The first Sunday in October has been designated as a liturgical feast day known as World Communion Sunday in celebration of our oneness with Christians and people of faith throughout the world. World Communion Sunday was born out of the ecumenical movement in the 1930s. It was a response to both the devastating violence and horror of World War I and the growing nationalist fervor in Europe and America. Our ancestors and elders in the faith created this special day as a sign of unity and peace among all Christians in the face of denominational, ethnic, and nationalistic divisions. It became a rallying cry of hope and peace for the followers of Jesus around the world to come together as one body in the midst of global crisis and uncertainty. On World Communion Sunday, we participate in the practice of Communion in solidarity and unity with millions of other Christians in the hope that by partaking of the one bread and the one cup, we might become one as Creator, Christ, and Spirit are one.

Christianity is an international faith and the global church is a multi-ethnic community. This World Communion Sunday at Myers Park Baptist, we are celebrating our solidarity with Christians around the world by honoring and remembering our ancestors who immigrated into this country generations ago; our migrant brothers and sisters in the faith who travel across borders in search of a better life; and those displaced by war, violence, and economic disaster who are living as refugees.

This past summer, our Youth Choir and Youth Fellowship Group traveled to New York City and participated in a seminar on immigration, including a visit to Ellis Island. During this two-day seminar, they learned about the history of immigration in the United States. Many of our youth were able to pinpoint when their own relatives immigrated here. They were privileged to hear from undocumented immigrants about their personal struggles, and to serve alongside people who work directly with refugees in the Washington Heights neighborhood. Through the El Nido project, they helped sort clothing, put together high chairs, label infant formula, and organize an office in addition to many other activities to benefit immigrant mothers. At the end of their service, El Nido provided a wonderful lunch for our youth. Because it did not feel right for El Nido to host them, they put together funds from their own pockets to reimburse the cost and added a little extra to benefit the mission. Some of our youth will share their experiences from the trip during worship on World Communion Sunday.

Also this summer, 23 of our members went on an Immigration Pilgrimage that followed the path of a migrant in Charlotte detained by ICE. They visited the Charlotte Immigration Court and journeyed to York County Detention Center, where detainees are held until they can be transported to Lumpkin, GA. From there they traveled to Atlanta, where they met with folks involved in the sanctuary movement and leaders from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (Global) who were on the border during the child separation humanitarian crisis, and who are now working for immigration reform. They went to Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin where they met with Amilcar Valencia. He is the sole employee of El Refugio, a ministry of hospitality – the only one of its kind – in Lumpkin. Valencia regularly meets with detainees and coordinates visits with the men who call Stewart their temporary home. Throughout their journey, our pilgrims heard stories that sounded more like nightmares of how the justice system plays out for America’s immigrants. Staggering statistics and consistent tales of inhumane treatment left them all feeling that they must bear witness to what they have seen and heard.

During the World Communion Sunday service on October 7, our youth and pilgrims from these summer immersion experiences will lead us in worship.

The Youth and Chancel Choirs will lead us through hymn texts with familiar tunes chosen from a collection entitled “Singing Welcome: Hymns and Songs of Hospitality to Refugees and Immigrants,” offered through The Hymn Society of the United States and Canada. The offertory anthem, chosen especially for World Communion Sunday, will be “Freedom Trilogy” by Paul Halley, an English-born composer who served as the organist and choirmaster at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC from 1977 to 1989. “Freedom Trilogy” wedds Gregorian chant, Swahili, and “Amazing Grace” into an exciting setting scored for choir, piano, organ, bass, drums, percussion, and solo. We are pleased to be welcoming Bethany Wherry as our soloist.

May this World Communion Sunday be a continuation of the spirit of its original intention—a rallying cry for hope, peace, unity, and solidarity in the midst of a fractured Church and a broken world.
The first Sunday of this month, on October 7, we will gather for lunch and a congregational meeting in Heaton Hall just after worship. As you know, our congregation gathers three or four times each year for congregation-wide meetings. I look forward to seeing each one of you there. A sampling of what we plan to cover that day includes:

- an update on Church finances and a presentation regarding our 2019 Church budget (we'll vote on the budget as a congregation on a later date, so that all of you have time to review it and ask questions);
- an update on the process that our newly-formed search group is following while searching for a new Minister of Music and Worship to serve our Church following Fran Morrison’s retirement next spring;
- an update regarding our Cornwell Center and the recent selection of a new Director who will start in mid-October; and
- a check-in regarding where we are, as a congregation, with regard to some of what we recently called the “big rocks”—the big or important tactics in our strategic plan that many of you have asked about, shown interest in, and supported.

