



THE MONTREAT MEMO

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA



March 4, 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.



**Daylight Saving Time begins
Sunday, March 9th at 2:00 A.M.
Spring Forward!**

Our Calendar

**Wed., March 5
6:00 P.M.**

Ash Wednesday Service
*Black Mountain Presbyterian
Church*

Sun., March 9

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 A.M.

Upper Anderson & livestream

Sun., March 9
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson

Tues., March 11
5:00 P.M.

Mission Committee
Swannanoa Room

Wed., March 12
4:00 P.M.

Montreat Wednesday
Walkup Building

Thurs., March 13
3:30 P.M.

E&M Committee
Swannanoa Room

Sun., March 16
10:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Service
Upper Anderson & livestream

Sun., March 16
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson

Tues., March 18
10:00 A.M.

Presbyterian Women
Walkup Building

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

Session Meeting
Swannanoa Room

Lent Services:
from Ash Wednesday
through Holy Week to Easter

Lent is a holy season of following Jesus, an invitation into an enriching time of deep faithfulness, serious introspection, and spiritual preparation for the resurrection joy of Easter.

Wednesday Noon Community Lent Services Begin This Wednesday, March 5

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, will keep 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.

Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, March 5
6:00 P.M.
at Black Mountain
Presbyterian Church

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 days (not including Sundays) culminating in Holy Week and leading to Easter Sunday. This year, Ash Wednesday falls on March 5.

The joint MPC/BMPC
Ash Wednesday service
will be held
at Black Mountain
Presbyterian Church
on March 5 at 6:00 P.M.

All Are Welcome.

Other Special Services
During Lent

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

*

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

*

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

A Celebration

On Sunday, March 9, in our 10:00 A.M. worship service and with a reception following, we will celebrate Keith Grogg's completion of the Doctor of Ministry in Christian Spirituality at Columbia Theological Seminary! Keith graduated on December 31 and we have all benefitted from this journey. Keith's final project, now in the library at CTS, was "Spiritual Theologies of Medieval Women Mystics Applied to Evening Prayer Services: Their Impact on Participants."

This will be both an expression of gratitude to Keith for his work and accomplishment AND to our congregation for our support in making it possible. Anna Carter Florence of Columbia Seminary, who served as Keith's project advisor and first reader, will be with us in worship. Mark Achtemeier, the project's second reader, will also lead worship. A basket will be provided where you can drop cards of congratulations, or you can mail to the church office. We hope you can join us!

Personnel Committee and Session

Montreat



Wednesdays

**Wednesday, March 12
in the Walkup Building**

**Laura Hollandsworth Jernigan
will introduce her new musical**

**"The Promise for All the Families
of the Earth"**

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

All Are Welcome!

Laura Hollandsworth Jernigan is a Presbyterian minister, educator and musician. Laura has composed the music, lyrics, and book for a new musical drama, The Promise, which she will introduce to us on March 12.

This past spring, Laura composed a hymn, "New Creation" (music and lyric) which was sung for worship in May for three PC(USA) congregations and in two of our Presbyterian seminaries, Union and Austin.

Laura is the daughter of the Rev. Ned and Peggy Hollandsworth, who retired to Montreat and lived here for many years. A longtime Montreater, Laura has also served in conference leadership roles,

including as workshop leader for the Worship & Music Conference and as the Bible Scholar for the 2024 Women's Connection.

Laura is married to John Jernigan, an infectious diseases physician with the CDC in Atlanta, who serves as chief of a branch that works to prevent health care associated infections. They have three adult sons, and have happily welcomed two daughters-in-law to their family.

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[Click here for the Spring 2025 Montreat Wednesday Schedule!](#)

The Hansel Family

invites you to the dedication of an inscribed park bench in memory of Steve Hansel at the Historic Piney Grove Cemetery.

Steve served on that board for many years.

The short program will take place along the back driveway of the cemetery where the bench has been installed under shade trees. Please bring a lawn chair.

Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 2:00 P.M.

Historic Piney Grove Cemetery

372 Bee Tree Road

Swannanoa, NC



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.)

S.A.

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.

Some Resources for Witness

It is a fundamental tenet of Presbyterianism that "God alone is Lord of the conscience," and, as a matter of faith, Presbyterians have a faith-based voice to share in the public square. **Our public servants are to be commended, thanked, and respected** for seeking to serve the people and the best interests of the nation, and for making themselves available to hear from their constituents.

Senator Thom Tillis:

DC: 202-224-6342

Hendersonville: (828) 693-8750

Senator Ted Budd:

DC: 202-224-3154

Asheville: (828) 333-4130

Representative Charles "Chuck" Edwards:

DC: 202-225-6401

Hendersonville: (828) 435-7310



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 4 Sam Hobson
Mar 4 Richard Query
Mar 7 Amanda Demarest
Mar 7 Brad Hestir
Mar 9 Richard Wolfe
Mar 11 Ray Swetenburg
Mar 12 Gene Shuford
Mar 12 Dan Dean
Mar 13 Andrew Dimmock
Mar 14 Pat Connell
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

A CaringBridge page has been established to keep people updated on Lynn Gilliland's niece and frequent Montreat visitor Katarina Echavarri, seriously injured two weeks ago. [Click here](#) to view the page or sign up.

*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, adjusting to pacemaker

Jackson Dimmock

Katalina Echavarri (niece of Lynn Gilliland), spinal injury

Bob Gambrell, heart valve replacement

Robert Garrison, recovering from knee 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

Jean Norris

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, non-invasive breast cancer
Laura Wolfe, in the death of her mother, Louise

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!

PWNC Newsletter

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



**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.**

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

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



justeconomics



**Visit our
website**

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

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