



MONTEAGLE SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

· A CHAUTAUQUA EST. 1882 ·

PO Box 307
Monteagle, TN
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A CELEBRATION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY—AND A HOPE FOR STEWARDSHIP

What a week it has been! We joined the nation in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, marking the occasion with events such as the All-Assembly Outreach Project, the dedication of the MSSA Trails Portal, inspiring lectures, a spirited reading of the Declaration of Independence, our beloved annual Fourth of July picnic, and the memorable Patriotic Brass Prelude to Twilight Prayers.

It is right and joyful to celebrate this anniversary. But let us also pause, reflect, and remember that American independence was not achieved in a day. Thousands fought and died in the Revolutionary War from 1775-1783. The fulfillment of their dreams required a prolonged succession of blood, sweat, and tears, hopes and sacrifices, so that they and those who came after them could live in peace, prosperity, and freedom. The Founding Fathers and others who are less celebrated today did not create this nation for themselves alone—they built it for us.

We, too, are stewards of a multi-generational dream. We stand on the shoulders of those visionaries who imagined a Chautauqua and sanctuary that would nurture a succession of souls—a place where people of all ages could come together to worship, to learn, to rest, and to belong. They did not create this Assembly for themselves alone. They created it for us. And we are building it, right now, for ourselves and for those who will come after us.

It is my hope, on our nation's birthday, that the resolve of those who created this nation—along with the dreams and imagination of our Assembly's creators—infuses us with the confidence and vision to become the community we are meant to be. One that is grateful for our inheritance, attentive to the present, and mindful of those who will one day stand in our footsteps. May we be mindful of the fact that we have work to do, and our work is rooted in something that is far greater than ourselves.

As you ponder these issues and consider how you will contribute to the life of the Assembly, I ask that you keep in mind the wisdom expressed in the words of Albert Einstein, "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." Which way will it be?

With gratitude and great hope,
— Walter Merrill

Rick Boeth shared this photo (among many others) of the many red, white, and blue sights around the MSSA grounds.

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Pages 8-9 have the week's Platform schedule at-a-glance, with all changes through the print deadline.



HIGHLIGHTS

“Origins of the American Revolution,” with John McCardell
Thursday, 10:45 am
Warren Chapel

Learn more about Leonardo Da Vinci and William Shakespeare, with Elliot Engel
Thursday @ 7:45 pm &
Friday @ 10:45 am
Warren Chapel

Cruel Shoes Acoustic Performance
Saturday, 7:30 pm
The Stone House

WEEK 5 PLATFORM PREVIEW

This week, the Assembly welcomes Elliot Engel, a perennial favorite performer, to share two historically-grounded lectures. On Thursday evening, Engel will talk about “Leonardo da Vinci: Before the Code.” Many scholars consider Leonardo da Vinci to be the greatest artistic genius in the history of Western civilization. The lecture will look at the breadth and depth of da Vinci’s work and look at the fascinating reasons many of his works remained unfinished. This lecture will also tackle the universal mystery of Mona Lisa’s smile. Friday morning, Engel shifts his focus across the Channel to lecture on “How William Became Shakespeare.” In this lecture, Engel will help attendees envision what it was like to be in the audience at one of Shakespeare’s performances. Elliot Engel is a popular speaker on the humanities for adults and children alike. Since 1980, he has served as the president of the Dickens Fellowship of North Carolina. Sales of his books, CDs, and DVDs raise money for the Great Ormand Street Children’s Hospital, which Dickens helped found in London in 1852. Engel has taught at the University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, and Duke University. He lives in Raleigh.

Former University of the South Vice-Chancellor and President John McCardell returns to MSSA to lecture on the “Origins of the American Revolution.” An historian whose Harvard University Ph.D. dissertation, “The Idea of a Southern Nation,” received the Allan Nevins Prize from the Society of American Historians, McCardell will examine the development of colonial politics, the impact of colonial wars, and the effects of the Great Awakening in creating a nascent sense of American distinctiveness that finally led to revolt. His lecture comes as the United States of America just celebrated the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. McCardell and his wife of 49 years still live on the Mountain and have two sons.