Come one, come all for this opportunity to gather as the body of Christ—a body with many members, each member bringing different gifts, but one body just the same. I’ll see you there.

Jesus in the 21st Century and Awakening the Body Present:

Rev. Dr. Eboni Marshall Turman

October 12-14

By Rev. Chrissy Williamson

The first two years of the Awakening series led us down paths of understanding racial bias, the power of whiteness, and the privileges of citizenship in this country. In this third year, our focus on Awakening the Body is an opportunity to look at the intersection of several factors—namely race, class, and gender—that marginalize individuals in our society.

The weekend of October 12–14, Rev. Dr. Eboni Marshall Turman will lead us in a series of lectures entitled “At the Intersection: Race, Class, and Gender.” During her time with us, we will learn from her expertise in the areas of womanist theology (theology from the unique perspective of black women) and liberation theology (theology that understands God’s work in the world to be bringing freedom to the oppressed). Turman is one of the foremost thinkers and teachers in womanist theology, creating new language to describe and define the unique position of black women in today’s world—a position of double marginalization at the intersection of racism and sexism. Turman’s theological work is also deeply connected to her earlier life as a professional dancer. In fact, she is using her experience as a dancer to help create new language to describe the sacred dance of black women’s bodies in their daily lives, something she calls a “womanist aesthetic.”

To prepare for the weekend with Eboni Marshall Turman and to help you get to know her better, Ben and I have created a YouTube watch list (see www.myersparkbaptist.org/event/eboni-marshall-turman) and will publish two special episodes of the Theology Upstream Podcast dedicated to Turman and her work. In the first episode, you’ll hear Ben and me discuss these videos and Eboni’s work. In the second episode, we will interview Eboni herself! If you have any questions about how to listen to these episodes, call Tom Jones in the Church office.

Register for the weekend ($10 covers both Friday and Saturday) online on the Church website, www.myersparkbaptist.org.

Friday, October 12
7:00 – 8:30p | Heaton Hall
Lecture followed by Book Signing

Saturday, October 13
8:30am | Heaton Hall
Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 11:30a | Heaton Hall
Two-Part Lecture Series with Q&A

Sunday, October 14
9:45 – 10:45a | Heaton Hall
Adult Forum
11:00a | Sanctuary
Worship - Rev. Dr. Eboni Marshall Turman preaching

www.myersparkbaptist.org
By Rev. Carrie Veal and Rev. Ben Boswell

Are you involved in the Church? Would you like to go deeper? If so, we invite you to take the next step on your journey of faith. Over the last several months, lay leaders and the senior staff have been having meaningful conversations around engagement. We know that we all want and need to be more engaged in our lives— but we also know there are so many distractions that pull us in so many directions.

Often it can seem challenging to become more engaged at Church. Where do you start? We hope that these “Five Invitations” will lay out a clear path for deeper involvement in the life of our Church. Many of you will find that you are already doing all five of these things on a weekly basis and that is fantastic! We are incredibly grateful for the way so many of you selflessly and sacrificially give of your time, talents, and treasure to the Church. We firmly believe that we have very dedicated and capable volunteers and lay leaders. But, we’ve also been challenged by some in our community who have asked us questions like, “What does the Church expect from me?” “What does it mean to be a member?” “Can you articulate what you need from us?” and “How do I become more involved?”

