



“Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy.” *Psalm 98*

Welcome to the 2022 Stewardship season! We invite you to reflect on our theme this year, **Together for Joy**, during worship and in your prayer life. What a joyous time it is for Mount Vernon to be able to gather together for worship and fellowship!

When people are asked why they give, most answers include: God wants me to; I feel better about myself; others need, and I have; I want to share; it's only right. The question I would ask is, how did you feel? I imagine you felt very pleased with yourself and happy inside.

It's the joy and love that we extend to others that brings true happiness or union with God. When we give, we reap the joy of seeing a bright smile, laughter, tears of joy and gratitude for life. We know that if people give just a little more — of their time, skills, knowledge, wisdom, compassion, wealth, and love — the world would be a more peaceful and healthy place.

God wants us to give from a sense of joy, rather than a sense of duty. When you commit to giving, you will experience the gift of joy, knowing that you are investing in Mount Vernon, ensuring that the church can continue to be Christ's hands and feet in our community.

Blessings,

Melissa Herke ~ Finance Committee Chair

OCTOBER 24 | Kickoff Sunday

NOVEMBER 14 | Commitment Sunday

2021 Danville Area CROP Hunger Walk



Sunday, October 3



Contributions for the Walk are still coming in and being counted, so the total amount raised will be announced later. The in-person Walk from Ballou Park was a great success. Mount Vernon's large team was there to accept the 2021 Marie-Louise Crane "Golden Shoe" award, which is given each year to the team that best embodies the beautiful spirit of Marie-Louise, demonstrating her passion for people in need and her tireless advocacy for all God's children.

Thank you, Mount Vernon Church, for supporting the Danville Walk this year – and every year since it began in 2008!





Several years ago our Missions Committee chose Dr. Tendai Manyeza as the missionary recipient of the Advent offering. Dr. Manyeza visited Mount Vernon on Children's Sabbath and spoke about his work. Although we now support another missionary, some may be interested in this update.



23 September 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I am Tendai Manyeza, your missionary doctor from Zimbabwe now serving at UMC Kissy Hospital in Freetown, Sierra Leone. I bring you greetings from my wife Natallia, also a missionary and serving at UMC University here in Sierra Leone. God is using us as we follow in the footsteps of great missionaries of the past.

God's assurance to Joshua – "be strong and courageous, I will be with you" – also assures us that the owner of mission is with us.

I met God in that Unit.

Fatima Conteh, a female stroke patient under my care, faced with challenge of deciding between traditional care and hospital physiotherapy, resisted family pressure and opted for hospital care. Six months of intensive physiotherapy enabled her to regain function of her limbs and she is now back at work fending for her family.

"I met God in that unit," Fatima always says.

Stroke patients are recovering even with the use of outdated and sometimes improvised equipment in the physiotherapy unit. Patients now come from neighboring Guinea, seeking services by the experienced and dedicated staff.

"But he is educated..."

After suffering stroke, a teacher left hospital for traditionalist care against our advice. I am informed he was subjected to extensive "exorcism" to rid him of "evil spirits" that had "caused his stroke" but he did not recover. He lost his job due to extended sick leave not approved by a qualified medical practitioner and is now a burden to the family. Even though he has re-joined hospital physiotherapy sessions only God's miracle healing will save him because of the delay in seeking appropriate care.

"But he is educated and should have decided wisely," I said to Mr. Stevens, the physiotherapist, who said even the "educated" believe in traditionalists and consult with them.

"I have fresh blood all over my body."

That is what a patient said at one consultation visit. He was not bleeding from anywhere. I was lost at first but later was told that the patient meant "itchy body with scratching." I continue to learn each day.

Praise: I celebrate new furniture in the surgical unit and the new x-ray machine. These acts of love continue to make me feel the presence of God as I serve.

Dr T. P Manyeza

Mount Vernon family,

I would like to thank everyone for their messages, cards, phone calls, texts, donations, and, most importantly, prayers for my family during the loss of my grandfather. The love and support I felt from my church family was so comforting. Thank you, thank you.

Lindsay Payne

God's Storehouse – Fall Report

So far in 2021:

- 85 Households served on average per day
- 9,700 volunteer hours
- 8,491 miles traveled
- 329,187 pounds of food distributed
- 528,321 pounds of food received

The Malcolm Huckabee Backpacks Program provides weekend meals to children enrolled at several elementary schools in the City of Danville. This year, we will be serving Grove Park, North Side, and Head Start. With the help of dedicated volunteers and faith communities, we will be able to feed hundreds of children. The program will begin in October and run throughout the school year.



God's Storehouse works throughout Danville and and Pittsylvania County communities to collect food, distribute food resources to those in need, promote nutrition, and connect customers to local resources.