PROGRAM CHANGES

We have a few last-minute program changes to note for upcoming programs. These are also reflected in the back-of-issue weekly calendars and in the kiosk.

- Week 6 speaker Michael Cullinane had an emergency and will not speak. Instead, two wonderful speakers have stepped in!
 - Join author **Beth Riner** to the Wednesday morning lecture on July 15th: “Bringing Odd Job Annie and A Deadly Development to life. Beth will talk about her two beloved books and her writing process.
 - The **Rev. Polk Van Zandt** will lecture the evening of July 15th on “The Chautauqua Movement.” Learn more about the movement that defines the MSSA past and present.

Other updates:

- **Tennis clinics** on July 6-7 will be led by Hillwood Country Club tennis pro Dan Bowers. Dan is a highly regarded tennis pro and the husband of Deborah Denson. We are honored and excited to have him step in during Hamza’s absence.
- On Monday, July 6th, we invite Assembly folks to join in “**Ghost Stories to Tell in the Dark**,” with s’mores and an campfire at Warren’s Point. Ghost story nights are a time-honored tradition, perfect for stirring the imagination and eliciting chills down the spine. If you have a favorite tale, please sign up to share it—and you get a bonus s’more if it’s true! Let Susan Acker know if you have one to share, or sign up online or at the office. Susan.Acker@mssa1882.org.



QUICK BITES

Pressure washing is not permitted during the season.

Save time at the gate and pre-order your tickets using the MSSA 2026 Ticket Order Blank. You may also call the office (931) 924-2286.

Shop local at the Thursday Morning Mountain Market, 7-10:00 am, in front of Harton Hall.

Call Steve First! Home repairs/upgrades are generally not permitted during the season. Contact the Executive Director before calling a contractor.

Auto permits must be displayed at all times, else a ticket may be issued.

Gate tickets (or wristbands) should be on your person at all times.

Harton Hall accepts cash, check (with legible phone number), Venmo, PayPal, or payment via house account.

ALL golf carts, including rental carts, must be registered (or re-registered) to receive the 2026 decal. Only licensed drivers are legally allowed to drive carts.

Dogs must be registered at the office, including proof of rabies vaccination. Pick up after your pets.

Intergenerational bells play at 9:30 am Tuesday & Wednesday in Warren Chapel. All are welcome.

Lawn trimmings are collected on Wednesdays.

Quiet Hour is daily from 1:00-2:30 pm. Children should be indoors at their cottages. Tennis is only permitted on the East Gate courts. No deliveries during this time.

SEASON OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 8:00-4:00
Saturday: 8:00-12:00

(931) 924-2286

QUICK BITES

Trash pickup begins at 5:00 am on Monday & Thursday. Secure garbage can lids to avoid critters from getting into them. Garbage crews can only collect bagged trash located inside garbage cans.

Golf cart parking at Warren Chapel is for the benefit of those who need mobility assistance. Please do not move carts during services and programs.

The possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances on public grounds, in public places, or at public functions on the Assembly grounds is prohibited and subjects the offender to disciplinary action by the Board of Trustees.

Safety first! Call (931) 607-8615 when the main office is closed for any security questions or concerns.

SPECIAL DINNER AT MOUNTAIN TOP RESTAURANT

“New York Italian” cuisine — Tuesday, July 14 at 6:00 pm



Chef Danny Lyons will prepare a three-course Italian dinner for the Assembly at Mountain Top Restaurant. Guests may also add a wine flight selected by the restaurant’s sommelier to pair with each course. Reservations are now available at the office; space is limited, and advance registration is required. The cost is \$55 per person which includes tax but not gratuity, plus \$20 for the optional wine flight. Additional drinks may be purchased from Mountain Top’s full bar.

