

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

Liturgist: Mark Stefanni
Liturgist: Rick Pierce

August Care Elder and Deacon available
Jeanne Cox - (304) 670-1053, Elder
Jill Rupik (724) 498-5247, Deacon

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

Director of Youth Ministry: Holly Garland
(412) 853-3591; hlgarland1@hotmail.com

Church Office (724)-495-6462
Child Care Office (724)-495-3334
Email: info@mpchurchpa.org Website: www.mpchurchpa.org

Like us on Facebook!



Watch the Sunday Service live on
 **YouTube**
youtube.com
"Mt. Pleasant Church PA"

Elders

Jeanne Cox
Brian Davis
John Garland
Diane Luther
Joel Matsco
Rick Pierce
Richie Pierce
Jared Rogers
Paul Schaefer



Deacons

Jeff Butler
Jeff Duncan
Rich Hecht
Karen Herman
Pamela Mason
Bruce Parrish
Bethie Pierce
Jill Rupik
Tammy Symanowicz



August 23, 2026

Worship

Preparatory Worship

Call to Worship: Jeremiah 23:5-6

"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn #131 This is My Commandment (1st service)

*Praise Through Song (2nd service)

Confession of Sin

(Congregation recites aloud.)

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Service

Assurance of Pardon

Baptism: Robyn Leigh Kerr, Isabella Nicole, Kerr &
Chloe Jennifer Kerr (2nd Service)

*Doxology #623

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn #131 This is My Commandment (2nd service)

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

Scripture: Acts 15:1-35

Sermon: "Godly Council"

By Pastor Rich Herbster

*Hymn #128 Family of God

*Benediction and Recessional

***Congregation will stand.**

****Second Service Only:** *Children ages 3 through 1st grade are welcome to attend Children & Worship. A nursery is available for children under the age of 3.*

Announcements

WELCOME TO MT. PLEASANT!

We are glad that you have chosen to join with us in worship today.

If you are visiting for the first time, or have visited before but would like more information about our church, please fill out a blue visitor card (located in the back of the pews) and indicate how we may serve you.

If you need assistance at any time during the service, please notify an usher who will be happy to help.

If you desire special prayer or spiritual counsel, please meet with our Elders in the front of the sanctuary immediately following the service.

Assisted Listening Devices to aid those with hearing deficiencies are available in the Sound Booth at the rear of the Sanctuary. Please see one of our staff in the booth prior to the Call to Worship to get set up.

WORSHIP/SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

First Worship Service - 8:30am

Sunday School (all ages) - 9:40am

Second Worship Service - 10:30am

MINISTRIES FOR EVERYONE

Women's Fellowship - Tuesday - 1:00-2:30pm

The Way Youth Group - Tuesday - 6:15pm

Ask A Nurse - Every 2nd Wednesday - 10am - Noon

Wednesday Evening Bible Study - 6:30pm

Kids' Choir - Wednesday - 6-7pm (will resume in the fall)

Young Adult Bible Study - Thursday - 7pm

The Lydia Stitchers (sewing group) - 1st & 3rd Fridays - 9am-3pm

Men of Faith Breakfast - Every 3rd Saturday - 8-10am

Christian Child Care - Monday through Friday - 6am-6pm



Senior Luncheon (ages 55 and up)
Next week—Sunday, August 30th

Fellowship Hall—After the second service
Hosted by the Deacons

If interested in attending, please sign up
in the Narthex by 8/23/26.



BECOME A MEMBER OF MT PLEASANT THIS FALL



Join the upcoming Belonging Class: An Invitation to Mt Pleasant
The classes will begin September 6th during the 9:40am Sunday School hour, over 12 weeks. Session Elders will lead the class on an exploration of who we are and what we believe, preparing you to become a member of our church family. Direct your interest and questions to Pastor Rich, Elder Brian Davis or Clerk of Session, Elder Jeanne Cox.

