

Now More Than Ever!

If you have not noticed, we are living in a crazy time. Never before have people felt more isolated, alone and desperate for community. Let's be honest... masked strangers, canceled family events and the world shutting down has left a huge emptiness in the lives of so many. What countless people need is a family, a place to receive hope, a time to celebrate that goodness of God while not being bombarded with the insanity of the world right now.

Guess what... we have that to offer. And there is no time during the year that folks are more open to visiting church than the Christmas Season. You have the potential to bless someone in a time they need blessing the most, by simply extending an invite. Let me share 3 reasons why you should invite those around you to church this season.

1. The Christmas spirit already has people doing things they wouldn't normally do.

Only at Christmas do we see penny-pinchers digging in their pockets for change to give to the man merrily ringing the bell outside the store. For the sake of Christmas, even our most dysfunctional family members will gather around the table. And even if we aren't sure we like eggnog, we'll give it a try because, well, it's Christmas.

Research shows most people would come to church if someone they knew just asked, and people are more receptive to going to church at Christmas than other times of year.

Blame it on the infectious amounts of holiday cheer, but more than any other time of year people are willing to try something new, making it one of the best opportunities to invite someone to church.

2. By nature, people are curious.

Around the world, people will flock to churches on Christmas leaving others to wonder, "What's all the hype about?" Never underestimate the amount of desire a little curiosity can spark.

Luke 2:15-16 says ***that when the shepherds heard about Jesus' birth they said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened..." so they hurried off and found Mary, Joseph and the baby who was lying in a manger."***

Curiosity is what led the shepherds to meet Jesus, and curiosity could be what leads the people you invite to meet Jesus as well.

3. Many are in desperate need of good news and great joy.

Every day people are faced with staggering circumstances, and the Christmas season is no exception. Marriages end, loved ones pass away, and devastating test results come back. For many, the future seems bleak and hearts are broken.

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...Letter from the Pastor Cont.

Often, people who are hurting feel like church isn't for them. Yet on the first Christmas, those who were frightened and in desperate need of good news and great joy were addressed directly.

In Luke 2:10-11 the angel responded, **"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born..."**

This Christmas, we have the opportunity to introduce those who are hurting to the same Savior. We can invite people to a place where they can meet the God who acknowledges their greatest fears, sees their deepest needs and sent His Son to save us.

Whether someone comes to church out of curiosity, a willingness to try something new, or desperation for a Savior, it could be your invitation that leads someone to meet Jesus! At the very least, you'll provide that person with a much-needed break from the insanity that the world has to offer.

So... Who will you invite to meet Jesus this Christmas?

In Christ,
Pastor Chris

God is Still on His Throne!

With everything that is going on in our world, here is something to think about: God is still on His Throne...and that will never change. He is not planning on stepping down...

So many things are changing everyday! But God's word will never change. Hebrews 13:8 proclaims **"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever."** No one else can promise that nothing will change!

Dr. Billy Graham said in one of his sermons these words:

'Habakkuk said, lord please tell me what you are doing.'

God said, "No I am not gonna tell you Habakkuk. Because if I told you what I was doing you wouldn't believe it.

"If God told us today what he was doing in the world we would not believe it. Don't you think God has given up and God's abdicated, and God's left the throne. He hasn't. He is still on the throne. And those of us who know Him put our trust in Him and Him alone.

I don't put my trust in Washington, I don't put my trust in United Nations, I don't put my trust in myself, I don't put my trust in my money, I put my trust in the Lord Jesus Christ...

When all the rest of it fails, crumbles and shatters, He'll be there."

I agree with Dr. Billy Graham, but most of all I agree with Jesus!

Therefore, God is still on His throne, and **that my friends will never change!**

Have a blessed Christmas,

Donnie Durham, Associated Minister MTP

We would like to thank everyone for taking the time on our church-wide vote on Elders as well as approving our 2021 budget.

