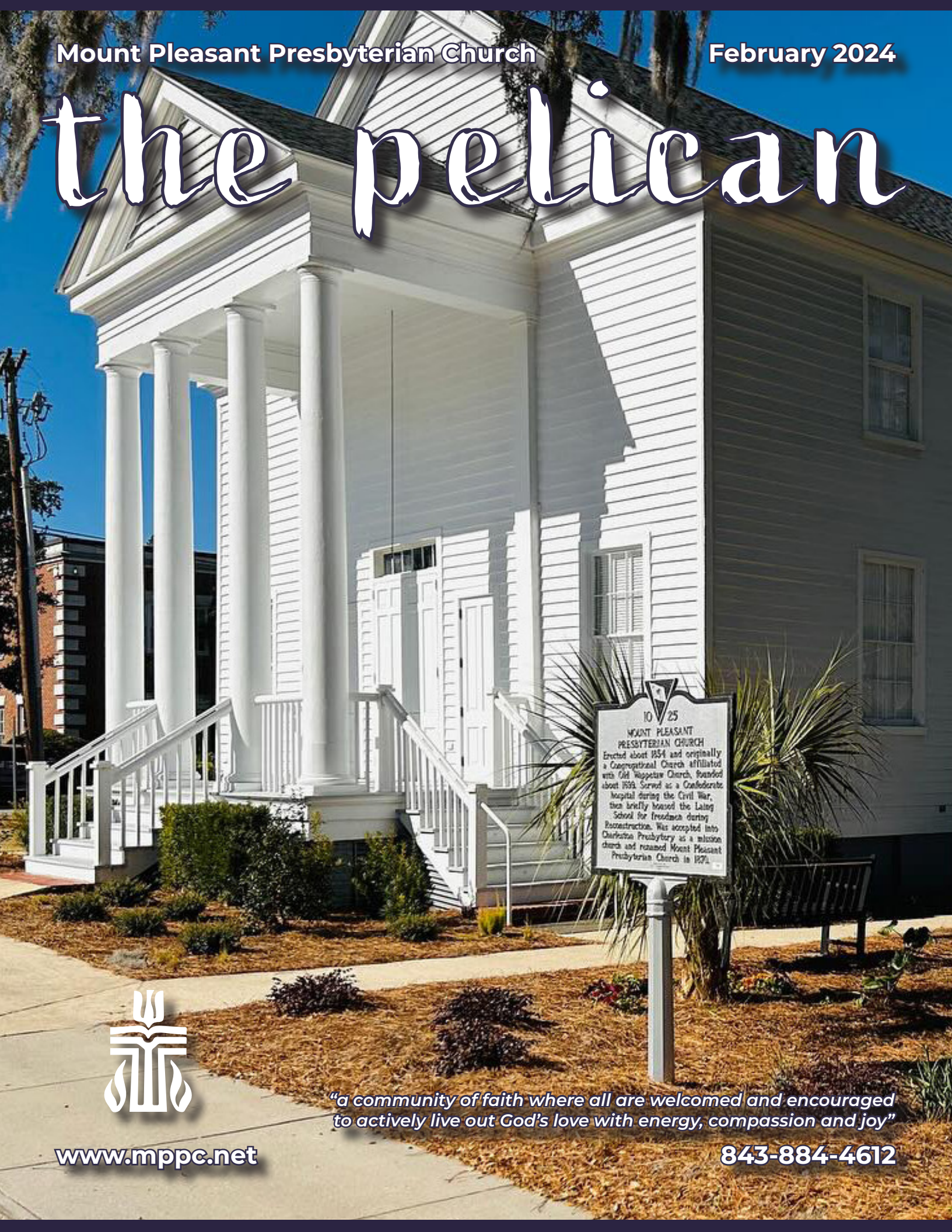


Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

February 2024

the pelican



10 25
MOUNT PLEASANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Erected about 1854 and originally
a Congregational Church affiliated
with Old Wappaw Church, founded
about 1839. Served as a Confederate
hospital during the Civil War,
then briefly housed the Loring
School for freedmen during
Reconstruction. Was accepted into
Charleston Presbytery as a mission
church and renamed Mount Pleasant
Presbyterian Church in 1874.



www.mppc.net

*"a community of faith where all are welcomed and encouraged
to actively live out God's love with energy, compassion and joy"*

843-884-4612

from rev. dr. de beer



"A community of faith where all are welcomed and encouraged to actively live out God's love with energy, compassion and joy"

These words should look strangely familiar... this is the vision statement that was approved by the session and Congregation in 2023. These words say so much about who Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church wants to be.

