

THE INSPIRATION

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

A Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Publication July-August 2023 | Volume 11 Issue 4

Congratulations CLASS OF 2023



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MPBC Weekly Learning Opportunities



Noon Day Prayer
Via Free Conference Call
Dial Number
(712) 832-7000

Access Code 7928416#
*Please make sure your phone is
on mute. There is no need to
announce yourself.*

Sunday Morning Word Fuel
(2 classes , *in-Person and
Zoom*)
9:00 AM until 9:55 AM

Monday Night Bible Study
In-Person and Zoom
7:00 PM

Wednesday Night
Word Fuel with the Pastor
Study on Book of Job
Right Now Media

Thursday Night Word Fuel
(Bible Study)
via Zoom
7:00 PM and 7:30 PM

** Check Realm for Zoom
Links*

Upcoming Events

Pastor Donalson 7th Anniversary - August 13

International Fellowship Day-August 20

MPBC Anniversary-September 24

Mother Dorothy
Lockett
100th Birthday
Recognition
August 6 at the
10:30 am Wor-
ship Service





Rev. Dr. Kevin E. Donalson, Sr.

From The Pastor's Desk

We are more than halfway through the year, and I wanted to take this opportunity, in this space, to encourage you to keep growing.

I told you at the beginning of the year that our focus for the year was Spiritual Growth and that we would be using the hashtag **#WEGROWHERE**.

I have been sharing with you each month some of the Spiritual Disciplines that help us grow. Hopefully you have also taken advantage of the numerous Christian Education opportunities that have been provided.

It is not enough for us to just be members of the church with our name on the roll, but God has an expectation that we will be disciples. It's why Jesus said in Matthew 28, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Paul then tells us in Timothy to "study to show thyself approved..."

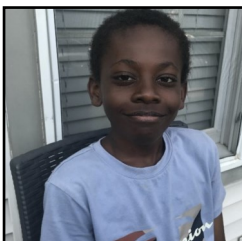
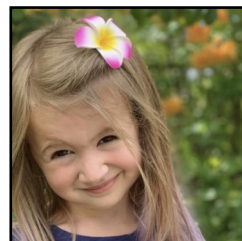
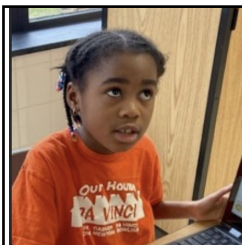
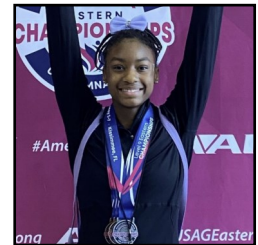
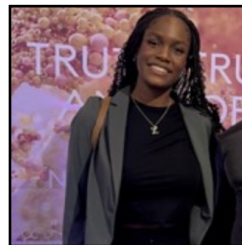
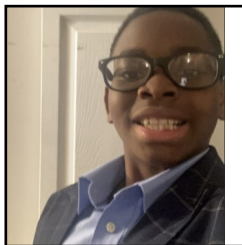
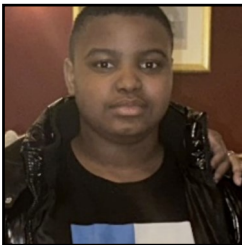
I believe a growing church is made up of growing Christians. In the early church they "followed the Apostles Doctrine" and God grew the church daily.

Imagine what God can do in the life of a Mount Pleasant Baptist Church that is filled with members determined to grow and be who God wants us to be.

Pastoral Sermons can be heard on Praise 104.1 FM radio each Sunday night 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm.

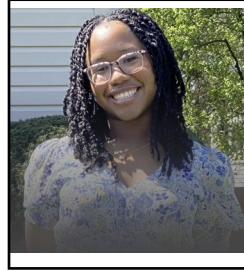
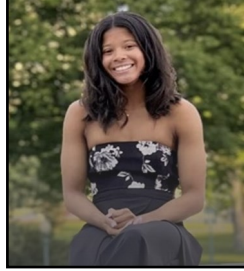
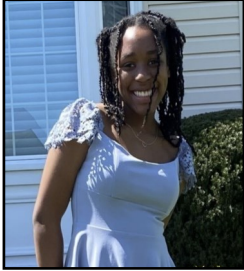
#WEGROWHERE

Young Achievers Recognition



#WEGROWHERE

Young Achievers Recognition (continued)



Our quarterly recognition of MPBC Young Achievers, ages 4 to 18, was held on June 11th. Their numerous accomplishments include honor roll at their various schools; memberships in National Honor Society; recognition by the National Academy of Science; athletic recognition in volleyball, softball, soccer, track and field; musical showmanship in orchestra; featured performer at school play; art exhibits, and more. Among their varied abilities were writing a play and having it performed by a George Mason University Playgroup, receiving multiple college scholarship offers, awarded a Congressional Gold Metal for community service, displaying shared research at the Nobel Prize Summit, inventing a Ferris wheel to display STEM activity and working on climate control. While their interests are varied, they all worked very hard and we are so very proud of each of them.

Pictured, in order, beginning on the previous page are: (1st column) Alia Joyner, Caden Winsey, Emrie King, Evonne Roberson, Jaelyn Bearyman, Jakeem Bennett, (2nd column) Jakijah Bennett, Joseph Aghayere, Jozy Hunter, Kasai King, Kayla Boatwright, Kira Fritz, (3rd column) Lauren DeShields, Layla Hunter, Leah Bearyman, Makenzie Skinner, Mason Skinner, Nasir Joyner, (4th column) Nora Fritz, Nyla Boatwright, Orion Brooks, Robert Boatwright, Victor Scott, and Xavier Holland. Pictured on this page are: Cameryn DeShields with graduating seniors Cassidy Mazyck, Kayla DeShields and Lauren Brooks. Mentioned but not pictured are: Eddie Henry II, Layla Henry, Brandon Henry and Kendrick Taylor.

To learn of the actual accomplishments of each individual, you can go the Mt. Pleasant Facebook page and select the video of the June 11, 2023 Sunday Worship service.



#WEGROWHERE

High School and College Graduation Recognition

On Sunday, June 25th we celebrated our young people who completed high school, college and graduate school in 2023. There was a processional into the sanctuary, with high school graduates on one side and college graduates on the other, meeting in the center.

Deacon Rodney Bedford (accompanied by the Scholarship Committee members) presented the scholarship awards on behalf of the Education Ministry. We were able to bless each of our high school and college graduates with a stipend. MPBC scholarships were given to all high school graduates who applied, with the top three awards going to Cassidy Mazyck, Ashley Moore, and Kevin Glover, respectively.

Deaconess Germaine Grinkley awarded book scholarships from the John Grinkley Foundation.

A special gift was given posthumously to the family of Gabriel James.

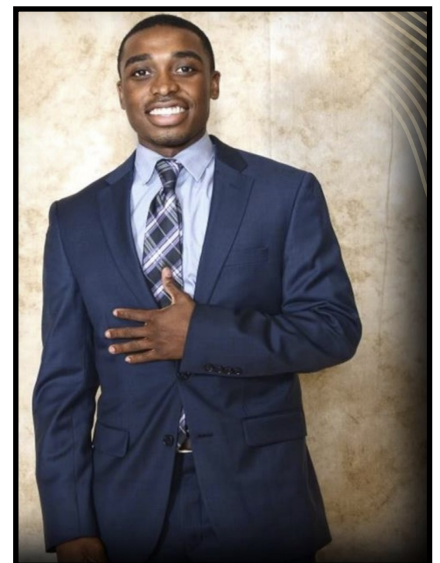
After all the awards had been presented, we heard a powerful word from Rev. Stephen Artis, former Children and Youth Pastor at MPBC and current Executive Pastor at Cedar Grove Baptist Church in Richmond, VA. His subject was "Love Without a Limit", with scripture focus Psalm 30:5.

The graduates and families then proceeded to the Fellowship Hall for a special brunch, followed by Words of Affirmation from various church members and the presentation of certificates and gifts.

The MPBC Young Adults Ministry, Children & Youth Ministry and Education Ministry thanks everyone for your continued support, giving, love and prayers for our graduates.



Posthumous recognition was given to **Gabriel Jackson Jabari James**, who will be given a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from North Carolina A&T University.



High School Graduates

ALEEYAH WALKER



Suitland High School
Plans to attend Tulane University
Goal: Pre-Law

ASHLEY MOORE



Independence High School
Plans to attend Louisiana State University
Goal: Finance Major

CASSIDY MAZYCK



Hayfield Secondary High School
Plans to attend VCU Honors College
Goal: Clinical Radiation Sciences

EDDIE HENRY II



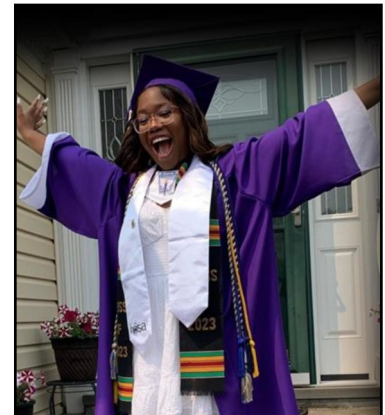
Patriot High School
Plans to attend Hampton Univ.
Goal: Electrical Engineering

ETHAN BUNKLEY



Laurel High School
Plans to attend Towson Univ.
Goal: Information Technology

KAYLA DESHIELDS

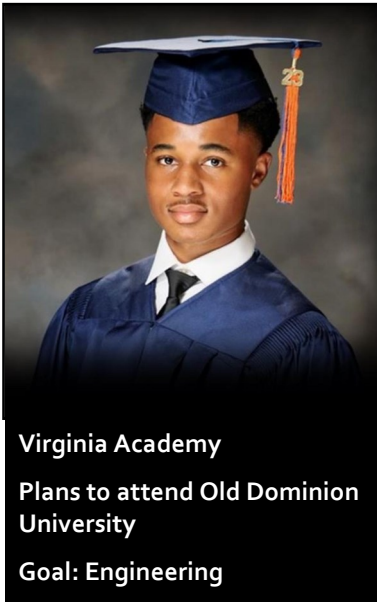


Chantilly High School
Plans to attend Howard Univ.
Goal: Health Science

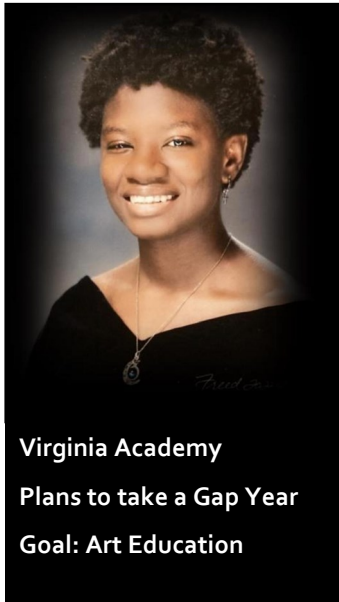
#WEGROWHERE

High School Graduates (continued)

