

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

November 2023

the pelican

Thank You for Supporting God's Work Through MPPC!

Thank you to all of you who attended The Gathering on Oct. 22, in person and online. It was a beautiful morning complete with a wonderful guest preacher, an inspiring missions fair and a delicious lunch together! If you were unable to attend and would like to fill out an estimate of giving card, you can here: <https://onrealm.org/mppc/-/form/pledge/2024> or by scanning the QR code.

Photo: Glenna Richards with G-Local Media



www.mppc.net

843-884-4612

from rev. dr. de beer



Shorter days, longer nights,
lower temperatures,
multi-colored leaves...
the signs of fall and the
end of another year are
all around us. And with
these signs comes a
deep gratitude to God
for another year and the
relationships that were
developed within it.

This year, gratitude is more tangible for us. It comes in the form of grace and caring from many people. It was but a few days ago that Martha said after prayer in my office, "Danie, allow us to care for you in the next few weeks."

I could have never foreseen what that meant! Cards, calls, prayers, meals, emails... I've known since our arrival in Mount Pleasant that this would be different. I learned that the believers in Mount Pleasant are generous and kind beyond any expectation. I experienced so much love in the hospital from physicians, caring, and cleaning personnel. I have experienced the presence of my colleagues from MPPC and the Presbytery, from members of the congregation, from many men who had been treated for the same form of cancer...

This time, we are left somewhat embarrassed.

Maybe I have learned more than anything else that it leaves you sort of vulnerable when you accept this kind of generosity. But vulnerable to what? To more kindness and caring? To experiencing God's generosity as a tangible reality in the love of many real people who are trying to cope with this vulnerability themselves? Maybe this is the deep meaning of being a Christian congregation. To have someone who will pray for you if you find it difficult to pray. And to know that many people believe on your behalf when it is difficult for you to believe.

THANK YOU!

November is Thanksgiving month. It is a time to remember and to reflect on God's generosity to us, which "gets a body" in the presence of people—and what a long list of people, stretching back over 42 years of ministry! Family, teachers and colleagues, many people in the streets, and members of 8 congregations on two continents—the four states in the US—we have served... all pointing towards

the Source of everything to God who came to us in Jesus the Christ.

May Thanksgiving month be a time of happy memories, and sharing and caring for other people, a month of celebrating to you all. But above all, a month of gathering and becoming vulnerable to each other and remembering God's generosity to us all.

Blessings,

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

connected through music



THE Village
CONCERT SERIES

VILLAGE CONCERT
SERIES PRESENTS:

**Mark
Valenti**

FRIDAY, NOV. 3 AT 7 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Village Concert Series on Friday, November 3 at 7 pm

Join us on Friday, Nov. 3 at 7 pm at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church for an amazing performance by pianist, Mark Valenti.


Mark Valenti received his Master of Music from Northwestern University, Bachelor of Music from the Philadelphia Musical Academy and has studied with such notable teachers as Benjamin Whitten, Zoltan Kocsis, and Mary Sauer. In addition to giving solo recitals in cities throughout the U.S., Mr. Valenti has performed in France, Belgium, Hungary and Luxembourg, as well as for former First Lady Barbara Bush in Washington, D.C.

HYMNS ON TAP

Thursday, Nov. 9, 6-8 p.m.
Hobcaw Brewing Co.

The Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church Music Ministry invites the church and community to a night of singing, food and drinks at Hobcaw Brewing Co. (496 Long Point Rd, Mt Pleasant, SC 29464). 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.



Kirk Choir, Show up & Sing!

If you would like to be a part of the Kirk Choir, now is the time!

Meet at 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday to practice for the 8:30 service!



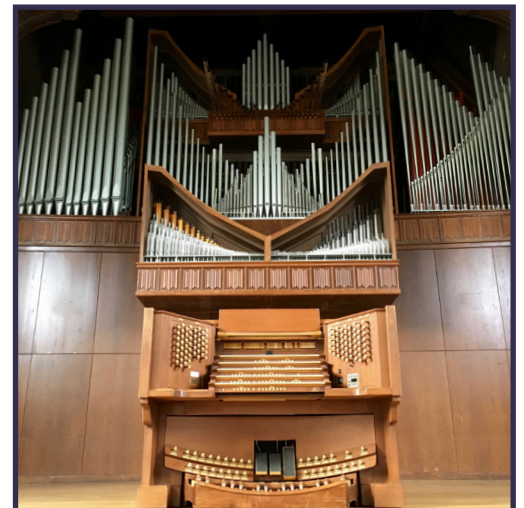
Show Up & Sing - Sunday, Nov. 5

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8 a.m. on Sunday, November 5th to learn the music for the 8:30 service. Contact Tony Sane if you have any questions.