And this vision states clearly that we are a community of faith. To be clear, our faith is not vested in what we have achieved over the many years of our existence, but our faith stems from God's grace – God who showed us in Jesus Christ just how much we are loved. It is the faith we affirm (sometimes hesitantly, sometimes more boldly) when we meet for worship; it is the faith we see in action when we realize that MPPC is a place where we want to be, because the people are loving and kind, accepting and welcoming.

This is what many people in our latest inquirers class told us. In different ways they told us about their experience of MPPC, of asking neighbors which church will be a "good fit" for them, a place to make a church home. Without hesitating, the answer was "MPPC." We heard about young people who parted ways with the church for a while, and when they returned, were welcomed into MPPC. One mother told how "somebody" from the congregation took her baby from her in a packed Christmas Eve worship service so she could take care of the other two kids, and how much it meant to her at that moment.

Listening to these stories, I was reminded of stories of the early church, as Eugene Peterson paraphrased them, *"They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every*

day their number grew as God added those who were saved" (Eugene H. Peterson, The Message. Acts 2:46-47).

My prayer is that MPPC will continue to develop this culture of worshipping, eating and playing together, a life marked by exuberance and joy—where faith is expressed in the way we welcome and treat all people, as we praise God!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danie de Beer".

Rev. Dr. Danie de Beer

Interim Pastor & Head of Staff

Praying for our Senior Pastor Nominating Committee:

Elizabeth Amory, Chip Bruorton, Susan Dalton, Andrew de Holl, McRae Hogan, Towner Magill, Bruce McAdams, Ellie McDermott, Susan Mellichamp—a group of nine very special people who have answered God's call to serve on the committee to identify the Senior Pastor whom God is preparing to join us at MPPC. Our call and responsibility as members of the congregation is to pray fervently and continually for this committee. Our prayers of support and encouragement unite us as Christ's body, working together in this search process to bring about God's good plan for our future. Please lift each member of the committee by name to the Lord and pray for the Holy Spirit to equip them with wisdom, strength for the demanding work, and joy in their serving.

connected through music



Village Concert Series: The Ben Rosenblum Nebula Project on Friday, March 1 at 7 pm

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, March 1 at 7 p.m. where Ben Rosenblum brings his awardwinning, genre-bending compositional style to the Nebula Project, a six-piece ensemble featuring a diverse cast of New York City's most in-demand jazz musicians.

Rosenblum boasts an extensive resume, having led bands at prestigious venues around the world (Ravinia, Library of Congress, Kuumbwa Jazz Center; multiple tours in the US, Canada, Europe and Japan) and touring with several Grammy and Juno recognized artists across various musical genres, including Rickie Lee Jones, Kiran Ahluwalia, Curtis Lundy, Nêgah Santos and Laura Anglade. With the Nebula Project, the pianist/accordionist digs deeply into his cosmopolitan roots in NYC to create a truly global music, drawing from influences as diverse as Brazilian forró, Irish reels and jigs, Bulgarian folkloric songs, Dominican merengue and Middle Eastern traditional rhythms, and combining them with an extensive rooting in American jazz and traditional music. Rosenblum leans on personal experiences working with master musicians from these and other areas of the world in order to write explorative, emotional, narrative-driven compositions that have garnered awards from ASCAP, Downbeat and beyond.

Ben Rosenblum Nebula Project is celebrating their February 2023 release, A Thousand Pebbles. Since the Nebula Project's first album release in 2020, Kites and Strings, The Nebula Project was voted runner-up for Best New Artist in JazzTimes' 2020 Readers' Poll, and the album received positive reviews from over twenty publications, including All About Jazz, NYC Jazz Record, JazzTimes, JazzLife (Japan) and more.

ASH WEDNESDAY



6 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14TH

Join us for a brief worship service with music and imposition of ashes as we begin our Lenten journey.



HISTORY & HERITAGE OF HYMNS IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join Tony Sane and Jodi Dyer as we explore our "Glory to God" hymnal, and learn more about the composers and lyricists that brought these great hymns to life.

