By Ben Boswell

America was captivated and inspired by Rev. Dr. William Barber’s speech at the Democratic National Convention, and it propelled him to national and international fame. His words were so moving that the DNC asked Dr. Barber to continue speaking on their behalf through the presidential election. As many of you know, long before his speech at the convention, Dr. Barber was scheduled to come speak at our church on September 25. However, due to his new responsibilities with the DNC, we have learned that he needs to postpone his visit to our Church. The new date for Dr. Barber’s visit is Sunday November 13 at 5:00pm. We will have a special service that evening in the Sanctuary sponsored in part by the Charlotte Clergy Coalition for Justice. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you. Thank you for your flexibility. Even though we are disappointed that Dr. Barber had to reschedule, we still feel incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to host a moral leader this fall who has become a powerful prophetic voice for justice in our state. For more information about Dr. Barber, please continue reading below.

Dr. William J. Barber is a Protestant minister and political leader in North Carolina, where he founded the "Moral Monday" movement. He is a member of the national board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the chair of their Legislative Political Action Committee. Since 2006, he has been president of the NAACP’s North Carolina state chapter, the largest in the Southern United States and the second-largest in the country. Barber has served as pastor of Greenleaf Christian Church, Disciples of

Rev. Dr. Barber will preach at MPBC on Sunday, November 13 in a special evening service at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary.
William Barber coming to MPBC

(continued from page 1)

Christ, in Goldsboro, NC since 1993.

Rev. Dr. Barber is the founder and president of “Reparers of the Breach, Inc.” a nonpartisan and ecumenical organization that seeks to bring together clergy and lay people from different faith traditions with people who have no spiritual practice but who share the moral principles at the heart of the great moral teachings. Learn more at the Reparers of the Breach website.

Along with the Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes Jr., Rev. Dr. Barber is leading “The Revival: Time for a Moral Revolution of Values,” a national tour across 19 states to redefine morality in American politics. Learn more about The Revival and sign the Moral Declaration.

Rev. Dr. Barber graduated Cum Laude from North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham, N.C., with a B.A. in Political Science. He received a Master of Divinity degree from Duke University, where he was a Benjamin Mays Fellow and a Dean scholar. Dr. Barber has a Doctoral degree from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, with a concentration in Public Policy and Pastoral Care and he has received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from NCCU. The Honorable Governor Beverly Perdue presented Dr. Barber with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina’s highest citizenship award presented to outstanding North Carolinians who have a proven record of service to the state.

Dr. Barber has served as the Executive Director of the North Carolina Human Relations Commission, as an adjunct instructor at N.C. Wesleyan, NCCU, and Duke Divinity School, and on the trustee boards of two colleges. He is an MIT Mel King Community Fellow for Community and Economic CoLab.

Under Dr. Barber’s leadership, the NAACP developed a new 21st century voter registration/voter participation system. In North Carolina, this system has registered more than 442,000 new voters and provided access to 1.5 million voters.


Articles by Rev. Dr. Barber:
• Sojourners: “Subverting Democracy Is Not Partisan. It Is Immoral”

Loose Plate Offering

By Cher Lindblom

Q: What exactly is the Loose Plate Offering?
A: Reader’s Digest version: Loose Plate Offering is all the loose change/cash in the offering plate which is not designated for pledge fulfillment. All Loose Plate Offerings go directly to the recipient noted in the Order of Worship. If you put $20 cash in, your $20 goes directly to that agency.

Q: How do I direct my CASH offering to my Stewardship Pledge?
A: Put your offering in an offering envelope found in the pew. Check the line for Pledge and write your name on the envelope.

Q: How do I direct my CHECK to the Loose Plate Offering?
A: Write your check, put it in the offering envelope, check the Loose Plate box, and write your name on the envelope. You can also write Loose Plate on the memo line of your check.

By following the suggestions above, your contributions will be included in your Church giving statement.

The Loose Plate Recipient for September is Lakewood Community Development Center. The Lakewood CDC is focused on comprehensive revitalization of the economically-challenged inner-city Lakewood Neighborhood. MPBC has partnered with Lakewood CDC for over twenty years. For more information, visit www.lakewood-cdc.org.

Congregational Joys and Concerns

(As of July 15, 2016)

BIRTHS — CONGRATULATIONS
• Lewis and Carolyn Stevenson Gaskin on the birth of their grandson, Parks Reed Gaskin, on Wednesday, August 3, 2016, in Charlotte, NC.
• Avery and Chris Northrop on the birth of their daughter and Dick Blackwell on the birth of his granddaughter, Wells Genevieve Northrop, on Friday, August 5, 2016, in Charlotte, NC.

