

Tidings from Mt. Pleasant

Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church 4136 Mt. Pleasant Road, Sherrills Ford, NC 28673 www.mtpmethodit.org

July 2025

Here we are, in "dog days of summer" right in the middle of 2025. The excitement of holidays and New Year has long worn off and yet it seems like football season can't get here quick enough. Maybe you are already longing for some cool fall days and trips to the mountains to see some fall foliage. But here we are in the middle of 2025 trying to stay cool and looking forward to the next holiday. For many of us "being in the middle" can just seem "whole hum".

Pastor Steve May wrote about "Making It Through the Middle":

Our projects typically begin in a flurry of enthusiasm. As do resolutions: diets, Bible study plans, and miscellaneous renovations. Beginnings are packed with energy.

And the ending, of course, when we reach the goal, is always a cause for celebration — a little fanfare and a victory lap.

It's in the middle where we most often struggle, when the out-of-the-gate excitement has faded and still the finish line feels so far away.

But this is where we spend most of our time. In the middle. In fact, it's where many of us find ourselves today, as we pursue our various dreams and tasks and ventures.

Here's the good news. It's right here in the middle — long though it may be — where our greatest growth takes place, and where the battles are ultimately won.

In baseball, what do they say when a runner reaches second? He's in scoring position. Technically, he's only half-way to home plate, but in a sense, he's almost there. Just one base hit away.

SUFFICIENT GRACE

Paul's ministry began in a flash of power: a blinding light and a one-on-one encounter with the risen Christ.

His ministry ended in a triumphant cry: I have fought the fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

But what about the in-between years? The relentless plodding. The setbacks, the opposition, the betrayals. And those Romans 7 years, when he struggled with his own sinfulness, his wretchedness. And then there's the health problems he endured along the way. How did he face those times?

He kept moving forward, day after day, eyes on the prize, fueled by a promise: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

CALLING THE MIDDLE BY ITS OTHER NAME

We rarely find ourselves too weak to begin. Beginning is the easy part.

But too weary to go on? It can happen every day, once you make it to the middle.

So here's what we do. We follow the example of St. Paul. We press on, looking at what lies ahead, not what's left behind.

And we cling to this promise: My grace is sufficient for you.

Sufficient. It means enough. Enough to get you through this day. Enough to remind you that you're not alone. Enough to assure you that it's all worthwhile.

It may feel like the middle lasts forever, but there's another name you can call it: Scoring position. Stay the course, you'll get there.

I can't agree more with what Pastor Steve wrote!

Keep Christ above all, Pastor Byron

From the Associate Pastor's Desk

Point to Jesus

What do you think of when you hear the word "witness"? Observing something or testifying to something are possibilities. The idea of being a witness has been on my heart lately and I wonder if the Holy Spirit is leading us in this hot summer season to truly be witnesses for Christ. Of course, we are called to witness to who Jesus is as Christians at all times and places (Acts 1:8), but how do we do this? Well, we do so through our words & actions. I believe it is our highest calling as Christians to point to & indeed witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is our calling as disciples of Jesus to be people who testify about his grace and mercy wherever we go. Ephesians 4:29 states, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." In a culture that champions anger and unwholesome language, let us be people of God who witness with our words. Let's also be people of God who witness to Christ's love through our actions. Let us obey the great command of loving our neighbor as ourselves. When people see us, they should say, "wow, there's something different about him/her." I encourage all of us as followers of Jesus to always think about what we are saying or doing & how it points to Jesus. Think of your witness when you are at the beach, at church, or at the grocery store. A song titled "Only Jesus" by Casting Crowns relates to this biblical theme of being a witness. The chorus goes like this:

And I-I-I, I don't want to leave a legacy, I don't care if they remember me, Only Jesus, And I-I-I, I've only got one life to live I'll let every second point to Him Only Jesus.

Church family, we have only one life on this earth. Therefore, let every second of your life point to Jesus. Amen,

Pastor Kalel



MPMC Music Ministry Happenings Dawn Broom

I continue to be humbled by your faith in me. Thank you for your support of the music ministry. Together we are serving the Lord with our best efforts.

Our Chancel Choir has been invited to sing for Camp Meetings at both Rock Springs and Balls Creek Campgrounds. At Rock Springs, we sing Monday evening, August 4, 7:00pm, and at Balls Creek, we sing Thursday evening, August 14, 7:30pm. Come on out and support us as we serve the Lord through our singing and represent the name of Mount Pleasant Methodist. It's always nice to look out at the congregation and see familiar faces.

