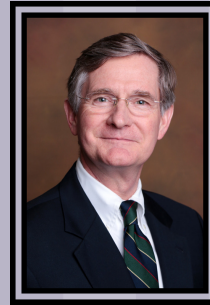


FEBRUARY 2019 *The Messenger*

Lant's Lines

A MESSAGE FROM
OUR PASTOR



I was overjoyed when some of the friends arrived and testified to your faithfulness to the truth, namely how you walk in the truth. . . . Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the friends, even though they are strangers to you; they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of God; for they began their journey for the sake of Christ, accepting no support from non-believers. Therefore we ought to support such people, so that we may become co-workers with the truth. 3 John 1:3, 5-8 (NRSV).

Please welcome Connor McCraney!

Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church is blessed that Connor McCraney will be interning with our congregation beginning now and continuing through the spring. Born and raised in Roswell, Georgia, he is a senior at Samford University. He is a religion and Spanish double major and is working toward a concentration in religious leadership and organization. He is also a member of Samford's Pre-Ministerial Scholars Program, which works to equip students with the tools necessary to succeed in a variety of career paths in the ministry. While at Samford he has participated avidly in Samford Sunday, a preaching program where he travels to rural congregations to preach, and during the summers he has interned in churches in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Alabama and Santiago, Chile. Aside from his studies, he is a member of the Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity, and enjoys hiking, playing golf, running, snow skiing, and watching SEC college football.

Just as the author of Third John complimented the church that received his letter for the way they had shown hospitality and fellowship to fellow disciples who were visiting among them, we have the opportunity of hosting Connor and encouraging him in the exploration of his calling as a servant of Christ Jesus. There is no better teacher for a young minister than a well-meaning congregation. I urge you to get to know him and willingly to follow his leadership. If you have positive suggestions for him, I know he will be eager to receive them. Consider it a part of the "calling" of our congregation to be teachers of young persons who plan to devote their lives to Christian service.

Connor and I have had some initial discussions about the kinds of learning experiences that would help him the most. He preached on January 27 (thank you, Connor) and was very well received. We plan for him to preach several more times while he is here. He will be attending session meetings and some committee meetings. I have asked him to help with some research for the Mission Committee and to take a lead in the Worship Committee's plans to have a few small groups participating in Lenten devotionals this year. I want him to be a regular participant in leading portions of our worship services. He may also help with Sunday school, Bible study, and some of the children's activities. At the conclusion of his time with us, I hope he will depart with confirmed enthusiasm for his calling and with some very practical tools for ministry.

Staff

Pastor
Rev. Lant B. Davis

Director of Music
Dewin Tibbs

Organist
Gary Smoke

Administrative Assistant
Melissa Hall

Director of Preschool
Mary Liz Ingram

Financial Assistant
Bernie Gregson

Boy Scout Troop 320
Scoutmaster: Frank Tynes

Cub Scout Pack 320
Cubmaster: Dave Caskey

Contents

Lant's Lines

Contact us, Staff

Calendar

Mission Committee

Welcome Emily Wilson

A Note from the Barr Family

The Main Event

Living River 2019 Summer Camps

Preschool Events

Preschool Summer Fun Program

Session Summary - December/January Meetings

February Dates to Remember:

February 6, 13, 20, 27: Wednesday Nights at MBPC

5:00 pm Hand bell Choir

5:30 pm Grace Notes Choir

5:30 pm Lectionary Light Bible Group

6:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Finding Our Way around the Bible

7:00 pm Youth Group

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

February 10: MBPC Annual Meeting

after 11 o'clock worship in the sanctuary

February 24: Scout Sunday

Contact Us

3405 Brookwood Road
Mountain Brook, AL 35223

www.mbpcusa.org

(205)967-5037

mhall@mbpcusa.org



Calling All Liturgists!

Please visit our website at

www.mbpcusa.org

and click on the button on our home page to go to our signup genius and sign up to be a reader.

If you have any questions, contact Melissa Hall in our church office.