Contact Tony Sane (tsane@mppc.net) for more information.

*Tuesdays, Feb. 13-Mar. 26
9 a.m. in the choir room.*



Ash Wednesday Service: Wednesday, February 14 at 6 p.m.

Join us for a brief worship service with music and imposition of ashes as we begin our Lenten journey on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 6 p.m.

History & Heritage of Hymns in the Presbyterian Church

Join Tony Sane and Jodi Dyer as we explore our "Glory to God" hymnal, and learn more about the composers and lyricists that brought these great hymns to life. We will meet Tuesdays, Feb. 13-Mar. 26 at 9 a.m. in the choir room. Contact Tony Sane (tsane@mppc.net) for more information.

connected through education

Lenten Study – Meeting Jesus at the Table

Those who participate in our Lenten Small Group study will find deep, spiritual nourishment this year as authors Cynthia M. Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr remind us that Jesus meets us in the sacred ordinary acts of breaking bread together. Through *Meeting Jesus at the Table*, participants will engage in familiar stories from the Gospels and reflect on the ways Jesus still meets us at table. At each stop, we gather at a different table with Jesus, learning how to love, serve, and expand the hospitality of God's grace to others.

Over the six weeks of Lent, we will look at The Feeding of the Multitude (Mark 6:30-44), He Eats with Tax Collectors and Sinners (Matthew 9:9-13), Dinner Interrupted (Luke 7:36-50), Making Room at the Table (Luke 14:7-14), Empty Chairs at the Table (Luke 14:15-24), and a Meal with Chosen Family (John 12:1-8). Our study concludes with participants taking into Holy Week two additional readings to do at home, Matthew 26:17-30 and Luke 24:13-35.

Here is a quick glimpse of our opening session:

Have you ever been hungry? REALLY HUNGRY? I acknowledge that I am among those in this world who are incredibly privileged; perhaps you are too. I've occasionally had a growling stomach, but I have always known that I could and would, sooner or later, get enough to eat. I've never known life-threatening hunger for food. But I have been famished for hope...

Stories about hunger and food are all over the Bible. As this study suggests, many of the most significant events in Jesus' ministry occur when he is at a dinner table. When the Bible tells stories about hunger or uses food and drink (bread and wine) as metaphors for God's presence, the backdrop is real hunger. The Bible emerged out of the lives of people...

Feeding the multitude was clearly a fundamental and critical story for the early church. The context for the story is typically understood as a deserted place away from the cities and towns, out in nature. The event calls into question our devotion to the idea of scarcity and our unwillingness to look to the divine for the miracles of sharing and compassion, or trustworthiness and reliance on God and our community. The story also places the disciples as key characters with the obligation...

Do you want to know more?

Registration for Small Groups is now open for everyone. Participants can sign up for specific or "open" small groups via Realm or by contacting Trish Snead in the church office. **You can access and sign up for a group facilitator through your Realm account by going to community/groups/2024 Lent Small Groups.** An "open" group means that you are interested in that small group format (in-person or virtual) and are open to who facilitates your group. "Open" group registrants will be paired with a group. If you would like to facilitate a small group, please contact Dan Wiard or Trish Snead at the church.

On Shrove Tuesday, February 13, we kickoff our Lenten study with programs for all ages, including a keynote presentation for adults.

Dinner is at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall; programs begin at 6:45 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Anita Herbert, minister at Summerville Presbyterian Church, Summerville, SC, will lead adults in our opening gathering. Anita has been at Summerville PC since 2019 and will bring her passion for biblical stories and training in education to help us begin our study *Meeting Jesus at the Table*.

We encourage the entire congregation to participate in this year's Lenten Small Groups. Participants can register for a small group and the Lenten Kickoff dinner through Realm at these links: Small Groups (onrealm.org/mppc/Groups/MinistryAreas) Lenten Kickoff Dinner (mppc.net/event/shrove-tuesday). *Meeting Jesus at the Table* books are available and can be picked up in the church office, at the Lenten Dinner Kickoff, and through your small groups. Suggested donation for books: \$10/book.

New Small Groups Worth Noting:

- A Lenten Small Group for parents with children in school! Meets during school, and preschool hours, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays! Signup for the Heuring Small Group if this is appealing.
- Youngish Adults on Sundays during Sunday School, 9:45-10:45 a.m. This large group will divide into multiple small groups during Lent while children are in their age-appropriate class. Sign up for the Youngish Adults Small Group if you are interested in participating in this group.
- For travelers and those who prefer not to go out in the evenings, sign up for the ZOOM small group. Day and time to be determined based on interest from those who register.

connected through education



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner



Fellowship Hall 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 13

2024 Lenten Devotion Booklet

This year the Adult Faith Formation Ministry Team and Christian Education Committee will be providing a Daily Lenten Devotion Book. This booklet, titled *Local Pilgrimage: A Wandering, Wondering Daily Devotional*, written by Presbyterian Outlook Editor Teri McDowell and others, will be available beginning Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the Lenten Kickoff and digitally through the eNews on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Here's a glimpse of the Lenten Devotional:

This daily Lent devotional from the Presbyterian Outlook invites you to explore and observe new and familiar places in your community. What will God reveal to you when you pause, ponder and reflect? A cemetery, a bar, a library, an emergency waiting room: what do all these places have in common?

In Local Pilgrim, Outlook Editor/Publisher Teri McDowell Ott and other writers explore what God might reveal to us if we intentionally explore our communities. Who do we see? What do we hear? God reveals God's self when we look. Lent is the perfect season for a pilgrimage such as this, leading to meaningful contemplation and sacred discoveries. As you make your way through this devotional, you might find yourself inspired to go somewhere new; or somewhere familiar with a notebook in hand; pause, ponder and pray. What will God unveil? Join us on your local pilgrimage to new and familiar places in your community.

Each daily reflection, beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating on Easter Sunday, will combine personal reflection, Scripture and prayer. May God bless you and keep you on your Lenten journey.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Classes During Lent (beginning Feb. 18)

While there are *Meeting Jesus at the Table* Small Groups meeting during adult Sunday School, there are other Lenten studies happening, too. This gives participants options for Lenten studies or to participate in a small group during the week and discover a different topic on Sunday mornings. Here is a glimpse of what adult classes are studying during Lent.

Youngish Adults (SB 209, 9:45 a.m.) & The Middle (SB 226, 9:45 a.m.) – *Meeting Jesus at the Table*

Connect 3 (Parlor, 9:30 a.m.) – *Finding Jesus in the Psalms*, by Barbara Roose

Barb Roose guides the reader through a meaningful encounter with the Psalms through the season of Lent. Combining an interpretation of the psalms with real life stories, the study moves through the familiar words of Psalm 23 toward the painful cries of Psalm 22 uttered by Jesus on the cross. The study includes reflections on the life of King David and the original context of the writings, along with connections between the psalms and the life and death of Jesus the Messiah.

Academy of Saint John (SB 206, 9:15 a.m.) – *Listen: Praying in a Noisy World* by Rueben P. Job

We live in a world of noise. Everywhere we go, we hear sounds that compete for our minds and hearts. Listening to God requires a deliberate choice to shut out the chaos around us and focus our thoughts.

Listen, by Rueben P. Job, is a 40-day experience created to offer help to those new to prayer, those with a daily prayer routine, and those whose lives seem too busy to pray.

As we learn to listen, we find a new depth and fulfillment in our relationship with God and a new experience of God as guide and companion in our lives. The daily prayer pattern includes an invitation, silence, Bible reading, a story, guided time for reflecting and listening, and practical help for developing six specific prayer practices.

connected through education

Thank you MPPC!

I have been met with nothing short of incredible enthusiasm for the youth program and for that I am so grateful. Your generous welcomes are so appreciated, and all your support makes me hopeful for youth ministry at MPPC. I would just love to give everyone a great big thank you for everything so far. If you have ever felt even an itch to get involved with youth ministry, I invite you to reach out and figure out how you can help! - Glenna



Youth Sunday, Feb. 11:

On February 11, the Youth of MPPC will be our ministers of worship. They have worked hard and are continuing to create two full worship services following the lectionary. This effort is led by our confirmation class as they are exploring the importance of worship through building their own service. All the liturgy, prayers, and even the sermon will be written and delivered by the youth. Youth Sunday is an important opportunity for young worshippers to see that they are more than capable of participating in worship in a substantial and meaningful way that not only enhances the service but informs their own faith and gives them a sense of belonging in their church family. Youth Sunday is a wonderful reminder that, yes, the youth are the future of the church, but they're also the now.

