

THE MONTREAT MEMO



THE WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 24, 2026



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., Feb. 24, 2026
Until 7:00 P.M.
(Drop-In)

Malawi Period Project
*Assembly Room at Givens
Highland Farms*

Tues., Feb. 24, 2026
2:00 P.M.

Finance Committee
Swannanoa Room & via Zoom

Tues., Feb. 24, 2026
4:00 P.M.

Worship & Music Committee
via Zoom

Wed., Feb. 25, 2026
11:45 A.M.

Midweek Lent Service
Upper Anderson

Wed., Feb. 25, 2026
4:00 P.M.

Montreat Wednesday
Upper Anderson

Thurs., Feb. 26, 2026
10:00 A.M.

Christian Education Committee
Swannanoa Room

Sun., Mar. 1, 2026
10:00 A.M.

MPC Sunday Worship
Upper Anderson and livestream

Sun., Mar. 1, 2026
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson

Mon., Mar. 2, 2026
3:30 P.M.

Mission Committee
Swannanoa Room

Tues., Mar. 3, 2026
2:00 P.M.

E&M Committee
via Zoom

Wed., Mar. 4, 2026
11:45 A.M.

Midweek Lent service
Upper Anderson

Wed., Mar. 4, 2026
4:00 P.M.

Montreat Wednesday
Upper Anderson

Sun., Mar. 8, 2026

Daylight Saving Time begins
Spring Forward!

Sun., Mar. 8, 2026
10:00 A.M.

MPC Sunday Worship
Upper Anderson and livestream

Sun., Mar. 8, 2026
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson

Malawi Period Project

The Workshop for the Malawi Period Project has been rescheduled for TODAY: **Tuesday, February 24 in The Margaret Room, beside the Assembly Room, at Givens Highland Farms, 1:00-7:00 P.M. Drop in anytime** and bring your sewing scissors, a fine tipped permanent marker, your sewing machine, and your sweet self. All levels of ability welcome to trace, cut, match, sew, trim, flip, iron, sew, snap, and stuff. See you there!

Lent Observances

Midweek Lent Series: Lent Prayer Services (Wednesdays, Feb. 25-March 18)

**Upper Anderson
11:45 A.M. Contemplative Music
(come in any time)
12:00 P.M. Prayer Service**

For four Wednesdays during the heart of this Lent season, Montreat Presbyterian Church and friends offer a brief midday respite in Upper Anderson, 11:45 A.M.-12:25 P.M.

Neighbors, visitors, friends, families, and members of this or any other church, or no church—all are welcome.

On each of these Wednesdays (February 25, March 4, March 11, and March 18), all are welcome to come to Upper Anderson **any time between 11:45 and noon, during which time Vivian Hare, our**

pianist, will provide contemplative music. Please enter quietly so that those in prayer may continue undisturbed.

At 12:00, we'll begin a brief service including scripture, singing, and prayers, concluding around 12:25.

Worshippers are welcome to greet one another after the service and can leave an offering in the baskets by the door to support the crucial mission and ministry of the **Montreat Conference Center.**

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The **Maundy Thursday service**, commemorating the institution of the Lord's Supper, will be held on April 2 at 7:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson.

The **Good Friday service**, the most solemn occasion in the Christian liturgical year, commemorating the crucifixion of Christ, will be held on April 3 at 12:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson.

*

And then the celebration of Christ's resurrection takes place on **Easter Sunday, April 5**, at 10:00 A.M. in Upper Anderson, the first Sunday of the seven-week Easter season.

