

The Weekly Montreat Memo



THE WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA

October 20, 2020

All Are Welcome!



**Please contact the church office
(office@montreatchurch.org)
if you would like to sign up to receive
resources for Sunday home worship!**

**In-person worship services & gatherings
are temporarily suspended.**

**All staff are gratefully continuing their work
from home offices or remote locations.**

Our Calendar

Tue., Oct. 20	6:30 P.M.	Session Meeting <i>via Zoom</i>
Wed., Oct. 21	by 6:00	Wednesday Morning Prayer

	A.M.	Service <i>via Constant Contact</i>
Wed., Oct. 21	11:30 A.M.	Worship & Music Committee <i>via Zoom</i>
Sun., Oct. 25	9:30-10:15 A.M.	Sunday Church Chat <i>via Zoom</i>
Sun., Oct. 25	by 10:00 A.M.	MPC Sunday Worship Service distributed <i>via Constant Contact</i>
Wed., Oct. 28	5:00 P.M.	Montreat Wednesday <i>distributed via Constant Contact</i>

**Please share scheduling info with the office administrator
at office@montreatchurch.org.**

In order to streamline communication and avoid confusion,
**any requests made to the MRA on behalf of church programs
should come through the church office,**
and we will direct them to the appropriate contacts at MRA.

Morning Prayer Service 6:00 A.M. Wednesday, October 21

This Wednesday morning, October 21, a Morning Prayer service of less than 10 minutes' duration will be distributed at 6:00 A.M. from the pastor's porch.

Stewardship 2021

A Stewardship Meditation based on Luke 13:18-21

Jesus said, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches." And again he said, "To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a baker took and mixed in

with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

- These two brief parables tell about small beginnings and great endings.
- **Jesus, an itinerant carpenter, preaching his way around a backwater of the Roman Empire, is the living illustration of these parables. Within a single generation, his religion had spread to the farthest reaches of the empire, and to India, Africa and Europe. 20 centuries later, a third of all people living on earth are Christians.**
- Lord, let all our expectations of you be limitless, as you yourself are limitless.

So, what does this mean for Montreat Presbyterian Church and for each of us? We are nearing the conclusion of October and our stewardship emphasis season. Small and larger gifts are appreciated and can be used by God. There is hardly a more beautiful way to speak about the hidden promise of even the smallest gift than the image of the mustard seed, so tiny yet holding so much possibility. Or for those who are bakers, the yeast provides a similar illustration. We are given so many gifts from God, and we are called to give back. Perhaps we feel small, or we feel like our gifts are small, but we hold the promise of God's awesome power at work within us and through our gifts. So we share our gifts in order that God can use them and grow them just like the mustard seed becomes a tree big enough for birds and the yeast grows big enough to make the bread and provide sustenance for us.

You may have recently received a stewardship letter, which included inserts: your 2021 estimate of giving card and a stamped return envelope. In the event that you have not attended to this important opportunity, your stewardship team and church committee leaders would greatly appreciate your mailing your financial pledge in **this week**. Your thoughtful gifts will enable us to plan our budget for 2021.

E.N.

(The meditation text was provided by sources on the Presbyterian Foundation website, written by Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett of Hastings, Nebraska.)

**Montreat Wednesday
5:00 P.M., October 28 via Zoom**

MONTREAT WEDNESDAY Next Wednesday Oct. 28th

The Covid Crisis and Our Local Community Service Organizations - Part One

**Buncombe County Department of Health & Human Services, Black Mountain
Counseling Center and Bounty & Soul**



**PRESENTED ON-LINE: A LINK WILL
BE SENT OUT NEXT WEDNESDAY**

JOIN US FOR THIS PROGRAM!!

"A Christmas Tapestry"



Calling all Montreat Presbyterian Church members! We would like your help in creating scenes of the Christmas story. We will be piecing together a special Christmas presentation using photographs submitted. **ALL ages are invited to participate.**

We will involve the roles from scripture that tell of Jesus' birth:

Prophets and angels, Mary and Joseph, Angel Gabriel, shepherds and Magi, and more.

The way we'll do this will be collecting photographs taken by those participating who will pose as part of the scenes of the scripture readings. Those photographs will be submitted and woven together and that "Christmas Tapestry" will be distributed to the congregation in December.

Yes, I want to be part of the Christmas Tapestry! What will I need to do to participate?

1) Email Vivian Hare (music@montreatchurch.org) by October 27, letting her know you would like to participate.

