

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

COVENANT CLASS (Rm. 117)

Similar to a traditional Sunday School model, a biblical concept, book, or person will be explored for a 6-8 week series, four a year. A pastor or group member will lead each series using helpful study materials. The class will begin by studying the book of Galatians using the resource *Galatians and James: Faith and Works*, from Sept. 10 – Oct. 15.

**Learn more: speak to Pastor Keith,
visit massanuttenchurch.org, or call (540) 434-6194.**

FAITHFUL CONVERSATIONS (Rm. 119)

A congenial group seeking to foster a spirit of Christian community as we explore Scriptural passages in a thoughtful, current, and personal way. Turns are taken to facilitate discussions. Prayer requests and joys are shared each week. The class will begin by studying the book *Borders and Belonging: The Book of Ruth: A Story for Our Times*, from Sept. 10 – Oct. 1.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH BEGIN TODAY!

CHILDREN (THRU 5TH GRADE)

Faith Village: Explore Bible stories through learning styles such as art, music, science, cooking, drama, & games. 9:30 a.m.

Godly Play (Pre-K—2nd grade): Learn Bible stories through wonder and storytelling using wooden figures and felt underlays. During worship.

**Learn more: speak to Hannah Altman,
visit massanuttenchurch.org, or call (540) 434-6194.**

YOUTH (6TH-12TH GRADE)

High School Breakfast (9th—12th): Enjoy breakfast food & relaxed talk about faith & anything else. 9:30 a.m.

Youth Group: Have Sunday dinner, fellowship, & fun while learning about your faith. 6-8 p.m.

Fun with Handbells: Explore the fun of ringing from the basics to beyond with the opportunity to ring in worship. 5:00 p.m.



Massanutten
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our mission:

to nurture disciples of Jesus Christ
who join boldly with the Spirit's work
in the world.

A Service for the Lord's Day
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 17, 2023

10:30 a.m.

We Gather at God's Call

Introit *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine* -Knapp

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude *Healer of Our Every Ill* -Haugen/Kolander

*Call to Worship (*responsively*) Ron Matthews, Worship Leader

We observe this day as the Lord's Day; giving thanks to God,

**who gives justice to the oppressed,
who forgives and redeems us,
and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.**

Let us worship the One who is worthy of our praise!

*Hymn *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* 65

***Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.***

***Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.***

***When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.***

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*responsive*)

God our judge, we admit we have double standards.

We seek forgiveness for ourselves, but fail to forgive others.

We seek relief for ourselves, but fail to seek relief for others.

We seek leniency for ourselves, but fail to show that mercy to others.

**Forgive us, mighty God, and help us to forgive,
showing the same grace and mercy
that you have generously shown to us.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Through Jesus Christ, we have been given a path
to leave behind sin and to return to God.

**Through Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven
and we are freed to begin our journeys afresh.**

Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise

We Are Forgiven

447

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

*Passing of the Peace (*responsively*)

May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

You are invited to take a moment to share Christ’s peace with your siblings in Christ,
respecting everyone’s desire for as much or as little physical contact in doing so.

We Gather Around God’s Word

*Sung Prayer for Illumination


Lord, Prepare Me

701

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living
sanctuary for you.*

Life at Massanutten

- **Active Shooter Scenario Presentation following worship!** — Homeland Security Advisor Jamie Finney will be giving an Active Shooter Scenario Presentation in two identical one-hour sessions on Sun., Sept. 17 at 12:30 pm (lunch will be served prior to presentation) and Tues., Sept. 26 at 7 pm. Call or email the church office to RSVP. All are welcome!
- **Marcia Stirewalt is turning 100 on Sept. 22nd!** Please join in the celebration by sending her a card, note or memory. Her address is 3935 Sunnyside Drive, Suite B, Rockingham, VA 22801.
- Thanks for joining us for our **MPC program kick off** last Sunday. If you missed viewing the program tables last Sunday, please check them out today. On October 1st we want to challenge you to INVITE SOMEONE to come to church with you so that they can hear about the great work and programs here at Massanutten. As you hear over the next couple of Sundays, there is Power in the Invitation. Stay tuned.
- **Peacemaker Meal Volunteers**—Meal volunteers are needed for a peacemaker visit toward the end of September. These meals should serve two and at least one should be dairy free. If you’re interested in volunteering, please email Jean Kilby at jkilby@gmail.com for more information.



**Bold Faith + Extravagant Generosity
= Changing Lives**

On January 1, 2021, the balance on our mortgage was \$1,071,111. As of August 22, 2023, our balance was \$131,776 - a decrease of **\$939,335**.

Since the Debt Elimination Campaign began on September 1, 2021, \$818,989 has been paid on the mortgage as a result of budgeted mortgage payments, additional giving to reduce debt through the year and gifts made toward campaign commitments.

To God be the Glory!