MPPC Organ Committee

On September 24, the MPPC Organ committee was formed. The goal of the MPPC Organ Committee is to explore options for modifying or replacing our organ so that it better supports congregational hymn singing, accompanying the choir, and playing traditional classical organ literature for decades to come to the glory of God, given the space available, and honoring the historic nature of our sanctuary.

We are just beginning the educational stage, learning a new vocabulary that includes stops, ranks, divisions and couplers, among many others, and getting a better understanding of how our current organ works. Mac Thigpen and Gregg Miller are the co-chairs of the committee. As we get up to speed on organ terminology, we welcome your input. Please send your comments, thoughts and concerns to mppcorgan@gmail.com.



connected through education

Children's Sunday, Adults, and Volunteers

It was a wonderful blessing to see and hear so many children leading Children's Sunday on October 15. I hope you were able to watch the recording if you were not present – It was a wonderful Service of Worship with their leadership.

The sermon on Children's Sunday consisted of three challenges. First, love children, welcome them, spend time with them, teach a Sunday School class, tell children Bible stories. Second, don't block children from Jesus. Third, get to know children around you by spending time with them. I hope you will take seriously the challenges and make a conscious choice to act on them. Staff spend a considerable amount of time trying to find volunteers. If individuals would readily volunteer, staff would be able to spend much more time developing and resourcing programs. Imagine the possibilities! Imagine if 80% of the people did 20% of the work! How exciting that would be! We would be able to demonstrate to children that active involvement in the community of faith is one of the most important priorities in our own lives – regardless of our age!

We currently need and will need the following:

1. Teaching teams for all children's Sunday School and Wednesday programs. Teams allow familiarity for children and help children learn names of adults who care about them. Contact Lynn Wiard if you can be part of a team.
2. Adult small group leaders. While we will need additional small group leaders for our six-week Lenten program beginning in February, 2024, it would be wonderful to be able to offer adult small groups on Wednesday nights during the children's programs, a special adult Advent small group outside of the church-wide study, or a small group throughout the year on any night! Contact Dan Wiard if you would like to pursue an adult small group.
3. Chaperones for youth trips. It's a wonderful way to get to know young people and fulfills challenge number 3 from above! Contact Dan Wiard if you can help.

God has a wonderful plan for MPPC. Let's volunteer and see what God will do!

Peace,

Dan Wiard

Director of Christian Education



Third Act: Celebrating, Utilizing, and Enhancing the Gift of Aging

On Monday evening, **November 27**, Third Act will be going to see the Festival of Lights on James Island!

With 3 miles of lights, your Christmas spirit is sure to get a lift with the best that Charleston County Parks and Recreation has to offer this winter season. Details coming.

Signup through Realm or at mppc.net/events.



Adult Sunday School in November

Sunday School is for all ages, including adults! Here's a quick glance at what adult classes are studying this fall:

The Middle (GH 226), 9:45 a.m.

Continues their study, *Joy Even on Your Worst Days-Wisdom from Philippians* by Tom Are, Jr.

The Academy of St. John (SB 206), 9:15 a.m.

Continues their study of Wondrium's video series *Searching for the Historical Jesus*. On November 26, the class begins their Advent studying using Adam Hamilton's *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem*.

Connect 3 (Parlor) - 9:30 a.m.

The class begins testing the waters of a relatively new online resource from The Bible Project. In addition to their short, informative, and scholarly overviews of the books of the Bible, The Bible Project offers studies on Bible characters and themes. Connect 3 will explore Sabbath, Holy Spirit, and Gospel of the Kingdom. On November 26, the class will begin their Advent study using Will Willimon's *Heaven & Earth: Advent and the Incarnation* as Willimon introduces participants to the God who brings heaven to earth and changes everything.

