



## WEEKLY MONTREAT MEMO



THE E-NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

December 24, 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 24  
5:30 P.M.

Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Service with Communion

*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Wed. & Thurs.  
Dec. 25 & 26**

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

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

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

**Sun., December 29**  
***following worship***

**Choir Rehearsal**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Wed., January 1**

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

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

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

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

**Session Retreat**  
*Gilliland home*

**Thurs., January 9**  
**3:30 P.M.**

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

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

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

**Sun., January 12**  
**1:00 P.M.**

**Choir Rehearsal**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Wed., January 15**

**Church Dinner**

5:45 P.M.

*Upper Anderson*

Sun., January 19  
10:00 A.M.

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

Sun., January 19  
1:00 P.M.

**Choir Rehearsal**  
*Upper Anderson*

## Advent/Christmastime Upcoming Services

**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.

## A Year-End Note from the Treasurer

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

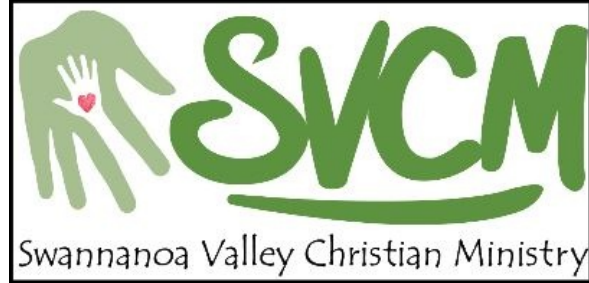
If you have an outstanding pledge balance that you wish to pay in 2024, please be sure it is received in the church office **by noon on December 30.**

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!





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 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  
Jan 19 Savannah Parker  
Jan 19 Sara Scarborough  
Jan 19 Robin Tutterow  
Jan 20 Peggy Rada  
Jan 23 Katie Pagan  
Jan 23 Trisha Edington  
Jan 24 Coris Gambrell  
Jan 29 Clare Frist  
Jan 30 Bill Seaman

*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 Roberson, 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

**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!

## 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](https://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@montreachurch.org](mailto:pastor@montreachurch.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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