As we began to think through these questions, we realized that we do have expectations and responsibilities of ourselves and one another. This is what it means to live in community together. The expectations or responsibilities we have to one another in community have been a focal point of conversation among our leadership, both ministerial and laity. After much discussion and conversation, we created the “5 E’s” to describe what it means to be deeply involved in the life of our community. We hope that these five invitations will be a road map for your journey of faith at our Church and into the world. Each of these offers all of us an invitation to become more invested in the life of the Church, each other, and God and to be our highest and best versions of ourselves—our true selves. The language was born from our Strategic Plan and each invitation starts with the same letter so that they will be easy to remember:

**Embrace** God and others through worship and community.

**Expand** your heart, mind, body, and soul through formation and education.

**Empower** the Church by the giving of your financial resources.

**Engage** in service to the Church and outreach to the city.

**Embody** the love, justice, and compassion of Jesus in the world.

Over the next few months you will hear the staff share how you can live into the “5 E’s.” We will give you specific invitations and opportunities. As we do, we encourage you to reach out to Carrie so she can help you find the perfect place to plug in, be engaged and connected, and use the unique gifts God has given you. Everyone has the same expectations, but they will be lived out differently. Think of a tapestry - each individual thread comes together to create a beautiful work of art. Our goal is that every member and active congregant will give three hours each week: one for **embrace**, one for **expand**, and one for **engage**. Along the way, we expect and hope that everyone will **empower** the Church through financial giving on a regular basis and **embody** the love of Jesus throughout the world, as ongoing activities in their daily lives.

**Five Invitations Sermon Series**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Scripture</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Preacher</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>Mark 10:35-45</td>
<td>“An Invitation to Engage in Service”</td>
<td>Rev. Ben Boswell</td>
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<td>October 28</td>
<td>Mark 10:17-31</td>
<td>“An Invitation to Empower the Church”</td>
<td>Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman</td>
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<td>November 4</td>
<td>Mark 12:28-34</td>
<td>“An Invitation to Embody Love”</td>
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<td>November 11</td>
<td>Mark 12:13-17</td>
<td>“An Invitation to Expand Your Mind”</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 18</td>
<td>Mark 12:38-44</td>
<td>“An Invitation to Embrace Worship”</td>
<td>Rev. Ben Boswell</td>
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**By Rev. Chrissy Williamson**

If you’ve been by room 258 lately, you may have noticed the inviting atmosphere, the comfy furniture, or (if you’re lucky) you may have even been greeted by Julie Marr and Lisa Cashion, co-creators of Soul Studio. Soul Studio is a resource for us here at MPBC to encourage soul awareness through programming, workshops, and spiritual direction. You are invited to drop in any Monday from 12-1 to say hello and experience a bit of soul care on-the-go. Or, consider taking part in a brand new opportunity for MPBC members called Soul School.

**Soul School** is a pilot program for anyone wanting to connect more deeply with that holy place inside where love resides. Think of it as a 6-week rendezvous with the soul! You’ll meet once a week for an hour and a half to explore how to recognize and respond to God in everyday life. To learn more or to RSVP for an upcoming session, please email juliemarr@soulstudiotclt.com.

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**Myers Park Baptist Church**
Navigating MPBC

Sundays, October 21, 28 and November 4
9:45 - 10:45 a | in the Parlor

By Rev. Carrie Veal

Navigating MPBC offers guests and new members a chance to learn more about the Church and how they can become engaged. Here is a peek at what the upcoming three weeks will look like:

WEEK ONE:
Embrace God and each other through worship and community life.
Expand your heart, mind, body, and soul through formation and education.
In this session we will meet one another, share part of the Church’s story, and talk about how members Embrace and Expand with us.

WEEK TWO:
Engage in service to the Church and outreach to the city.
This session offers the opportunity to meet staff and lay leaders, and discover how your passions and gifts Engage with our Church and Community.

WEEK THREE:
Empower the Church by the giving of your financial resources.
Embody the love of justice and compassion of Jesus in the world.
On this final week we will invite guests to officially join and they will be introduced to the congregation during worship. In worship we will all -- new and long-time members -- dedicate ourselves to Empower and Embody all that we can to the Church and God.

To sign-up for Navigating, or to learn more, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704. 334.7232 x 118).

A Welcoming Narthex

By Rev. Carrie Veal

After our guests have made their way from parking their car to the Sanctuary, the Narthex is often the first interior space they encounter. So, we want this space to be as welcoming as possible.

Last spring, Jill Kinney added a beautiful area rug, given by Kay Overcash-Jenkins, which has added warmth and welcome. We have greeters available in the Narthex as well as around our campus to extend a warm welcome to our guests and members. And now, we have added a Welcome Desk in the Narthex. Ministers and greeters will be stationed at one of the credenzas given by the Pearsall family to meet guests before and after worship. We hope this will create a space for our guests to learn more about us and give us a chance to have a more personal encounter with them.