Now, please allow me to continue sharing with you about the need for and the value of congregational singing. Here are more biblical admonitions, i.e.

- Isaiah 12:5: "Sing to the Lord, for He has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world."
- Colossians 3:16: "Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly, as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."
- Psalm 40:9-10: "I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as You know, O Lord. I have not hidden Your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness from the great congregation."

This is why we sing in the assembly of the faithful. Our joy, our greatest joy, is proclaiming the gospel while being a part of the "great congregation!" My Friends, we should be grateful to sing. God graciously gives us the voices; He gives us the minds; He gives us the purpose. Shouldn't we glorify Him in every way possible, including our singing?!

Soli Deo Gloria, "To God alone be the glory." Amen!

Teach me Your way, Lord, so that I can walk in Your Truth. Make my heart focused only on honoring Your name." Psalm 86:11 (CEB)

MtP Methodist Men

Next meeting:

July 6th at 7:30am in the CLC

All men of the church are invited & encouraged to attend a great breakfast, special program & time of fellowship.

Cook Team for July: Darrell Farren, Andy Reese, Chris Sherrill, Nathan Sherrill, Johnny Karriker

MtP Methodist Women

Circle Meetings:

Jewel Dierwechter — 1st Monday at 11:00am in the CLC or Parlor

Dana Little — 1st Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Parlor

Janie Killian — 2nd Tuesday at 1:00pm in the Parlor

*Please note that summer meeting dates and times are subject to change.



ATTENTION KEENAGERS: Mark your calendars for this upcoming event:

 Plan to join us for lunch at the Talley House in Troutman on July 10th. Meet at the church at 11:00am to carpool (and get to ride in the new church van!) for lunch and a visit to Daveste Winery.

Please contact Steve Hodge at (910) 574-8722 or hodgecloud@aol.com with any questions and to let him know if you plan to take a vehicle or go in the van.



Memorials have been received for:

Kaye Bach by:

Steve & Frieda Cooper

Elsie Kale

Edsel Lineberger

Russell (Ned) & Betty Setzer

Mike & Letha Owen
Carol Ann Rowe

Wayne & Janie Merchant Fred & Nancy Setzer Danny & Frances Sigmon

OR



Please remember, the church office will be closed on Friday, July 4th.



We are excited to announce that giving to Mt Pleasant Methodist Church is about to become easier and more convenient than ever! We now have an online giving platform that offers a seamless way to give.

You can make one-time and recurring gifts, give with a credit/debit card or ACH transaction, and even cover the fees (which will help your gift go even farther!). Here are the ways you can give online to the ministries at Mt. Pleasant!

Option 1: Give with a Text Message.

- 1. Text "give" to 704-703-7497.
- 2. Follow the prompts to set up giving via text.

Option 2: Give on Our Website.

 Go to <u>www.mtpmethodist.org</u> & click "Giving" to access a Giving Form on our church website.

Option 3: Scan the QR Code Below.



Do You Give with Cash or Check?

If you regularly make donations in cash or with a check, you can continue to do so or switch to online giving using the methods above.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the church office at 704-483-3087.



Calling All Veterans

The Vets at Mt Pleasant Methodist Church are having a <u>Vets Coffee Call</u>

Wednesday, 16 July 2025 in our Christian Life Center (The big building behind the Church)

0800-1000 (or until the coffee runs out)

No program No agenda

Just other Vets to talk to, complain to, or "remember when" with and it's all FREE!

Besides, who else but another Vet is going to understand??

It doesn't matter where you served or when you served. You served...so did we.

Come have a cup with us

Mt Pleasant Methodist Church 4136 Mt Pleasant Rd Sherrills Ford, NC 28673





LOOKING FORWARD TO SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

COME JOIN US AS WE HAVE A "MINI CAMPMEETING" EACH SUNDAY WITH WORSHIP IN THE PAVILION

(AUGUST 3,10, 17, 24 & 31)

Songs from the Cokesbury Hymnal. If you have one at home, bring it to use. The church's copies will also be available for your use.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:00 (REGULAR CLASSROOMS)

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:00

(BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS OR SIT AT A PICNIC TABLE)



