

# Messenger



SPRING 2022

@ the Mount, "Expanding For A Greater Work"

VOL. 35, NO. 2

## Theme: "He Is Alive!"

*"<sup>6a</sup> He is not here; for He is risen, as He said.."*

(Matthew 28:6a) (NKJV)

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### ***FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK . . .***



(Matthew 28:6a)

*Greetings Mount Pleasant Family,*

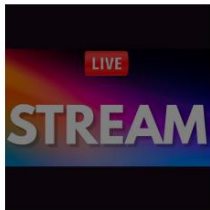
It's been nearly two weeks since the resurrection of Jesus was observed and celebrated. Some may wonder why this spring messenger edition is still being published after the observance and celebration. I say this to that, Jesus is still alive and will be for the rest of the year and forever.

Some of us have experienced deaths of loved ones. And seemingly grief has caused heartache that is too hard to bear. Jesus offers these comforting words in John 11:25, "I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." Because Jesus is alive, we, who have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, have a living hope through His resurrection—we will live forever too. What an awesome promise!

*Be blessed and be safe this spring.*

## MPBC Connect

Visit our website at [www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org) to stay connected.



Live Stream



Bulletin



Give Online



Givelify App

## Inspirations



### He Is Alive

By Third Day (Lyrics)

Angels are watching over us  
With the saints that have gone on before us  
And they join in a heavenly chorus  
Singing "He is alive, He is alive"

He is alive  
Death is defeated  
Sin has retreated  
From the power of the Son  
And He is alive  
The enemy is faded  
The battle still rages  
But the war has been won

The stars in the heavens rejoice  
With the sun and the moon  
And with all of the earth  
Let all of creation now lift up their voice  
Singing "He is alive, He is alive"

Jesus is alive  
Jesus is alive

He is alive  
Death is defeated  
Sin has retreated  
From the power of the Son

He is alive, He is alive  
He is alive, He is alive



**Theme: “Ministry on the Move” (Philippians 3:14)**

Dear Ministry Member and Fellow Christian,

*Greetings to all!*

We pray that all is well. Please know we are here for you. We ask for your continued prayers and thank you for your continued support. We need you! If your address and/or other pertinent information has changed, please send Sister Anita Johnson, MPBC Church Clerk, an email to [clerk@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:clerk@mtpleasantbc.org). Below are events for 2022. As always, if you have any suggestions, please let us know.

- Movie Night
- Gospel Shows
- Zoom Game Night

We want to extend a welcome to our new ministry members and greetings to ministry members who have celebrated and/or are celebrating a birthday, wedding anniversary, retirement or any other celebratory event in March, April and May.

God bless you, continue to keep safe.

Deacon Karl Henderson, Deaconess Karin Henderson and Deacon James Cook  
Ministerial Team: Minister Myra Cook and Minister Angela Sheppard  
(Prince William/Stafford/Spotsylvania/Caroline Counties and Lorton (PWSSC&L) CCM)

**—Thought for the spring—**

“Don't wait for someone to bring you flowers. Plant your own garden and decorate your own soul.” (Luther Burbank)