High School Ski Trip:

This year the high school ski trip will be February 16-19 (Presidents Day weekend). In addition to lots of fun on the slopes, and plenty of hot chocolate, we will do a Lent focused study over the course of the weekend. With Lent having just started the Wednesday before, it will be a perfect time to dive into what Lent really means, why it's important, and how to carry that into our day-to-day lives as young people.

In an effort to keep that study going, there will be a youth small group participating in the Lenten study throughout the following weeks. In addition to our meal together and fellowship, we will weave this study into our youth group program following Youth Sunday.

Upcoming Events:

Thursdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; 7 a.m. – **High School Prayer Breakfast**. Chick-Fil-A on Long Point.

Sunday, February 4; 5-6:30 (MS), 6-7:30 (HS) – **Youth Group** (Run through – Youth Sunday)

Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27; 7 a.m. – **Middle School Prayer Breakfast**. (SB Basement)

Sunday, February 11 – **Youth Sunday**

Tuesday, February 13; 6 p.m. **Shrove Tuesday Lent Kickoff**

Sunday, February 18, 25; 5-6:30 (MS), 6-7:30 (HS) – **Youth Group**

Tuesday, February 27 – **Confirmation attends Session**.

Upcoming Trips:

February 16-19, 2024 – HS Ski Trip. Registration is OPEN.

February 23-25, 2024 - HS Bethelwoods. Registration is and has been open for High School Bethelwoods! This is a weekend retreat put together by the Presbytery Youth Council, so it's designed by youth, for youth. Cost: \$130.

June 8-15, 2024 - HS Montreat. Registration is OPEN.

June 17-21, 2024 - Vacation Bible School

July 17-21, 2024 - MS Montreat. Registration is OPEN.

August 4-9, 2024 - MS Mission Trip

connected through education

Camp Firelight VBS Comes to Life this June!



During Vacation Bible School, join first-time camp Counselor Sam and Lumen, “Lu,” the lightning bug puppet, for a summer adventure at Camp Firelight. Campers

accompany Counselor Sam and Lu during each assembly session and learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day Campers see Counselor Sam face new challenges, from as simple as leading Campers on a hike to as intimidating as meeting a new and wise nature expert. With the help of Lu, the Lightning Bug, and the Camp Counselor Guidebook, Counselor Sam and the Campers explore timeless Bible stories showing how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God, faced their fears, and went on to do great things in God’s name.

As Campers experience the stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they learn ways to connect with and trust God. And best of all, they understand they can connect with God at VBS, church, home, and every area of

their lives. This unique Vacation Bible School program from Cokesbury Kids VBS invites children on an exciting journey where they learn to trust God no matter what situation life brings, know God is always with them, and feel confident in sharing the good news of God’s love through Jesus Christ.

Features of this year’s Vacation Bible School:

- Mini VBS for children 3 years of age or younger on days when parent is volunteering on-campus.
- Youth helpers throughout the VBS experience.
- Special rising 6th grade program.

Planning Team currently being formed: Angela Phillips (co-director), Kelley Myrick (co-director), Erin Dhand, Sarah Eargle, Anna Shaw, Katherine Strickland

VBS Dates - Monday, June 17 through Friday, June 21

Times – 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$65

Stay tuned for Signup dates!

If you would like to be a part of the planning team, please contact Lynn at clwiard@mppc.net. It takes a village!

Lenten Kickoff for Children on Feb. 13:

Children preschool through 5th grade are invited and encouraged to join us for the first Lenten program for children. On this special night before Ash Wednesday, after dinner children will be dismissed from dinner and go to the Education Building for a class on the ashes used on Ash Wednesday. Why do we have ashes? Where do they come from? What is the bigger meaning behind them? Children will also use them to create a cross along with scripture. Have your child/ren come to this important and creative class!