WEDDINGS — CONGRATULATIONS
• J. Scott Crowder and John B. Locklear on their wedding on June 24, 2016, in Maui, HI.

DEATHS — LOVE AND SYMPATHY
• Jane Powell Templeton and family on the death of her husband, James Douglas Templeton, on July 23, 2016, in Cocoa, FL.
• Ann Collins on the death of her brother and Lisa Caldwell on the death of her uncle, Loy “Mac” Williams on July 23, 2016, in Greenville, SC.
• The family of Ellen Denny Gallant on her death on August 2, 2016 in Charlotte, NC.
• Lisa Ford on the death of her aunt, Debbie Gatewood, on August 5, 2016, in Charlotte, NC.
• Don Hall on the death of his wife, Caroline H. Hall, on August 9, 2016, in Charlotte, NC.
• Tom and Carolyn Holmes on the death of Tom’s father, Lowell L. Holmes, on August 10, 2016, in Bridgewater, VA.

Finance Report

Year-to-Date

July 31, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>1,118,507</td>
<td>1,177,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>1,154,960</td>
<td>1,198,327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Myers Park Baptist Church
Communications Guidelines

By Lynn Trenning, Chair, Communications SLG

“The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place,” said Irish playwright and critic, George Bernard Shaw. Indeed, getting the right information to the right people is an ironic challenge in this era of incessant chatter. I sometimes feel like Charlie Brown’s mom, mouthing torrents of carefully crafted words that are received as incomprehensible white noise.

The Communications Servant Leadership Group is charged with creating a streamlined process for our internal and external communications. One thing our Church can do is communicate with consistency. A consistent name, a consistent font, and a consistent description are standard means by which an organization creates a recognizable identity both for its own members and for the community at large.

As we continue to inform our members and the world about our Church, we ask you to follow these procedures:

- Please submit all advertising and promotional material that references Myers Park Baptist Church to Laura Geer in order to ensure its relevance and consistency. This includes press releases, paid advertising, flyers, posters, etc.
- Each one of the Church’s nine ministries has a Minister assigned to it. Newsletter articles should be submitted to the appropriate Minister, who will then submit that article to Laura Geer. **All newsletter articles are due on the 15th of the month.** This process will ensure that newsletter space is designated to the most timely and important Church events every month.
- Church-wide emails are sent on a selective basis. If you wish to send one, please submit it through the appropriate Ministry Minister, who will submit it to Laura Geer. Staff will determine when a message warrants mass distribution. We want to avoid saturating the congregation with emails.

Our goal is stated well by psychologist Rollo May: “Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing.”

---

Memorial Garden

By Tobie Steele, Senior Minister Search Committee Member

One of the pleasures of serving on the Senior Minister Search Committee was working with and getting to know the committee chair, Skip Gribble. Skip was the perfect choice to lead our group - someone who grew up at Myers Park Baptist and whose love for the Church and all it stands for was unending. He was a calming force when it was needed, able to keep the committee focused and always aiming for the ultimate goal, finding the right person to carry on the works of those great pastors who helped make the Church what it is today. Skip left us entirely too early and we all miss him greatly.

The search committee together purchased a bench that has been placed next to the Chapel and we would now like to create a memorial garden in Skip’s memory around that bench. It is in an area where Skip and his wife, Nancy, would spend time just enjoying this beautiful campus. Cathryn Rivers has worked with a landscaper who has designed a beautiful, peaceful area where one can come and sit, read, meditate or simply enjoy the surroundings.

When this has been discussed, many have said they would like to contribute to this garden. If you are so moved, please send a check to the Church and note that it is for the memorial garden. Skip would be embarrassed by this tribute but it is well deserved.

Thank you,
Tobie

---

Leadership Training

By Barbara Linney, Ministry of Leadership Training SLG

If you have a leadership position in the Church, if you want one, if you want to learn something new and have some fun, come join us for Leadership Training Courses on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30pm.

September 28: Group Process
Learn the predictable stages a group travels through in its work together. Consider proactive steps to set up a group to work effectively as well as restorative steps to take when work bogs down. Led by Joan Hope.

October 5: Running Effective Meetings
Make meetings shorter and more fun. Learn ways to get information from everyone and thus buy-in for decisions and excitement about doing the needed work of the group. Led by Barbara Linney.

October 12: Conflict Resolution in Groups
So it’s gone past civil discussion of opposing points, positions have been dug in, and the claws are out. What does the leader do now? Tools, tips, and techniques to help a group search for resolution to tough problems, while maintaining the group’s cohesion and the combatant’s self esteem. Led by Tom Holmes.

