

# THE MONTREAT MEMO

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA



April 29, 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 30**  
**4:00 P.M.**

**Montreat Wednesday**  
*Walkup Building*

**Thurs., May 1**  
**3:30 P.M.**

**Evangelism & Membership  
Committee**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Sun., May 4**  
**10:00 A.M.**

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

**Sun., May 4**  
after worship

**Choir Lunch & Rehearsal**  
*Lloyds' home*

**Sun., May 11**  
10:00 A.M.

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

**Tues., May 13**  
2:00 P.M.

**Finance Committee**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Tues., May 13**  
5:00 P.M.

**Mission Committee**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Wed., May 14**  
5:45 P.M.

**Covered Dish Dinner**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Sat., May 17**  
11:00 A.M.

**Olson Huff Service**  
*Anderson Auditorium*

**Sun., May 18**  
10:00 A.M.

**Sunday Worship Service**  
Pentecost Offering received  
Last Sunday service of 2024-  
25 worship year in Upper  
Anderson  
*Upper Anderson & livestream*

**Tues., May 20**  
11:00 A.M.

**Presbyterian Women's Circle  
Luncheon**  
*Walkup Building*

**Tues., May 20**  
4:00 P.M.

**Session Committee**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Thurs., May 22**  
10:00 A.M.

**Christian Education Comm.**  
*Swannanoa Room*

Sun., May 25  
10:30 A.M.

Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service  
Anderson Auditorium

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*At our invitation, the Swannanoa Room (the front room of our ministry space in the Allen Building) will be set aside for the use of the Arts & Recreation Workshop the week of May 5-10.*

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**Also, a helpful note from our friends and mission partners at the conference center, as Helene repair continues in Montreat:**

This week and continuing well into May, there will be **construction on Lookout Road** where it meets up with Assembly Drive. This will affect one access point to the Anderson parking lots, and create some extra traffic around the parking spaces closest to Assembly Drive, but **because both lots will still be accessible via Community Center Circle, parking around Anderson will still be sufficient.**

Please expect minor detours, and it may be helpful to factor in a few extra minutes of driving time to get to your destination.

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**Montreat  
Wednesday**

**Montreat Wednesday  
Wednesday, April 30**

**MPC presents part two  
of a two-part series  
led by Christina Tutterow  
4:00 P.M. in the Walkup Building**

**April 30 - Church Speak:  
Communicating Accessibility, Inclusion, and  
Solidarity**

The Church and its membership communicate verbally and nonverbally on a regular basis. We'll spend our time together talking about ways we, both personally and corporately, can improve our messaging to those living with disability.

*If you would like to see the video of **last week's Montreat Wednesday presentation** (Part One of Christina's two-part series), please notify the church office ([office@montreatchurch.org](mailto:office@montreatchurch.org)) and we can send it to you directly.*

**Refreshments & Community at 3:45 P.M.  
Program 4:00-5:00 P.M.**

**All are welcome!**

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## **Children's Bible Time**

This Sunday, May 4, the Children's Bible Time and nursery care will conclude until after summer.

***We welcome all families to stay through worship; we are delighted to have babies, toddlers, all ages join us in the Sanctuary!***

**Thank you** to this year's volunteers for providing the Children's Sunday morning Bible time, plus on-call nursery care during worship: Jane Alexander, Amy Blake, Karen Brown, Beth Fountain, Betsy Kirschner, Janie Moore, Anne Stone, and Sharon Welker plus CE Chair Corise Gambrell and CE Children's Subcommittee Chair Vivian Hare. Thank you to student Hannah for special faith exploration time.

**Please consider joining this team!** Participate this summer in MPC's Child Safety Policy training and background check, then volunteer to share Sunday morning time with children August-May. It's a joy to support families with church involvement and faith development. Please talk with Vivian or any team member to learn more!

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## **Legacy Committee**

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Through an initiative of the Finance Committee, endorsed by Session, a Legacy Committee has been formed. The purpose of this committee is to emphasize the importance of the stewardship of accumulated assets and build the church endowment. Placing the church in an estate plan and providing perpetual support for the ministry and mission of Montreat Presbyterian Church can be, for some, an opportunity for people of faith to express their spiritual values.

Members of the committee are Elizabeth Ayscue, Mary Donnelly, Jim Henderson, Bob Horowitz, and Will Stone. Dan Dean, Lynn Gilliland, and Keith Grogg are advisors to the committee.