This Week At MPC

Sunday, September 17

9:00am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Faith Village
 High School Breakfast
 (MS Room)
 Parent Fellowship
 (HS Room)
 10:30am Worship
 Godly Play
 12:30pm Active Shooter Scenario
 Presentation (FH ... lunch
 is served shortly after
 worship)
 5:00pm Fun with Handbells
 6:00pm MS & HS Youth Cookout
 (Picnic Shelter)

Monday, September 18

5:00pm Admin Commission Meeting
 6:00pm VIA (S)
 7:00pm Massanutten Ringers

Tuesday, September 19

Wednesday, September 20

7:30am Men's Prayer Group (FH)
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 21

10:00am Shenandoah Valley Youth
 Leaders (GA)
 4:30pm Mosaic (HBR) until 7:30
 6:00pm VIA (FH/S/GA/Nursery)

Fri. & Sat., September 22-23

Church Office Closed

Sunday, September 24

9:00am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Faith Village
 High School Breakfast
 (MS Room)
 Parent Fellowship
 (HS Room)
 10:30am Worship
 Godly Play
 11:45am Session Meeting (FH)
 5:00pm Fun with Handbells
 6:00pm MS & HS Youth

Serving September 17

Door Monitor: Harvey Mast

Greeters: Jon & Mary Ann Alger

Ushers and Water Pourers:
 Nick Swartz & Ben Craig

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sharon Lam

Faith Village: Nancy Wayland

Godly Play: Jack & Sarah Rimer

HS Breakfast: Ross & Sarah French

MS Youth: Sarah Rimer & Mark Palmer

HS Youth: Gus Scheidt

Serving September 24

Door Monitor: Fred Good

Greeters: Chris Hamilton

Ushers and Water Pourers:
 Harvey & Karen Mast

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sally Brown

Faith Village: Nancy Wayland

Godly Play: Emily Burkholder & Gayle Allen

HS Breakfast: Ross & Sarah French

MS Youth: Sarah Rimer

HS Youth: Gus Scheidt

Time with the Children

Jean Kilby

Anthem

In Your Presence

-Medema

*In Your presence we are gathered
 as the people called by your Name.
 We are longing for your spirit now to come
 and set our heart aflame (Refrain)*

*We are longing to taste the fruits of the Spirit.
 We are longing for vision that sees beyond these walls.
 We are longing for the fragrance of sweet communion among us.
 We are longing to hear again the everlasting call.*

(Refrain)

*We long to touch the heart that made the mountains.
 We long to touch the strength that made the sea,
 to know the joy that made the human family,
 To feel the power that sets the captive free.*

(Refrain)

Scripture Reading

Exodus 14:19-31

Sermon

Pastor Keith Phillips

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed (2)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
 he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sharing Our Faith: *The Power of Invitation*

Deidre Lenderking

Invitation to the Offering

*Song of Thanksgiving *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* (v. 1)

645

*Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!*

Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Are Sent to the World

*Hymn

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness (vv. 1-3)

850

*In a deep, unbounded darkness,
long before the first light shone,
you, O God, beyond all merit
worked a wonder faith makes known:
in your mercy, in your mercy,
you embraced us as your own,
evermore and evermore.*

*Though our world is ever-changing,
you are constant, firm, and sure,
faithful to your covenant promise.
Trusting you, we live, secure:
singing praises, singing praises,
long as heart and breath endure,
evermore and evermore.*

*Joy transforms our lips to boasting
only in your matchless grace,
sending Christ to dwell among us,
Word made flesh in time and space:
Friend and Savior, Friend and Savior,
in whose life we glimpse your face,
evermore and evermore.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness* (v. 4)

850

*God of Hagar, God of Sarah,
God of nomad Abraham;
God of Miryam, God of Moses,
Fiery Pillar, great I am:*

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

Class of 2024
Ka Guinn
Matt Hamblen
John Kaltenborn
Bill Kilby
Ron Matthews
Janina Peachey

Class of 2025
Jan Arnold
Ben Craig
Bill Frazier
Chris Hamilton
Julia Sensabaugh

Class of 2026
Ashley Gordon-Becker
Jennifer Coffelt
Deidre Lenderking
Beth Smith

Clerk: Jody Humphreys

Moderators: Rev. Ann Pettit and Rev. Keith Phillips

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Ann Pettit, Co-Pastor (on Sabbatical leave through September 24, 2023)

Rev. Keith Phillips, Co-Pastor (kphillips@massanuttenchurch.org)

Bob Jerome, Director of Music (bjerome@massanuttenchurch.org)

Carol Lown, Organist (clown@massanuttenchurch.org)

Hannah Altman, Children and Youth Program Director (haltman@massanuttenchurch.org)

Karen Leecy, Office Manager (kleecy@massanuttenchurch.org)

Danielle Cunningham, Digital Media Communications Coord. (dcunningham@massanuttenchurch.org)

Katie Rodgers, Nursery Caregiver; **Greg Trobaugh**, Treasurer (gtrobaugh@comcast.net)

Dick Leecy and Cindy Grimes, Custodians

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