Senior Adult Fellowship Schedule

By Joe Aldrich

Exciting plans are being developed for our Senior Adults. We will be meeting together October 5, November 2, January 4, March 1, and April 5, 10:30-11:30am. The October Meeting will be led by our Senior Minister, Reverend Benjamin Boswell, as he helps us discover how we can become more involved in our community in new and different ways. At each meeting, we will spend some time getting to know one another. We have a wealth of knowledge and wisdom among our senior adults that will enlighten us all. Plan to join us on October 5 for our first meeting. Your presence will add to the richness of this time together.

---

www.mpbconline.org
Where There’s A Dream, There’s A Way

By Carol Reid Fricke, Chair, Strategic Planning Council

Myers Park Baptist Church is still “possessed by a dream,” and now we wonder: What will that dream look like in the next decade? The Strategic Planning Council has begun work on a new Jubilee Strategic Plan, as part of the Church’s 75th Anniversary celebration in January 2018.

The Jubilee strategic planning process of 2016 recognizes the Church’s growth from the previous decade as we completed the Holy Conversations strategic process. Holy Conversations resulted in more effective governance, a variety of small groups, and enriched opportunities for faith development and outreach.

During the last fifteen years we also focused on inclusion, which means that this new strategic planning process will have a place for everyone. Our new plan will begin by building a shared vision of the future and then creating a road map to get there -- a broad framework that identifies priorities and invites every Ministry and group to play a vital role in moving us toward a life of greater spirituality and service.

And we’ll ask for the perspectives and opinions of people who are not yet attendees, not yet members, or not yet as engaged in the life of the Church as they might like to be. How can this Church better serve and support everyone?

We’ll focus on clarity and simplicity throughout the process: Who are we called to be as a family of faith? And what are the most valuable steps we can take together to move toward that calling? That is the essence of strategic planning.

This year we welcomed a new senior minister, so our planning will draw on the wonderful congregational feedback from that Senior Minister Search process. But we also want to hear directly from YOU.

Soon you will be invited to engage in small groups to share creative ideas. Your voice will be essential to our process, so look for more information about how you can be part of our fall and winter listening circles and share your thoughts on MPBC’s future. We ask you to begin considering: What exactly are the tasks that are worth devoting the energies of our Church to? We will spend a church year becoming inspired, traveling to a shared vision of our future, designing a path of fearless goals and strategies that take us fruitfully into the 21st century.

Are our dreams for the future bigger than those of the past? If not, then our best is always behind us! With respect for all our voices and history, we hope to challenge and broaden our thinking, question assumptions and habits, and welcome innovation that builds on our legacy. Where there’s a dream, there’s a way! We look forward to taking this journey with you.

Compassion Satisfaction: Self Care for the Caregiver

Thursday, October 6, 8:30-noon, in Shalom Hall

By Vikki Hunley, Ministry of Congregational Care

Join us for this caregiver event sponsored by the Ministry of Congregational Care, presented by Hospice & Palliative Care and The Ivey. In a relaxed atmosphere, join other caregivers to discuss ways to handle stress, find the time to care for yourself and resolve difficult issues. Share the unique challenges and blessings you encounter as a caregiver. Highlights include practical tips, the power of music, and roundtable topics. A catered breakfast will be served. There is no charge for this event, but an RSVP is required by September 3. For more information, or to RSVP, contact me at vikki.hunley@theivey.com.

EarthKeepers

Wyatt Nabatoff - Beautifying The Point

By Mary Lou Buck, EarthKeepers Member

We hope you will visit The Point, the gorgeous wooded area by the Roswell Ave parking lot. Thanks to Wyatt Nabatoff for beautifying this special place for his Eagle Scout project. Along with other Scouts and friends, Wyatt replaced the older benches with four new ones and repaired the amphitheater, staining the wood to make it more durable. They cut ivy to make the trail three feet wide throughout the entire path, removed overhanging branches and bushes, and mulched the upper part of the trail to make it safer and more beautiful.

EarthKeepers are reforming our vision to focus on environmental justice. Watch for the latest news and think about being an active part of our group to help us move forward with fresh energy.

The EarthKeepers Mission Statement: We believe God’s earth, on which we live, is ours to use, protect, enjoy, and care for. It is our mission to act in ways that will reflect our concern for the health of the soil, air, water and those who inhabit the Earth.