## Word Search

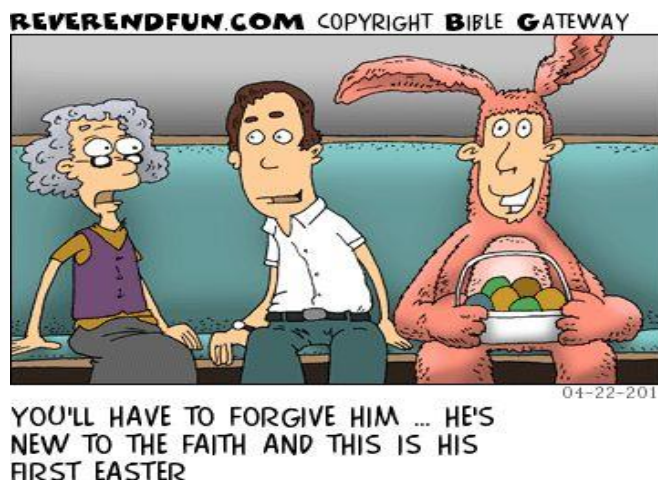
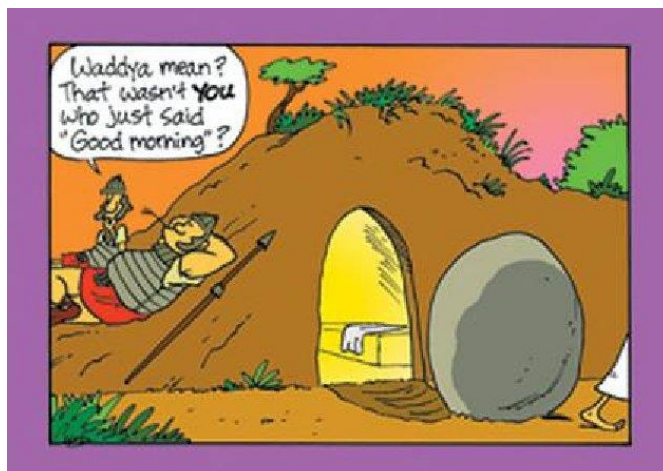
### Springtime



APRIL  
BASEBALL  
BEACH  
BEE HIVE  
BLOOM  
BREEZE  
BUNNY  
BUTTERFLY  
CAMPING  
CATERPILLAR  
CHICK  
CLOUDS  
CLOVER  
CROCUS  
DAFFODIL  
DUGOUT

EGGS  
FLOWERS  
GARDEN  
GRASS  
HONEY  
LAMB  
LILAC  
MELT  
MOTORCYCLE  
NEST  
PRANKS  
PUDDLES  
RABBIT  
RAINBOW  
RAINCOAT  
ROBIN

SCAVANGER HUNT  
SHOWERS  
SLICKER  
SPRING  
SPRING BREAK  
SUNSHINE  
TADPOLE  
THUNDERSTORM  
TRAVEL  
TULIP  
UMBRELLA  
WARM  
WEATHER  
WINDY  
WORMS



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## 5 Ways to Become a Prayer Warrior

Contributing Writer: Heather Adams

God may be calling you to become more of a prayer warrior in your church or family. Ask Him to confirm that in your heart. Let Him change your spirit and shift your attitudes to align with Him. Then, be obedient to do your part in the process:

### 1. Have More of a Hunger for God

“Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know” (Jeremiah 33:3).

### 2. Have a Greater Desire to Be Used by God

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful” (Colossians 4:2).

### 3. Seek More of God’s Holy Spirit

“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans” (Romans 8:26).

### 4. Feel a Greater Sense of Concern for Others

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God” (1 John 4:7).

### 5. Learn How to Rely More on God for Strength and Endurance

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13).

Submitted by Rev. Cornella Carter-Taylor





## He Is Not Here

*“And the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. 6 He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. 7 And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see Him; behold, I have told you.”*

**Matthew 28: 5-7 NASB**

Over the past two years, the entire world experienced an overload of death. Every family, every church, every job, everywhere all over the world has been largely impacted by the loss of loved ones due to the virus, violence, and its aftermath. Households are devastated and children are orphaned. One thing that has been completely reiterated and forced upon us is death. And death, as we know it, is final.

Nothing comes back from death. Its finality is fact. Something, or someone, has now come to an end. Those connections are gone forever. Those who remain are left without. This is the outlook we have on death. I recall at my uncle's funeral my cousin mentioning... “He's gone. Who's going to walk me down the aisle now?” I struggled with this statement because in my cousin's grief, she missed what was still alive.

Yes. It may sound insensitive, but I truly believe we misunderstand death. Though death is final, it is also needed for the continuation of life. Nothing can live unless something dies. It is the lifecycle of the world. It's how plants grow. How we eat. How we make and wear clothes. Really, death is a necessity for us to completely enjoy the comforts we do. So, why are we so distraught at death? I believe we lose focus of the work before us. We forget this lifecycle that we live in requires us, and everyone and everything around us, to die off to bring a refreshing to the earth and the lives of others. Does it hurt? Yes. Is it hard? Absolutely. Is it necessary? Definitely.

