

Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

The View

OCTOBER 2026



Purpose: To inform, encourage, and promote engagement in Mt. Pisgah's mission in the community, and opportunities for spiritual transformation. To invite reflection on the process of personal spiritual growth. To emphasize the bond that holds us together, and avoid magnifying the differences that separate us.

Worship Service 9:45 am (see back cover for location)



**Mt. Pisgah
VIEW
October
2026**

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1–2 (NIV)

For some readers of the View, this may be the first time you are hearing this news. The Session of Mt. Pisgah, at its August meeting, made the decision to recommend to Pittsburgh Presbytery that Mt. Pisgah be dissolved as a congregation effective the last Sunday of April 2027. This was a difficult decision for the Session. However, the decision was unanimous and follows a faithful season of listening to the congregation, prayer, and conversation. In the end, the Session felt strongly that this was a wise, stewardly decision.

Disciples of Jesus have been gathering for worship and serving the Gospel of Jesus Christ for nearly 200 years under the name of Mt. Pisgah. We have been charged with running the last leg of a race that has been Mt. Pisgah's contribution to the Lord's work that began with the first words, "Let there be light." We will do our best to finish the race strong, knowing that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses...the countless saints

who have gone before us, not just from Mt. Pisgah, but stretching back to the very beginning of time.

The timing of the decision allows for us to finish the race well. We will take the next seven months to faithfully grieve our impending loss. We will also find plenty of opportunity to celebrate Mt. Pisgah's history and faithfulness. These last seven months will be a time for us to do what Mt. Pisgah has always done well – support and encourage one another in Jesus' name. Beginning with November 1st, All Saints Day, we will take one Sunday every month to celebrate after worship with a meal and special focus. Our last Sunday in our space at Noble Manor will be Easter Sunday on March 28, 2027. We will take the last four weeks of April to close the space and plan to worship in homes for the last month of our time together.

Over the next seven months, we will work with Pittsburgh Presbytery to formalize the dissolution of the congregation. We will also work on discerning, with all current members and friends, a place to call home past April of next year. Some of you have indicated a desire to stay together as you move to a new congregation. We will have a plan to facilitate that part of the transition. Please watch for announced times to gather for listening, planning, and preparing for what's next.

As your pastor, I am honored to walk with you in this final season of Mt. Pisgah's life together. I will do my best to encourage you to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus through all that the next seven months hold. We are part of something grand and spectacular that exceeds our imagination. Remembering this truth will be the best way to finish the race well with a spirit of gratitude and hope.

Peace...Tom

Prayer Corner

One of the greatest of all the promises in the Bible is this: *I am with you*. Jesus said it to his disciples (and to us) at the end of Matthew's Gospel:

"Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." If the Lord is with us, what do we have to fear? What do we lack? How can we lose? The same Lord who walked on water, healed the sick and rose from the dead is saving us, watching over us, guiding our steps. Knowing this, why don't we dance in the streets and throw more parties? Why do we sometimes act as though God is not only not with us but that he is nowhere in the vicinity?

If you are troubled by some persistent failing, by some entrenched sin, by some ongoing disappointment, remember Jesus' assurance that He is present. Express your sorrow, ask for and receive his forgiveness, and then pray this famous 4th century prayer known as St. Patrick's Breastplate:

*Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart;
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.
Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.
Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart;
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.*

Adapted from Praying the Names of Jesus

by Ann Spangler

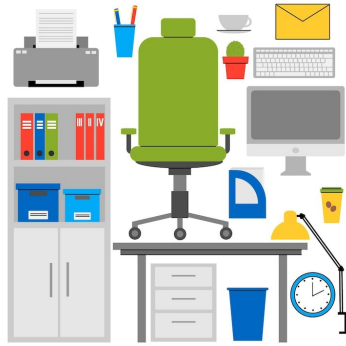
For the Prayer Corner Team, Marta Pletz

Prayer Corner Team: Cindy Grindel,
Luann Walton & Marta Pletz

October Breath Prayer

Breathe In: Lord, Jesus

Breathe Out: Bless our efforts to build your Kingdom



Sharing with the Community Day

Save the Date and Spread the Word!