If you are interested in being a part of EarthKeepers, or just want to know what we do, contact Sonya Dyer, mdboson1@aol.com or 704.552.7330.
Jesus the Christ in the 21st Century Presents:

Rev. Dr. Robin Meyers

Opportunities to prepare for the Robin Meyers Weekend

**Thursday, September 15, 6:30pm**
- **Young Adult Theology Pub**
  - Led by Bob Thomason, Debby Love, and Carrie Veal

**Sunday, September 18, 12:15pm**
- **Lunch & Learn** in the Cornwell Conference Center
  - Coordinated by Dori Bowman and led by Bruce Harned
  - **Spiritual Defiance - What is That?**
    - It's a book written by Robin Meyers. We will discuss Meyers’ challenging vision for the future of the church. To order lunch from Jason’s Deli, email Dori Bowman at dnbowman@bellsouth.net by Saturday, September 17 indicating your choice of sandwich (ham, turkey, chicken salad, or veggie wrap). The cost is $5 for lunch.

**Sunday, October 2, 9:45-10:45am**
- **LIFE Class: The Cross as Futility, Not Forgiveness** in the Coffee House (down by Shalom Hall)
  - Led by Chrissy Williamson
  - Join the LIFE Class as we discuss chapter three of Meyers’ book, *Saving Jesus from the Church*.

*Please note that members of the J21 SLG are willing to teach groups about Rev. Dr. Robin Meyers on Sunday Mornings during the Faith Formation hour. If you would like to invite a member of the SLG to lead your class, contact Bruce Harned, Chair of the J21 SLG, bruceharned@gmail.com.

---

**Fall Connections Small Groups**

Interested in joining a Small Group this fall?

Register for Connections Small Groups September 11-30

To view and register for groups, visit www.mpbconline.org and click on the Connections Logo.

Printed booklets will also be available at the Church beginning September 11.

If you have any questions about registration, please contact Anne Clarke (aclarke@mpbconline.org or 704.334.7232 x115) or Ashley Hardy, Chair, Connections SLG (ashley.c.hardy@bankofamerica.com).

---

**Sermon TalkBack**

Rev. Dr. Jill Crainshaw was our guest minister on Sunday, August 14. Her sermon was entitled "Everywhere the River Goes." Following worship, she joined us for Sermon TalkBack. You can listen to her sermon (and all sermons) on the Church website, www.mpbconline.org (under the "Worship" tab). Podcasts are also available on iTunes.
This fall we welcome Allen Davis as our Interim Youth Director. Allen is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where he played baseball, volunteered with Freedom School Partners, and earned his bachelor’s degree in Africana Studies. After graduating from college, Allen decided to follow his passion for social justice and his love of kids and he accepted a job with Freedom School Partners. It is through this connection that we came to know Allen.

Allen has been working with our youth ministry for nearly four years as a Sunday night Youth Fellowship Leader and retreat chaperone. He is loved by the youth and the other volunteers for his welcoming personality, enthusiasm, creativity, and positive attitude.

Even though the school/church year has not yet begun, Allen has hit the ground running in his work at MPBC. He is collaborating with the staff and Youth Ministry Servant Leadership Group. He is planning opportunities to meet every youth and youth family, and is hard at work planning the many youth gatherings and retreats that will take place throughout this Church year.

If you’d like to get to know Allen, volunteer in the Youth Ministry, or simply extend your welcome to this new member of our staff team, you can email him at adavis@mpbconline.org.

Race Series
By Chrissy Williamson

Beginning Wednesday, September 21, Myers Park Baptist will host a series on racial justice that explores the concepts of race, implicit bias, disparities between people of different races, and opportunities for us to be in relationships of solidarity with all people. Throughout this year-long experience, you will learn from local experts and faith leaders about the challenges and opportunities that exist in Charlotte through monthly Wednesday night programs, small groups, and a local pilgrimage. We will also provide a list of recommended books, podcasts, and videos to enhance your personal journey with race this year.

In addition, this spring we will all journey together through the deep south to visit and remember the history of relationship between white and black Americans. More information, including the supplemental resources, dates, and speakers, will be available beginning Sunday, September 11. We hope you will journey with us as we begin to break down the illusion of race.

Wonderful Wednesdays
By Chrissy Williamson

This year we are trying something a little different with our Wonderful Wednesday series. Rather than having a Wonderful Wednesday gathering every month, we will have larger gatherings around festival seasons. When you come to one of the following Wonderful Wednesdays, you will be able to share a meal with friends and celebrate the seasons through fellowship, outreach, worship, and conversation.

- Dinner will begin at 5:45pm and will be served until 6:15pm.
- Programs will begin at 6:30pm and end at 7:30pm.