The Elder Council shall serve as spiritual leaders of the Church. The Council of Elders shall serve on a rotating basis with no Elder other than the Senior Pastor serving for more than 3 consecutive years. Elders are eligible to serve a new term following a two-year absence from the Council of Elders. To make this type of rotation possible, our first group of Elders will serve on a staggered term.

Below are the Elders that were elected to serve in our first term.

3 Year Terms:

- **Joe Hayworth, Bo Sink, Eric Hilton**

2 Year Terms

- **Daniel Rich, Steve Cranford, Vince Brown**

1 Year Term:

- **Danny Buckner, Tommy McDevitt, Bill Baughn**

Titus 1:5 "...appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. ⁶ An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. ⁷ Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁸ Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. ⁹ He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.



A Note from Mrs. Jennifer
WOW how is it December. The **KIDS KLUB** has a very busy next few weeks. We are so excited for all of the Holiday celebrations. Here is the practice schedule for The Christmas Express Children's Program

Sunday 12/6 TBT
Saturday 12/12 10:00-11:30 in FLC



MTP KIDS KLUB would like to wish you a very Merry CHRISTmas and a Happy New Year!



MTP Kids Klub proudly presents:
The Christmas Express Children's
Program
12/13 at 9:45
in FLC



QR Code for
all Kids Klub
Registrations





MTP Youth Parent Newsletter December 2020

What's Happening...

- **YOUTH GROUP | 5-7:30P | DEC. 6TH**
- **YOUTH MIDWEEK | 6-7:30P | DEC. 2ND & 9TH**
High School Bible Study | Middle School Service Projects (*Snacks are provided*)
- **YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY | DEC. 13TH | 5-7:30P**
Wear your favorite Christmas pajamas and bring a \$5 gift for "Dirty Santa" gift exchange.
- **YOUTH NEW YEARS EVE PARTY | DEC. 31ST | 7:00-10:00P**
Bring a covered dish to share.



FEB. 26TH-28TH | [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

REMEMBER THIS

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6 NIV

THINK ABOUT THIS

Jesus is called the light of the world. This season is a reminder that this whole life is about him. We go back to who Jesus is, and why that is important to constantly remind ourselves about. Let's look and see Jesus together this Christmas season. He truly is the light of the world!!!

Daily Cues



Morning Time

Have you ever felt happy and sad at the same time? It's normal for people during the holidays to experience ups and downs: excited about the festivities while thinking about the potential pitfalls during. One morning try playing Christmas music before your family wakes up and make a point to check in and stay updated with how your teen is feeling at this time.



Their Time

It's the season of Christmas events! The next time your teen brings up getting involved, encourage your student to join in AND to invite their friends. These are great times for building relationships and lasting memories. By being encouraging and helpful it's a chance to give them tips, encourage inviting others, and following up for more conversation later.



Meal Time

Have you ever wonder what Jesus talked about at dinner with his disciples? What stories did they share and what jokes did they tell? Take some time to ask about some of your favorite holiday memories, especially any that remind you of the real reason for the season. What makes our Christmas special? Do we have any traditions or funny stories?



Bed Time

With all the excitement of the season, make sure to look out for times when things slow down a bit. As your student winds down for the day, be sure to ask your student about their day and the day ahead—don't forget that it's the end of the day, keep it simple! It's also a great time to ask if there's something you can do for them the next morning. Try asking what they'd like for breakfast!

Mt. Pleasant Men . . .

Greetings from MTP Men. We are looking forward to 2021 and the new opportunities that come with it and we are beyond blessed to be a part of the amazing things happening here at MTP. We will not have a December meeting, but we will be serving the Sunday night Youth meals on the 6th and 13th. Our next meeting will be a regular breakfast meeting on January 3rd at 7am in the banquet room where we will elect our officers for the new year and have discussion on new things to come. Also thank you to everyone who worked hard this year to make our events and the church events successful and thankful for all the new faces we are seeing come through the doors to worship with us.
Respectfully submitted, Greg Moore

Mt. Pleasant Women . . .