Thank you for volunteering!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chancel 11am - Worship-- 11:15am - Sunday	8am - Body Works 6:30pm - Phi Mu	8am - Body Works 1pm - Worship Staff 6:30pm - Christian 7pm - Phi Mu Step	4:30pm - Mission 5pm - Hand Bells 5:30pm - Bible Book 6pm - Dinner 6:30pm - "Let's Talk 7pm - Chancel Choir	deposit 8am - Body Works 10am - Bible Study	8am - Body Works 9:15am - Preschool 4pm - Phi Mu Step	10am - Phi Mu Step 1pm - Phi Mu Step
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chancel 11am - Worship 11:15am - Sunday 12pm - Annual 12pm - Finance 5pm - Session	8am - Body Works	Donuts for Dad 8am - Body Works 9:30am - Rise 1pm - Worship Staff	5pm - Hand Bells 5:30pm - Bible Book 6pm - Dinner 6:30pm - "Let's Talk 7pm - Chancel Choir	deposit Valentine's Day Valentine's Parties 8am - Body Works 10am - Bible Study	Van Reservation - Boy Scouts No School 8am - Body Works	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am - Sunday 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chancel 11am - Worship 11:15am - Sunday 12pm - Annual 12pm - Finance 5pm - Session	8am - Body Works	8am - Body Works 9:30am - Prayer 11am - Worship 1pm - Worship Staff	9am - PEO Meeting 5pm - Hand Bells 5:30pm - Bible Book 6pm - Dinner 6:30pm - "Let's Talk 7pm - Chancel Choir	deposit 8am - Body Works 10am - Bible Study	8am - Body Works	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Van Reservation - 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chancel 11am - Worship 11:15am - Sunday	Presidents' Day Presidents' Day- No 8am - Body Works	8am - Body Works 9:30am - Prayer 11am - Worship 1pm - Worship Staff	9am - PEO Meeting 5pm - Hand Bells 5:30pm - Bible Book 6pm - Dinner 6:30pm - "Let's Talk 7pm - Chancel Choir	deposit 8am - Body Works 10am - Bible Study	8am - Body Works	
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
Scout Sunday 9:30am - Sunday 10:15am - Chancel 11am - Worship-- 11:15am - Sunday	Dr. Suess Week 8am - Body Works	8am - Body Works 1pm - Worship Staff	5pm - Hand Bells 5pm - Property 5:30pm - Bible Book 6pm - Dinner 6:30pm - "Let's Talk 7pm - Chancel Choir	deposit 8am - Body Works 10am - Bible Study		

The **Mission Committee** invites anyone in the congregation to participate in Rise Against Hunger, a project in which we will be packing food for shipment to hungry people. The event will be on **Tuesday, February 12**, from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., at **Canterbury United Methodist Church**.



On Sunday, February 3, we baptized Emily Wilson upon her profession of faith and welcomed her into active membership in the church. Her family and special friend stood with her in support, and her grandmother, Judy Wilson, was the assisting elder.

Pictured at right are Emily and Pastor Davis together after the service.



A Note from the Barr Family



**Peace & Love to you and
yours during this holiday
season and the coming year!**

**Tom and Kathryn Barr
Rebecca, Elizabeth, Thomas
Leo the dog**

**167 Arlington Avenue
Providence, RI 02906**

*We miss all of
you at MBPC! Hope
you're doing well!*

*Love,
Kathryn & Tom*

Peace & Love
The Barr Family
2018

THE PRESBYTERY OF SHEPPARDS & LAPSLEY PRESENTS

THE MAIN EVENT

"A Future with Hope"



FEBRUARY 22, 2019

South Highland
Presbyterian Church
2035 Highland Ave S
Birmingham, AL 35205

FEATURING:

Rev. Denise Anderson
PC(USA) Coordinator
for Racial and
Intercultural Justice

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION AT:
<http://pslpcusa.org/main-event>





LIVING RIVER

Summer Camp 2019

Peace Works

Empowering the Next Generation of Peacemakers

Date	Camp	Grade Completed
June 9 - 14	Elementary Camp	2 - 5
	Senior High Work/Mission	9-12
June 16 - 21	Explore Elementary	2 - 5
	Explore Middle School	6 - 8
June 23 - 26	Night Owl Middle School	6 - 8
	Night Owl Senior High	9 - 12
June 26 - 28	Mini Camp	1 - 3
June 28 - 30	You and Me	K - 2
July 7 - 12	Creative Elementary	2 - 5
	Creative Middle School	6 - 8