Unfortunately, just like the disciples, the church is guilty of the belief that when someone dies, their work dies with them. And that is not a fact. The work that Jesus did in the lives of people at that time left an indelible mark on their lives. They scattered and left because they believed their work had come to an end, since it aligned to Jesus' life. However, Jesus had to die. That is fact. Why? Because the ministry of Kingdom building needed a refreshing. A revamping to make it new, not only in the hearts of the disciples, but for all the generations of disciples to follow.

Jesus' death and resurrection spread the gospel to places the disciples never had to walk to. How powerful is that? Imagine, would we have ever received Jesus if he had to walk and touch each one of us? That's a big fat “no.” Jesus' death proved to all who He was and why He was. And gave the disciples confidence in God's word.

Maybe at funerals, we should change the narrative, from what we miss, to what work does our loved one want us to continue doing. Then again, maybe we should ask ourselves, what needs to die in our lives for us to live in the newness of God's kingdom? I am assured the answer will begin with the story of Jesus and when the Angel of the Lord declared that “He is not here.”

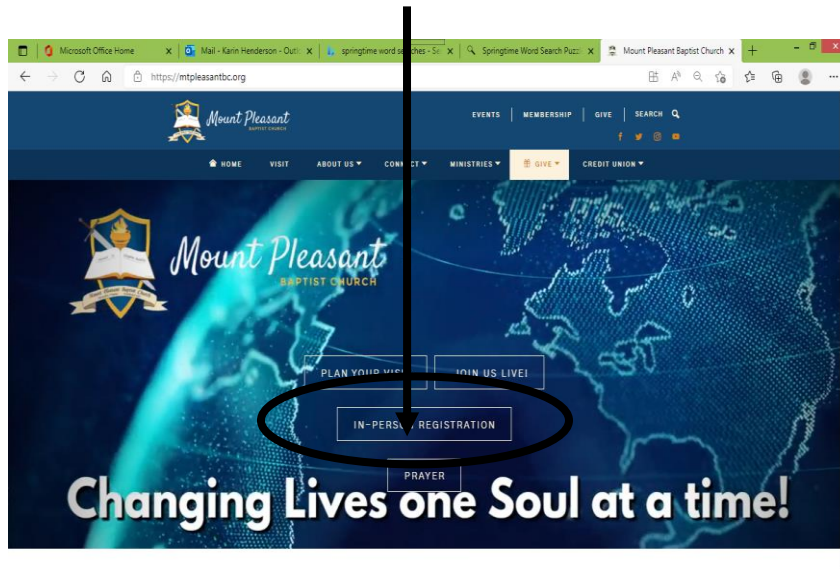
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Alexandria

# Sunday In-Person Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

[Arrive by 9:00 a.m. — Doors locked at 10:00 a.m.]

[Limited capacity, **must** register on website at [www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org)]

To register, click/tap “IN-PERSON REGISTRATION”.



**At check-in at MPBC**, from your mobile device, scan QR Code or tap QR Code (below the in-person registration form) to fill out **mandatory** COVID Liability Release Form.



SCAN ME

All persons will go through screening before entry. Temperatures will be checked and masks **must** be worn. If you or any member of your group have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher and have the following COVID-19 symptoms include but not all: Fever; Fatigue; Dry Cough; Difficulty Breathing; Headache; Chills; Loss of taste or smell or other neurological issues.

Please **do not** register at this time for in-person worship. **Consult your physician.**

## MPBC Events – Continued



**Mount Pleasant**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**ANNUAL  
SENIOR DAY CELEBRATION**

**MAY 1, 2022**  
10:00 AM

**REV. DR. CARL M. JOHNSON**  
PASTOR

**REV. DR. PAUL SHEPPARD**  
GUEST SPEAKER

6477 LINCOLNIA ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312 | WWW.MTPLEASANTBC.ORG | 703.256.1268

Zoom ID: 998 7945 1513  
Passcode: 004033



**Mount Pleasant Baptist Church**  
WOMEN'S MINISTRY

**Conquering Your Worries**

**WEDNESDAY 7PM**  
**5-4-22**

**Our Guest Speaker will be**  
**Rev. June Rice**

Rev. Rice has been a Servant-Leader as our Associate Minister, Evangelism Trainer, Youth Minister, Ladies Pastor, Minister of Christian Education and Adjunct Professor.

