MVPC Happenings....



Grub Burger Fundraiser Day: Come join us and help raise money for the Zambia mission trip by eating at Grub Burger anytime today! We will receive a percentage of the sale when anyone mentions they are eating for Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. They are located on the corner of Peachtree Dunwoody Rd. and Hammond Dr. across the street from Einstein Bros. Bagels. The address is 1110 Hammond Dr #35, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. The food is excellent!

Farewell Reception for TJ Shirley - Feb. 3: As you know, TJ Shirley, our Music Director, will be leaving MVPC on February 8. Since February 3 is his last Sunday with us, we want to host a farewell reception for him in the Kirk Center, following each service (10 am and noon). Please join us to celebrate his ministry with us over the last 8 years.

Annual Meeting - Feb. 10: During the Sunday School hour on February 10, we will have our annual meeting to discuss 2018. Please make every effort to attend as we review this report.

Garden Hill Scholarship: Hannah Hagenau and Katieanne Peterson have begun fundraising for the Garden Hill Scholarship fund once again. This fund goes to support graduates of Garden Presbyterian School as they move into secondary school at Garden Hill Secondary School. Our church has always done an awesome job of supporting students during their years at Garden Presbyterian, but they still need help even after they have graduated. Last year, we were able to send 22 students to high school and raise over \$5000. This year we aim to raise \$5000 and send 28 students to high school. Please help us achieve are goals by donating through our website https://highschoolforzambia.wixsite.com/gardenhill or making a donation to the church as Garden Hill Scholarship fund.

Food for First Cup: We would love for YOU to sign up to bring food for the First Cup service. If you haven't volunteered before, it is an easy way to get involved. Please sign up online at www.mvpchurch.org or speak to Christy Hill if you are interested. All you do is add your food and juice and ice/water in the pitcher provided. Everything is in the cabinets in the Kirk Center and the coffee is provided. You are welcome to leave your receipts (with your name and address) in Christy Hill's mailbox in the church office for a mailed reimbursement.

Youth: Tonight is Youth Group from 5-7, and we want YOU to be there! Bring \$5 for dinner. You're always welcome to bring a friend.

Stephen Ministry: Looking for compassionate and committed men and women! **The Stephen Ministry**, a lay ministry for assisting people in crisis (death, divorce, loss of job, injury, illness, or other) will resume, under the leadership of Pat Bartee, who is attending training Jan. 13–19. Training for a Mount Vernon church team will begin in early February. Those entering training must be, 1) a past Stephen minister or, 2) a person who can easily keep confidences and keep information private, 3) a person who is more willing to listen than to advise (you will be trained to do this!) and, 4) one who will commit to mandatory training (The Stephen Ministry is a licensed program).

The Stephen Ministry can become a true asset to our church by supplementing and assisting pastoral and congregational care and supporting and befriending our members during crises. If you are interested in the ministry, please contact Pat Bartee during January. Text and email will be best during Pat's week of intensive training (1/13–19).

Los Niños Primero featured at MLK Day at Sandy Springs City Center: Los Niños Primero will be featured as the city's non-profit organization making a difference in the community tomorrow, January 21. Several of our students, volunteers, parents and teachers will make brief presentations. We are so indebted to the church for the support and love we receive. We hope that church members will join us and revel in what they have contributed to LNP and to the Sandy Springs community. If it weren't for the church members taking the initiative to serve the community, we would not be here today! It begins at 10 am and lasts about an hour.

Presbyterian Women: We started the New Year with presentations by Sylvia McAdam and Marguerite Nelson about missions here and throughout the world. We also enjoyed fellowship and reviewing the book, *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie.

Save the date! In February, the Day Circle and the Sunday Circle will meet jointly on Sunday, February 10, after the 11:00 service for lunch and a presentation about Family Promise by the director, Andrea Brantley. Lunch will be provided, and everyone is invited!

The Book Circle will meet on Feb. 8th and review *The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story* by Diane Ackerman. Circle of Grace will meet on the 10th at the home of Lisa Cumming.

Our PW Winter Newsletter is available online on our website or you can grab a copy in the narthex.

If you have any <u>announcements</u> that you would like to appear in the *Happenings*, weekly email, or *Good News* please email them to Lauren McClintock, lauren@mvpchurch.org.