



April 2022

Good News

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PASTOR'S DESK

Welcome!

What's Happening with Worship?

This month as we continue to focus on each of our ministry teams I want to share with you a few things happening with Worship. Our Worship Team is a hardworking, detail-oriented group of people who ensure that the central focus of our church is the expression of God and God's Word in this world. Here's a couple of ways you can support them and our collective mission!

Welcome Back Communion and Offering Plates!

In April, we are excited to bring back two parts of our service that largely went away during the pandemic season. Moving forward, we will return to communion as we did prior to the pandemic. You will be invited forward to receive communion by intinction before returning to your seat. If you are still a little hesitant to receive the sacrament in this manner, that is completely understandable. You can receive a Covid Communion packet during worship.

We will also welcome the offering plates back in the worshipping space on Sundays when the choir offers an anthem/offertory piece. To do this, we need your help, **please contact the church office or let our lead usher, Kirk Chalpan, know you would like to serve as an usher.**

Holy Week Happenings: Angles of the Cross and Agape Meal

We are excited that following the Palm Sunday worship service/luncheon/Easter egg hunt, we will offer daily services each weekday.

12pm, Monday-Wednesday, and Friday (April 11, 12, 13, 15): we will gather in the sanctuary for a brief devotional service followed by a light lunch provided by the Presbyterian Women at 12:30pm.

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6:30pm, Thursday, April 14: Agape Meal to be held in the sanctuary and Gailey Hall. This service is detailed in 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 where early Christians engaged in "love feasts" and shared in a communal meal. To be a part of this service we are asking that you sign-up via SignUp Genius on our website or call the church office, and that you please bring a food item.

April 17 6:45am and 10:30am: Join us outside for Easter Sunrise on the patio or in the sanctuary for worship at 10:30am as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Grace and Peace,

Barrett

MV School 50th Celebration Sunday, March 27



Awesome Student Choir Ensemble



Table Fellowship



McClurgs enjoying brunch



Motely Crew



Dr. Brett Jacobsen welcomes the church.



Welcoming Back Old Friends



Great Dessert!



Former Board President & current school employee



*Breaking Ground on
Glen Campus 2005*



Steve Whisenant & Bruce Morine

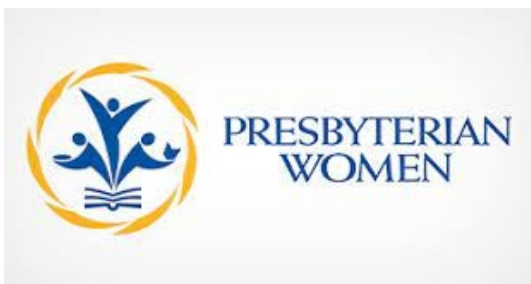


What a beautiful building!



Isaac greets friends at brunch.

Photos courtesy of Betsy Armstrong & Dee Bradford-Smith



In April, the **Day Circle** will meet on April 12 and the **Sunday Circle** will meet on April 10. They will study lesson 7, “Mary”, in the Horizons Bible Study, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*.

The **Book Circle** will meet on April 8 and review the book, *Clementine, the Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill*, by Sonia Purnell.

In March the Book Circle also celebrated two members' birthdays, Pat Davis and Mary Kilgore!



The Winter Issue of THE MVPC MEMBERS' GIFT OF WISDOM
available [CLICK HERE](#) for online or in the Narthex.

Getting to know.....

David Hill
Clerk of Session



Where would I live if not here?

Scotland – love the friendliness of the people and the old castles against the backdrop of the beautiful lochs, mountains, and hills.

Favorite game/sport to watch or play?

I played soccer and ran track in college; I love to watch both. Go Atlanta United!

My hobbies?

I started collecting and classifying rocks as a child and now that I'm retired I'm back to doing that. I also love to garden, read, and travel.

The best gift I've ever received?

When my adult children donate to charity in place of giving me a present. At first they didn't like doing this; it took awhile for them to understand the joy I get from helping them learn to help others.

Glass half full/half empty?

My glass is always half full. We're made in God's image and I can't imagine that God's glass would be anything other than half full.



Join us for Easter!