**VIA ZOOM**  
Meeting ID: 998 7945 1513  
Passcode: 004033

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church  
6477 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria, VA 22312  
Rev. Dr. Carl M. Johnson, Pastor



**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022**  
**7:00 PM**

**EXALT THE LORD**  
**WHO HAS ESTABLISHED US**  
**COLOSSIANS 2:6-7**

Sponsored by the MPBC Prayer Ministry.  
Zoom conference ID and passcode will be provided prior to the event.



## MPBC Events – Continued

**Celebrating Our 2022 Graduates, Youth & Children**

**Deadline for ALL Submissions:  
Monday, May 16, 2022**

We will be celebrating our children, youth and graduate accomplishments.

Visit the website at [www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org) and complete the online registration form.

Submit pictures at [secretary@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:secretary@mtpleasantbc.org)



**CALLING ALL MT. PLEASANT MEMBERS WHO ARE  
COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS!**

If you work in the field of information technology, computer science, computer engineering, software, graphics, etc., the Career Exploration Team will be hosting a career class for the youth during Church School on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

If your work experience is in IT and Computer Science and you would like to be a panelist during church school to share more about your career, please email Sis. Yvonne Bush at [yvonne341@gmail.com](mailto:yvonne341@gmail.com) or Deaconess Jean Watson at [jean.watson@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:jean.watson@mtpleasantbc.org) by Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

 **MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH**  
6477 LINCOLN ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312  
Rev. Dr. Carl M. Johnson, Pastor



**SUNDAY | 9:00 A.M.**

**CHURCH SCHOOL**  
CLASSES FOR AGES 5-ADULT

Virtual adult classes will be held in the Pinkett/Sheppard Memorial Chapel for In-Person worshippers.

Online classes are available for adults, children, youth and young adults.

Zoom conference ID's and passwords will be provided prior to the event via email and mobile app notifications.

[www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org)

## MPBC Events – Continued

**ATTENTION ALL MEN!**  
**USHER  
RECRUITMENT**

**The MPBC Ushers Ministry NEEDS You!**

We need Our Kingdom Men to step up and  
take their proper place in Our Branch of Zion  
to Guard the Doors and Maintain Order in the House of God.

For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house  
of my God, than dwell in the tents of wickedness.  
Psalm 84:10

**Join the Ushers Ministry today!!!  
Please contact Bro. Bryant Black  
at Awonder53@outlook.com**




**ATTENTION**

Have you recently moved, changed your  
email address or phone number?

If so, please send your current  
information to the church clerk at  
[clerk@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:clerk@mtpleasantbc.org) (preferred)

OR

Call the church office at  
703.256.1268 ext. 16.



**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

703.256.1268 ext 16

[clerk@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:clerk@mtpleasantbc.org)

[www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org)

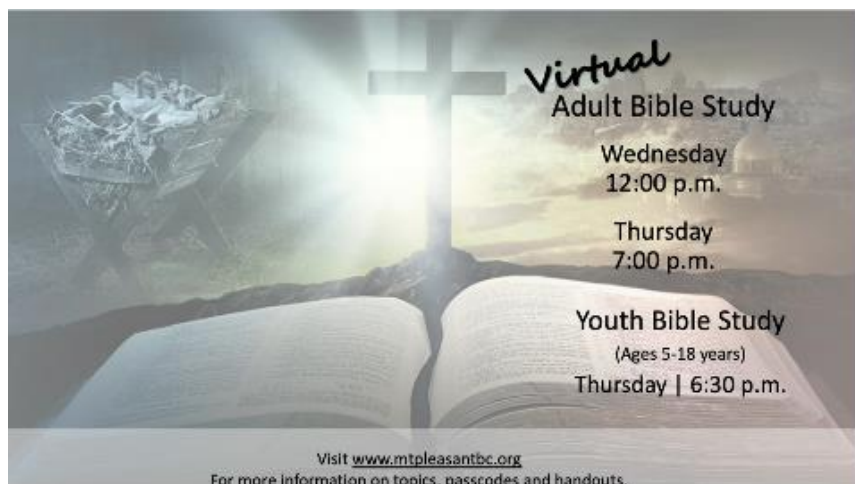
*Virtual*  
**Adult Bible Study**

Wednesday  
12:00 p.m.