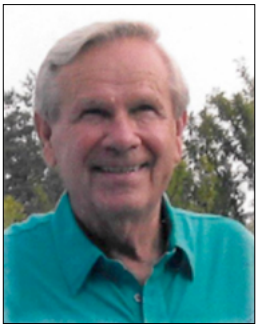
Marian Taylor Adkins, 95, passed away on September 4 in Roman Eagle Health Care. She was born in Danville, a daughter of the late John Hurt Taylor and Pearl Hall Taylor.

Marion worked at Dan River, Inc. for more than 30 years. She was a member of

Mount Vernon Church.

She is survived by a son, Alan Clark Adkins and wife, Peggy; two grandchildren, Catherine Marie Adkins Saunders and husband, J.R.; and Patrick Daniel Adkins and wife, Henreka; three great-grandchildren; two sisters; and two nieces and one nephew.

According to her wishes, there was no funeral service.



Berkeley Marvin Keck, Sr., of Yanceyville, NC, passed away on September 10. Born on September 11, 1929, he was the son of the late Harold and Juliette Keck.

He is survived by his wife, Evangeline Elliott Keck (Van); two sons, Berkeley Keck, Jr. (Marty) and wife, Stephanie,

and Harold Thomas Keck and wife, Wendy, of Providence, N.C.; a sister, Susan Keck Turner; and three grandsons.

Berkeley was a combat veteran of the Korean War and a member of Mount Vernon. He enjoyed a career in sales, and was a master builder who could fix almost anything. In retirement he most enjoyed spending time with family and friends at the home he built on his and Van's beautiful land in Caswell County.

A private service will be held later. The family requests that memorials be sent to Providence Volunteer Fire & Rescue, 6655 Old NC Highway 86 N, Providence, NC 27315, or a charity of your choice.



Thomas Morris Darkis, 90, passed away on September 19. He was born in Durham, NC, to the late Frederick Randolph Darkis and Mildren Morris Darkis.

Thomas was a graduate of Duke University, served in the army, and had a long career in pharmaceutical sales. He was a lifetime Methodist, a member of Mount Vernon Church, and a Bible scholar.

He is survived by his wife, Frances Mackie Darkis (Fran); a son, Thomas R. Darkis, and wife, Judi; two daughters, Elizabeth Pyszka, and husband, Michael, and Nancy M. Darkis; eight grandchildren; and a sister. A private family memorial service was held.

The family requests that memorials be sent to the Danville Life Saving Crew.



Ernest Linwood Wright III, 85, passed away on September 29. The son of Olive and Ernest Wright, Jr., he grew up in Ruffin, NC. He is survived by his beloved wife of 65 years, Peggy Brannock Wright; their son Nelson and daughter-in-law Suzie, of Rock Hill, SC; and son Phillip and daughter-in-law Cathy of Ruffin, NC

After graduation from Duke University in 1956 with a BS degree in Chemistry, Linwood joined Dan River

Mills and moved through leadership positions until retiring with 48 years of service. He was involved in many textile-related organizations, and he held two U.S. patents.

His passion for textile manufacturing was equaled by his deep love of the Danville region, where he devoted himself to community and public service. He was a Danville City Council member (1986-1998), with terms as vice mayor and mayor. He helped found numerous nonprofit organizations and supported many as a volunteer and board member, including Danville Association for the Arts & Humanities, Danville Concert Association, and Danville Museum of Fine Arts & History. He was instrumental in many economic development initiatives, serving as Chairman of the Board for the Future of the Piedmont Committee and the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research. Linwood's retirement from Dan River was short-lived. Soon he was back at work consulting to Danville's Economic Development department, continuing his efforts to bring jobs to the region for 13 years, until his recent decline in health.

He was an active member of Mount Vernon Church, where he taught the Landis Sunday School Class for decades.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on October 16 at Mount Vernon. The family requests that memorials be made to Mount Vernon UMC or the Linwood & Peggy Wright Downtown Revitalization Fund of the Community Foundation of the Dan River Region, 541 Loyal St., Danville 24541.



Glenn Dabney Giles passed away peacefully in SOVAH Danville on September 30. The son of John Lewis and Mary Elizabeth Giles, he was born on February 19, 1931. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Shorter Giles; two daughters, Tondea Giles Bailey (Bob) and Amy Giles Martin (Tom); three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and two brothers.

One of eight children growing up on a tobacco farm southwest of Chatham, he graduated from Chatham High School in 1948, attended VPI Extension in Danville, transferred to VPI, and graduated in 1953 with a BS degree in Chemical Engineering.

