November 3, 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.

Calendar

Wed., Nov. 4, 2026 **5:30 P.M**	**Contemplative Prayer Service** *Upper Anderson*
Sun., Nov. 8, 2026 **10:00 A.M.**	**MPC Sunday Worship** *Upper Anderson & livestream*
Sun., Nov. 8, 2026 **2:30 P.M**	**Choir Rehearsal** *Givens Highland Farms - Brookside Commons Assembly Room*
Sun., Nov. 8, 2026 **4:00 P.M.**	**Worship Service, including holy communion**

	Givens Highland Farms-Brookside Commons Assembly Room
Tues., Nov. 10, 2026 **2:00 P.M**	**Finance Committee** *Swannanoa Room*
Tues., Nov. 10, 2026 **5:00 P.M**	**Mission Committee** *Swannanoa Room*
Wed., Nov. 11, 2026 **4:00 P.M.**	**Montreat Wednesday** *Walkup Building*
Sun., Nov. 15, 2026 **10:00 A.M.**	**MPC Sunday Worship** *Upper Anderson & livestream*
Sun., Nov. 15, 2026 **1:30 P.M**	**Choir Rehearsal** *Upper Anderson*

Contemplative Service
This Wednesday, 5:30 P.M.



Contemplative Prayer Service

Wednesday, November 4
5:30 P.M.

The Melvin Center in
Upper Anderson

Join us - ALL are welcome!

For more on what to expect at this quiet, meditative, and wordless service, click here.

* * * * * *

The Fall 2026 Montreat Wednesday schedule can be found here.

MPC Worship at Givens Highland Farms

The MPC choir, musician, and pastor lead worship at Givens Highland Farms on occasional Sunday afternoons in the Brookside Commons Assembly Room. The next two are:

THIS Sunday, November 8, 4:00 P.M.
(communion service)

December 13, 4:00 P.M.

Thanks to GHF Chaplain Hunter Preston for the invitation! It's always great to be with our MPC member residents and friends.

All are welcome, regardless of church affiliation and whether or not you reside at Highland Farms!

(*These services have different content than the morning worship services in Upper Anderson.)*

Happy Thanksgiving!

Earlier this year, the worship committee and session, acting on an initial recommendation from the pastor, made the decision **to discontinue the midday Montreat Community Thanksgiving service** for this year and going forward.

Attendance has declined year after year—exponentially and, lately, precipitously—to the point where it has become obvious that it has served its purpose and has now become untenable to carry on. It was marvelous for its time, and those good memories of it will remain. Thanks be to God!

K.G.

Elders-Elect
Mary Donnelly and David Hollowell

Mary and David were elected by the congregation earlier this month and are in the midst of an in-depth officer preparation course with the pastor. They will be ordained and installed to the session on January 3, 2027 to begin their three-year terms, and we are very excited to have them!



Mary Donnelly grew up in Asheville and graduated from Presbyterian College in 1974, where she met her future husband, Tom, in the college choir. (Mary studied organ with the same professor as Vivian Hare!) Mary, whose work with MemoryCare has impacted the lives of many, found her way to MPC four years ago when she was invited to present a three-part program at a Montreat Wednesday. She went home that night and told Tom, “These are our people!” – and they’ve been here ever since. Tom and Mary live in Asheville with their celebrity dog Sammy.



Lesli and **David Hollowell** began worshiping at MPC in 2023 and joined in 2024. David has been a member of the stewardship committee for the last two years, serving as chair this year. He is retired after a career in home textiles,

including long stints as VP of Marketing at both Beacon and Owen Manufacturing. Born and raised in Goldsboro, NC, he has lived in this area since 1979 and enjoys playing golf and pickleball.