**Montreat Wednesday
February 25
UPPER ANDERSON**

The location of

**Montreat Wednesday
on February 25
will be
Upper Anderson.**

Presentation by Anne Waple

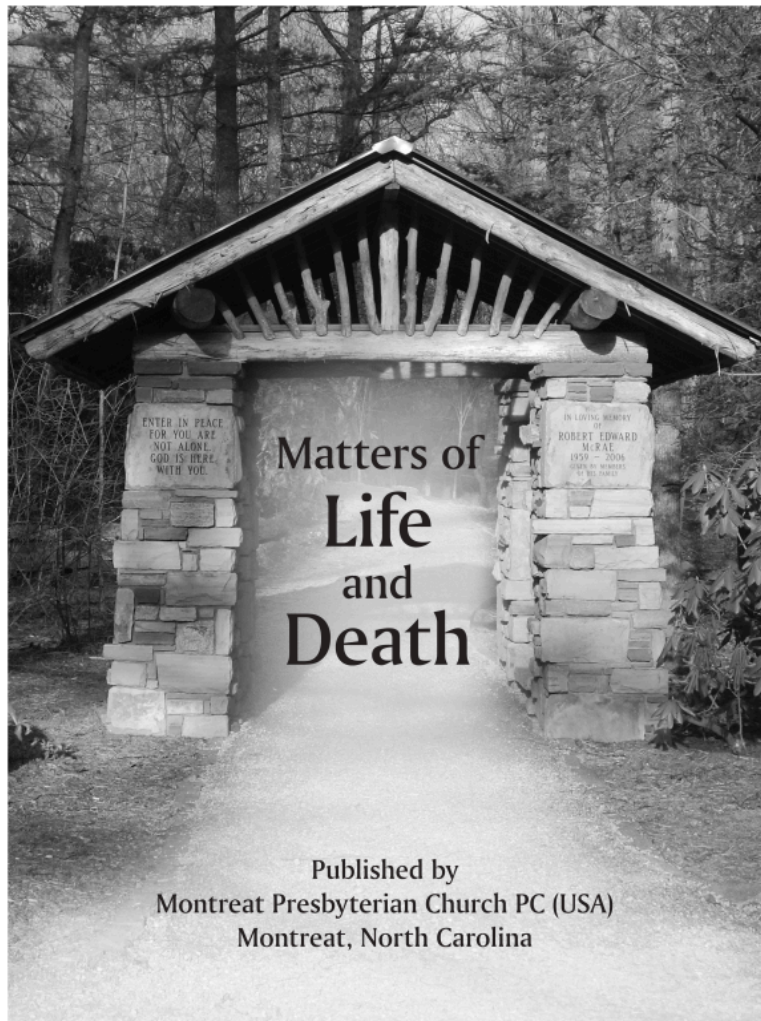
By Thanksgiving of 2025 more than 450 [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#) volunteers had come to Western North Carolina to help with recovery from Hurricane Helene. Anne Waple is a climate scientist with a gift for organizing and coordinating and seeing and sharing the joy and help that our volunteer teams get to offer homeowners across the region. Her presentation will be a first-hand opportunity to learn what Presbyterians are doing as part of the ongoing Helene recovery efforts.

Refreshments at 3:45 P.M.

Program begins at 4:00 P.M.

For the complete Montreat Wednesday schedule for spring 2026, click [here](#).

**Revisiting
*Matters of
Life and Death***



On March 4 Montreat Wednesday will kick off a timely five-part program focused on important spiritual, financial, and legal end-of-life preparations that all of us should be thinking about.

Each MPC household will receive a free copy of an updated version of a comprehensive booklet first created in 1998 by Al Dimmock, updated through the years by Jack Sadler and Mike Begley, and recently enlarged to include relevant current topics, such as “Understanding EOL Issues with Dementia.”

You may get your copy in advance on Sunday, March 1, starting at 9:30 A.M., after the service, or on Wednesday, March 4.

The Presbytery of Western North Carolina presents a "**Lunch & Learn**" event this **Thursday** led by our own **Christina Tutterow!**

LUNCH & LEARN

with *Christina Tutterow*

"All Are Welcome"

Saying what we mean – and meaning what we say!



Topics include:

- elements of inclusive worship services
- congregational auditing
- interpersonal conversations

Presentation will move beyond discussing the physicality of our congregational spaces toward communicating fuller welcome, openness, and inclusion of those living with disabilities.

This is perfect for all Church leaders (ordained & lay), those who "have the ear" of leadership, and those who are passionate about expanding congregational hospitality and welcome.

Thursday, February 26
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
via Zoom

Register Here
by 2/20/25

Questions? Call 828/438-4217 or email twilliams@presbyterywnc.org.

Sponsored by the Faith Formation Team of PWNC



SVCM has an immediate need for

Individually packaged snack items

Pancake Mix & Syrup

Salad Dressing

Ketchup, Mayo, and Mustard

Diapers, size 5 & 6

Combs, brushes

Deodorant - Lotion - Shampoo

Fitted Sheets - all sizes

Towel sets and Hand Towels

Complete list can be found [here](#)

Donations can be taken to

SVCM at 101 N. Ridgeway Ave., Black Mountain

Monday-Friday | 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Montreat Presbyterian Church Supports



(Click on the logo for the Helpmate site)

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!

Feb 27 Herb Smith
Mar 1 Amber Moss
Mar 4 Sam Hobson
Mar 4 Richard Query
Mar 7 Amanda Demarest
Mar 9 Richard Wolfe
Mar 11 Ray Swetenburg
Mar 12 Gene Shuford
Mar 12 Dan Dean
Mar 13 Andrew Dimmock
Mar 14 Pat Connelly
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

Congregational Care Committee

Our Church Family Prayer List

*Our deepest love and sympathy surround the family
of Henry Neale.*

Service details will be announced shortly.

*

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

Nicky Ackerman (Mel & Hank's daughter)

Harold & Shirley Bost

Timothy Boyer

Tommy Brown

Mary Brueggemann

Nan Clarke

Fred Connelly

Bob Cumming

Marinell Davidson

Joan Deifell

Jackson Dimmock

Nancy Dimmock, broken femur

Frank Dodson

Betty Douglas

Katalina Echavarri
(niece of Lynn Gilliland)
Jack Gilliland (Bill's father), CHF
Mari Gramling
Bob Hare
Cheryl Hartman (friend of Vivian Hare)
Steve Huff (Marylyn's son)
Joel Kirschner (Betsy's husband)
The family of Bill Lee
Bill Moore (former pastor of First Christian Church-
Black Mountain), cancer
Ann Neel (wrist surgery)
Bob Peel
Maggie Ray, recovering
after hip replacement
Pat Rogers (friend of Keith Grogg),
cancer
Aletha Roper, broken foot
Meg Samuels (friend of Vivian Hare),
leukemia
Sara Scarborough
Judy Shillinglaw
Jeremy Shoulta, cancer
Gene Shuford
Sheldon Smith
(friend of the Tutterows)
Julie Simpson
Rosemarie Wanamaker
(friend of the Tutterows)

We also lift up in prayer...

Western North Carolina, Texas Hill Country, Pacific
NW (Washington state) and all other places working
for relief and recovery in the wake of calamity
Minneapolis

American universities

U.S. government, citizens, elected officials, and public servants

U.S. citizens and all those being detained and/or deported without due process

Food-insecure populations and people in danger of losing SNAP, Medicare, and Medicaid assistance

Law enforcement personnel and their families

Military personnel and their families

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 terrorizing enforcement tactics

Victims of human trafficking and domestic or targeted violence

Those facing the challenges of aging

People with memory issues and their families

Refugees and all who are displaced

All who work on behalf of the environment

Institutions of higher education

Churches discerning their future

And all the peoples of:

Afghanistan

Displaced Armenians

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh (instability and violence)

Burkina Faso (atrocities)

Cambodia

Colombia

Cuba

Ethiopia

Eritrea

Gabon



Gaza
Greenland
Guatemala
Guinea
Haiti
Honduras
Iran
Iraq
Israel
Jamaica
Kashmir (India, Pakistan)
Kenya
Lebanon
Libya
Malawi
Mali
Morocco
Niger
Nigeria
North Korea
Peru
Russia
The Sahel region of West Africa
South Korea
South Sudan
Spain (floods)
Sudan (genocide and displacement)
Syria
Taiwan
Thailand
Turkey
Uganda
Ukraine
Venezuela
The West Bank
Yemen

***and our friends, neighbors,
and partners in ministry,
including...***

Ardrihaig Parish Church, our eco-partner
congregation in Scotland
Black Mountain Counseling Center
Black Mountain Presbyterian Church
Bounty & Soul
Christ Community Church, Montreat
Donald S. Collins Early Learning Center,
Black Mountain
Doug Dicks, PC(USA) Global Ecumenical Liaison
El Refugio
Frank & Nancy Dimmock
Montreat College
Montreat Conference Center/MRA
OFCB ministries and the people of Haiti
The Presbyterian Heritage Center
Presbyterian Church of Taiwan
Presbytery of Western North Carolina
staff and volunteers
Resources for Resilience
Margery Rossi, Presbyterian Peace Fellowship
Coordinator of Gun Violence Prevention
Craig & Lynn Sumey, Communitas International Staff
(Launch Scotland Leadership Team)
Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry
[This Child Here](#) (Ukraine)

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



The Carpenters Are Here for You!

The Congregational Care Committee has several volunteer “carpenters.” Gill Campbell, John Hinkle, Eric Nichols, Ashley Manson, Bryant McEntire, Anne Seaman, George Sawyer, Will Stone, Jody Welker, and Kat & Mark Achtemeier 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” like changing hard-to-reach lightbulbs, retrieving items from the attic,

changing out those pesky chirping smoke alarm batteries, etc., or even helping with minor electrical and plumbing issues. You may contact them directly or reach them through their “straw boss,” [Kat Achtemeier](#).

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



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

John Casper, George Sawyer (2026)
Ginny Soll, Anne Stone (2027)
Beth Frith, Bob Horowitz (2028)
Clerk: Ellen Dean
Moderator: Keith Grogg (pastor)

Officers & Committee Chairs, 2026

Clerk: Ellen Dean

Treasurer: Lynn Gilliland
Christian Education: Corise Gambrell
Congregational Care: Anne Stone
Earth Care Subcommittee: Hal Demarest
Evangelism & Membership: Ginny Soll & Jane Alexander
Fellowship: Beth Frith
Finance: Dan Dean
Mission & Outreach: Skeet Ayscue
Personnel: Lynn Gilliland
Property: John Casper
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 noon on Thursday 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@montreachurch.org

Vivian Hare, director of music
music@montreachurch.org

Ellen Dean, clerk of session
clerk@montreachurch.org

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

Bonnie Shoemaker, office administrator
office@montreachurch.org

Church office: 828-664-9212

Website: 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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