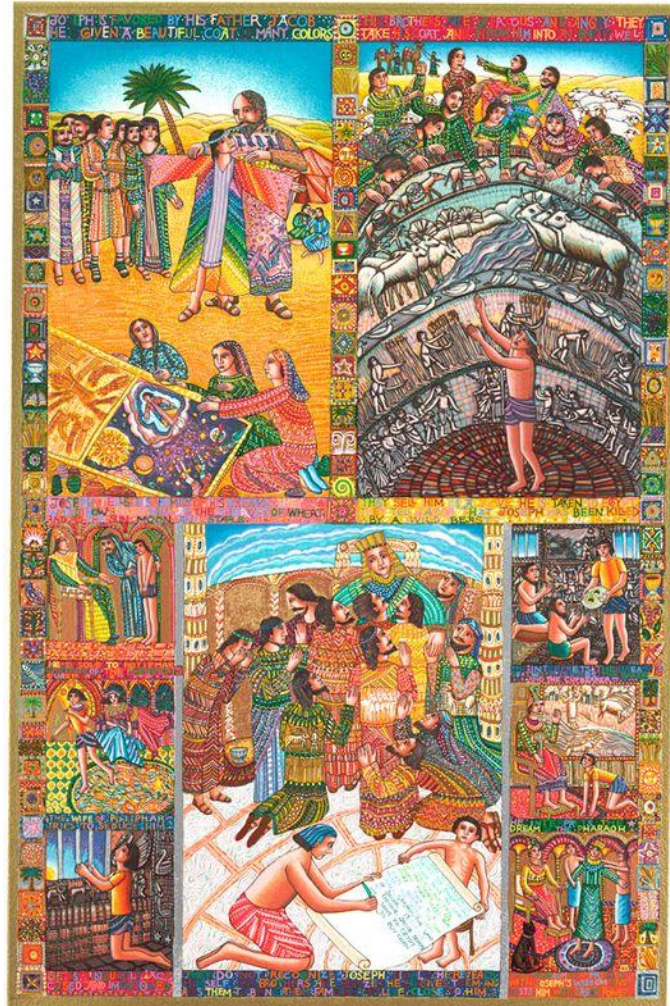


MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30, 2026, 10:30 am

Reaching Out to ... Welcome. Worship. Share. Serve.

† *You are invited to stand when you see this symbol.*



Story of Joseph, John August Swanson

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GATHERING MUSIC

"Coat of Many Colors"

by Dolly Parton

Kathy Havey, vocals, Mike Havey, guitar

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

OPENING PRAYER

† CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: May God be gracious to us, and bless us, and cover us with the radiance of grace.

ALL: **May God's way be known everywhere:**

ONE: In the hidden places of our hearts; in the comfort of our homes;

ALL: **In every corner of our world; in the farthest reaches of creation.**

ONE: God, you transform us; you heal our lives; you renew the earth and every creature:

ALL: **Let our praise for you shake the rafters with songs of joy!**

† OPENING HYMN (#250)

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Loving God, we admit that we have difficulties living as your children. We could live in unity, but our words fracture relationships with family and friends. We have been shown the way to your kingdom, but fail to invite others to journey with us. When we could show others your peace, all too often we offer them despair and rejection. When you call to us, may we listen with open ears, understand with embracing hearts, and share your grace with others, even as we have received the grace of Jesus Christ ... *(silent confession)* ... Amen.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: ... In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

† RESPONSE (#399, 2x)

"God Welcomes All"

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God's love is strong, and it never ends.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(All children of God are invited to come forward for storytelling and prayer.

Afterwards the children are invited to Children's Church in the Chapel.)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Shari Freeman

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sharon Murphy

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 133
Genesis 45:1-15,
50 selected verses

Rev. Colussy-Estes

SERMON

"Sent"

RESPONSE

† HYMN (#770)

"I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table"

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from the Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language edition)*

The Lord's Supper is a celebration of the reconciliation of people with God and with one another, in which they joyfully eat and drink together at the table of their Savior. Jesus Christ gave his church this remembrance of his dying for sinners so that by participation in it they have communion with him and with all who shall be gathered to him. Partaking in him as they eat the bread and drink the wine in accordance with Christ's appointment, they receive from the risen and living Lord the benefits of his death and resurrection. They rejoice in the foretaste of the kingdom which he will bring to consummation at his promised coming, and go out from the Lord's Table with courage and hope for the service to which he has called them.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

... Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

arr. John Ferguson

If you would like to contribute financially to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church or its mission, ushers will be stationed at the doors of the narthex to accept your gifts.

† DOXOLOGY (#80, 2x)

"You Shall Go Out with Joy"

You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (*clap, clap*) (3x)
While you go out with joy!

SENDING

† CLOSING HYMN (#765)

"May the God of Hope Go With Us"

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

arr. Marvin Gaspard

The primary role of a postlude is to provide a musical transition, connecting the sacred worship experience to the secular world as people leave the church. Feel free to depart during the postlude, or hang around and hear the grand Mount Vernon organ!

