

**"Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in." Isaiah 58:12**



## WEEKLY MONTREAT MEMO



THE E-NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

**November 12, 2024**



### All Are Welcome!

Please contact the [church office](#) to be added to our email list or to sign up to receive our home worship services.

## Our Calendar

**Tues., November 12**  
**2:00 P.M.**

**Finance Committee Meeting**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Tues., November 12**  
**5:00 P.M.**

**Mission Committee Meeting**  
*Swannanoa Room & Zoom*

**Thurs., November 14**  
**3:30 P.M.**

**E & M Committee Meeting**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Sun., November 17**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**Sunday Worship Service**  
William Yoo preaching  
Keith Grogg, liturgist  
*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Sun., November 17**  
**1:30 P.M.**

**Choir Rehearsal**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Tues., November 19**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**Presbyterian Women's Circle**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Tues., November 19**  
**4:00 P.M.**

**Session Meeting**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Wed., November 20**  
**5:45 P.M.**

**Church Dinner**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Sun., November 24**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**Sunday Worship Service**  
*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Sun., November 24**  
**1:30 P.M.**

**Choir Rehearsal**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Thurs., November 28**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**Thanksgiving Service**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Thursday & Friday,**  
**November 28 & 29**

**Church Office Closed**  
*Happy Thanksgiving!*

**Sun., December 1**

**Sunday Worship Service**

10:00 A.M.

1st Sunday of Advent

*Upper Anderson & livestream*

Sun., December 1  
11:30 A.M.

Choir Rehearsal  
*Upper Anderson*

Sun., December 1  
3:00 P.M.

Service for June Peel  
*Upper Anderson*

Tues., December 3  
4:00 P.M.

Session Meeting  
*Swannanoa Room*

Wed., December 4  
5:30 P.M.

Taize Service  
*Upper Anderson*

*Parts of Montreat have been experiencing some internet difficulties. Please excuse us if communication may be somewhat slower than usual. We are working on resolving the issues as soon as possible.*

*K.G.*

*Tuesday, Nov. 12*

## Stewardship Dedication This Sunday, Nov. 17

After October's turbulence, **our stewardship team has reconfigured this year's stewardship season.** The letter and pledge card were mailed in October; Neal Lloyd spoke powerfully at last Sunday's service--[click here to see it](#)--and next Wednesday, November 20, we'll share a celebratory dinner (please see item below).

In the meantime, if you have not yet had an opportunity to fill in a pledge card, it would be most welcome and helpful. **Cards may be presented as a prayerful offering this Sunday or brought or mailed to the church office this week.** Our thoughtful estimates of giving for 2025 greatly assist the finance committee and the session in discerning the extent of the mission God is giving us. Let's celebrate that joyful mission together!

## Montreat Wednesdays



Montreat Wednesdays have not been possible since Helene, and the decision has been made to suspend the remainder of the Fall 2024 program schedule until the new year.

One logistical issue--though far from the only one--is that the Walkup Building is a crucial staging site for Montreat infrastructure repair, and will be unavailable at least through the end of 2024.

When we are able to resume scheduling, our greatest problem to sort out will be having an embarrassment of riches! Thanks to all who have been preparing presentations.

**Covered Dish Dinner  
Wed., Nov. 20 in Upper Anderson**





We will hold a **covered dish dinner in Upper Anderson on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 5:45 P.M.!**

Our planned October Stewardship Season is being condensed into a few weeks in November; Nov. 20 will be a celebration dinner.

In keeping with our status as an Earth Care Congregation, we encourage people to bring and take home washable tableware if possible.

## More Worship Updates

**This Sunday, November 17  
10:00 A.M.**

We welcome Dr. **William Yoo**, Associate Professor of American Religious and Cultural History at Columbia Theological Seminary, as our guest preacher, with Keith Grogg as our liturgist and Vivian Hare directing the music program. William is a board member of the Montreat Conference Center.

## **Thanksgiving Day, November 27**

**11:00 A.M.**

We will hold the community Thanksgiving service on Thanksgiving Day at 11:00 A.M. in Upper Anderson. The service generally lasts just under 30 minutes and is a great time to pause with members of the community, including visitors in town for the long weekend, and acknowledge the blessings of our lives. The service is designed to allow any who will be participating in the Thanksgiving dinner at Assembly Inn to be there in plenty of time. (Dinner reservations have now reached their capacity.)

## **Taizé Service on December 4, 5:30 P.M.**

A contemplative Advent worship service in the Taizé tradition will be held Wednesday evening, Dec. 4, at 5:30 P.M. in Upper Anderson.

