



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GOOD NEWS

JUNE/JULY 2022



A Letter From The Pastor

BY REV. BARRETT ABERNETHY

Participation and Collaboration: Christian Education at MVPC

Often colleagues to congregants and even complete strangers share that they notice people do not join a church because of the denomination any longer, rather they join (or get involved) because of how “relevant” the church is to their lives. This is no different at MVPC. Many come to our church because they are drawn to the various programs of our Christian Education ministry. This Ministry Team, overseen by our Associate Pastor, Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, offers community and spaces for people to gather- from the youngest to the eldest and everyone in between.

Recently, I spoke with Isaac and asked what is happening with Christian Education and how you can support or connect with some of the ministries under its purview:

Children’s Ministry: Thanks to the wonderful leadership of Carrie Southard and others, each Sunday we offer Sunday school for children during the back half of worship. Many of you are already familiar with this ministry, but as we head into the summer and you may have grandchildren coming in, have them join the other children for a time of teaching, storytelling, and fun. Also, make note that **August 13-14** (Saturday-Sunday) we will hold **Back to School Bible School** (think VBS right before school starts) along with a special worship service that Sunday.

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Presbyterian Women: PW is a great way for women in the church to connect. We have several circles (groups) that meet. If you are a visitor or a new member, this is great way to integrate into the community of the church and get involved through fellowship, devotionals, book club, and outreach. For more information, contact the church office or Ann Williams and Beppie Lever (Circle of Grace).

Adult Sunday School: We have 2 great Sunday school classes that are passionate about education. The Discovery Class meets in the chapel and uses The Present Word curriculum while the Crossroads Class meets in the Session Room and usually does a book study.

Coming Up in the Fall:

Small Groups: Over the past several years, small groups have been a great way to connect with people at MVPC and explore different topics related to spirituality, human behavior, and social justice. We have groups for all ages. They will start back up in late summer/early fall.

Youth Group: Get with Isaac to find out what is in store for Youth this coming fall when a new school year begins.

We hope you will find a space to connect, a place where your gifts can shine, or an opportunity to explore the questions that you often find yourself pondering. In other words, we want you to find what is relevant to your growth and your walk with God.

Grace and Peace,
Barrett

January 1- April 30, 2022	Actual YTD	2022 Budget
Member Giving Pledge	\$203,181	\$449,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$17,152	\$60,000
Non member giving & Loose offering	\$4,706	10,000
Total Received	\$225,039	\$519,000

2022 Session Members & 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

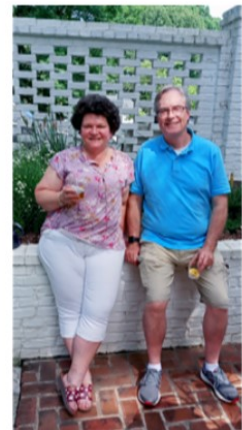
Gloria Gillespie
Malinda Holmes
Amy Kiley

Youth

Kyle Cumming

May Day Garden Party

The band!



Patricia &
John Hibbard

Barbara Bruce &
Joan Rownd

A beautiful day!
The rain stayed
away!

The food was
tasty as well!



Debbie & Robert
Barclift dancing away!



"The
Gang's All
Here"

Rachel
Barclift
Emery
with Lucas



Getting to Know...

PAT BARTEE

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



What sport do I like to watch?

I am a huge fan of basketball's "March Madness". It is basketball at its finest moment for me. Do you call the Kentucky Derby a sport? This year's winner was such fun!

What four people would I like to have a meal with?

Martin Luther King, Benjamin Franklin, Jane Austen, and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Who would you like to be stranded with on a deserted island?

Tom Selleck. Hands down! I realize Chip Gaines would probably be a wiser choice.

What did you want to become when you were small?

After seeing the Ice Capades with my grandparents, I wanted to be an ice skater.

What nicknames have you gone by?

In late high school and most of college, I was called by my last name, Crow, because I hung out with another Pat who was my best friend.

