



THE MONTREAT MEMO

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA



March 18, 2025



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., March 18
10:00 A.M.

Presbyterian Women
Upper Anderson

Tues., March 18
4:00 P.M.

Session Meeting
Swannanoa Room

Wed., March 19
4:00 P.M.

Montreat Wednesday
Upper Anderson

Sun., March 23
10:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Service
Upper Anderson & livestream

Sun., March 23
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Location TBD

Mon., March 24
11:00 A.M.

**Congregational Care
Committee**
Swannanoa Room

Tues., March 25
4:30 P.M.

Worship & Music Committee
Swannanoa Room

Thurs., March 27
10:00 A.M.

**Christian Education
Committee**
Swannanoa Room

Sun., March 30
10:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Service
Upper Anderson & livestream

Sun., March 30
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson

Wed., April 2
8:00 P.M.

Taize Service
Upper Anderson

Wednesday Noon Community Lent Services

Each Wednesday during Lent, the Swannanoa Valley Ministerial Association will host a series of **short midweek worship services starting at 12:00 P.M.** at Black Mountain United Methodist Church.

The Open Table ministry, held each Wednesday at BMUMC, are keeping their doors open an additional

half hour so that those who attend the services may also join the community for lunch afterward.



COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS AT NOON MARCH 5 - APRIL 16, 2025

ALL SERVICES WILL BE HOSTED AT BLACK MOUNTAIN UMC
101 CHURCH ST. BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL FOLLOWING THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY OPEN TABLE

SPONSORED BY SWANNANOVA VALLEY MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

SPEAKERS AND WORSHIP LEADERS:

MARCH 5 - BMUMC	APRIL 2 - WARREN WILSON PRES.
MARCH 12 - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	APRIL 9 - ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL
MARCH 19 - TABERNACLE UMC	APRIL 16 - FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
MARCH 26 - BLK MTN PRESBYTERIAN	GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18 - MONTREAT PRES.



Montreat Wednesday

Wednesday, March 19
Upper Anderson
Frank Dimmock
"The Great Co-Mission"

Frank and his wife, Nancy, served as PCUSA mission co-workers for thirty-two years in Malawi, Lesotho, and Zambia.

**Coffee and Sweets
begin at 3:45 P.M.
with the program starting at 4:00 P.M.**

All Are Welcome!

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Looking ahead to upcoming Wednesday evenings:

***On March 26**, Montreat Wednesdays will take a Lenten break, with no afternoon/evening programming. **On April 2**, MPC/MRA will hold a Taize service in Upper Anderson at 8:00 P.M. **On April 9**, MPC will host a church & community dinner at 5:45 P.M. in Upper Anderson.*

A New Church Directory Yes! Finally!

Thanks to those who have submitted their photos.
We are well on our way to make this a reality!

How can you help? **We need your photo!**
Please submit your photo to the office by March 31.
The new directories will be available by mid-May.

**We will be taking photos
on Wednesday, March 19 at 3:30 P.M.
in Upper Anderson**

**and on Sunday, March 23 at 9:30 A.M.
before the worship service.** Just bring your smile!

**Other Special Services
During Lent**

A **Taizé service** will be held in Upper Anderson on Wednesday, April 2 at 8:00 P.M.

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MPC's **Maundy Thursday service** will be held in Upper Anderson on April 17 at 7:00 P.M.

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MPC will host the Good Friday service for the community on **Friday, April 18 at 12:00 noon** in Upper Anderson.

**Taizé Service
Wednesday, April 2
8:00 P.M.
Upper Anderson**



Montreat Presbyterian Church
and the Montreat Conference Center
present

An Evening Prayer Service
in the contemplative style of
Taizé worship

Wednesday, April 2, 2025
8:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson

All are welcome!



Montaña de Luz

**MPC will send another delegation
to Montaña de Luz,
our mission partners in Honduras,
June 18-25, 2025!**

A Mission Trip to Montaña de Luz is being planned for Wednesday, June 18-Wednesday, June 25. The week will consist of a project or two on the campus, a Spanish lesson and devotion with the children each morning, planning and presenting activities in the afternoon for the children, helping with a birthday party, volleyball playing or watching, and much more. Financial assistance is available. Please let [Skeet Ayscue](#) know if you are interested, and he can give you all the details. (The sooner airline tickets are purchased, the better the price.)

HIV Testing Kits Urgently Needed for Honduras: How You Can Help

Among the challenges connected with the sudden pause of USAID is the devastating effect of HIV in Honduras, especially on children, and the imminent loss of their ability to provide for crucial HIV testing. (MdL was originally founded as a hospice for children with AIDS; their mission and ministry have grown to encompass many other areas of care.)

We can do something to help. Anyone can visit a website that offers [two free HIV testing kits](#) per person per quarter (click on the underlined link).

When Skeet and the team from MPC visit MdL in June, they will take as many HIV testing kits as they can. Skeet will have a basket at worship services where unopened HIV testing kits can be donated for this cause.



