



MTPLEASANT.CHURCH

336-475-6757

6516 OLD GREENSBORO RD.
THOMASVILLE, NC 27360

JULY 2021

As I returned home from the youth beach retreat and a week of watching kids bouncing up and down in the ocean, I was met with this devotion, and I had to share. - Chris

It's So Easy to Drift - Christine Caine

"Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1 (ESV)

As a kid, I knew about drifting. My dad drilled in to me the dangers of it. Every year when I was growing up, my dad and mum would take us kids on an annual trip to Umina Beach, just an hour's drive north of Sydney, where we lived. It was a getaway we all looked forward to ... but going for a summer holiday also meant swimming against a strong undertow.

Knowing that we could be swept out to sea, my dad coached us every year about the dangers of the undercurrent and what to do if we felt ourselves being pulled under or away from the shore.

Then, once we were out on the beach, he had a routine for keeping us safe. He would set up an umbrella in the sand — always one so vivid we couldn't miss it.

After Dad positioned the umbrella, he would walk down the beach a short distance and essentially make a flag out of an equally brilliantly colored beach towel and a pole, standing it up in the sand. There was no mistaking Dad's handiwork, even from way out in the water. But that was the point.

Before he let us run into the surf, he would make us huddle up and listen to his instructions: "The undertow is really strong today, so when you're out there in the water, I need you to look up every now and again and check your markers. There's the umbrella, and there's the towel. Make sure you're between the two of them. If you find yourself outside the markers, make your way to shore and walk back. If you look up every now and again and check your markers, you'll be fine."

The writer of Hebrews knew something about drifting, too. *Hebrews 2:1 says, "Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it."* The writer was speaking to all of us, knowing that any of us at any stage of life could find ourselves in a place we never intended to be.

Not only had I heard words of warning like this from my dad but from my mother, too. I learned to speak Greek before I spoke English, and my mother always spoke to us in Greek. When she wanted to really get something across to my two brothers and me, she would use the same words the writer of Hebrews uses: perissoteros prosechein. When she spoke these words, her tone would be urgent and instructive — she was telling us to be careful and pay extra attention, usually to something critical for our well-being.

Perissoteros prosechein. “Pay extra attention,” the writer of Hebrews said.

Why? Lest you drift. It's as though the writer knew that the more familiar we became, the less attention we would pay — to God, His Word and His ways. The more we learned, the more likely we would take it all for granted — and miss the awe of our salvation.

My dad not only knew how easy it was to drift, but he also knew there was an even greater danger if we did.

No matter how good a swimmer each of us kids was, no matter how confident, how strong, how knowledgeable we were of the sea and her currents, if we drifted too far, then drowning was the real threat. Dad knew one could lead to the other, so he first did all he could to keep us from drifting.

So did the writer of Hebrews.

Pay attention.

Lest you drift.

When we begin to drift in any area of our lives, it's subtle. Hardly even noticeable. Barely detectable. It's not a deliberate step we take but more like a gradual slip. We don't drift because we aren't strong or haven't walked with Christ for many years. It just happens.

But once it does, if we don't look up and check our markers, we will be taken places we never wanted to go — emotionally, physically, relationally or spiritually. There is no aspect of our lives that is immune from drifting and no single person who is not prone to drift.

Thankfully, though, we have a Savior who understands our tendency to drift because He experienced the undertow of humanity. (Hebrews 2:18) We have a Holy Spirit inside of us who whispers warnings when we start to drift. (John 14:26) **And we have a heavenly Father who loves us, wants the best for us and is standing on the shore, arms spread wide, ready for us to come running back home.**

Heavenly Father, please help me pay much closer attention. Help me look up and check my markers, so I can locate where I might be drifting in my life. I want to stay on course, serving You, fulfilling all the purpose You have for me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“The Shepherd’s Staff”

Mt. Pleasant Elder Update

The Elders are continuing their work to fill the Pastoral Care Pastor position. We have talked to some candidates and are working through the process with the one who is most qualified. This will take some time, we are praying that the Lord is working to make our path straight.

We are continuing with our training, having covered the topic of a Bible Memorizing Elder. This topic has generated some good discussion on our personal Bible study and how we approach meditating on God’s word. Our next topic is personal prayer life.

The Youth Beach retreat was a big success. The Elders will be talking to Donnie B. to see how we can better get integrated into the Youth program after the summer break. The youth revealed their hearts to us and showed us the struggles they face trying to follow Christ in today’s world. We want to support them and shepherd them as they grow in their faith.