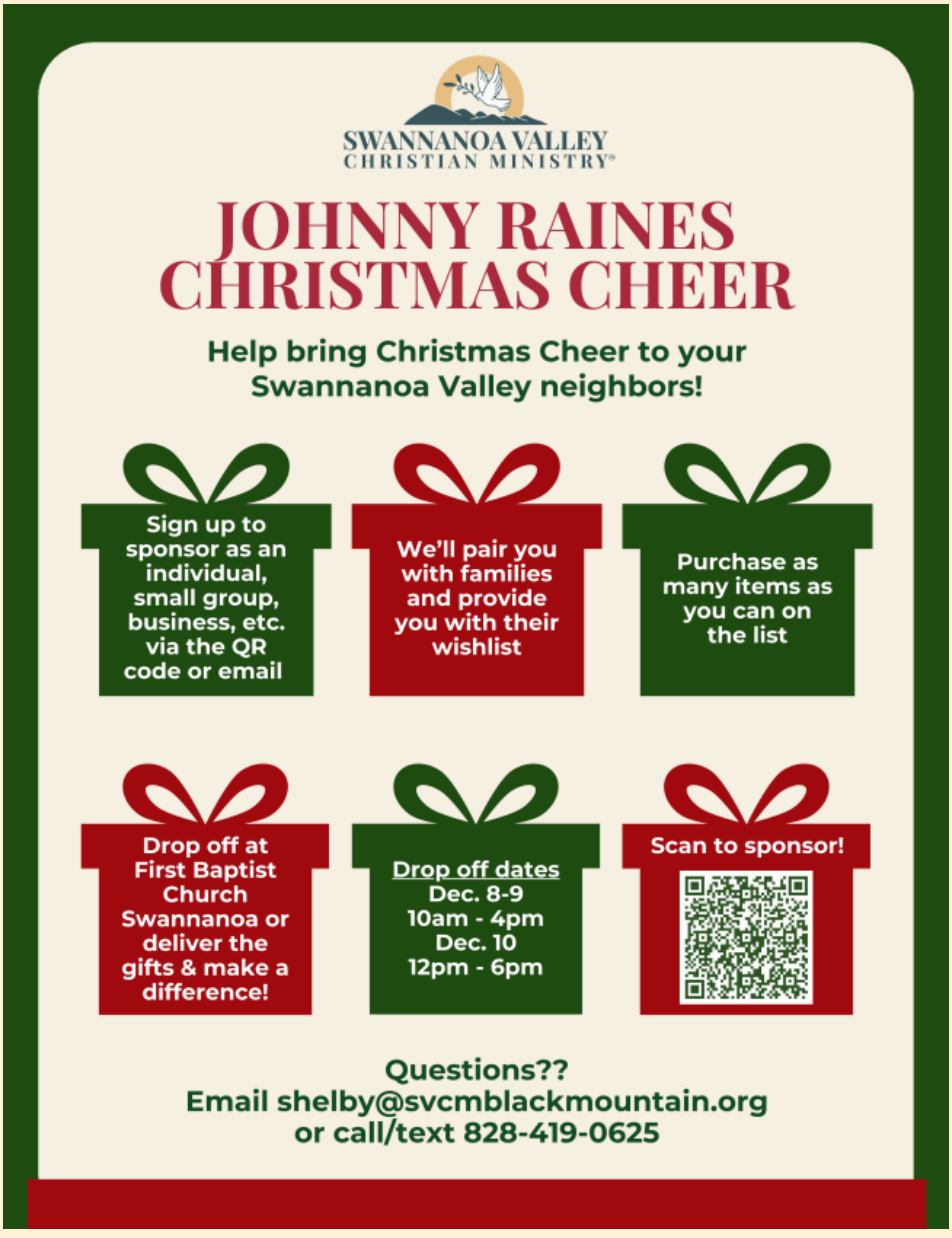
Legacy Committee



Margaret & Henry Neale joined Montreat Presbyterian Church in 2007, bringing with them a deep experience in the Presbyterian tradition. They quickly became leaders in the congregation. Margaret served as Church Musician and prepared a weekly newsletter. Henry was elected to Session and began a long tenure on the Finance Committee, helping guide the church's future in both roles. In many ways, their life in the church reflected a strong faith in God and a steadfast commitment to the congregation's mission and ministry. A recent and significant gift from the Neale estate stands as a living testimony the faith of Margaret and Henry, their love of God, and their support of the church. Through their gift to endowment, that testimony will continue in perpetuity. Thanks be to God for the faithful and enduring presence of Margaret and Henry Neale in the life of Montreat Presbyterian Church.

