



PRAISE. LISTEN. LOVE. SERVE.

Good News

August 2018

Month At-A-Glance

August 5

- ◇ PNC Listening Session 11 am

August 12

- ◇ Mission Report
- ◇ Kick-Off 11am

August 19

- ◇ Regular Worship Resumes 9 am and 11am

August 26

- ◇ Youth Feed Homeless Ice Cream Event 12pm

Inside this issue:

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- What's NEXT 11

Church Kick-Off BBQ
Sunday, August 12, 11-1pm
Join us for food, fellowship & fun!

Face Painting
Kona Ice
Cotton Candy
Yard Games

Bounce House
Cake Walk
Magician
Ministry Tables



We will have activities for all and childcare will be provided! Don't forget to dress casually and bring lawn chairs and sunscreen.

I am so looking forward to this wonderful day of Fun, Food, and Fellowship! I hope to see you there. Warning...I'm pretty good at corn hole in case you want to challenge me!

Blessings,
Susan Haynes
Interim Pastor

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”

What a GREAT trip to Lexington, KY, our youth group had in June! We stayed at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church, doing their Immersion Program, and it was terrific. We worked with all kinds of ministries like Catholic Action Center, Sweet Blessings, and Greensource. We set some kind of record for sorting and moving canned goods at the Lighthouse, served breakfast to the homeless at Hope Center, and thoroughly enjoyed our time with children at E7 Kids’ Club and West End Empowerment Project. Our 11 boys and 3 girls all worked SO hard, and handled all of it beautifully. You would have been so proud of them!

Special thanks to the awesome and fabulous Steve Ray, who showed us all how to “greet the day” and work hard! Also I want to thank the Mount Vernon Foundation for their gift in paying for our vehicles and gas.

We look forward to sharing more details about our trip on August 11 in the service!
Elo



Christian Education

Fall Sunday School Classes 10:00-10:45

Our fall schedule kicks off Sunday August 19. Sunday school classes for all ages will be available. Below is a list of classes, teachers, and topics.

PRESCHOOL- ELEMENTARY

Growing in Grace and Gratitude

Curriculum Focus: In the Fall 2018 quarter, verbs, or as children would say, “action words,” take center stage. In the grammar of our faith, God is the subject acting, and the people in the stories of the Old Testament are the recipients, or direct objects, of God’s action. And so are we! God breathes life into Adam and Eve, and God gives life to us. God hears the prayers of Daniel, and God hears our prayers too. The thirteen stories reveal God’s gracious acts. God continues to be the subject and never stops acting with us—the objects of God’s grace and love.

Birth-K: Room 120

Care Givers: Kathy Graw and Felicia Lynch

Elementary (1st-5th): Kirk Center

Teachers: Carrie Southard and helpers

YOUTH 6th-12th Gailey Hall Teachers: TBA

Teenagers will explore the following topics: What is Worship?, What Makes People Equal?, What is Justice?, Why Did God Save Me?

ADULTS

There will be two adult studies available this fall. We hope you will get involved in one of them. Your life will be enriched beyond measure.

FEASTING ON THE WORD: Chapel

Teachers: Sam McClurg, David Hill, Pat Davis, Joy Carden

This weekly Bible study will focus on the lectionary passage for that Sunday. There are lively discussions for sure. Participants have an opportunity to grow in their knowledge of the scriptures and learn practical ways they can live them out in their daily lives.

QUEST Session Room Teacher: Mike Gillespie

This new adult class will focus on spiritual formation and our faith journeys together. This quarter the class will be exploring Max Lucado’s book: Traveling Light – Releasing the Burdens You Were Never Intended to Bear.



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”

Christian Education Continued...

As the title suggests, we all carry around emotional baggage. Sometimes those burdens take a heavy toll on us and often keep us from enjoying the abundant life Jesus promised. Through the good news of the 23rd Psalm, we will focus on and talk about the burdens of Self-Reliance, Discontent, Weariness, Worry, Hopelessness, Guilt, Arrogance, Death/Grief, Fear, Loneliness, Shame, Disappointment, Envy, and Doubt.

If some of these burdens sound familiar, maybe God is inviting you to lay them down and to travel a little lighter in the sunshine of God's grace.