## **Christmas Eve, 5:30 P.M.**

We will be holding our traditional Christmas Eve service, with communion, at 5:30 P.M. in Upper Anderson.

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### **A Note from the Treasurer**

**As our fiscal end of year approaches,  
you can download your statement in Realm.**

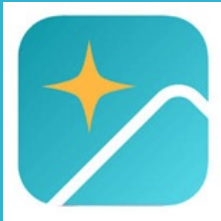
**If this is not possible,  
please contact Lynn at  
[treasurer@montreatchurch.org](mailto:treasurer@montreatchurch.org)  
and she will be glad to send one to you!**

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*The Service for June Peel  
will be held **Sunday, December 1, 2024**  
at 3:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson.*

*The Olson Huff Celebration of Life  
and Witness to God's Love  
will be held **Saturday, May 17, 2025**  
at 11:00 A.M. in Anderson Auditorium.*



## Online Membership Directory Update

Now more than ever, we need to be connected to each other, and the Realm Membership Directory is the way to go!

If you are a member of the MPC family and have not yet had a chance to sign up to use our **new** directory through **Realm Connect** - now is the time to do so!

For assistance with getting connected, please notify the [church office](#).

Thanks so much for helping us make this transition as smooth as possible! As always, **if you have any questions, please contact the [church office](#).**





**The SVCM icon above  
is a link  
to the SVCM website.**

**For the latest information  
from SVCM,  
click here  
to visit their Facebook page.**

**Montreat Presbyterian Church supports**





## 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@montreatchurch.org](mailto:office@montreatchurch.org) so we can make the correction. **This listing is not necessarily indicative of 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!

Nov 13 Jane Anderson  
Nov 13 David Neel  
Nov 14 Howard Edington  
Nov 18 Ann Hudspeth  
Nov 18 Joe Standaert  
Nov 19 Susanne McCaskill  
Nov 19 Jean Skidmore  
Nov 20 Macie King  
Nov 21 Jan Swetenburg  
Nov 21 Sharon Welker  
Nov 25 Pat Welker  
Nov 28 Will Stone  
Dec 01 Bruce Rome  
Dec 04 Sally Richardson

Dec 06 Kaius Pagan  
Dec 08 Cam Murchison  
Dec 09 Suzanne Alexander

*Congregational Care Committee*

## **Our Church Family Prayer List**

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

Nicola Ackerman (Hank & Mell's daughter-in-law),  
cancer

Harold & Shirley Bost

Timothy Boyer

Fred Connelly

Bob Cumming

Marinell Davidson

Jackson Dimmock

Beth Fountain

Marylyn Huff and family

Alun Jones (friend of Keith Grogg)

Cheryl Hartman (friend of Vivian Hare)

Andrea McCallum and family (daughter of Jane &  
Hugh Alexander)

Meg (friend of Vivian Hare), leukemia

Kitty Neil

Bob Peel and family

Margaret Rada

Peggy Rada

Ellen Ramsey

Lila Ray

Pat Rogers (friend of Keith Grogg), cancer

Judy Shillinglaw

Herb Smith

Goody Thomas (brother of Nancy Thomas), cancer

Rosemarie Wanamaker (friend of the Tutterows)

Mary Jo Wright

### **We also lift up in prayer...**

All Western NC agencies, construction crews, and volunteers involved in search, rescue, recovery, and reconstruction

U.S. election officials

Bayonnais, Haiti

Victims of gun violence, human trafficking, domestic violence, and hunger

U.S. politics and government

Those facing the challenges of aging

People with memory issues and their families

Law enforcement personnel and their families

Military personnel and their families

Refugees and all who are displaced

All who work on behalf of the natural environment

Canton/Haywood County long term flood recovery

*And all the peoples of, or in:*

Afghanistan

Displaced Armenians

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh (instability and violence)

Burkina Faso (atrocities)

Central Europe (flood disaster)

Cuba

Ethiopia

Eritrea

Gabon

Gaza

Guatemala

Guinea



Haiti  
Honduras  
Iran  
Iraq  
Israel  
Kenya  
Lebanon  
Libya  
Malawi  
Mali  
Morocco  
Niger  
Nigeria (famine)  
Papua New Guinea (landslide)  
Peru  
Russia  
The Sahel region of West Africa  
South Sudan  
Sudan (genocide and displacement)  
Syria  
Turkey  
Uganda  
Ukraine  
Venezuela (unrest)  
The West Bank  
Yemen

