

The Weekly Montreat Memo



The Weekly E-newsletter of Montreat Presbyterian Church (USA)

April 7, 2020

All Are Welcome!



**Please contact the church office
(office@montreatchurch.org)
if you would like to sign up to receive
resources for Sunday home worship!**

**Corporate worship services & gatherings
are temporarily suspended.**

**All staff are gratefully continuing their work
from home offices or remote locations.**

Our Calendar

Mon.-Fri.

**9:00 A.M.-
12:00 noon**

Office Administrator on duty
working from home:
office@montreatchurch.org

Tues., Apr. 7	3:00 P.M.	Children's Music Group Shelter in Place Party <i>via Zoom</i>
Wed., Apr. 8	11:00 A.M.	Worship & Music Committee <i>via Zoom</i>
Thu., April 9	by 7:00 P.M.	Home Worship Service for Maundy Thursday Distributed <i>via Constant Contact</i>
Fri., April 10	by 5:00 P.M.	Home Worship Service for Good Friday Distributed <i>via Constant Contact</i>
Sun., April 12	by 10:00 A.M.	Home Worship Service for Easter Sunday (1st Sunday of Easter) Distributed <i>via Constant Contact</i>
Sun., April 19	by 10:00 A.M.	Home Worship Resources for 2nd Sunday of Easter Distributed <i>via Constant Contact</i>
Tues., April 21	6:30 P.M.	Session meeting <i>via Zoom</i>

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

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.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday commemorated Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem as he entered into the final days before the cross. That day has ushered us into the culminating days of Lent which are commonly called Holy Week.

On Thursday, the Church observes the event called the Last Supper, Jesus' institution of the sacrament of holy communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist). That day is called **Maundy Thursday**. On that night, according to John 13, at supper, Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment: to love one another, just as

he had loved them. The foundation of all creation, and the formation of the church, is the love of God in Christ, shared among all of Christ's people and radiated out to the whole world. (The word "Maundy" is derived from the root of the word *command*.)

As part of the online Maundy Thursday service, if the technology holds up, I will send a short video that includes the officiating of a service of holy communion. (Otherwise, I will at least send the audio of the communion service.) If you would like to participate at home, I invite you to have whatever elements would be meaningful to you for bread and wine.

Friday is the most solemn day of the Christian year. It is the day we commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus and his death, for our sake, on the cross. Because of the immeasurable goodness of his sacrifice, it is called **Good Friday**.

Holy Saturday is a day for keeping vigil, as we meditate on God's love for us and what it means to give our lives to Christ. Sometimes churches have all-day observances filled with readings and silences. My invitation to you is to spend the day in reflection, particularly remembering the people, places, things and realities for which you are grateful.

Sunday morning brings **Resurrection Sunday--Easter!** We will distribute the Easter Sunday service by 10:00 A.M. For those for whom it would be meaningful, I also suggest rising in time to see the morning break over your part of the world, whether you can see the sun come up or simply experience the dawn of the day. There are plenty of online resources available for sunrise services. I can tell you that this year, I will spend Easter Sunrise with the phone set aside, the TV off and the laptop put away. God's new morning is the best resource of all, and no preacher can equal its message.

K.G.

Updates from the (Home) Office

The suspension of all close contact, face-to-face church gatherings continues as we do our part to protect our community, our nation,

and the world. Plan on this continuing at least through the first part of May.



For Easter Sunday, we invite you to send us a photo or short video snippet representing how you would like to celebrate the joy of Easter. Relishing the beauty of springtime? Enjoying the people in your household? Easter dinner? Any way you would like to depict the joy of Easter for you and your household would be most welcome. These will be shared in the online worship service for Easter Sunday.

Also, if you had Palm Sunday pictures that you were not able to send us in time, please feel free to go ahead and send them this week.

Please email pictures to the church office at office@montreatchurch.org. We'll need to receive the pictures for Easter Sunday by Thursday, April 9. Thank you in advance!



The office will set up Zoom meetings for church groups and committees who request it. Chairpersons should contact the office and give Patty plenty of advance time to set up the meeting (preferably 24 hours), and will need to provide the names of all intended participants.



If you know someone who has signed up but is not receiving our three weekly mailings, please ask them to check their email's security setting and tell it to accept anything from **auth.ccsend.com**.

Our office administrator (office@montreatchurch.org) can offer some technical coaching over the phone during listed office hours. Send her an email and she will work with you to set up a time.

K.G.

An Invitation to Become Part of a Sacred Circle

Beverly Thompson, a good friend of this congregation, writes with an invitation for MPC folks:

As one who has served congregations, and those outside any congregation, for many years, as both a pastor and a spiritual director, I have offered Sacred Circles everywhere I have served.