MVP Youth



MVPC Volunteers, along with our very own School Supply Fairy, joined the Sandy Springs Education Force at CAC to take inventory of the School Supplies from the Teacher Supply Closet. MVPC has supported the Teacher Supply Closet (a program jointly sponsored by SSEF and CAC) through a Communion Offering and the COVID-19 Outreach Fund. The Teacher Supply Closet filled and delivered 161 orders with a total value of \$16,816.26 to impact 4355 local Sandy Springs public school students this year. Teacher's Supply Closet - Sandy Springs Education Force



They survived 2
Escape Rooms

Outreach

The Community Assistance Center (CAC) has an Urgent Need for More Volunteers

Client numbers are increasing, and CAC is offering clients more services than ever. They have shifts open in the Food Pantry, the Thrift Shop, with client interviews, and at branches in South Sandy Springs and Dunwoody. If you are interested in volunteering, email volunteers@ourcac.org.



Beautiful New South Sandy Springs Branch of CAC has Opened!

120 Northwood Drive, Suite 150
Sandy Springs, GA 30342

Food Pantry open Mondays,
Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:30
am – 1:00 pm
Financial Assistance Intake
available by appointment



The **June Communion Offering** is for the Summer Camp Program of **Stirred Up Ministries**, an enrichment program for at-risk youth in the East Lake area of Atlanta. A list of needed items including snacks and sports drinks for kids, sports equipment, and gift cards will be available with the blue outreach shopping bags in June.

In addition to the summer camps, Stirred Up Ministries offers year-round activities including tutoring/mentoring, self-development workshops, family counseling and intervention, and a food pantry for emergency needs.

For more information, please go online to: stirred-up.org.

Summer Birthdays



Jack McGuire	6/3
Heidi Nelson	6/5
Jeff Schneider	6/6
Tracy Hahn	6/7
Dale Morine	6/9
Jack Allen Jr.	6/9
Allison Eustis	6/13
Robert Barclift	6/13
Brent Schwieger	6/13
Carrie Southard	6/14
Isaac Toney-	6/14
Schmitt	6/15
Rachel Reid	6/16
Susan Simon	6/16
Braegan Abernethy	6/18
Addison Baitcher	6/18
MacKenzie Truitt	6/18
Cole Truitt	6/18
Ross Truitt	6/18
Dee Bradford-Smith	6/20
Amanda	6/21
Badenhorst	6/23
Mavis Boadi	6/25
Beverly Northrop	6/25
Lou Baine	6/26
Julie Chesnutt	6/28
Denise Hunt	
Joan Rownd	

Mary Sanford	7/1
Lorry Clark	7/4
Barbara Hughes	7/5
Susan Fields	7/5
Robin Truitt	7/5
Carol Beckman	7/7
Peter Thomas	7/11
Sally Williams	7/12
Martha Baitcher	7/12
Chris Sprung	7/14
Debbie Barclift	7/15
Aubrey Forlines	7/16
Connor Hughes	7/18
Gail Williams	7/24
Glenn Grove	7/24
Gill Christian	7/25
Warren Gray, Jr.	7/26

Happy July Birthday



Piper Neumann's Confirmation

Piper's Bags



Senior Adults @ Gibbs Gardens

Young Adult Dinner @ Taqueria Los Hermanos



Graduating Seniors



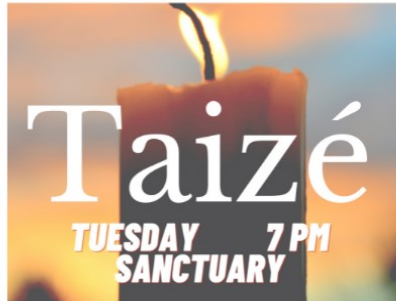
Lucas Martin Barclift Emery
April 10, 2022

Parents:
Marc & Rachel Emery

Proud Grandparents:
David & Debbie Barclift



This & That



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

Mailing address:
MVPC
P.O. Box 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358



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

Taize
Second Tuesdays
7:00pm
Sanctuary

Church Office Closed
Friday, May 27
Monday, May 30

Friday, July 1
Monday, July 4

Phone Devotional
Every Tuesday

The Spring/Summer Issue of
THE MVPC MEMBERS' GIFT OF WISDOM
is available online or in the Narthex.