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

Doug Dicks, Israel & Palestine  
Frank Dimmock, Africa Partnership Liaison,  
The Outreach Foundation  
Elmarie Parker, Mission Co-worker in the Middle  
East  
Ardrishaig Parish Church, our eco-partner

congregation in Scotland  
Cathy Chang, Mission Co-Worker in Philippines  
Black Mountain Counseling Center  
Black Mountain Presbyterian Church  
Bounty & Soul  
Christ Community Church, Montreat  
Donald S. Collins Early Learning Center,  
Black Mountain  
Rev. Margery Rossi, Presbyterian Peace Fellowship  
Coordinator of Gun Violence Prevention  
Jose La Lont Jones, Democratic Republic of Congo  
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

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*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.*

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## **The Carpenters Are Here for You!**

The Congregational Care Committee has nine volunteer "carpenters," Mark & Kat Achtemeier, Gill Campbell, John Hinkle, Bryant McEntire, Eric Nichols, William Pender, Anne Seaman, and Jody Welker, who stand ready to be of help! These folks are glad to lend a hand to help people for whom physical limitations make it difficult to do household

"little things:" change a light bulb, retrieve items from a hard-to-reach closet shelf, change the batteries in a smoke detector, etc., or even minor electrical and plumbing issues. You may contact them directly or reach them through their "straw boss," **Kat Achtemeier**. If you feel led to add your name to this list of "carpenters," please let Kat know!

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## PWNC Newsletter

Click the image below  
to find the latest news from PWNC!



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**Please submit all requests  
for *Memo* announcements  
by Thursday of the week before they appear.  
Send information to the office administrator at  
[office@montreatchurch.org](mailto:office@montreatchurch.org).**

**All of our MPC mailings, including the Memo, are part of the same subscription.** We cannot yet offer a menu from which to choose different mailings to receive or decline, so to be subscribed to the Memo is to receive all other church emails as well. Anyone who has unintentionally unsubscribed from all MPC mailings may resubscribe or contact the **office** for assistance at any time.



**Please share scheduling information,**  
as well as changes to  
church member **contact information,**  
with the office administrator at  
**[office@montreatchurch.org](mailto:office@montreatchurch.org)**.

Unless otherwise stated, 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 those requests to the appropriate contacts at MRA.

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## Montreat Presbyterian Church

**[MontreatChurch.org](http://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

Lynn Gilliland, Grace Nichols (2024)  
Ellen Henschen, Lisa Rome (2025)  
John Casper, George Sawyer (2026)  
Clerk Ellen Dean  
Moderator Keith Grogg (pastor)  
Elders-Elect: Ginny Soll and Anne Stone (2027)

## Officers & Committee Chairs, 2024

Ellen Dean, Clerk  
Lynn Gilliland, Treasurer  
Peggy Williamson, Christian Education  
Anne Stone, Congregational Care  
Hal Demarest, Earth Care Subcommittee  
Ellen Henschen, Evangelism & Membership  
Grace Nichols, Fellowship  
Dan Dean, Stewardship of Finance & Property  
Nancy Midgette, Mission & Outreach  
Lynn Gilliland, Personnel  
Corise Gambrell & Sally Woodard, Women's Circle  
Lisa Rome, Worship & Music

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## MPC Weekly Communications

Are you, or is someone you know, **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.

The Memo is usually published on Tuesday afternoon. **Please submit items for the Memo by the Thursday 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](mailto:pastor@montreatchurch.org).**

**Responses intended for the director of music** may be sent to [music@montreatchurch.org](mailto:music@montreatchurch.org).

Midweek, pre-recorded online prayer services are ordinarily issued on Tuesday evenings near sunset.

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## **Contact Information**

**Rev. Keith Grogg, pastor**  
[pastor@montreatchurch.org](mailto:pastor@montreatchurch.org)

**Vivian Hare, director of music**  
[music@montreatchurch.org](mailto:music@montreatchurch.org)

**Ellen Dean, clerk of session**  
[clerk@montreatchurch.org](mailto:clerk@montreatchurch.org)

**Rev. Lynn Bledsoe, pastoral visitor**  
[visitor@montreatchurch.org](mailto:visitor@montreatchurch.org)

**Bonnie Shoemaker, office administrator**  
[office@montreatchurch.org](mailto:office@montreatchurch.org)

**Church office: 828-664-9212**

**Website: [montreatchurch.org](http://montreatchurch.org)**

**P.O. Box 577, Montreat, NC 28757**

**Church Office hours: Monday-Friday**

**9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon**

**304 Lookout Road, Montreat**





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