FROM THE COURTS

Calling all Women’s Doubles Tennis Teams and Mixed Doubles Teams! Sign up sheets are on the Mall. Pick your partner and sign up as a team. If you don’t have a partner, let me know, and I will do my best to help you find one. My cell number is (615) 604-4342. Sign-ups end on Monday night, July 6th, at 5:00 pm, and play will begin on Tuesday, July 7th. Don’t forget to come watch the finals on Saturday, July the 11th at 10:30 am! The Mexican food truck will be back again this year.

Looking forward to an exciting week of tennis!

— Jane Jackson

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

A Celebration of Life for Thomas Malone Trabue, Jr. will be held Sunday July 5 at 2:00 pm at the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly Cemetery. A reception will immediately follow at the Winfield House.



BE AWARE OF THE WILDLIFE

Be aware of the wildlife living with us on the Assembly grounds. Black bears have recently been spotted in Monteagle. Skunks normally do not spray unless threatened. If you see one, slowly back away. Snakes are found around the creek and in rocky areas. Do not antagonize them. Coyotes have been spotted in the Assembly previously; increased activity may cause them to leave the campus, but we must all be mindful of letting small pets roam at night.



Cullen Hornaday snapped a picture of an intrepid squirrel engaging in some hijinks with this bird feeder. The wildlife is everywhere!

DOG DAYS (AND RULES) OF SUMMER

The State of Tennessee and Town of Monteagle have changed laws for pets that affect our beloved Assembly dogs. **Dogs may not roam unaccompanied or at large anymore.** You can walk your dog off-leash under two conditions:

- 1) This can only take place between 5:00 am-9:00 pm. These hours were set by the MSSA Board. Overnight, dogs must be on a leash.
- 2) All dogs must be accompanied (at all times) and kept reasonably under control.

Please pick up after your dogs at all times, just as you would outside the Assembly gates.



Debra Reed sent this adorable picture of Boomer and Sparky Reed (her dogs with Casey) enjoying the ride on the back of the golf cart. These are two rule-following dogs (and owners)—both dogs are secured!

Please secure your garbage cans!

Also: Longtime Mountain Voices readers know that if you send platform@mssa1882.org a picture with a pet, it’ll probably get printed in a future newsletter.



SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT ON JULY 17TH!



Be among the first to celebrate Tennessee's newest wild place! Join Friends of the Parks for Something to Crow About, a special evening celebrating the creation of the Head of the Crow State Park in Sewanee, TN.

FROM THE MINISTRY COORDINATOR

As we move into Week Five, the Chapel Committee is grateful for the steady rhythm of worship and fellowship that continues to shape our summer on the mountain. Each week has brought its own blessings: quiet moments of prayer, meaningful conversations, music, reflection, and the simple gift of being together in this place we love.



This week, we invite you to join us as we continue our Chapel gatherings, including Twilight Prayers, Ring, Conversation with the Pastor, and Chapel on the Grounds. For Chapel on the Grounds, please consider bringing extra food to share — ideally twice what you might normally bring — so that we can extend hospitality generously to all who gather.

I am your guest minister this week, and, as always, I am honored to be part of this amazing community. Please join us for worship on Sunday morning, Twilight Prayers, and a conversation between me and my father on Thursday morning.

As we gather this summer, please also remember that this year's Annual Fund is dedicated to improvements for the Chapel. The Chapel is one of the great anchors of our life on the mountain, and we hope you will consider giving generously in support of its care, renewal, and future.

I look forward to worshipping with you at the Chapel!
Blessings,
— Mary Balfour Van Zandt, Chapel Committee Chair

JOIN US FOR DINNER ON THE CHAPEL GROUNDS

Join us for Dinner on the Chapel Grounds, every Monday at 6:00 pm on the Porch of the Warren Chapel! This week, the entrée will be Deanna's BBQ chicken pieces.



All are welcome to attend. Each family should bring a side dish to share! Suggested side dishes include crispy salads, cut vegetables, cheeses, cut fruits, vegetable casseroles, breads, and desserts.

The festivities will feature food, music, dancing, and childcare for children 3+. We are especially excited to welcome MSSA family member, Clark Hudgins and his band, UPPER LEVEL, for an evening of great live music and celebration.