LIVING RIVER
A RETREAT ON THE CAHABA

www.livingriver.org





MBPC Preschool

To the father figures of our
preschool children,
you're invited to

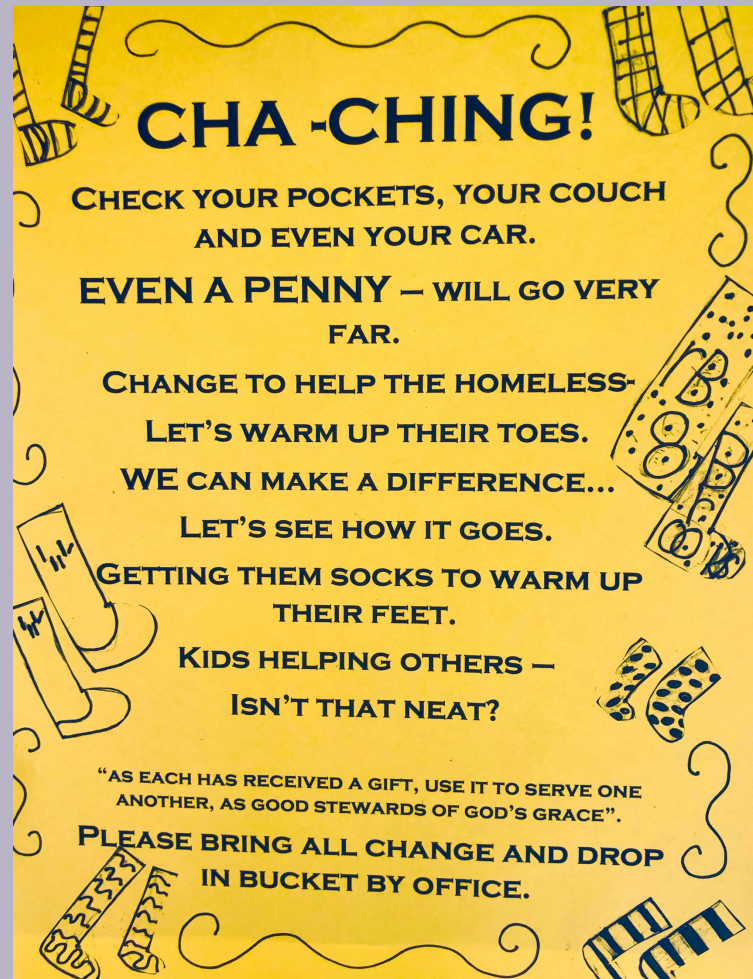
D O N U T S
F O R D A D

Wednesday, February 12 at 9:15am
in the Fellowship Hall
For classes 2yrs - 5K

(Toddlers & Infants will bring home a special treat
to share with Dad!)

If you're a dad, granddad, or special father
figure, we hope you will join us for 30
minutes of a special morning snack. If
your child does not attend Wednesdays,
they are welcome to join us for this event.

It will be a treat for us,
and we have a treat for you!

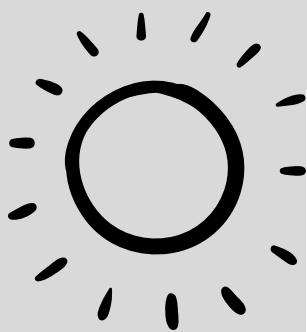




Open to ages 3 months to completed 2nd grade
8 weeks, Monday - Thursday, 9:00-1:00
with Sunshine Bunch & Wee Play

Preschool & church family
registration opens April 1 @ 6am
Open Registration: April 5 @ 6am

This summer we will welcome our Happy Campers to another great program, full of camp stories, songs, games, snacks, crafts and of course tons of fun! With daily plans tailored to each age group, our campers will have fun learning and exploring all summer long.



SUMMER FUN WEEKLY THEMES

- ☼ June 3-6, Camp Kick Off: welcoming our happy campers with campfire stories, songs, tents, s'mores & more
- ☼ June 10-13, Bullfrogs & Butterflies: learning about all the camp critters from bugs to forest animals
- ☼ June 17-20, Water Fun: exploring the world of water & all things fishy, featuring Water Day
- ☼ June 24-27, Fossil Exploration: uncovering a hidden world beneath the dirt, the prehistoric world of fossils & dinosaurs
- ☼ July 8-11, Hide & Seek-secret spy school: unwrapping mysteries with a week full of games and fun
- ☼ July 15-18, Nature Walk-flowers & plants: watching seeds grow into food, flowers & trees, we will discover the magical world of plants
- ☼ July 22-25, Team Building-Lego week: building, playing & learning with blocks & Legos
- ☼ July 29-Aug 1, Stargazing-space week: sending off our happy campers with a view of space & tons of fun

Join us Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9:00-1:00 during the 8 weeks listed here. We also have Sunshine Bunch (8:00-9:00) and Wee Play (1:00-2:15) available.

