



Mt. Pleasant UMC

From the Pastor's desk . . .

During Lent, we enter into a season of preparation, self-reflection and repentance when we seek to literally "turn around" and realign our lives and focus toward God. It is a time to give up things as well as take on new life-giving practices, helping us rid ourselves of distractions and our own selfish desires. By doing so, we seek to live and love as more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. We celebrate this season because of the good news that in Christ's death and resurrection we, and all creation, are continually being made new by God's love and saving grace. That is why we want to share with all our stories of Jesus. So, why not invite people to come and see the goodness of God at this joyous time of the season.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Pat



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Through "Give Ye The to Eat" (GYTTE), we have a team of 18 people going on our upcoming mission trip to Tlancualpican, Mexico, in January of 2020. We need to raise money so that all that want to go are able to do so. We will be having brunches and dinners each month to raise funds for this trip and will accept a love offering at each event. There is a basket auction also being prepared for May 18<sup>th</sup>. The task is large as we need to have almost \$40,000.00 by December to be ready to go. We know that God is faithful and He will supply if we are faithful. We will be sending out letters to different organizations to ask for help. If you have any ideas on fundraising for us, we would love for you to share. Most of all, we covet your prayers for God's blessing to be upon us and our plans.



**Do you shop Amazon? Now you can support Mt. Pleasant UMC when you shop! Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) instead and sign up today!**

**Sundays** 1pm – Disciple Bible Study at MP (group 1)  
**Mondays** 10am – Bible Study at Sharon Grimm’s house  
**Thursdays** 11:30 – Bible Study at *The Edison*  
6pm – Disciple Bible Study at MP (group 2)

**Mar 27,30** 8am – egg-making

**Apr 2** 6pm – Missionaries meeting (staff)  
**Apr 4,5,6** 8am – egg-making  
**Apr 7** 3pm – Elementary youth group meeting  
**Apr 9** 6pm – Worship committee meeting  
**Apr 11** 1-7pm – Rummage sale item drop-off/set-up  
**Apr 12** 6pm – *Passion of the Christ* movie showing  
**Apr 12** 9-3 – Rummage sale at Community Hall  
**Apr 13** 9-12 – Rummage sale at community Hall  
**Apr 13** 9-12 – Safe Sanctuaries training  
**Apr 14** 7am – Men’s breakfast at Jay’s Tiffany’s Northside  
**Apr 16** 6:30pm – VBS planning meeting  
**Apr 18** 7pm – Maundy Thursday service at MP  
**Apr 19** 7pm – Good Friday worship at KG  
**Apr 21** 7am - Easter Sunrise Service at KG  
**Apr 29** 6:30-9 – EGP II (1 of 4)



**May 1** Deadline for SUSUMC camps early-bird discount  
**May 4** 4:30pm - Senior Citizens Banquet  
**May 6** 6:30-9 – EGP II (2 of 4)  
**May 13** 6:30-9 – EGP II (3 of 4)  
**May 18** Basket Auction to benefit mission trip to Mexico  
**May 19** 3pm – Elementary youth group meeting  
**May 20** 6:30-9 – EGP II (4 of 4)  
**May 28** 7pm – SPRC meeting at Klinesgrove

**June 1** VBS set-up day  
**June 2** Choir concert  
**June 3-7** VBS  
**June 11** 6pm – Worship committee meeting  
**June 16** 3pm – Elementary youth group meeting



## Safe Sanctuaries

We comply with PA's Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) and our own church conference's guidelines of Safe Sanctuaries to protect our children, youth and vulnerable adults, our staff, both paid and volunteer, from potential allegations of abuse and to limit the extent of legal liability of the church.

Please consider getting your clearances. For any volunteers willing to provide care or supervision for our nursery, Sunday School, VBS, Advent Party, youth activities & other events during our children &/or youth ministries & programs, we require that they have clearances as listed below.

The 3 Volunteer Clearances must be renewed every 60 months. They can be completed in any order. Go to [www.susumc.org](http://www.susumc.org) & use the Safe Sanctuaries Portal to access the following for volunteer clearances.

- a. PA State Police Criminal History Report. If you do this online & have no record, you will get your clearance in a few minutes.
- b. PA Child Abuse History Clearance. If you do this online, the results come back in about 14 days.
- c. FBI Criminal History Report (fingerprint-based background check). If you have resided in PA continuously for a period of 10 years prior to becoming a volunteer, you are exempt from the fingerprinting but must **sign an Affidavit in the presence of a Notary Public**. This affidavit is posted on the website.

Keep all originals & show to Carol Hauck who will make a copy with social security numbers blackened out for church records. These copies which are confidential will be kept in a locked place. If anyone needs help in completing these 3 clearances talk to Carol in person, at 570-286-9255, cell 570-809-3474 or at [cahauck@ptd.net](mailto:cahauck@ptd.net). These clearances are cost free except if fingerprinting is needed or for the cost of a notary public for the volunteer affidavit.