2016-17 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS:
October 26
Halloween Festival
December 14
- Adults: Conversation about Justice and Spirituality led by Ben Boswell and Peter Wheery
- Children: Christmas Movie Party with Popcorn
March 1
Ash Wednesday Service
March 29
Stop Hunger Now Meal Packaging Event

Youth Ministry News
By Allen Davis

Upcoming events:
September 11 – Start Up Sunday
- Faith Formation 9:45-10:45am
- Youth Fellowship 6:00-7:30pm
October 14-16 – Middle School Retreat
- Location TBD
- Details for sign-up will be sent via email
October 28–30 - High School Retreat
- Valle Crucis Conference Center
- Details for sign-up will be sent via email

It’s a new Church year for Youth Ministry! We have been working hard to put together the activities, people, programs, and ideas that will help our youth grow together while connecting them to their parents and the Church congregation.

Please mark your calendars for Start-Up Sunday on September 11. We will resume all of our youth gatherings including Sunday morning Faith Formation, Youth Choir, and Youth Fellowship.

This year, as our youth are STRETCHED in many different directions, we hope that our youth gatherings will be a place of connection, comfort and excitement. I look forward to seeing all youth on Sundays!

We Welcome

Allen Davis, Interim Director of Youth Ministry

By Chrissy Williamson

This fall we welcome Allen Davis as our Interim Youth Director. Allen is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where he played baseball, volunteered with Freedom School Partners, and earned his bachelor’s degree in Africana Studies. After graduating from college, Allen decided to follow his passion for social justice and his love of kids and he accepted a job with Freedom School Partners. It is through this connection that we came to know Allen.

If you’d like to get to know Allen, volunteer in the Youth Ministry, or simply extend your welcome to this new member of our staff team, you can email him at adavis@mpbconline.org.
Children’s Ministry News

By Carrie Veal

VBS Wrap-Up

What a wonderful three days our Water U Doing Mini-Vacation Bible School was! We had 80 children and over 50 volunteers who made these three days so special. We raised $2,114 for the Hippo Roller Project, which means we can send 13 Hippo Rollers to Malawi. This year, VBS really was a church-wide event. Thank you for being supportive and engaged in the life of these children! I hope you will make plans to be a part of VBS 2017!

Serving Our Children, Serving Our Families

As we prepare to begin another Church year together, we are gearing up for the opportunity to serve the children and families of our Church through Sunday morning Faith Formation. This year we want even more people to share in the experience of formative faith journeys and stories. If you would like to serve, contact me at cveal@mpbconline.org or call 704.334.7232 x118.

M² (Music & Magic) our Wednesday Night Kick-Off Event
Wednesday, September 7, 5:15-7:00pm in Heaton Hall

All Children’s Ministry Families are invited to this fun evening. We will eat dinner together, then parents will have a brief meeting to hear all about the choir program, coffee chat, and our Wonderful Wednesdays for the fall. Children in Kindergarten-Fifth Grade will enjoy a magic show from a local magician. Childcare is available after dinner for children ages four and younger. Please RSVP through myMPBC.

Coffee Chat Returns
Wednesday, September 14

For the third year, parents are invited to the Parlor on Wednesday nights from 5:15–6:45pm. We chat about a variety of topics, all light and fun! Bring your own coffee mug and we will supply the rest. Hope to see you there!

Wonderful Wednesday Festivals
October 26 and December 14

This fall we will have two Wonderful Wednesday Festivals: Halloween and Christmas. These are such fun events and a great way for every generation to participate. Save the dates for now, but be sure you stay on the look-out for ways you can be involved!

Saving Jesus From the Church
Young Adult Pub Gathering
Thursday, September 15, 6:30–8:00pm at Selwyn Pub

All Young Adults (45 and younger) are invited to a Young Adult Pub to talk about the book Saving Jesus from the Church. Debby Love, Bob Thomason, and I will lead this discussion and we hope you will attend. Childcare will be provided at the Church. We ask that you please send dinner with your child.

Fall Family Dedication
Sunday, October 23, 11:00am

One of the most special moments in the life of the Church is when families dedicate their children to us and to God. If your family would like to participate in this special worship service, please contact me.

Get Ready to . . .
Dream On!

By Sharon Bremer

Get ready MPBC. We have a wonderful annual operating campaign shaping up for 2017. We have a lot to be grateful for AND we have a lot of dreams that have been on hold. Now is the time to let those dreams become a reality. Yes, this is the year of "Dream On!"

This year’s DREAM TEAM is led by our dynamic 2017 Co-Chairs Becky Rizzo and Bob Bishop and supported by the talents of SLG members John Bambach, Britt Canady, Frank Beaton, Charlie Elberson, Brian Goodhart, Casey Hickey, Allen Hull Jr., Mary Ann Largen (incoming chair for 2018), Jay Rivers, Jeanne Robertson, and Ed Williams.