Youngish Adults (SB 209/Library), 9:45 a.m.

The class begins a new study in November using Craig Groeschel's curriculum *Altar Ego: Becoming Who God Says You Are*. Many of us live for approval of others. The problem is that living for what people think of you is the quickest way to forget what God thinks of you. Join us as we seek to discover our true identity in Christ.

connected through education

Churchwide Advent Study and Worship

The Church Family Advent Wreath workshop has become a tradition at MPPC for families and individuals to craft a meaningful Advent Wreath to use in homes for the Advent season.

We invite you to join us for our annual Advent Wreath Workshop in the Fellowship Hall **Wednesday, November 29 beginning at 5:30-6:15** for dinner followed by a brief introduction to the church-wide Wednesday Advent study (December 6, 13), and making a family Advent Wreath.

Children's outreach for December will be making a candy filled whisk for the clients of ECCO. Children are invited to create their own ornaments and other activities will be available for them.

Please indicate that you will be participating by using the event signup in Realm or at mppc.net/events.



Continuing Advent Program for Children... It's a Mini VBS!

For two Wednesdays in December - **12/06 and 12/13** - children are encouraged and invited to attend Advent classes created just for them!

- 5:30-6:00 – Choir for children ages three through 5th grade
- 6:00-6:15 – Dinner in Fellowship Hall
- 6:15-7:00 – Rotation Advent Model – Storytellers, craft, free play and game

Classes are divided into three different groups and will rotate between rooms. They will have a visit from Mary and Joseph the first week and the Wisemen the second week.

Children will be able to ask questions of them and gain insight into Mary and Joseph's journey and the Wisemen's journey.



Children's November Outreach Project

For the three Wednesday night *Kidzrock" programs – **11/01, 11/08 and 11/15** - we are asking each child to bring in canned goods, stuffing or gravy to donate to the clients of ECCO so that they will have a "filling" Thanksgiving. A donation box will be located in the breezeway of the church school building.

Why should children learn about outreach?

Teaching kids the importance of getting involved in their local community is an important part of their education. It allows them to engage at their own comfort level, while still experiencing the many benefits of doing good for others.

connected through education

Get the Youth eNews!

Did you know there is a (mostly) weekly eNews that is emailed directly to parents of Middle and High School young people? You can receive this weekly update by subscribing to Realm mailings or by reaching out to Dan Wiard (dwiard@mppc.net) indicating you would like to be on the mailing list. Each week you get news on Youth Group, Prayer Breakfasts, Trips, Service Projects and more.

Sundays for Youth

Sunday Mornings, 9:45-10:45 a.m.:

Middle School (Basement, L20/22)

High School (Basement, L21)

Groups meet separately as they study the lectionary passage for each Sunday using the PCUSA curriculum *Feasting on the Word*. This engaging curriculum parallels most Service of Worship sermons at MPPC.

Confirmation Class (GH 221/223/225):

Class continues to meet as they gain knowledge that will culminate with them writing statements of faith.

Sunday Nights, 6-7:15 p.m.

MPPC Youth Group, 6-7:15 p.m.

Meeting on Sunday nights, young people gather for Youth Group and an opportunity to explore their faith through conversation and discussion. Middle School meets in GH 221/223/225, High School meets in GH L21 (Basement) unless announced in the eNews. Youth Group will not meet November 19 and 26 since youth will be out on Thanksgiving Break.

Prayer Breakfasts

Middle School – Tuesdays, 7 a.m., Basement

High School – Thursdays, 7 a.m., Chick-Fil-A on Long Point Rd.

Join us as we gather before school for Chick-Fil-A breakfast and a time for prayer together. Meets during the school year Aug-Nov/Dec. & Jan-Apr/May. **NO PRAYER BREAKFAST NOVEMBER 21 AND 23.**

Bethelwoods Middle School Retreat

Space is limited to attend this wonderful Presbytery sponsored Youth Retreat November 10-12. RSVP via Realm.



connected through community



MPPC Women's Retreat is coming in February! Register Today!