- "Yes, I/we would like to participate in the Christmas Tapestry."

- List all names of those in your household who will participate, and your contact email address, and phone number.

2) You will be assigned a role and will need to have someone photograph you portraying the scene of that assigned role. This may be done outside or inside your home (a very few roles will involve requested video). No worries about fancy costumes. We'll be creative with what we have. But helpful ideas will be given for how to portray your part.

3) You will need to be able to send your photographs to Vivian, via email, by the date assigned.

How will I know what I'm supposed to do?

After we hear from all who are interested in participating, parts will be assigned and sent to you along with instructions for what to do for your photograph and when to return your photographs. Some helpful ideas will be given for your role.

Please note, this is a pandemic project: **no groups will be gathering** to create any scenes for this project.

Please let Vivian know you would like to participate by October 27. Further instructions will be given after we know who would like to be involved.

Advent 2020, here we come with hope and joy!

V.H.

Advent Wreath at Home

In preparation for Advent, the season of preparation for the coming of Christ that covers the four Sundays before Christmas (beginning this year on Nov. 29), the Worship & Music Committee invites you to join us in preparing an Advent wreath for home use.

You can [click here](#) to to open, print, or download a short item called "Making an Advent Wreath at Home." Many thanks to committee member Paulette Heck for drafting it.

Church Chat

Are you missing seeing faces without masks? Do you miss the friends you connected with around the coffee pot on Sunday mornings? If so, you may enjoy joining **Church Chat** on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15!

This is a light conversation amongst our MPC family, a time we share with each other anything from our favorite saints, to our favorite hymns, to our favorite sports events, to what is happening in our lives. Catching up with our church family is the goal. No one is required to speak, but the greeters will invite you to share if you want. Currently, William & Sheri Pender and Amy & Mason Blake alternate being our greeters. Take a break from separation and join us! The Zoom link will be sent via Constant Contact later this week (and uses the same link each week). See you Sunday morning at 9:30!

Resources for Resilience

Links for Listening Hours

Applying Tools in the Time of Covid-19 and Heightened Pain Around Racial Injustice

Join **Resources for Resilience™** for a series of virtual gatherings where we can come together to practice resiliency tools and sense in to what is helping us make it through right now.

We are pleased to continue listening hours for all community members throughout the month of October. In addition, we will continue to offer listening hours that are led by and held exclusively for People of Color each week. Our listening hours are open to all and there is no cost to attend. We look forward to connecting with you there!

Mondays | 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

These listening hours are open to all People of Color.

[Connect via Zoom](#)(meeting ID: 828 4463 1216; password: 111787)

Mondays | 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

These listening hours are open to all community members.

[Connect via Zoom](#)(meeting ID: 897 6770 3132; password: 146589)

Tithes and Gifts for the Mission of Montreat Presbyterian Church

Thank you for Your Faithful Contributions! The church could not support the mission and outreach of MPC without your continued faithful financial support.

Two Ways to Give to the Church During This Time

1. **You can mail a check** to the Montreat Presbyterian Church office: MPC, P.O. Box 577, Montreat, NC 28757. Blue envelopes are available! We have placed a plastic box on the window sill outside Keith's office, inside of which are the blue envelopes addressed to MPC. We will keep replenishing them as long as we are having online services. (Please be sure to close the box after getting some out in

order to keep them as dry as possible.)

2 . You can use the auto-pay (Bill Pay) of your checking account to mail a check either each week or set up on a recurring basis.

Be assured that all of us at Montreat Presbyterian Church are here for each other every step of this journey.

Everett Culpepper - Chair of Stewardship/Finance Committee
Gill Campbell - Treasurer

Books Available to Borrow

Copies for borrowing and returning are still available of two of the books included on the recommended reading list: *The Warmth of Other Suns* and *Between the World and Me*. They can be picked up from the green bin outside the MPC office door any time.

Friends & Partners in Ministry

The Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry continues to operate during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

SVCM is still taking food donations at the door at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church. We are also taking donations of small, snackable items, including water, for the Blessing Box in front of the church. As it gets colder the shelter situation is limited and more people stop by for emergency supplies. Emergency packages usually contain things like nuts, granola bars, pop top foods like Vienna sausages, and some personal care items like masks, hand sanitizer, and hand cream, etc.

