



Tidings from Mt. Pleasant

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

January 2026

I hope everyone had wonderful Christmas with family and friends, as well as a good start to 2026!

I am so proud of us here at Mt. Pleasant Church because of our commitment to missional giving both in 2025 and continuing into 2026. We are supporting several missional endeavors as well as a missionary family in Thailand.

One of the missional endeavors that we support is the Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth & Families. This ministry is in Black Mountain, NC.

From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU, Mt. Pleasant Church, for your faithful support that enables Black Mountain Home to help those who come from broken homes. Below is a letter from Black Mountain Home acknowledging our support to them. To God be the glory for the great things that He is doing through us!

May God continue to bless you and your family and may you all have a wonderful 2026! – *Pastor Byron*



GLORIFYING GOD BY CARING FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES SINCE 1904

November 17, 2025

Rev. Byron Alexander
Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church
4136 Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Sherrills Ford, NC 28673

Dear Rev. Alexander,

Thank you for supporting the children entrusted to our care. Your generosity is helping to provide a loving and nurturing home for children in need.

Your gift helps more than 170 children, from newborns to college-age, who have experienced abuse, abandonment, exploitation, and other traumas. Thank you for giving them protection, love, and hope for a brighter future.

We are grateful for your kindness and blessed to have you as part of our Black Mountain Home family.

May you be blessed with a Thanksgiving filled with abundance, love, and gratitude.

With heartfelt gratitude,

James O. Harmon
President

Gift Date: November 17, 2025 Purpose: Every Day Fund Amount: \$1,000.00

Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth, and Families is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (TAX EIN: 56-0538018). We hereby acknowledge that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation.

From Pastor Kaleb....

At the beginning of every new year, the trend for New Year's resolutions comes around. With good intentions, many people set out to become more disciplined in their health, finances, marriage, relationships, or faith. As sincere as we may be, many of these resolutions or commitments are estimated to fall flat by February. Despite this depressing sentiment, I want to offer a resolution that I think we can all participate in, which is very biblical & will also strengthen your family, your workplace, and the body of Christ.

I am no John Wesley apologist by any means. He, like the rest of us, had his shortcomings & sins, yet he was also a man of God who was very disciplined in the faith. Wesley took the Bible very seriously, and he preached some incredible sermons in his time. One of the sermons that he preached in 1760 was titled, "The Cure of Evil Speaking." Wesley makes some great points about the sin of evil speaking, which he defined as speaking badly about someone else when they are not present. He states that the sin is so prevalent in society that we often don't notice it because we have become numb to it ourselves. Remember, this is in 1760, when he is preaching this sermon. Sometimes people challenge the idea that humans are inherently sinful; then I read a sermon preached hundreds of years ago that still applies today, and am reminded that we are all born a sinner but saved by God's grace. In this sermon, Wesley focuses on Matthew 18:15-18, where Jesus gives instructions to his disciples on handling conflict, especially within the church. Conflict is never fun, but honestly, it's also inevitable in this life. Conflict can arise in numerous ways, but one is when we gossip or speak badly about others behind their back. It's easy, comfortable, maybe even a habit for some of us. It's a sin that's never talked about enough because it's subtle and often goes unnoticed. However, Jesus gives us clear ways to deal with conflict, including gossip. I encourage you to read Matthew 18:15-18 as soon as you can. Jesus gives the most practical and loving way for believers to address others when they commit sin.

Wesley closes out his sermon in a classic preacher's way by imploring his hearers to change their ways. He tells them to follow the ways of Jesus when someone speaks poorly of their brother or sister in Christ. He then says, "put ye away evil-speaking, talebearing, whispering: Let none of them proceed out of your mouth! See that you 'speak evil of no man;' of the absent, nothing but good." Simply put, Wesley is saying: never speak ill of someone when they are not present, and only speak positively of others. This is much easier said than done, I know. However, I believe this is a simple way for us, as Christians, to show the love of Christ

in the world. It's also the best way to strengthen the body of Christ. Therefore, I pray that all of us would consider giving up all evil talk of others for 2026. It very well may be the best New Year's resolution you ever make. You may even notice the incredible difference it makes for your own soul and walk with Jesus.

Soli Deo Gloria

MPMC Music Ministry Happenings

Dawn Broom

Thank you, my church family, for your unending support of Mount Pleasant's music ministry. Advent 2025 was special in so many ways, and I am grateful to have shared it with you.