LISTEN

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NEW WORSHIP PACKETS FOR CHILDREN

We invite parents and kids to enjoy our new resource packets for children. They are hanging on the hooks in the alcove of the narthex. One packet is designed for elementary children (1st-5th) and the other for older preschool children (3-K). We hope the new options in these packets will enable our children to have a more enjoyable worship experience. Please return them at the end of the service.

WELCOMING CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

It is important for all congregation members to understand how important it is for children to feel welcomed in our midst. This is very true when it comes to helping children feel comfortable in worship. It is intimidating enough for them to be attending a very adult oriented program, without having them also feel unwelcomed because of some unfortunate comments or glares from those sitting around them.

We have developed a new brochure titled “Welcoming Children in Worship” which will help members with ideas on how they can help facilitate a good experience for children who are worshipping with us. A copy is available on the resource table in the narthex. We urge you to read it. Let’s make worship a good experience for all kids.

NURSERY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

We are in the process of updating our procedures and policies for those of you that use the nursery. We always want to provide a safe and secure environment for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who use the nursery. It is important that we have the kind of nursery environment where parents will always feel comfortable leaving their children in our care. Some of our updating will include new check-in/check-out procedures, a new nursery brochure for parents, and a new pager system which will allow us more direct contact with parents who leave children in the nursery.

If you have any suggestions for how we can improve our nursery and make it more inviting please let Mike know. His email is

mike@mvpchurch.org

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is conducting a series of listening sessions through August and into September. Upcoming sessions include:

Saturday, August 4, 6:00pm/Session Room
Senior Adult (and Dinner)
Please RSVP to Pat Davis

Sunday, August 5, 11:00 am/Session Room
Current Elders

Sunday, August 26, 10:00 am/Fellowship Hall
General Session

During these sessions we will encourage discussions on our strengths and opportunities and listen to you for insight on qualities of our new pastor. Congregational input will help the PNC be successful in this search. The goal is to have 12 – 15 participants per session.

Future targeted focus groups will include youth, young adults and young families. There will be at least one additional general session in September with date and location to be announced.

Concerns of the Congregation

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



Mount Vernon Towers Driver Needed

We are looking for a driver to pick up residents at the Towers for church on Sunday mornings. The driver will pick them up at 10:45 am, bring them to church and then drive them home afterwards. We need drivers for August, September, and November. Please contact Joy Carden at [770-351-6226](tel:770-351-6226); email pjcarden@bellsouth.net, if you are interested.



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”

Children's Ministry



"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"

We hosted 35 children for Shipwrecked, Vacation Bible School, in June. A big thank you to everyone who volunteered to help make this year a success!



Music

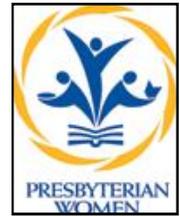
Are you interested in helping lead worship through music? Now is the time to join the sanctuary choir, the hand bell choir or the First Cup worship band. Sanctuary choir rehearsals begin on 8/15, hand bells on 8/26, and First Cup worship band on 8/19. No matter what your musical ability, we can find a place for you. If you are interested, please contact TJ Shirley at tjs@mvpchurch.org.

Senior Adults

Come join the **Senior Adults** for dinner on Saturday, August 4, in the Session Room at 6:00 pm. After we eat and enjoy fellowship, we will take part in a "Listening Session" conducted by the Pastor Nominating Committee in which we will be able to offer our opinions on the strengths of Mount Vernon, directions for improvement we need to take, and important qualities for a new pastor. Dinner will be provided but reservations are necessary by Thursday, August 2. Please contact Pat Davis for reservations at 770.394.3254 or by email at pdavisatlanta@aol.com (or in person if you see her at church).

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women celebrated the year with a wonderful Salad Supper. We enjoyed all the salads, installed new officers, and helped assemble hygiene bags. We also honored Pat Bartee with the Honorary Life Membership award, and welcomed Sarah Chalpan as the new Moderator. Thanks to everyone who helped!



“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 August 26th. 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. Thank you!



