day, meeting with the team caring for their brother. They were told there was "no life left in him." Velma said they could not make a decision – "they needed more time."

She bent down and told her brother the family has forgiven him.. and so has the Lord. They all prayed and sang over him.

Each day doctors would ask if they had made a decision, saying their brother was "clinically dead." Velma would not give up.. urging "Shorty" to come back to them.

On March 4th, Shorty opened his eyes. Velma told him "show me some movement." And he moved his arms. Five days later, he was off life support. Velma says miraculous things happen when you believe in God's healing power.

Shorty is now at Vibra for rehabilitation. And he can talk. In fact Velma says he "has a lot to say."



Adopt-a-Day at Hope House

MAY 1

In Honor of Hope House;
Given by The Griffith Family

MAY 7

In Honor of Hope House;
Given by John Fortson

MAY 4

In Memory of Ida Ann Arnsenault;
Given by Valley Community Church of The
Nazarine

MAY 19

In loving memory of Tim Limbert, and continued
gratitude to our church family; Given by Holly,
Whitney, and Carter Limbert

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

connected through community



Pacesetters: Ann Caldwell

Our Pacesetters event on **Friday, May 12th** features Ann Caldwell a popular singer and storyteller. Ann will be sharing the origins of Spirituals and Gospel songs from the African American culture as well as entertaining us with her beautiful vocal talent. Come and enjoy a delicious potluck meal (bring your favorite dish!), great fellowship, and a wonderful evening! Doors open at 5:45 PM, Dinner is at 6 PM, Program at 7 PM.

RSVP: **Susan Mellichamp by May 10, 2023** at SusanMell@mac.com or cell: 843-697-2111. \$5/per person, paid at the door.

Clothing Drive for Nadia

Spring cleaning time is here and please consider giving clothes your family no longer needs to Nadia and her children. We have bins in the Fellowship Hall for each member of the family. She has four growing children so feel free to also give sizes larger than what is listed. They will appreciate it all!

Here are their current sizes and ages to help you gauge what may fit best. If items do not fit, we will donate them to ECCO so everything will find a loving home.



- Sodise is 11 years old. He wears a M 10-12 youth in tops and M 10-12 youth in bottoms.
- Taib is 8 years old. He wears a S 6-7 youth in tops and a 4 Youth S 6-7 in bottoms.
- Mobara will be 3 in June and she wears a 3T in clothing and a 3/4T in shoes.
- Asra is 18 months, she will be 2 in September. She needs 4C in shoes.
- Nadia can wear small or 6 bottoms and Medium top!



Tony Sane Spotlight by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians!

Tony Sane serves as the Director of Music Ministries at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church in Mount Pleasant South Carolina. Tony helps to collaboratively lead MPPC's worship and numerous musical ensembles ranging from children's choirs, handbell choirs, adult choirs, praise band and instrumental ensembles. Tony also leads MPPC's "Village Concert Series" where artists from around the region and country are invited perform in concert throughout the year in partnership with our local community in Mount Pleasant.

Tony loves being involved with PAM and the South Atlantic region. He is very thankful for the many collegial relationships formed through PAM and looks forward to continued education and involvement through PAM in the future.

When Tony isn't working, he enjoys travel, and spending time with his family and friends in God's creation, and exploring the beautiful low country of South Carolina where he calls home.

Endowment Gifts for May

The Rev. Elizabeth McGregor Simmons gave to the endowment in honor of the Deacons and The Stephen Ministries.



Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

302 Hibben Street
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

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

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OTHER WAYS

mppc.net/contact

843-884-4612

PRAYER REQUESTS

mppc.net/prayer-requests