So raise your hand if you have ever been on an MPPC Women's Retreat? Raise your hand if you have never been, but always wanted to go? For every woman reading this, the Women's Retreat has returned! The date is **February 2-4, 2024**, the place is **Pawley's Plantation and Litchfield Beach and Golf** north of us, the rate of \$250 includes 2 breakfasts, lunch, Happy Hour, retreat materials and of course your accommodations.

The best part (besides the fellowship, shopping, talking, eating and major gal pal time) is the program will be "Faith, Hope and Joy...Lessons from the Women of the Bible" presented by our own Martha Feil, read more about Martha below. Oh, and another plus...great music provided by our wonderful choir members Haley Sane, Lauren Houston and Taryn Weathington!

Registration is online at mppc.net/event/womens-retreat or on Realm...it's easy to pay online OR stop by the church office OR call Alanna Barrett, Administrative Assistant, at 843-884-4612 and she can get you signed up!

Oh, more bonuses...you can pick your roommates AND, **if you pay before November 13th, you receive a special early bird price of \$235!** (And for you ladies with plans that weekend, there is even a day rate of \$125.)

Hoping to see literally hundreds of you that weekend, so sign up now! Visit mppc.net/event/womens-retreat to register or scan the QR code!



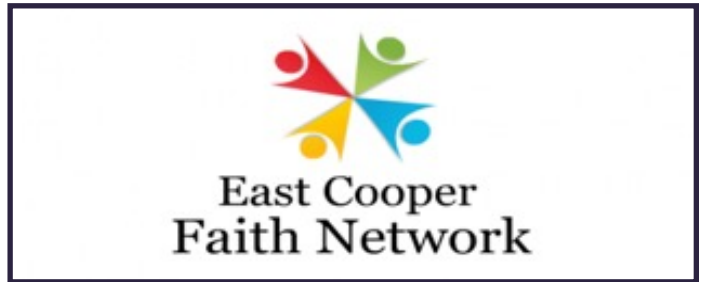
About Speaker Martha Feil:

We are so excited to have Martha Feil as our 2024 Women's Retreat Speaker. Martha is a Commissioned Pastor, and she and her husband Fred have been members of MPPC since 2006. She served in the Elder class of 2015. Currently a member of the praise band, Martha has served this congregation as Bible study facilitator, confirmation group leader, and VBS volunteer.



Her passion is Kairos Prison Ministry International (KPMI) which is dedicated to serving the incarcerated and their families. KPMI's tag line is *Changing Hearts, Transforming Lives, Impacting the World*. She says, "I feel closer to God behind the razor wire of a maximum security prison than anywhere else. The presence of the Holy Spirit is palpable."

connected through mission



Serve Our Local Community Through I-Beam!

Have you been searching for a meaningful opportunity to serve your local community? We would like to reintroduce **I-Beam, a reading and mentoring initiative of East Cooper Faith Network** that connects volunteer adult mentors with 2nd-5th grade students who could benefit from extra support with reading and confidence in the classroom.

Founded in Mt. Pleasant in 2010, I-Beam began with two churches, one school, and a few dozen volunteers and grew to serve over 250 students in nine East Cooper public elementary schools with more than 275 volunteers prior to the pandemic. After a pause, I-Beam is now back in schools, growing again, and in need of many more volunteers!

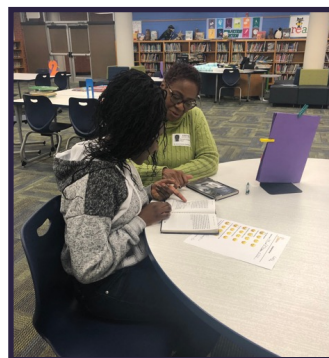
The mentor role involves meeting with one elementary aged student once a week, on a designated day and time, for about thirty minutes at the student's school from October through April. As a mentor, the volunteer works with the student on reading and provides an encouraging, supportive adult connection for them. Volunteers do not need to have any special expertise or background, but rather, a willingness to share their time and positivity to help foster a student's confidence and love for reading!

Nurturing the joy of reading has a real and significant impact on achievement in life from early test scores to high school graduation rates, employment satisfaction, and pay rates. By helping a child increase the minutes they read and the comfort with which they read, I-Beam volunteers are joining a team of advocates giving their time to help students

prepare for a successful future. The more we support and prepare our children for successful futures through a strong foundation of literacy, the better our future community will be.

