

THE INSPIRATION

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

A Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Publication Sept-Oct 2024 | Vol 12 Issue 5



WE GROW HERE

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MPBC Weekly Learning Opportunities



Noon Day Prayer
Via Free Conference Call
Dial Number
(712) 832-7000

Access Code 7928416#
*Please make sure your phone is on mute.
There is no need to
announce yourself.*

Sunday Morning Word Fuel
(2 classes, in-Person and Zoom
9:00 AM until 9:55 AM

Monday Night Bible Study via Zoom
7:00 PM
And 7:30 PM

Tuesday
Seniors Prayer & Conversation
10:30 AM
In-Person and via Zoom

Tuesday Night Bible Study
Via Zoom 7:00 PM

Wednesday Night
Word Fuel with the Pastor
In-Person and Virtual 7pm
Facebook and YouTube

Thursday Night
Bible Study
via Zoom 7:00 PM

** Check Realm for Zoom
Information*

Upcoming Events

Fall Health Expo –October 12 & 13
Light the Night Walk-October 25
Daylight Savings Time Ends-Nov 3
Election Day-Nov 5



Rev, Dr. Kevin Donalson, Sr.

From The Pastor's Desk

We are preparing for a monumental election in November of this year. Not only will we elect a New President but Congress and many local offices will be filled.

While I will not use this space to endorse someone, I will say that I have always been fond of graduates of one of my Alma Maters, Howard University. And I am also a member of a D-9 organization so I am always going to support fellow members; but I am not endorsing anybody.

What I want to do is encourage you to ask yourself who is the person or persons that will be better off for you and your family. Each one of us has to ask ourselves that question. Whether it's the President or a local seat on the School Board, I encourage you to educate yourselves on the issues and on the candidates.

Our fore-parents understood the importance of the right to vote. That's why many of them were willing to give up their lives to achieve that right. They had nothing but faith in Jesus Christ and that no matter how hot the fiery furnace got, the Lord was on their side.

We have to understand that no matter who wins, we are going to pray for them because that's what the word instructs us to do, but we are also going to do our civic duty.

Remember, the last day to register in Virginia to be able to vote in November, is October 15. Know your voting status. If you have not yet registered, get registered. Then educate yourselves on the issues and the candidates and then vote. The rest is in God's hands.

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International Day

On August 18, 2024, MPBC celebrated International Day. MPBC has over 27 countries represented in our congregation. Our guest preacher was Rev. Dr. Elijah Zehyoue, Co-Director of the Alliance of Baptists from Calvary Baptist Church, Washington D.C. The subject of his sermon was "Witness to the Resurrection", with scripture taken from Ezekiel 37:1-28 (NRSV). The service culminated with a wonderful gathering in the Fellowship Hall where 13 ethnic dishes were served by the Hospitality Ministry.



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The Kingdom

The Mt. Pleasant Children and Youth Ministry (The Kingdom) has resumed for the 2024-2025 school year. They began with the children going to Bowlero in Tysons for bowling.

On Sunday, they continued by doing the welcome, prayer and other 2nd Sunday responsibilities, including a song by the Sunbeams during morning worship. They placed banners on the wall in the vestibule and in the Fellowship Hall acknowledging Grandparents Day.

A special guest minister, Rev. Nicolas K. Young, delivered the sermon to the congregation titled “The Foundations of Greatness”. His scripture was Jeremiah 1:1-13.

The Kingdom, ages 3 through high school seniors, has service in the Fellowship Hall on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays. On the 3rd Sunday in September everyone was welcomed back to Kingdom Worship. There was an expo in the Fellowship Hall where adults and children could sign up for current and future responsibilities. Deaconess Cherise Simms can be contacted for additional information.



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Women's Weekend Friday and Sunday Activities

On behalf of the Family Life Ministry, we would like to thank all of the Directors and Ministries for your support during Women's Weekend. The theme for the weekend was "Lord Fill My Cup", Romans 15:13. We had a blessed weekend during our the Friday Paint and Sip, Saturday workshops and Sunday morning service.

Special thanks to artist, Mark Parlow; our guest speakers, Pastor Pamela Sallie and Sister Onjeinika Brooks; Tania Russell and Lulu Jackson (Hospitality) and our many volunteers.



Thank you for making the weekend so special. God Bless.



#WEGROWHERE

Women's Weekend Saturday Activities



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Celebrating 8 Years of Union Between Pastor and People

On Sunday, August 11th we celebrated the 8th Anniversary of Rev. Dr. Kevin E. Donalson, Sr. as our Senior Pastor. Gifts and thank you's were provided to the Donalson family. With the second Sunday being Youth Sunday, our C and Y Ministry presented a special meaning for the word PASTOR and also conducted the welcome, prayer and other aspects of the morning worship service.

With the theme of **Celebrating 8 Years of Union Between Pastor and People**, the sermon at morning worship was delivered by Dr. Andre J. Lewis, Senior Pastor of New Faith Church in Houston, Texas. His subject was "This Time It's Personal", with scripture focus Joshua 4:1-3, 8-9 (NKJV).

The celebration continued in the Fellowship Hall with a reception, a meal served by our Hospitality Ministry and soft music provided by saxophonist K. Chris Knight. Rev. Marlon Sharpe served as Master of Ceremony for the program of Laughter and Legacy which followed. The program included a skit by Deacon D'Veil and Deaconess LaTrease Garrison, a roast by Brother Will Vaughn, comments by Rev. Tina Wright and Kevin Donalson, Jr. Remarks were given by Pastor Donalson.

Thanks to the Anniversary Committee and the participants for thinking outside the box and providing a light hearted afternoon.



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Celebrating 8 Years of Union Between Pastor and People



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Prince William County and Metro Area Care Group

Have you been fed? Have you read John 3:1-21?

Members of the Prince William County and Metro Area Care Group came together on September 7th to enjoy discussing God's word while breaking bread during a bountiful brunch. The brisk wind of the day did not stop the group from engaging in rich conversation and relaxing at the home of Deacon Joe and Deaconess Adrienne Pleasants.

Being together in fellowship allowed us to learn more about each other while we shared our favorite brunch delights: pancakes, casseroles, breakfast potatoes, bacon, sausage, biscuits 'n gravy, fruit and pastries. Fortunately, the Pleasants provided a coffee bar that allowed us to warm up on the inside and the laughter and joy of being together warmed our hearts. To top it off, we welcomed the Fall season with the treat of the season: candy corn. What made this event extra special was that Mother Adrienne Bush endured the wind by wrapping up in a warm blanket as she shared hugs and greetings with all who attended.



Our discussion of John 3:1-21 was led by Deacon Antonio and Deaconess NaTosha Clemons. We opened our study by quoting a familiar passage of scripture in unison John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life." What a joy it was for us to share that this was the *must learn* verse as a child—that made it even more fitting for us to quote it in unison as everyone smiled, remembering their childhood church days. As the Clemons' walked us through the text, many thoughts about the text were shared. The overarching question was why did Nicodemus come to Jesus at night? We held a spirited debate and ultimately settled

on the fact that Nicodemus had to hold this conversation under the cover of night so that he would not be exposed and lose his position or something even worse. The ah-ha moment discovered here is that Jesus is willing to meet us anywhere, anytime, anyplace. Some of the other key topics of discussion included: Jesus did not enter the world to condemn the world, but to save the world; evil is often done in the dark; those who live in the truth come into the light because they are not afraid; and finally, everyone must be born again.

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Prince William County and Metro Area Care Group (continued)

We thoroughly enjoyed our time together and encouraged all members of the Prince William County and Metro Area Care Group to join us for our October, November and December Bible Study sessions (held virtually). We truly have a great time in the Lord, and we look for ways to apply God's word to our daily lives. We will post the next date and access information on The Realm. We look forward to having you join us and we continue to be spiritually fed.



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Welcome to the MPBC Community



Baptisms 08-18-2024

Rayniah Paden

Jabbari Smith

Derrick Hembry

Extending the Right Hand of Fellowship
08-04-2024



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Bible Find A Word

Proverbs 3:5-8

Every word in capitals below is contained within the group of letters. Words can be found in a straight line horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. They may be read either forward or backward.

TRUST in the **LORD** with all thine **HEART**; and **LEAN NOT** unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways **ACKNOWLEDGE** him, and he shall **DIRECT** thy **PATHS**.

Be not **WISE** in thine own **EYES**: fear the Lord, and **DEPART** from **EVIL**.

It shall be **HEALTH** to thy navel, and **MARROW** to thy **BONES**.

- Proverbs 3:5-8

T	K	G	J	Z	T	P	D	Z	W	Q	A	T
C	Z	W	J	Y	O	F	E	D	Z	C	G	R
E	B	O	Y	F	N	B	X	A	K	H	I	A
R	D	R	B	R	N	Z	P	N	W	I	S	E
I	Q	R	K	O	A	Y	O	Q	V	E	L	H
D	D	A	R	C	E	W	T	R	M	O	E	S
H	A	M	I	F	L	Q	S	O	R	Y	M	E
I	E	U	Y	E	M	C	U	D	F	U	G	Y
B	W	A	D	B	S	P	R	E	V	I	L	E
A	O	G	L	L	P	A	T	H	S	G	V	H
U	E	N	V	T	Y	B	T	R	A	P	E	D
E	W	I	E	A	H	U	Q	E	X	E	I	S
Y	G	W	T	S	A	H	G	V	V	B	N	Y

(Answers on page 14)

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Thank you



Thank You MPBC Family and Friends. The Fairfax County Care Group wishes to thank each and everyone for contributing much needed toiletries to the "She Believes in Me" nonprofit organization. We turned in a substantial supply of items and the staff there was very grateful for everything.