**You are invited to MRA's
March Community Breakfast!**

Please join the Montreat Conference Center

This Thursday, March 20, 8:00 A.M.
for our Community Breakfast!

We promise lots of good, warm food;
you provide the fellowship!

Galax Dining Room
8:00 A.M.
(Please note the earlier start time.)

All are Welcome!



2025 National Faith + Climate Forum
Registration Now Open

First Presbyterian Church Asheville is a proud host site for the National Faith + Climate Forum on **Thursday, March 27, 12:00 P.M.–5:30 P.M.** This year's forum offers an opportunity for us to explore impactful ways to integrate environmental stewardship and social justice into our faith practices.

Register for free at

<https://nationalfaithandclimateforum.org>.

Select the Asheville location from the alphabetical state list. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall where food and drinks will be available.

Contact **[Jane Laping](#)** at for more information.



The SVCM icon is a link to the SVCM website.

For the latest information from SVCM, [click here](#) to visit their Facebook page.

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 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!

Mar 20 Mark Achtemeier

Mar 24 Jo Ella Bennett

Mar 26 Mary Jo Clark

Mar 26 Aletha Roper

Mar 28 Ginny Soll

Mar 29 Lila Ray

Mar 29 Phyllis Sadler

Mar 29 Susan Maffett

Mar 30 John Hare-Grogg

Mar 30 Rusty Douglas

Our Church Family Prayer List

*Our deepest love and sympathy
are extended to Will & Anne Stone
in the death of Will's father, Maurice Stone,
this past Friday at Givens Estates.
Service plans will be announced;*

*and to Jane and the the family and friends of
Heather J. McKee who died January 9.
Heather and Jane frequently attended MPC
when at Montreat.*

*The service for
Olson Huff
will be held in Anderson Auditorium
on Saturday, May 17 at 11:00 A.M.*

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

Harold & Shirley Bost
Timothy Boyer
Fred Connelly
Bob Cumming
Marinell Davidson
Hal Demarest
Jackson Dimmock
Katalina Echavarri (niece of Lynn Gilliland), spinal
injury

Bob Gambrell, recovering after heart valve replacement
Alun Jones (friend of Keith Grogg)
Cheryl Hartman (friend of Vivian Hare)
Bob Horowitz, recovering after hip replacement
Marylyn Huff and family
Andrea McCallum and family (daughter of Jane & Hugh Alexander)
Henry Neale
Kitty Neil
Heath, Peggy, and Margaret Rada
Ellen Ramsey
Lila Ray
Pat Rogers (friend of Keith Grogg), cancer
Jack & Phyllis Sadler, in Jack's cancer diagnosis
Meg Samuels (friend of Vivian Hare), leukemia
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...

Ministries and organizations that seek to bring people together and work for peace and justice
U.S. government, citizens, elected officials, and public servants
Federal aid recipients, federal agencies, and federal employees, especially those whose positions have been or are being abruptly terminated
Vulnerable populations within the U.S.
LA fire recovery
Western NC and the many people sending contributions and planning work trips to help
Bayonnais, Haiti
Victims of gun violence, human trafficking, domestic

violence, and hunger

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

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...***

Robert Gamble, executive director, [This Child Here](#)
(Ukraine), a validated ministry in the Presbytery of
Western North Carolina

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.

The Carpenters Are Here for You!

The Congregational Care Committee has several volunteer "carpenters," Mark & Kat Achtemeier, Gill Campbell, John Hinkle, Bryant McEntire, Eric Nichols, 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!

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



**PWNC invites you to use this daily Lent devotional;
Lament & Hope after Helene: A Lenten Devotional**

**Please submit all requests
for *Memo* announcements
by Thursday of the week before they appear.
Send information to the office administrator at
office@montreachurch.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@montreachurch.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



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

Ellen Henschen, Lisa Rome (2025)
John Casper, George Sawyer (2026)
Ginny Soll, Anne Stone (2027)
Clerk Ellen Dean
Moderator Keith Grogg (pastor)

Officers & Committee Chairs, 2025

Clerk: Ellen Dean
Treasurer: Lynn Gilliland
Christian Education: Corise Gambrell
Congregational Care: Anne Stone
Earth Care Subcommittee: Hal Demarest
Evangelism & Membership: Keith Grogg (interim)
Fellowship: Gracie Nichols
Finance & Property: Dan Dean
Mission & Outreach: Skeet Ayscue
Personnel: Lynn Gilliland
Women's Circle: Corise Gambrell & Sally Woodard
Worship & Music: Lisa Rome

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.**

Responses intended for the director of music may be sent to music@montreatchurch.org.

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

Contact Information

Rev. Keith Grogg, pastor
pastor@montreatchurch.org

Vivian Hare, director of music
music@montreatchurch.org

Ellen Dean, clerk of session
clerk@montreatchurch.org

Rev. Lynn Bledsoe, pastoral visitor
visitor@montreatchurch.org

Bonnie Shoemaker, office administrator
office@montreatchurch.org

Church office: 828-664-9212

Website: 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





Visit our
website

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

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