



October 2021

Good News

Sermon Series Faithful Characters of the Bible

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Kick-off
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Pumpkin Palooza 2019

2021 Event Coming October 24!



PASTOR'S DESK

Welcome!

Throughout most of the last month and all of this month we, (your pastors) are exploring the various attributes of characters found throughout the Bible. I was inspired to do this sermon series because of the character I have seen from you since the pandemic became part of our daily lives. Since then, we have collectively and individually confronted a confluence of emotion. The *Faithful Character* series has been an attempt to try and wonder where God has been in all of this and in those emotions.

Within this wonder and the questions that arise from it, I have been reminded of a familiar yet not often used (at least not outside of the Christmas season) description of who God in Christ is: Emmanuel, or God with us. Through this journey that we have been on, from online, to outside, to inside, to taking the masks off, to putting them back on, to living in this liminal space where we sort of know how to live in this reality but yearning to fully live like we always did, we have found out truly that Christ is Emmanuel.

This month we will continue to witness Emmanuel at work. October 3 we will see Emmanuel embodied in the ecumenical spirit of World Communion Sunday. I hope you will join us on the Courtyard. On October 10 we will enjoy a proclamation from our new intern, Shari Freeman, as through her we witness God at work in the next generation of pastors. On October 17, you will vote on the next slate of officers who will serve and lead this church.

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Let us pray and remind those elected that Emmanuel is with them. On October 24, join us again on the courtyard for Pumpkin Palooza, as we take another step toward normalcy and invite the neighborhood to join us in our communal fun. Finally, on October 31, we will close the *Faithful Character* series by concluding our stewardship season. We hope you will be moved to bring your pledge card as together we rejoice and give thanks to Emmanuel who has inspired the character of our community.

Peace to you this October and to God be the Glory for the great witness we have seen at MVPC.

Barrett

Outdoor Worship/ Fall Kick-off September 12



Beautiful day in the neighborhood...



Witness Table w/Angie Hawthorne,
Gail Williams



PW Table with Ann Williams & Robin Blair



CE Table with Carrie Southard &
Meg Christen



PW: Gail Williams, Marguerite Nelson,
Pat Davis, Ann Williams, Beppie Lever



Worship Table with Wendy Hagenau,
Amy Kiley



Joan Rownd, Mary Kilgore, Charlie
Gray



Resting in the Shade: Betsy Cozine,
Alma Dowdakin, Barbara Bruce



Congregational Care Table w/Joy Carden



Jeannie Lee, Angie &
Robby Hawthorne, &
Robin Blair



Outreach with
Patricia Hibbard &
Sarah Chalpan

Photos courtesy of Dee Bradford-Smith, Steve Ray, Jeanne Gilliland



We enjoyed the Fall Retreat on Sunday, September 26. Mazi Robinson led the retreat and presented the program, *Using Our Gifts*. She discussed how to recognize our gifts and use them to be lights in the world.



Photos courtesy of Dee Bradford-Smith & Jeanne Gilliland

In October the **Day Circle** will meet on Tuesday, October 12, at 10:00. The **Sunday Circle** will meet on Sunday, October 10, after the Sunday service. Both circles will study lesson 1, *Family Trees*, in the Horizons Bible Study, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. The **Book Circle** will meet on Friday, October 8 at 10:00 and discuss "Tattoos on the Heart" by Gregory Boyle. The **Circle of Grace** will not meet in October.

The Fall Issue of THE MVPC MEMBERS' GIFT OF WISDOM is available in the Narthex or on.

Getting to know.....

Shari Freeman, Seminary Intern



If you could live anywhere, where would it be?

I like living near water, and am especially fond of the Eastern coast of the U.S. So, I would love to live in a town on the coast of North Carolina, South Carolina, or Georgia.

If you could hire someone to help you at home, would it be with cleaning, cooking, or yard work?

Definitely cleaning! Cleaning the house is one of my least favorite tasks.

What is the last thing you recorded on your TV?

We don't have a DVR, so we like to watch series on Netflix and Amazon where we can watch the next episode whenever we want.

What is your favorite type of foreign food?

I was blessed to travel to India a few times in my previous career, so Indian is my favorite.

Dogs? Cats? Neither?

I really like cats, and my husband likes dogs, so we usually have both in our house. Currently we live with a small dog named Daisy and a cat named Sandy.

What's the tallest building you've been to the top in?

I am not a big fan of heights! Probably the tallest building I have ever been to is the Sun Dial restaurant on top of the Westin Hotel in downtown Atlanta.

Contact: shari@mvpchurch.org

YOUTH



Ben Barber, Aiden Ray,
Kyle Cumming, Isaac

*Braves Game
September 12*



Hungry teenagers



Isaac, Ben Barber, Kyle Cumming, Aiden Ray
Joann, Samantha, & Mark Fifield



Photos courtesy of Steve Ray

BBQ Lunch September 19



Robin Blair, Sam McClurg, Sarah Bradley, Mary McClurg, Penny Kiel



David & Debbie Barclift



Renee & Sue Loth, Bob & Ann Addison



Christie Hill, Mike & Kathy Havey (visitors)



Angie Hawthorne & Ann Williams



Charlie Gray, Tim & Carrie Southard



George Hammett



Guy & Beppie Lever, Barbara Bruce, Carol Beckman, Brent Schweiger



Betsy Cozine, Pat Davis, Malinda Holmes, Barbara Bruce



Charlie Gray & Barrett



Gerald Fudge, Kirk & Sarah Chalpan



Gail Williams, Isaac, Mary Kilgore



Stan Williams



Patricia & John Hibbard, Worth & Barbara Williams (visitors), Pat Davis

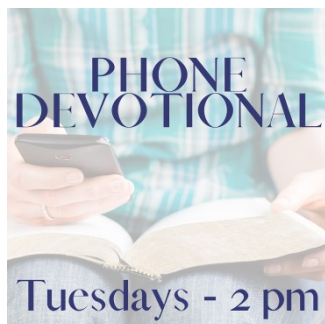
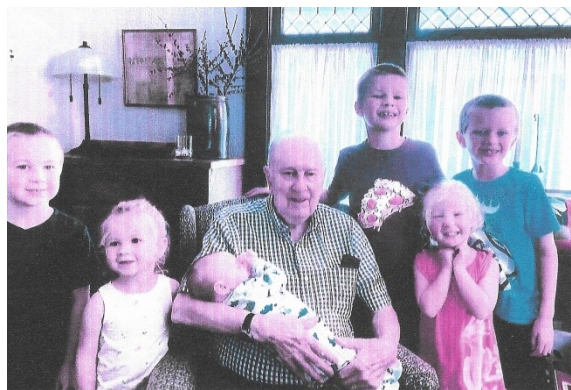
Photos courtesy of Dee Bradford-Smith



October Communion Offering

We will be collecting candy for the Halloween Trunk or Treat event at Lake Forest Elementary School. This annual event gives students and their parents a safe environment to enjoy Halloween festivities. Bags of individually wrapped pieces of candy as well as other snacks such as granola bars are needed. Please leave all donations in the Outreach Bin near the church office at any time until **October 24**. Thank you for your generosity.

Jack Bobeng, a long time MVPC member, with his 6 great grandchildren in Holland, MI!



Join us on Tuesdays at 2 pm
for a phone devotional!
Dial 701-802-5094
Access Code: 5154569



Taizé is a simple, meditative form
of worship.
**October 12, 7pm in the
Sanctuary**

Staff News

Ryan Sawyer's Farewell, August 29



In case anyone asks
you when the church
was built...



Barrett's outdoor office...

Church Bulletin
Bloopers



*"The Pastor would appreciate it if
the ladies of the congregation
would lend him their electric
girdles for the pancake breakfast
next Sunday morning."*



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY
8AM-4PM
FRIDAY 8AM - 2PM

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

Mailing address:
MVPC
PO BOX 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

October Calendar of Events



October 3

Outdoor Worship - 10:30am

Youth - 5-6:30pm

October 5

Staff Mtg - 9:30am

PW CT - 10am

Phone Devotional - 2pm

Worship Ministry Team - 4pm

October 8

Book Circle - 10am

October 10

Worship - 10:30am

Sunday Circle - 12:15pm

Youth - 5-6:30pm

October 11

FAMT - 6:30pm

October 12

Staff Mtg. - 9:30am

Day Circle - 10am

Phone Devotional - 2pm

Worship Committee - 4pm

Taizé - 7pm

October 17

Worship - 10:30am

Congregational Mtg - 11:30am

Session Mtg. - Noon

Youth - 5-6:30pm

October 19

Staff Mtg.- 9:30 am

Phone Devotional - 2pm

October 20

GOOD NEWS DEADLINE

October 21

Los Niños Board Mtg. - 7pm

October 24

Worship - 10:30am

Pumpkin Palooza - 4pm

Youth - 5-6:30pm

October 26

Staff Mtg. - 9:30am

Phone Devotional - 2pm

October 28

Good News published

October 31

Worship - 10:30am

Men's Breakfast - 8:30am



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN



If you are not receiving our weekly emails and would like to stay up to date on the latest MVPC news, please subscribe on the contact page of our website or [click here.](#)

October Birthdays



Todd Simon	10/2	Marguerite Nelson	10/14
Christopher Ufere	10/3	Leah Reid	10/15
Rita Sheffey	10/5	Wright Hardy	10/17
Tara Allen	10/5	Barbara Bruce	10/18
Madison Hahn	10/5	Charlie Bryson	10/20
Paula Fisher	10/6	Lisa Gray	10/20
Ellen McCormick	10/6	Charley Plumly III	10/22
Pearl Attaway	10/6	Ann Young	10/22
Sarah Chalpan	10/6	Bryce Cumming	10/23
Carlton Carden	10/7	Derek Spain	10/24
Ann Williams	10/9	Bryan Jackson	10/28
Marion Satterfield	10/10	Kwaku Boadi	10/28
Susan Hassell	10/11	Hannah Hagenau	10/29
Ian Hughes	10/11	Barrett Abernethy	10/30
Lisa Cumming	10/13	Amy Kiley	10/31
Eleanor Brazell	10/13	Jack Sims	10/31
Lucy Hibbard	10/14	Ann Addison	10/31



**WAYS
TO
GIVE**

ONLINE



<https://mvpchurch.org/give/>

MAIL



Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
PO BOX 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

QR CODE



January 1 - August 31, 2021	Actual YTD	2021 Budget
Member Giving Pledge	\$349,803	\$438,290
Member Giving Non- Pledge	\$28,876	\$70,000
Non member giving & Loose offering	\$7,397	\$6,000
Total	\$386,076	\$514,290

If you have an October birthday and your name does not appear in our birthday list, please contact Debbie@mvpchurch.org.



Please keep these individuals and their families in your prayers.

Carol Beckman – one of six treatments done for non-Hodgkins Lymphoma

Julie Chesnutt – she has completed all of her treatments and is cancer free!

Iva Corbin – pray for perfect healing following surgery to repair a broken ankle

Bruce Hagenau – he is doing better and even made it to church!

Corny Laube – slow recovery and movement

Alistair Morine – he is not tolerating the chemotherapy very well and his wife fell and fractured her patella.

Mary Lou Newman – Mary Lou has not been feeling well for almost three weeks.

Richard Player – needs pinpoint accuracy for his diagnosis & medication plan, member of MVPC young adult small group

Kirk Pumphrey – gain strength and movement in left hand and arm

Rob Southard – freedom from addiction

Linda Thomas – hip replacement surgery went very well and is having physical therapy

Dave Whitacre – in a lot of pain and daughter asks for prayers that his pain will subside

Prayers for strength, provision, health and wholeness for vulnerable children, families and staff we support at schools and an orphanage in Zambia, with Los Niño's Primero, Community Assistance Center, and with Family Promise.

Do you feel a need for prayer?
Have our Prayer Vine pray for you!
Email your requests to
prayerrequests@mvpchurch.org
or call the church office at
404.255.2211



What are examples of rough times that would make a person a good candidate for Stephen Ministry?

- * a chronic illness that invites discouragement
- * a new health issue with continuing investigation, tests, diagnoses that seem unending
- * a recent separation or divorce
- * a job loss
- * grief, new or lingering, that is painful and debilitating or more long-lasting than expected or desired and prevents moving on
- * a mid-life, empty nest, emotional or spiritual crisis that causes mild depression and angst
- * dying and in need of extra support
- * loneliness and in need of loving, caring friendship
- * having to make hard decisions and need an impartial, supportive ear

All our relationships are confidential. We are good listeners. We are constant , for as long as you need us. We are trained to listen well enough to ask questions that help you clarify and begin to move forward.

Please do not hesitate to contact our ministers or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, to begin!



Summary of Session Meeting September 19

Session business for September included the following:

Ministry Teams gave their monthly reports.

Christian Education, Witness, and Fellowship Ministry Teams are engaged in planning for the annual Pumpkin Palooza scheduled for October 24, 4-7:00 PM.

The Finance Team again reported that offering collections for the month remain strong. Member giving and budget expenditures are on track for the year. If the next three months follow the current pattern, we should have a strong finish to the church budget year. Church members will begin receiving letters with enclosed pledge cards regarding the annual Stewardship campaign. Stewardship Sunday is planned for October 24.

Under Old Business ministry teams completed their presentations regarding the duties and functions of their teams. Session members posed questions and offered suggestions as a way for the teams to improve their work. This month we heard from Youth, Worship, and Personnel. Ministry Team job responsibilities will now be updated and ready when the new Session begins in January.

2021 Session Members and Ministry Teams

Moderators

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Clerk of Session

David Hill

Christian Education

Carrie Southard

Congregational Care

Joy Carden

Fellowship

David Barclift

Finance/ Administration/ Stewardship

Charlie Gray
John Hibbard

Outreach

Carol Beckman
Brent Schwieger

Personnel

Vacant (merged with
FAMT for 2021 only)

Senior Adults

Mary Kilgore

Witness

Angie Hawthorne

Worship

Wendy Hagenau
Dale Morine
Amy Kiley

Youth

Jon Barber
Ben Barber

Under New Business, Session approved a motion from the Outreach Ministry Team to investigate how MVPC can support refugees from Afghanistan who will be moving into the metro Atlanta area. The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and its churches are gearing up to provide needed support in many ways. The MVPC Outreach Ministry Team will keep us up to date on how we can help.

Rev. Abernethy has been contacted by the Mount Vernon School about holding a joint school/church worship service in March 2022 as part of the school's celebration of its 50th anniversary. Details regarding such a service will follow.

Our pastoral intern, Shari Freeman, attended her first Session meeting. Her internship requirements will have her on our campus portions of two days each week as well as Sunday mornings activities, participation in a variety of Ministry Team meetings and functions, and other church activities.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Please be sure to let our pastors know how much you appreciate their leadership at MVPC.



PO Box 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

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 Wednesday of each month for the *next month's* newsletter. Send your submissions to debbie@mvpchurch.org. *If you'd no longer wish to receive the Good News, please send an email to debbie@mvpchurch.org.*

Good
News!

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Barrett Abernethy	Pastor/Head of Staff	barrett@mvpchurch.org
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt	Associate Pastor of Faith Formation	Isaac@mvpchurch.org
Matthias Young	Music Director	matthias@mvpchurch.org
Steve Ray	Church Finance and Operations	steve@mvpchurch.org
Debbie Nysewander	Administrative Assistant	debbie@mvpchurch.org
Yvonne White	Financial Secretary	yvonne@mvpchurch.org
Shari Freeman	Seminary Intern	shari@mvpchurch.org



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