

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.

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 Record of Our Faithfulness

Past four weeks budget received:	\$80,822.87
Budget received year-to-date:	\$912,784.71
Budgeted year-to-date:	\$975,196.50

Opportunities this week at Mt. Pisgah

Sunday, December 25
Read Ephesians 3:14-21

Pick up—Mini Bus
 Worship—11:00am
 The Gathering—11am—Parlor

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

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



Mission Statement

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 to proclaiming and sharing Christ, ministering to others
 and growing in Christian faith.

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Christmas Day
December 25, 2011
11:00am

Lectors: Rev. Greg Light and Rev. Donald Thomas

PRELUDE *Mary Did You Know* arr. Burger
Cynthia Wall, pianist

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND ADVENT WREATH

WELCOME, PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT *He Is Born* Trad. French Carol

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The presents are all unwrapped,
 People: **The batteries are on their way to being run-down.**
 Leader: Christmas trees were burning brightly this morning.
 People: **Still, one present glows even brighter --**
 Leader: The Child in a manger with heavenly light.
 People: **Christmas continues the whole year round**
 Leader: Whenever love and kindness fill our hearts.
 People: **Whenever Christ is born each day within us!**
 Leader: So gather your wits and sing loud and heartily!
 All: **Christmas is here, praise be to Christ!**

***HYMN** *Once in Royal David's City* No. 250

OPENING PRAYER

God of manger and star, open us to the depths and heights of your incredible love which comes through humble stories and glorious songs. Speak to us in word and music and lift us to the realms of glory. Amen.

PRAISE AND PROCLAMATION

CHILDREN'S TIME

Molly King

*HYMN

The First Noel

No. 245

SERVICE OF INFANT BAPTISM

No. 39

*HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

No. 238

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. ³You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder. ⁴For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. ⁵Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory st. 3

No. 220

(Please remain seated, pray while singing)

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;

seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

THE WORD FROM THE PEOPLE

Dr. Troutman

How Have You Seen Him?

RESPONSES AND OFFERINGS

*HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

No. 224

PRAYER CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

Away in a Manger

Murray

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Pie Jesu

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Karen Lecky-Springer and Caroline Yates, *soloists*

*Presentation of the Offering

*Doxology *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* st. 6 No. 236

All Glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace,

Good will hence forth from heaven to earth

Begin and never cease, begin and never cease.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN

Joy to the World

No. 246

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

Weissel

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE

Gloria

arr. Barnes

Cynthia Wall, organist

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

A Nursery is provided for children (infants through four years old). Exit the doors near the front of sanctuary. Go down the short hallway and turn right. The nurseries are at the end of the hall.

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

We are baptizing Chandler Luke Springer, the infant son of Karen Lecky-Springer and Craig Springer. Chandler was born on August 16, 2011. May the Lord continue to bless them and hold them close.

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 today or send a gift by Friday. Thank you.

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.

There will be no youth activities this week.

The church office will be closed December 26 and 27.

Missives from Mt. Pisgah—Ted is now sending messages weekly (at least) over email. These messages (missives) deal with practical and theological matters which are of interest to our community. If you are not receiving the missives, please email LuAnn Christy (lchristympumc@bellsouth.net) and she will put you on the list.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Partnering for better mental health—Chrysalis Counseling & Consultation Center of Greensboro has partnered with Mt. Pisgah to offer counseling for those wishing to find more joy and happiness in their life. If things are not going well in your daily living and you or someone you know wants help in making it better, contact Brenda Rose, 285-8806 for a confidential appointment.

*(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:** 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.

Altar Guild: 8:30—Sandra Wegner and Glenda Burkett; **11:00**—Dianne Vance. **Prayer Chain:** Call Pat Schaaf, 292-5088 or LuAnn Christy, 288-3321. **Greeters: 11:00**—TBA. **Nursery: 11:00**—**Infants:** Connie Roethlinger; **2 ½ - 4 Years:** Dana Hall. **Ushers: 11:00**—Bill Apple, Bob Vaughn, John Cranford, Wallace Wilson.

If you would like to greet at the 8:30am service, please contact Robbin Smith Ferguson at 855-9856 or rogedal@aol.com. If you would like to greet at the 11:00am service, please contact Jennifer Benfield at 298-7290 or Mbenfield@triad.rr.com.

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).

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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

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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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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.



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.

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