The December meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, December 15 at 6:00 pm. We will have a covered dish meal. The Prayer Sisters will be revealed. Our budgeted mission donations will be made to Love Line, Meals on Wheels, and Hospice. We will have our installation of officers. Thank you for everyone who brought in their Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, we had 106 turned in!!

Remember to take time during this busy time to remember our Lord and Savior, and to find time to enjoy time with our loved ones and those who are spending the holidays without a family member this year, maybe for the first time.



We will be gifting the residents of Mill's Home 2-\$25 Amazon Gift Cards each for Christmas.

Please pick up a Gift Card tag and sign your name beside the corresponding child's name on the sign up sheet.

All gift cards need to be back to the church no later than Sunday, December 13.



December Birthdays

- 2 – Linda Hilton
- 4 – Robin Murphy
- 6 – Steve McDaniel
- 8 – Buddy Boatright, Lauren Cockrum, Jared Hall
- 9 – Ryder Cecil, Hollis Fitzgerald, Jane Mendenhall
- 10 – Becky Bruner
- 11 – Ann Leonard
- 12 – Mandy Creel
- 14 – Laurie Parks, Kaden Swaim
- 15 – Drew Craver, Gary Hilton, Ronnie Russell, Brian Evans
- 16 – Mary Green
- 17 – Connor Sexton
- 19 – Connor Peacock
- 20 – Glenn Payne, Jordan Clodfelter
- 21 – Emma H. Hilton, Jeremy Ray
- 22 – Garrison Lassiter
- 23 – Adam Hilton
- 24 – Karen Swaim
- 27 – Catherine White
- 29 – Adreinne Graeub, Sara Graeub, Leanne Penry
- 30 – Sue Fitzgerald
- 31 – Carrie Jarosz, Katie Koontz

Memorials and Donations

- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Honor of Martha Lou Hayworth by Keith & Debbie Hayworth
- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Honor of Doug & Gail Aderhold by Keith & Debbie Hayworth
- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of James Shelton by Keith & Debbie Hayworth
- Given to The Cemetery Fund in Memory of Betty Hiatt by Max & Mary Frances Johnson
- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Betty Hiatt by Bruce Salley Class Mount Olivet UMC

If you would like to add your birthday to our birthday list, please email the church office at office@mtpleasant.church

Serving the Church in December

Ushers:

December 6: *JW Motsinger, Jay Payne, Craig Fleming, Brandon Harden
 December 13: *Timmy Hege, Greg Johnson, Jeremy Ray, Tyler Everhart
 December 20: *Gary Mendenhall, Donald Kennedy, Chris Hagee
 December 27: *Donald Palmer, Jeff Payne, Bill Darr, Johnny Nifong

Greeters:	8:30 Worship	9:45 Worship	11 Worship
December 6:	Dinah Farrington	Deborah Durham	
December 13:		Deborah Durham	Courtney & Cathy Mendenhall
December 20:	Doug & Gail Aderhold	Deborah Durham	Glen Morgan
December 27:	Wendy Harper	Deborah Durham	Dow & Beth Craver

Worship Leaders:	8:30 Worship	9:45 Worship	11 Worship
December 6:	Donny Baldrige	Donnie Durham	Timmy Hege
December 13:	Donny Baldrige	Donnie Durham	Daniel & April Rich
December 20:	Donny Baldrige	Donnie Durham	Jay Payne
December 27:	Donny Baldrige	Donnie Durham	Greg Moore

Nursery:	8:30 Worship	9:45 Worship	11 Worship
December 6:	Phil & Sue Fitzgerald	Laura Gregg & Jamie Proctor	Brenda Moore & Jill Hege
December 13:	Jescena Sink & Sarah Brown	Kim Walser & Ashley Coons	Pam & Lindsay Hall
December 20:	Julie Motsinger & Jane Payne	Ellen Hilton & Megan Williams	Kelly Peacock
December 27:	Wendy Harper & Teresa Harden	Allison Martin	Jennifer Driggers