July

- 2 Doug Hicks
- 8 Kinsley MacLeod
- 9 Ann Herron
- 10 Dawn Broom
- 13 Noah Canipe
- 15 Olive Sigmon
- 16 Jana Alexander Alice Dotson
- 17 Miles Sherill
- 18 Mandy Martin
- 20 Madi Trimble
- 21 Barbara Sigmon
- 23 Linda Little
- 24 Andy Reese
- 25 Alice Lineberger Edsel Lineberger
- 26 David Sigmon Rita Lail Garrett Logan Wren Watts
- 27 Tony Sigmon Debbie White Elwanda Wilson
- 28 Judy Sigmon
- 31 Donna Mauney



July

- 10 Jay & Karen Thomson
- 15 Keith & Margie Lutz
- 16 Ben & Jordan Edwards
- 18 Mark & Brenda Sigmon
- 28 Jonathan & Ann Campbell
- 31 Danny & Frances Sigmon





Remember those in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

- Brookdale Charlotte East: Sonja McCarn
- Kingston Residence of Hickory: Pete Crump
- Hickory Village Memory Care: Marilyn Beardslee
- Lincolnton Rehab: Jimmy Little
- Abernathy Laurels: Joy Howard



Our sincere sympathy is extended to *Margie and Keith Lutz and Family* at the passing of her mother, *Delena Josey*, on June 9th.







If you would be willing to serve in any of these capacities, please contact the church office (704-483-3087). Most require very little time or commitment and are very important contributions in making Sunday mornings run smoothly. We appreciate those who faithfully serve week after week.

Ushers

July	6	8:30am	Jeff Little, Roger Britt
-		11:00am	Jeff Little, David Carpenter, Kenny Chester, Branon Cline
	13	8:30am	Jeff Little, Kevin Brady
		11:00am	Jeff Little, David Carpenter, Wayne Merchant, Guy Cline
	20	8:30am	Jeff Little, Kevin Brady, Elwanda Wilson
		11:00am	Jeff Little, Pete Lail, David Carpenter, Guy Cline
	27	8:30am	Jeff Little, Kevin Brady
		11:00am	Jeff Little, David Carpenter, Brandon Cline, Guy Cline





Greeters

July

6	8:30am	Jeff & Wanda Myers			
	11:00am	Wayne & Janie Merchant			

8:30am David & Pam Dry
11:00am Tony & Barbara Sigmon

20 8:30am Robert & Tracy Dick 11:00am Jack & Pat Baumann

27 8:30am Amy Howard & Patti Mendiola 11:00am Brett & Terra Canipe



Sound and AV Techs

July

6 8:30am Drew Dotson

11:00am Brandon Cline & Kolton Buff

13 8:30am Drew Dotson

11:00am Brandon Cline & Kolton Buff

20 8:30am Drew Dotson

11:00am Brandon Cline & Kolton Buff

27 8:30am Drew Dotson

11:00am Brandon Cline & Kolton Buff



Nursery Care Givers

July

Amanda Kochosky will notify nursery workers of the schedule



Children's Time 8:30AM

July

6 Randy Stokes

13 Alexis Thompson

20 Pastor Byron

27 Chet Sigmon



Acolytes & Crucifers

July 6 8:30am Luke 11:00am Nate & Katelyn

13 8:30am Luke

11:00am Lily & Elliot 8:30am William

11:00am Nate & Lily

27 8:30am William

11:00am Raven & Katelyn



Communion Stewards July 6th

8:30am Jana Alexander & David Dry 11:00am Kenny Chester & Daisy Vaughan

Camp Meeting Schedules

Rock Spring Camp Meeting

July 27 - August 10

Balls Creek Camp Meeting

August 10 - August 24

Schedules will be posted on the bulletin board outside the church office when available.

*Mt. Pleasant Members with tents at Rock Springs:

Gail Sigmon #175

Lee Killian #65

Todd & Jeanna Goodson #243

Ernestine Killian #202

Danny & Frances Sigmon #147

*Mt. Pleasant Members with tents at Balls Creek:

Kay Muender #206

Evelyn Stutts #176

Brian & Sandy Martin #3

Elsie Kale #93

Guy & Christol Cline #188

Sigmon Family #129

Little Family #177

Mike & Alice Lineberger #259

Keith & Aya Gabriel #36





HELP NEEDED (704) 929-3110 9 am - 12 noon

ROCK SPRING CAMPGROUND

6831 Campground Rd., Denver, NC

"CHILDREN'S FREE FUN DAY"

SAT., AUG. 2 10 AM - 2 PM

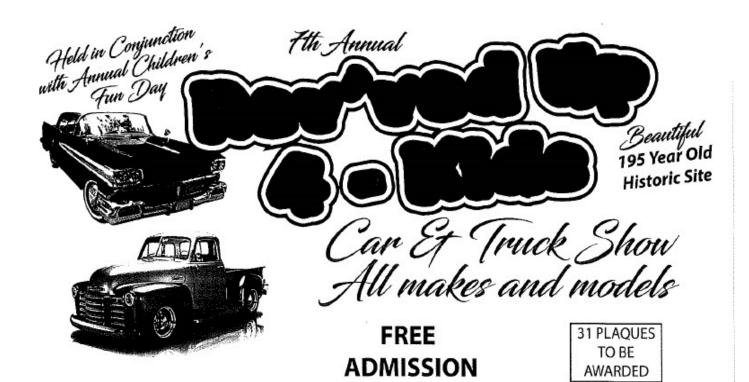
TH ANNUAL **IT IS ALL FREE**

SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES (704) 929-3110 AVAILABLE



PLEASE BRING YOUR CHILDREN FOR A FREE DAY OF FUN

TWO FOOD COURTS BY WEBB'S CHAPEL CHURCH

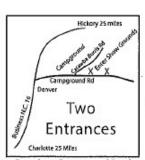


Saturday, August 2, 2025 10 AM - 2 PM

ROCK SPRING CAMPGROUND

6831 Campground Rd., Denver, NC





Enter from Campground Road

OVER 200 **ENTRIES** EACH YEAR

Registration Opens at 8 AM Awards at 2 PM

Music, Prizes, Food and Qualified Judges

FREE ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY!

Dare Devil Frisbee Dog Show, Petting Zoo



Kiddle Carnival Rides, Dunking Booth, Thousands attended in 2024 Blacksmith Shop, Caged Bee Hive, Bounce Houses, Spin Art, Bass Master, Face Painting, Free Admission Cow Milking Contest, Kid's Pedal Pull and Dozens More FREE!



Prize Drawing Every 15 Minutes



Dash Plague for First 100 Entries

For more information please call (704) 929-3110

> Cars with trailer please call to make arrangments.

FREE SOUTHERN GOSPEL CONCERT 7:00 PM FEATURING NATIONALLY KNOWN QUARTETS UNDER 1,000 SEAT ARBOR BUILT 1830-1832

Entry #		. Registration form		
	Name			
Wilf be assigned day of show	Address	Clty	State	Zip
SAVE TIME	Phone	Email		
Complete & bring to	Make of Vehicle	Model	Year	esamoesas Islaar
registration table	Signature	Date		

Wednesday Music Schedule

6:15pm Bells of Praise 7:00pm Chancel Choir

Sunday Schedule

8:30am Early Worship Service
9:45am Sunday School
10:00am Organist Practice
11:00am Worship Service
4:30pm MtP Youth Group



Weekday Schedule

(Unless otherwise noted)
Preschool M-W-F 9am-1pm
T-T 9am-1pm

Study Buddies M-F 3:30pm-6pm Girl Scouts Mon. 6:30pm Boy Scouts Tues 6:00pm Cub Scouts Wed 7:00pm Ensemble Practice Thurs 6:45pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 6:00pm Church League Softball 7:00pm Boy Scouts Dana Little Circle	2 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	6:00pm Church League Softball	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5	
		NO PRESCHOOL					
See Sunday Schedule 7:30am UMM	7 11:00am JD Circle 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	8 9:00am Summer Preschool 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 7:00pm Trustees	9:00am Summer Preschool Prayer Team 6:00pm Travel Bal Practice Care & Nurture Team	9:00am Summer Preschool 11:00am Keenagers Lunch Outing 6:00pn Travel Ball Practice	6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	12	
13 See Sunday Schedule	14 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	9:00am Summer Preschool 6:00pm Travel Softball 7:00pm Boy Scouts	8:00am Vets Coffee Call 9:00am Summer Preschool 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	9:00am Summer Preschool 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Admin Board	18 CLC, Sanctuary, Youth Center, Pavilion Blocked 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	19 CLC, Sanctuary, Youth Center, Pavilion Blocked	
20 See Sunday Schedule VBS 5:00-8:00pm	21 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	25 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	26	
	NO PRESCHOOL						
	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9:00AM—12:00PM						
27 See Sunday Schedule	6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	9:00am Summer Preschool 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 7:00pm Boy Scouts	9:00am Summer Preschool 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	9:00am Summer Preschool 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice			