

Theme: "God's Amazing Love"

"¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

John 3:16 (NKJV)

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK . . .



(John 3:16)

Greetings Mount Pleasant Family,

I pray you had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you a blessed and prosperous new year. I heard a song, "No Greater Love", sung by Rudy Currence and Chrisette Michele on the radio one day while driving. The lyrics of the song are so fitting for this messenger's theme. For my article, I present the lyrics to the song which are below and continued on page 2.

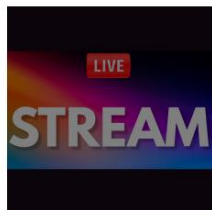
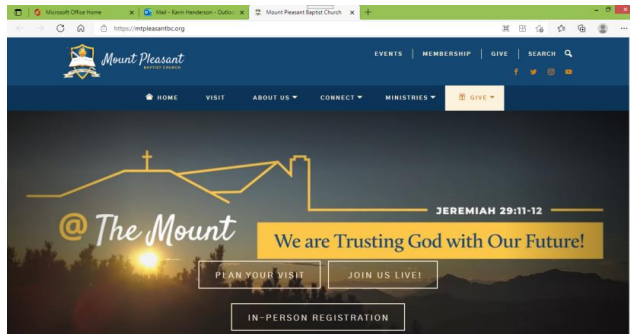
Dear Father,

Yeah I know you see me
I cannot hide
You know what I have done
Yet you decide to love me anyway
No, I cannot lie. How do you see beyond my flaws
I don't know why you would save somebody like me
What kind of love is this
That would claim a filthy rag
What kind of love is this
Yeah, that can still see the good when it's all bad
What kind of love is this
That would lay down his life just for me
None greater
No there is no greater love

(Article continued on Page 2)

MPBC Connect

Visit our website at www.mtpleasantbc.org to stay connected.



Live Stream



Bulletin



Give Online



Givelify App

“No Greater Love” (*continued from page 1*)

You took my cage and a debt I could not pay
 Yet you decided to plead not guilty
 Oh it was amazing grace that saved a wretch like me
 I'll tell the world that I've been set free
 What kind of love is this that would claim a filthy rag
 What kind of love is this that can still see the good when it's all bad
 What kind of love is this
 That would lay down his life just for me
 None greater
 I know I'm not the only one to receive that kind of love
 For God so loved the world, for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son,
 His only son that whosoever so ever whoever believing on him whoever so believes in him
 You gotta believe, can have life
 Who would've made that sacrifice
 None greater
 Can you imagine how they pierced him in his side
 The blood came streaming down
 Never said a mumbling word
 I thank you I searched high and low I searched the whole wide world
 None greater
 But I couldn't find nobody
 Nobody to love me right
 Nobody to care
 And it was right when I needed you most
 That you were right there
 I don't know where I would be without your love
 None greater
 Where would I be without your grace
 I really don't know
 No, there is no greater love
 I cannot hide. You know what I have done
 Yet you decided to love me anyway

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFa3T1dmvxQ>



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 support and we need your help because we cannot do it without you! We want to extend a “Thank You” for supporting our events over the past months. Below are past events as well as events for 2022. [See pictures of our events on the following page.]

- Drive-By Visitations (commenced in July 2021)
- Outreach Project (prepare home cooked meals for the Supportive Shelter in Prince William County) (commenced in August 2021)
- Outdoor Social/Fellowship (September 2021)
- Christian Comedy (September 2021)
- MPBC Got Talent (November 2021)
- “Take A Guess” Game (December 2021)
- 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 December 2021, January 2022 and February 2022.

God bless you, continue to keep safe and have a blessed new year.

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

—Thought for the winter—

“Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers.” (Kahlil Gibran)





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



Outreach Project (Supportive Shelter in Prince William County (Woodbridge))
[CCM members prepared and/or provided meals]



Outreach Project (Homeless Shelters in Prince William County (Woodbridge))
[winter clothes, winter gift bags (gloves, hats, face masks, hand sanitizer, socks—donated by the Ezekiel Missionary Ministry) and Christmas gifts for children—donated by CCM members were taken to the shelters]

Collaboration At Its Best

Distribution of “Supplies and Treats” Goodie Bags

Submitted by Deaconess La’Tonia White (MPBC)

On Saturday, October 30th, the Youth Ministry had an event where the Deaconess Ministry passed out bags of goodies to Mount Pleasant children and teens as well as to children in the community. The Deaconess Ministry collaborated with the Youth Ministry and donated drawstring bags, school supplies, face masks, hand sanitizer, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and of course candy which was also donated by Mount Pleasant members. The drawstring bags included those items as well as a gift card donated by the Church School. Other treats were also donated by the Church School.