Thursday  
7:00 p.m.

**Youth Bible Study**  
(Ages 5-18 years)  
Thursday | 6:30 p.m.

Visit [www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org)  
For more information on topics, passcodes and handouts.



# MPBC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

## Notes & News

SPRING 2022 EDITION



The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!  
- Matthew 13:23 (NLT)

### THANK YOU!

A special thanks to all who supported and attended MPBC FCU's 21st Annual Meeting held virtually on February 28th. There was an amazing turnout of 37 members!

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Congratulations to the following winners of the prize drawings:

- **Jessie LeCount-White** - Two books by author Tiffany "Budgetnista" Aliche
- **Renee Sheppard** - Two books by author Michelle Singletary
- **Brenda Bowie, Eloise Clarke, and Jeanette Devins** - \$25 deposits into their share accounts
- **Keith Powell** - Keurig coffee maker
- **Rev. Dwight Cokely** - Google Home device
- **Rev. Cornella Carter-Taylor** - 32" HD TV

## CONGRATULATIONS

We are YOUR Credit Union.



The filing deadline to submit 2021 tax returns or an extension to file and pay tax owed is Monday, April 18, 2022. Taxpayers requesting an extension will have until Monday, October 17, 2022 to file.

**Tax Tips:** Did you have a tax refund this year? Give your savings a boost with a deposit to your MPBC FCU savings account.

No tax refund this year? We can help! Apply today for a signature loan up to \$7,500 to assist with paying your tax liability.



### FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

April 1st is the beginning of Financial Literacy Month! Visit

[www.mtpleasantbc.org/credit-union](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org/credit-union) to download a free, April financial check-up calendar.

### OPERATION STATUS

The Credit Union will re-open on Sunday mornings beginning Sunday, May 1st. Operating hours are from 9:00 - 10:30 AM. Church entry protocol must be followed and masks are required. For more information, please contact the Credit Union.

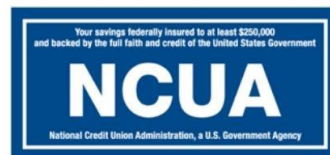
### CONTACT US:

**MPBC Federal Credit Union**  
P.O. Box 11146  
Alexandria, VA 22312

(703) 256-4802

[mpbcfcu@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:mpbcfcu@mtpleasantbc.org)

[www.mtpleasantbc.org/credit-union](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org/credit-union)



Thanks for your business.



## Ministry Opportunities

[There are still ministry opportunities to consider.]

*“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
which God prepared beforehand ...”*

**Ephesians 2:10**

**Homeless Ministry** — Cooks — contact Sister Shirley Thomas

**Youth Ministry** — Director/Assistants — 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays during 11:00 a.m. Worship Service;  
Thursday Nite Takeover (TNT) Workers/Teachers/Helpers — contact Reverend E. Chris White, III

**Nursery Ministry** — Assistants — contact Sister Allie Hollister

**Nurses Ministry** — Nurses — contact Sister Phyllis Jordan

**Audio/Visual** — Assistants — contact Church Office

**Grief Ministry** — Members — contact Sister Denise Mackie-Smith

**Church School** — Van Drivers/Teachers — contact Sister Yvonne Bush

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY (CCM) by DEACON, DEACONESS, MINISTERIAL STAFF and ZIP CODE

Pastor <b>Johnson</b>	John <b>White (MD)</b> Jessie <b>LeCount-White</b> Jerry and Rosie <b>Brown</b> Marcia <b>Gilbert-Gregory</b> Annette <b>Colclough</b> Min. Percy <b>Edwards</b> Rev. Vonda <b>Batts</b> Rev. Dwight <b>Cokely</b>	Karl and Karin <b>Henderson</b> James <b>Cook</b> Min. Myra <b>Cook</b> Min. Angela <b>Sheppard</b>	Jerald and Faye <b>Stark</b> Maurice <b>Evans</b> Gloria <b>Giron</b> Min. Myron <b>Euille</b> Min. Leticia <b>Watson</b> Min. Stephanie <b>Gillus</b> Min. Eldred <b>Williams</b>	Carlton <b>Brown</b> Amanda <b>Brown</b> Dalton <b>Martin</b> Min. Linda <b>Hayes</b> Min. Percell <b>Spinner</b>	David <b>Evans</b> Spencer and Mattie <b>Charles</b> Michael and Sylvia <b>Hardy</b> Min. Henrietta <b>Nelson</b> Rev. Yvette <b>Baldwin</b>	Barry <b>Newsome</b> Glenn <b>Blackwell</b> La'Tonia <b>White</b> Rev. Chris <b>White</b> Rev. Margaret <b>Barr</b>	John and Barbara <b>White</b> Edward <b>Robinson</b> Rev. Cornella <b>Carter-Taylor</b>	Kenneth and Rita <b>Jackson</b> Averil <b>Tomlinson</b> Robert <b>Brooks</b> Sherri <b>Morgan</b> Rev. Brian <b>Morgan</b> Min. Mark <b>Miller</b>	James and Jean <b>Watson</b> Michael <b>Wilson</b> Susie <b>Taylor</b> Rev. Jessie <b>Reynolds</b>
<b>Deacons, Deaconesses, and Family</b>	<b>DC and Maryland</b> All Zip Codes	<b>Prince William County</b> (excluding Manassas and its independent cities)	<b>Centreville</b>  <b>Chantilly</b>  <b>Manassas</b>  <b>Sterling</b>  <b>Nokesville</b>  <b>Herndon</b>  <b>Reston</b>  <b>Fauquier, Warren, and Loudoun Counties</b>  <b>Fairfax</b> 22030 22031 22032 22033 22037  <b>Vienna</b> 22180	<b>Alexandria</b> 22312	<b>Ft. Belvoir</b> 22060  <b>Alexandria</b> 22301 22302 22303 22305 22306 22307 22308 22309 22310 22313 22314 22315	<b>Alexandria</b> 22304 22311	<b>Arlington</b> All Zip Codes 22201 22202 22203 22204 22205 22206 22207 22209 22211 22212	<b>Burke</b> 22015  <b>Fairfax</b> 22039  <b>Springfield</b> 22150 22151 22152 22153	<b>Annandale</b> 22003  <b>Mclean</b>  <b>Merrifield</b>
<b>Out of Town Members</b>		<b>Lorton</b> 22079 22199  <b>Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Caroline Counties</b>							
Ronald <b>Hampton</b> Marilyn <b>McPherson</b> Karen <b>White</b> Josephine <b>Byrd</b> Min. Aleia <b>Taylor</b> Min. Carl <b>Hollister</b>									
<b>Falls Church and Baileys X-roads</b> 22041 22042 22043 22044 22046									

**Updated Feb. 2022**

**Mount Pleasant Baptist Church**  
6477 Lincolnia Road  
Alexandria, Virginia 22312  
(703) 256-1268  
*Rev. Dr. Carl M. Johnson, Pastor*



*email: [secretary@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:secretary@mtpleasantbc.org)  
web site: [www.mtpleasantbc.org](http://www.mtpleasantbc.org)*

### **MPBC Messenger Staff**

Karin Henderson	Editor-in-Chief/ Designer
Eloise Clarke	Editor
Anita Johnson	Editor
Debbie Coles	Church News Reporter
Linda Hayes	Staff Writer/Contributor



### **VIRTUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE WAS HELD ON APRIL 23, 2022**

#### **Vision Statement**

A Church “Growing by Grace.” (2 Peter 3:18)

#### **Mission Statement**

“To grow a congregation of believers committed to the ministry of Worship, Evangelism, Missions, Discipleship, Service, and Fellowship with a heart for Prayer, Bible Study, and the Great Commission.” (Matthew 28:19–20)

#### **Theme**

@ the Mount, “Expanding For A Greater Work” (Isaiah 54:2)

Submission of articles to the **Messenger** — Please send articles via email attachment to:  
[mpbcnewsletter@mtpleasantbc.org](mailto:mpbcnewsletter@mtpleasantbc.org).