This summer we will welcome our Happy Campers to another great program, full of camp stories, songs, games, snacks, crafts and of course tons of fun! With daily plans tailored to each age group, our campers will have fun learning and exploring all summer long.

MONDAY-THURSDAY

June 3-6

June 10-13

June 17-20

June 24-27

July 8-11

July 15-18

July 22-25

July 29-Aug. 1

December Session Minutes

The regular meeting of the session of Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church was called to order by the moderator, Rev. Lant Davis, at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 16, 2018, in the church library. A quorum was present. Alex Wellman offered the opening devotional and prayer.

Elders in attendance were Norton Montague, Erskine Carmichael, Alex Wellman, Jill Bonatz, Drew Spransy, Judi Huddleston, Dick Trueb, and Carroll Barrett. Alan Speaker was absent and excused.

The agenda was accepted with the addition of minutes from the Administrative Commission of the Session recording the reception of Larry Duncan into membership on Sunday, December 16, 2018. On motion duly made and passed, the minutes of the session meeting of November 11, 2018, and the minutes of the meeting of the Administrative Commission of the Session of December 16, 2018, were approved as written.

A schedule of elder responsibilities for the opening devotional and prayer, home communion, and commissioner for presbytery meetings was distributed for members to sign. With some openings available, the schedule was filled through July, 2019.

Elders agreed to continue the assignment of the commission for the reception of new members.

Ministry Team Reports

Stewardship Committee

The committee reported that the campaign is nearing completion, with a total of \$292,771.00 pledged.

Finance Committee

On motion duly made and passed, the financial report of the church for the month ending November 30 was received. On motion duly made and passed, the proposed operating budget for 2019, a copy of which had been included in the session packet for this meeting, was approved. On motion duly made and passed, the following resolutions were adopted: that of the total compensation paid to Pastor Lant Davis for calendar year 2019, \$30,750 is hereby designated as a housing allowance; and that the designated amount as a housing allowance shall apply to 2019 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Personnel Committee

On motion duly made and passed, the session voted to adopt the Child and Youth Protection Policy previously studied by session members, the form of which had been distributed in the October session packet. On motion duly made and passed, the session voted to give four staff members a Christmas gift of \$400.00 (plus taxes due) each, and a gift of \$100.00 (plus taxes due) each to the nursery workers. Session members agreed through email discussion that the Personnel Committee be allowed to hire Sakina Hatcher as a nursery worker if the committee recommended after interviewing her.

Education Committee

Members of the committee are in final preparations for Advent events, including the luncheon, workshop for children, and pageant. Another possible nursery worker will be interviewed soon.

Property Committee

Due to two significant leaks last month, the most recent water bill was more than \$2000.00. Bernie Gregson, Financial Assistant, will apply for a leak adjustment of the bill. On motion duly made and passed, the session approved the settlement of our insurance claim on damage to structures made by the storm in November. This includes approving the terms proposed by the insurance company and proceeding with the repairs using Stephen Park and the playground equipment company.

Worship Committee

The Lord's Supper was served in the worship service on December 2, 2018. Extended communion is scheduled to be served on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. The Christmas Eve prelude concert will begin at 4:15 p.m. and the communion service at 5:00 p.m.

Mission and Outreach Committee

The session approved by email the committee's proposal for expenditure of remaining mission funds in the 2018 budget, as follows: UKirk Birmingham (\$500), Presbyterian Home for Children (\$1,500), First Light (\$2,000), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (\$1,000), and to a family who are vendors in the MBPC Farmers' Market whose home recently burned (\$500, with the proceeds of a non-budgeted special gift). The Angel Tree project is nearing completion.

Congregational Care Committee

On motion duly made and passed, the session voted to have Wednesday night dinners catered by Ernie Gerontakis beginning January 9, 2019, and continuing through the end of the spring.

Moderator's Report

The internship with Rev. Davis of Connor McCraney, a senior at Samford University, during the spring semester was confirmed. Connor will preach on January 27, 2019.

A congregational meeting for the purpose of electing a nominating committee will be held immediately after worship on Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Rev. Davis has agreed to serve as the chartered organization representative for Cub Pack 320. The main responsibility is to approve the re-chartering materials each year.

Rev. Davis will be away from the office as follows: December 30-January 3, vacation with relatives in South Alabama; January 24-28, meeting in Fort Lauderdale, FL, of presidents and board chairs of Presbyterian seminaries; January 30-31, meeting of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary faculty and trustees. There being no further business, Rev. Davis adjourned the meeting with prayer.
Respectfully,

Carroll Barrett, Clerk of Session

Rev. Lant Davis, Moderator

January Session Minutes

(Unapproved)

The regular meeting of the session of Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church was called to order by the moderator, Rev. Lant Davis, at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 13, 2019, in the church library. A quorum was present. Norton Montague offered the devotional and opening prayer.