Apart from food and here is a need for fall & winter clothing as well. The regular food donations are taken to SVCM after 4 on Mondays. You can drive by the front of the church and leave your donations in the marked bins. You may also donate to the Blessing Box located by the White Horse parking lot.

Thank you for your continued support.

Please find the SVCM Tidings Newsletter [here](#). Thank you for your support!

Upcoming Birthdays

If the information in our files is incorrect, or if you would prefer not to be listed, or if someone's birthday is missing from our list, please accept our apology and notify us at office@montreachurch.org so we can make the correction. This listing is intended to be inclusive, not exclusive, and is **not necessarily indicative of any particular church membership status. The list will appear weekly, and is intended to cover the next few weeks. Blessings to you on your birthday and always!**

Oct. 20 Steve Carter

Oct. 23 Arline Taylor

Oct. 24 Mary Brueggemann

Oct. 25 Margaret Neale

Oct. 25 Bob Montgomery

Oct. 26 Charlene Woods

Oct. 26 Isaac Dimmock

Oct. 27 Betty Henderson

Oct. 28 Olivia Lamotte

Oct. 29 Willa Roberts

Oct. 30 Hannah Kirschner

Oct. 30 Susanne Query

Oct. 30 Ron Maffett

Nov. 1 Mari Gramling

Nov. 4 Bob Neil

Nov. 5 Ann Wilde

Nov. 6 Chet Alexander

Nov. 11 Terry Butler

Nov. 13 Jane Anderson

Nov. 13 David Neel

Nov. 18 Ann Hudspeth

Nov. 18 Joe Standaert

Congregational Care Committee

Our Church Family Prayer List

*Our deepest Christian sympathy surrounds and embraces
the family and friends of Bill Hollins,
who died last week at Mission Hospital.*

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church announces

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection

The Rev. Dr. Patrick D. Miller, Jr.

Oct 24, 2020, 1:00 P.M. Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join the Zoom Meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84418017678>

Meeting ID: 844 1801 7678

The Montreat Presbyterian Church family is in prayer for...

Sally Baisley (Christina Tutterow's mom), hospitalized

Evelyn Bannerman

Glenn Bannerman

Ken Boyer

Sylvia Boyer

Connie Bristow (friend of Genie Sullivan)

Chandler Coggeshall (son of Genie Sullivan), recovering from heart surgery

Pat Connelly, hip replacement postponed

Doris Cook, sister of Dora Hinkle

Roy Davidson (friend of Mason Blake), fighting lung cancer

Jey Deifell

David Duncan, continuing severe back pain

Jane Frist

Bob Hare

Clara Hare, recovery after outpatient procedure

Dick Keefer

Maggie Lauterer

Margaret Linton

Scotty McAliley

Bev MacSherry, cancer

Margaret Rada

Ellen Ramsey

George Ramsey

Jerilyn Scheef (Julie Simpson's sister)

Bob Shaw

Belle Shipley (Susan Holcomb's mother)

Elizabeth Sorenson (Keith Grogg's mother)

Ginnie Stevens, cancer and other health problems

Arline Taylor

Bob Thompson (father of the late Jane Hansel), under Hospice care

Michael Wiseman (Dora and John's grandson) tested positive for covid

We also lift up in prayer...

Our nation and all nations
Wildfires in Western states
People preparing for or dealing with hurricanes
Victims of human trafficking
Victims of domestic violence
All communities, families and persons who are at risk
People experiencing loss of, or undesired change in, employment
Worshippers longing for communal, face to face worship
Front line workers including: hospital workers, grocery workers,
first responders, nurses, doctors, public health officials,
national guard, nonprofits who serve in close contact with the public,
nursing home and care facility employees, builders, police,
post office employees, volunteers serving the community,
elected and appointed officials and decision makers,
market farmers, maintenance workers, food suppliers,
medical technicians, factory workers, delivery packers,
truck drivers, food distributors, waste and recycling industry workers,
journalists covering public events, security details.
People in trauma recovery and/or dealing with depression
Those who are not able to be with their loved ones
in nursing homes, hospitals, or care facilities
Military men and women, stationed at home, far away, on ships,
at air bases, or deployed in areas of conflict
Small business owners trying to keep afloat and take care of their
employees
People earnestly grappling with issues and trying their best to be faithful
All victims of war and destruction
Parents with children at home
Parents and children separated from each other
Neighbors vulnerable to poverty and hunger
Refugees fleeing war, famine and gangs
Prison workers and inmates

and our friends and partners in ministry, including...