MTP KIDS KLUB 9:45 Sunday School Classes:

	2-Year-Old Class:	3-Year-Old Class:	4-Year-Old Class:
December 6:	Cameron & Katie Koontz	Melissa Swaney & Alura	Luara Hartley & Tina Grubbs
December 13:	Amy Johnson & Tia Starner	Rachel Waisner & Casey Miller	Josh & Chelsea Kearns
December 20:	Pam C. Hall & Anna Ruth Crouse	Rachel Baldrige & Hally Allred	Tina Grubbs & Leandra Glance
December 27:	Amy & Samuel Nifong	Maddie & Amber Stokes	Victoria McCrary & Misty Carr

	5-Year-Old/Kindergarten Class:	1st Grade Class:	2nd Grade Class:
December 6:	Tony & Karen Hyde	Tiffany Brister	Eileen Sloan
December 13:	Jill Murphy	Leandra Glance	Dianne Reid
December 20:	Tobbie Lanning & Laura Cameron	Kelly Kiger	Jane Mendenhall
December 27:	Keith & Paula Knolmayer	Mary Bowdish	Emily Sander

	3rd Grade Class:	4th Grade Class:
December 6:	Kelly Kiger	Jenny Hagee
December 13:	Stephanie Comer	Amy McDevitt
December 20:	Misty Petree	Jenny Hagee
December 27:	Kristi Wall	Amy McDevitt

Children's Church:	8:30 Worship	11 Worship
December 6:	Diana Payne	Josh & Chelsea Kearns
December 13:	Christina Turner	Cindy Buckner
December 20:	Elizabeth Diaz	
December 27:	Jennifer Driggers	Jason & Melissa Moser

MTP Youth & MTP Kids December Servers:

Mt. Pleasant Men's Group

DINNER WITH SANTA

DECEMBER 2ND | 5:30-7:30PM

BREAKFAST BUFFET, CRAFTS,
ENTERTAINMENT, AND PHOTOS WITH SANTA
\$10 PER ADULT & \$5 PER CHILD

The Magic of THE POLAR EXPRESS

DECEMBER 18TH | 6:00 - 9:00PM

TRAIN RIDE, HOT COCOA, SNACKS
& VIEWING OF THE POLAR EXPRESS
\$5 PER PERSON OR \$20 PER FAMILY



SCAN ME



Christmas at MT PLEASANT CHURCH

Stepping away from the craziness of
life and experiencing the joy, hope
and peace that comes with the new
beginnings of Christmas. Celebrate
with us this Christmas and experience
the unfailing love of Jesus.

Christmas Eve Services

4:00P | 6:00P | 8:00P

Christmas Day Service

9:30A



6516 OLD GREENSBORO RD. THOMASVILLE, NC | WWW.MTPLEASANT.CHURCH



Throughout the Bible the idea of light is seen over and over. It represents life, joy and most importantly the presence of Jesus. In fact, He is the light of the world! This year at Mt. Pleasant we will continue to experience life, joy and the presence of Jesus as we share the unfailing love of Jesus with our friends with special needs.

This spring we will celebrate by hosting our "Light Up The Night Prom". I want to thank you in advance for your commitment to loving, serving and honoring the Lord and His children with special needs. It will be a night of dancing, laughing, singing and tears of joy. As we take on this amazing opportunity, I thank you for your generosity and willingness to donate your time, resources, talents and cars. This will be a night you will never forget, and I can't wait to light up the night!! **So, join us on Friday, March 12, 2021!!**

www.MtPleasant.Church/Light-Up-The-Night



Night to Shine 2021 will be a completely Virtual Event. The Tim Tebow Foundation as well as Mt. Pleasant Church will still be making this a night to remember! Though nothing can take the place of spending time with our guests in-person, we are so excited that we are still able to celebrate them on Friday, February 12, 2021.

