

Mission Statement of Mount Pisgah Church
Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church
is committed to **proclaiming** and **sharing** Christ,
ministering to others, and **growing** in Christian faith.

Opportunities this week at Mt. Pisgah

Sunday, December 25
Read Ephesians 3:14-21
Pick up—Mini Bus
Worship—11:00am

Monday, December 26
Read Romans 5:1-10
Office closed
Moms in Touch Prayer meeting—9:15am—Parlor
Venture Crew—7pm—Conference Room
Praise and Worship Rehearsal—7pm—Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 27
Read James 3:1-12
Office closed
Morning Prayer Group—8:00am—Conference Room
Girl Scouts #40185—5pm—Room 214
Cub Scouts—6pm—Upstairs classrooms
Divorce Discussion Group—6:30pm—Roundtable

Wednesday, December 28
Read Psalm 106:1-12
Staff Prayer Time—9am—Sanctuary
Girl Scouts—Lego League—6pm—Christians Under Construction
Covenant Disciple Group—7:30pm—Library

Thursday, December 29
Read Luke 11:2-4
Men's Prayer Group—6:45am
Boy Scouts—6:30pm—Upstairs

Friday, December 30
Read 1 John 4:7-16

Saturday, December 31
Read Joshua 1:1-9
New Year's Eve—Count Down—11am—Fellowship Hall

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. Ted Troutman, Senior Minister
Rev. Greg Light, Associate Minister
Rev. Donald Thomas, Associate Minister
Zoot McClure, Director of Student Ministries
Vaughan Long, Director of Children's Ministries
Karen Lecky-Springer, Director of Music and Worship Arts

PLEASE CONTACT US

Phone: 336-288-3321
Email: christympumc@bellsouth.net
Your email messages will be shared
with the appropriate staff member.

2600 Pisgah Church Road
Greensboro, North Carolina 27455

OUR SERVICES OF WORSHIP

8:30 and 11:00am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
9:45am The Mount, our Praise and Worship service—Fellowship Hall
A nursery is available for all worship services.

Additional Church Activities

Sunday School 9:45am each Sunday
United Methodist Youth 4:00—6:30pm on Sunday
Weekday School: 336-288-3335
Ivy Simmons, Director

PLEASE LET US KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

During this time of worship, the registration booklet will be
passed along your row. Please sign the form inside
giving all the information you are willing to share.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

www.mtpisgahgreensboro.org

LICENSES

CCLI Church Copyright License Number: 1102217
CVLI Video License Number: 503688156

Stay informed! Sign up to receive announcements concerning births,
deaths, upcoming events, etc. Call LuAnn at 288-3321 and give her your
email address and/or phone number. To receive the newsletter each
month by email, visit the "newsletters" link on the left column of our
website—www.mtpisgahgreensboro.org.

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**



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Christmas Eve
December 24, 2011
4:00pm

Lector: Dr. Ted Troutman

THE PRELUDE

Christmas Selections

Ryan Dovel, *guitar*
Meredith Cohoon, *flute*

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Lee Hall Family
Light the Advent Candle (st. 5—congregation) No. 2090
Light the Christmas candles, now: Sing of donkey, sheep, and cow;
birthday candles for the King, let the alleluias ring.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Dr. Troutman

EXPLANATION OF SERVICE

Vaughan Long

STORY OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Narrator—Donald Thomas
Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus—Karen, Craig and Chandler Springer
Angel—Sarah Helt
Innkeeper—Cory Wagner
Shepherds—Robert Barnette, Keith Burns, Eric Rhyne,
Andrew Zanard, Ryan Zanard
Wise Men—Robert Chou, Ryan Dovel, Chance Webb
Away in a Manger—Children's Choirs
What Child Is This—Avery Fountain, *soloist*

SINGING OF THE FOLLOWING CHRISTMAS CAROLS

DURING THE SERVICE (words printed on insert)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

(children dressed as **angels** come forward)

O Come All Ye Faithful

(children dressed as **shepherds** come forward)

We Three Kings of Orient Are

(children dressed as **wise men** come forward)

Joy to the World

OFFERTORY

*Presentation of the Offering

Children's Choirs

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the Source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in Your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is Your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of His suffering, death, and resurrection You gave birth to Your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. As Your word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so, on the night in which He gave Himself up for us, He took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By Your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through Your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy Church, all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*CANDLELIGHT HYMN *Silent Night* No. 239

(You will receive the light for your candle from the person beside you. To light your candle, tilt it towards the lighted candle which the person beside you holds erect, then turn to the person on your other side and light his/hers. On the last stanza, raise your candle above your head. Extinguish your candle immediately following the hymn and place the candles in the box by the door.)

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE *The First Noel* Cynthia Wall, organist

***The congregation is invited to stand as able.**

We want to express a special welcome to all of our guests, those of you who are new to us. Your presence means a great deal, and we hope that you will return. Our regular Sunday schedule:

Traditional Services in the Sanctuary 8:30 & 11:00 am

The Mount (Praise Service) in the Fellowship Hall 9:45 am

Sunday School 9:45 am

Tomorrow morning, we'll have only one worship service which will be at 11:00.

Don't Miss Our Sermon Series for the New Year!



January 8	Baptism	John 1.1-5, 10-14
15	Miracles	John 2.1-11
22	Salvation	John 3.1-21
29	Immorality	John 3.1-21
February 5	Sabbath	John 5.16-24
12	Sustenance	John 6.24-35, 51
19	Difficulties	John 6.60-71
26	Discipleship	John 10.1-11
March 4	Jesus is with us	John 12.1-11
11	Jesus is the Way	John 14.1-4, 18-19, 25-27
18	Connection to Jesus	John 15.1-17
25	Dealing with the world	John 15.18-16.4
April 1	Palm Sunday	John 12.12-16
6	Crucifixion	John 19.16-37
8	Resurrection	John 20.1-23

Shaking Hands—As we express fellowship through shaking hands and giving hugs, please remember that for some, the shaking of hands is painful. Folks with arthritis or other afflictions may find it difficult. If, during the passing of the peace or before/after the worship service, you see someone holding onto a hymnal or other item and not offering to shake, please let a word of greeting suffice instead of the customary handshake.

Please remember your church in your Christmas giving. As the year closes, the church is in need of funds to meet our budget and pay our obligations. If you are able to share, please give tonight or send a gift by Friday. Thank you.

The church office will be closed December 26 and 27.

Come Help Us Ring in the New Year!!!



This marks our 3rd Annual "Count Down to Noon" New Years Eve Party!

For the young and old alike this event is a sure fire hit! So, if you can't stay awake until midnight or your Mom & Dad won't let you... this party is for you.

Date: Saturday December 31, 2011

Time: 11:00 am - 1pm

Location: Mt. Pisgah, Fellowship Hall

Join us as we count down to "12 Noon" instead of 12 midnight with a 12 NOON balloon drop complete with party hats, noise makers, food and fun! Comedian/Magician David Lucas will once again be performing for us before our count-down begins and who doesn't remember his great balloon animals! Join us for all the FUN! Questions? Please contact Vaughan Long or Julie Godfrey.

2012 Offering Envelopes have been placed in the Narthex and in the hallway outside the Work Room. Pick yours up today!

ThuMBS Up in 2012—We struggle through our days, hoping to just survive, believing rest cannot be ours until we have more time or easier circumstances. The Bible, however, promises that rest is available now. Through a heart connection with Jesus we can find a rest that cannot be taken from us. In Sally Breedlove's book, *Choosing Rest*, discover the tools to help cultivate your soul so that you can live in the rest God wants for you.

Beginning January 12, 2012 the women's Thursday morning Bible study, ThuMBS Up, will be studying *Choosing Rest* by Sally Breedlove. You will want to participate in this study for Sally is our featured speaker for our Women's retreat March 30-April 1. Contact Molly King (MollyMKing@triad.rr.com or 288-0653) no later than December 29th to sign up for this study.

Women's Retreat—Save the date for our next Women's Retreat, March 30—April 1, 2012. The retreat will be held in Myrtle Beach at the Springmaid Beach Resort. Our speaker will be Sally Breedlove of Chapel Hill, NC.

From the Mt. Pisgah Endowment Fund Committee—Be sure that your estate planning documents are properly prepared. A homemade will can result in unnecessary expense and delay. When your documents are prepared, consider naming your church as a beneficiary.

The 2012 Flower Chart has been posted in the hallway outside the Conference Room. The cost is \$40.00 per arrangement. Don't forget to sign up to place flowers on the altar for that special birthday, anniversary or upcoming wedding before all of the dates are taken. Dates available are: February 5, 12, 19, 26, April 1 (Palm Sunday), 22, June 3, 10, August 12, October 21, 28, November 4, 25, December 2.

February newsletter articles are due **Friday, January 13, 10am**. The newsletter will be sent out around January 27. Do not submit articles for events occurring before January 27.

(Names will remain on the prayer list for up to 4 weeks. To update the prayer list, email LuAnn Christy at Ichristympumc@bellsouth.net or call at 288-3321.) Please remember in prayer: Week 1: Ashley and Justin Brown (friends of Ray and Sharon Comer), Rebecca Hansley. **Week 2:** Kyle Martin and family (friends of the Hathcocks), John Poer (son of John and Cathy Poer), Susan Jackson. **Week 3:** Babs Cox, Ray Owens (son of Lucy Oliver), Lib Boland, Inez Covert, Dick and Kathy White, Madlean Rogers (sister of Ellen Wheaton). **Week 4:** Sabra Thompson (niece of Dee Earl), Lee Ann Wood, Era Mae Ashley and Sarah Fraley (Abbotswood/Verra Springs), Lois Pickard.

We extend our love and sympathy to Zoot McClure and family upon the death of his uncle, Ralph McClure, on December 19 in Charlotte.

The poinsettia has been placed on the altar to the glory of God and in honor of Larry and Mary Ann Willoughby's 57th wedding anniversary on December 18.

Hunger... have you ever known "REAL" hunger? When there is no food in the cupboard, no money to go buy more and you struggle to keep the hunger pains away. Most of us will never know that kind of hunger, but it exists. Not only in our world but here in Greensboro. Please help us, as we get ready to host a 30-Hour Famine event March 2nd – 3rd, 2012.

More details will be coming soon, but here is what we have so far. This will be a two-day event, including 4 other churches. How can you help?

1.) In order to raise funds for this event and money to be donated to a local organization which helps eliminate hunger here in Greensboro (outofthegardenproject.org) we will be holding an auction, similar to the one the youth group did last year to raise money for the mission trip. Please donate items and services (with at least a \$50 value) to Zoot McClure & Meredith Cohoon to be used in the auction by Jan 8th, 2012. Some items already donated include a vacation beach house and a lake house rental!

2.) Bid on auction items. The auction will run from Jan. 15th – Feb. 5th and will end with a Sunday, Feb. 5th, 1 - 1:30pm Dessert/Final Bid "WAR" party in the Fellowship Hall. All the money raised will go to support this event and provide food for the Out of the Garden Project, backpack food for children program in Guilford County. If you don't find an item you are interested in bidding on, please consider giving a monetary donation.

3.) PRAY...Pray that this event will be well attended and will help raise awareness of world hunger as well as help us discern what God's will is for us to eliminate hunger here in Greensboro and abroad.

For more information or how you can get involved with this effort, please contact Robert Chou (robertbchou@aol.com) or Glenda Smith (ksmith6645@aol.com).

The Bible comes alive when you study with a world-class scholar and master teacher. Mt. Pisgah is now starting a study of the book of Romans conducted by Dr. Mickey Efird, professor at Duke Divinity School and teacher, for over 40 years, to new pastors. Dr. Efird has authored 13 books, but is perhaps best known for his warm, insightful, and sometimes humorous Bible studies conducted for thousands of Christians of all denominations. This 12-week study will begin Wednesday, January 4 at 6:30pm. Each participant will receive a fully detailed workbook that follows Dr. Efird's lectures, allows room for personal reflections, and contains questions for further discussion and exploration. For more information or to sign up, contact Greg Light at 288-3321 or wgreglight@gmail.com or sign up on the bulletin board outside the Volunteer's office.

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Advent Candlelighting Liturgy

Amy C. Wake
Christmas Eve

Reader: "While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger" (Luke 2:6-7).

Reader: Tonight, angels far and near sing tender lullabies; well-worn fabric full of years holds in the warmth of parental love; animals and shepherds crowd in tight, glowing with adoration, while a muffled cry squeezes out to greet the world.

People: Tonight we give thanks for every child among us. Each new birth -- regardless of circumstances -- reminds us of the preciousness of life, the potential of tomorrow, the promise of God.

Reader: On this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ candle for the child-King, the infant-Redeemer, the lowly-Lord. And now we know . . . He is born and nothing will ever be the same!

Hymn:"Light the Advent Candle," Stanza 5, *The Faith We Sing*, 2090
Light the Christmas candles now: Sing of donkey, sheep, and cow;
 Birthday candles for the King, let the alleluias ring.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
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Alpha

Dear Friends,

Next year we continue an evangelistic and educational program here at Mt. Pisgah that we are a huge believer in called The Alpha Course. Alpha is a ten week practical introduction to the Christian faith that comes from Holy Trinity Brompton Church (Anglican) in central London. The Alpha Course has spread around the globe with 50 million participants in over 150 countries. The Alpha course helps local churches of any denomination actually do evangelism and also creates an environment for spiritual renewal within our faith communities. Here at Mt. Pisgah we believe that The Alpha Course is a common starting point beyond attending worship. The Alpha Course provides the church with a clear starting line for the journey of faith.

The Alpha Course comes in all shapes and sizes. It could be a half dozen people meeting in a home or workplace, or as large as several hundred participants meeting in one large room. Each Alpha session consists of a shared meal, a 30-minute talk on a Christian essential and a small group experience to discuss what they heard. Alpha is a safe place to ask questions without threat of being made to feel stupid. At the end of Alpha, participants celebrate by inviting friends and family to come and learn through talks and testimony what Alpha is and to invite them to join the next course. We will be offering The Alpha Course two more times this year at Mt. Pisgah.

The Alpha Course Spring start date begins with The Alpha Celebration Dinner Sunday, Jan 8th, 2012 at 6:00pm. Our classes begin Wednesday night, Jan. 11th for 10 weeks with our Holy Spirit Retreat Friday night and Saturday morning, Feb. 17th & 18th.

It is a perfect entry point for a person who visits the church for the first time who wants to take a next step to go deeper on their journey of faith. Or if you already know about The Christian Faith, this course will help you define and strengthen your Christian walk. "Start with Alpha." To learn more about The Alpha Course, visit www.alphausa.org or contact members of the Evangelism Team; Dianne Chou at 336-580-3178, Steve Woodard at 336-314-8217, Donald Thomas at 336-847-5894. You can also call the church office here at Mt. Pisgah, 336-288-3321, ext. 227 or Donald Thomas at dthomaspumc@bellsouth.net.



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Luminary Dedications

In Memory of:

Claude Lewis

By: Margaret Lewis

Helen Wall

By: Jerry & Cynthia Wall

Viola Powell

By: Jerry & Cynthia Wall

Summie Powell

By: Jerry & Cynthia Wall

Ed & Betty Foster

By: Jim & Ronda Foster

Arvia Mallonee

By: Jim & Ronda Foster

Roy & Evelyn Angel

By: Ernestine Beal

Melvine Angel Adams

By: Ernestine Beal

Pamela Anne Turner

By: Elsie Turner

Betty Vaughn

By: Cathy & John Poer

Coy Collins

By: Betty Collins

Marie Holman

By: Betty Collins

Dell T. Webb, Jr.

By: Anita & Lisë Webb

Tommy Nelson

By: Jodie Nelson

Paul Motley

By: Michael & Janet Bowen

Rex & Lena Bowen

By: Michael & Janet Bowen

Pansy Statler (My Mother)

By: Crystle McKinnon

Harold Statler (My Father)

By: Crystle McKinnon

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By: Ernestine Beal

Melvine Angel Adams

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Pamela Anne Turner

By: Elsie Turner

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Jim Yow
By: Ned & Ann Jones

Carleen Hunsucker
By: Ned & Ann Jones

Rev. Dan Stowe
By: Ned & Ann Jones

Chu Swaney
By: Ned & Ann Jones

George Reynolds
By: Varina Reynolds

Wesley Reynolds
By: Varina Reynolds

In Honor of:

Inez, John & Jo Lynn Covert
By: Ned & Ann Jones

Katelyn Reed (Our Granddaughter)
By: John & Anita Beard

Keith Reed (Our Grandson)
By: John & Anita Beard

Johnny Beard, V (Our Grandson)
By: John & Anita Beard

Mt. Pisgah Staff
By: K. W. Smith

Evelyn Motley
By: Michael & Janet Bowen

Vincent Wall
By: Jerry & Cynthia Wall

Todd Vance's Birthday (Jan. 21)
By: Larry & Dianne Vance

Mt. Pisgah Bus Drivers
By: Abbotswood Bus Riders

**The John Covert Family
(for all their years of service to Mt. Pisgah)**
By: Margaret Lewis

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