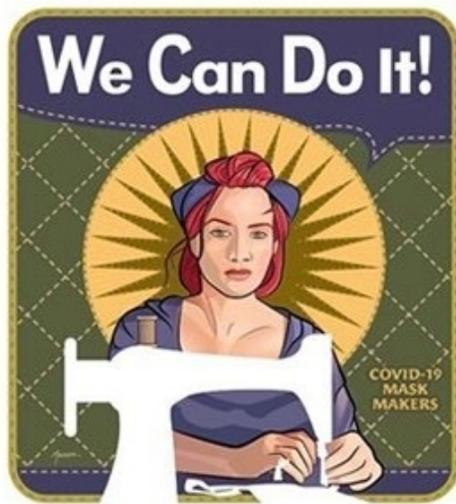
In this time of isolation, anxiety, and honest fear, I trust that gathering with a small group seeking God in the midst of what feels like wilderness, matters. A Sacred Circle is not a "fix-it" circle; it offers safe and sacred time to seek God together.

As we begin to move into Holy Week, **I want to offer you my invitation to become part of a new Sacred Circle.** Typically, Sacred Circles meet weekly--now via ZOOM. Because I have a couple of these Circles meeting already, Mondays are out for now. However, if you are interested in being part of a Sacred Circle, email me at drbeverlythompson@gmail.com and give me a couple of days/times that would work for you.

Together we are the Church and nothing, not even COVID-19, can separate us from the love of God.

Blessings, Grace and Peace
Rev. Dr. Beverly Thompson

Mask Project Update



Saints of Sewing,

Thank you so much for the masks received so far! If any of you are making sewn masks to donate, please leave them in the bin outside the church. It will be helpful if you can send Vivian Hare a little alert note that some have been dropped off.

Where We Are Donating

Our hope was to donate to local hospitals and medical workers to meet the need of the severe lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies. One of the doctors in our area, Dr. Carly Brown (Asheville physician), began a project about the same time that many of us started sewing to meet needs. Dr. Brown's project is called "Masks of Love of western NC". It has been gaining momentum. To find their website please [click here](#). Also, here is a [recent article](#) about that effort.

The Masks of Love of western NC project will be one of those donation sites where our masks will be sent. We may donate elsewhere if we have further medical connections.

Some of you have asked about additional supplies.

We are trying to keep fabric in the second bin outside the church office. Please donate any extra supplies in a zip lock bag in the second bin with the fabric. Also, [this is a very helpful mask pattern](#) recommended by the Vanderbilt Medical Center that does not require elastic (which is often difficult to find now).

Supplies may be ordered online. The Masks of Love project mentions they have some supplies. Also, [here is some information from Joann's](#) about some work they are doing and helpful resources.

Keeping Track of the Number of Masks Made

For our purposes we will only be keeping up with the total number of masks being dropped off in our church bin (not individual's numbers or other masks for the community) that we are trying to

donate to our medical community.

That said, now that the CDC is recommending that we all wear masks if we need to go outside our home, some of you may be helping make masks for your families or friends, friends, and the community. Thank you! We won't have a way to keep up with those numbers right now, but please feel free to count your masks for helping in that way as well and do let us know if you are doing that. We'll hope to count those efforts later too.

A Montreat Minute from the Town of Montreat just appeared today- **-if you are hoping to own a homemade mask**, please see [this link](#). Lila Ray, Kitty Fouche, and Jacqueline Clark are involved in helping with this local need.

Related to that, [this is a very easy DIY face covering](#) demonstrated by our U.S. Surgeon General for anyone to make for themselves or your families. Needed: some fabric (scarf, old t-shirt, etc.) and 2 rubber bands. (Please note this is not a mask like the ones we are requesting for the mask project, but still may be helpful for your personal use.)

All Saints of Sewing, thank you for all you are doing! Every mask, every effort made, is a beautiful act of love.

V.H.

From the Stewardship & Finance Committee

During these challenging times when our patterns of giving to the church are interrupted, some of you may be concerned about the financial needs of the church.

We want you to know that thanks to the pre-paid pledges received to date, the church finances should not be a worry. If you are able to continue your regular giving there are two ways to do so.

We have 2 Special offerings in April:

Nickel a Meal

enter "nickel" in memo line

One Great Hour of Sharing enter "OGHS" in memo line

1. You can mail a check to the Montreat Presbyterian Church office at PO Box 577, Montreat NC 28757.
2. You can use the auto-pay (Bill Pay) of your checking account to mail a check either each week or set up on a recurring basis.

Be assured that all of us at Montreat Presbyterian Church are here for each other every step of this journey.

Everette Culpepper - Chair of Stewardship/Finance
Gill Campbell -Treasurer

Friends & Partners in Ministry



Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

SVCM has been up and running. We have a few volunteers in each day helping with food. Clients are checking off from food lists the items they want. We are not having any clients in the building.

Our needs:

Microwavable meals

Canned meals; Spaghetti O's, mac & cheese, etc.

Canned Vegetables (except green beans)

Canned fruit & fruit cups

Cereal

Cereal Bars

Snack packs for children

Toilet Paper

Bread

Our clients are so appreciative. We have had a number of clients who are servers or in the hospitality industry who have been laid off come for food.

We know that in the days and weeks to come we will be able to continue to serve this community through your support.

Blessings,
Cheryl Wilson
Executive Director
Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry
(828) 664-9224

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it unto me. - Matthew 25:40

Please find the SVCM Tidings Newsletter [here](#).

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 intended to be inclusive, not exclusive, and is not necessarily indicative of any particular 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. 7 Frances Kennedy

Apr. 8 Ginny Porter

Apr. 8 Jean Norris

Apr. 8 Logan Barnette

Apr. 9 Ann Herring

Apr. 11 Joan Murchison

Apr. 12 Sue Key

Apr. 13 Jim Richardson

Apr. 14 Bob Cumming

Apr. 14 Anne Seaman

Apr. 14 Carlton Wilde

Apr. 16 Joan Deifell

Apr. 16 Genie Sullivan

Apr. 19 Lisa Harold

Apr. 22 Ashley Gray

Apr. 25 Maggie Lauterer

Apr. 28 Jim Weyman

Congregational Care Committee

Our Church Family Prayer List

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

Sally Baisley (Christina Tutterow's mom), recovering from stroke
Evelyn Bannerman
Glenn Bannerman
Ken Boyer
Sylvia Boyer
Connie Bristow (friend of Genie Sullivan)
Jey Deifell
David Duncan, continuing severe back pain
Andrew Flake (friend of Ann DuPre Rogers)
Jane Frist
Ken Grogg (Keith's brother), surgery delayed
Fred Hale
Bob Hare
Jim Henderson, recovering from knee surgery
David & Susan Holcomb and their extended family
Dick Keefer, recovering after heart attack and surgery
Margaret Linton
Scotty MacAliley
Susan Maffett, recovering from knee replacement
Bev MacSherry, cancer
Betsy Neville
Gordon Neville
Margaret Rada
Ellen Ramsey
George Ramsey
Bob Shaw
Belle Shipley (Susan Holcomb's mother), recovering after surgery
Linda Shortridge
Arline Taylor
Maggie Tuggle
Sara Ator Wilcox (pastor of Land of the Sky UCC), heart surgery in late April
Lamar Williamson

We also lift up in prayer...

All throughout the world who are suffering from the coronavirus and other illnesses

First responders, hospital workers and all on the front lines

Young people whose dreams and trajectories have been put on hold

Those who have lost, or are in danger of losing, their employment

All victims of war and destruction

Neighbors vulnerable to poverty, hunger and hard weather

Victims of domestic violence

Refugees fleeing war, famine and gangs
Parents and children separated from each other
All who are in grief for loved ones
Businesses and consumers affected by the coronavirus

Clara Hare-Grogg, our Young Adult Volunteer, and all international YAVs, who have now been recalled by the PCUSA and are returning to their homes for self-quarantine

Black Mountain Counseling Center
Black Mountain Presbyterian Church and all churches and congregations in our area
Bounty & Soul
Children & Friends
Christ Community Church
Rev. Deanna Hollas, PC(USA) Gun Violence Minister
Hospital and health care workers
Kairos Prison Ministry
Montreat College
Montreat Conference Center
OFCB ministries and the people of Haiti
The Presbyterian Heritage Center
Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry
Yokefellow Prison 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.

PWNC Newsletter

Find the latest news from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina [here](#).

The Carpenters

Fred Hale, Steve Hansel, Gill Campbell, John Hinkle, Eric Nichols, Bill Roberts and Mark Achtemeier are ready to assist anyone who needs a helping hand with the little household things like: change a light bulb, retrieve items from a hard-to-reach closet shelf, change the batteries in a smoke detector, move furniture and the like. You may contact these gentlemen individually or reach out to **Kat Achtemeier at 563.580.6489.**

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

Jane Alexander, Everett Culpepper (2020)
Mason Blake, Beth Fountain (2021)
Jim Henderson, Ann DuPre Rogers (2022)
Moderator Keith Grogg (pastor)

Officers & Committee Chairs, 2020

Jane Alexander, clerk
Jim Henderson, assistant clerk
Gill Campbell, treasurer
Bill McCaskill, assistant treasurer

Mason Blake, Christian Education
Beth Fountain, Congregational Care
Hal Demarest, Earth Care Subcommittee
Judy Shuford, Evangelism & Membership
Grace Nichols, Fellowship
Everett Culpepper, Finance & Property

Eric Nichols, Mission & Outreach
Ann DuPre Rogers, Personnel
Linda Hobson, Worship & Music

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.

Rev. Margaret Peery also provides pastoral care:
parishvisitor@montreatchurch.org

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

Rev. Keith Grogg, Pastor	<u>Pastor@MontreatChurch.org</u>
Vivian Hare, Director of Music	<u>Music@MontreatChurch.org</u>
Jane Alexander, Clerk of Session	<u>Clerk@MontreatChurch.org</u>
Rev. Margaret Peery, Volunteer Pastoral Visitor	<u>ParishVisitor@MontreatChurch.org</u>
Patty Smith, Office Administrator	<u>Office@MontreatChurch.org</u>
Clara Hare-Grogg, Young Adult Volunteer	Clara's YAV Weblog page Link

(828) 664-9212
MontreatChurch.org

P.O. Box 577, Montreat, North Carolina, 28757

Church Office hours: Weekdays 9:00 A.M. - Noon
304 Lookout Road, Montreat

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and on Instagram



montreatpcusa



[Click here for a map of Montreat](#)

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