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# Montaña de Luz

MPC will send a delegation to Montaña de Luz,  
our mission partners in Honduras,  
June 18-25, 2025.

## 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.





## Hope For Tomorrow

The Mission Committee has begun setting up our apartment in Hope For Tomorrow for a new family.

Many thanks to those of you who have already offered to purchase items or who have contributed cash.

Please contact [Nancy Midgette](#) if you would like the most recent list of needs.

Cash is also welcome. Make a check out to MPC and put Hope for Tomorrow in the memo line.

We are eager to meet our new family and want the apartment to be awesome!



**SVCM has an immediate need for**

**Men's Jeans - small sizes only**

**Women's Underwear - sizes 5 & 6 (new)**

**Men's Underwear - sizes small & medium (new)**

**Hangers for Children's Clothing**

## Twin Sheet Sets

Donations can be taken to  
SVCM at 101 N. Ridgeway Ave., Black Mountain

The SVCM icon is a link to the SVCM  
website.

**Click here**  
**to visit SVCM's Facebook page.**

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**Montreat Presbyterian Church supports**



**(Click on the logo for the Helpmate site)**

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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!**



May 5 Grace Nichols  
May 6 Bob Horowitz  
May 8 Beth Fountain  
May 10 Ann Neel  
May 11 Vivian Hare  
May 11 Kat Achtemeier  
May 12 Jane Alexander  
May 12 Skeet Ayscue  
May 13 Mark Crawford  
May 14 Wanda Neely  
May 15 Peter Boggs  
May 15 Bob Shaw  
May 18 Alifa Dimmock  
May 19 Peggy Ann Frank  
May 19 Bill McCaskill  
May 19 George Sawyer  
May 20 Tom Donnelly  
May 20 Peggy Williamson  
May 21 Bill Roberts  
May 22 Hugh Alexander  
May 24 Carol Todd Thomas  
May 24 Jody Welker  
May 25 Karen Brown  
May 28 Rebekah Ayscue  
May 29 Scarlett Parker

*Congregational Care Committee*

## **Our Church Family Prayer List**

*Our love and sympathy surround and embrace  
Marylyn and the family and friends  
of Olson Huff, whose service  
will be held in Anderson Auditorium  
on Saturday, May 17 at 11:00 A.M.,  
and Phyllis and the family and friends*

*of Jack Sadler, whose service  
will be held in Upper Anderson  
on Saturday, August 16 at 2:00 P.M.,*

*and Ann and the family of Jerone Herring,  
a dear friend to many in our church and community,  
who died yesterday.*

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

Sallie Ackerman (Hank's sister), hospitalized  
Harold & Shirley Bost  
Timothy Boyer  
Mary Brueggemann  
Fred Connelly  
Arrington Cox, hospitalized  
Bob Cumming  
Marinell Davidson  
Hal Demarest  
Jackson Dimmock  
Katalina Echavarri (niece of Lynn Gilliland)  
Alun Jones (friend of Keith Grogg)  
Bob Hare, hospitalized, blood pressure issue  
Cheryl Hartman (friend of Vivian Hare)  
Susan Haws in the death of her father  
Marylyn Huff and family  
Andrea McCallum and family (daughter of Jane &  
Hugh Alexander)  
Susanne McCaskill, recent hip replacement  
Henry Neale  
Kitty Neil  
The Rada family  
Ellen Ramsey  
Lila Ray  
Pat Rogers (friend of Keith Grogg), cancer

Phyllis Sadler and family  
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...**

All who are grieving the imminent closure of St. Andrews University (formerly St. Andrews Presbyterian College) in Laurinburg, NC  
Western North Carolina and the many people sending contributions, work groups, and prayers to help with post-Helene recovery  
U.S. government, citizens, elected officials, and public servants  
Food-insecure populations  
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., especially children subjected to terroristic enforcement tactics  
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  
Robert Gamble and This Child Here,  
Victims of human trafficking, domestic violence, and gun violence  
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

Kashmir (India, Pakistan)

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, formerly Israel & Palestine, now Global Ecumenical Liaison

Frank & Nancy Dimmock

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

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.*

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## **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!

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## **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](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

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

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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@montreatchurch.org](mailto:music@montreatchurch.org)

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

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

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

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

**Website: [montreatchurch.org](http://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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