We are sponsoring Safe Sanctuaries training **Saturday April 13 9AM-Noon**. This is a "formal" training led by conference approved trainer, Kim Hirt. Anyone holding the above 3 clearances are required to attend this kind of training at least every 5 years. If you are interested in this training, please contact Carol Hauck at the above numbers or email address. The cost is \$3 for the informational booklet.



### **Ministry to Beck Elementary School**

We are reaching out to our community to serve where we can. We have chosen Beck Elementary as one place where we can be in mission by supplying boxes of tissues, pocket size tissues, hand wipes, healthy snacks such as fruit snacks, rice krispie bars, & granola bars, 2-inch pink erasers, hand sanitizer, chapstick, unisex sweat pants & underwear in small sizes. Our prayer team is praying for the students, teachers & staff at Beck. If you would like to be part of this ministry, pray for them and/or, please bring any of the above items & deposit them in the box in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to skip the shopping, give your monetary donations to Carol Hauck.

## MEALS TO HEAL

Our ministry of meals is called Meals to Heal. It is a short-term program to provide meals to those who can use this kind of temporary support. We do not have the resources to do this long term like Meals on Wheels but we can certainly help out in the short term for those who are ill, recovering, having surgery, or have a new family member & could use a few meals.



Ways you can help:

1. Let the contact person know that you are willing to help by preparing a meal at your convenience. Or sign up on the signup sheet that is on the bulletin board in overflow area. You will be contacted as the needs arise. You will be informed of food allergies, food preferences, directions to homes & if possible, types of previous meals that have been provided.
2. Another option is providing frozen items that can be delivered by someone other than yourself.
3. Inform the contact person of your own need or that of someone you know. This is vital because the needs are not always known; please don't assume that the right people will know.

Contact person: Carol Hauck @ home 570-286-9255, call or text cell 570-809-3474, or email [cahauck@ptd.net](mailto:cahauck@ptd.net).

Thank you for caring for our brothers & sisters in Christ.

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Summer will be here before you know it, and that means . . . **VBS!!** The dates for VBS this year are **June 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup>** in the evenings with the closing program during worship on June 9<sup>th</sup>. This year, we will be experiencing a “Shipwrecked” theme and learning how we are **Rescued by Jesus!**

We are looking for helpers for any and all areas. Please be sure all of your clearances are submitted, or see Carol Hauck about how to obtain them. VBS is a great time to experience the love of Jesus through the eyes of the blessed children. Please consider donating some of your time to making our VBS this year a success. Contact Becky at 570-809-4212 with any questions or for information on how you can help!

All children ages Kindergarten through age 13 are welcome to attend! Registration is already available on the church website and will remain open until June 3<sup>rd</sup>. For paper registration forms, contact Becky.

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**The MP choir concert will be held on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. This has become an annual event that helps support the music ministry. A free will offering will be taken and used to purchase music to continue this ministry. Refreshments will follow in the fellowship hall. Watch the bulletin for more details.**





## 2019 Summer Camp at United Methodist Camps & Retreats

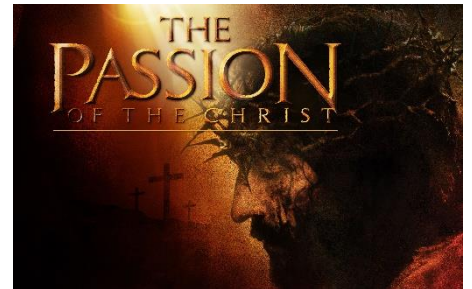


It's March, it's cold outside, but it is time to think about summer camp. There are many kinds of opportunities for traditional summer camp, adventure camps such as canoe & kayak camp, music & drama camp, soccer camp, photography camp, survivor camp, arts camp, fishing camp and family camps. The different camps are for grades 1 through 12 & with a few shortened camps for ages 4-8.

You can see Camps-at-a-Glance 2019 at [susumccamps.org](http://susumccamps.org) & lots more information on our Susquehanna Conference web site at [susumc.org](http://susumc.org) under Camp & Retreat Ministry. There are 4 United Methodist camps in PA: Camp Penn in the southern part of PA near Waynesboro, Greene Hills in Huntingdon County near the little village of Barree, Mount Asbury southwest of Harrisburg near Newville, & Wesley Forest in western Union County.

Our church has been supporting summer camping for a long time and will assist with church members' registration costs. We ask a family to pay the first \$25 of each registration and any amount over \$200. There is online registration which is open now, is easy and the best way to guarantee the camper gets into the camp session that fits his/her family. Early Bird Discount: register by May 1, 2019 & get \$25 Early Bird discount. Early registration is encouraged as many camps are in high demand. See [suscumcamps.org](http://suscumcamps.org) or email [camps@suscumc.org](mailto:camps@suscumc.org), with questions or see Carol Hauck (286-9255, cell 570-809-3474 or [cahauck@ptd.net](mailto:cahauck@ptd.net)) for more information. Hopefully, we can get a paper brochure in the hands of each of our families.