The Easter Garden, Feb. 21-April 10 (except Apr. 3):

The Easter Garden is a special place to explore the story and the symbols of Holy Week. Time in The Easter Garden is spent exploring the Bible, making symbols of Lent as special gifts, and preparing for Lent. Children are divided into age groups (ages three through fifth grade) that will explore the garden, serving others by creating gifts for those whose hearts and lives may need special attention and even planting flowers in the beds of MPPC! Featured symbols: palm tree (Palm Sunday), grape arbor (Last Supper), stream (washing of feet), rooster (Peter’s denial), rock (prayer in the garden), cross (crucifixion), lily, and a butterfly (Easter).

connected through mission

Haiti Outreach Ministries

In December 2018, a team of Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church members and I traveled to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to introduce MPPC to Haiti Outreach Ministries (HOM - haitiom.org). In our week there, we toured the four campuses and were updated on many of the HOM projects. We asked Pastor Leon, the founder and Executive Director of HOM, what one project we as a church could concentrate our efforts on that would help the most. Pastor Leon immediately suggested we concentrate on the Youth Building on the Repatriote campus. Repatriote is a suburb of Port-au-Prince. At that time, the youth did not have a space to call their own and were sharing space with the children's ministry. I took this picture of the first floor of the building that had just started (see *photo below where the arrow is pointing*). However, funds had dried up for the project, and Pastor Leon was anxious to get the building back on track.



Little did we know then that COVID and civil unrest in Haiti would keep us from returning to Repatriote. But one of the things I admire in the Haitian people is that they are resilient and resourceful. HOM flipped its project-building model to use the cooks, drivers, and translators that normally service visiting American teams of workers to be the construction

workers themselves. This decision had two great benefits: it kept most of HOM's 300-member workforce employed and allowed many critical construction projects to continue.



This last month, I received this picture and a short video of thanks from Pastor Leon as the Youth Building nears completion. (See *photo above and look for the video on MPPC social media*). The International Missions team of MPPC stayed vigilant in sending funds to HOM earmarked for the youth building, and now, five years later, it is almost ready for use. I think there is a great lesson here: sometimes life can throw obstacles in our way, but with God's help, we can do anything. We can even build a space in Port-au-Prince, the poorest city in the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. A space that HOM will use to educate the youth of their community. A space that can provide a safe and welcoming location for the youth to come and know that there is HOPE. Thanks to all of you for supporting this important ministry, and if you would like to find out more ways to help, let me know.

Blessings,

Rev. Bart Edwards

Associate Pastor for Missions



Getting Your Heart & Yourself Involved - International Missions & LAMB

In 2013, my family and I joined an MPPC group traveling to the LAMB Institute in Honduras. I had no idea how God would use this trip to shape the next 11 years of my life. After returning from the trip, I was driven figure out how I could stay involved in international missions. A trip to Honduras each year did not work into our family plan. So what could I do? Join the international missions committee!

Involvement in the mission committee helped me to meet all sorts of church members that for years had a passion for both local and international mission. But that was not all, the relationships served as invitations and building blocks for new ways to get involved and

continue to grow in my faith. The richness of these relationships has been immeasurable.

Additionally, we will be traveling to LAMB July 27-August 3, 2024! We'd love to have you join us, sign up at mppc.net/mission-trip-application.

Where is God calling you? When Jesus called the disciples, he said, "Come and see." May Jesus' appeal to holy curiosity nudge your heart to come and see what God is doing in international mission. I can tell you that your faith will be blessed as you follow Jesus! Contact me, Caroline Feller (carolinefeller@homesc.com), with any questions!

connected through hope

Eagle Scouts Help Hope House

"Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to."

- Deuteronomy 15:10

The ongoing maintenance issues, often coupled with owning an old home, sometimes become a financial challenge!

Jay Dunn and Connor Neal, two young men from Scout Troop 20 stepped in to assist with the challenge. They have worked diligently making repairs in an effort to attain their Eagle Scout designations. Very recently, both completed all tasks required and have made significant improvements at Hope House and Hope Cottage!

Jay recently sent a video of his Hope House Restoration Project. Below are some of the things he had to say about the tasks.

Why did you choose Hope House?

"Because Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church has helped me throughout my whole life of Boy and Cub Scout experience of ten years. I was also baptized there, so I thought that it was the perfect place to help out and give back to."

Overview of My Project

"I will be restoring certain parts of Hope House. I will pressure wash and clean two brick areas and the ramp to get into the house. I will replace all rotted boards on the ramp. In the garden, I will replace a lattice fence that is broken. I will test and fix any broken landscape lighting. I will redo some of the landscaping, any dead or overgrown plants will be pulled or trimmed and replaced."