You may be wondering how you can be a part of this. Here are some thoughts:

• Be mindful of the staff engaging with the guests among us. We want to talk with you too, so just give us a few minutes, or touch base with us during the week.
• Be a greeter! I will be offering a training session on Sunday, October 7 at 8:30a. I know it’s early, but I will provide coffee and breakfast. Come learn the best practices of offering welcome. Sign up here! https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4cadaf23a6f49-greeter.
• Meet your friends on the Patio or in Heaton Hall after worship, rather than in the Narthex. We know these moments of conversation and connecting are vital to you, and we want you to have them.

To learn more about how you can be a part of this energetic and exciting piece of ministry, please contact me at cveal@myersparkbaptist.org.
By Victoria Yeghoyan

Imagine, if you will, a place with fewer than two doctors and two nurses per 10,000 people and where 40% of the population has no access to health care at all. Imagine, then, how one Haitian man with severe abdominal pain walked five miles early one morning to attend one of our mobile clinics. The man was treated with free medicines and received a much-needed pair of eyeglasses. As he left, he was given a bag filled with rice and beans, oatmeal (thanks to Bob Bishop!), a hygiene kit, a t-shirt, and other essentials.

Jesus often spoke of “doing unto the least of these.” He had what Miguel De La Torre calls “a preferential option for the poor” and Jesus calls us to do the same. As Pope Francis put it: “You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. This is how prayer works.”

Here is how our prayers worked: we treated 600 patients in four days and gave them the medicines they needed; we distributed 165 pairs of eyeglasses; we passed out the bags mentioned above. Based on data from previous trips, our medical director wanted to treat the root cause of common infections in women. In order to do this, after each woman had been treated by a doctor, she was sent to my area for a class on proper feminine hygiene. I saw at least 140 women.

After the talk, I showed them how to make reusable sanitary pads and gave them bags with everything they would need to make the pads themselves.

As a board member of Haitian Heritage and Friends of Haiti (which coordinates the visits with Haitians in the area), I am excited that we already have plans drawn up for building a clinic in a very rural area in northern Haiti—out of shipping containers no less! Until the clinic is built and staffed with Haitians, we are relying on medical mission teams (assisted by Haitians) to provide healthcare for the area of 60,000 inhabitants. I invite you to consider being part of one of these medical mission teams. No medical experience is required.

My Medical Mission Trip to Haiti

By Rev. Joe Aldrich

As the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team, Alex Gnilk, Tammie Lesesne, Grace Mitchell, and I are pleased and excited to inform you that we have started training for a new Stephen Ministry class composed of twelve committed people. The future Stephen Ministers will be in class for thirty hours, concluding in November and followed by a Commissioning Service. The plan is to be ready to pair each Stephen Minister with a Care Receiver beginning in January. I will be responsible for pairing the Stephen Ministers and the Care Receivers. Stephen Ministers will be confidential concerning who will be their Care Receivers. If you would like to know more about the ministry, you can go to the Stephen Ministry website, www.stephenministries.org, or contact a member of the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team listed above. If you are interested in learning about how you could be a Care Receiver, contact me at jaldrich@myersparkbaptist.org.
Looking for an Outreach Opportunity?  
Sign Up for Hawthorne Place!

By Cindy Clemens

MPBC’s next week to host families at Charlotte Family Housing’s Hawthorne Place is October 7-11. Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve dinner to families on Sunday, Tuesday, or Thursday. Most volunteers enjoy staying for dinner and getting to know the families.

Also, one adult volunteer is needed to stay each night, serving as overnight host, Sunday through Thursday. A private bedroom and bathroom is assigned to the overnight host. Children are in their rooms by 8:00p and adults typically head to their rooms by 9:00p. The on-site coordinator is back by 7:00a the following morning. High speed internet, television, and linens are provided.

To volunteer, email me (cclemens@charlottenc.gov) or look for the SignUp Genius link on the MPBC website.

Charlotte Family Housing’s Mission:
Empower homeless families to achieve long-term self-sufficiency through shelter, housing, supportive services, and advocacy.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER (formerly STOP HUNGER NOW!)

