

# THE MONTREAT MEMO



THE WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER OF MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 14, 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

Wed., Apr. 15, 2026  
4:00 P.M.

Montreat Wednesday  
*Upper Anderson*

Sun., Apr. 19, 2026  
10:00 A.M.

MPC Sunday Worship  
*Upper Anderson and  
livestream*

Sun., Apr. 19, 2026  
1:30 P.M.

Choir Rehearsal  
*Upper Anderson*

Tues., Apr. 21, 2026  
10:00 A.M.

Presbyterian Women  
*Walkup Building*

Tues., Apr. 21, 2026  
3:30 P.M.

Stated Session Meeting  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Tues., Apr. 21, 2026**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**Mission Committee Meeting**  
*Swannanoa Room*

**Wed., Apr. 22, 2026**  
**4:00 P.M.**

**Montreat Wednesday**  
*Walkup Building*

**Sun., Apr. 26, 2026**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**MPC Sunday Worship**  
*Upper Anderson and  
livestream*

**Sun., Apr. 26, 2026**  
**1:30 P.M.**

**Choir Rehearsal**  
*Upper Anderson*

**Tues., Apr. 28, 2026**

**Presbytery of Western NC  
Meeting**  
*Anderson Auditorium*

**Wed., Apr. 29, 2026**  
**8:00 P.M.**

**Taizé Service**  
*Upper Anderson*

## **Church Office Closed April 16-21**

**The church office will be closed  
Thursday, April 16 - Tuesday, April 21  
while our office administrator is away.  
(Other staff will still be at work and on  
site.) Phone calls and emails will continue  
to be monitored during that time.**

**Montreat Wednesday**

**Montreat Wednesdays  
continue this week  
on April 15 at 4:00 P.M.  
in Upper Anderson**

**Dealing with Grief: A Panel**

Moderated by Mari Gramling

Panelists:

Mary Donnelly, Memory Care

Ann DuPre Rogers, Resources for Resilience

Bob Tuttle, Black Mountain Presbyterian Church

Hear a range of perspectives on how grieving impacts each of us. Optional advance reading:

<https://www.colorado.edu/ova/four-phases-grief-grieving-loss-loved-one>

**(Fourth in a five-part series on  
“Matters of Life and Death”)**

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

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

**All are welcome!**

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**Presbyterian Women  
Next Tuesday, April 21**



The Presbyterian Women's circle will meet in the Walkup Building next **Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 A.M.**, with Marylyn Huff leading the study.

Visitors and newcomers are always welcome!

Our final meeting of the season will take place on May 19 with a lesson led by Kat Achtemeier.

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**Creation Care Symposium  
in Montreat,  
May 1-2:  
Register by April 27**



# Creation Care Symposium

## *Building Resilience: Congregations in a Climate-Changed World*



\* REGISTRATION DEADLINE- APRIL 27 \*

Creation Care Alliance will gather people of faith from across the southern Blue Ridge for a conference on creation care, disaster recovery, and building community resilience.

### Friday, May 1 Activities to Inspire

- Interfaith Service
- Awe Walk
- Nature Hike
- Reclaim-the-River Ritual
- Writing Writing Workshop

### Saturday, May 2: Workshops and Conversations

- Panel Discussion: "Faith Communities, Disaster Response and Resilience Work"
- Green Burial w/author Mallory McDuff
- Beyond Activism
- Housing & Faith: The Creation Care Connection
- Disaster, Climate, and Mission: Preparing the Church for What's Next
- Solar Powered Congregations



MAY 1 & 2, 2026  
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM



MONTREAT CONFERENCE  
CENTER  
Montreat, North Carolina

[REGISTER + MORE INFO](#)





# Let There Be Light

The joy of gathering in  
God's good generosity

The Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church  
invites you to a service celebrating  
Earth Day and care of God's creation

**April 23, 2026**  
**6:00 PM**

First Presbyterian Church Asheville  
Reception to follow!

All are welcome!

📍 40 Church St.



**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.**

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**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](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!

**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 22 Mell Ackerman**  
**Apr 22 Ashley Gray**  
**Apr 22 John Welker**  
**Apr 25 Maggie Lauterer**  
**Apr 27 Neal Lloyd**

## Our Church Family Prayer List

*We are deeply saddened to learn of the death of Jeremy Shoulta, recent former pastor of First Baptist Church of Black Mountain, this past Sunday. Jeremy had been on our prayer list for several months.*

*Also on the prayer list has been Matt Olson, who died Monday evening. Matt's family members are grateful for our church's prayers.*

**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)

Nan Clarke

Fred Connelly

Bob Cumming

Marinell Davidson

Joan Deifell

Jackson Dimmock

Nancy Dimmock

Frank Dodson

Katalina Echavarri (niece of Lynn Gilliland)

Mari Gramling

Bob Hare

Cheryl Hartman (friend of Vivian Hare)

Kathy Horowitz, cancer treatments in Florida

Ron Johnston (Dora Hinkle's nephew)  
Joel Kirschner (Betsy's husband)  
Bill Moore (former pastor of First Christian Church-  
Black Mountain), cancer  
Family of Matt Olson (young relative of Keith  
Grogg), after a heart infection  
Bob Peel  
Maggie Ray  
Pat Rogers (friend of Keith Grogg),  
cancer  
Meg Samuels (friend of Vivian Hare),  
leukemia  
Farkhunda and Elham Sarabi  
(family of local friends, in Tehran)  
Sara Scarborough  
Judy Shillinglaw  
Family of Jeremy Shoulta  
Sheldon Smith  
(friend of the Tutterows, cancer-free following  
surgery)  
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)

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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.*



\*

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



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## 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](#).

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**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**

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

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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 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](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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