Easter Services--Mark your Calendar:

April 5  Maundy Thursday Service 7pm in Sanctuary
April 7  Easter Egg Hunt 11am-1pm
        at Mt. Pleasant Middle School football field
April 8  EASTER SUNDAY
        ⇒ Easter "Sonrise" Service at 8am on front lawn of sanctuary
        Biscuits provided afterwards in Fellowship Hall
        ⇒ No service at 8:30am
        ⇒ Sunday School at 9:45am
        ⇒ Faith Fields Service 10am in Locust at The Daily Grind
        ⇒ Combined Worship Service at 11am in Worship Center

Ping Pong Tournament

The much anticipated Ping Pong Tournament to benefit the Honduras Mission Team was held February 10th. Participants of all ages competed. Elizabeth Fowler won for the women and Lynn Eagle was the men’s winner. For the Grand Champion Elizabeth and Lynn battled it out with Lynn as the winner. Congratulations!

Thanks to all who participated in this event.
**BIRTHDAYS**
1-Cris Eudy, Robert Smith
2-Don Alward, Dean Jarrell, Kevin Kurtz
3-Todd Green
4-Frances Medlin
5-Erin Long, Marcia Smith
6-Samantha Schueneman
7-Cal Garmon, Joshua Wilson
8-Willene James
10-Tyler Airheart, Abby Bulger, Mike Cooper, Cody Crowell
11-Dave Drake, Amanda Eudy, Sarah Staley
12-Cynthia Efird, Dalton Gaul
14-Ronald Hurlocker, Jason Raney, William Smith, Melissa Swinson
15-Eddie Fisher, Robin Tomblin, Christopher Wilson
16-Jim Avett, James Moser, Buddy Smyly, Todd Smyly
17-Casey Greene, Donald Harkey, Zeena Upchurch
19-Valerie Helms, Camille Wells
20-Mary Arazie, Dianne Culp, Keah Green, James Lanier
22-Gary Kennedy
23-Betty Harkey
24-Olivia Smyly, Molly Stirewalt
25-Tanner Gilmore, Stacy Jarrell, Ally Schueneman
26-Brown Faggart, Caleb Greene
27-Susie Avett, Craig Leonard
28-Sue Yates
29-David Jordan, John Ritchie
30-Michelle Lambert
31-Jereme Harwood, Matthew McDonald, Hayden Radford

**ANNIVERSARIES**
03-Craig & Jeanie Leonard
06-John & Susan Burris
12-Chris & Carmen Sargent
16-Troy & Renee Hill
17-Mark & Tammy Widenhouse
18-Todd & Jamie Brandon
22-Danny & Lisa Arazie
24-Austin & Natalie Whiteley
25-Steven & Donna Detar
Brian & Donna Tyler
30-Scott & Shauna Moser

**GOD’S SERVANTS**

**FLOWERS**
4-Stephanie & Jerry Goldsmith (S)
11-Ashlyn Jordan (S)
18-Open
25-Amy Schueneman (LH)
Martha Alward (S)

**OFFERING COUNTERS**
Wayne & Kim Love
Ron & Sharon Hurlocker

**STEWARDSHIP & ATTENDANCE**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Feb. 5</th>
<th>Feb. 12</th>
<th>Feb. 19</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. Worship</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m. Worship</td>
<td>214</td>
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<td>Faith Fields</td>
<td>18</td>
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Current Amount Owed to Bank for The Lighthouse. $1,989,348.29

Our loan payment is $11,472 per month.

Weekly amount needed for:
- Budget $11,002.51
- Building $2,868.00

The offering received each Sunday has many designations: Building fund, Youth, Missions, etc. Therefore, the amount shown is not the actual amount going into the budget each week.

IF YOU HAVE A BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH AND YOUR NAME IS NOT LISTED, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE @ 704-436-8845
Just Pray!

The Apostle said it best, “Is anyone of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call on the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (James 5:13-16). The emphasis is on prayer. Not the method but prayer. Pray during good times and pray during the troubled times.

As we focus our prayers this month, let us be in an attitude of constant prayer as we have been instructed. May we take serious our role in the church. Jesus corrected the Jewish leaders because they had forgotten the greatest of all principles. He said, “You have turned my house into a den of thieves. My house shall be a house of prayer.” How much do we pray? We seem too busy. We have our agendas but are we following the Lord? Are our decisions bathed in discerning prayer? Are we dealing with sin? Are we building relationships of trust that we can confess our sins to one another? Perhaps miracles are blocked because of a lack of repentant hearts! Our prayer wall may be in name only! Are we really seeking the heart of God? It is easy to feel our prayers do not matter. The evil one certainly hopes we have grown weary. I want to challenge you to be a person of prayer. Put prayer as a priority. Take time to study His word. What is it saying to you? Do not choose what you desire the word to say. Instead, allow it to speak to you. Are you taking time alone with God? Your walk depends upon it. As a church are we too busy? Where is God calling you? He has a place not of busyness but which will bear fruit!

Grace & Peace,

[Signature]

Easter Hams

Mt. Pleasant Food Ministry will be giving hams to all of our Food Ministry families for Easter.

If you would like to contribute, make checks to MPUMC and note “HAMS” on memo line.

STOP HUNGER NOW:

Plan to join us in the Lighthouse on Saturday, July 28th to package approximately 40,000 bags of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and vitamins to be sent to children in foreign lands to be served for school lunches.

Easter Cantata “In Christ Alone”:
Anyone who is not currently in the choir but would like to sing in the Easter Cantata, please contact Kevin - kdkurtz@windstream.net OR 704-497-3081
**Prayer Concerns from Staff Parish Relations Committee:**

Dear Congregation,

Pray that God will lay his hands on the United Methodist Church during this season of assignments.

As we celebrate our time shared with Pastor Mitch, the committee asks that you keep him and his family in your constant prayers. Their family has experienced many milestones in Mt Pleasant and it will be a big adjustment to make a move from here.

We ask that you also be in prayer for the pastor that will be sent to us this July. They also will be facing some of the same concerns and family issues as they prepare to relocate to an unfamiliar church family in an unfamiliar town.

Please be in prayer for our District Superintendent, Nancy Rankin, as she describes our church and its needs and desires in a pastor to the other district leadership team members.

As always, we should be in prayer for Bishop Goodpastor. It will be his responsibility to assign the pastors to the respective churches in a fashion that will enhance and further the church's work by following the Great Commission.

Pray for our awesome staff, the extraordinary work that they do, and their patient and unselfish families.

Let us pray for the understanding, patience, grace, and peace for ourselves and our neighbor along the new path.

Lift up Natalie Whitley, member of SPRC, in prayer as she plans and organizes appropriate and individually desired celebrations for our current and then new shepherd.

And let us come in prayer before Jesus Christ, as his humble servants, grateful for all the blessings He shares with us each and every single day.

And we say as one, AMEN.

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**FREE Upper Room by Email**

*The Upper Room®* daily devotional guide is the spiritual companion of more than 2.5 million people around the world. Each of the reader-written meditations encourages you to open your heart to God. Scripture readings and prayers included nourish your faith.

**How to Sign Up**

Sign up by choosing your world region to get the devotional at the right time for where you live. (If you would like to recommend the E-Mail Edition to a friend, please invite them to sign up for themselves. Send them a link to this page.)

After you have subscribed, you will receive an e-mail asking you to confirm that you would like to receive the emails from us. To begin your subscription, simply click on the link in the e-mail, or copy and paste that link into the address bar of your browser.

You're done. You'll start receiving your emails the next day.

Yes, we will still receive printed copies. This is an option for those that would rather have the digital version.
Groups of the Church

Martha Bigham Circle
meets the first Tuesday after the first Sunday each month at 6:00 pm in the parlor.

Mammogram Van
will be at Mt. Pleasant Family Physicians on March 1st.
Call 704-403-1729 to schedule an appointment.

FREE Training Sessions for Breast Self-Examination
Monday, March 5th 10-11am or 6-7pm
Monday, April 2nd 10-11am or 6-7pm
Call 704-403-7515 to register for this FREE class.

Homer Faggart Men's Group
We will have our monthly men's breakfast on Mar. 4th at 7:15am
in the Fellowship Hall.
All men of the church are encouraged to attend.

Come for Prayer & Healing
The Prayer & Healing Group meets weekly on Thursdays at 7pm in the sanctuary. Come pray for others and/or if you need prayers for your hurts and healing.
Everyone is welcome.

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Everyone is welcome.

Spring Ahead Sprint / Run for Hunger scheduled for Sunday, March 11th at Mt. Pleasant High School is open to all ages. We will have a 5K run, a two mile walk on the track and a one mile fun run for the children. We encourage everyone to be involved. Get a group together and walk as many laps on the track as you would like. Registration forms are available in the lobby of the Lighthouse, at Moose Pharmacy and other locations in town. You can also register at the track from 12:30 until 2:00 pm the day of the event. You can also register on line at www.active.com. Under Endurance choose Spring Ahead Sprint or MP Food Ministry and save money.

We will be giving hams to all of our Food Ministry families for Easter. If you would like to contribute, make checks to MPUMC and note hams on memo line.

Singles Alive (40+)
Singles Alive is a Small Group for those 40+ who are single, widowed or divorced. Bible study is the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm in the Lighthouse. Also, we have social outings once a month. If you are interested in joining this group or know someone who may be, please contact Wanda Taylor at 704-436-6563. You do not have to be a church member or attend MPUMC to come to this group.

Mark Your Calendar:
Sat., March 24th we will meet to go out and eat. More details will be in the bulletin closer to the date.

Moms in Prayer
(A group of moms praying for their children and the schools they attend) meets in Room L119 @ 1:00pm every Tuesday (unless schools are closed).
All mothers are welcomed!

Prime Timers (50+)
The Primer Timers will meet March 14th at 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. The J.W. Whitley men singers will bring the program. We will bring finger food for snacks. Drinks will be furnished. We will meet in the fellowship hall. Hope you can come and bring someone with you.
Mt. Pleasant Elementary School is gathering items for 125 “readiness bags” to give to children as they register for kindergarten this spring.

If you or your group would like to provide items for these bags, please bring them to the church office or give to Beth Smithson.

DEADLINE is March 4th.

Items Needed:
- child-size fiskar scissors
- crayons
- school glue bottles
- spiral or marble notebooks
- a reading book
- play-doh
- Packs of construction paper and copy paper are needed

Many have asked for this recipe from the Valentine’s Meal. It is Yummy!!!

STRAWBERRY JELLO PRETZEL DESSERT
Printed from COOKS.COM

**LAYER #1:**
- 2 c. crushed pretzels (grate in food processor)
- 3/4 c. butter, melted
- 3 tbsp. sugar

Mix above ingredients into 9 x 13 inch pan. Press flat onto bottom of pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 5 minutes. Let cool.

**LAYER #2:**
- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 c. sugar
- 8 oz. Cool Whip

Mix together until smooth. Spoon over pretzel layer.

**LAYER #3:**
- 2 (3 oz.) pkg. strawberry Jello
- 2 c. boiling water
- 2 (10 oz.) pkg. frozen strawberries

Mix strawberry Jello and boiling water together. Add sliced strawberries. Refrigerate for about 1 hour until slightly jelled. Pour carefully over cream cheese mixture. Refrigerate.

Mt. Pleasant Middle School 2011-12 FCA Club

It is one of the areas that our church supports by teaching, developing Christian leadership, and encouraging believers through the public schools.

We praise God for being given this opportunity.
Kidz 4 Christ Schedule:

**8:30:** Nursery  
All children preschool - 4th Grade will attend service. They will be dismissed with an adult after the Children's Sermon. They will participate in Traditional songs, traditional crafts, and a traditional Bible time that will focus on the Children's Sermon.