*Prayer List

Tom Cogis	Denise Lander	Lou Staigvil
Tara Davis	Vivian Leonberg	Laine Turner
Beaux Debord	Jay Mayhue	Aubrey Ward
Mark Friday	Bill McElhaney	Donna Weatherby
Josh & Sarah Grosso	Deb McElhaney	Pastor Wang Yi
Holly Quigley Hamilton	John Newcomb	Todd Williams
Beth Knapp	Christine & Tony Olszanski	Lisa Zahn
Robyn Kerr	Rowena Seigle	

Weekly Mission Focus: Wycliffe Bible translators (Beth Knapp)

Special Prayer Focus: Youth Ministry Team

God's Guidance & Care: Our troops and their families

Praise: "Back to School Prayer Walks"

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

James 5:16

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



Mary Archer

7468 Arden-Nollville Rd.
Martinsburg, WV 25403

Ruth Ann Hysong & May Hill

901 State Route 18
Aliquippa, PA 15001

Evelyn Lyle

111 Mowry Rd.
Monaca, PA 15061

Pat Gray

Guardian Nursing & Rehab
Room 120
257 Georgetown Road
Beaver Falls, PA 15010

Deb & Bill McElhaney

167 Cain Rd
Hookstown, PA 15050-1319

TITHING REPORT

	GIVING	NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
LAST WEEK	\$10,487	\$11,072	\$-585
YEAR TO DATE	\$376,702	\$365,376	\$11,326

HONDURAS MISSION TEAM PRESENTATION

The Honduras Mission team will be present an account of their trip on September 20th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Tacos, fruit and drinks will be served. Some of the team will report on the work and experiences they all had.

All are welcome to attend!

YOU'RE INVITED... to join our Youth Ministry Team! We are looking for Tuesday night volunteers, monthly mentors, special event helpers, and meal providers! Come share your spiritual gift in this very important Kingdom Work!

If this is you... RSVP to Holly Garland 412-853-3591.

2026-27 School Year Prayer Walk

Please join us for the 4th annual School Kickoff Prayer Walk at South Side School. We will meet the night before school starts, Sunday August 30, at the flagpole, in front of the school at 5 p.m. Using a map of the campus we walk to several different points and at each point pray for specific aspects of the school community (teachers, students, coaches, bus drivers, etc.). We circle the campus and return to the flagpole by 6 p.m. where those who can't walk around may meet up for the final closing time of prayer. All are invited and encouraged to join this great way to start the school year. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jefferson Ellis from Hanover Presbyterian at 724.899.2911.

GRIEF SHARE GROUP

Grief Share is a grief recovery support group. We invite those grieving to join us in healing with Nina Parrish.

The fall Grief Share program will begin a new 13-week study on September 8, 2026. Meetings are every Tuesday afternoon from 3:00pm—5pm through November 17th 2026 and will meet in the Gathering Room.

If interested in attending, please complete the registration form which is available in the Narthex and drop it off in the office.

Save the Date:

We have a very busy Fall coming up at Mt Pleasant Church and we'd like everyone to be able to attend all our church events.

Please **“Save the Date”** for the following:

October 3rd & 4th	150th Celebration
October 18th	Pastor Appreciation
October 25th	Missions' Soup and Sweets Event & Congregational Meeting
October 31st	Trunk or Treat

ATTENTION:

The Communicycle Scrap Trailer will no longer be available in our parking lot. You may take bikes and scrap metals to their shop in Monaca, which is located at 1214 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Old Fashioned Revival & Gospel Sing-Along,

Tuesday, August 25, 2026, 6 PM

@ "The Historic Village, Hookstown Fairgrounds, 6:00 PM

Welcome: Pastor Jefferson Ellis, Hanover EPC

SING along with Songs by the Mt. Pleasant Praise Team

Featuring: Pastor Rich Herbster with a short message from

South African minister, Andrew Murry's (1828 – 1917) devotional entitled "God Looks at the Heart".

SING: Featured songs Mt. Pleasant Praise Team

Featuring: Elder Rich Pierce with a short message based on the famed American preacher, Johnathon Edwards' (1703 - 1758) devotional entitled "Holy Spirit a Fountain of Holiness and Joy.

SING: Featured songs Mt. Pleasant Praise Team

Featuring: Pastor Olzsewski with a short message from D.L. Moody's (1837 – 1899) devotional entitled "Fruits of Faith"

SING: Featured songs Mt. Pleasant Praise Team

CLOSING SONG : Led by Andy Janicki on harmonica. #1 Amazing Grace

PRAYER: Pastor Ellis

Sponsors: SSHVA, Mill Creek Church, Hanover Church, Mt. Pleasant Church, and many cherished friends.

Sound: Gary, Mt. Pleasant Praise Team Shelters: Jeff Butler



All are invited to join us for our annual church picnic following our second Worship service on September 13th!

You are welcome to bring a side dish to share!

We will be serving up ice cream for dessert!

Enjoy a petting zoo and other fun activities!