The Deaconesses arrived on the morning of October 30th to put together over 40 bags to distribute. The weather outside was beautiful, and under a tent set up in the parking lot next to the church were welcoming Deaconesses who passed out the bags to the youth. The young people were delighted to receive the items. With this now being the second year of not having a harvest festival because of the pandemic, having this event was literally a special treat because it still blessed the youth of our church to receive something. It was also wonderful seeing our young people and to see how much they have grown!



Youth Ministry

MPBC Annual Toy and Pajama Drive 2021

Submitted by Deaconess La'Tonia White (MPBC)

For several years, Mount Pleasant's Youth Ministry in partnership with the Fairfax County Police Department – Mason District Station, Annandale, have worked together to collect toys for children in need in our local communities during the Christmas holiday. In more recent years, in addition to toys, pajamas were added to the list as a need for children and Mount Pleasant's annual "Toy Drive" became the annual "Toy and Pajama Drive."

Each year during the drive, members of Mount Pleasant donate several toys and pajamas that are collected at the church. Afterwards, all items are dropped off at the Mason District Station. On a day right before Christmas, officers go out into the communities of needy families and distribute the toys and pajamas to children ages infant to teens. What also makes this day of delivering toys more exciting is seeing the officers dressed up as Santa Claus and elves as they handout these gifts to kids and teens who may not have received presents on Christmas Day.

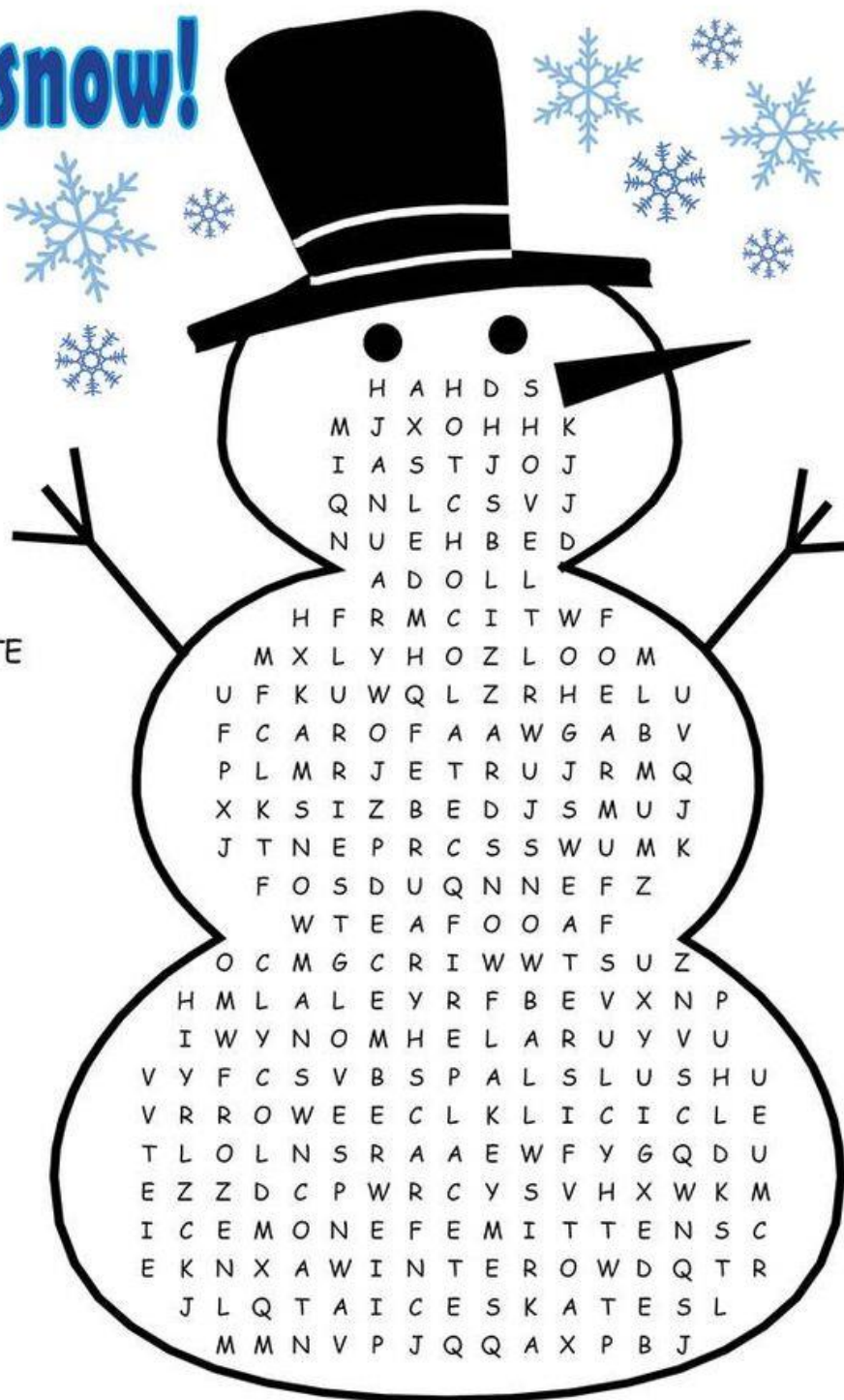
As always, a very special "thank you" to our Mount Pleasant members who donated this year, and thank you to youth and young adult, Evans and La' Nia White, who assisted with the shopping for items using the monetary donations received.



Word Search

Let it snow!

BLIZZARD
 COAT
 COLD
 DECEMBER
 EARMUFFS
 FEBRUARY
 FIREPLACE
 FLURRIES
 FROZEN
 GLOVES
 HOT CHOCOLATE
 ICE
 ICE SKATES
 ICICLE
 JANUARY
 MITTENS
 SCARF
 SHOVEL
 SLED
 SLUSH
 SNOWBALL
 SNOWFLAKE
 SNOWMAN
 SWEATER
 WINTER





God's Amazing Love

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." - **John 3: 16 NKJV**

This scripture, along with Psalm 23, is quoted so much in popular culture and has become more of a fad than a confirmation. In some respects, it waters down the meaning and significance of what God has truly done through Jesus Christ. Why? Because if you do not believe in Christ and have not accepted Him as your Lord and Savior, then the meaning of this scripture becomes null and void. It is used as the careless action of self-affirmation and never an offer to salvation, following any reference when quoted in thousands of speeches to sway voters to pick a particular candidate or referenced when people need hope. All of this sends the world the wrong message of what God's love is all about.

Truth be told, God's love has no condition on what you can do for others or what others can do for you. Really, you cannot do anything for anyone at any point, without God's love. We don't exist without it. Our mere breathing is the result of God's love. It is endless and boundless, yet, we have put shackles on the belief that God's love is contingent upon what He has done and not who He is. Even without Christ, God still loves us. He just proves the totality of His love for us through Christ. It's a big difference. God's love is there whether we acknowledge it or not. God's love was there before Christ's sacrifice on the cross. God's love will continue to reign beyond death and the end of all things.

Then what is the purpose of this scripture? Well, God's love is perfected for us through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. God's love is a guarantee. The only way to prove it was to make the covenant with Himself to keep His own promise of His love for us. God secured His Love through Himself (The Triune God) to seal and deliver those He loves. Thus, we only need to believe in Him totally to accept that seal. Everything else has been provided. So complex, yet so simple. There's nothing more to add or take away from it. God's love is so amazing!

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]

To register, click/tap "IN-PERSON REGISTRATION". **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 FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Notes & News

WINTER 2021-2022 EDITION

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16



CHRISTMAS CLUB

Did you know that your MPBC Federal Credit Union offers Christmas Club Savings Accounts?

Did you also know that every year in November, this account pays dividends that you can withdraw for use towards your spending?

Consider opening a Christmas Club Savings account and get a head start to set aside savings for holiday spending next year. Contact the Credit Union for more information.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

On behalf of all of the MPBC Federal Credit Union's Board of Directors and volunteers, we wish everyone a very merry Christmas and happy new year!

Do you have a member experience, any comments or feedback you would like to share with the MPBC FCU?

We'd love to hear it and invite you to share on our webpage at www.mtpleasantbc.org/mpbcfcu

CURRENT OPERATION STATUS

Your MPBC Federal Credit Union continues to operate under altered conditions. Appointments can be made by request. Due to the altered operations, please allow extra time for a response.

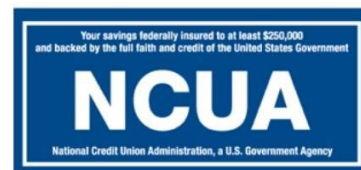
CONTACT US:

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

(703) 256-4802

mpbcfcu@mtpleasantbc.org

www.mtpleasantbc.org/mpbcfcu



We are YOUR Credit Union.

Thanks for your business.

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

Updated Dec. 2021

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Anita Johnson	Editor
Debbie Coles	Church News Reporter
Linda Hayes	Staff Writer/Contributor



VIRTUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE — JANUARY 22, 2022 — 5:00 P.M.

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, “We Are Trusting God with Our Future!” (Jeremiah 29:11–12)

Submission of articles to the **Messenger** — Please send articles via email attachment to:
mpbcnewsletter@mtpleasantbc.org.