As we begin another new year, it is my prayer that all we do musically at Mount Pleasant glorifies the Lord. So, we continue our normal rehearsal schedule as follows:

Bells of Praise, Wednesdays, 6:15pm
Chancel Choir, Wednesdays, 7:00pm
Living Stones, Wednesdays, 8:15pm
Children's Choir, Sundays, 4:00pm

I often reflect on Psalm 46:10a, "Be still and know that I am God." In our fast-paced lives, it's difficult to be still, to be quiet, but I believe it to be critical to our well-being. A goal for myself this new year is to purposefully *make* time to be still and listen for His still, small voice. When I've done so in the past, I've felt His presence and known what to do. I encourage and even challenge you to grow spiritually this year by doing the same.

God is good all the time, Friends.

Soli Deo Gloria

"To God alone be the glory."

"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)



Youth Calendar:

- Jan 4th- Youth Gathering
- Jan 11th- Youth Gathering
- Jan 18th - Youth Gathering
- Jan 25th- No Youth

Jan 23rd-25th- Winter Retreat



CHURCH BASKETBALL

If you are interested in participating in the Winter Basketball League through the Maiden Recreation Center, please contact Fred Roseman at 828-578-5250. Play is open to ages 14 and up. All games will be on Mondays and Thursdays beginning in late January.

MT. PLEASANT METHODIST MEN

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

Coffee is ready @ 7:00am
Breakfast @ 7:30 am

Cooks for January 4: Brett Canipe, Robert Dick, Brett Little, Tony Sigmon, Eddie White, Alfred White, Tristan Hastings

MT. PLEASANT METHODIST WOMEN

All women in the church are invited to join one of our Circles at their monthly meetings.

Jewell Dierwechter Circle—meets the 1st Monday of the month at 11:00am in the Parlor.

Janie Killian Circle—meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm in the Parlor.



Family Night Suppers will resume on Wednesday, **January 7th**. We hope you will join us then for a time of good food and great fellowship. January will be "Soup, Salad, and Sandwich" covered dish. So bring a pot of your favorite soup, bowl of favorite salad, or your favorite sandwiches to go with these two to share. Oh, and don't forget a favorite dessert!!

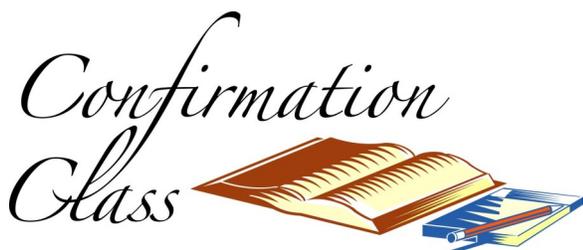
PASTORS' PICKIN'S

Come join us as we do another trip with Byron to find some "good eats" and just have fun together! The van will be leaving at 5:00pm on Thursday, January 22 for Amber Jack Seafood in Belmont. Call the church office to sign up to join in the fun. We will also be carpooling for anyone who prefers to do that. And of course, coming home there may just be a stop for ice cream (Tony's Ice Cream is nearby, or so it's been said!)





Sunday mornings don't just magically happen! We always need people to serve in multiple ways! If you are interested in serving in any of the following ways, please reach out to a pastor or let the church office know! We need greeters, ushers, liturgists (reading scripture), and communion stewards! These are all fantastic ways to serve and play a vital role in worshiping our risen Savior.



CONFIRMATION 2026

Starting in March, we will be offering our next Confirmation class for anyone who is in the 6th grade and up who has not been through confirmation before. Confirmation is a process of discovering the basics of the Christian faith. This will be a 10-week journey with other students to learn, grow, and take ownership of your faith. We also need confirmation mentors to walk alongside our confirmands during this time. This is a great way to pour into the life of a young person and mentor them in the faith! Please contact Pastor Kaleb if you would like to attend the classes as a confirmand or if you are willing to be a mentor to these students.



Have you been attending Mt. Pleasant for some time now? Are you interested in becoming a member here? Please let a pastor or the church office know. We will be hosting a new members'

class starting in February for here weeks. You will learn all about our Methodist roots, the Global Methodist Church, who we are here at Mt. Pleasant, and ways to get involved! We pray that you will consider making Mt. Pleasant your church home and join us for this special class together!