June Calendar

Sunday, June 5	Worship - 10:30am Summer Cookout - 11:30am
Tuesday, June 7	Staff Meeting - 10:00am Phone Devotional - 2:00pm
Wednesday, June 8	Vernon Springs Bible Study - 11:00am Witness - 4:00pm Nominating Committee - 7:00pm
Sunday, June 12	Worship - 10:30am
Monday, June 13	FAMT - 5:30pm Zoom
Tuesday, June 14	Staff Mtg. - 10:00am Phone Devotional - 2:00pm Worship Meeting - 4:00pm Taizé - 7:00pm
Sunday, June 19	Worship - 10:30am
Tuesday, June 21	Staff Mtg. - 10:00am Phone Devotional - 2:00pm
Thursday, June 23	Good News Deadline LNP - 7:00pm
Sunday, June 26	Worship (LNP Sunday) - 10:30am Men's Breakfast - 8:30am
Tuesday, June 28	Staff Mtg. - 10:00am Phone Devotional - 2:00pm
Wednesday, June 29	Publish Good News



July Calendar

Friday, July 1

Sunday, July 3

Monday, July 4

Tuesday, July 5

Sunday, July 10

Monday, July 11

Tuesday, July 12

Wednesday, July 13

Sunday, July 17

Tuesday, July 19

Thursday, July 21

Sunday, July 24

Tuesday, July 26

Thursday, July 28

OFFICE CLOSED

Worship - 10:30am

Family Promise arrives

Independence Day

OFFICE CLOSED

Staff Meeting - 10:00am

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Worship - 10:30am

FAMT - 5:30pm

Staff Mtg. - 10:00am

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Worship Meeting - 4:00pm

Taizé - 7:00pm

Vernon Springs - 11:00am

Witness - 4:00pm

Worship - 10:30am

Family Promise leaves

Staff Mtg. - 10:00am

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Good News Deadline

Worship - 10:30am

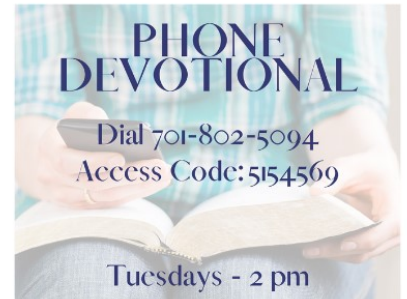
Mid-Summer Lunch - 11:30am

Staff Mtg. - 10:00am

Phone Devotional - 2:00pm

Publish Good News

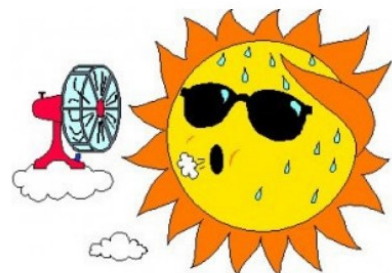
LNP - 7:00pm





When the weather gets hot and temperatures rise, you can notice tolerance and self-discipline slip and depressive thoughts fester. Crime increases and protests get rowdy and sadness makes people want to stay in bed. Things that bother ordinary people seem to suddenly cluster and cascade.

If your troubles are bubbling over, please don't deal with them alone. A burden shared is a burden lightened. Contact a pastor or Pat Bartee, Stephen Leader, to start a temporary relationship with a trained layperson who will listen, hear, and encourage you.





Prayer

Nicole - friend of Jeanne Mielke had successful stem cell transplant surgery for Multiple Myeloma.

James - Patricia Hibbard's brother was recently diagnosed with bladder cancer.

Mrs. JB - is in need of a bone marrow transplant

Jeannie Lee - pray for peace, protection, and comfort as she battles pancreatic cancer.

Rev. Asa Meadows - pray for healing and strength for our former minister as he battles bladder cancer.

Alistair Morine - Bruce Morine's brother in New Zealand as he battles brain cancer.

Irene Nelson - mother of Andy Nelson and Martha Baitcher, pray for healing and restoration of strength.

Bev Northrop - pray for renewed strength and stamina with OT and PT assistance.

Rob Southard - celebrates two years of sobriety and leaving his sober living house soon.

Dave Whitacre - gratitude for improved health.

Bravery, faith, and determination for Ukrainians fighting for their freedom and for their refugee families struggling to survive.

Continued blessings on our church's ministries in Atlanta and Zambia.

It is a blessing to be part of a praying church and to see God working through our communal prayer.

Do you need prayer?
Have our Prayer Vine pray for you!
Email your requests to pbartee@yahoo.com

Summary of Session Meeting

May 15, 2022

The Session met for its regular monthly meeting and the following business was conducted:

- John Allen, President of the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church Foundation attended and gave a report regarding grants the Foundation gives each year to grant applicants. Applicants are generally MVPC outreach partners such as Clifton Ministries, Family Promise, and the Community Assistance Center. John announced that a church member will match up to \$21,000 given to the Foundation and is encouraging everyone to give so this money can be matched.

- The Witness Ministry Team encourages people to use Sign-Up Genius to take their turn in providing refreshments for Connections, the 10:00 to 10:25 period just before the worship service. Refreshments are simple and instructions are provided on the Sign-up Genius webpage. Witness is also looking for volunteers to take their turn as Greeters during the Connections time. People willing to do this should contact Robbie Hawthorne or the church office.

The Outreach Ministry Team is planning a recognition for volunteers during the Pentecost Sunday (June 5) worship service and plans to recognize all who have served as church volunteers in various ways over the past year. Volunteers include those who have served on ministry teams, help with Family Promise, worked in the church office, and in many other ways of serving the church.

- The Christian Education team reminds everyone that Sunday School will continue through the summer. A modified Vacation Bible School will be offered as a weekend event and is tentatively scheduled for August 13-14.

- The Finance and Administration team is thankful for continued strong giving by members. Offerings through April have us within budget projections for the year. Work on the Sanctuary Building HVAC system is still in the planning stages and will involve a lengthy process of replacing the unit that is the original HVAC unit.

- A special offering was approved for the ministries MVPC supports in Zambia. Barbara Hughes will be going there later this year and will take the offering. Purchases will be made there in Lusaka which will support local businesses there as well as eliminate shipping costs.

- Members who have moved their membership to other churches were removed from the rolls.

A report was given regarding business that was conducted at the May 3 Presbytery Meeting. Outgoing Presbytery Clerk Donna Wells was recognized. The Nominating Committee presented its recommendation for the new clerk, Rev. Andy James, who was then elected by the Commissioners.

The Session will not meet in June. The next Stated Session Meeting will be July 17.



Have a Great Summer!
The Church Staff



P.O. Box 76051
Sandy Springs, GA 30358

Return Service Requested

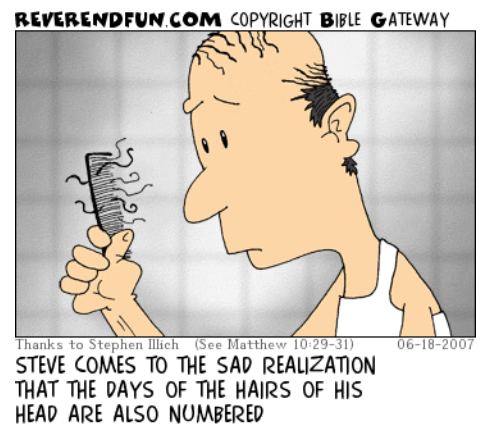
Got News? We'd love to hear from you! Send us your news so we can celebrate, laugh, and/or cry with you. After all, we are FAMILY. Deadline for news is the third Wednesday of each month for the *next month's* newsletter. Send your submissions to debbie@mvpchurch.org.

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

Good News!



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