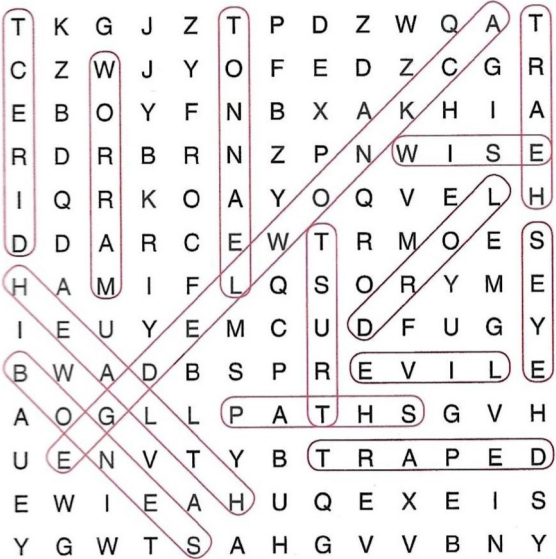
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church and the Education Ministry wishes to thank the Robinson Family for your generous contribution to our church scholarship fund. The presentation was made on July 28, 2024 by Deacon D'Vell Garrison.



We also express our gratitude to the MPBC Family for your contributions to this year's school supply drive. Thank you for blessing our schools.



Answers to Word Search from page 13



Election Day

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

The chart below provides basic information for voting in Virginia.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN VIRGINIA MAY VOTE EARLY, EITHER IN PERSON OR BY MAIL.

WAYS TO VOTE

RECEIVE A BALLOT BY MAIL

Request a ballot at elections.virginia.gov/absentee by 5 p.m., Oct 25. You may return your ballot:

- **By mail:** postmarked on or before Nov 5 and received by noon on Friday, Nov 8.
- **Before Election Day:** to your voter registration office, drop-off location, or satellite location.
- **On Election Day (by 7 p.m.):** to your voter registration office, any polling place, or drop-off location.

**Since July 1, 2023, witness signatures are not required to vote by mail. You will need to provide the last four digits of your social security number and year of birth. If you do not have a social security number, you can provide your voter ID number instead.*

IN PERSON BEFORE ELECTION DAY

From Sept 20 through Nov 2:

You can vote early at your local voter registration office. A satellite voting location may also be available. Bring acceptable ID.

Dates to Know

Sept 20 - First day to vote early at your local voter registration office or satellite voting location. Find your local office:

elections.virginia.gov/VRO

Oct 15 - Last day to register or update your address to vote a regular ballot for this election

Voters may register in person after this date, through Election Day, and vote using a provisional ballot

Oct 25 by 5 p.m. - Last day to request that a ballot be mailed to you

Oct 26 (Saturday) - Local voter registration offices open for in-person voting

Nov 2 (Saturday) - Last day to vote early in-person at your local voter registration office

Nov 5 (Election Day) - Vote at your polling place. Polls are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early voting in Virginia is September 20-November 2; in Maryland it is October 24-31, and in D.C. it is October 28-November 3.

Additional information regarding absentee ballots, last day to register, checking your voting location, etc. can be found at:

Virginia: elections.virginia.gov

Maryland: elections.maryland.gov

DC: dcboe.org

Poles will be open on Election Day in Virginia from 6 am to 7 pm, Maryland and D.C. 7 am to 8 pm.

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Get Your Article In The Next Newsletter. Deadline for the November-December issue is November 15th

The Inspiration Newsletter

The Inspiration newsletter is a bi-monthly publication for Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (MPBC) family, friends and the community. The goal for this publication is to provide our readers with timely and relevant information about what MPBC is doing to spread God's word.

Articles and questions may be submitted to Shellia McKan. Deadline to submit articles for the next issue is **November 15, 2024**.

We pray and hope that everyone will find the information in this issue informative and inspiring.
- God Bless.

Guidelines for submitting articles are:

1. All articles must be approved by your Ministry Director before submission.
2. Each article must be in a separate MS Word document in Arial font, 12 point.
3. Each article must contain a working title at the beginning of the document followed by a by-line then the article itself (50–350 words is suggested).
4. Articles should be written in newsletter format with proper transitions and correct spelling and grammar.
5. Articles should answer the following: Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How.
6. Be sure to include your contact information.
7. **Do not** embed photos, graphics or charts in the Word document. **Send each photo, graphic or chart as a separate attachment. Photos should be full size (do not reduce) in jpg or png format.** Contact Shellia McKan regarding photos being sent by cell phone.



Connect with us!