5th Grade: Will remain in Sanctuary with Parents

**9:45:** Nursery  
Preschoolers: Sonshine Station---Lil K Room F105  
K - 4th Grade: Room L102 Traditional Sunday School Class K-2 and 3-4  
Grapple: Room L116 5th Graders

**11:00:** Nursery  
Preschoolers: Sonshine Station  
Children's Church  
K-4th Grade: Room L102 K4C (Elevate)  
5th Grade: In Worship Center with Parents

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**Help Fill Easter Eggs**

Please pick up empty Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt to fill! We need your help to fill 6000 eggs! The eggs are located in the lobby of the Light-house! Please return them by Wed., April 4th.

(Remember chocolate will melt if it is a warm day)

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**Secret Keeper Girls**

SKG will meet:  
Sundays from 6- 7:30 for 1st - 4th Grade  
Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm 5th Grade Girls  
www.secretkeepergirls.wordpress.com

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**Boys Small Group: The Christian Boyz**

will meet Sunday night from 6:00 - 7:30pm  
ALL BOYS 1st - 5th Grade are invited to attend.

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If you are a mom of a preschooler, come join our group! We really enjoyed our time together last month. Come laugh, tell stories, and find out what God says about moms and how we can get all the help we need from Him!!!

This month's meeting will be March 27th at 6pm.
Sunday School Class for Girls
starting 3/4/12 for 8 week cycle.
Meeting in Church Office, Room L102
Stephanie Smyly Leonard, Teacher
Designed primarily for high school
girls and those in 8th grade, but
parents may use their own
discretion

Mark Your Calendar:
Wednesday April 11 @ 7pm -
Jesus Culture One Night of
Worship - Charlotte, NC - Ad-
vance tickets are now being
purchased $25.
Contact Bonnie immediately: bmcdonald3@ctc.net

Snowbird Mission Camp –
we are accepting names for our wait list. Total amount of mis-
mission camp is $295 with a $50 savings for 10 more registrants. Bal-
ance is due by June 1. All medical release forms can be obtained
at www.mtpleasantumc.net and must be submitted with the $100
deposit.

Want to sponsor a student for SWO Mission Camp? Simply mark your
check “Mission Camp” and place it in today’s offering. This will enable
every desiring student to attend.

Student Leaders Lake Retreat:
Friday, March 16-17; meet at church after school on Friday. All
food will be provided. We will return to the church after our
evening meal on Saturday.

YCI – Club Meetings at MPHS will resume on Thursday,
March 1 at 6:45am in Mrs. Grelecki’s room. Breakfast and
drinks will be provided. Invite a friend and let’s make a
new start together!

Confirmation Retreat:
Saturday, March 3 from 10am - 1:30pm at the home
of Elizabeth Biggers 3900 Hahn Blvd, Concord.
Please turn in $10 to the church office
by February 29.

Lighthouse Teams for March:
Friday 3/2 – Bob Krusinski, Captain; Frank Saubier, Flint & Bonnie
McDonald, Marty & Vicky Briggs.

Friday 3/16 – Sue Yates, Captain; Ronald Lee, Heidi Greeson, Chris
& Courtney McDaniel, Lynn Eagle.

Chaperones: Please arrive at 7:45pm and arrange your own substi-
tute if you cannot fulfill your commitment. Notify your team captain
by Thursday if you have arranged a sub. THANKS for serving :)
A Note from Our Missionaries

Please thank your congregation for your continued love and care for Judy and I here in PNG. Tell your folks that our God IS being brought glory here in this work. New Bible dedications are going on all the time in this country. I got a chance just a few weeks ago to drive across rugged country to receive a sea-shipment of brand new Bible translations and dictionaries and hymnbooks down at the port town of Lae. These had been printed in Finland and a small group of us [in one day] opened five crates & divided all the 3 types of books that were going to 2 separate language groups and readied them for air, boat and truck shipment out to the village where they were distributed and by God's grace, His name was brought glory as many people read [or were read to] the glorious words of the Christ the Messiah for the 1st time in the language they learned 1st.

Judy & I are doing well [actually, physically, Judy is under the weather this week ... so please pray for her]. Judy is now well into her 1st semester here teaching math in the International High School. I am getting my feet well set in the Housing Section of the Construction Department. There are about 350 missionary and PNG employee houses on this center. I take work orders daily for things in those houses that are broken or need renovation. Our dept. prioritizes the jobs and gets them completed as quickly as we can. There is NO shortage of work.... now that I'm beginning to understand the way things are done.

Love to all,
Dave & Judy Eddy
(sent 2/2/12)

The Hope Project

Special Announcement

We are so very thankful for your support of our ministry over the years. It is such a blessing to have loyal sponsors like each of you. We have been blessed to see our ministry in Nicaragua take off over the last few months. While we continue to work in Haiti on a smaller level than in the past, God is doing great things through the Hope Project in Nicaragua.

Because of our expansion into areas outside of Haiti, it is with great pride that we announce that Project 127 Haiti has officially became The Hope Project International! That's right, an official name change.

If you are wondering what that means for you, our supporters, not much has changed. From now on, please make sure your checks and donations are made out to The Hope Project and sent to the same address as before, PO Box 321 Harrisburg, NC 28075. That's it, pretty simple. If you give online through our website, you may continue to do so. You may do this through our new website: thehopeprojectinternational.org.

Please hang with us during this change. It should be pretty simple, but if you have any questions, send them to stephenhorne68@gmail.com.

Thank you and God bless!

Steve Horne
Director- The Hope Project Int.
Mt. Pleasant Food Ministry

Spring Ahead Sprint

5K Run
with Walk for Hunger
and Kid’s Fun-Run

Sunday, March 11th at 2pm
Registration opens at 12:30pm

Mt. Pleasant High School
Walker Road

Pick up forms in local businesses, Town Hall,
or register online at www.Active.com
Under Endurance, choose Running and search MP Food Ministry 5K

Hope to see you there!
Healthful Lives Healthy Futures News Flash

Many cereals are portrayed as being healthy when they are actually high in sugar content. When choosing a breakfast cereal, make sure to pick a product that has less than 6 grams of sugar per serving. Eating large amounts of sugar can not only cause excessive weight gain over time, it also can impede the body's ability to absorb vitamins and minerals, and cause blood sugar levels to rise sharply.

Some breakfast cereals we need to be careful of:
- Raisin Bran-19 grams of sugar!
- Kashi Go Lean Crunch- 13 grams of sugar!
- Frosted Flakes and Frosted Mini Wheats- 12 grams of sugar
- Cinnamon Toast- 10 grams of sugar
  **All of these cereals contain as much sugar as a candy bar!!**

Recommended Cereals:
- Cheerios (General Mills)
- Shredded Wheat (Post)
- Fiber One (General Mills)
- Grape Nuts (Post)
- Wheaties (General Mills)
- Total (General Mills)
- GOLEAN Cereal (Kashi)
- All-Bran (Kellogg's)
- Wheat Chex (General Mills)

Avoid these Cereals:
- Honey Smacks (Kellogg's)
- Corn Pops (Kellogg's)
- Apple Jacks (Kellogg's)
- Franken Berry (General Mills)
- Trix (General Mills)
- Eggo Cereal Maple Syrup (Kellogg's)
- Basic 4 (General Mills)
- Smorz (Kellogg's)
- Oreo O's (Post)
- Froot Loops (Kellogg's)
- Cocoa Puffs (General Mills)
- Count Chocula (General Mills)
- Waffle Crisp (Post)
- Reese’s Puffs (General Mills)
- Mini-Swirlz Cinnamon Bun (Kellogg’s)
- Frosted Krispies (Kellogg's)
- Cocoa Pebbles (Post)
- Fruity Pebbles (Post)
- Cookie Crisp (General Mills)
- Frosted Flakes (Kellogg's)
- Golden Grahams (General Mills)
- Lucky Charms (General Mills)
- Rice Krispies Treats Cereal (Kellogg's)