### Contact us: Rev. Dr. Richard Herbster (724) 544-5572/rherbster59@gmail.com

December Care Elder and Deacon available Rich Pierce (724) 601-8502, Elder Nadine Duncan (412) 973-4574, Deacon

Director of Children and Family Outreach: Holly Garland (412) 853-3591; hlgarland1@hotmail.com

Director of Youth Ministry: Laura Given (724) 312-2127; Imgiven@comcast.net

Assistant Director of Youth Ministry: Katie Pierce (724) 513-7951; Katherine.Mallick@gmail.com

Church Office (724)-495-6462 Child Care Office (724)-495-3334

Email: info@mpchurchpa.org Website: www.mpchurchpa.org

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youtube.com

"Mt. Pleasant Church PA"

#### **Elders**

Steve DeLong John Garland

Mike Given

Diane Luther

Rebecca Matsco

Lennie Miller

Nina Parrish

Rich Pierce

Jared Rogers



#### **Deacons**

Jamie Ashcroft
Joyce Butler
Ron Campbell
Nadine Duncan
Jan Garland
Vicki Gielata
Karen Herman
Lorna Tarquinio
Drew Vinisky



# Worship Service

**Preparatory Worship** 

Advent Reading & Candle Lighting See insert for the Congregation's Response

**Prayer of Invocation** 

\*Praise Through Song

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

New Member Reception: Janet & Michael Grosso

Minute for Mission: Kid's Club/Holly Garland

\*Doxology #623

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

\*Hymn #200 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

\*\*The children will proceed to Children & Worship during the hymn.

Scripture: Isaiah 6
Sermon "Holy! Holy! Holy!"
By Pastor Rich Herbster

\*Hymn #188 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

\*Benediction and Recessional

\*Congregation will stand

\*\*Children from ages 3 to 2nd grade are welcome to attend Children & Worship

A nursery is available for children under the age of 3.



#### WORSHIP/SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:45am—Coffee/Fellowship 9:00am—Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am—Worship Service

#### THE KID'S CHOIR CHRISTMAS PLAY:

Come join us TONIGHT at 6pm for the Kid's Choir Christmas Play: "The Fumbly Bumbly Angels." Refreshments will follow.

#### **LIVE NATIVITY:**

Mill Creek EPC of Hookstown, Hanover Presbyterian Church and Hookstown Free Methodist Church are participating in a Live Nativity on December 17th from 6:00pm until 8:45pm at the Historical Village at the Hookstown Fair Grounds. There is no cost to drive through; however, we are asking if you are able to please donate a non-perishable food item to help our food cupboard.

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE SPECIAL OFFERING:**

The special offering taken at this year's Christmas Eve services will benefit the Mosaic Church, a church plant of our presbytery, located in New Brighton. We pray for Pastor Eric and Hope Prinkey and for the work they are doing to extend the gospel in our community.

#### **BIBLE DONATION:**

To support our neighbors seeking the Word through Mosaic Community Church, we are collecting new and gently used Bibles through January 1st; especially Children's Bibles. Bibles can be placed in the designated box found in the sanctuary. We thank you for sharing your love of the Word with His people!

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## Advent Reading

This week's Advent Reading is led by: Susan & Jeff Weil with Grandson, Colton Weil

Leader: John asked Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

Congregation: Jesus said "The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear."

Leader: The dead are raised and the poor have good news brought to them. Blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.

Congregation: "Truly I tell you, no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater then he."

Leader: We light the first candle of Advent to remind us to keep awake and be ready. We light the second Advent candle to remind us to change our ways. We light the third Advent candle to remind us of the good news that the blind can see and the lame can walk.





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#### **HONDURAS MISSION TRIP:**

Anyone wishing to go on the next mission trip to Honduras, please fill out and return the information form with \$100 deposit by December 15th. The dates are from January 20th—February 3rd, 2023. Total cost of the trip is \$1,500. See Lennie Miller, Kevin Lander, Bill Kendall or Diane Luther for more information.

#### **CATECHISM HELP AT YOUR FINGERTIPS:**

Is your family looking for additional support to learn catechism questions or memorize Scripture? Need some help keeping up with your kids? Try the games and prompts at <a href="www.learnscripture.net">www.learnscripture.net</a>, where you can "Choose verses" or "Browse catechisms" and choose the Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English (last in the list) and even track your progress!

#### "SLOW CHURCH" CONVERSATION STARTERS NEEDED:

From January 1 through March 19, one of our two Adult SS classes will explore a book, "Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus" with a different facilitator each week. Would you like to lead or co-lead the discussion one Sunday? You'll get the book and study questions to get the conversation going; just contact Rebecca Matsco, 724.494.2409. Look for more details on "Slow Church" and "Samson", the other adult class, in a few weeks!