Palm Sunday Worship

Luncheon

Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 10 @ 10:30am

Outdoor Sunrise Service

Sunday, April 17 @ 6:45am

Indoor Worship

Sunday, April 17 @ 10:30am

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church

471 Mount Vernon Hwy., NE

Sandy Springs, GA 30328

"EACH ONE REACH ONE"

The Witness Ministry Team invites you to share the MVPC message of Easter. These invitations share a photo of our annual glorious floral cross with all of the information needed to attend our multiple services and events on the back.

Imagine doubling the size of our attendance!! We can do it!! These cards are available in the Narthex.

A Message from our Confirmand, Piper Neumann

Dear Church Friends,

As my Confirmation Project, I am creating Blessing Bags. These bags will be assembled and made ready for us to hand out whenever one of our friends in Christ approaches us or our car asking for help.

Each bag will contain an information card (with addresses and numbers of resources for assistance), a \$5 Marta Card (for 2 rides), plus a toothbrush, toothpaste, socks, masks, Granola bar, bottled water, soap, deodorant, and an individual tissue packet.

These bags will have handles with a "Blessing Card" and Bible verse tied on the handle and marked "Join us at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church" along with the church address.

I am hoping to prepare 100 bags, so please join me in my project. On my Confirmation Day, May 1, Blessing Bags will be available for the congregation to pick up and then distribute when we encounter a friend in need. Any supplies listed above or donations for the Marta Cards can be left in the church office or Outreach Box labeled Piper's Project. I will collect until Easter.

Blessings to you all,

Piper



MVPC provided a welcome home for two families through Family Promise in March made possible by the leadership of Penny Kiel, many donations and volunteer hours from our members.



Ash Wednesday

March 2

Ashes & Pancakes

OUTREACH



communityassistancecenter

Outreach Spotlight

Thirty-five years ago, MVPC was one of the founding congregations of the Community Action Center, which operated communityassistancecenter out of our Gailey Hall until 2005. Since renamed the Community Assistance Center, CAC has transformed itself from a small organization with a part-time director, giving assistance to 200 families per year, to a professional organization offering comprehensive services to 2,500 families a year. CAC has become the “go to” agency when individuals and families in our communities face a financial loss. Since its inception more than 19,000 families have received assistance from CAC. CAC remains committed to its original mission of preventing homelessness, providing basic needs and promoting self-sufficiency to residents seeking assistance in the communities of Sandy Springs and Dunwoody.

In addition to donating to the Food Pantry through the MVPC April Communion Offering, you can support CAC by volunteering on a regular basis or occasionally through our seasonal programs. [Individual Volunteer Opportunities | Community Assistance Center \(ourcac.org\)](#)

You can also donate items to the Upscale Thrift (children’s clothes, house goods, shoes, and costume jewelry are currently most needed items) as well as shop there.

Learn more about the Community Assistance Center at www.ourcac.org.

THE SPECIAL OFFERING for One Great Hour of Sharing will be received on Easter Sunday, April 17. One of four annual offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA), proceeds go to the General Assembly to provide funding for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program and other agencies that share God’s love by providing relief around the world to those affected by natural disasters, food scarcity, and international conflicts.



Communion Offering

Thanks to all who Shopped for Outreach for the International Women’s House and returned the items in the blue reusable shopping bags! Our next opportunity for shopping is the April Communion Offering for Community Assistance Center helping restock the Food Pantry with toiletries and non-perishable foods. Shopping bags with a list of most needed items attached will be available starting April 3.

THIS AND THAT!



We continue to grow as we
welcome our newest
member:
DeDe Callahan
(with her grandson and
daughter)

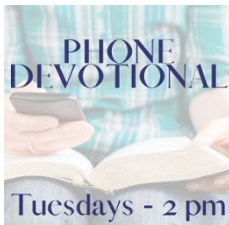


Grayson Matthew Lozano
February 26, 2022

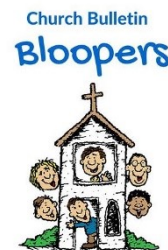
Parents: Matt & Halle Lozano
Proud Grandparents: Bruce &
Wendy Hagenau