He served two years in the army during the Korean War, then worked at Radford Arsenal until he was hired by the Research Division of Dan River Mills in 1955. The company built a chemical manufacturing plant in 1960, and he made the first batch of chemicals. He worked 35 years for Dan River and retired as Vice-President from Hickson Danchem.

In retirement he volunteered in civic and community organizations, including serving on the Board of Directors of PEDO, the Dan River Business Development Center, and the Pittsylvania Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Danville Kiwanis Club for over 50 years and served as Chairman of the Kiwanis Foundation. He was a Director of the Mount Hermon Fire and Rescue, and a former president of the Pittsylvania Historical Society, serving as chairman and project manager for the restoration of the 1918 Southern Railway Depot in Chatham.

He was a member of Mount Vernon United Methodist Church.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the Mount Hermon Fire Dept., 4268 Franklin Turnpike, Danville 24540, or the Pittsylvania County Historical Society, P. O. Box 1148, Chatham, VA 24531.

*A gift in memory of
Kathryn Wyatt, mother of
Margaret Scott, has been
received from Clara Fountain.*

*A gift in memory of
Katherine Pool Conner, mother
of Joyce Fuquay, has been
received from Fran Ashby.*

*Gifts in memory of
Marian Adkins have been
received from Catherine Bendall
and Pat Maurakis.*

*Gifts in memory of
Linwood Wright, Glenn Giles,
and Kevin Fisher (grandson
of Suzanne Fisher) have been
received from the Landis Sunday
School Class.*

PASTOR AND STAFF

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Leave a message on the **church
office phone** at any time:
(434) 793-6824, or send email to
mtvernumc@comcast.net



Scan with a cell phone
to make an online
donation to Mount
Vernon Church
at any time.

At home: **Dorothy Stephens, Bill Hardy,
Joyce Johnson, and Van Keck**



CONGRATULATIONS!

*Addison Grace Woodard,
daughter of Patrick & Amy Woodard, was born on July 8.
She is the granddaughter of Linda & Elmer Woodson,
and the great granddaughter of Pat Maurakis.*



October Birthdays

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Patrick Clifton | Ben Parrish | 28 Charles Shepherd |
| Rob Coleman | Emily Potts | Turner |
| Nell Fredericksen | Piper Potts | 29 Diane Wall |
| Jason Payne | 15 Scott Garrett | 30 Abby deAristizabal |
| 2 Fred Duncan | 17 Ben Caldwell | Via |
| 3 Jimmy Anglea | Jesse Mayhew | Helen Jones |
| Scott Pearce | 8 Kristin Fuquay | |
| 4 Juliet Cho | Lesley Harden | |
| Julian Gould | 19 Jim Cheyney | |
| 5 Eric Keck | Jennifer Ashby | |
| Katherine Milam | DeSanto | |
| 6 Alana Mitchell | Hayward Majors | |
| 7 Ali Stephens-Pickeral | Art McMillan | |
| 8 Melissa Charles | Ken Miller | |
| Bobbie Ray Womack | 20 Nick Longbeam | |
| 10 Wyatt Scott | Meredith Ray | |
| 11 Catherine Rickmond | Carolyn Smith | |
| 12 Betty Ann Smith | 21 Julia Gibson | |
| Zachary Smith | Erica Thomson | |
| 13 Stuart Coleman | 24 Skipper Morton | |
| Bailey Jones | 26 Barry Foster | |
| 14 Greyson Bennett | Peggy Handy | |
| Lyndsey Long | Caden Payne | |

November Birthdays

- | |
|---------------------|
| 2 Kelly Brande |
| Mark Turbiville |
| Steve Weber |
| 3 Joyce Lewis |
| 4 Bill Hardy |
| 6 Tommy Hodges |
| 7 Elizabeth Leggett |
| Olivia Wilkes |
| Margaret Wooding |
| 8 Ian Cho |
| Van Keck |

Our deepest sympathy

*To the family of Marian Adkins,
who died on September 4, 2021.*

*To Van Keck and her family in the death of Berkeley Keck, Sr.,
on September 11, 2021.*

*To Lindsay Payne and her family in the death of her
grandfather, Herbert Setliff, Sr., on September 12, 2012.*

*To Fran Darkis and her family in the death of Thomas Darkis,
on September 19, 2021.*

*To Peggy Wright and her family in the death of Linwood Wright,
on September 29, 2021.*

*To Pat Giles and her family in the death of Glenn Giles,
on September 30, 2021.*



Mount Vernon youth are enjoying in-person meetings this fall – outdoors.



Mount Vernon United Methodist Church

Pastor: Rev. Jae W. Cho

107 West Main Street, Danville, VA 24541

Church Office: (434) 793-6824, Monday -Thursday, 9 a.m. -1 p.m. Website: mtvernonumc.org