Elders in attendance were Drew Spransy, Alan Speaker, Norton Montague, Judi Huddleston. Erskine Carmichael, Dick Trueb, Alex Wellman, Jill Bonatz, and Carroll Barrett. There were no absences.

The agenda was accepted with the addition of the following order of the day: Emily Wilson, Kimmy Wilson, her mother, and Judy Wilson, her grandmother, were welcomed as guests. Emily expressed her desire to become an active member of the church and answered questions asked of her by Rev. Davis. On motion duly made and passed, the session voted to receive Emily into membership and authorized Rev. Davis to conduct the sacrament of baptism for Emily at a convenient date.

Clerk's Report

The minutes of the session meeting of December 16, 2018, and of the called meeting of the congregation on January 6, 2019, were approved as written. The schedule of elders' responsibilities for February through July was updated and completed.

Ministry Team Reports

Finance Committee

On motion duly made and passed, the financial report of the church for the month ending December 31, 2018, was received.

A report concerning the divisions of the Endowment Fund included the information below.

Endowment Fund: Funds distributed in January, 2018: \$49,932.00; balance as of December 31, 2018: \$715,283.83

Special Church Support Fund: Funds distributed in 2018: lighting projects, \$16,143.44; sewer repairs, \$12,275.00; repairs of leak in steeple and steeple lighting, \$6450.00

Benevolence and Mission Fund: received \$24,966.00 in January, 2018; spent \$5,000.00 for Habitat home; \$1022.84 in comingled church funds; as of December 31, 2018, \$112,705.49 + 1,022.84 = balance of \$113,728.33.

The funds in the Endowment Fund distributed \$59,382.76 during the year 2018. The committee voted to distribute this amount to the church split between the Special Church Support Fund and the Benevolence Fund.

The committee voted to move \$11,000.00 from the Short Term Investors Bond Fund to the S.T. Admiral Bond Fund in order to gain the additional payout advantage.

Personnel Committee

Between the December and January meetings of the session, members by email vote amended the Child and Youth Protection Policy. A copy of the amended policy was included in the session packet for this meeting. Forms necessary to complete the policy (page 13) will follow those issued by the presbytery as they become available.

Christian Education Committee

An additional worker has been hired to help in the nursery. Candidates are being interviewed for the position of part time director of Christian Education. The committee began setting goals for 2019. Those discussed thus far are listed in the session packet for this meeting.

Property Committee

For the second month, the water bill exceeded \$2,000.00. The location of a leak has been determined so that the plumbers can repair it this week. After the repair, our case will be presented to the Birmingham Water Works Board so that an adjustment in the bill might be made. Concerning the insurance claim due to damage caused by the recent storm, Rev. Davis sent a copy of the insurance summary to our contractor to determine if he would do the work for the allocated amount. Because of extenuating circumstances, Rev. Davis and the contractor have asked the manufacturer of the necessary materials to quote a specific price before the check from the insurance company is cashed. The insurance company has indicated it will probably increase the insurance award to cover the actual amount due to the aforementioned circumstances. The insurance company's check will not be cashed before that decision is made.

Worship Committee

The Lord's Supper was served on Christmas Eve and in Sunday worship on January 6, 2019. Extended communion is scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

Mission and Outreach

The committee is organizing a hands-on project in connection with the Rise Against Hunger campaign at Canterbury United Methodist Church. Members of MBPC will participate on February 12, 2019. On motion duly made and passed, the session voted to release \$1022.84 from the Benevolence and Mission Endowment Fund (8906) as a contribution to the program.

Preschool

"Inside" enrollment is now concluded and "outside" enrollment will open soon. Final inspection of the work required by the Jefferson County Health Department and now completed will take place soon. The entire cost was covered by the amount raised in the fall fundraiser.

Moderator's Report

Data for the statistical report for the Office of the General Assembly is being gathered and will be approved by the session before it is submitted.

Rev. Davis will be out of town as noted before from January 24-28 and January 30-31, 2019.

The annual meeting of the congregation is scheduled for Sunday, February 10, 2019, immediately after worship. There being no further business, Rev. Davis adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully,

Carroll Barrett, Clerk of Session

Rev. Lant Davis, Moderator