Family Promise



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”

Thank you to everyone who helped with our last 2 weeks of Family Promise hosting. We hosted 3 families, with 10 children. Our guests appreciated everything you did, from providing food and supplies to cooking meals to washing dishes and hosting. The guests were welcomed by sweet praying bears provided by Charlene Loth. Our hosts played a lot of games of UNO, Jenga and Twister, played with bubbles and played in the gym. Don McAdam learned yoga from our guests and Quinton Fisher created a home for 2 goldfish pets (Princess and Blackjack) that joined one of our families. During their stay, two of the moms found jobs, so they are on their way to finding more permanent housing. We could not have done it without you.

As you know, Wendy and Ann are rolling off as coordinators after this session. Thank you to Moira Speirs and Barbara Bruce who have volunteered to be coordinator and volunteer coordinator respectively. Below is a picture of the four of them with Arlene Exelbert, the coordinator from B'Nai Torah, without whom we could not successfully host this program. Our next session is Dec 30-Jan 6. Please mark your calendars and volunteer to help Moira and Barbara.



Communion Offering

The **COMMUNION OFFERING** for August will be items our Youth will distribute to the homeless. Most needed items are toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, Gold Bond Foot Powder, shaving cream, razors (plastic), soft snacks, water, and gallon-sized Ziploc bags. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Spanish Ministry

Rev. Ricardo Green has been leading a Hispanic Life Skills class for the last several months with two different Spanish speaking groups. They meet on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. This class came to fruition as a result of our ESL classes taking a break for the summer. This was a great opportunity for him to keep these two groups involved with our Spanish Ministry at Mount Vernon. There are about 8 participants in each class. Gaby Romero, a mother from Los Niños Primero, hosts the Wednesday evening group in her apartment.

His prayer and hope is that this group will develop into a Bible study and eventually a Spanish Worship Service on Sundays. Please keep Rev. Ricardo Green and this group in your prayers as he continues to minister to the immigrant Spanish speaking community in Sandy Springs. If you have further questions or would like to speak with him, please email ricardo@mvpchurch.org.

Los Niños Primero

Los Niños Primero hosted 180 students on the Mount Vernon Presbyterian church campus in June. There were 300 students registered overall between the 5 different campuses this summer. Below is a photo of the students on celebration Sunday, performing songs for their parents they learned throughout the summer.



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

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	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 MVPS Teachers Return Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm	2	3 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am Spanish Ministry 10 am	4 PNC Meeting 6pm
5 Spanish Bible Study 9 am Worship 10 am Adult Bible Study 11 am PNC 11 am	6 Fulton/Dekalb School Starts Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm PNC Meeting 7 pm	7	8 Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm	9	10 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am Church Summer Office Hours End	11 LNP School 8-1 pm
12 Fall Kickoff Mission Report Sunday Spanish Bible Study 9 am Worship 10 am	13 Finance Admin 6:30 pm Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm	14 MVPS School Starts PNC Meeting 7 pm	15 Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	16	17 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am	18
19 Worship 9 & 11 am Spanish Bible Study 10 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Session 12 pm Youth Pool Party 5 pm	20 Magic Club 6 pm Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm PNC Meeting 7 pm	21 Worship Ministry Team 7 pm Good News Deadline	22 Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	23	24 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am	25 LNP: School 8-1 pm Parent Meeting 9:30-11:30 am
26 Worship 9 & 11 am Spanish Bible Study 10 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Youth Feed Homeless Ice Cream Event 12 pm Handbell 12:15 pm	27 PNC Meeting 7 pm Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm	28 PW-CT 10 am	29 Hispanic Life Skills Class 7 pm Men's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Good News Published	30	31 Coffee Ministry 6:00 am	

August Birthdays

Jeff Chesnutt	1-Aug	Martha Chambliss	8-Aug	Ginger McCoy	15-Aug	Ryad Kahale	22-Aug
John Kapsaroff	1-Aug	Paul Wade	8-Aug	John Robert Christian III	16-Aug	Linda Bliss	24-Aug
Sid Kilgore	1-Aug	Britney Bliss	10-Aug	Brad Hahn	16-Aug	Kathryn Wade	25-Aug
Susan Sawyer	1-Aug	Sarah Teja	10-Aug	Joan Malcolm	16-Aug	Pieter Badenhorst	27-Aug
Daniel Schafer	1-Aug	Douglas Sawyer	11-Aug	David Barclift	18-Aug	Cameron Gray	29-Aug
Joanna Mickle	3-Aug	Gail Walker	12-Aug	Nnaoke Ufere	18-Aug	Kyle Hagenau	29-Aug
Julia Northrop	4-Aug	Bob Boyer	14-Aug	Nan Whitacre	18-Aug	Ethan Ray	29-Aug
Sarah Northrop	6-Aug	Alma Dowdakin	14-Aug	Pat Bartee	20-Aug	Bill Attaway	30-Aug
Moira Speirs	6-Aug	Paige Earhart	15-Aug	Duncan Jackson	21-Aug	Nneka Ufere	30-Aug
Wendy Hagenau	7-Aug	Evelyn Allen	26-Aug	Tom Rounds	21-Aug		