Purchase your tickets by JULY 7 and use code EARLYBIRD at checkout to receive discounted pricing on tickets.



Tickets can be purchased by using the QR code or the link below.

[Tickets: https://friendsofscra.app.neoncrm.com/nx/portal/neonevents/events?path=%2Fportal%2Fevents%2F46376%3Fsource%3Dmisc](https://friendsofscra.app.neoncrm.com/nx/portal/neonevents/events?path=%2Fportal%2Fevents%2F46376%3Fsource%3Dmisc)

NEEDLEPOINT ITEMS HAVE ARRIVED!

MSSA Needlepoint Items are here! You can pick them up in the Snack Shop if you ordered. If you did not order and are interested please see Mary Balfour Van Zandt or look for the Wilson&Bow booth at the bazaar!



Be sure to label your serving dish, but we no longer need your utensils—leave those at home!

Pick up your serving dish/utensil after Twilight Prayers

Entrée, paper products, serving tables, and lemonade /water will be provided by the Chapel Committee. Bring a blanket or chair, as seating is limited.

Dinner on the Chapel Grounds provides an opportunity for Assembly members and guests to gather in the spirit of community—with old friends and newcomers alike—and to sustain ourselves with food and fellowship. It is a welcoming and traditional way to meet the Minister of the Week before joining the Twilight Prayers service.

Questions? Call Virginia Curry (901) 493-3045 or email vacurry1981@gmail.com.



WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Please plan to attend the Woman's Association Meeting on Monday at Winfield at 9:30 am where we will be hearing all about the plans underway for our 62nd Cottage Tour and Bazaar! Julia Curry and Ginny Gordon will tell you all about the events of the Tour and Bazaar to be held on Friday July 17th and about the special Thank You Party planned for all of our volunteers the night before in the Winfield Garden. Come hear about the 5 houses on the Tour and about all of the vendors coming to the Bazaar. There will be opportunities to sign up to help in lots of ways. Annis Cox will explain her plans for the Butterfly Boutique and how you can contribute items to it. Many, many things will be on sale at the Butterfly Boutique for very social prices and everything raised goes to the upkeep of Winfield. But at the end of the day, the Woman's Association will donate 10% of the profits to local charities as a way of giving back to our wonderful community.

Also this week at Winfield, Mahjong will be played on Monday and Wednesday at 2:30 pm and if you would like to learn how to play Mahjong, come join us on Tuesday morning at 9:30. There will be instructors there to get you started! On Wednesday, come to an Adult Card Party and play your favorite card game.

Our second Book Club of the season will be held on Thursday at 4:00. We will be discussing The Nightengale by Kristen Hannah. Lori Davis and Shelley Matthews will lead us on an interesting journey into this wonderful book. All are invited to join us. Even if you have not finished the book or are just curious about it, please come to Winfield on Thursday and join in!

All are welcome at Winfield. Please come by and meet our hostess, Cindy Cole, browse our library or just sit a while on the porch. And, it not too late to pay your dues! Only \$25 to become a member. Won't you join us?

See you at Winfield!

— Frannie Smith, WMSSA president

GUESS WHO'S COMING...TO THE BAZAAR?

Thirty five paid vendors including nine new ones! Be on the lookout for homemade baskets and hand brooms, two interior designers offering their fares, carved stone art and stone birdbaths, ham biscuits to granola, handmade and classic

jewelry makers, several artists, entertaining and hostess gifts, persian rugs, hand-hammered utensils and as always our Wicker Man! Do your Christmas-ing in July!

Come support our local vendors.