2026 Fall Sunday School

FALL IN! Sunday School at Mt Pleasant includes offerings for the whole family at 9:40 AM every Sunday morning.

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

Tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. Psalm 78:4

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 Micki Addison, Room 118
- ◇ 1st-2nd Grade—Teacher Carol Olson, Room 117
- ◇ 3rd-4th Grade—Teacher Jen DeLong, Room 115
- ◇ 5th-8th Grade—Teacher Holly Garland, Room 110
- ◇ 9th-12th Grade —Teacher Joel Matsco, Youth Garage

ADULT Sunday School Post High School and beyond

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. Nursery is offered during the Sunday School hour to help our parents and to teach our youngest children!

September 6th

Fall Kickoff for all Sunday School Classes



Belonging: An Introduction to Mt Pleasant — Room 122

Led by Session Elders

Whether you are new to our fellowship, seeking membership at Mt Pleasant, or you have been here awhile and want to understand us better, you are welcome to join in a conversation with other believers and church leaders about belonging to God's family and getting connected within our congregation. This course is required preparation for membership.

Jesus in Genesis — Room 121

Handouts & Discussion with Sharon Ashcroft

Is Genesis about Jesus? Yes, it is. Learn about where and how the Jesus of the New Testament is present in Genesis with clear, concrete and connected examples. Let's find Him together !



Union Gospel Adult Bible Class — Gathering Room

Workbook study with Bill Enders

Union Gospel Curriculum leads adults ages 26+ to a deeper knowledge of Bible truths through detailed lesson exposition. Each lesson also features sections dealing with practical points, research and discussion, questions, and a study of the week's golden text. Inspirational lessons encourage Scripture study and involvement with the material. The class meets year-round; members choose an annual service project.



Dinner for Eight

It's time again for "Dinner for Eight"-an opportunity here at Mt. Pleasant Church to get to know one another better.

Groups of 8 (4 Couples, or 2 couples and 4 singles, etc.) will meet for dinner once a month for 4 months. The group will gather at one group member's home one month, another's home the next month, and so on.

The host provides the main course; the others bring side dishes and dessert. If someone is unable to host a gathering in their home, the group can meet twice in another's home.

Individuals are encouraged to participate and may sign up alone or with a friend with whom they would like to attend. "Dinner for Eight" will run from September to December. Your group will schedule your own dinner dates/times during these months.

You can submit this form by dropping it in the offering plate or returning it to the church office.

NAMES: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Dinner for Eight

It's time again for "Dinner for Eight"-an opportunity here at Mt. Pleasant Church to get to know one another better.

Groups of 8 (4 Couples, or 2 couples and 4 singles, etc.) will meet for dinner once a month for 4 months. The group will gather at one group member's home one month, another's home the next month, and so on.

The host provides the main course; the others bring side dishes and dessert. If someone is unable to host a gathering in their home, the group can meet twice in another's home.

Individuals are encouraged to participate and may sign up alone or with a friend with whom they would like to attend. "Dinner for Eight" will run from September to December. Your group will schedule your own dinner dates/times during these months.

You can submit this form by dropping it in the offering plate or returning it to the church office.

NAMES: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

GRIEF SHARE

Grief Share is a free program open to our church community and neighbors experiencing grief from the loss of a loved one. The program begins with a 30 minute video and workbook studies allowing for a daily Bible devotion and open discussion. The fall Grief Share program will begin a new 13-week study on September 8, 2026. Meetings are every Tuesday afternoon from 3:00pm—5pm through November 17th 2026 and will meet in the Gathering Room.

If interested in attending, please complete the registration form below and drop it off in the church office. Additional registration forms are available in the Narthex.

If you have any questions, please contact

Nina Mazzei Parrish: 724-683-9972.

GRIEF SHARE REGISTRATION Fall2026

Name: _____

Contact number: _____

GRIEF SHARE

Grief Share is a free program open to our church community and neighbors experiencing grief from the loss of a loved one. The program begins with a 30 minute video and workbook studies allowing for a daily Bible devotion and open discussion. The fall Grief Share program will begin a new 13-week study on September 8, 2026. Meetings are every Tuesday afternoon from 3:00pm—5pm through November 17th 2026 and will meet in the Gathering Room.

If interested in attending, please complete the registration form below and drop it off in the church office. Additional registration forms are available in the Narthex.

If you have any questions, please contact

Nina Mazzei Parrish: 724-683-9972.

GRIEF SHARE REGISTRATION Fall2026

Name: _____

Contact number: _____