August 2018
Comm(unity)

August 5

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 51:1-12 & Ephesians 4:1-16

9:00 This Sunday Activities

Estudios Bíblicos en Español (Session Room) – Ricardo Green

11:00 This Sunday Activities

Childcare: (Sanctuary Building, Room 120, Infants-K)

Youth: (Gailey Hall)

Adult: **Feasting on the Word** (Chapel) – David Hill
Bible Study on the passage of the day.

August 12

Mission Report

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 130 & Ephesians 4:25-5:2

9:00 This Sunday Activities

Estudios Bíblicos en Español (Session Room) – Ricardo Green

11:00 This Sunday Activities

Childcare: (Sanctuary Building, Room 120, Infants-K)

All: Kick-Off outside in church courtyard

August 19

Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 111 & Ephesians 5:15-20

10:00 THISunday Activities

Childcare: (Sanctuary Building, Room 120, Infants-K)

Children: (Kirk Center, Grades 1-5)

Youth: (Gailey Hall)

Adult: 1. **Feasting on the Word** (Chapel) – Pearl Attaway
Bible Study on the passage of the day.

2. **Quest** (Session Room)

This new class is studying Max Lucado's book: Traveling Light: Releasing the Burden's You Were Never Intended to Bear – Mike Gillespie

3. **Estudios Bíblicos en Español** (Room TBA) – Ricardo Green

August 26

Do you also wish to go away?

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 84 & Ephesians 6:10-20

10:00 THISunday Activities

Childcare: (Sanctuary Building, Room 120, Infants-K)

Children: (Kirk Center, Grades 1-5)

Adult: 1. **Feasting on the Word** (Chapel) – Pat Davis
Bible Study on the passage of the day.

2. **Quest** (Session Room)

This new class is studying Max Lucado's book: Traveling Light: Releasing the Burden's You Were Never Intended to Bear– Mike Gillespie

3. **Estudios Bíblicos en Español** (Room TBA) – 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

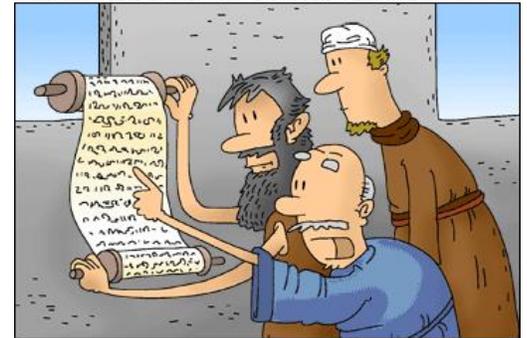
Got News? We'd love to hear from you! Send us your news so we can celebrate, laugh, and/or cry with you. After all, we are FAMILY. Deadline for news is the third Tuesday of each month for the *next month's* newsletter. Send your submissions to lauren@mvpchurch.org. *If you'd no longer wish to receive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

+++
**Good
News!**

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Susan Haynes	<i>Interim Pastor</i>	susan@mvpchurch.org
TJ Shirley	<i>Minister of Worship & Arts</i>	tjs@mvpchurch.org
Elizabeth Small	<i>Director of Youth Ministry</i>	elizabeth@mvpchurch.org
Rev. Ricardo Green	<i>Pastor of Spanish Ministries</i>	ricardo@mvpchurch.org
Steve Ray	<i>Church Finance and Operations</i>	steve@mvpchurch.org
Mike Gillespie	<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	mike@mvpchurch.org
Jill Thompson	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	jill@mvpchurch.org
Lauren McClintock	<i>Communications & Membership Coordinator</i>	lauren@mvpchurch.org
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