

THE MONTREAT MEMO



THE WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 17, 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., Mar. 17, 2026
3:30 P.M.

Stated Session Meeting
Swannanoa Room

Wed., Mar. 18, 2026
11:45 A.M.

Midweek Lent service
Upper Anderson

Wed., Mar. 18, 2026
4:00 P.M.

Montreat Wednesday
Walkup Building

Sun., Mar. 22, 2026
10:00 A.M.

MPC Sunday Worship
Upper Anderson and livestream

Sun., Mar. 22, 2026
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
*Swannanoa Room-Allen
Bldg.*

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

Worship & Music Committee
Swannanoa Room

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

**Christian Education
Committee**
Swannanoa Room

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026
1:00 P.M.

Service for Henry Neale
*Anderson Auditorium and
livestream*

Sun., Mar. 29, 2026
10:00 A.M.

MPC Sunday Worship
Palm Sunday
*Upper Anderson and
livestream*

Sun., Mar. 29, 2026
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal
Upper Anderson

Thurs., Apr. 2, 2026
7:00 P.M.

Maundy Thursday Service
Holy Communion
Upper Anderson

Fri., Apr. 3, 2026
12:00 P.M.

Good Friday Service
Upper Anderson

Midweek Lent Prayer Service
Wednesday, March 18
(Last of the Lent Series)

Upper Anderson

11:45 A.M. Contemplative Music

(Come in any time.)

12:00 P.M. Prayer Service

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

Montreat Wednesday This Week

Montreat Wednesday March 18 at 4:00 P.M. in the Walkup Building

“Understanding End of Life Issues with Dementia”

Refreshments 3:45-4:00 P.M.

Program 4:00-5:00 P.M.

Dementia changes the journey at the end of life—for both those who are ill and those who love them.

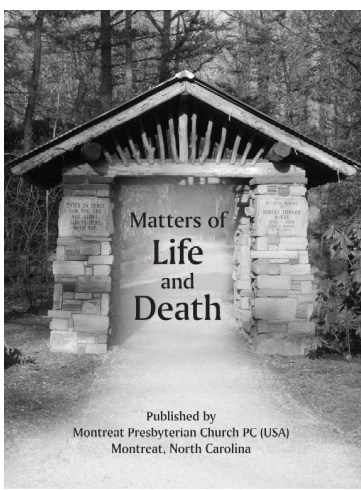
Drawing on decades of experience in hospice and memory care, **Dr. Virginia Templeton, MD**, retired executive director of MemoryCare in Asheville, will help us think about how to prepare, care, and accompany one another well.

Mary Donnelly’s book, *The Memory Caregivers’ Collection*, will also be available for purchase (\$20, cash only).

Each MPC household receives a free copy of an updated version of *Matters of Life and Death*, recently revised and expanded to include relevant current topics.

You may get a copy from the office or before/after Sunday services. Bring your booklet and a pen to each

session!



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



The Presbyterian Women's next meeting time and location are to be determined.

We'll let you know!



The Church Cannot be Silent, but What Should It Say?

A Free Lecture by Dr. William Yoo

March 18, 2026 from 2:00–4:00 pm

Dr. William Yoo, Associate Professor of American Religious and Cultural History at Columbia Theological Seminary and Mountain Retreat Association board member, will offer a free lecture in Montreat Conference Center's Convocation Hall on Wednesday, March 18. Titled "The Church Cannot be Silent, but What Should It Say?", Dr. Yoo's lecture will address American Christianity and present possibilities on how to honor God, love neighbor, and speak the truth while still having faith in America.

In-person and livestream options are available!
Learn more at montreat.org/william-yoo-lecture.



William Yoo is Associate Professor of American Religious and Cultural History at Columbia Theological Seminary and author of several books, including *What Kind of Christianity: A History of Slavery and Anti-Black Racism in the Presbyterian Church* and *Reckoning with History: Settler Colonialism, Slavery, and the Making of American Christianity*.



MONTREAT
CONFERENCE CENTER

We gather in sacred spaces to explore, renew, and connect with our faith, our communities, and ourselves.

montreat.org



If you were unable to join last month's
Presbytery's Lunch & Learn featuring Christina
Tutterow the video is now available!

"All Are Welcome"

Saying what we mean - and meaning what we say!

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=tFtH8qmvU7c>



SVCM has an immediate need for

(15 oz. cans) of:

Pinto, Kidney, Chili Beans

Pork ' Beans

Chef Boyardee beef ravioli/spaghetti & meatballs

Cereal

Ground Coffee

Boxed dry pasta

All purpose flour

Shampoo, Deodorant; Body Wash; Lotion

Toilet tissue

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!

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
Apr 4 Gayle Sawyer
Apr 6 Adam Engell

Apr 8 Logan Barnette
Apr 8 Ginny Porter
Apr 8 Jean Norris

Congregational Care Committee

Our Church Family Prayer List

*Our deepest love and sympathy
surround the family and friends
of Henry Neale,
whose service will be held
Saturday, March 28 at 1:00 P.M.
in Anderson Auditorium
with a reception to follow.*

*

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

Harold & Shirley Bost

Timothy Boyer

Mary Brueggemann

Jacquii Burgess (Marylyn Huff's daughter-in-law),
post-RSV/broken ribs

Nan Clarke

Fred Connelly

Bob Cumming

Marinell Davidson

Joan Deifell

Jackson Dimmock

Nancy Dimmock, broken femur

Frank Dodson

Katalina Echavarri

(niece of Lynn Gilliland)

Jack Gilliland (Bill's father), CHF
Mari Gramling
Bob Hare
Cheryl Hartman (friend of Vivian Hare)
Joel Kirschner (Betsy's husband)
Nan Laird (sister of Mel Ackerman heart attack)
Bill Moore (former pastor of First Christian Church-
Black Mountain), cancer
The Neale family
Matt Olson (young relative of Keith Grogg),
infection requiring 24 hour dialysis
Bob Peel
Maggie Ray, recovering
after hip replacement
Pat Rogers (friend of Keith Grogg),
cancer
Aletha Roper
Meg Samuels (friend of Vivian Hare),
leukemia
Farkhunda and Elham Sarabi
(family of local friends, in Tehran)
Sara Scarborough
Judy Shillinglaw
Jeremy Shoulta
The Shuford family
Sheldon Smith
(friend of the Tutterows)
Julie Simpson
Rosemarie Wanamaker
(friend of the Tutterows)

We also lift up in prayer...

Refugees and all who are displaced
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 people
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.
Victims of human trafficking and domestic or targeted violence
Those facing the challenges of aging
People with memory issues and their families
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
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...***

Ardrishaig 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)

*

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.



*

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.

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@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



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