— Ginny Gordon

COTTAGE TOUR & BAZAAR

Mark your calendar! The 2026 Cottage Tour & Bazaar is coming up on Friday, July 17th. As you're doing a little summer cleaning, start setting aside your gently used treasures for the **Butterfly Boutique**. We welcome donations of gently used household items, home décor, kitchenware, books and cookbooks, furniture (if you can bring it to Winfield!) and all other unique finds except clothing. Start collecting but please wait until the morning of either **Thursday, July 16th or Friday, July 17th** to bring your donations to Winfield. Calling all bakers! We need your favorite sweet and savory treats to stock our popular **Bake Sale**. Did you win the 4th of July pie contest? Do you have a 3rd generation cookie recipe? Or do you want to try out a new creation? Cookies, cakes, pies, breads, muffins, brownies, bars and savory specialties are always crowd-pleasers. Bring your pre-packaged treats to the garage of #126b (Got Curried Away – behind the pickleball courts) on Thursday, July 16th from 9-11:00 am. **Please note that treats should not require refrigeration.**

There's a place for everyone to **volunteer!** Everyone enjoying the Assembly this summer is encouraged to get involved with this event. Be one of the first faces and smiles to greet our guests and sign up for a volunteer slot at **Tickets**. Now is the time to sign up to be a **Docent** and see that cottage you have always wanted to peak into. If driving and talking to new folks appeals to you, charge up your golf cart and head to North Gate as a **Golf Cart Driver**. Sign up today and help make this year's event a success! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4AA4A722A5FD0-64509809-2026>

Remember to purchase your ticket in advance for \$25 and reserve your box lunch for \$20 online (<https://monteaglesundayschoolassembly.org/programs-events/>) or at Winfield.

Be sure to enter this year's **raffle** for a chance to win a one-of-a-kind Free Form Candleplate (21x21 inches) generously donated by Melissa Webb, owner of The Gallery! With a retail value of \$1,625, this **McCartys** piece could be yours for just \$10 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$40. Raffle tickets can be purchased at The Gallery or Winfield House.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved, I'd love to hear from you! Contact me at (901) 489-1721 or juliacurry2@gmail.com.

— Julia Curry



YOUTH UPDATES

The youth have been an integral part of the Assembly from its beginning, and many consider Monteagle a place where children can develop both spiritually and physically in a safe environment. Programs for children ages 3-18 are available throughout the summer. Please see the program book, pages 11-16 for guidelines, policies, and rules.

Week Four was full of excitement and fun! We started the week right with a service project with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Thank you to everyone that came to help! We had several excursions for the kids, two of them being caving trips with Joey. This past week at games the Olympic Games/Color Wars. Congratulations to our winning team! We had a busy Fourth of July weekend where we had our annual Fourth of July relay games. They were tons of fun, and we had participation from all ages. Saturday the 4th was a day packed full of fun. There was the parade, the picnic, the ultimate frisbee game, and finally the firework show. What a fun week celebrating the birth of our great nation!

As always, there are many people I would like to thank for making this past week successful. Thank you to Kate Flatley, Anne and Clay Bradley, Katherine Howard and Ashley Geltz, Jamie and Stephen Green, and Rachel Kennedy for hosting buzzards & falcons and eagles progressive suppers during this very busy week! Thank you to Katherine Walters and Jamie Green for reading for storytime. Lastly, thank you to all of our parents who volunteered to drive for excursions this week. The youth program would not be possible without the support from our parents!

Get ready for Week Five because it's the Annual MSSA Talent Show. Sign-ups open soon and I highly encourage every youth to show their talent! This coming week there are two caving excursions. Buzzards & falcons will go to Salt Peter Cave, and the eagles will go to Soda Straw Cave. These age groups will also go to a waterfall, and the eaglets will go to Blue Hole at Fiery Gizzard. All caving excursions require the proper gear for youth and parent drivers. Be sure to check the sign up sheets and the weekly Youth Board on the bulletin board in the Auditorium for what to bring to all

excursions and when and where to meet. **All caving excursions will meet 30 minutes before their leaving time to ensure they are ready to go and can leave by their scheduled time.** I am looking forward to Week Five and all of the excitement and talent that it brings!

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

-Philippians 4:6-7

— McTyeire Davis, Youth Coordinator/
Christian Coordinator



Top: Eaglets pose at the Auditorium during games on a rainy day. Photo from Bradley Moody. Middle: Shakespeare on the Mall! Photo from Rick Boeth. Bottom: The Eagles (and parents/volunteers) cool off during a trip to Machine Falls. Photo from Thad Thompson.