On **Saturday, October 10**, Mt. Pisgah will open its doors to friends, family, neighbors, and community organizations from **9 AM - 12 noon** for a Day of Sharing. All are welcome to come and browse a variety of items including file cabinets, assorted chairs, book-cases and tables, children's books and videos, Bible Study materials, and other items - all free for the taking! There will also be a few items available for a small suggested donation.

Please save the date and help us spread the word to individuals or organizations that might be in need of any of these items.

For further information, contact Marta Pletz or Cindy Grindel.

Continuing Hope...

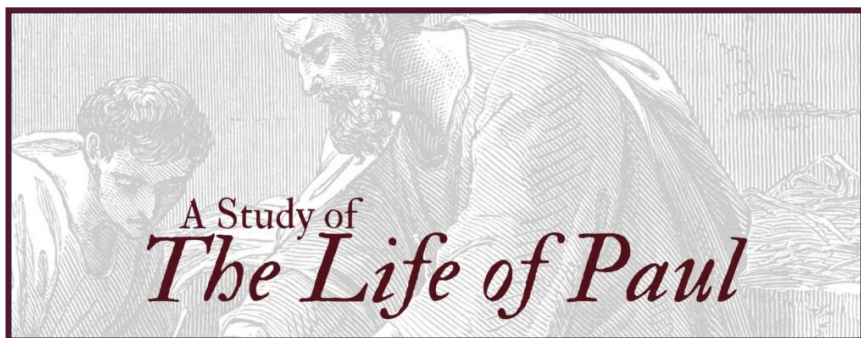
Imagine you have a nightlight in the kitchen. It's just the right thing when you wake up restless in the middle of the night and grab a glass of water. But most of the time, you sleep undisturbed, never seeing the nightlight's glow or giving it a second thought. The light simply shines, regardless of what you do or don't do. In the same way, **hope** simply *is*, because the resurrection has already happened.

With this image in mind, take a moment and pray: "God, I can't muster hope every day -- not on my own. Help me to simply keep going, and to trust that You are holding it all together, whether I feel optimistic or not. Help me remember that hope in You is a sure thing. In Jesus' name, Amen."

(Excerpt from "Clear & True,"
submitted by the Worship, Learning and Prayer Team)



From the Worship, Learning and Prayer Team:



Please join us after worship on the first and third Sundays of each month as we continue to study Paul – his life, his teaching, and his example.

It would be our blessing to fellowship around tables with you for this most wonderful study of the Apostle Paul!

October worship services will be based on the following scripture readings:

October 4

God is the Lead Actor in the Drama! **Justified by Grace**
Romans 3:9-31

October 11

God is the Lead Actor in the Drama! **Wisdom and Power**
1 Corinthians 1:18-31

October 18

God is the Lead Actor in the Drama! **Chosen by God**
Ephesians 1:1-14

October 25

God is the Lead Actor in the Drama! **Perfect Timing**
Galatians 3:23 - 4:7

Some Mt. Pisgah History

Mt. Pisgah Church offered space for those registering to serve in the Civil War. The Rev. McPherson also registered to serve as a Chaplain. During this time, the Mt. Pisgah congregation worshiped at the First Presbyterian Church of Carnegie. Also, the Elders attended their Session Meetings.

When the war ended, the Mt. Pisgah people returned to their church on Warriors Road. Pittsburgh Presbytery was notified. They required copies of the Session Minutes. Sorry to say the clerk had died and his wife would not give up the papers. Presbytery insisted and the Session Meeting minutes were given to Presbytery.

Following the example of Apostle Paul is a challenging road to follow.

At one time, I made sure I was on the house deck to hear the church bells ringing at St. Margaret Church. Then one day there was no ringing. I wondered if my hearing aids weren't working or maybe St. Margaret's needed a new battery.

May our Church Bells call us to worship on Sunday mornings. There are lessons to be learned as we continue learning from Paul, the way, the truth, and the light.

MAY THE CHURCH BELLS ALWAYS BE RINGING

Luella Brazier





Tuesday, October 27, 2026
AT 11:00 AM

Mt. Pisgah Church

We will be using our artistic skills to make a small table item for Thanksgiving or Christmas as a gift for a shut-in or anyone needing a little caring inspiration for the upcoming holidays. We will have supplies to get you started but you are also welcome to bring items too, such as paste, scissors, measuring tape, and glue. Please let us know if you want to bring items and your preference (a Thanksgiving or Christmas item) when you RSVP.

If you plan on attending, please let Linda know by October 19, 2026. Use the contact information below to let Linda know if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.

DayTimers continue to participate in the Crafton Food Pantry. They would like us to gather items that the

Pittsburgh Food Bank Does Not Supply. Specifically, Macaroni and Cheese, Saltine Crackers (those in a box of 4 sleeves), and Ramen Noodle Soup Packages.

DayTimers also continue to support Westwood Elementary School's autistic class teachers with Marta Pletz as our liaison.

If you have any comments or questions, call Linda Polaski, 412-921-8605, to leave a message or email, rlpolaski@AOL.com. The church phone number is: 412-921-8444 to speak with Marta. Please check your emails for any changes or updates.

Blessings,
Linda and Rich, Kim, Marta, Bob and Mary



ALL SAINTS DAY

NOVEMBER 1ST



A day of gratefulness for those who shared their faith with us...

Join us on All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 1st.

We will celebrate and honor the ordinary, holy lives of believers in this and every age. After worship, there will be a time to reflect on these saints, a time to share your stories of their faithfulness and how that influenced your own walk with Christ. A light lunch will be provided.

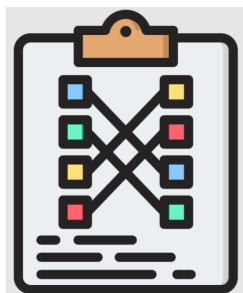
We hope you can be with us on this very special day of remembering! Mark your calendar and come.

Worship, 9:45a.m. Fellowship directly afterward.

~Worship, Learning, and Prayer Team

MATCH UPS

See if you can match each name in the first column with a related word in the second column.



BIBLE PLACES

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. 1 of the 7 churches in Revelation | A. Sinai |
| 2. City defeated by Joshua | B. Smyrna |
| 3. 10 Commandments site | C. Damascus |
| 4. City where Jonah preached | D. Jerusalem |
| 5. Site of Jacob's ladder dream | E. Tekoa |
| 6. City of David | F. Capernaum |
| 7. Home of Amos the prophet | G. Jericho |
| 8. Jesus visited here many times | H. Nineveh |
| 9. Paul led here after his conversion | I. Bethel |

BIBLE PEOPLE

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Oldest person | A. Moses |
| 2. Wicked king | B. Leah |
| 3. Good queen | C. John the Baptist |
| 4. Giant | D. Eli |
| 5. Leader out of Egypt | E. Ahab |
| 6. Priest | F. Dorcas |
| 7. Forerunner of Jesus | G. Methuselah |
| 8. Mother of 6 sons | H. Goliath |
| 9. Raised by Peter from the dead | I. Esther |

Answers are on page 15

October Memory Verse Challenge

This month, what some of you have been waiting for:
A short memory verse!

Some of the Apostle Paul's key messages can be summed up in a few phrases.

Here's one from Romans 12. Big ideas in a few words:

"Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer"
Romans 12:12

Be Joyful in Hope: Think about God's future promises. Let that good expectation bring you happiness today!

Patient in Affliction: Stay strong when life hurts. Do not give up when you face hard times or suffering.

Faithful in Prayer: Keep talking to God. Do not stop praying, no matter what happens around you.

For the Worship, Prayer, Learning Team
Marta Pletz



Dear family and friends of Mt. Pisgah . . .

In addition to your own prayers of thanksgiving and petitions to our most capable Father in Heaven, creator and master of all things seen and unseen, all praise and glory be to Him who reigns victorious now and throughout eternity – “O, what a Savior!”

Prayer Focus for October:

**Lord of Wisdom, instruct our leadership as they
seek your counsel for the coming year.**

Hope to see you in worship Sunday morning, 9:45 am.
Submitted by the Worship, Learning and Prayer Team.

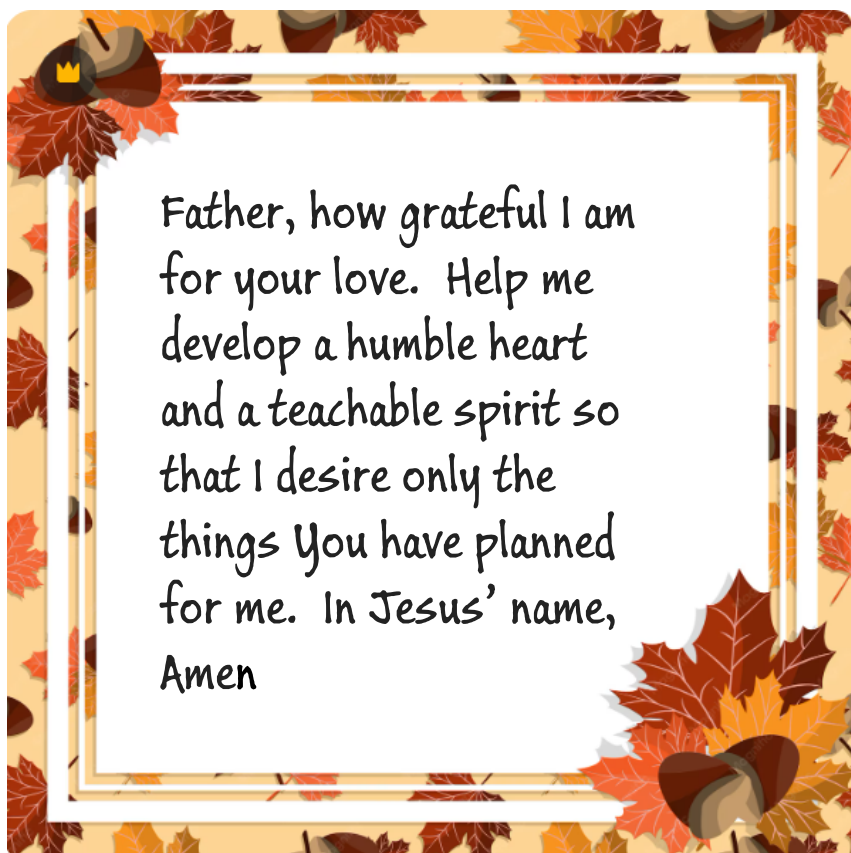
Solution to puzzle on page 13

Places: 1-B, 2-G, 3-A, 4-H,

5-I, 6-D, 7-E, 8-F, 9-C

People: 1-G, 2-E, 3-I, 4-H,

5-A, 6-D, 7-C, 8-B, 9-F



*This prayer will appear at the end of the BUZZ each week.
~Submitted by Marilyn Costentino for the Prayer Team*



DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles

*Please email November
VIEW articles to Sharon at
37.s.devey@gmail.com*

by October 19

Thank you!

On the Lighter Side . . .

Submitted by
Sharon Devey



Matthew 18:22

OUR CONGREGATION CONNECTS . . .

1 Thessalonians 5:16 “Rejoice Always!”

Who will receive an **October
birthday wish from **you**?**



4th ... Greg Virgin

16th ... Jill Folkmire

18th ... Carla Bianco Becker

27th ... David Cook

31st ... David Rentz

Bless this your child, Lord, in the year to come. May they know the comfort of your presence, the certainty of your purpose, and the consolation of your love at work in their life.

**“Let each of us please his neighbor for his good,
to build him or her up.” Romans 15:2**

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mark your calendar . . .

- 4th Adult Class following worship
- 10th Sharing with the Community Day *(see page 6)*
- 18th Adult Class following worship
- 19th Session Meeting, 4:00 pm
- 19th November VIEW articles due *(see page 16)*
- 25th Worship, Learning & Prayer Team Meeting following worship
- 25th SCRIP Order Placed
- 27th DayTimers *(see page 10)*

Weekly

Wednesday, Prayer Group online 5:30 pm

Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

Noble Manor Shopping Plaza

2350 Noblestown Road, Suite 200

Pittsburgh, PA 15205

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