



# WEEKLY MONTREAT MEMO



THE E-NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

December 17, 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., December 17**  
**10:00 A.M.**

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

**Tues., December 17**  
**4:00 P.M.**

**Session Meeting**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Sun., December 22**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**Sunday Worship Service**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Tues., December 24**  
**5:30 P.M.**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight**  
**Service with Communion**  
*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Wed., December 25**  
**Thur., December 26**

**Church Office Closed**  
***Merry Christmas!***

**Sun., December 29**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**Sunday Worship Service**  
**1st Sunday of Christmas**  
*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Wed., January 1**

**Church Office Closed**  
*Happy New Year!*

**Sun., January 5**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**Sunday Worship Service**  
**Special 11:00 start time for**  
**Jan. 5 service only**  
*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Sun., January 5**  
**after worship**

**Session Retreat**  
*Gilliland home*

**Sun., January 12**  
**10:00 A.M.**

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

## **Advent/Christmastime Upcoming Services**

**Sun., Dec. 22**  
**10:00 A.M.**

### **Sunday Morning Worship - Advent 4**

*Upper Anderson and livestream*

The morning service for the fourth Sunday of Advent will strike a tone of gratitude, anticipation, and wonder.

**Tues., Dec. 24**  
**5:30 P.M.**

### **Christmas Eve Service**

*Upper Anderson and livestream*

The traditional Christmas Eve service will include

communion, the singing of "Silent Night," and the ceremony of candlelight.

**Sun., Dec. 29**

**10:00 A.M.**

**Sunday Worship - 1st Sunday of Christmas**

*Upper Anderson and livestream*

"On the 5th day Christmas," the Christmas celebration continues.

**Sun., Jan. 5, 2025**

**11:00 A.M. (Special start time for this Sunday only)**

**Sunday Worship - 2nd Sunday of Christmas**

*Upper Anderson and livestream*

"On the 12th day Christmas..." Holy Communion and the Installation of Elders will be celebrated on this, the last day of the 2024-25 Christmas season and the first Sunday of the new year.

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## **A Year-End Note from the Treasurer**

Year end is upon us and what a year it has been!

If you have an outstanding pledge balance that you wish to pay in 2024, please be sure it is received in the church office **by December 30.**

Our stewardship season was cut short by Helene this year.

**If you plan to make a pledge  
to the 2025 budget  
and have not yet had a chance to do so,**  
please contact Lynn Gilliland at  
[treasurer@montreatchurch.org](mailto:treasurer@montreatchurch.org)  
and she can enter your pledge

and confirm by email.

We are all grateful to God for what we have to share and for our wonderful church family that sustains us, supports us, and brings us joy! Thanks be to God!



## **Community Breakfast This Thursday!**

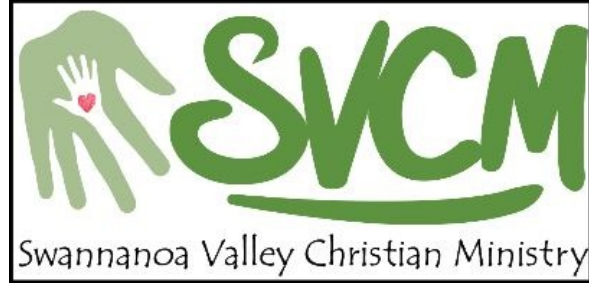
Join us **Thursday, December 19**  
for our next Community Breakfast!

This is a fun, welcoming event -  
bring your holiday visitors!  
All are welcome!

**Assembly Inn**  
**Galax Dining Room**  
**8:30 A.M.**

Donations will be accepted  
for the Employee Assistance Fund





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

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

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## 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!

Dec 17 Carol Eckard  
Dec 19 Anne Peck  
Dec 22 Mary Donnelly  
Dec 23 William Pender  
Dec 24 Gill Campbell  
Dec 24 Bill Neely

Dec 28 Bob Eckard  
Jan 2 Eade Anderson  
Jan 7 Marinell Davidson  
Jan 7 Kathy Horowitz  
Jan 8 Ron Nalley  
Jan 11 Eric Nichols  
Jan 13 Rebecca Moss  
Jan 15 Brown McCallum  
Jan 15 Eve Carter

*Congregational Care Committee*

## **Our Church Family Prayer List**

*Our deepest love and sympathy surround  
Lila Ray in the death of her brother-in-law,  
Bill Robertson, husband of Lila's sister Peggy,  
and Bill & Wanda Neely  
in the death of Bill's brother, Kirk Neely.*

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, says  
the Spirit. They will rest from their labors, and their  
deeds follow them." (Revelation 14:13)*

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

Nicola Ackerman (Hank & Mell's daughter-in-law),  
cancer  
Eade Anderson, shingles  
Harold & Shirley Bost  
Timothy Boyer

Fred Connelly  
Bob Cumming  
Marinell Davidson  
Jackson Dimmock  
Bob Horowitz, recovering after hip replacement  
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  
Henry Neale, hospitalized  
Kitty Neil  
Bob Peel and family  
Heath, Peggy, and Margaret Rada  
Ellen Ramsey  
Lila Ray  
Peggy Roberson (sister of Lila Ray)  
Pat Rogers (friend of Keith Grogg), cancer  
Jack & Phyllis Sadler  
Judy Shillinglaw  
Gene Shuford  
Goody Thomas (brother of Nancy Thomas), cancer  
Rosemarie Wanamaker (friend of the Tutterows)  
Christina Tutterow  
Mary Jo Wright

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

Everyone for whom the holidays are difficult  
Unhoused people facing winter weather  
All Western NC agencies, construction crews, and  
volunteers involved in search, rescue, recovery, and  
reconstruction  
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 recovery

*And all the peoples of:*

Afghanistan  
Displaced Armenians  
Azerbaijan  
Bangladesh (instability and violence)  
Burkina Faso (atrocities)  
Cuba  
Ethiopia  
Eritrea  
Gabon  
Gaza  
Guatemala  
Guinea  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Iran  
Iraq  
Israel  
Kenya  
Lebanon  
Libya  
Malawi  
Mali  
Morocco  
Niger  
Nigeria (famine)  
North Korea



Papua New Guinea (landslide)  
Peru  
Russia  
The Sahel region of West Africa  
South Korea  
South Sudan  
Spain (floods)  
Sudan (genocide and displacement)  
Syria  
Turkey  
Uganda  
Ukraine  
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.

# 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@montreachurch.org](mailto:music@montreachurch.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Church Office hours: Monday-Friday**

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

**304 Lookout Road, Montreat**



**Visit our**

website

Montreat Presbyterian Church | P.O. Box 577 | Montreat, NC 28757 US

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