Jim Henderson





Christmas is just around the corner and the Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry has a program called **Johnny Raines** to help our neighborhood children. You can sign up by **Friday, NOVEMBER 6** to sponsor a family and

indicate the number of children you would be willing to support. Click here to go to the SVCM site for more information https://www.svcmblackmountain.org/jrcc

There will also be opportunities in December to assist at SVCM with Gift Drop off and Pick up. Stay tuned for more. Contact Lynn Gilliland for more information about this “angel tree” project.

SVCM has an immediate need

for the Food Pantry

Toilet paper
Canned Meat
Laundry detergent (and canning jars for dividing)
Deodorant
Period Pads

for the Clothing Closet

Pull-ups
Baby Wipes
Blankets and Comforters, all sizes
Adult backpacks
Sheet sets, all sizes - *highest priority for Queen size)*
Incontinence bed underpads

The Neighborcare Clinic needs:
Tylenol - Adult, Children (liquid or chewable), Infant
Ibuprofen - Adult & Children (liquid or chewable)

Allergy Meds - Zyrtec or Claritin (NOT bendaryl)
Triple Antibiotic Cream
Hydrocortozone Cream
Arthiritis Cream (Volteran or Tylenol precise)

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. - 2:30 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!

Nov 5 Ann Wilde
Nov 6 Chet Alexander
Nov 6 Brenda Whiteker
Nov 11 Terry Butler
Nov 13 Jane Anderson
Nov 13 David Neel
Nov 14 Howard Edington

Nov 18 Ann Hudspeth
Nov 18 Joe Standaert
Nov 19 Susanne McCaskill
Nov 19 Jean Skidmore
Nov 20 Macie King
Nov 21 Jan Swetenburg
Nov 21 Sharon Welker
Nov 25 Pat Welker
Nov 28 Will Stone

Congregational Care Committee

Our Church Family Prayer List

Our deepest love and sympathy surround
Cathie Dodson and her family
in the death of Frank Dodson,
who died Sunday, November 1.
A memorial service will be held at
First Presbyterian Church, Asheville
Friday, November 6 at 2:00 P.M.

For parking information, please see
Parking & Accessibility at FPCA

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

Harold & Shirley Bost
Timothy Boyer
William Brown
Mary Brueggemann
Mason Charrier (friend of Corise Gambrell), brain tumor

Fred Connelly
Susan Denne
Jackson Dimmock
Nancy Dimmock
Katalina Echavarri (niece of Lynn Gilliland)
Bob Hare
Clara Hare
Emily Harrin (friend of Lynn Gilliland)
Cheryl Hartman (friend of Vivian Hare)
Kathy Horowitz
Tom Horvath (friend of the Tutterows), cancer
Walter Jones (friend of Dora & John Hinkle), treatment for Leukemia
Joel Kirschner (Betsy's husband)
Bill Moore (former pastor of First Christian Church-Black Mountain), cancer
Bob Peel
Meg Samuels (friend of Vivian Hare), leukemia
Farkhunda and Elham Sarabi
(family of local friends, in Tehran)
Sara Scarborough
Bob Shaw
Julie Simpson

We also lift up in prayer...

Flood recovery in Nepal/Tibet
Flooding in the American Midwest
Wildfires in the U.S., Canada, Greece, Spain, France, and elsewhere
Earthquake in Japan
Legal immigrants and asylum seekers in jeopardy of deportation
Refugees and all who are displaced
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
Canada
Colombia (earthquake recovery)
Cuba
Democratic Republic of Congo (Ebola outbreak, violence, and displacement)
Ethiopia
Eritrea
Gabon
Gaza
Guatemala
Guinea

Haiti
Honduras
Iran
Iraq
Israel
Jamaica
Japan (earthquake/tsunami)
Kashmir (India, Pakistan)
Kenya
Lebanon
Libya
Malawi
Mali
Morocco
Nepal/Tibet border (catastrophic flood)
Niger
Nigeria
North Korea
Peru
Russia
The Sahel region of West Africa
South Africa
South Korea
South Sudan
Sudan (genocide and displacement)
Syria
Taiwan
Thailand
Turkey
Uganda
Ukraine
Venezuela (earthquake recovery)
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
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.**

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)
Elders-elect: Mary Donnelly, David Hollowell (2029)

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

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.

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

Visit our website

Montreat Presbyterian Church | P.O. Box 577 | Montreat, NC 28757 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!