On **Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**, in preparation for the Easter season, we will have a showing of the movie *The Passion of the Christ* starting at **6pm**. This film depicts the final twelve hours in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, on the day of his crucifixion in Jerusalem. All are welcome to attend; however, the movie is rated 'R' and parental discretion is strongly advised.



The semi-annual rummage sale of Mt. Pleasant UMC will be held on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm and Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to noon at the Community Hall. Saturday will feature \$2.00 per bag. Anyone who is interested in working the sale on Friday, please contact Judy Pope at 570-286-4917 or Lois Kovaschetz at 570-286-8042. Set-up will be on Thursday, April

11<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 7pm. please have your items there by Thursday evening so we are ready for Friday morning which is our busiest time.



## Altar Flowers

Each week, members and friends of Mt. Pleasant have the opportunity to sponsor the flowers that are placed on the altar and/or piano each Sunday. Sponsors have the opportunity to place the flowers in honor of or in memory of someone; the tribute is also posted in the bulletin.

Altar flowers (2 vases) can be sponsored for \$35.00 or a single piano arrangement for \$30.00. After the service, the flowers can be given to the honoree or donated to a nursing home or other location. As members and friends of the church, we would like to offer this opportunity to all of you also. If you would like to sponsor flowers, please contact the church secretary: (570) 286-7036 or at [mpkgsec2@gmail.com](mailto:mpkgsec2@gmail.com).



**JOIN US** for our new elementary-age youth group! All children in grades Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to attend! Our goal is to encourage the children to be an active part of the church as well as to build a firm foundation for their faith to grow. We want all children, even the youngest ages, to know that they are appreciated and a special part of the family of Jesus Christ.

Each time we meet, we will have a Bible lesson time, craft/project, snack, and games to keep these young minds busy! Parents are welcome to stay for the whole time, or pick up your child after the activities are over. If the weather permits during warm months, we will try to have games/activities outside, so wear comfortable clothes & shoes! This youth group will meet one Sunday afternoon at 3pm each month. Watch the list of calendar items for upcoming youth group events.

## EASTER IS COMING!



Mt. Pleasant will, once again, be making Easter eggs (peanut butter & coconut varieties), chocolate covered raisins, and chocolate covered peanuts clusters this year. Eggs will be made on March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8am each day. The cost of the eggs or clusters is \$6.00 per dozen, \$3.00 per half dozen, or \$0.50 each. If you are interested in helping with this project, or simply wish to donate items (ingredients), please contact Lois Kovaschetz at 570-286-8042. Place your orders on the sheets provided on the bulletin board at the church or call Lois at the above number. We will be taking orders until April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Proceeds of the sale will benefit the playground fund.

A basket auctioned is planned for Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Pleasant UMC. We encourage everyone to try to come up with an idea for a basket to donate for the auction. This is still in the planning stages right now, but we are also hoping for a quilt and perhaps some hand-made baby blankets. The kitchen will be open for goodies and soup by the quart. All proceeds will benefit the Mexico mission team.



**Have you read a good book lately?** There are many avid readers at Mt. Pleasant and I would like to reinstate the idea of folks who have read a really good book that they think others would enjoy, please submit a short synopsis of that book to me before the next newsletter comes out. -Judy Pope

Mt. Pleasant will be hosting a Senior Citizen Banquet on **Saturday, May 4th starting at 4:30 pm.** This year, we will be having 50's Diner theme, including decade-appropriate entertainment, so feel free to dress accordingly! All seniors ages 55+ are welcome to attend. There is no cost, but registration is required to get an accurate head count for food preparation (menu items to be announced at a later date). Contact Becky at 570-809-4212 for more information. To register, please tear off the bottom of this page and mail it in, or put it in the offering plate during Sunday morning worship.



***\*\*Deadline to register is Sunday, April 28, 2019\*\****

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**Yes! I want to attend the Mt. Pleasant UMC Senior Citizen banquet on May 4, 2019. Please reserve our seats!**

**Names of those who will be attending:**

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Mail to: Mt. Pleasant UMC  
ATTN: Becky  
2869 Mile Hill Road  
Sunbury, PA 17801

**Susquehanna Valley Parish - Mt. Pleasant UMC**

*Worship 9:00 am Sunday school 10:15 am*

*Patricia Bollinger, Pastor*

**E-mail:** *pbollinger@susumc.org*

**Parsonage Office#** 570-286-2948 **Cell#** 410-808-4371

**Mt. Pleasant #** 570-286-7036

**Parish Office Phone #** 570-286-7036 **Parish Email:** mpkgsec2@gmail.com

**Church Website:** [www.susquehannavalleyparish.org](http://www.susquehannavalleyparish.org)

**Prayer Request Email:** [SVPprayer@googlegroups.com](mailto:SVPprayer@googlegroups.com)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/MtPleasantUMC17801](https://facebook.com/MtPleasantUMC17801)

**Mt. Pleasant UMC**  
**2869 Mile Hill Road**  
**Sunbury, PA 17801**