There were 12 people who are interested in the Biblical Counseling course. A meeting was held on June 21st to discuss the class and how it can benefit anyone who wishes to get more in-depth in handling difficult issues that confront everyone. Participants will be able to start their courses some time in the next couple of months and we are excited to see how that will bear fruit here at MTP.

We are planning to meet with Neil Broere in July to learn more about his family’s ministry in Iraq. His message was a great blessing and a tremendous challenge to us. The Elders look forward to learning more about his work and if the Lord has a path for us to join him in some way.

We met with Jennifer to get an update on all that is going on with the Kids program this summer. She has twice the number of kids at summer camp as she planned, 60 total! Also VBS is expecting 350+ kids and youth. She has a special need for people to help remove decorations and help clean up after VBS. Please consider helping in this special capacity, contact Jennifer to volunteer.

Please reach out to us if you need our support with any spiritual needs or have any questions we can help answer.

Bo Sink

Steve Cranford

Vince Brown

Joe Hayworth

Danny Buckner

Daniel Rich

Eric Hilton

Tommy McDevitt

Bill Baughn

Col 1:9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;



MTP Youth Parent Newsletter

What's Happening...

Middle School Bible Study

Wednesdays, 7th & 21st | 6-7P

(5th-7th Grades)

High School Bible Study

Sunday, 18th | 5:30-7P

(8th-12th Grades)

Canoe Trip

Thursday, 8th | 8A-2:30P

Drop off and pick up will be at MTP. Eat breakfast before and pack a bag lunch for the ride home. *If you have a life jacket you prefer, life jackets will be provided by Zaloo canoes.*

Youth Service Project Training

Sunday, 11th | 5:30-7P

For all students planning on attending the Service Event, July 14-16. We'll spend the evening going over tips and safety guidelines.

Youth Service Project

Wednesday 14th - Friday 16th

Join the MTP Youth as we serve an at-need family in our community and build them a deck.

Youth Paintball

Thursday, 22nd | 7:30A-1P

\$25 per student. Pick up and drop off at MTP. [Register online.](#)

Vacation Bible School

Sunday 25th - Thursday 29th | 5:30P-8P

[Register Online](#) for students 5th-12th Grade. Pool Party at Meadowlands Pool July 29th, WEAR YOUR SWIMSUIT!!

REMEMBER THIS

“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me.’”

Matthew 25:40, NLT

THINK ABOUT THIS

The world can seem to operate on two basic rules: “look out for yourself” and “it’s impossible to fix everything that’s wrong in the world”. But what if a generation of teens rebelled against those “rules”? What if the simple act of finding ways to bravely serve others created a cultural revolution that countered greed and apathy? Maybe being rebellious isn’t always a bad thing.

Daily Cues



Morning Time

One morning this week, encourage your teenager in their efforts to achieve something—however big or small it might be. Whether it is getting a passing grade in a class they struggle in, applying for colleges, working towards getting their license, or something else that they are working towards. Find out what it is they are working on and encourage them!



Meal Time

Meal times are a great opportunity to connect with your family. Here are a few questions to start a conversation with your teen this week:

- How do you respond when you have a different perspective/opinion than your friends?
- What is something you want to do this upcoming year, but aren't sure is possible?
- What is something you get to do that really brings you joy? How can you do more of it? Can I learn something about it?
- What can I do to help you with everything going on this week?



Their Time

Next time your teen says something like, “there is just too much for me to do,” or mentions what’s coming up on their schedule, ask them what you can do to help. Look for a way to take a responsibility off their shoulders (even if it means you do an extra chore of theirs) without them asking, remind them that they have what it takes to handle it, and support them as they tackle their own responsibilities.



Bed Time

As your teen heads to bed one night, take a moment to circle back to when they felt overwhelmed and incapable of handling something in the past month. Ask them where they think that feeling comes from? Is it from their experience or from fear? Validate their feeling and then ask them how you, as their parent can help come alongside them and encourage them. Remind them that they aren't alone in tackling whatever life is throwing at them.



TONS OF FUN COMING UP WITH THE MTP KIDS KLUB! MAKE SURE THAT YOU VISIT OUR WEBPAGE TO FIND OUT MORE & TO REGISTER!

