

## Theme: “New Life— New Hope”

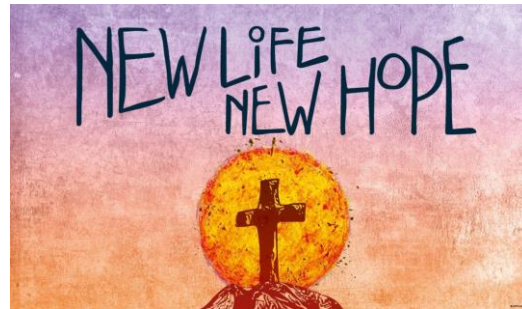
“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.’”

(John 11:25) (NKJV)

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### *FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK . . .*



(John 11:25) (NKJV)

*Greetings Mount Pleasant Family,*

John, chapter 11 begins with a certain man who was sick named Lazarus from Bethany. He was the brother of Martha and Mary whom Jesus loved. Jesus was away and by the time He arrived at Bethany, Lazarus was dead and had been in the tomb for four days. Both Martha and Mary blamed Jesus for their brother’s death saying, “Lord if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead so that Martha, Mary, the other Jews with them and the disciples may believe He is the resurrection and the life; and that whoever believes in Him [Jesus] shall never die.

The world has been given the opportunity to have a new life and a new hope. Because a loving God, who loved the world sent His only begotten Son [Jesus] to give us, believers in Jesus Christ, a new life in Him. And because of Jesus Christ’s resurrection from the dead, we have a new hope that we will be resurrected as well. OMG! God, thank you for the assurance that we will live with you forever in eternity.

*Have a blessed Resurrection Day and happy spring!*

# MPBC Connect

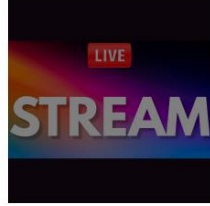
Visit our website at [www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org) to stay connected.



Give Online



Bulletin



Live Stream



The Hearts Cry Podcast

# Inspirations

## April Knows by Sister Nia Dobbs (MPBC)

If you knew nothing good  
And things aren't understood

April Knows  
April Knows

If you had to ask how  
And don't know when to wow

April Knows  
April Knows

I just wanted April rain  
And I need a touch sane

April Knows  
April Knows

Can I know April props?  
And all types of apricots

April Knows  
April Knows

Can I dance?  
Can I sing?  
Can I make April bling?

April Knows  
April Knows

Is it April, is it time  
Is it April feeling fine

April Knows  
April Knows

April Knows, April Knows  
Can an April even glow?

April Knows  
April Knows



**Theme: "Ministry on the Move" (Philippians 3:14)** →

Dear Ministry Member and Fellow Christian,

*Greetings to all!*

We pray that all is well. Please know we are here for you. We ask for your continued prayers and thank you for your continued support. We need you! If your address and/or other pertinent information has changed, please send Sister Anita Johnson, MPBC Church Clerk, an email to [clerk@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:clerk@mtpleasantbc.org). The following are planned events for 2024. As always, if you have any suggestions, please let us know.

- Movie Night
- Gospel Shows
- Zoom Game Night
- Social Day
- Community Outreach Projects

We want to extend a welcome to our new ministry members and greetings to ministry members who have celebrated and/or are celebrating a birthday, wedding anniversary, retirement or any other celebratory event in March, April and May.

God bless you, continue to keep safe.

Deacon Karl Henderson, Deaconess Karin Henderson and Deacon James Cook  
Ministerial Team: Minister Myra Cook. Minister Angela Sheppard and Minister Kimberly Veney  
(Prince William/Stafford/Spotsylvania/Caroline Counties and Lorton (PWSSC&L) CCM)

—Thought for the spring—

“Don’t wait for someone to bring you flowers. Plant your own garden and decorate your own soul.”



# Word Search



## Spring Is Here

F G T A D P O L E P X C D I J  
W G H A T C H P I M K H G C Q  
S E V A E L V L H S H I N R H  
Z H M A Y E U A N U T C I O J  
M A R C H T B Y J N R K R C O  
E B M S P R O U T S I G P U H  
S G N I L K C U D H B B S S L  
B U T T E R F L Y I O P J L S  
J V J X S T O O B N I A R B R  
M N I B O R F F J E R Q H H E  
O B M A L E A S T E R J R L W  
O F R U D Z P U D D L E J I O  
L D L I D O F F A D U T N R L  
B W T S M O S S O L B F V P F  
L A D Y B U G O W O B N I A R

- APRIL
- BEE
- BIRTH
- BLOOM
- BLOSSOMS
- BUTTERFLY
- CHICK
- CROCUS
- DAFFODIL
- DUCKLINGS
- EASTER
- EGG
- FLOWERS
- HATCH
- LADYBUG
- LAMB
- LEAVES
- MARCH
- MAY
- PLAY
- PUDDLE
- RAINBOOTS
- RAINBOW
- ROBIN
- SPRING
- SPROUT
- SUNSHINE
- TADPOLE
- TULIP



# MPBC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

## Notes & News

SPRING 2024 EDITION



### THANK YOU!

A special thanks to all who attended and supported MPBC FCU's 23rd Annual Meeting held virtually on February 26th. Congratulations to all winners of the prize drawings! We look forward to seeing everyone for next year's meeting!

### TAX DAY REMINDER

Don't forget! The filing deadline to submit 2023 federal tax returns and pay tax owed is Monday, April 15, 2024. This is also the deadline to file for a tax extension. Remember, a tax extension gives you more time to submit your return, not pay your taxes.

### LOANS AVAILABLE

Are you in need of a low-interest loan? Look to the Credit Union first for your small loan needs. Apply today for an MPBC FCU Signature loan up to \$10,000.

### NATIONAL FINANCIAL CAPABILITY MONTH

April is National Financial Capability Month. The observance focuses on financial literacy to ensure that Americans have access to unbiased and trustworthy financial education and understanding of financial services and products. No matter where you are on your financial journey, you can increase your financial capability. Here are some simple ways to do so:

1. **Ask for help.** If you need help financially, immediately contact your credit union or bank, landlord, creditors, etc. to work out payment arrangements.
2. **Check your credit.** Pull your credit report once a year to make sure the information is accurate, complete, and up to date.
3. **Beware of fraud and scams.** Learn how to recognize common scams, protect yourself and your money, and take action if you think you are a victim of fraud.
4. **Create and refine your budget.** A budget provides a clear view of your income and expenses to help live within your income, prioritize saving, and meet financial goals.
5. **Learn something new.** Research financial topics you are interested in and make informed decisions.

To learn more about Financial Capability Month and access helpful resources, visit:

- [MyCreditUnion.gov](https://MyCreditUnion.gov)
- [MyMoney.gov](https://MyMoney.gov)
- [ConsumerFinance.gov](https://ConsumerFinance.gov)

We are YOUR Credit Union. Thanks for your business.

### OPERATION STATUS

The Credit Union is open for business on Sunday mornings! Operating hours are from 8:45 AM - 10:00 AM.

Weekday appointments can be made available by request.

### CONTACT US:

**MPBC Federal Credit Union**  
P.O. Box 11146  
Alexandria, VA 22312

(703) 256-4802

[mpbcfcu@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:mpbcfcu@mtpleasantbc.org)

[www.mtpleasantbc.org/credit-union](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org/credit-union)



## MPBC Members In Action

The Falls Church Outreach Committee, led by sisters Denise Mackie-Smith (MPBC) and Bryanna Johnson, primarily provides services to the Bailey’s Shelter & Supportive Housing community, which is part of New Hope Housing. In order to assist the residents and their most urgent needs, this committee collaborates with New Hope Housing personnel and local organizations to organize quarterly activities. Residents received a hot meal, coats, jackets and toiletries during the October 2023 Fall Festival. Residents enjoyed dinner, soup, and a shopping experience where they could choose from a variety of clothing items, shoes, blankets, backpacks, undergarments and more during the January 2024 MLK Day of Service event. Upcoming events include the April 2024 luncheon and the June 2024 summer festival.

Please see the Falls Church Outreach Committee photos below:



The Falls Church Committee members and volunteers preparing dinner for the residents of New Hope Housing. (Sister Debbie Coles (MPBC) is also shown in the picture.)



The Falls Church Committee co-chair, Sister Bryanna Johnson, and MLK Day of Service volunteers.



The Falls Church Committee co-chair, Sister Denise Mackie-Smith and a New Hope Housing Board of Directors representative.





Waddy'a mean?  
That wasn't **you**  
who just said  
"Good morning"?

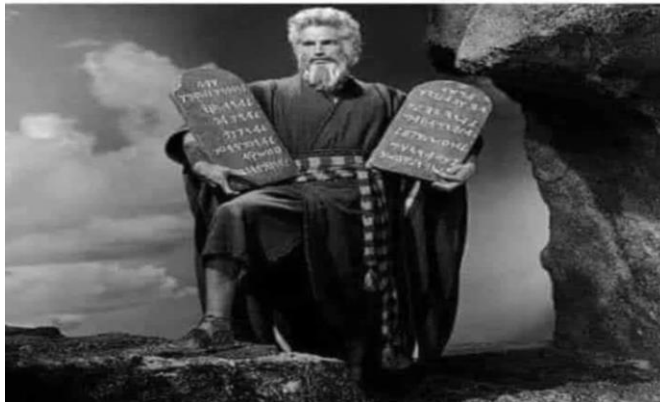
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04-22-2011

YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE HIM ... HE'S  
NEW TO THE FAITH AND THIS IS HIS  
FIRST EASTER

So technically Moses was the  
first man to download files  
from the cloud using a tablet.



CLAUDE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
THERE ARE SOME  
QUESTIONS THAT  
CAN'T BE  
ANSWERED BY  
GOOGLE



STONEBRIDGE  
CHURCH OF GOD  
HONK IF YOU LOVE  
JESUS TEXT  
WHILE DRIVING IF YOU  
WANT TO MEET HIM  
SUN. SCHOOL 10:00 AM      SUN. WORSHIP 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM      WED. 7:00 PM

Pastor Floyd Ingram



READ THE BIBLE.  
IT'S USER FRIENDLY  
PLUS WE OFFER TECH  
SUPPORT HERE ON  
SUNDAYS AT 10-30



## **"New Life-New Hope"**

by Minister Linda Hayes (MPBC)

John 11:25 the fifth of the seven "I am" statements of Jesus declares, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live." A dual promise of giving us hope of life after death is part of a conversation between Jesus and Martha, the sister of Lazarus, whom Jesus raises from the dead. As Christians we believe in the resurrection, that we have eternal life through Jesus Christ, and that the physical death is not the end for believers, but rather a passage to a new form of life. It is a message of hope and security.

Jesus' statement that He is the resurrection and the life provides a godly perspective on several spiritual matters. Because of his divine nature Jesus is the source of both. There is no resurrection or eternal life apart from Christ. Jesus' statement places a personal emphasis on human salvation.

In the conversation of John 11:25, the writer reflects the disposition of Martha. She is both heartbroken and resigned over the death of her brother. She is confident that her brother will see eternal resurrection. But Jesus must help her understand that He is not referring to a future resurrection. He was referring to the present resurrection in the person to whom she was speaking. Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He confirms His role in salvation as he comforts her, and she responds by affirming Him as the Messiah. The promised deliverer of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible. Jesus is regarded by Christians as the Messiah of the Hebrew prophecies and the savior of humankind.

The verse is a reminder that nothing in the life of a Christian happens without a purpose and every event that takes place, whether good or ill, is used by God for our spiritual growth and eternal benefit. The focus of this discussion is how we can acquire "new life-new hope" by first inviting Jesus into our heart. The core of your life changes when He becomes the very center of your life. When He comes to dwell in our hearts, he is taking possession of that which is rightfully His.

Ephesians 3:14-19 reads, "<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, <sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, <sup>17</sup> that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— <sup>19</sup> to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

- ♥ **Hear** —Open your ears to hear God's Word. Faith, hope, and love are the central realities in the life of a disciple. (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- ♥ **Expect**—Jesus was a promise of God's victory, who rose from the dead and conquered sin, death and evil. (Hebrews 10:23-25)
- ♥ **Anticipate**—Life may present unexpected obstacles (challenges). Exercise godly wisdom. Pray to be strengthened with power. We mature and grow in truth as we grow in life. (Ephesians 3:14-21)
- ♥ **Relationship**—Strengthen, change, and embrace a new relationship with him daily.  
The cross of Jesus challenges us to rethink our understanding of God, ourselves, and others. It reveals our need for God's grace, which frees us from our guilt, shame, and fear. It reveals our hope in God's future, which assures us of his presence and power in our lives. (Psalm 119:18-50)
- ♥ **Transfer**—Spread the Good News to others. Churches need to be centers where we are practicing the things of God that will enable us to take God's character and become the light that shines in darkness. Churches are for discipleship. And discipleship is for the world. Total surrender to God enables you to have a different presence in the world. You can see the reality of God's kingdom in real life. (Matthew 28:19-20)



# MPBC Events



**7 OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE CROSS  
LAST WORDS**

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2024 / 7 PM

JOIN US FOR THIS IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE!

PRESENTED BY MPBC MINISTERS  
Doors Open @ 6:30 PM

Meeting ID: 927 0088 4459 | Passcode: 821463

MINISTER MINISTER MINISTER MINISTER MINISTER MINISTER REVEREND



**YOUNG ADULTS  
WORSHIP  
THROUGH SERVING  
THE UNHOUSED!**

DAY OF SERVICE! ★★ ★

**Hands and Feet  
Campaign Bag Assembly**

The Hands and Feet Campaign is an outreach event sponsored by HUDO SGA. Our goal is to disseminate bags filled with essential items to unsheltered people in the DMV.

A night of worship where we gather to assemble the bags amidst prayer, praise, and worship.

Howard University School of Divinity  
2900 Van Ness ST NW, Washington, DC 20008

Friday, April 5th, 2024  
6:30 - 8:30PM

6477 LINCOLNIA ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312  
PHONE: (703) 256-1268  
REV. DR. CARL M. JOHNSON, PASTOR

WWW.MTPLEASANTBC.ORG



**MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH**  
6477 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria, VA 22312  
Rev. Dr. Carl M. Johnson, Pastor  
www.mtpleasantbc.org

Sunday, March 31, 2024 | Service at 10 AM

**The Benefits of Easter!**

Philippians 3:10

Meeting ID: 839 1117 9608 | Passcode: 240341



**DISCIPLESHIP  
Classes**

NEW CLASSES  
NOW FORMING!

2024 Class Dates  
to Be Announced!

INVITING ALL INTERESTED MEN & WOMEN  
REGISTER BY SUBMITTING YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- ✓ GROW IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST
- ✓ INCREASE YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE
- ✓ LEARN GOD'S PURPOSE AND WAYS
- ✓ APPLY GOD'S TRUTHS TO YOUR LIFE

CONTACT:

BRYANT BLACK  
AWONDER53@OUTLOOK.COM

ROBERT SMITH  
RSMITH111@VERIZON.NET

FIRST LADY ROBIN JOHNSON  
SECRETARY@MTPLEASANTBC.ORG



The Women's Ministry presents...

**Embrace  
YOUR DIVINE  
PURPOSE**

Discovering God's Plan For You

PASTOR ROSE BONNER

WEDNESDAY  
**APRIL 3, 2024**  
7:00PM

Meeting ID: 839 4117 3282 | Passcode: 082504

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." - Ephesians 2:10



**SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM 2024**

Applications and supporting documents must be submitted to Billy.Gregory@mtpleasantbc.org

for more info  
www.mtpleasantbc.org

2024-2025 AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- ✓ Cesa Gordon Distinguished Graduate
- ✓ Florence L.A. Jones Scholarship
- ✓ Savings Bond Award
- ✓ Scholarship Application
- ✓ Tuition Assistance Application

Electronic submissions only.  
Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

APPLICATION DEADLINE  
**APRIL 16, 2024**



**Join Us for  
FAMILY FRIENDS  
Day**

Sunday  
April 7, 2024  
SUNDAY SCHOOL | 9:00AM  
MORNING WORSHIP | 10:00AM

First Lady ROBIN JOHNSON | Pastor REV. DR. CARL M. JOHNSON

www.mtpleasantbc.org



Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

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www.mtpleasantbc.org

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# Public Safety Alert

For more information on Fentanyl, go to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) website.

The screenshot shows the DEA website with a prominent banner that reads "ONE PILL CAN KILL" in large, bold, white letters against a dark background. Below the banner, there are statistics for "DEA Fentanyl Seizures in 2023": 75,600,000+ Millions of Fentanyl Pills Seized and 11,503+ lbs. Pounds of Fentanyl Powder Seized. A warning icon (a red triangle with an exclamation mark) is visible on the left side of the page, next to the text "Public Safety Alert". To the right of the warning icon, there is a graphic showing 10 pills, with 7 of them crossed out with a red 'X', indicating that 7 out of 10 tested pills are potentially deadly.



Brightly-Colored Fentanyl Used to Target Young Americans.



# Ministry Opportunities

*“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand ...”*

**Ephesians 2:10**

**Audio/Visual** — Assistants — contact Church Office

**Church School** — Teachers — contact Sister Yvonne Bush

**Grief Share Ministry** — Members — contact Sister Denise Mackie-Smith

**Health and Wellness Ministry** — Nurses — contact Sister Phyllis Jordan

**Nursery Ministry** — Helpers — contact Sister Allie Hollister

**Youth Ministry** — Teachers — Youth Bible Study — contact Reverend E. Chris White, III

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY (CCM) by DEACON, DEACONESS, MINISTERIAL STAFF and ZIP CODE**

|   |   |   |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Pastor<br><b>Johnson</b>  | John<br><b>White (MD)</b><br>Jessie<br><b>LeCount-White</b><br>Jerry and Rosie<br><b>Brown</b><br>Marcia<br><b>Gilbert-Gregory</b><br>Annette<br><b>Colclough</b><br>Min. Derrick<br><b>Allen</b><br>Rev. Vonda<br><b>Batts</b><br>Rev. Dwight<br><b>Cokely</b> | Karl and Karin<br><b>Henderson</b><br>James<br><b>Cook</b><br>Min. Myra<br><b>Cook</b><br>Min. Angela<br><b>Sheppard</b><br>Min. Kimberly<br><b>Veney</b> | Jerald and<br>Faye <b>Stark</b><br>Maurice<br><b>Evans</b><br>Gloria<br><b>Giron</b><br>Min. Myron<br><b>Euille</b><br>Min. Leticia<br><b>Watson</b><br>Min. Stephanie<br><b>Gillus</b><br>Min. Eldred<br><b>Williams</b>         | Carlton<br><b>Brown</b><br>Amanda<br><b>Brown</b><br>Dalton<br><b>Martin</b><br>Min. Linda<br><b>Hayes</b><br>Min. Percell<br><b>Spinner</b> | David Evans<br>Mattie<br><b>Charles</b><br>Michael and<br>Sylvia<br><b>Hardy</b><br>Min. Henrietta<br><b>Nelson</b><br>Min. Penni<br><b>Ford</b>                 | Barry<br><b>Newsome</b><br>Glenn<br><b>Blackwell</b><br>La'Tonia<br><b>White</b><br>Rev. Chris<br><b>White</b><br>Rev. Margaret<br><b>Barr</b> | John and<br>Barbara<br><b>White</b><br>Edward<br><b>Robinson</b><br>Rev. Cornella<br><b>Carter-Taylor</b>                   | Kenneth and<br>Rita<br><b>Jackson</b><br>Averil<br><b>Tomlinson</b><br>Robert<br><b>Brooks</b><br>Sherri<br><b>Morgan</b><br>Rev. Brian<br><b>Morgan</b><br>Min. Mark<br><b>Miller</b><br>Min. Jackie<br><b>Wrice</b> | James and<br>Jean<br><b>Watson</b><br>Michael<br><b>Wilson</b><br>Susie<br><b>Taylor</b><br>Rev. Jessie<br><b>Reynolds</b> |
| <b>Deacons,<br/>Deaconesses,<br/>and<br/>Family</b>   | <b>DC and<br/>Maryland</b><br>All Zip Codes   | <b>Prince<br/>William<br/>County</b><br>(excluding<br>Manassas and<br>its independent<br>cities)  | <b>Centreville</b><br><br><b>Chantilly</b><br><br><b>Manassas</b><br><br><b>Sterling</b><br><br><b>Nokesville</b><br><br><b>Herndon</b><br><br><b>Reston</b><br><br><b>Fauquier,<br/>Warren,<br/>and<br/>Loudoun<br/>Counties</b> | <b>Alexandria</b><br>22312   | <b>Ft. Belvoir</b><br>22060<br><br><b>Alexandria</b><br>22301<br>22302<br>22303<br>22305<br>22306<br>22307<br>22308<br>22309<br>22310<br>22313<br>22314<br>22315 | <b>Alexandria</b><br>22304<br>22311  | <b>Arlington</b><br>All Zip Codes<br>22201<br>22202<br>22203<br>22204<br>22205<br>22206<br>22207<br>22209<br>22211<br>22212 | <b>Burke</b><br>22015<br><br><b>Fairfax</b><br>22039<br><br><b>Springfield</b><br>22150<br>22151<br>22152<br>22153  | <b>Annandale</b><br>22003<br><br><b>Mclean</b><br><br><b>Merrifield</b>  |
| <b>Out of Town<br/>Members</b>  |   | <b>Lorton</b><br>22079<br>22199   |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| Ronald<br><b>Hampton</b><br>Marilyn<br><b>McPherson</b><br>Karen <b>White</b><br>Josephine<br><b>Byrd</b><br>Min. Carl<br><b>Hollister</b><br>Min. Aleia<br><b>Taylor-Ellington</b> |   | <b>Stafford,<br/>Spotsylvania,<br/>and Caroline<br/>Counties</b>  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>Falls Church and<br/>Baileys X-roads</b><br>22041<br>22042<br>22043<br>22044<br>22046  |   |   | <b>Fairfax</b><br>22030<br>22031<br>22032<br>22033<br>22037<br><br><b>Vienna</b><br>22180   |  |  |  |   |   |  |

**Updated February 2024**



**Mount Pleasant Baptist Church**  
6477 Lincolnia Road  
Alexandria, Virginia 22312  
(703) 256-1268  
*Rev. Dr. Carl M. Johnson, Pastor*



*email: [secretary@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:secretary@mtpleasantbc.org)  
web site: [www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org)*

### **MPBC Messenger Staff**

|                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Karin Henderson | Editor-in-Chief/<br>Designer |
| Eloise Clarke   | Editor                       |
| Anita Johnson   | Editor                       |
| Debbie Coles    | Church News Reporter         |
| Linda Hayes     | Staff Writer/Contributor     |



## **VIRTUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE — APRIL 27, 2024 @ 5:00 PM**

### **Vision Statement**

A Church “Growing by Grace.” (2 Peter 3:18)

### **Mission Statement**

“To grow a congregation of believers committed to the ministry of Worship, Evangelism, Missions, Discipleship, Service, and Fellowship with a heart for Prayer, Bible Study, and the Great Commission.” (Matthew 28:19–20)

### **Theme**

“Revealing God’s Glory!” (Isaiah 40:3-5)

Submission of articles to the **Messenger** — Please send articles via email attachment to:  
[mpbcnewsletter@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:mpbcnewsletter@mtpleasantbc.org).