



THE MONTREAT MEMO

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA



April 1, 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

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

Taize Service
Upper Anderson

Sun., April 6
10:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Service
Holy Communion
Daily Change Offering
Upper Anderson & livestream

Sun., April 6
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson



Tues., April 8
5:00 P.M.

Mission Committee
Swannanoa Room

Wed., April 9
5:45 P.M.

Church & Community
Covered Dish Dinner
Upper Anderson

Thurs., April 10
3:30 P.M.

E & M Committee
Swannanoa Room

Sun., April 13
10:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Service
Palm Sunday
Upper Anderson & livestream

Sun., April 13
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson

Tues., April 15
4:00 P.M.

Session Meeting
Swannanoa Room

Thurs., April 17
7:00 P.M.

Maundy Thursday Service
with Holy Communion
Upper Anderson

Fri., April 18
12:00 P.M.

Good Friday Service
Upper Anderson

Sun., April 20
10:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Service
Easter Sunday
One Great Hour of Sharing
offering received
Upper Anderson & livestream

See below under "Friends & Partners in Ministry" for an email link to RSVP for a **Union Presbyterian Seminary event this Friday honoring Heath & Peggy Rada in Black Mountain. Today is the day to respond to the RSVP.**

Wednesday Noon Community Lent Services

Each Wednesday during Lent, the Swannanoa Valley Ministerial Association is hosting 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

MARCH 12 - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

MARCH 19 - TABERNACLE UMC

MARCH 26 - BLK MTN PRESBYTERIAN

APRIL 2 - WARREN WILSON PRES.

APRIL 9 - ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL

APRIL 16 - FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18 - MONTREAT PRES.

Taizé Service
This 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!

Other Special Services
During Lent

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.

Church Dinner
Wednesday, April 9 at 5:45 P.M.
Upper Anderson



**Bring food to share, friends, family, neighbors,
colleagues - or just come as you are!
Gather at 5:45 P.M. with dinner at 6:00 P.M.**

**In keeping with our Earth Care pledge, we
encourage people to bring washable tableware if
possible.**



Montreat Wednesday

**Montreat Wednesday programs will
resume April 23.**

*

Upcoming Wednesday evenings:

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. **April 16** is in Holy Week, and we welcome all to the noon service at Black Mountain United Methodist Church that day, as well as our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services in

THANK YOU:
*Regular Updates on
MPC's Financial Stewardship*

God continues to lead us into the world! At its March meeting, the Session allocated additional targeted gifts from **MPC's Helene Recovery Fund** to three established partner ministries which meet the criteria that the Mission Committee recommended last Fall: they serve the affected areas near us; they meet urgent human needs; and they are specifically geared toward post-Helene relief.

The three recipients are [Bounty & Soul](#), SVCM's [Neighborcare Clinic](#) program, and the [Black Mountain Counseling Center](#).

Each is receiving a \$4000 gift from the Fund this month.

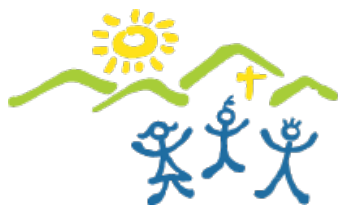
In this way, the Session felt that the generosity of donors to our Helene Recovery Fund could make tangible differences in making nutritious food, medical care, and trauma healing accessible for the vulnerable in our Helene-affected area. **Other targeted gifts** will be announced soon.

While contributions to the Helene Recovery Fund have begun to ease (a natural and expected part of the recovery cycle), MPC's session will continue to distribute support for community partners with a view to making gifts that offer maximum efficiency

and impact for as long as these funds are available.

Meanwhile, our Mission Committee continues its ongoing, robustly faithful budget investment in ministry partners who are making an enormous difference, and **members and friends of our church family** continue to astound with what they give and do for the community and the world with inspired goodness and generosity.

K.G. 3/25/25



Montaña de Luz

MPC will send another delegation to Montaña de Luz, our mission partners in Honduras, June 18-25, 2025! Financial assistance is available. Please let [Skeet Ayscue](#) know if you are interested (the sooner the better, regarding costs).

HIV Testing Kits Urgently Needed: 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. Anyone can visit a website that offers [two free HIV testing kits](#) per person per quarter (click on the underlined link).

Skeet and the team 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.



Honoring Heath & Peggy Rada

Friday, April 4, 2025 | 2:00 – 4:00 P.M.

**The Monte Vista Hotel, 300 West State Street,
Black Mountain, North Carolina**



**Join Union Presbyterian Seminary President
Jacq Lapsley in celebrating the legacy of Peggy
& Heath Rada and that of the Presbyterian**

**School of Christian Education (PSCE).
Afternoon Tea Reception - Attire is Smart Casual**

RSVP by April 1 to [Lyn Battle](#) at 804-278-4320



The SVCM icon is a link to the SVCM website.

[SVCM 2024 Annual Report](#)

**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 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!

Apr 2 Jack Sadler
Apr 2 Laura Wolf
Apr 3 Lisa Rome
Apr 4 Gayle Sawyer
Apr 6 Adam Engell
Apr 8 Logan Barnette
Apr 8 Jean Norris
Apr 9 Ann Herring
Apr 10 Jason Trump
Apr 11 Joan Murchison
Apr 11 Carlton Wilde
Apr 14 Bob Cumming
Apr 14 Anne Seaman
Apr 16 Joan Deifell
Apr 16 Genie Sullivan
Apr 18 Ginny Brand
Apr 20 Bonnie Shoemaker
Apr 21 Amanda Rowe
Apr 21 Mell Ackerman
Apr 22 Ashley Gray
Apr 22 John Welker
Apr 25 Maggie Lauterer
Apr 27 Neal Lloyd
Apr 28 Jim Weyman

Our Church Family Prayer List

At this past Sunday's service, a beloved member required medical attention. We give thanks and glory to God that all is well; she is "back to baseline" and she and her family are grateful for the love, prayers, and support.

Our deepest love and sympathy surround and embrace Susan Haws and her family in the death of Susan's father, Billy McLean.

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

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
Meg Samuels (friend of Vivian Hare), leukemia
Judy Shillinglaw
Gene Shuford
Goody Thomas (brother of Nancy Thomas), cancer
Christina Tutterow
Rosemarie Wanamaker (friend of the Tutterows)

We also lift up in prayer...

Firefighters, shelter operators, volunteers, and all who are affected by WNC wildfires
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 funding or positions have been or are being abruptly terminated
Vulnerable populations within the U.S.
Western NC and the many people sending contributions and work trips to help with post-Helene recovery
Church personnel, in Louisville and on the mission field, whose positions have been eliminated, and the administrative committees who have had to make difficult choices
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 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, formerly Israel & Palestine, now Global
Ecumenical Liaison

Frank & Nancy Dimmock

Elmarie Parker, former Mission Co-worker in the
Middle East

Ardrishaig Parish Church, our eco-partner
congregation in Scotland

Cathy Chang, former 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@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.**

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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