MTPLEASANT.CHURCH/KIDS

REGISTER

- JULY 15 - FIELD TRIP TO SPARETIME
- AUGUST 12 - FIELD TRIP TO GREENSBORO SCIENCE CENTER
- JULY 25 - 29 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- AUGUST 1 - VBS SUNDAY FINALE
- AUGUST 14 - HERO DAY

VBS

JULY 25 - 29



MTP Women ...

The June Meeting will be June 28 at 6:30 and we will have a covered dish meal. We will also have a blessing box and will have a "baby shower" for the Salem Crisis Pregnancy Center.

The July Meeting will be on July 19 at 6:30pm. We will meet on the 3rd Monday because VBS will be the 4th Monday, July 26.

We will be collecting individually wrapped snacks for the Family Room at Hospice; and we will be doing a Blessing box.

Praying for God's peace and direction in your life

Greetings from MTP Men ...

Greetings from MTP Men. Our next meeting will be Sunday August 1st at 7am in the Banquet room. Please bring any and all ideas for projects, fundraisers and service projects. We would like to congratulate Chet Varner as our Man of the Year for 2021, Thank you Chet for all you do for MTP.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Moore

Choir News ...

The MTP Choir will not be meeting on Tuesday evenings for practice throughout June or July.

Memorials & Donations

- Given to the Family Life Center in Memory of Peggy Woempner by Levi & Betty Leonard
- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Peggy Woempner by Byron & Renee Low
- Given to the Family Life Center in Memory of Peggy Woempner by Bo & Helen Terry

Our Change for Change C2 Event was AWESOME!

Thank you to everyone who donated their change, cash & checks! This community connection allows us as a church to support the Salem Crisis Pregnancy Center and help them make a difference for families in our community.

Total Change Collected - \$1,180.37

- 3 Dollar Coins - \$3.00
- 1 Half Dollars - \$0.50
- 2899 Quarters - \$724.75
- 2977 Dimes - \$297.70
- 1654 Nickels - \$82.70
- 7172 Pennies - \$71.72



Total Cash & Checks Collected - \$1,089.00

This isn't including the rest of the Baby Bottles that still need to be turned in!

Total donated to Salem Pregnancy Center - \$2,269.37

Each One Feed One - Food Packing Event

Sunday, October 17

Our Mission Committee has a goal of MTP being able to pack 10,000 meals for those in need! 1 Quarter will feed 1 Person! July - October, we will be collecting quarters to help. On October 17, following our 9:45am Worship, we will get together to pack up 10,000 meals! Stay on the lookout for more information about this event!

SERVING THE CHURCH IN JULY

Ushers:

July 4: Bryan Bray, Gary Craven, Scott Green, Jerry Hilton

July 11: Ryan Hilton, Daniel Rich, Garrett Rich, Adam Buckner

July 18: Joe Hayworth, Gary Hilton, Brad Stokes

July 25: Brandon Harden, JW Motsinger, Timmy Hege

Greeters: 8:30AM

July 4: Doug & Gail Aderhold

July 11: Wendy Harper

July 18: Karen & Stan Bowen

July 25: Lin & Terri Blevins

9:45AM

The Owens Family

Bo Sink

The Shufelt Family

Chet & Lorrie Varner

11:00AM

Keith & Paula Knolmayer

Greg Moore

Glen Morgan

Dow & Beth Craver

MTP KIDS KLUB SERVERS:

Nursery: 8:30AM

July 4: Phil & Sue Fitzgerald

July 11: Jescena & Allison Sink.

July 18: Julie Motsinger & Jane Payne

July 25: Wendy Harper & Teresa Harden

9:45AM

Laura Gregg & Jamie Proctor

Kim Walser & Pam Hall

Ellen Hilton & Megan Williams

Allison M., Whitney G. & Stacy D.

11:00AM

Tricia Anderson

Pam & Lindsay Hall

Jennifer Driggers

Jennifer Driggers

2 Year Old Class:

July 4: Cameron & Katie Koontz

July 11: Amy Johnson & Tia Starnier

July 18: Anna Ruth & Baylee Crouse

July 25: Amy & Samuel Nifong

3 Year Old Class:

Melissa Swaney & Alura Trail

Casey M., Tiffany W. & Amber S.

Rachel B., Tammy V. & Hally A.

Michael & Amber Bridges

4 Year Old Class:

Keri Everhart & Tina Grubbs

Kearns & Danielle W.

Tina Grubbs & Leandra G.

Victoria McCrary & Misty Carr

Kindergarten:

July 4: Tony & Karen Hyde

July 11: Jill Murphy

July 18: Tobbie L. & Laura C.