The event will still be an unforgettable night and include music, dancing, messages from special guests and more! We will be putting together a Night to Shine Gift Bag for each registered guest to be picked up by their caregiver the week of February 7 – 11, 2021.

Volunteers – we still need you. On January 31, we will be putting together gift bags for each registered guest, decorating the church lobby and helping hand out bags February 7 – 11. If you feel led to volunteer, sponsor gift bags, or sponsor a shirt, register at www.MtPleasant.Church/Night-to-Shine

December Events

Monday's	<i>Prayer Group Meeting</i>	6:45 PM
Tuesday's	<i>Choir Practice</i>	7 PM
Wednesday's	<i>Prayer Group Meeting</i>	10 AM
Friday's	<i>Men's Bible Study</i>	6:30 AM
Tuesday, December 1	<i>Choir Practice in the FLC</i>	6:45 – 8 PM
Wednesday, December 2	<i>Dinner with Santa</i>	5:30 – 7:30 PM
Saturday, December 5	<i>Choir Practice in the FLC</i>	4 – 5:30 PM
Sunday, December 6	<i>Christmas Cantata</i>	8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
Saturday, December 12	<i>Happy Birthday Jesus Party</i>	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Sunday, December 13	<i>MTP Kids Christmas Program</i>	9:45 AM
Sunday, December 13	<i>Lunch with the Pastor</i>	12 – 2 PM
Sunday, December 13	<i>Youth Christmas Party</i>	5 – 7:30 PM
Sunday, December 13	<i>Mill's Home Gift Cards due</i>	
Tuesday, December 15	<i>MTP Women's Meeting</i>	6 PM
Friday, December 18	<i>The Magic of the Polar Express</i>	6 – 9 PM
Sunday, December 20	<i>Christmas Caroling</i>	
Monday, December 21	<i>Food to Families</i>	
Thursday, December 24	<i>Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Services</i>	4 PM 6 PM 8 PM
Friday, December 25	<i>Christmas Morning Worship</i>	9:30 AM
Thursday, December 31	<i>Youth New Year's Eve Party</i>	7 – 10 PM

Worship, Discipleship & Stewardship Summary

Date	8:30am Worship	9:45am Worship	11:00am Worship FLC	11:00am Worship Sanctuary	Total Weekend Worship	Sunday Small Group Classes	General Budget Offering	Family Life Center Offering
11/1/2020	106	268	36	50	460	217	\$13,472.33	\$4,835.00
11/8/2020	140	323	30	30	523	248	\$13,256.00	\$840.00
11/15/2020	142	339	11	30	522	171	\$11,535.00	\$1,190.00
11/22/2020	158	269	38	29	494	208	\$10,395.00	\$1,045.00



MT. PLEASANT CHURCH

Worship Opportunities

Sunday – 8:30am, 9:45am, 11am
Small Groups – 8:45am, 9:45am, 11am

Staff

Rev. Chris Clontz

Senior Pastor

Chris@MtPleasant.Church

Cell: 336-880-8847

Rev. Donnie Durham

Associate Minister of Pastoral Care

Donnie@MtPleasant.Church

Cell: 704-818-7755

Donny Baldrige

Youth Pastor

Youth@MtPleasant.Church

Jennifer Driggers

Director of Children's Ministry

Kids@MtPleasant.Church

Cell: 336-847-4618

Greg Moore

Facilities Manager

Facilities@MtPleasant.church

Felecia Motsinger

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Office@MtPleasant.Church

336-475-6757

Office Hours: Tues. - Fri.

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

OUR MISSION

*To Boldly Share the Unfailing Love
of Jesus*

OUR VISION

*To Turn Our Community Upside
Down for Jesus Christ*

OUR VALUES

Authority of Scripture

Authentic Relationships

Obedient Surrender

Expectant Hearts

*A Holy Night
- Christmas Cantata*

**Sunday, December 6 at 8:30 & 11:00am
in the Family Life Center**