



PRAISE. LISTEN. LOVE. SERVE.

# Good News

May 2018

## Month At-A-Glance

May 4

- ◇ Movie Night

May 6

- ◇ Youth End of Year Party—Escape Room
- ◇ Graduate Recognition

May 20

- ◇ Pentecost
- ◇ Volunteer Appreciation Day
- ◇ Mission Commission

May 28

- ◇ Memorial Day
- ◇ Office Closed

## Inside this issue:

- How We Listen 2
- How We Love 3-7
- How We Serve 8-9
- Monthly Calendar 10
- What's NEXT 11

Do you ever reflect on where you were and what you were doing this time the previous year? I'm confident we can all say a lot has happened in our personal lives as well as here at Mount Vernon Presbyterian since last May.

Last May, my daughter became engaged to be married and in a few short weeks, the wedding will occur on June 9. It has been a wonderful time of planning and getting to know her fiancé's family. Last May, I was also serving as the interim pastor at Newnan Presbyterian and driving 130 miles round-trip. To say I'm enjoying the much shorter drive to MVPC is an understatement! Life for me has certainly changed these last twelve months.

Life for this church has also changed since May of last year. In May of last year, you had no idea your pastor, Joe B. Martin, would not be your pastor in May of 2018. Things have also occurred in your lives you did not anticipate. Life is always full of surprises, some welcome...such as an engagement, and some not so welcome...such as your pastor leaving.

Whatever happens in our lives, we as followers of Jesus Christ, lean into our faith in him and trust that even when we don't understand what has happened, he will be with us. That sounds rather simplistic and perhaps a little too easy, but sometimes simple and easy really is the best way. At Easter, we celebrate the wonderful reality of what God in Jesus Christ did for all of us and for each one of us.

That joy and hope of Easter is what we should remember in whatever season of life in which we find ourselves, whether in a season of transition in our church family's life or in our personal lives. I continue to be excited by the new relationships I continue to experience here at MVPC as well as the possibilities that are before us.

As we continue to move forward I want to share with you that we have contracted with a demographics researcher who specializes in studying the demographics of a church's community and how the church can be responsive to that demographic. You will hear more about that in the coming months after the study has been completed. A drive within a two-mile radius of this church shows the potential for outreach and service available to us and having that demographic information will help us understand what adjustments we may need to make as we move into the future to which God is calling us.

I remind you of Jesus' words in Matthew 5:14-16:

*"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

Blessings,  
*Susan*

## Youth Ministry



**LISTEN**

*"As disciples of Jesus Christ, we listen to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God's will for us as individuals and as a community"*

We have had a fun spring! We had our own Cookie Wars, and enjoyed eating the results quite a bit. But we do more than eat good stuff. Our youth continue to amaze me with the depth of their thoughts. We have great discussions, particularly one on the week leading up to Easter. We discussed all the different happenings of the week, each symbolized by different things such as the palm leaf, the dice, a crown of thorns, etc. We were sobered by all Jesus endured in order that we might have true life in God. We left that meeting very grateful.

On May 6, we will honor our high school graduates at our 11 am service, and hope you will be there to congratulate these awesome young people.

We are also really grateful for our Youth Ministry Team, which continues to work on improving our youth program. Please keep them and the youth in your prayers!

Peace and Grace  
Elizabeth

### **Congratulations to:**

Nathan Peji for making a hole in one at a recent golf match! Nathan is in 5th grade at Mount Vernon Presbyterian School.

### **Youth at Top Golf on April 22**



## Church Family Dinner

We had a wonderful night of fellowship at the family dinner in April to discuss the church history. Thank you to David & Debbie Barclift, Ann Williams, Jeanne Mielke and Malinda Holmes for cooking. Also, thank you to everyone for attending and participating in the discussion.



*"As members of a family of faith, we strive to love one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles"*





## Presbyterian Women



We had a wonderful time at our retreat on April 10 at Lost Corner Preserve in Sandy Springs. Elizabeth Small led our devotional and Bible Study in the morning. In the afternoon, Diana Wood, representing Friends of Lost Corner, talked to us about the history of the Preserve. It was a beautiful day, and we enjoyed eating lunch outside and walking some of the trails.

In May, the Book Circle will review *The One-In-A-Million Boy* by Monica Wood. The Day Circle and the Sunday Circle will celebrate Presbyterian Women's birthday and study lessons 8 & 9 in the Horizon's Bible Study.