Wednesday, November 7 | 6:30 - 8:30p | Cornwell Center Gym

By Rev. Joe Aldrich

Once again this fall, we will gather as a community of faith to package 20,000 meals to help those who are hungry around the world. This event is family-friendly, fun, and rewarding! It is a great way to form new relationships as we work side by side doing something that benefits thousands of people. Be part of a group effort to RISE AGAINST HUNGER! So, how can we all participate?

Sign up online to help!

4:00-5:30p  Help unload and set up | Roswell Circle

5:45-6:20p  Fellowship Dinner | Heaton Hall
Reservations required*

6:30-8:30p  Meal packaging | Cornwell Center Gym

Can’t help on November 7?
Give generously to the Rice Bowl offering on Sunday, November 4, or send a check with RISE AGAINST HUNGER/STOP HUNGER NOW on the memo line. The ingredients for one meal cost only 34¢, and the more funds we have, the more meals we can provide.

If you can help unload, set up, and/or package meals, email Joe Aldrich at jaldrich@myersparkbaptist.org or sign up on the Church website.

* Please make your dinner reservations by noon on Monday, November 5 by going online to myMPBC, or by contacting Rainey Underwood (704.334.7232 x 156 or runderwood@myersparkbaptist.org).

Congregational Joys and Concerns
(as of September 19, 2018)

DEATHS — LOVE AND SYMPATHY TO:
• Regan A. Miller and Hannelore Bragg on the death of his brother and Morgan Emma Miller on the death of her uncle, George Ricco Ray, on August 10, 2018 in Charlotte, NC.
• Laura and Todd Geer on the death of her mother, Shirley Mays Brown, on August 24, 2018 in Charlotte, NC.
• Barbara Griffin (Bobbie) Campbell on the death of her husband, Malcolm and Lauren Campbell on the death of his father, McLean, Elliott, and William on the death of their grandfather, and Duncan and Kim Brown Campbell on the death of his father, George Worth Campbell, Jr., on September 3, 2018 in Charlotte, NC.
• Alene Lambert on the death of her husband, Jack E. Lambert, on September 11, 2018 in Charlotte, NC.

WEDDINGS— CONGRATULATIONS TO:
• Johanna Mary Huddle and Robert Gerald Scogin III on their wedding on September 8, 2018 in Huddleston, VA.
Seasons of Stewardship

**June - August**
The budget will be created during this season, based upon current financials, current pledges, and inflation.

**October - December**
The Fall Stewardship Season, including a stewardship series in Worship, will encourage generosity at year end helping the Church finish strong.

**April - May**
The Spring Stewardship Season will encourage increased financial commitments for the following year’s budget.

Pledge amounts will remain consistent unless a change is communicated to the Church.

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**Ministry of Financial Resources Update** | October 2018

By Tucker Pearsall, Chair, Ministry of Financial Resources

Year-to-date revenue continues to look good. We are 4.3% under our revenue estimate YTD but we still have a 1.5% increase in revenue over last year. We have an excellent collection rate. Through July, we have collected 52% of our total revenue in pledges.

Facility rentals have trended over budget all year and will likely exceed our revenue expectations for the year. A huge thanks to Rainey Underwood and all staff and members who work to keep this a viable income stream.

The good stewardship we saw in July was remarkable – from Community Life, Congregational Care, Faith Formation, Worship, Administration, and Maintenance. Using designated funds, fees, and endowment where possible made a huge impact on our overall financial position for the month. We collected more revenue than we spent, which does not usually happen in the summer, and expenses are 8.2% under budget YTD and 6.8% less than this time last year. Being able to go into the last two quarters in a strong financial position is a true blessing.

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**Minister of Music and Worship Search Team**

By Tara Harris, Chair, Board of Deacons

As you know, our current Minister of Music, Fran Morrison, will be retiring in May after an incredible 30-year career of service to our Church. Therefore, a search process has begun this fall. We are pleased to announce that the Ministry of Leadership has unanimously approved the selection of a team to search for and call the next Minister of Music and Worship.

Carol Reid Fricke, who served as the Chair of Strategic Planning Council and is a member of the choir, has agreed to chair the search team. Joining her will be fellow choir members Janice Bradner, who will serve as representative for the music program, and Jane Huddle, who will serve as representative for the Ministry of Human Resources. The three additional at-large members of the team will be Steve Cornwell, Robert Dulin, and Keith Young, who will represent the diversity of ages, backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences in our congregation. The staff representative on the team will be Rev. Ben Boswell.

We are very excited about this search team and ask for your prayers and support for their work.

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**Photo Board - MPBC Life Through Pictures**

By Caroline Manning

You may have noticed a new photo board in Heaton Hall Foyer. This board will be changed periodically to showcase various events in the life of the Church through pictures. Currently, you will find images from VBS, the Awakening Pilgrimage, and the youth mission and choir trip to NYC, along with many other events and activities that have happened over the last few months. The board will also be updated with pictures of new members after each Joining Sunday.

To make sure you find out about these events before they happen, please contact Laura Geer to join the Church’s mailing list.
We’ve Got Some New Things Happening in Youth Ministry!

By Carrie Veal

We have been working hard on updating the Youth Hall décor. Our new vinyl decals and inspirational wall art complement the updated “Jesus” loft space. We are also sharing our Church history through our t-shirt wall, which displays t-shirts from Church events as far back as 2001. If you have any old MPBC t-shirts, please leave them in the Church office with a note "for Youth Ministry.”

This past summer, we launched the Youth Leadership Council. The YLC is a diverse, youth-led group that stands to uphold leadership, promote change, and raise awareness for Youth Ministry. YLC will lead teens in discovering their faith through community and Church involvement, team building, and spiritual reflection. Members of the Youth Leadership Council include Ellie Dabbs and Wyndham Merrill. The Youth Ministry is looking forward to the leadership and energy that the YLC will bring to the Church.

Our middle school lock-in happened on Friday, September 28-Saturday, September 29. Our youth gathered in the Youth Hall on Friday evening for games, food, and movies before bed. On Saturday, we traveled to the Whitewater Center, where we spent the day together completing ropes courses and bike riding.

We are excited about all the new things happening in the Youth Ministry and would love to have YOU around to help. We are looking for volunteers to serve during Youth Fellowship on Sundays at 3:30p. Our volunteers are critical to the youth community and we look forward to learning from you.

Children’s Ministry Sunday Morning Faith Formation

By Rev. Carrie Veal

We have kicked off another great year of Faith Formation for our children!

Preschoolers: Over the summer, a group of mothers and grandmothers got together and formed a team for our Preschool Faith Formation. These women have committed to making sure our preschool children have the best hour of their week. Using a curriculum provided by the Children’s Ministry along with elements from our worship liturgy, the children they teach each week are learning so much. Their curriculum theme this year is God’s Care and Compassion. Each story shows the children how God has loved, watched over, and cared for people for ages and ages. Do you have a 3, 4, TK, or Kindergartener in your life? We would love to have them in our Sunday Morning Classes. Do you want to join this incredible team and be a part of all that is happening? To learn more, please contact me.

Elementary: This year our elementary children will learn stories around the theme Test of Faith. Through art, cooking, games, and storytelling, first – fifth graders will discover how faith is not always easy, but God is there through it all.

Our elementary children are also having some different experiences this fall. In October we will prepare for All Saint’s Sunday by making banners for the families of members who have died this past year. By learning what it means to be a saint, who the saints are among us, and then learning about those saints, our elementary children will learn how our Church connects us all to one another and to God.

Do you want to take part by walking beside our first – fifth graders on this journey? Do you have a passion for cooking or storytelling? Do you have a first – fifth grader? Whether you are a parent or not, we have a place for you! Contact me at cveal@myersparkbaptist.org or 704.334.7232 x 118 to learn more.

Church Calendar - A Few Tips For You

By Tom Jones

Did you know that you can now see all of the Church calendar events from your mobile device?

Tip #1 – By using the Church Life app on your device, you can see the schedule of events for any day, including time of day and which room is reserved.

Tip #2 – Don’t want to use Church Life? Then you can also ‘subscribe’ to our Church calendar by adding it to your normal calendar program – Outlook, Apple Mail, Google Mail, etc.

Please email me at tjones@myersparkbaptist.org for help in setting these up.
The Impact of MPBC Members & Events on the City of Charlotte (Part 2)

By Lynn Trenning

Since its inception 75 years ago, Myers Park Baptist Church has attracted members who have a strong sense of justice and fairness. This is the second set of stories from our past.

Did you know that in 1969, MPBC Charter Member Sarah Bryant founded Planned Parenthood Health Systems of Charlotte? PPHS would later merge into Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, a nonprofit health care provider that offers a range of affordable reproductive and sexual health care services in 14 locations across North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The following is an excerpt that Sarah contributed to a booklet created for the 50th anniversary of MPBC. "Once there was an issue that we were working on that I thought every person in our Church surely would support, but they did not. I was so disappointed that I cried. Marney said to me, 'Honey, you must remember that it is better to bless those who come, but don't grieve over those who don't.' These words have helped me more times than I can count and stay with me always."

You can listen to a more complete history of the organization in an interview with Sarah Bryant entitled "The Activist," conducted by Jon Carmine Ristaino, as part of the series, "Be Who You Are, a Cross Country Documentary" at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AeLE6un0HAQ

Did you know that on March 14, 1980, MPBC held "Peacemaking: A World Citizen Conference," on our campus? Speakers included Mike Clark of New York City's Riverside Church. Topics presented in the workshops included SALT II, Peacemaking and the Political Process, and Effects of the Arms Race on World Hunger.

Did you know that The Shepherd's Center first opened in Charlotte at MPBC in 1980? Founded in Kansas City, Missouri in 1970, the organization’s mission was "to create a meaningful role for older people," according to a September 17, 1980 Charlotte Observer article. The Center recruited volunteers to perform simple fixer-upper chores, deliver Friendship Tray meals, and teach "Adventures in Learning" classes, which included the topics "Eastern Religions and World Affairs," "Photography and the Layman," and "Needlepoint." In 2017 the Shepherd’s Center of Charlotte offered 14 trips through their Travel Adventures Program, and counselled over 827 clients through their free SHIIP Medicare Assistance Program. It is currently housed in Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Did you know that in 1984, MPBC and Christ Episcopal began planning the construction of the ecumenical, non-profit Southminster, one of the first upscale retirement communities in Charlotte? The two churches raised $1 million in seed money and received a $150,000 grant from The Duke Endowment, according to a February 16, 1986 Charlotte Observer article. The ribbon-cutting took place in 1987. While the initial fundraising was mostly accomplished between the two congregations, upon opening Southminster was and remains an autonomous institution.

If you have stories to add about Myers Park Baptist members or events that have made a difference in our community, please contact me (trelmt@bellsouth.net | 704.344.8610) so we can include them and let all our new members know who we are.

Choir Retreat 2018

By Barbara Mishoe, Choir Member

Ahh - the air is cooler, the trees are greener! Those were my thoughts as we headed into Black Mountain and Montreat Conference Center for our Chancel Choir’s annual Labor Day weekend of work and play. For over 50 years now, from the beaches to the mountains and places in between, the Chancel Choir has “retreated” to rehearse the music we will sing in worship for at least the first four months of the Church year. This year, we worked especially hard on the commissioned piece for our Church’s 75th anniversary.

Retreat is a relaxed and wonder-filled time to spend with family and friends in the beautiful mountains surrounding Lake Susan. Our Sunday morning worship service was enhanced by views of the lovely trees outside the rehearsal space. Sunday night was delightful as various choir members portrayed their favorite singers and entertainers for our talent show. This year, we were graced with the likes of Olivia Newton John singing “Xanadu” and Julia from Showboat singing “Can’t Help Loving That Man.”

After a final rehearsal on Monday morning, we headed down the mountain to home and our seats in the Chancel. We look forward to sharing our music with you this fall.

Diverse Worship

November 11
11:00a in the Sanctuary
Moving Liturgy - Dance Ensemble
Welcoming Our New Director Pam Handon!

We are excited to announce our new Director, Pamela Handon. Pam has over 27 years of experience in fitness and was most recently the Director of the Navy Yard Fitness Center in Washington, DC. In that position she was responsible for the operational management of five fitness facilities serving over 20,000 patrons. An expert in customer relations and data collection, Pam was instrumental in helping the institution reach targeted goals in health and wellness, exercise programming, marketing, communication, security, outreach, accreditation, and strategic partnering. Pam has a Bachelor’s Degree in Sports Management and a Master of Science in Managerial Leadership.

Pam is originally from Washington, D.C. but is looking forward to becoming part of the Charlotte community. She is very passionate about health, wellness, and fitness. Having started her career as a fitness instructor and personal trainer, her first love is group exercise. Pam currently holds certifications as an AFAA primary group exercise instructor and NASM personal trainer and nutritionist. She loves spending time with people, working out, and helping people of all ages and abilities achieve their wellness goals.

Pam will begin her new role as Director of the Cornwell Center on October 15. In the coming weeks, we will keep you informed as to dates and times you can meet her. You will also have opportunities to say goodbye to our Interim Director Wayne Ballard and thank him for the gifts, time, and energy he has given the Cornwell Center. We hope that you will help us as we welcome Pam to Charlotte and to the Cornwell Center.

A Note from the Cornwell Center’s Interim Director

Greetings from the Cornwell Center. I would like to offer a personal thank you to all of the staff of Myers Park Baptist Church along with the staff and members of the Cornwell Center for the tremendous opportunity to serve as your Interim Director. It has been an honor and privilege to serve in this capacity.

One of the great privileges in serving as Interim Director has been making new friends like Patty Andrews, one of our very best fitness instructors. Many of you may not know that in addition to her service as a Group Fitness Instructor, she also serves as a local celebrity. You can find her on local television networks under the name of The Wake Up Network: Move It 2 Lose It Fitness TV Show. In addition to local broadcasts, you can find recent broadcasts on Facebook and YouTube. Be sure and check out these broadcasts and let Patty know how proud and fortunate we are to have her with us at the Cornwell Center.

Thanks again for the opportunity to make new friends along the way.

Wayne Ballard, PhD, Interim Director, Cornwell Center

PHOTO Connections With John Bambach

Wednesday, October 17 | 7:00-9:00p

Travel. It leaves us educated and entertained, offering both new knowledge and new feelings of ignorance. Travel confronts us with both the contrasts and connections among us, and provides a sense of awe for what humans have created and what nature has provided. Travel always seems to leave us wanting more.

For some, it’s the only time we think to pull out a camera. For others, it’s when we bloom as photographers, inspired to capture what we can of the experience.

Whatever the case, share one or two of your best travel photos, something you feel represents the place, the people, the mood, the light, the customs . . . to jbambach@cornwellcenter.org, by noon, Tuesday, October 16. Then join us for our viewing and discussion at 7:00p, Wednesday, the 17th.

All are welcome at our FREE meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. From the casual smartphone user to the serious practitioner with an SLR, we emphasize the components of photography that are common to all - composition, light, color, and subject. If you’re new to us, please visit our Facebook page to see past galleries, and our page on the Cornwell web site for some photo resources and more about our group.

TTWS News

By Belinda Geuss

In October, the Through-the-Week School curriculum goes into full swing when all of our "specials" begin. These curriculum enhancements are offered to 2’s-TK students and include half-hour sessions of Music, Science, Lyrics and Literacy, and My Gym along with our own interactive art studio, Exploration Station. As part of our cultural arts program, children will enjoy a production of “The Lion and the Little Red Bird” by the Children’s Theatre Taradiddle Players.

Other events in October at TTWS include optional speech and hearing testing, a special playdate for new TTWS families, “Come To School With Me” for the 4’s and TK parents, and class pictures by St. John's Photography. October is always a student favorite with Halloween and the annual trick or treating throughout the Church offices and Cornwell Center.

TTWS Outreach Committee invites all families to participate in a gently-used toy drive October 15-26. Toys should be suitable for children 8 weeks – 12 years old with a preference for educational/ preschool toys that do not require batteries. Donation boxes will be located inside the Cornwell Center front door and at the Roswell preschool entrance.

Parents are excited for the upcoming 20th annual Festival of Friends fundraiser to be held at the home of TTWS parents Stephen and Peyton Hostetler on Saturday, November 3. This very special evening features a live and silent auction to benefit the growing capital improvements at Through-the-Week School.
Ministers and Staff

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FALL & HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24
5:30 - 7:30 PM

Dinner and Intergenerational Halloween Bingo
followed by games and trick or treating.
This is one of our most anticipated nights of the year!

Can you host a door for our trick or treaters?
The door will be decorated, and the candy provided.

Can’t be here that night, but want to help?
We need LOTS of candy!
Bags of individually wrapped candy
can be delivered to Carrie’s Office.

To learn more, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal.

For dinner reservations call 704.334.7232 x 156.