

THE WEEKLY MONTREAT MEMO

The Weekly eNewsletter of Montreat Presbyterian Church, USA

December 11, 2018

All Are Welcome!



Sunday Worship, December 16
Service of Lessons & Carols
10:00 A.M. in Upper Anderson
Everyone is welcome! Please join us!

Our Calendar

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---|
| Wed., Dec. 12 | 3:30 P.M. | Choir Rehearsal
<i>Swannanoa Room, Allen Bldg.</i> |
| Wed., Dec. 12 | 5:00 P.M. | Christmas Carol Sing;
Communion Service
<i>Swannanoa Room, Allen Bldg.</i> |
| Thu., Dec. 13 | 10:00 A.M. | Thursday Morning Bible Study
<i>Swannanoa Room, Allen Bldg.</i> |
| Sun., Dec. 16 | 10:00 A.M. | Sunday Morning Worship
Service of Lessons & Carols
Christmas Joy & Nickel-a-Meal
Offerings
<i>Upper Anderson</i> |
| Sun., Dec. 16 | 5:30 P.M. | Christmas Caroling
<i>Meet at the Montreat Gate</i> |

Tue., Dec. 18	6:30 P.M.	Session Meeting (Rescheduled) <i>Home of Linda Hobson</i>
Wed., Dec. 19	3:30 P.M.	Choir Rehearsal <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Sun., Dec. 23	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Morning Worship Advent 4 <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Sun., Dec. 23	Time TBD (after worship)	Choir Rehearsal <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Mon., Dec. 24	5:00 P.M.	Christmas Eve Service <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Dec. 25-26		Office Closed In observance of Christmas
Sun., Dec. 30	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Morning Worship <i>Upper Anderson</i>

**Please share scheduling info with the office administrator
at office@montreatchurch.org,**

and be sure to check availability of times, places, and people
before scheduling events, meetings etc.

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 them to the appropriate contacts at MRA.

Montreat Wednesday
Christmas Carol Sing and Holy Communion
Dec. 12, 5:00 P.M. in the Allen Building

The communion service which had been approved and scheduled for the Service of Hope & Remembrance on December 9 will now be offered this Wednesday, 5:00-6:00 P.M., in the Allen Building, with **Kat Achtemeier** co-officiating at the table with Keith Grogg. Prayers for those for whom Christmastime brings painful or complicated emotions will be included.

We also welcome **Vivian Hare**, as originally scheduled, to lead us in singing some seasonal favorites, and the fellowship committee is planning to provide some light refreshments.

Please feel free to join us for a cozy pre-Christmas gathering. All are welcome!

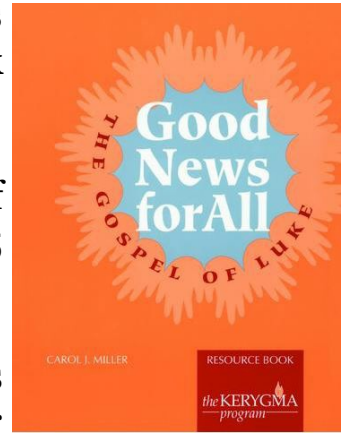
Thursday Morning Bible Study

10:00 A.M. in the Allen Building

The Thursday Morning Bible Study meets this Thursday, Dec. 13, led by Cathie & Frank Dodson.

All are welcome to join us as we conclude our study of the Gospel according to Luke. We meet 10:00-11:15 A.M. in the Allen Building. All are welcome!

Many thanks to our teaching team for sharing insights from the resource and their own perspectives, and for leading great, respectful class discussions: Mark Achtemeier, Cathie Dodson, Frank Dodson, Priscilla Durkin, Keith Grogg, and Sally Woodard.



This Sunday, Dec. 16: Service of Lessons & Carols 10:00 A.M. in Upper Anderson

The Service of Lessons & Carols is a service of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus. The need of humanity for a savior, the promise of the Messiah, and the coming of Christ in the nativity are told in scripture readings interspersed with carols, hymns, anthems, and meditations.

We are grateful to our readers and musicians, and all whose gifts, talents, and labor, whether leading worship or working behind the scenes, make this and all our worship services possible.

Alternative Christmas Gifts



CHILDREN & FRIENDS: For the next four Sundays we will be collecting mittens and scarves to be placed on the mitten tree for the children at C&F.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS CARDS: A great alternative Christmas gift is the purchase of gift cards to send to friends. Starting this past Sunday and continuing through Advent, we have an opportunity to purchase cards for:

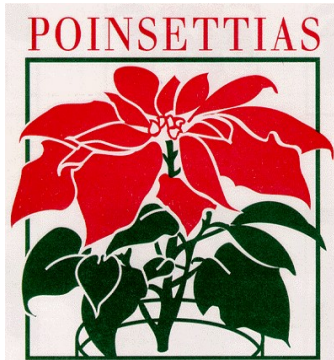


Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry "Angel Tree" - \$10
Children & Friends - \$15

Help feed the children in Bayonnais School, Haiti - \$25

Last year, we raised \$1,600 through alternative gift cards!

Poinsettia Orders



We are receiving orders for poinsettias to be placed in the sanctuary for the worship service on Dec. 23. Each poinsettia costs \$10. If you would like to have poinsettias placed in honor or memory of loved ones, the order form can be found in the worship bulletin or downloaded and printed by clicking [here](#). The deadline to order is December 17. If writing a check, please make check payable to MPC and designate "Poinsettia" in the memo line. You may mail, email or stop by the office with your order. Thank you!