#### \*Prayer List

Kate Adams	Ed Jestat	Christine Olszanski	
Micki Addison	Karla Jestat	Barbara Paterick	
Alice Allison	Sarah Kane	LaVern Pence	
Tom Allison	Judy Kearns	Charlie Phillips	
Bill Bosley	Mike LaPata	Barb Rupert	
Joann Brooks	Alycia Lyons	Rowena Seigle	
Bill Coon	Rich Martsolf	Darla Stiteler	
EPC in Sierra Leone	Iris McConn	Jonathan Walters	
Nora Jean Gardner	Diane McCracken	Pastor Wang Yi	
Pat Gray	Tim Moody	Lisa Zahn	
Dolores Herron	Jack Moore		
MaryKaye Hock	Jack O'Neill		

Bereavement: Ed Drake Family, Servando Guervara Family, Hattie

Hunsinger Family, Ruth Statler Family

Weekly Mission Focus: Outdoor Immersion (Jim Skal)

**Special Prayer Focus:** Dan & Courtney

**Praise:** Piper Jo Bruce (Mike & Kim Bruce)

"...pray for each other..."

James 5:16

#### **Weekly Westminster Shorter Catechism**

#### Q12. What did God's providence specifically do for man whom He created?

Answer: After the creation, God made a covenant with man to give him life, if he perfectly obeyed; God told him not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil or he would die.

Weekly Memorization Verse: Genesis 2:16-17

Semester Scripture memorization: Psalm 8

#### Keep them in your thoughts by sending a card...

Tom & Alice Allison	Mary Davy	
182 Calhoon Road	137 Kennedy Road	
Aliquippa, PA 15001	Hookstown, PA 15050-1705	

Freda Buck

4260 Tuscarawas Road **Dolores Herron Beaver Meadows** Beaver, PA 15009-9137

**Pat Gray** Beaver Valley Nursing & Rehab

Room 20

257 Georgetown Road Beaver Falls, PA 15010

Aliquippa, PA 15001

Virginia Mihalik 3940 Patterson Road

5130 Tuscarawas Road

Room 409

Beaver, PA 15009-9507

#### **Phyllis Miller**

606 Frankfort Road Monaca, PA 15061

#### **TITHING REPORT**

	GIVING	NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
LAST WEEK	\$10,685	\$7,957	\$2,728
YEAR TO DATE	\$438,963	\$389,869	\$49,095



#### 2023 Sunday School

Sunday School at Mt Pleasant includes offerings for the whole family from 9-9:50 AM every Sunday morning.

All classes are Bible-based and reinforce memorizing the Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English.

#### LET THE CHILDREN COME

At Mt Pleasant, our kids spend their Sunday school time learning the Westminster Shorter Catechism and memorizing God's Word through songs, games, and discussion. Fun tools connect them to each other, to great truth and to the God of the Bible! Meanwhile, adults learn how we can all interact with the kids to get them — and keep them! — excited about this learning.

We invite your child to one of our K-12 classes:

- Age 3-K—Teacher Becky Smeltz
- 0 1st-2nd Grade—Teacher Carol Olson
- o 3rd-4th Grade-Teacher Bethie Pierce
- ♦ 5th-6th Grade—Teacher Holly Garland
- Jr/Sr High—Teachers Paul & Brenda Schaefer

Every family in our congregation receives its own copy of "Training Hearts,

Teaching Minds", a great interactive family devotional based on the Shorter Catechism. If your home doesn't already TEACHING
MINDS
STARR MEADE

practice household worship, this is a great way to start — and it ties in directly with what your children are learning in Sunday School! Enjoy time together and how to engage your home team in learning God's truth.

#### ADULT Sunday School - Winter Term

Adult classes vary, offering Scripture study and Christian living topics, as well as different learning styles. Adults can also expect each class to be Bible-based and to reinforce memorizing the Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English. All adults from post-High School and beyond are welcome in any class.

#### Union Gospel Adult Bible Class — Gathering Room

Workbook study with Bill Enders

Union Gospel Curriculum is designed to lead adults ages 26 and up to a deeper knowledge of Bible truths through detailed lesson exposition. These inspirational lessons encourage Scripture study and involvement in the Sunday school material. The class meets year-round and members choose a service opportunity to bless the church or community each year.



# SAMSON

The Life of Samson — Room 121 Video & discussion with Jan Garland

A man of incredible physical strength and debilitating moral weakness, Samson was nevertheless God's instrument to rescue Israel from the Philistines during the era of the judges.

In light of these contrasts, we are faced with this key question: What, exactly, are we to make of Samson and his place in the Lord's purposes? In this series, Dr. W. Robert Godfrey considers the life of Samson, highlighting vital theological lessons and exploring what this judge tells us about Christian living.

### Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus — Room 123

Group discussion with rotating facilitators

In the beginning, the church ate together, traveled together and shared in all facets of life. Centered as they were on Jesus, these seemingly mundane activities took on their own significance in the mission of God. In Slow Church, we're invited to leave franchise faith behind and enter into the ecology, economy and ethics of the kingdom of God, where people know each other well and love one another as Christ loved the church.