Taizé is a simple, meditative form of
worship.
March 8, 7pm in the Sanctuary



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



*The outreach
committee has
enlisted 25 visitors
to make calls on
people who are not
afflicted with any
church.*



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
P.O. Box 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

April Calendar of Events



Sunday, April 3

Tuesday, April 5

Wednesday, April 6

Friday, April 8

Sunday, April 10

Monday, April 11

Tuesday, April 12

Wednesday, April 13

Thursday, April 14

Friday, April 15

Sunday, April 17

Monday, April 18

Tuesday, April 19

Wednesday, April 20

Sunday, April 24

Tuesday, April 26

Wednesday, April 27

Worship - 10:30am

Committees/Coffee - 9:30am

PW CT Zoom - 10:00am

Staff Mtg. - 1:00pm

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Choir Rehearsal - 7:00pm

Budget Prep - 9:00am

Book Circle - 10:00am

PALM SUNDAY - Worship - 10:30am

Lunch & Egg Hunt

Sunday Circle - 12:15pm

Vespers @ Towers

Youth 5:00pm

Sanctuary Devo/Lunch - 12:00

Staff Mtg. - 9:30am

PW Day Circle - 10am

Sanctuary Devo/Lunch - 12:00

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Worship Meeting - 4:00pm

Taizé - 7:00pm

Sanctuary Devo/Lunch - 12:00

Witness Meeting - 4:00pm

Choir Rehearsal - 7:00pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Agape Meal - GH 6:30pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Sanctuary Devo/Lunch - 12:00

EASTER SUNRISE - 6:45am

Worship - 10:30am

OFFICE CLOSED

FAMT - 5:30pm Zoom

Staff Mtg. - 9:30am

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Good News Deadline

Men's Breakfast - 8:30am

Outdoor Worship - 10:30am

Session Meeting - 11:30am

Youth - 5:00pm

Staff Mtg. - 9:30am

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Choir Rehearsal - 7:00pm

Publish Good News

April Birthdays

Jeanne Gilliland 4/2
 Dave Whitacre 4/8
 James McGuire 4/8
 Clark Nelson 4/8
 Meg Smith 4/9
 Walk Walker 4/11
 Mary Francis Walker 4/11
 Stan Williams 4/12
 Worth Williams 4/14
 Iva Corbin 4/15
 Linda Thomas 4/15
 Lisa McGuire 4/17
 Gene Elder 4/18
 Beth Abernethy 4/18

Thomas Hughes 4/19
 Patricia Hibbard 4/29
 Sage Allen 4/30



ONLINE



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

MAIL



**WAYS
TO
GIVE**

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

QR CODE



January 1- February 28, 2022	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Member Giving Pledge	\$116,163	\$449,000
Member Giving Non- Pledge	\$5,090	\$60,000
Non member giving & Loose offering	\$1,873	10,000
Total Received	\$123,126	\$519,000

If you have an April 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.

Mrs. JB - Moira O'Hare's teacher needs a bone marrow donor.

Jeannie Lee - knowledge and skill for doctor and lessened anxiety and increased faith is experiencing new medical issues.

Rev. Asa Meadows - Healing and strength for our former minister who is battling bladder cancer.

Alistair Morine - Comfort and good medical reports for Alistair, in New Zealand, suffering from a brain tumor, with growth currently halted. Pray for him and his family as they go through this illness.

Beverly Northrop - renewed strength. Bev is responding well to the new health plan.

Rob Southard - perseverance and faith. His sobriety is being celebrated but needs continued prayers to stay free from addiction.

Jody Travis - recovery and healing for Charlie Gray's sister who has recently had knee replacement surgery.

Dave Whitacre - for strength and faith. His infection has not responded to treatment and causes him pain.

Continued strength, bravery, and faith in perilous times for the people of Ukraine as they struggle for freedom and find refuge in other countries.

Continued requests for blessings and care. Our associated ministries in Atlanta (Los Ninos, Family Promise, Clifton Shelter, and International Women's House) and the vulnerable children, families, and men we serve and the crisis nurseries and schools we support in Zambia.

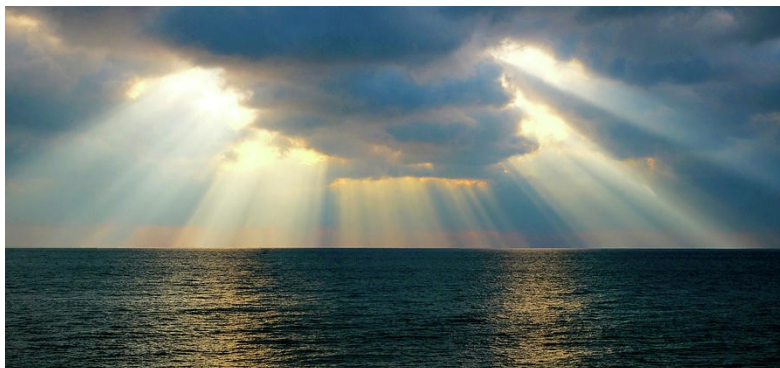
Do you feel a need for prayer?
Have our Prayer Vine pray for you!
Email your requests to
pbartee@mvpchurch.org
or call the church office at
404.255.2211



"There is a light in the world, a healing spirit more powerful than any darkness we may encounter. We sometimes forget this...Then, suddenly, the spirit will emerge through the lives of ordinary people who hear a call and answer in extraordinary ways."

Sir Richard Attenborough

Your MVPC Stephen Ministers represent some who "heard the call", engaged in 55 hours of training, and remain ready to travel hard situations and periods of suffering that others experience and help them back into the light. Please contact a pastor or Stephen Leader, Pat Bartee, to get involved.





SESSION MEETING

Summary of Session Meeting March 20, 2022

The Session had a very light agenda for the March meeting. Following is a summary of that meeting:

The Worship Ministry Team and staff are making final plans for Holy Week. A number of services and activities are planned (see announcements in other parts of the weekly email and church bulletin).

The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta requires pastors to go through what is called boundaries training that focuses on appropriate conduct in interactions with other adults and children. The training must be done every five years and reported to the church Session. Both Rev. Abernethy and Rev. Toney-Schmitt are up-to-date with this training.

The Congregational Care Team recruits drivers who pick-up members at the Towers. Driver slots are currently filled, but let Pat Bartee know of your willingness to be an occasional driver when needed.

There has been a great response to the blue Outreach Bags. Pick-up one if you have not already done so. They are reusable and provide good advertising for MVPC outreach work.

The Witness and Senior Adult teams are partnering to provide posters and cards to senior living centers to make people aware of Easter services and activities. Other ministry teams are encouraged to use these cards to inform the community of church events throughout the year.

MVPC's engagement in the Vital Congregations Initiative is coordinated by the Ministry and Mission Planning Team which will be reporting monthly to Session. This team will be expanded in the near future to include non-Session members too.

There will be an upcoming Called Session Meeting to receive a new member, our very own Columbia Seminary Intern, Shari Freeman. Shari has discerned a called to be a Presbyterian minister and will seek ordination to do so. More great news: Shari will continue to do her internship work with MVPC for another year!



Soon to be Rev. Shari Freeman!

2022 Session Members and Ministry Teams

Moderator

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Clerk of Session

David Hill

Christian Education

Mary McClurg

Congregational Care

Pat Barte

Fellowship

David Barclift

Finance/

Administration/

Stewardship

Charlie Gray

John Hibbard

Outreach

Carol Beckman

Beppie Lever

Brent Schwieger

Senior Adults

Mary Kilgore

Witness

Angie Hawthorne

Dee Bradford-Smith

Worship

Gloria Gillespie

Malinda Holmes

Amy Kiley

Youth

Kyle Cumming



P.O. 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 no longer wish to receive the Good News, please send an email to debbie@mvpchurch.org.

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Barrett Abernethy	Senior Pastor/Head of Staff	barrett@mvpchurch.org
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt	Associate Pastor of Faith Formation	isaac@mvpchurch.org
Matthias Young	Director of Worship	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

Good News!

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FYI: THERE'S A TOOOOOOON OF PEOPLE DOWN THERE THANKING YOU THAT IT IS FRIDAY

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mvpchurch.org