The 2017 Annual Operating Campaign kicks off on October 30!

SAVE-THE-DATES for the following events:

• October 30 (Sunday) - Coffee and Campaign Video, in Heaton Hall
• November 5 (Saturday) - Campaign Kick-Off Oyster Roast from 4:00–7:00pm in Heaton Hall. All ages invited. We’ll have oysters, grilled burgers and hotdogs, games for the kids, and live music from one of our own - Small Time Joe (featuring Charlie Elberson on keyboards/vocals). More details to come!
• November 6 (Sunday) - Coffee and Campaign Video
• November 13 (Sunday) - Coffee and Campaign Video
• November 20 (Sunday) - "Thanks for Giving" Luncheon

We have a strong team in place, marvelous events on the horizon, and many ways for you to support the current work and aspirations of our Ministries. There’s more exciting news to come, so stay tuned . . . and Dream On!
Our struggling neighbors have real needs that few of us can imagine. Just imagine struggling daily to have enough to eat, a place to sleep, access to healthcare, transportation, a job that provides a living wage. Going without any of these can launch daily life into a mode of crisis and survival. As we begin a new Church year, the Ministry of Outreach strives to help our congregation see the many needs of our neighbors and serve them. Our outreach is predominately local because our community is diverse in socioeconomic makeup and there are many needs on our doorstep.

Starting this fall, here are opportunities for you to serve:

**ST. PETER’S SOUP KITCHEN**
**September 10**
On the second Saturday of the month, MPBC prepares and serves lunch to over 300 of our neighbors at the Urban Ministry Center. Individuals of all ages, as well as families, are welcome to serve. Contact Maria Long, mwl.maria.long@gmail.com or Holly Hobson-Wood, hollyboowood@gmail.com. Mark your calendars for September 10 for our Start-Up Soup Kitchen.

**McCREESH BARBEQUE**
**Saturday, September 24**
We will cook, serve and visit our neighbors at McCreesh Place. McCreesh Place is a permanent, supportive home for residents transitioning out of homelessness. Residents may rent for more than one year while gaining stability in their lives or they may choose to rent indefinitely. We need volunteers to help cook, serve lunch, supply desserts, and most importantly, visit and spend time with the residents. Contact Bob Bishop, bobbishopuk@gmail.com, for more information, or sign up on the Church website.

**MEN’S SHELTER MEAL**
**Wednesday, September 28**
Join the group of volunteers who prepare and serve a meal to over 500 of our neighbors at the Men’s Shelter of Charlotte. A meal of BBQ and fixings is prepared on the Tuesday before, then taken to the Shelter and served on Wednesday. The first Men’s Shelter meal of the fall will be September 28. Please contact Bob Bishop, bobbishopuk@gmail.com, to volunteer.

**SATURDAY OF SERVICE (S.O.S.)**
**October 22**
Saturday of Service is our annual INTERGENERATIONAL day of community service. We join hands and work with partner agencies and our neighbors. Saturday of Service provides you with the opportunity to explore the ways in which we live the "service of faith." More information will be available on the Church website and in the October newsletter. Contact Cher Lindblom at clindblom@mpbconline.org if you have any questions.

**OUTREACH SUNDAY**
**October 23**
This worship service, led by Reverend Ben Boswell, the Ministry of Outreach, and Church members, will ask you to consider the following: How do we, both individually and as a church community, serve God by serving our neighbor?

Looking ahead:
- Room In the Inn - December 1–March 31
- Family Promise at Elizabeth House - December 2016

God calls us to service, far beyond anything we can imagine. Find a place to serve and see how your hands, feet, and heart can fill an empty space.
**MPBC Technology Make-Over**

By Tom Jones

During the summer, we have been working hard to improve our technology both on and off campus so that we can be more efficient, productive, and welcoming as our fall start-up arrives.

**WIFI**

We have improved the quality and increased the coverage areas for our wireless network. We have good WIFI in the Church offices, Heaton Hall, the re-decorated Parlor, and the Cornwall Center. Our next improvements will be to Through-the-Week School, the Library, and the Life Class (Coffee House) downstairs. This means you can connect to MPBCwifi in all of these areas.

**Internet**

We have upgraded our incoming service from 3 Mb x 3 Mb to 100 Mb x 100 Mb, which means a 3,333% increase in capacity, at a reduction in monthly cost! No more frustrating slowdowns and network issues in the office means we can be more productive and efficient.

**Phones**

We have a new phone system, which means we now have all-campus paging for emergencies and "lock-downs," as well as up-to-date features that make it easier for us to handle your calls and voice messages. You may have noticed that our extension numbers have changed by adding a "1" in front of the old numbers. For example, Barry used to be extension 16 – now he is 116.

Thanks to so many people who made this happen -- the 50th Anniversary Endowment Fund, the Technology SLG (Jane Huddle, John Bambach, John Wyatt), Barry Metzger, and our IT vendor, Tom Tran.

**Mark Your Calendars For Alternative Worship This Fall**

By Fran Morrison

In March 2015, members of the congregation were polled through a survey asking for their input regarding interest in a new/different/alternative service as an additional service of worship to the one currently held at MPBC.

There was a clear mandate for alternative worship, but the survey results did not reveal which kind of alternative service was most desired. The Alternative Worship Task Force recommended to the staff that the Church offer three sample, experimental services during the summer of 2015. The three services offered were "Contemplative," "Contemporary," and Taizé.

We would now like to enter into a time of further experimentation by offering a few very different styles of alternative worship services during this fall/winter season at MPBC. We will not only be experimenting with an alternative style of music, but also with an alternative time slot and a different level of formality, accompanied by a familiar liturgy that is welcoming to all. I hope your interest has been piqued and that you will join us for these experimental alternative services and give us your feedback.

---

**Bluegrass Alternative Worship with Communion**

**Sunday, September 25, 2016**

9:00-9:45am

in Heaton Hall

**Jazz Vespers with Communion**

**Friday, October 14, 2016**

7:00-7:45pm

in Heaton Hall

**Christmas Worship with Erica McGee**

**Sunday, December 25, 2016**

10:00-10:45am

in Heaton Hall

**Christmastide Worship with Todd Geer**

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**

10:00-10:45am

in Heaton Hall
Welcome Students and Staff

Our new school year at Through-the-Week School will begin on Tuesday, September 6. We welcome new staff members Susan Barnett, Sarah Duarte, Sharon Hancock, Karen Sitton, and Laura Vagianos. Through-the-Week School has a staff of 30 teachers and administrators as well as 190 preschool students for the 2016-2017 school year. We continue to move forward with the leading trends and best practices in the early childhood field. This year, classroom enrichments include My Gym, Music, Science, and Play Spanish.

Resource Room

Thanks to fundraising efforts by the TTWS parents, the TTWS Resource Room (pictured) has been organized and renovated. This room is now accessible for teachers to utilize new and exciting toys, manipulatives, and art supplies to enhance curriculum and bring more joy of play to the classrooms.

Festival of Friends

MPBC members are invited to attend our annual Festival of Friends fundraiser on Saturday, October 15th in Burwell Hall at Queens University. Funds this year will go towards our Cultural Arts Programs, security upgrades, and the resurfacing of the two year old playground. The Festival of Friends committee is currently seeking live auction items. Please call the TTWS office for further information.

Through-The-Week School News

By Belinda Geuss

Welcome Students and Staff

By Charlotte Judge

Youth Choir Begins

September 11

The power of song can change lives! Please make plans to join us for an exciting season.

It has been my pleasure to begin meeting some of the youth and their parents. Please stop by my office sometime soon to introduce yourself so that we can begin to get acquainted. I am so excited to be a part of the Myers Park Baptist family. Questions? Please contact me at cjudge@mpbconline.org or 704.334.7232 x121.

Bring the whole family to MPBC and join us for

$^2$ (Music & Magic)

Wednesday, September 7 * 5:15 - 7:00pm

Delight in the fun of a MAGIC show!
Enjoy dinner from Hubee D’s - $5 per person.
RSVP on myMPBC.
Hear about the Choir Program, Coffee Chat and more!
Childcare available for 4 years and younger following dinner.

This fun event is planned especially for your family!
Start-up with the Cornwell 5K, Aquathlon, and Family Festival

Start-up weekend begins with this annual Cornwell event, featuring interactive Fitness and Art activities, food, games, music, and a variety of family-friendly activities. Open to the entire community, our annual celebration is also a philanthropic effort supporting Levine Children’s Hospital. Come be part of it all. More info is available on our web site.

- **5K, Aquathlon, and Family Festival**
  Saturday, SEP.10
  www.cornwellcenter.org.

Group Exercise

Start-up weekend begins with this annual Cornwell event, featuring interactive Fitness and Art activities, food, games, music, and a variety of family-friendly activities. Open to the entire community, our annual celebration is also a philanthropic effort supporting Levine Children’s Hospital. Come be part of it all. More info is available on our web site.