I-Beam mentors make a huge impact in students' lives. As a bonus, the mentors' lives are often touched as well. One mentor has offered her perspective, "My student and I have established a close bond and both look forward to our weekly sessions. Her improvement in reading and comprehension is a reward to both of us."

Come join us in making a difference in a child's success! We have a number of options for timing and school location. Connect with us at www.ecfaithnetwork.org, by email at ecfnwendell@gmail.com, and by phone 843-972-7566.



connected through hope

Have You Ever Heard of Hope House?

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels un-awares." - Hebrews 13:2

My name is Margaret Agee, and I joined MPPC in 1985. I was on the session when we bought the house next to the church... I believe it was to make more parking, at the time.



I had never been inside the Hope House until last week, when the director, Beth Moore, gave me a tour. I had felt moved to help in some way after losing a friend, Angi Case, who passionately loved Hope House and was one of its biggest champions. I was curious, and just remembered seeing, in the bulletin and the Pelican, Adopt-A- Days when people gave to the Hope House in memory or in honor of someone. I pulled it up on our church website and found that it is a "hospital hospitality house," serving adults who have an adult family member in an area hospital.

What I found was a hidden gem right on our church grounds....mission work right next door. Beth said, as I walked in the side door with her, admiring the gardens, "God is in this place." Yes, He is! Beth and her wonderful volunteers are making a difference to people who are dealing with so much, watching out for their loved ones in the hospital.

Are you curious about Hope House? Call Beth for a tour...(843) 532-4892. Just feeling her love and enthusiasm will make your day, and maybe you may decide to become part of this mission, right in our own backyard.



If you would like to be a part of this ministry team, please contact: Beth Moore, Director of Hope House, (843) 532-4892, bmoore@carolinaone.com.

Adopt-a-Day at Hope House

NOVEMBER 1

In honor of Hope House;
Given by Brian and Margaret French

NOVEMBER 2

In Memory of Edith Bonds and John Nuernberger; Given by Naomi Circle #3

NOVEMBER 3

In honor of my grandmother, an amazing lady, Martha Flynn; Given by her grandson, Brian Collie

NOVEMBER 4

In Memory of a great friend Stevie DuPriest; Given by Karl and Miff Cone

NOVEMBER 5

In Honor of James Magrath's 10th birthday; Given by Ashley Magrath

NOVEMBER 6

In Honor of Hope House; Given by Kathryn and Barre Deleot

NOVEMBER 7

In Honor of Hope House; Given by Becky Neuhaus

NOVEMBER 8

In Honor of Rose and Jere Ross; Given by Brian, Lauren, Rose and Evelyn

NOVEMBER 9

In Memory of Mrs Delores Clarke Walker; Given by Karl and Miff Cone

NOVEMBER 10

In Honor of Hope House; Given by Kathryn and Barre Deleot

NOVEMBER 11

In Memory of my Grandparents, Lt. Col. Dan L Collie and Faye Doris Collie; Given by their grandson, Brian Collie

NOVEMBER 12

In Memory of Edith Bonds and John Nuernberger; Given by the Naomi Circle #3

NOVEMBER 13

In Honor of Hope House; Given by 100 Women Who Care, Charleston, SC

NOVEMBER 14

In Honor of Hope House; Given by East Cooper Sunrise

NOVEMBER 15

In Honor of my loving parents, Michael and Kathy Collie; Given by Brian, Lauren, Rose and Evelyn Collie

NOVEMBER 16

In Honor of Hope House; Given by The Magrath Family

NOVEMBER 18

In Loving Memory of Davis Flohr; Given by Todd, Suzanne, Rowan and Olivia Flohr

NOVEMBER 21

In Honor of my sweet Collie ladies; Lauren, Rose and Evelyn; Given by Brian Collie

NOVEMBER 26

In Honor of the Amazing Music Ministry and Tony Sane; Given by the Collie Family

NOVEMBER 28

In Honor of ALL the staff at MPPC who do such great work; Given by the Collie Family

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

connected through community

Opportunity to Buy a Kirkin' Tartan Flag to Celebrate your Heritage!