Seasons change not only for us, but also for the church. It's now time to "move forward" towards Lent and that means taking down and putting away all of the decorations for Advent. If you are able, please join Monday, **January 5th at 9:00am** as we take down, store, and prepare for the next season. If you have questions, please contact Patti Mendiola at 980-429-1035.





Calling All Veterans

The Vets at Mt Pleasant Methodist Church are having a **Vets Coffee Call**

The **First Thursday every month** in our Youth Center (The building between the 2 Church buildings) 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

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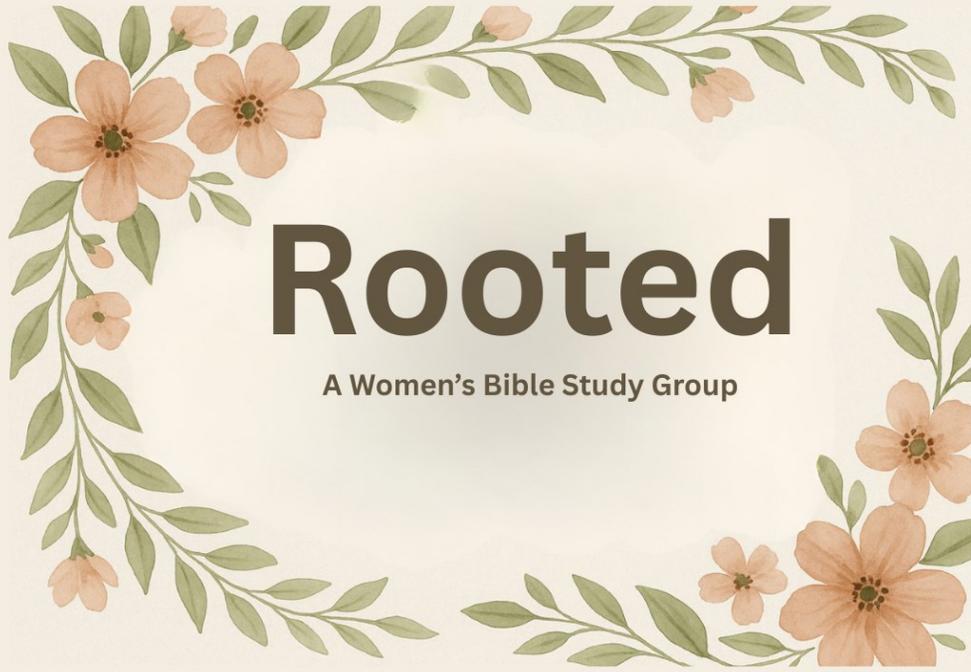


**COME JOIN US FOR
EXERCISE CLASSES
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
AT 9:00AM
IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER**



**AND (NEW CLASS)
THURSDAYS
AT 6:30PM
IN THE YOUTH CENTER
BEGINNING JANUARY 6TH**

**CLASSES ARE FREE AND BEING LED BY
KARI REESE**



Rooted

A Women's Bible Study Group

How can we be rooted and established in Christ, love, life and motherhood?

Upcoming Dates:

December 13th

January 10th

February 21st

March 21st

April 18th

May 16th

June 13th

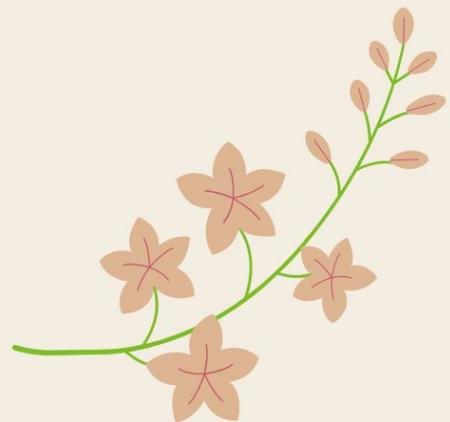
July 18th

Mt Pleasant GMC

Youth Center

9am - 10am

Childcare provided if needed



Birthdays Anniversaries

January

- 1 Lee Killian
- 7 Patti Mendiola
- 8 Ken Thompson
Cole Panaccione
- 9 Doug Howard
- 10 Dewey Abernathy
- 11 Janie Merchant
- 13 Leslie Auton
- 14 Trent Trimble
- 15 Robert Dick
- 16 Danny Sigmon
Mitchell Sigmon
- 19 Darin Little
- 22 Curtis Helderman
- 23 Jerry Smyers
Maddux Martin
- 25 Chelsea Lineberger
Larry Thompson
- 26 Maria Sigmon
- 27 Deneil Caldwell
Brett Little
Jacob Little
- 29 Donna Howard

January

- 10 Clyde & Doris Sigmon
- 19 Brett & Tara Canipe
- 25 Doug & Carol Hicks
- 31 David & Pam Dry



.Memorials have been received for:

Jimmy Little by Mt. Pleasant Veterans

Ron Bach by Wayne & Janie Merchant
Doug & Donna Howard

Sarah Lou Harkey by The Harkey Family





Remember those in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

- **Kingston Residence of Hickory:** Pete Crump
- **Abernathy Laurels:** Joy Howard
- **Hickory Village Memory Care:** Marilyn Beardslee
- **Belair Health Care Center:** Angie Ledford
- **Cardinal Care Lincolnton:** (rehab) Tony Sigmon





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

January

- 4 10:00am Jeff Little, Kenny Chester, David Carpenter, Kevin Brady
- 11 10:00am Jeff Little, David Carpenter, Kevin Brady, Wayne Merchant
- 18 10:00am Jeff Little, Pete Lail, David Carpenter, Kevin Brady
- 25 10:00am Jeff Little, David Carpenter, Kevin Brady, Brandon Cline



Greeters



January

- 4 10:00am Robert & Tracy Dick
- 11 10:00am Wayne & Janie Merchant
- 18 10:00am Scouts
- 25 10:00am David & Pam Dry & Jacob Little

Sound and AV Techs



January

- 4 10:00am Drew Dotson, Brandon Cline, Kolton Buff
- 11 10:00am Drew Dotson, Brandon Cline, Kolton Buff
- 18 10:00am Drew Dotson, Brandon Cline, Kolton Buff
- 25 10:00am Drew Dotson, Brandon Cline, Kolton Buff

Children's Time



January

- 4 Alexis Thompson
- 11 Judy Sigmon
- 18 Randy Stokes
- 25 Pastor Byron

Nursery Care Givers



January *Amanda Kochosky will contact Nursery Care Givers

Acolytes

January

- 4 10:00am Lily & Raven
- 11 10:00am Luke & Katelyn
- 18 10:00am Nate & William
- 25 10:00am Elliot & Wren



Wednesday Music Schedule

6:15pm Bells of Praise
 7:00pm Chancel Choir
 8:15pm Living Stones Practice

Sunday Schedule

8:30am Early Worship Service
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Late Worship Service
 4:00pm MtP Youth



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
 Cub Scouts Tues 6:00pm
 Boy Scouts Tues 7:00pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Closed 8:00am Vets Coffee Call 	2 Office Closed	3
4 See Sunday Schedule 7:30am MP Men 4:00pm MtP Youth	5 11:00am JD Circle 6:00pm Small Group Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Girl Scouts	6 9:00am Exercise Class 9:30am Preschool Board 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Boy Scouts	7 See Wednesday Music Schedule 6:00pm Family Night Travel Ball Practice	8 9:00am Exercise Class 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Exercise Class 7:00pm Trustees	9 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	10 9:00am Women's Bible Study
11 See Sunday Schedule 4:00pm MtP Youth	12 6:00pm Small Group Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Girl Scouts	13 9:00am Exercise Class 1:00pm Janie Killian Circle 5:00pm Children's Team Meeting 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Boy Scouts	14 See Wednesday Music Schedule 6:00pm Youth Worship Night Travel Ball Practice	15 9:00am Exercise Class 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Admin Board Exercise Class	16 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	17 3:00pm Cub Scouts Raingutter Regatta
18 See Sunday Schedule 4:00pm MtP Youth	19 Office Closed 6:00pm Small Group Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Girl Scouts Preschool/SB Closed	20 9:00pm Exercise Class 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Boy Scouts	21 See Wednesday Music Schedule 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	22 9:00am Exercise Class 5:00pm Pastor's Pickin's 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Exercise Class	23 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice Youth Winter Retreat	24 All Day CLC Reserved, Private Event
25 See Sunday Schedule Youth Winter Retreat	26 6:00pm Small Group Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Girl Scouts	27 6:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Boy Scouts	28 See Wednesday Music Schedule 9:30am Preschool Chapel 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	29 9:00am Exercise Class 9:30am Preschool Chapel 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice 6:30pm Exercise Class	30 6:00pm Travel Ball Practice	31 All Day CLC Reserved, Private Event