Save the date! The Presbyterian Women's Salad Supper will be on June 12 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

*"As members of a  
family of faith, we  
strive to love one  
another  
unconditionally,  
sharing our joys  
and standing  
beside one  
another in our  
struggles"*



## Children's Ministry

"May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be with You" Movie Night will be here soon! Bring your pillow, blanket and a friend and join us for a Star Wars movie, pizza, and a snack bar on Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm, in the Activities Building. Also, watch for upcoming Vacation Bible School information. Save the date: VBS June 25-28<sup>th</sup>.

Carrie Southard



## Concerns of the Congregation

In extended care: Margaret Blackley, Lela Griffin, Lorraine Moore, Jack Ward, and Doyne Michie. Please keep all of these individuals and their families in your prayers.

## Letter from Bobeng's

Dear Presbyterian Women and all,

How do we say thank you except to say thank you. We really appreciated your kindness, understanding and thoughtfulness during Barbara's down time. The delicious food and visits were greatly appreciated.

We're happy to say the surgery is over and Barbara is on the mend and looking forward to being active. Again, thanks for everything. We really have a caring church.

Barbara and Jack Bobeng

## Online Prayer Vine

We are looking for members to join our new online prayer vine. We will send prayer requests by email and invite you to join us in prayer. Email Joy Carden at [pjcarden@bellsouth.net](mailto:pjcarden@bellsouth.net) if you are interested in joining.

*"As members of a family of faith, we strive to love one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles"*

## Community Assistance Center

### **CAC Building Dedication & Ribbon Cutting**

Come see the results of your support and vision for CAC to better serve the needs in our community.

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

[8607 Roswell Rd. Sandy Springs, GA 30350](#)

9:00 am Ribbon Cutting & Remarks by Mayor Rusty Paul

9:30-4:00 pm Open House Tours

Refreshments Served



RSVP to Pam Jones, [pam.jones@ourcac.org](mailto:pam.jones@ourcac.org)

*"As members of a family of faith, we strive to love one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles"*

### Senior Adult Outing

The Senior Adults will be meeting for lunch at 12:30 pm on Saturday, May 5 at Ippolito's located in Abernathy Square in Sandy Springs (the Publix Shopping Center) at the corner of Abernathy Road and Roswell Road. If you think you will be attending, please call Pat Davis at 770-394-3254 or email at [pdavisatlanta@aol.com](mailto:pdavisatlanta@aol.com) so that we will have a general count for reservations. We hope you will be able to join us!

### First Birthday Party

A big thank you to Carrie Southard for planning a first birthday party for Cameron McClintock, Wyatt Simcox and Adeline Lyles on April 22.



### Next Month

**June 4:** Rabbi & a Minister—5 Seasons Brewing  
**June 2-8:** Youth Mission Trip—Lexington, KY  
**June 12:** Presbyterian Women's Salad Supper, 6:30 pm  
**June 25-28:** Vacation Bible School  
**June 4-29:** Los Niños Primero School

### Letter from Rita Sheffey— April 22

**Special Thanks** to everyone who attended worship services on Sunday, April 22, both at First Cup and 11am, in person and through the internet. My heartfelt gratitude for your attention, support, encouragement, and for so many generous comments afterward. It was a privilege to have such a unique vantage point and opportunity. I am truly heartened and strengthened by the spirit I felt in the sanctuary on Sunday. As a result, I am more optimistic than ever about what we can do together during (and after) this time of transition to be good sheep for The Good Shepherd. Next Sunday, I expect to be back in my usual seat, second pew on the left side. I also may sit elsewhere occasionally (and attend First Cup more often) to get better acquainted with more of you. I look forward to seeing many of you next week!

Warmly, Rita Sheffey



**LOVE**

*"As members of a family of faith, we strive to love one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles"*

### First Cup Table

We are in need of a few great volunteers to help with the First Cup Hospitality Table on Sundays. The next available Sunday to volunteer is May 20th. Please help us by signing up to bring pastries, juice and fruit. The First Cup cart is kept loaded and ready in the Sacristy located behind the pulpit. Hospitality tables will already be set up in the Narthex. All that is needed is a simple set-up and clean up before and after the service. If you are willing to help, you can sign up [online here](#) or email Christy Hill at [christy.hill321@comcast.net](mailto:christy.hill321@comcast.net). Thank you!





## Kirk Center Makeover



**SERVE**

*“Moved by the Spirit, we serve our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others”*

At long last our Kirk Center is getting a much-needed face lift. This coming July crews will arrive and before Labor Day the work will be completed. We will have a new kitchen with all new appliances, new bathrooms, along with a whole new design that will make this area of our campus warm and inviting for our children, Women of the Church, other groups who use this space as well as our visitors!

We have been conducting a quiet fundraising campaign and many of you have already made substantial financial commitments toward the completion of this project. Though well on our way we want to give everyone a chance to contribute to this wonderful project.

If you are so inclined we can use your financial support as we haven't raised 100% of the funds needed to complete the project. All amounts are appreciated, from \$5 to \$5,000. It all helps! Please indicate Kirk Center Makeover on the memo line of your check or electronic gift. Stay tuned as many more details will follow as we move into the Spring.

– Charlie Gray, Finance Chair

## Kirk Center Renderings





## Communion Offering

The **COMMUNION OFFERING** for May will be for the Drake House, which ministers to homeless mothers and their children. Most needed items include gas cards for moms to go to and from work, canned chicken breasts, chicken and tuna helper, assorted rice sizes, large boxes of cereal, cream of chicken soup, canned fruits, applesauce, canned yams, canned collard greens, granola and cereal bars, after school snacks (such as gummy bears, goldfish, and cookies), raisins, jelly, pancake mix, honey, size 2T-3T and 3T-4T pullups, sponge mops, kitchen sponges, and floor cleaner. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

## Los Niños Primero Gala

Los Niños Primero raised over \$120,000 at the Gala on April 14 thanks to all of our amazing supporters! We couldn't have done it without you.  
—Maritza Morelli



### 2018 Session Members and Ministry Teams

#### Adult

Mary McClurg  
Pat Davis  
Donna Martin

#### Intergenerational

#### Outreach

Quinton Fisher  
Gill Hutt

#### Children

Heidi Nelson  
Hannah Hagenau

#### Finance/Administration

Charlie Gray

#### Youth

Brad Hahn

#### Congregational Care

Mary Lea Woods  
Joy Carden

#### Witness

Mackenzie Truitt  
Rita Sheffey

#### Stewardship

Wit Truitt

#### Strategic Planning

Barbara Hughes  
Donna Neumann

#### Worship

Katherine Koops  
Christy Hill

#### Clerk of Session

Malinda Holmes

#### Moderator

Rev. Susan Haynes

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 PW-CT 10 am	2 Magic Club 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	3 Young Life 7 pm	4 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am Movie Night 6-8 pm	5
6 Youth-End of Year Party 12 pm Graduate Recognition PW Circle 12 pm Hispanic Life Skills Class 1 pm Handbell 7 pm	7 Bible Study 10 am	8 PW Day Circle 9:30 am	9 Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	10 Young Life 7 pm Secretary of State Debate 5 pm	11 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am PW Book Circle 10 am	12 LNP Pre-test 12 pm
13 Hispanic Life Skills Class 1 pm Handbell 7 pm	14 Bible Study 10 am Finance Admin 6:30 pm	15 Worship Ministry Team 7 pm <b>Good News Deadline</b>	16 Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm	17	18 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am MVPS Baccalaureate 5 pm	19 LNP Teacher Training 9 am MVPS Graduation 10 am
20 Pentecost Volunteer Appreciation Mission Commissioning Hispanic Life Skills Class 1 pm	21 Bible Study 10 am Magic Club 6 pm	22	23 Bible Study Group 7:30 pm <b>Good News Published</b>	24 LNP Board Meeting 6:30 pm	25 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am	26 LNP Parent Orientation 9 am
27 Worship 10 am Hispanic Life Skills Class 1 pm	28 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	29	30 LNP Teen Training 11 am Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm	31 LNP Teen Training 12 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b> <b>May 27-Aug. 12</b> <b>10 am only</b>  <b>No Children's or Youth Sunday School</b>	

### May Birthdays

Jacob Hughes 1-May  
Shelly Ray 1-May  
David Hill 2-May  
Andrew Nelson 2-May  
Sam Nelson 2-May  
Brad Skidmore 4-May  
Mike Smith 5-May  
Guy Lever 6-May  
Kendra Boyer 7-May  
Neill Ferrill 7-May

Cameron McClintock 7-May  
Emily Grove 8-May  
Mitch Lutes 10-May  
Becky Hague 11-May  
Frances Olson 11-May  
Linda Boadi 14-May  
Harvey Clark 15-May  
Caroline Kilgore 15-May  
Tim Southard 15-May  
Anmadri Badenhorst 16-May

Mary Earle 19-May  
Robin Lindsey 20-May  
Catie O'Hare 20-May  
Helen Bigham 22-May  
Margaret Craig 22-May  
Emili Earhart 23-May  
Ed Spain 23-May  
Warren Aldrich 24-May  
Laura Northrop 26-May  
Arshad Siddique 27-May  
Spencer Ponsell 29-May  
Wynn Sims 29-May

## May 2018

## May 6

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 98 and John 15:9-17

10:00 THISunday Activities**Childcare:** (Sanctuary Building 120)**Children:** No Children's Activities**Youth:** (Gailey Hall)**Adult: 1.** ***Feasting on the Word*** (Chapel) – David Hill*Bible Study on the passage of the day.***2.** ***Estudios Bíblicos en Español*** (Session Room) – Ricardo Green