Jay has done an exceptional job and has been a pleasure to work with throughout this project. Connor has completed his task as well, as he worked diligently on the Cottage exterior restoration. Please stop by anytime to see the fruits of their labor.

Stay tuned for an update on the tasks he completed in next month's Pelican.

Beth Moore

Director of Hope House



Adopt-a-Day at Hope House

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2/1 In Honor of Hope House; given by Claire Walsh. | 2/11 In Honor of Hope House; given by Lawrence and Phyllis Simeon. |
| 2/1 In Loving Memory of Laura Caroon Jones, Mother of Becky Neuhaus; given by the Hope House Ministry Team. | 2/12 In Honor of Hope House; given by George and Ashley Magrath. |
| 2/2 In Honor of Hope House; given by Becky Neuhaus. | 2/13 In Honor of Hope House; given by Nancy Martenson. |
| 2/3 In Honor of Hope House; given by Kelley Miller. | 2/14 In Honor of Hope House; given by Chip and Lindsay Bruorton. |
| 2/3 In Honor of Mary Lake Davidson; given by the Davidson Family. | 2/15 In Honor of Hope House; given by Beth Fondren. |
| 2/4 In Honor of Hope House; given by Robert and Anne Ostrom. | 2/16 In Memory of Brenda Craig; given by Tom and Peggy Spain. |
| 2/5 In Honor of Hope House; given by Rebecca Reynolds. | 2/17 In Memory of Laura Caroon Jones; given by Carrie Thompson. |
| 2/6 In Appreciation of Suzy Edwards and Palmetto Presbyterian Church, for choosing Hope House as a recipient of donations made at "The Gingerbread House Event." Given by the Ministry Team. | 2/18 In Honor of Tyler Davidson; given by the Davidson Family. |
| 2/7 In Honor of the Hope House Ministry; given by a Group of Hobcaw Creek PLantation Neighbors. | 2/19 In Honor of Hope House; given by the Griffith Family. |
| 2/8 In Memory of Brenda Craig; given by Carrie Thompson. | 2/20 In Memory of Brenda Craig; given by Marcus and Sue Googer. |
| 2/9 In Honor of Hope House; given by Joe and Diane Molinari. | 2/21 In Memory of Laura Caroon Jones, Mother of Becky Neuhaus; given by Sara Stewart. |
| 2/10 In Memory of Brenda Craig; given by Barre and Kathy Deleot. | 2/22 In Honor of Dr. Danie DeBeer; given by the McGill Family. |
| | 2/23 In Honor of Hope House; given by Kathy Deleot. |

connected through community

Elder & Deacon Nominations

The 2024 nominations process to be considered for election to the offices of elder or deacon is beginning. The call for recommendations begins NOW and will close on February 24, 2024. To submit a recommendation, please use the online form at mppc.net/nominations. Additionally, paper nomination forms may be picked up and dropped off in the church office on Sundays or during regular business hours. The Nominating Committee will prayerfully consider each recommendation and present a slate of officers for a congregational vote at a called congregational meeting in the spring.

The election of those selected to lead and serve us in the coming years is especially important as we move from a transitional senior pastor to a new senior pastor, and continue to manage other challenges facing the church. We invite you to help shape the life of the church with your recommendations, and hope you will be led by the Holy Spirit and pray for discernment to identify individuals with spiritual gifts for leadership and service. Although not required, please consider asking those you propose to recommend if they are willing to serve.

We will provide the congregation with updates as we go through the nomination and election process together. Please contact us if you have any questions at gower.ejg@gmail.com.