In May 2023, we had our first Kirkin' O' the Tartan ceremony to celebrate our Scottish heritage and community spirit. Based on the enthusiasm at the service, MPPC has decided to continue the tradition.

You may buy a flag for yourself/family in Honor of or in Memory of someone, or you may simply buy a flag for yourself. Any member of your family may carry the flag in next year's ceremony. It is planned for **April 28, 2024**, and will have all things Scottish, including a Pipe band and incredible music from the choir followed by a reception. There will be an insert in the program with the names of those who bought flags along with the name of the honoree.



Since these flags must be ordered from Scotland, we must place the order by December. This will be only order of flags for the April 2024 service. **Therefore, your order with payment must be physically received at the church by November 20th.** Please mail, or drop off in Glenn Hair's door drop box, your check or cash to the church clearly labeled "**Kirkin' flag purchase.**" Glenn will then record your payment and then forward your order to Cheryl Clark.

The cost is \$110 and will cover the wool flag from Scotland, the pole, and the stand. When researching your tartan, please make sure you are clear which tartan you would like. Please click on this link to see what is available: <https://greatscotintl.com/collections/banners-flags>. PLEASE be aware, if you choose a tartan that says it is sold out, IT IS NOT. The mills are up and running and we have been assured the flag with your tartan clan will be available.

Please contact Cheryl Clark with any questions at cherylbcclark@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Women Fall Thank Offering:

The Thank Offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. Received in the fall each year, it gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. Thank Offering grants range from \$5,000 to \$50,000. At least 40% of the offering funds health ministries.

2023 Thank Offering OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful.

—Colossians 3:14–15

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PWR23473

connected through community



We are hiring!

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

The Director of Youth Ministry's primary focus will be the youth of MPPC who are in grades 6-12. A secondary emphasis will be on MPPC's college-age young people.

The full description can be found at mppc.net/careers.

Please email your resume to Dan Wiard at dwiard@mppc.net.



Pacesetters: Battery Gadsden Cultural Center

The Battery Gadsden Cultural Center of Sullivan's Island will present some of the rich history of the island and its people as part of the Pacesetters program on **Friday, Nov. 10 in the Fellowship Hall**. The Center works to preserve Sullivan's Island history for future generations, as well as showcase artists, lecturers, musicians, and performers. The program will be presented by our own Mike Walsh who leads the Center.

The Thanksgiving Feast will be catered by S&P Catering: Slice Ham, Turkey and Dressing, Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Rice Pilaf, Green Beans, Orka and Tomatoes, Banana Pudding and CHARLESTON Chewy

Refreshments will be available at 5:30 p.m. The meal begins at 6 and the program at 7 p.m. Cost is \$15/person. **RSVP by Monday, Nov. 6** to Susan Mellichamp at SusanMell@mac.com.

Online Faith Formation:

There are a tremendous number of resources available online for individual and group Bible studies. Here are some worth checking out:

The Bible Project – The Bible Project is a nonprofit crowdfunded organization with the purpose of helping people experience the Bible in a way that is approachable, engaging, and transformative. Their resources include overviews of each book of the Bible, Bible themes, and theology!

The Bible Recap – This group offers a daily podcast and optional resources you can purchase for yourself or group studies with the intent to equip millions around the world to read, understand, and love the Bible, which helps them encounter God in a way that transforms their entire lives.

YouVersion – This is a free Bible experience using the Bible App for smartphones, tablets, and online at Bible.com.



Stephen Ministers, Here for You!

Stephen Ministers are available if you or someone you know needs someone to talk to or pray with. Call Alanna Barrett at the church office for a referral or visit mppc.net/stephen-ministry for more information.



New Inquirers Class Moved to January

Our New Inquirers Class, originally scheduled for November 12, has been rescheduled to January 21, 2024. Participants will meet in person from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in Grace Hall 123-125.

Please spread the word and ask any friends and neighbors who may be considering our church home to contact Rev. Bart Edwards with any questions they may have. Sign up on Realm or at mppc.net/events.



Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

302 Hibben Street
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

CONNECT WITH US

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Alternative Service in Fellowship Hall

9:45 a.m. Education Hour + Fellowship Time

11 a.m. Sanctuary Service + Live Stream

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