SVCM Winter Shelter

Again this year our church along with other churches in the valley will help to feed the homeless in our community during the winter months. Without the help of these churches many would have no place to go during the coldest nights of the winter and would have no warm meals. The shelter provides both. Our church is responsible for furnishing three meals **from Jan. 6-9 and on Jan. 27**. Sign-up opportunities are available now. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**



PHOTO CREDIT: FRED McCORMICK

Christmas Caroling Sunday, Dec. 16



Come along and join us as we spread some Christmas cheer!

We will **gather at the Montreat Gate at 5:30 P.M.**
this Sunday, December 16, and carpool over to Highland Farms.
We'll plan to be back by 7:30.

Celebrating Margaret Neale

For more than 11 years, **Margaret Neale** has been offering for Montreat Presbyterian Church her considerable musical talent, untold thousands of hours of time, and a clear vision of the place, meaning and expectations of music in Presbyterian worship. While we will continue to have occasional opportunities to hear her gift of music, **Sunday, Dec. 23** will be the Sunday on which Margaret concludes her long and richly productive term as our resident weekly musician, and her service will culminate the next night, Christmas Eve, at the 5:00 P.M. service in Upper Anderson. She has chosen to close the service with a setting of "Silent Night," which will follow the traditional ceremony of candlelight and singing.

Effective immediately, Margaret will receive the title **Musician Emerita**, and she and her contributions will be recognized at a special event in the new year.



PHOTO CREDIT: PHYLLIS SADLER

Having previously been invited by Margaret to provide music for our Sunday worship on December 30, **Vivian Hare** will play for that worship service, and then formally begin serving in the newly created position of Director of Music on January 1.

Advent & Christmas Events at MPC

**Some upcoming events in the Fall-Winter schedule.
Please join us! All are welcome.**

Wed., Dec. 12

5:00 P.M.

**Montreat Wednesday:
Christmas Carol Sing;**

		Communion Service <i>Swannanoa Room, Allen Bldg.</i>
Sun., Dec. 16	10:00 A.M.	Advent 3: Service of Lessons & Carols <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Sun., Dec. 16	5:30 P.M.	Christmas Caroling <i>Gather at Montreat Gate</i>
Sun., Dec. 23	10:00 A.M.	Advent 4 Worship Service <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Mon., Dec. 24	5:00 P.M.	Christmas Eve Service <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Sun., Dec. 30	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Worship: Christmas 1 <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Sun., Jan. 6	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Worship: Epiphany <i>Upper Anderson</i>

Friends & Partners in Ministry



As we enter into the winter months SCVM is once again in need of some items for their clients. If you have any **blankets, coats and/or space heaters** you could donate you may bring them to church and we will deliver them.

If you would like to help minister to the **residents of the Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women with Christmas cards this year, please bring unused cards to the church office** by Monday, Dec. 17.



Our Prayer List

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

Becky Anderson (Sadlers' niece), urgent need for kidney transplant
 Robert Boer
 Connie Bristow (friend of Genie Sullivan)
 Robbin Buchanan
 Fred Connelly

David Duncan, continuing severe back pain
Sarah Feely (sister of Margaret Neale), acute leukemia
Marylyn Huff
David Miller
Betsy Neville
Gordon Neville
Margaret Rada
Dick Ray
John Roark
Mary Scott Robinson (daughter of Mary Katherine & Billy)
Maggie Tuggle

Our deepest love & sympathy are extended to Mary Jo Clark and family
in the death of her brother, Doug Clark, Jr.

Those wishing to send a card or note to Fred Connelly
as he continues with hospitalization and rehab in the Charlotte area
may send cards to the church office
and we will be sure they are delivered:
MPC, P.O. Box 577, Montreat, NC 28757.

We also lift up in prayer...

People who are especially vulnerable to winter weather
Refugees of war, famine and violence seeking asylum
Victims of war and terror in Yemen, Myanmar and elsewhere
Those for whom Christmastime brings painful memories
and complicated emotions

Victor and Sara Makari, our Mission Co-workers in Palestine
Elmarie & Scott Parker, our Mission Co-workers in the Middle East
Ardrishaig Parish Church, our eco-partner church in Scotland
Bounty & Soul
Children & Friends
Kairos Prison Ministry
OFCB ministries and the people of Haiti
Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

*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.*

Montreat Presbyterian Church



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

Olson Huff, Betsy Kirschner (2018)
Steve Hansel, Mary Jo Wright (2019)
Jane Alexander, Everett Culpepper (2020)
Moderator Keith Grogg (pastor)
Clerk Linda Hobson



Want to talk? Need a pastor? Come on in!

Call the office at 664-9212,
or email Keith at pastor@montreatchurch.org,
and we'll find a time that works.

Memo Submissions and Responses

The Weekly Montreat Memo is sent from the Montreat Presbyterian Church office email account. **Responses intended for the pastor** may be sent to pastor@montreatchurch.org.

The Memo is usually published on Tuesday. **Please submit items for the Memo by the Friday morning** before the week in which they are to appear. Thank you! (Articles submitted may be edited for accuracy, clarity or brevity.)

Contact Information

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