Elmarie & Scott Parker, our Mission Co-workers in the Middle East, and the
Near East School of Theology in Lebanon
Victor and Sara Makari, our Mission Co-workers in Palestine
Ardrishaig Parish Church, our eco-partner congregation in Scotland
Black Mountain Counseling Center

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church
Bounty & Soul
Christ Community Church
Donald S Collins Early Learning Center, Black Mountain
Rev. Deanna Hollas, PC(USA) Gun Violence Minister
Kairos Prison Ministry
Montreat College
Montreat Conference Center
OFCB ministries and the people of Haiti
The Presbyterian Heritage Center
Presbytery of Western North Carolina staff and volunteers
Resources for Resilience
Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry
Yokefellow Prison Ministry

If you or someone you know would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the church office. Please also let us know when it is appropriate to remove the name from the prayer list.

The Carpenters

Steve Hansel, Gill Campbell, John Hinkle, Eric Nichols, William Pender, Bill Roberts and Mark Achtemeier are ready to assist anyone who needs a helping hand with the little household things like: change a light bulb, retrieve items from a hard-to-reach closet shelf, change the batteries in a smoke detector, move furniture and the like. You may contact these gentlemen individually or reach out to **Kat Achtemeier at 563-580-6489.**

PWNC Newsletter

Find the latest news from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina [here](#).

Montreat Presbyterian Church

montreatchurch.org



OUR MISSION

*In the fellowship of Jesus Christ we
Listen for the word of God in our lives
Love with open hearts and open minds
Walk the path of faith together
Serve others and
Welcome all.*

OUR VISION

*Led by the Holy Spirit
We proclaim the word of God
Through our ministry and mission.*

The Session

Jane Alexander, Everett Culpepper (2020)
Mason Blake, Beth Fountain (2021)
Jim Henderson, Ann DuPre Rogers (2022)
Moderator Keith Grogg (pastor)

Officers & Committee Chairs, 2020

Jane Alexander, clerk
Jim Henderson, assistant clerk
Gill Campbell, treasurer
Bill McCaskill, assistant treasurer

Mason Blake, Christian Education
Beth Fountain, Congregational Care
Hal Demarest, Earth Care Subcommittee
Judy Shuford, Evangelism & Membership
Grace Nichols, Fellowship
Everett Culpepper, Finance & Property
Eric Nichols, Mission & Outreach
Ann DuPre Rogers, Personnel
Linda Hobson, Worship & Music

Want to talk? Need a pastor?

Call the office at 664-9212,
or email Keith at pastor@montreatchurch.org,
and we'll find a time that works.
Rev. Margaret Peery also provides pastoral care:
parishvisitor@montreatchurch.org

MPC Weekly Communications: Sunday Worship, The Montreat Memo (e-newsletter), "From the Pastor's Desk," and occasional midweek prayers and special announcements

Are you or a friend having trouble receiving our emails via Constant Contact? Be sure to check your "Promotions" category for email that may have been diverted from your main inbox, as well as checking Spam and other folders. For Vimeo and other broadcasts, sometimes it may be helpful to move your laptop a bit closer to your wifi router (*in my case, that just means coming in from the front porch - K.G.*).

The Memo is usually published on Tuesday afternoon. **Please submit items for the Memo by the Friday morning** before the week in which they are to appear. Thank you! (Articles submitted may be edited for accuracy, clarity or brevity.)

The Montreat Memo is sent from the Montreat Presbyterian Church office email account. **Responses intended for the pastor** may be sent to pastor@montreatchurch.org.

A second weekly publication, "From the Pastor's Desk," is issued in the latter part of each week: Thursday, Friday or Saturday. FTPD is designed to offer concise updates and a brief word from the pastor during the time of social distancing. FTPD also includes links for opportunities such as Church Chat. **Responses intended for the pastor** may be sent to pastor@montreatchurch.org.

Contact Information

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Music@MontreatChurch.org

Jane Alexander, Clerk of Session

Clerk@MontreatChurch.org

**Rev. Margaret Peery,
Volunteer Pastoral Visitor**

ParishVisitor@MontreatChurch.org

Patty Smith, Office Administrator

Office@MontreatChurch.org

**(828) 664-9212
MontreatChurch.org**

P.O. Box 577, Montreat, North Carolina, 28757

**Church Office hours: Weekdays 9:00 A.M. - Noon
304 Lookout Road, Montreat**

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