Nominations for this year include:

- 7 ruling elders to serve three-year term (2024-2027)
- 12 deacons to serve three-year terms (2024-2027)
- 2 youth elders and 2 youth deacons to serve one-year terms (2024-2025)

In Christ's service,

Your 2023-2024 Congregational Nominating Committee:

Ellen Gower, Chair
Joe Rainero, Chair-Elect
Mack Cross
Maryanne Davis
Jamie Keeler
Holly Limbert
Nancy Masche
Tom Worrall
Rev. Dr. Danie DeBeer, ex officio
Rev. Bart Edwards, ex officio



MPPC "Rakes on Wheels" Will Roll March 2 – 22

Our annual spring yard cleanup for homebound elderly and disabled Meals on Wheels recipients is a "GO" for those folks requesting assistance this year. East Cooper MOW partners with our congregation in this undertaking. Out of the 350 meal recipients, there are some folks who lack both ability and resources to clean up their yards. Our raking teams will spend about 2 hours doing that job for this mostly elderly group and "make their day" at the same time. This "non-food" assistance helps people so they might remain in their homes as long as possible. Cleaning up their yard is very meaningful to these neighbors of ours. For a couple of hours work they know they are not forgotten or isolated from their community. Children chattering and working in their yard often remind them of earlier times when they and their children did the same project at their home.



This is really a "family friendly" activity. It's also perfect for individuals and small groups (Sunday School classes, etc.). You pick your date (Saturdays and Sunday afternoons are the most popular but weekdays work too). We make sure your team has enough capable rakers to finish the job in 2 hours; provide rakes, bags, and guidance. All you will need to bring is your gloves, sunscreen, and your water bottle. To sign up, just email Jim Ingham (inghamsc@hotmail.com) OR call Alexis at the church (843 884-4612): tell us your desired date, how many rakers (incl. small children....we do have small rakes too!). We will make sure every home has 4-6 "big" people to finish the job in 2 hours. We expect to do about 12 yards so we will need at least 50 "big" rakers in total.

Don't know what date you want yet? Just provide your name, number of rakers, and email address and we will figure out the details later.

connected through community



Pacesetters: Songs of the Heart

Join the Pacesetters for their February gathering with festive entertainment provided by Lyricc Jenkins, Timmi Winston and David Nagelkirk! We will be "Songs from the Heart" on **Friday, February 9th in the Fellowship Hall**. Doors open at 5:30 pm for refreshments, dinner begins at 6 & the program will start at 7.

RSVP: Susan Mellichamp by February 5, 2023 at SusanMell@mac.com or cell: 843-697-2111. \$15/per person, paid at the door. Dinner will be an Italian meal!



Third Act: International African American Museum

Our monthly Third Act gathering will be switching up slightly for February, and we will meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month instead of the 4th Monday.

We will be taking a short bus trip to downtown Charleston to the International African American Museum on Tuesday, February 27th. We will meet at church at 9:50 am, the bus will leave at 10 am, and the tickets are reserved for 10:30 am. The cost is \$14 each for Seniors, please pay online when registering at mppc.net/events.

Tickets are limited, reserve your seat now. If unable to access Realm, call Alexis at the church office (843) 884-4612 to reserve your seat.

Adjusting Your 2024 Pledges:

During worship on Sunday, January 28th, Trey Lucy along with the Finance Committee spoke to the congregation about the church's budget and how important your contributions are to the ministry and mission of MPPC.



If you felt moved by this presentation and would like to increase your pledge for 2024, please reach out to Glenn Hair, our Finance Director. Glenn will be able to make any adjustments you may need. He can be reached at 843-884-4612 or ghair@mppc.net. You can also stop by the church office if you'd prefer to speak with him in person.

If you have not pledged for 2024, we'd love for you to consider pledging today. Please visit onrealm.org/mppc/-/form/pledge/2024 or stop by the office.

May God bless you and return your generosity a hundredfold!

Recent Endowment Gifts:

In Memory of Brenda Craig, Given by:

Susan Mellichamp
Lewis and Frances Horton
The Rev. Lib McGregor Simmons

In Memory of Dr. Julian McGill, Given by:

Ron and Martha Cole
Dal and Linda Schreck
Mac and Donna Thigpen
The Rev. Lib McGregor Simmons
Klara Johnson
Becky Reynolds
Elton and Kathy Carrier
Jerry George

In Honor of Dal and Linda Schreck, Given by:

Robert and Nancy Masche

Sanctuary Update:

The Property and Grounds Committee is glad to report that the Town has issued a permit for repairing the Sanctuary. We are working with the insurance company to get their approvals on costs, and we anticipate work will take a few weeks. Many thanks to Stacy Hanling and Will Ralston for moving this project forward through many hurdles!



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

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OTHER WAYS

mppc.net/contact

843-884-4612

PRAYER REQUESTS

mppc.net/prayer-requests