Liturgy resources from Re:Worship and Lectionary Liturgies

Leading Today's Worship Service

Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes, Interim Senior Pastor

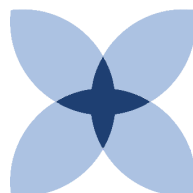
Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt, Associate Pastor

Rev. Shari Freeman, Associate Pastor

Jill Hudson, Music Director & Organist

Liam Jacobs, Contemporary Musician

The Chancel Choir of Mount Vernon



We are located at: 471 Mt Vernon Hwy NE, Sandy Springs, GA 30328

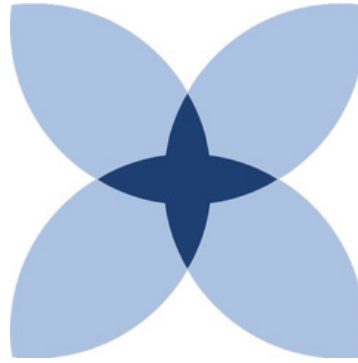
Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 76051, Sandy Springs, GA 30358

mvpchurch.org

CCLI License #2404763

MVPC ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 30, 2026

Sunday School
9:30-10:15am



Connections
10-10:25am

Worship
10:30-11:30am

Upcoming Services/Events:

- September 6** Hymn Sing, Lunch Bunch
September 13 Matthew 18:21-35, Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes
Kickoff Lunch in Fellowship Hall, PNC Focus Groups



Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes will be out of the office August 31-September 2 taking her son back to college. Please reach out to Isaac or Shari.



Join us as we kick off the new program year on Sunday, September 13, and stay for Fox Brother's Barbeque for lunch - compliments of the MVPC Foundation! We'll have a presentation by the Foundation about their work and a chance to share more thoughts with the PNC as they continue their work towards calling the next pastor of MVPC.



Lunch Bunch: All are invited to join the pastors on Sunday, September 6 at City BBQ after worship.



Fall Small Groups: Small Groups will meet for five weeks starting on September 20! A signup table is currently in the narthex with information about meeting locations and the books each small group will read. There is even an option for a joint small group with Holy Innocent's Episcopal and Sandy Springs United Methodist!



Reading the Bible for All Its Worth: This is a 6-week course with a goal to help you better appreciate what the Bible is, but also to read it with greater confidence and insight. It begins Wednesday, September 16 from 7-8:15pm at Holy Innocent's. If you're interested or have questions, contact Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes.



Our **August Communion Offering** is new school supplies for the Sandy Springs Education Force Teacher's Closet. SSEF creates targeted programs that educate, inspire and prepare public school students in Sandy Springs for a competitive world.



Church Office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 7.

BE AWARE: Please do not respond to any text or email that appears to be from any of our pastors or staff members requesting money or gift cards. If you have any questions about emails from staff, please contact the church office.



Make sure to follow us
on social media to
stay up to date!

Giving



Little Blessings Room: The Little Blessings Room (located in the Session Room) is available for parents to go with their 0-3 year olds during the worship service. The worship service is live-streamed into the room, and there are chairs for nursing & holding babies, and toys for toddlers.



Adult Sunday School: Discovery meets at 9:30am in the Chapel and is using the curriculum "The Present Word". Crossroads meets at 9:30am in the Session Room, and is using a DVD series titled *The History of Christian Theology* by Prof. Phillip Cary of Eastern University. Contact Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt for more information.



Presbyterian Women: We are looking forward to another year of Presbyterian Women! Our first **Bible Study** will be on Tuesday, September 8 at 10:30 in the Session Room. Jeanne Gilliland will teach Lesson One: Unity in Christ, Wisdom from God in the Horizons Bible Study *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*. The study guide will be available for purchase (\$10). The new scrapbook will also be there. The **Book Circle** will meet on Friday, September 11 at 10:00 in the Session Room. Sarah Chalpan will lead a review of *The Blue Castle* (fiction, 1926) by L. M. Montgomery. **Circle of Grace** will meet September 13 at 5pm.



Stephen Ministry: Stephen Ministers are not counselors or advisors. They do, however, have over 60 hours of mental health, hospice, and prevention training, and have learned listening and questioning skills to help those going through a temporary situation to get back on track and to move forward with their life. The constancy and safety provided makes unburdening easy, which brings clarity and wise problem-solving back, and Stephen Ministers always offer encouragement and resources as you move forward. Call and leave a message for our leader, Pat Bartee, or ask a pastor to connect you.



Do you feel a need for prayer? Have our Prayer Vine pray for you! Email your requests to barbara@babrooks.com or call her at 404.422.5175.

Prayer Concerns: Rick Davis (*friend of Charlie Gray*), Gerald Fudge, Sherri Galloway, George Hammett, Mary Lynch (*Felicia Hutt's mother*), Kathryn Mackie, Ali Mearns, Kathy Whitacre-Stewart, our homebound & isolated members, PNC, ACE, CAC, Los Niños Primero, Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, Venezuela, and Zambia.

Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Jill Hudson** on the death of her brother, Rocky Saia, on August 23.

Attendance 8/23: Sanctuary: 81 Online: 33

Financial Update

As of August 27, 2026	Actual YTD	2026 Budget
Pledge Member Giving	\$ 347,506	\$ 460,000
Member Giving Non-Pledge	\$ 43,492	\$ 60,000
Non-Member Giving & Loose Offering	\$ 5,032	\$ 7,500
Total	\$ 396,030	\$ 527,500

If you have any announcements that you would like to appear in the weekly *Happenings* email or the *Good News* newsletter, please email them to debbie@mvpchurch.org