YOUTH BULLETIN BOARD & PARENTS' MEETING

Reminder: You should always check the youth bulletin board!!!

Please check the bulletin board located by the Auditorium for additions and details about our weekly programs. Also, plan on attending the weekly Parents' Meeting each Tuesday for information about weekly activities. Some excursion times may change, but the most current information will always be at the bulletin board. We will always try to keep true to the program, but sometimes changes need to be made because of weather or logistics that come up after the program was printed.



Sunday: Legally Blonde (2001, PG-13)
Monday: Watch Team USA vs. Belgium at 7:00 pm
Wednesday early-bird: The Aristocats (1970, G)
Wednesday: Camp Rock (2008, PG)

POOL HOURS

Monday-Friday: 8:00-9:30 am
(adult water exercise only)
Monday-Saturday: 10:00 am-Noon
Daily: 2:30-5:30 pm
Friday only: 5:30-7:30 pm

STAY CONNECTED!

To receive notifications on all things youth, please download the Remind app and join our summer group using code @mssa82, or simply text @mssa82 to 81010.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

In the fall of 2025 Dr. Melody Lehn, a professor at Sewanee, contacted me to discuss a project for her rhetoric class. She asked if the students could have access to the Archives to research women who had lectured at MSSA beginning in 1882 and write essays about what they had discovered. In return, the students scanned the original programs for the Archives! The essays will be printed in *Mountain Voices* during the summer season. Dr. Lehn will be lecturing again in Week 8. Enjoy!

— Morgan Merrill, Archives Chair

Women in “Their Place” But Making it Their Own: How Emma P. Ewing Revolutionized the Kitchen at the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly

By Amelia Claybrook, Kate Lowe, and Victoria Quintero

Emma Pike Ewing (1838-1917) was known as a “woman of rare ability” with a legacy as “the woman who would have taught America to make good bread if America could have been taught.” Born in Broome County, New York, she entered her first household in 1863 with no formal cooking instruction and few cookbooks to guide her. Yet from this lack of resources, Ewing fashioned the foundations of a professional life. She learned through trial and error, with neighbors continually calling upon her for aid in their kitchens. The problems she solved gradually shaped a manuscript that became her first cookbook, *Cooking and Castle-building*. Its dialogue-heavy narrative mimics her own learning process: one greatly dependent on the wisdom and companionship of other women. This is the environment in which she learned and formed ideas about women’s roles that led to her developing an identity as the “Mother of Domestic Science.”

After the publication of her first cookbook, Ewing still dreamed of more for the field of household science—a dream that it might be so systematized that it would be treated with the same respect as mathematics and literature. In 1882, she established the Chicago School of Cookery, the first formal cooking school in the United States. Her career evolved rapidly thereafter: she headed Domestic Economy departments at Iowa State University (1884) and Purdue University (1887), joined the Chautauqua Assembly as a popular lecturer and cooking instructor (1889), and later founding both the Housekeepers’ National League (1892) and the Model Home School of Household Economics (1898). Throughout her professional career, she continued publishing—*Soup and Soup-making*, *Bread and Bread Making*, *Salad and Salad Making*, *Cookery Manuals*, and *The Art of Cookery*—creating a body of work she believed essential to “good housekeeping,” and by extension, “the secret of good citizenship.” Her assertive claims, such as insisting “a great many of the sins of the world are traceable to bad food,” are a defining characteristic of her rhetoric. Her boldness proved to be a rhetorical strategy crafted by a woman



navigating a society often uneasy with women serving in public or professional roles.