July 25: Keith & Paula Knolmayer.

1st Grade:

Tiffany Brister

Leandra Glance

Kelly Kiger

Josh & Heather Beasley

2nd Grade:

Eileen Sloan

Dianne Reid

Jane Mendenhall

Emily Sanders

3rd Grade:

July 4: Kelly Kiger

July 11: Stephanie Comer

July 18: Misty Petree

July 25: Erica Martin

4th Grade:

Jenny Hagee

Amy McDevitt

Jenny Hagee

Amy McDevitt

Children's Church:

8:30AM:

July 4: Diana Payne

July 11: Christine Turner

July 18: Kaylie Sink

July 25: Lisa Lane

11:00AM Pre-K

Trina Sprinkle

Jennifer Driggers

Amy Johnson

Macie Owenby & Bryce McDevitt

11:00AM Elementary:

Josh & Chelsea Kearns

Cindy Buckner

Julie Butt

Kristin Hagee

MTP Youth Servers: **If you would like to be added to the servers list, email Youth@MtPleasant.Church*

JULY BIRTHDAY'S



- 1 - Brantley Mayhew
- 2 - Rebecca Conrad, Jeff Payne, Lance Alphin
- 3 - Zachary Harper, Connie Sands
- 5 - Rebecca Mays, Avery Payne
- 6 - Kevin Conrad, Jason Smith
- 8 - Glenda Bodenheimer, Carly Plott
- 9 - Michael Kennedy
- 10 - Brian Taylor
- 11 - Dale Baity, JoAnn Green, Jason Sloan
- 13 - Nicholas Cecil
- 14 - Forrest Lackovic
- 16 - Millie Shelton
- 18 - Tracey Ray
- 20 - Carol Hilton, Brenda Lane, Jay Payne
- 22 - Candace Grubbs, Lindy Leonard
- 23 - Sallie Hagee, Abby Lane, Garrett Rinaldi
- 24 - Bill Baughn, Steve Cranford
- 25 - Lauren Cranford
- 27 - Brenda Hilton, Eric Hilton, Linda Pilkenton
- 29 - Wesley Mayhew, Max Schuler
- 31 - Eli Sands

Get Connected...

We have numerous Small Groups offered during the week as well as on Sunday mornings. Find out more information on our website or by calling the church office.

ATTENDANCE & STEWARDSHIP

May 30, 2021:

8:30 Worship - 122

9:45 Worship - 233

11:00 Worship - 38

Total Weekend Worship - 405

Sunday Small Groups - 217

General Offering - \$14,420.00

FLC Offering - \$12,820.00

June 6, 2021:

8:30 Worship - 87

9:45 Worship - 239

11:00 Worship - 38

Sunday Small Groups - 240

General Offering - \$8,688.00

FLC Offering - \$1,325.00

June 13, 2021:

8:30 Worship - 162

9:45 Worship - 246

11:00 Worship - 83

Total Weekend Worship - 491

Sunday Small Groups - Youth Sunday

General Offering - \$13,602.00

FLC Offering - \$1,485.00

June 20, 2021:

8:30 Worship - 116

9:45 Worship - 325

11:00 Worship - 30

Total Weekend Worship - 471

Sunday Small Groups - 217

General Offering - \$12,277.18

FLC Offering - \$1,998.33

Monday's	Prayer Group Meeting	6:45 PM
Tuesday's	Prayer Group Meeting	10:00 AM
Tuesday's	Open Gym	12:00 - 1:00 PM
Friday's	Men's Bible Study	6:15 AM

Thursday, July 8	Youth Canoe Trip	
Thursday, July 8	Women's Bible Study	7 PM
Sunday, July 11	Lunch with the Pastors	12 PM
Thursday, July 15	Kids field trip to SpareTime	10:30 AM
Saturday, July 17	Women Offering Worship Meeting	9 – 11 AM
Sunday, July 18 – Saturday, July 24	VBS Decorating	
Monday, July 19	MTP Women's Meeting	6:30 PM
Thursday, July 22	Women's Bible Study	7 PM
Sunday, July 25 - Thursday, July 29	Vacation Bible School	5:30 – 8 PM

STAFF

Rev. Chris Clontz
Senior Pastor
Chris@MtPleasant.Church
Cell: 336-880-8847

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
Administrative Assistant
Office@MtPleasant.Church
336-475-6757

Office Hours: Tues. - Fri.
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM