

THE WEEKLY MONTREAT MEMO

The Weekly eNewsletter of Montreat Presbyterian Church, USA

December 18, 2018

All Are Welcome!



Sunday Worship, December 23
Advent 4
10:00 A.M. in Upper Anderson
Everyone is welcome! Please join us!

Our Calendar

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>Allen Building</i>
Sun., Dec. 23	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Morning Worship <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Sun., Dec. 23	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 <i>in observance of Christmas</i>
Sun., Dec. 30	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Morning Worship

Mon., Dec. 31	Time TBA	Watch Night Service <i>Graham Chapel in Gaither Hall</i>
Sun., Jan. 6	10:00 A.M.	Sunday Morning Worship: Epiphany Installation of Elders Holy Communion <i>Upper Anderson</i>
Sun., Jan. 6	11:30 A.M.	Session Retreat <i>Home of Mary Jo Wright</i>
Sun., Jan. 6	5:00 P.M.	First Sunday Hymn Sing <i>Swannanoa Room, Allen Bldg.</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.

Winter clothing for Children and Alternative Christmas Gifts



CHILDREN & FRIENDS: This month we are 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. Throughout Advent, cards can be purchased before and after our Sunday worship services for:



- Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry "Angel Tree" - \$10
- Children & Friends - \$15
- Help feed the children in Bayonnais School, Haiti - \$25

Christmas Eve Service Monday, Dec. 24

5:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson

The Christmas Eve service will begin at 5:00 P.M. in Upper Anderson. It will include communion, the singing of "Silent Night" and the ceremony of candlelight. The choir will be part of the service, and the evening will have a special poignancy because it will be our final service with **Margaret Neale** as our weekly musician.

Many thanks for the tremendous enhancement and deepening our worship this Advent are due to our musicians including Margaret, instrumental soloists including bagpipes and violin, the Tarnished Brass, and the members of our "ad hoc Christmas choir," some 25 different singers in all (available at different times), who have contributed their time and energy not only for the worship services but for a demanding number of intensive rehearsals for Hanging of the Greens, Lessons & Carols, and the Christmas Eve service. Thanks are also due to our **readers and liturgists**, and on behalf of the church family, the pastor wishes to make grateful acknowledgement of **Linda Hobson** for her role in recruiting people for the many worship roles that are part of our Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle. Well done, everyone!

Year End Contributions Deadline

All contributions for the tax year 2018 must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2018 (remember the 31st is a Monday). All contributions can be mailed or taken to the church office (M-F, 9-12), placed in the offering Dec. 23 or 30, or hand delivered to Gill Campbell or Bill McCaskill by Dec. 31. If you have questions about your balance, please email treasurer@montreatchurch.org or call Gill (828-808-7237) or Bill (828-669-8101).

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

Advent, Christmas & Epiphany at MPC

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

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>
Sun., Jan. 6	5:00 P.M.	First Sunday Hymn Sing <i>Swannanoa Room, Allen Bldg.</i>

Looking Ahead:

- **Vivian Hare** will be our guest musician in worship on December 30, and will take office as Director of Music effective January 1.
- **The Swannanoa Room will be unavailable Sunday-Saturday, Dec. 30-Jan. 5.** The Montreat College Conference will be held the first week of January, and we have invited them to make use of our ministry space in the Allen Building.
- **Beth Fountain and Mason Blake** will be installed to the session in worship on Sunday morning, January 6. The annual session retreat will immediately follow worship that day.
- **Montreat Wednesdays** will resume on January 23.

December PWNC News & Events



Please click [here](#) to read about current news and events of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.

Friends & Partners in Ministry



SVCM has a continuing need of items for their clients. If you have any **blankets, coats or space heaters** you could donate, you may take them to SVCM in Black Mountain, or you may bring them to the church and we will be sure they are

delivered.

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)
Fred Connelly, coming home at the end of this week
David Duncan, continuing severe back pain
Sarah Feely (sister of Margaret Neale), acute leukemia
Jane Frist, back from hospitalization last week
Marylyn Huff
Margie Jones, recovering from back surgery
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.

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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Linda Hobson, Clerk of Session

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**Rev. Margaret Peery,
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