Hailing from New York, Ewing primarily gave lectures in the Northeast. So, then, what led such a culinary sensation to visit a small town in rural Tennessee? Soon after the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly’s opening, Ewing came in 1886 to give her highly celebrated lecture “Our Kitchen Interests.” She notably gave this lecture all across the country, with newspapers reporting on it over more than a decade. Serving as a precursor to her cooking courses, the lecture offered an opportunity to promote her school and increase enrollment. Ewing also used the lecture to promote various partnerships by demonstrating how specific products helped her become a culinary sensation. In this lecture, Ewing created one of her dishes for the

audience, allowing them to sample it and see her talents in action. She developed three arguments in the lecture: 1) that cooking is an essential skill, 2) that the audience should sign up for her classes to build this skill, and 3) that listeners should purchase her products to increase efficiency. Being one of the first “influencers,” Emma Ewing built and used her rhetorical platform at the Assembly to teach as well as market her skills and product. Perhaps more importantly, Ewing also used her lecture to appeal to other leading female orators and social reformers at the time. She referenced the Temperance Movement, a women-led effort to raise awareness of the dangers of drinking. In doing so,

Ewing created a civic space for collaboration and partnerships among women in her lectures, including and especially at the Assembly.

Ewing’s early work with the Assembly highlights a commitment to providing a practical, progressive curriculum, while also legitimizing homemaking as a field of study and validating women’s worth as members of society. A pioneer of domestic science, Ewing used her platform to challenge norms under the pretense of reinforcing gendered stereotypes. She strategically worked within the accepted boundaries of femininity in order to promote culinary education, advocate for Temperance, and champion women’s rights to education. Her legacy at the Assembly reflects a woman who transformed the way we view both good food and the people behind it.

ARCHIVES OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, July 12, 2:00-4:00 pm

Come explore the Archives! We will be open on Sunday from 2:00-4:00 pm. Lots to see....family histories, cottage histories, MSSA history!

WEEK 5 CALENDAR • JULY 5-11, 2026

Guest Minister: Rev. Mary Balfour Van Zandt

Sunday, July 5

Sunday School (adults/youth)

10-10:45 am • Various locations; see Mall kiosk

Worship service

11:00 am • Warren Chapel

Movie: Legally Blonde (2001, PG-13)

7:45 pm • Auditorium

Monday-Thursday

Twilight Prayers

7:00 pm • Warren Chapel

Monday-Friday

Adult Exercise, 8-9:00 am • Gymnasium

- Ageless Strength & Vitality with Brendie (Mon./Wed.)
- YoMassage with Lauren (Tues.)
- Pilates with Kim (Thurs.)
- ExerFIT with Brandy (Fri.) — **please wear sneakers!**

Adult Aqua Exercise, 8:30-9:15 am • Pool

- Aqua Yoga with Liz (Mon.)
- Hydro Yoga with Helen (Wed.)
- Water Workout with Jimmy (Fri.)

Talent Show Meeting and Practice

10:00 am-12:00 pm • Auditorium

Oil Painting with Kim Barrick

2:30-5:00 pm • Art Pavilion

Monday, July 6

Lecture: Reset and Refresh Your Body's Fun Rhythm, with Regan Dougall

10:45 am • Warren Chapel

Dinner on the Chapel Grounds

6:00 pm • Chapel Porch

Watch Team USA vs. Belgium in World Cup soccer!

7:00 pm • Auditorium

Ghost Stories to Tell in the Dark

8:00 pm • Warren's Point

Tuesday, July 7

Lecture: The Spirit World of the South, with Tom Mould

10:45 am • Warren Chapel

Make-and-Take Workshop: Bring the Garden Inside, with Virginia Curry

2:30-4:30 pm • Shady Dell

MAEFC Meeting

4:30 pm • Pulliam Center

Performance: Sewanee Summer Music Festival

7:45 pm • Auditorium

Wednesday, July 8

Lecture: Southern Furniture, with Oscar Fitzgerald

10:45 am • Warren Chapel

Cooking Demonstration: Italian cuisine from the kitchen of Mountain Top Restaurant & Catering, with Danny Lyons

3:00 pm • Harton Hall

Early Bird Movie: The Aristocats (1970, G)

6:00 pm • Auditorium

Movie: Camp Rock (2008, G)