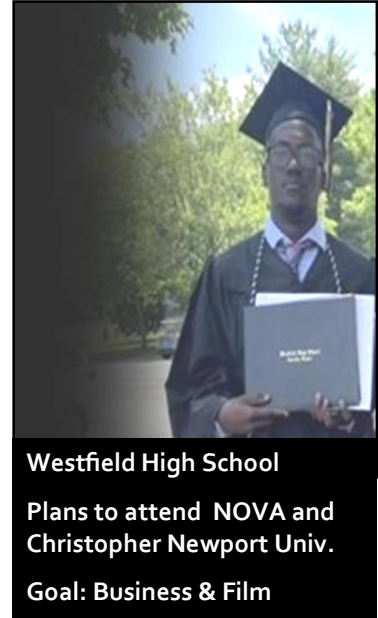
KEVIN (KJ) GLOVER



LAUREN BROOKS



MICHAEL BOATENG



MOU DENG



RODERICK TAYLOR II



College Graduates

ALEXANDER HARVEY



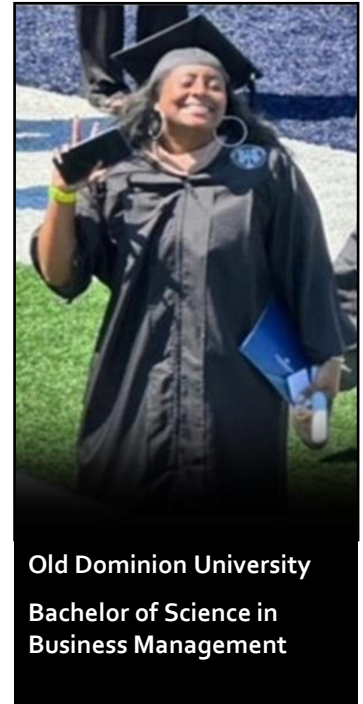
Virginia State University
Bachelor of Science in
Business Management &
Sports Leadership
Magna Cum Laude
Plans to do post graduate
studies at VA State Univ.

MIN. ANGELO COLLINGTON



George Mason University
Bachelor of Science in
Psychology with Honors

BIANCA BENNETT



Old Dominion University
Bachelor of Science in
Business Management

BRENDEN COATES



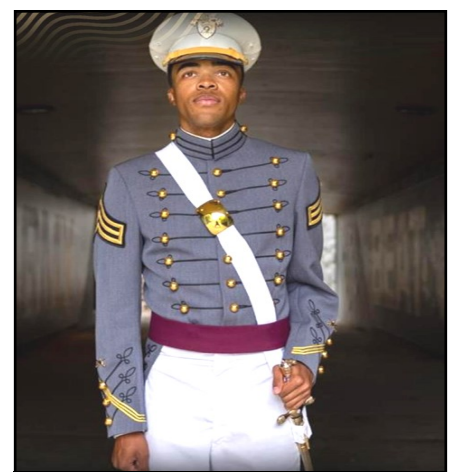
James Madison University
Bachelor of Science in
Sports & Recreation Mgmt
Focus on career.

**OSAHOR EMMANUEL
AGHAYERE**



Mary Washington Univ.
Bachelor of Arts in
Communications &
Digital Studies.
Focus on career.

GARY BULLARD



West Point U.S. Military Academy
Bachelor of Science in Science &
Systems Engineering
Active Duty Officer in U.S. Army
upon appointment by The
President

College Graduates (continued)

JAHMIA MARCELLE



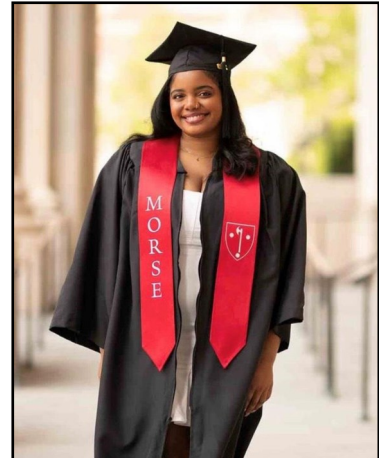
Johnson C. Smith University
Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Engineering
Plans to continue at JCSU

JUSTYN BUNKLEY



University of Maryland
Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
Plans to work on his Ph D in Aerospace Engineering Sciences at the University of Colorado

KYNDALL DONALSON



Yale University
Bachelor of Arts in History of Science, Medicine & Public Health
Gap Year before Med School Working as Medical Assistant

MARCHIA HUMPRISE



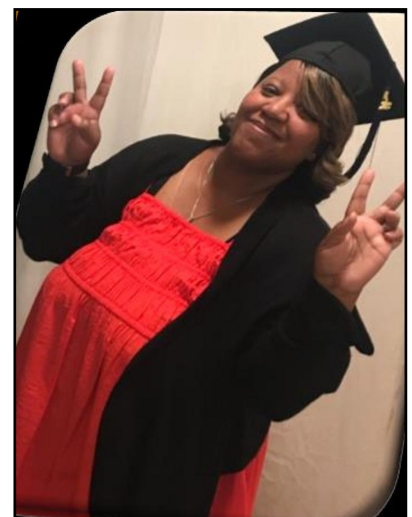
Virginia Commonwealth University
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Post graduation TBD

TESTIMONY GARRISON



North Carolina A&T University
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Pursuing Master in English Education while teaching 7th grade.

REV. FELICIA HAWKINS



Andersonville Theological Seminary
Masters in Ministry-Biblical Counseling
Magna Cum Laude

Butterfly Serenity Garden

Sister Mamie Parker and her husband Brother Pierre Bahizi have been the current care takers of the Seniors Garden for the past few years.

Sister Parker is a member of the Reston Links and has transformed the Seniors Garden into a beautiful pollinator Butterfly Serenity Garden.

The Reston Chapter of the Links and the Rotary Club of Dunn Loring-Merrifield donated funding and their time to spread mulch and provide maintenance again this year.

Isn't our garden wonderful?



Please stop by and see it go and grow.

HBCU 5K Run/Walk

Members of Mt. Pleasant participated in the 10th annual HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) 5K Run/Walk in Springfield, VA. The event, held on June 24th, was sponsored by the Washington DC Metro HBCU Alumni Alliance. Pictured are Sis. Charita Mayo, Sis. Michele Glover and Rev. Missy Holt.



#WEGROWHERE

MPBC Diaconate FCCG Community Outreach Food Drive

The MPBC Fairfax County Care Group (FCCG) Diaconate Leads facilitated a food drive during the month of June 2023. The intent of this event was a Community Engagement activity for the FCCG. The opportunity to participate and give was opened and available to the entire MPBC congregation. The food drive was done for the benefit of She Believes In Me (SBIM), a non-profit organization in Herndon, VA, whose purpose is “meeting the physical and emotional needs of our community’s most vulnerable children and families”. SBIM was founded in 2018 by a school counselor and a group of teachers and social workers in Herndon. These professionals recognized an urgent and growing need to provide support to young girls in the community, many of whom were suffering as a result of poverty and trauma. SBIM serves vulnerable children and their families who face a wide variety of challenges on a daily basis.

The food drive involved donated food items brought to the church on Sundays in June, and a three-hour collection period in the MPBC parking lot on Saturday, 6/24, 10 am -1 pm. During the Saturday collection, a station was set up in the church parking lot for FCCG members and others to drive by to drop off donations. All who came to drop off donations were invited and encouraged to stop and stay awhile, to enjoy some refreshments and fellowship with the FCCG Diaconate Leads and each other. There were a good number of congregants who showed up at the parking lot on Saturday and stopped and stayed. A small queue of cars formed a few times as cars drove up and waited to have their donated items unloaded from their cars by the FCCG Diaconate Leads. Those who drove by with donations were glad they did so. A good time was had by all, especially those who stopped and stayed for fellowship, for a great purpose, and to fulfill a real need in our community.

The response and results of the food drive were fantastic. We collected and donated over 1,500 lbs. of food and diapers, and over \$300.00 in grocery gift cards. During the month of June, a couple of trips were made to their location to deliver items donated on Sundays. For the Saturday drop-off, a van was rented to collect and deliver the items brought to the church parking lot that day. The volunteers who operate SBIM were somewhat astonished and greatly appreciative of the amount of donations they received. The food drive efforts will go a long way in meeting SBIM’s mission. After the van was unloaded at the SBIM facility on Saturday, the staff there gave the FCCG Leads a tour of the facility and explained how the organization operates. It was a moving experience to hear how this organization works to serve a significant need of so many less fortunate residents in the community.

The Fairfax County Care Group Leads would like to thank the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church Family for supporting the food drive for the **She Believes In Me (SBIM)** nonprofit organization. To learn more about SBIM, you can visit this link <https://shebelievesinme.org/>.

#WEGROWHERE

Photos MPBC Diaconate FCCG Community Outreach



Helping Local Schools

Information Courtesy of Deaconess Beverly Walker

Thank You Mount Pleasant for donating over 80 books for the Summer Reading Program at our local elementary schools. We were able to support Lake Anne Elementary School and Dogwood Elementary School. We even donated 500 popsicles as an incentive to read more books.



#WEGROWHERE

Community News - Changes in Law

Below are some of the many new and revised laws which went into effect on July 1st:

Virginia

Price of Hospital Services

Hospitals across Virginia are now required to post the **price of procedures online**. The law focuses on price transparency, forcing every hospital to post information about “standard charges for items and services provided” on their websites.

False 911 Calls

It will be a Class 1 misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly report false information to emergency personnel that results in an emergency response. It becomes a Class 6 felony if the emergency response causes someone to get seriously hurt and a Class 5 felony if anyone gets killed.

Witness Requirement for Absentee Ballots Removed

The witness signature requirement for absentee ballots has been removed and replaced with the requirement that people provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number and birth year.

Move Over Law Expanded

The expanded Move Over Law now requires drivers to make a lane change or slow down when passing any stopped vehicle whose hazard warning signal is flashing or flares are lit.

Blue Headlights

Aftermarket modifications that make headlights appear as a blue light are now banned.

*****Please note:** Virginia will not have a Sales Tax holiday this year (which usually is held in August). This means that for the first time since 2006 there will be no break on the state’s sale tax when purchasing school supplies and clothing. State lawmakers did not renew it.

Maryland

Student Transcripts

Higher education institutions are now prohibited from refusing to provide current or former students with a transcript or taking other punitive measures regarding a student’s transcript due to the student owing a debt.

Payment for Medical Care

Hospitals are required to reimburse out-of-pocket costs paid by certain hospital patients who were eligible for free care.

Health Disparities

Insurers, nonprofits health service plans and health maintenance organizations are required to provide coverage for certain lung cancer diagnostic imaging and limits the co-payment or deductible that companies can require for screening and diagnosis.

Note: Maryland will have their Sales Tax Week on August 13-19.

#WEGROWHERE

Baptisms



Pictured with Pastor Donalson and Rev. Vital are Michael Dearing, Caden Winsey and Gerald Jackson, Jr. - Baptized on June 18, 2023.



Pictured with Pastor Donalson are Daniel Stevens, Autumn Stevens and Shakia Welcome - Baptized on July 16, 2023.

#WEGROWHERE

Get Your Article In The Next Newsletter. Deadline for the Sept-Oct issue is Sept 15th - Here is how-

The Inspiration Newsletter

The Inspiration newsletter is a bi-monthly publication for Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (MPBC) family, friends and the community. The goal for this publication is to provide our readers with timely and relevant information about what MPBC is doing to spread God's word.

Articles and questions may be submitted to smckan@verizon.net.

Deadline to submit articles for the next issue is **September 15, 2023**.

We pray and hope that everyone will find the information in this issue informative and inspiring.

– God Bless.

Guidelines for submitting articles are:

1. All articles must be approved by your Ministry Director before submission.
2. Each article must be in a separate MS Word document in Arial font, 12 point.
3. Each article must contain a working title at the beginning of the document followed by a by-line then the article itself (50–350 words is suggested).
4. Articles should be written in newsletter format with proper transitions and correct spelling and grammar.
5. Articles should answer the following: Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How.
6. Be sure to include your contact information.
7. **Do not** embed photos, graphics or charts in the Word document. **Send each photo, graphic or chart as a separate attachment. Photos should be full size (do not reduce) in jpg or png format.** Contact Shellia McKan regarding photos being sent by phone.



Connect with us!