- **Group Exercise**
  P.J. Isaac has some new classes, and revisions to existing ones:
  
  Yoga teachers and students can take their practice to new levels with this hands on workshop. With individual assessments and assists by an expert team of yoga therapists led by Jeff Shoaf, learn how yoga postures can be matched to your unique body for a safer, stronger, more enjoyable yoga experience.
  
  - **Your Body/ Your Practice**
    Yoga Workshop and Teacher Training (2.5 CEU Yoga Alliance)
    Saturday, SEP.24, 9:30a – Noon
  
  Some of our popular Mid-Life, Mid-Level classes have descriptive new names.
  
  - **Low Impact Body Conditioning**
    w/Marcy Luna, Mon’s, 9:30 – 10:30a
    w/Patty Andrews, Thu’s, 9:30 – 10:30a
    w/Susan O’Neil, Fri’s, 10:30 – 11:30a
  
  - **Spin**
    Wednesdays, 9:15 – 10:00a

A new, medium intensity class has been added to the GE schedule.

- **Yoga 2, w/Debra Toth**
  Fridays, 11a – Noon

Children and Youth

Registration for Youth Basketball League launched on Monday, August 22nd. See our web site for updates.

Art

Our Art Coordinator, Greg Scott, tells us that the Charlotte Artists Society will be on exhibit in the Cornwell Gallery, September 3 – October 3.

Greg will also be listing new Art classes to begin September 7th, after Labor Day. Check our website for details.

LiveWell Cornwell

Did you know that some scents may actually improve your health?

Essential oils are highly concentrated, naturally occurring, volatile, aromatic compounds that are found in the seeds, bark, stems, roots, flowers and other parts of plants. They work at the cellular level and are nutrients that penetrate cell membranes to fight against threats.

Join us for an overview of how essential oils may have a healing effect mentally, physically and emotionally. It’s FREE and OPEN to ALL.

- **Potential Benefits of Essential Oils**
  Tues., SEP.20, 9a
  Call to Register

September in Charlotte offers more than the usual opportunities to visually connect with our community. Seasonal, street photography options are plentiful, with all the annual races and public startup activities. For a real education on what’s possible year-round, google Vivian Maier, the unassuming au pair who captured life around her with a sensitive and objective eye, and whose body of work was only discovered after her death.

Each month, participants in our photo group submit photos to an assignment. This month, that challenge is, “Street Photography.” Try some. Contact jbambach@mpbconline for info.

- **Photo Connections, w/John Bambach**
  Third Wednesdays, 7–9p
  www.cornwellcenter.com/photo
  www.facebook.com/PhotoSIG

After a summer hiatus, some of us are ready to get back to going back… to our family roots. Ted Lucas returns this month, and each month, with his experienced expertise. Take advantage. As with all these Connections groups, it’s FREE and OPEN to ALL.

- **Family Connections, w/Ted Lucas**
  Second Tuesdays, 6:30–8p

Et cetera

New Team Members – Welcome back to Caroline Travieso, now as Fitness Ambassador, and Debra Toth as Yoga instructor. Fran Huske is new at our Front Desk and a special thanks goes to recent volunteer, Mary Powers, helping at our Front Desk.

Holiday Closing – The Cornwell Center will be closed for Labor Day, September 5.

Cornwell hours of operation, beginning September 6:

- MON-THU: 5:30a–9p
- FRI: 5:30a–7p
- SAT: 7:30a–5p
- SUN: Noon–5p

www.cornwellcenter.org

www.mpbconline.org
DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER 2016 ISSUE IS 5:00PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.
Max 450 words, subject to editing for space. Please email all submissions to the MPBC Communications Director, Laura Geer, at lgeer@mpbconline.org.

Ministers and Staff

The Rev. Mr. W. Benjamin Boswell
Senior Minister

The Rev. Mr. Joseph D. Aldrich
Associate Minister

Sharon Bremer
Director of Stewardship

Mariah B. Currin
Director of New Member Ministry

Allen Davis
Interim Director of Youth Ministry

Belinda Geuss
Director of Through-The-Week School

Charlotte C. Judge
Associate Director of Music

Cher Lindblom
Director of Outreach

Dr. Matthew Manwarren
Organist

The Rev. Mr. Barry Z. Metzger
Church Administrator

Frances L. Morrison
Minister of Music

The Rev. Ms. Carrie Veal
Minister of Children

The Rev. Ms. Chrissy Tatum Williamson
Minister of Faith Formation

Jenny Yopp
Director of The Cornwell Center

Vacation Bible School 2016
Water U Doing?