7:45 pm • Auditorium

Thursday, July 9

Thursday Morning Market

7-10:00 am • Front of Harton Hall

A Conversation with the Pastors, with the Rev. Mary Balfour Van Zandt and the Rev. Polk Van Zandt

9:00-10:00 am • Winfield Porch

Lecture: Origins of the American Revolution, with John McCardell

10:45 am • Warren Chapel

Workshop: Painting Garden Images in Watercolor, with Cheryl Lankhaar

2:30-5:00 pm • Shady Dell

Lecture: Leonardo da Vinci: Before the Code, with Elliot Engel

7:45 pm • Warren Chapel

Friday, July 10

Lecture: How William Became Shakespeare, with Elliot Engel

10:45 am • Warren Chapel

Readings from the Writers' Grove: James Craig Tucker reads from An Uncertain Peace, with book signing to follow

2:30 pm • Writers' Grove (Warren Chapel if rain)

WEEK 5 CALENDAR (CONT'D)

Friday, July 10 (cont'd)

All-Assembly Talent Show: Doors open at 7:30 pm
7:45 pm • Auditorium

Saturday, July 11

MSSA Board Meeting
9:00 am • Pulliam Center

Shrimp Boil
6:00 pm • Harton Hall

Cruel Shoes: Acoustic Performance
4:30 pm • The Stone House

MEET THE GATEKEEPERS!

Our gatekeepers are always the first, smiling face you see when you return to the Mountain. Each week this season we are highlighting our gatekeepers so you can learn more about them and their lives when they're not manning the front gate.



Welcome Lana! She is a returning gatekeeper from last season, but you also might see her at the Monteagle Sonic. Lana just recently graduated from Grundy County High School. She plans on attending Motlow State Community College for nursing in the fall. Lana enjoys reading, hiking, and playing volleyball.

ABOUT THE MAEFC

The Monteagle Assembly Endowment Fund Corporation, or MAEFC, is where you can thank a special Monteagle friend, remember a family member or friend, and donate to a part of this place that you really, really like. Maybe the Youth Fund or the Chapel Fund or More Fun Fund. It is where we all can make gifts (tax deductible) and know that we are contributing to the long-term benefit of our Mountain community, one that is so special that we want it to last forever.

An Endowment doesn't just fix a roof or a bridge (although it might!), it grows and provides money indefinitely to fix bridges for generations to come.

The Monteagle Sunday School Assembly was organized by Charter issued by the State of Tennessee on October 4, 1882 for the purpose of: "... the advancement of science, literary attainment, Sunday School interests, and the promotion of the broadest popular culture in the interest of Christianity without regard to sect or denomination."

The Mission of the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly is to be a welcoming community of Christian faith where people gather to engage in spiritual growth and renewal, lifelong inquiry and learning, recreational and cultural enrichment, while being good stewards of our natural resources and our Assembly heritage.



FROM HARTON HALL

Sunday Buffet

- Shrimp scampi
- Rosemary herb pork tenderloin, with Dijon sauce
- Pecan cheesecake bars

Sunday buffet is \$25 per person, \$15 for children under 4-11 years, free for those under 3. Doors open at 11:45 am.

All-Assembly Shrimp Boil

- Peel and eat shrimp
- Sausage
- Red potatoes
- Corn on the cob
- Watermelon feta salad
- Cucumber and tomato salad
- Hush puppies

Shrimp boil is \$35/person.

PACKAGES: THE CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING PORCH

When the urge to click "buy now" hits, remember that those packages will arrive at the MSSA Office. So many packages...! To ensure smooth operations (and because we have limited space), please ensure you pick up your packages in a timely fashion. Track those boxes and come by once they've been delivered.



Thanks for helping us maintain a safe and tidy front office!
— Jen Reynolds, Office Manager

LEASEHOLD AVAILABLE

#23 Edgeworth Inn \$1,923,000

To arrange a tour or for more information, contact Steve Williams, Executive Director, steve.williams@mssa1882.org or (931) 924-2286.