## May 13

SCRIPTURE: TBD

10:00 THISunday Activities**Childcare:** (Sanctuary Building 120)**Children:** (Sanctuary Building 104)**Youth:** (Gailey Hall)**Adult: 1.** ***Feasting on the Word*** (Chapel) – Mike Gillespie*Bible Study on the passage of the day.***2.** ***Estudios Bíblicos en Español*** (Session Room) – Ricardo GreenMay 20 **Pentecost/Volunteer Appreciation Day/Mission Commission**

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:1-21

10:00 THISunday Activities**Childcare:** (Sanctuary Building 120)**Children:** (Sanctuary Building 104)**Youth:** (Gailey Hall)**Adult: 1.** ***Feasting on the Word*** (Chapel) – Pat Davis*Bible Study on the passage of the day.***2.** ***Estudios Bíblicos en Español*** (Session Room) – Ricardo Green

## May 27

**Combined 10 am Service**

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 6:1-8 and Romans 8:12-17

10:00 THISunday Activities**Childcare:** (Sanctuary Building 120)**Children:** (Sanctuary Building 104)**Adult: 1.** ***Feasting on the Word*** (Chapel) – Sam McClurg*Bible Study on the passage of the day.***2.** ***Estudios Bíblicos en Español*** (Session Room) – Ricardo Green**PRAISE**

*"As children of  
God, we seek to  
praise God in  
worship and in all  
that we say and  
do"*



471 Mt. Vernon Hwy, NE  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Return Service Requested

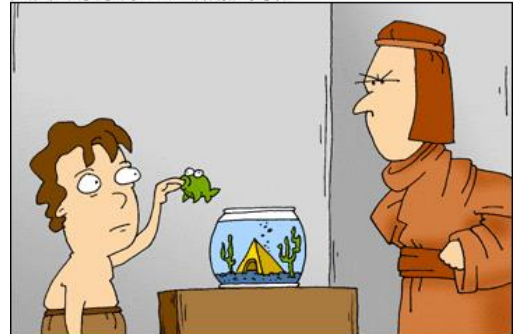
**Got News?** We'd love to hear from you! Send us your news so we can celebrate, laugh, and/or cry with you. After all, we are FAMILY. Deadline for news is the third Tuesday of each month for the *next month's* newsletter. Send your submissions to [lauren@mvpchurch.org](mailto:lauren@mvpchurch.org). *If you'd no longer wish to receive the Good News monthly, please email Jill at [jill@mvpchurch.org](mailto:jill@mvpchurch.org).*

Good  
News!

## Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Susan Haynes	<i>Interim Pastor</i>	<a href="mailto:susan@mvpchurch.org">susan@mvpchurch.org</a>
TJ Shirley	<i>Minister of Worship &amp; Arts</i>	<a href="mailto:tjs@mvpchurch.org">tjs@mvpchurch.org</a>
Elizabeth Small	<i>Dir. of Youth Ministry</i>	<a href="mailto:elizabeth@mvpchurch.org">elizabeth@mvpchurch.org</a>
Rev. Ricardo Green	<i>Pastor of Spanish Ministries</i>	<a href="mailto:ricardo@mvpchurch.org">ricardo@mvpchurch.org</a>
Steve Ray	<i>Church Finance and Operations</i>	<a href="mailto:steve@mvpchurch.org">steve@mvpchurch.org</a>
Jill Thompson	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	<a href="mailto:jill@mvpchurch.org">jill@mvpchurch.org</a>
Lauren McClintock	<i>Communications &amp; Membership Coordinator</i>	<a href="mailto:lauren@mvpchurch.org">lauren@mvpchurch.org</a>
Yvonne White	<i>Financial Secretary</i>	<a href="mailto:yvonne@mvpchurch.org">yvonne@mvpchurch.org</a>
Nick Johns-Cooper	<i>Organist</i>	<a href="mailto:nicodemous@mac.com">nicodemous@mac.com</a>
Lilly Cook	<i>Handbell Choir Director</i>	<a href="mailto:lillynote@comcast.net">lillynote@comcast.net</a>

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT GCL, INC.



Thanks to Brian Hockett (See Jonah 1-4)

05-17-2004

THE FIRST TIME JONAH DISOBEYED

[www.mvpchurch.org](http://www.mvpchurch.org)  
[facebook.com/mountvernonpresbyterianchurch/](https://facebook.com/mountvernonpresbyterianchurch/)  
Instagram: [mvp\\_church](https://www.instagram.com/mvp_church)