

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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

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
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 24, 2023

10:30 a.m.

We Gather at God's Call

Introit

I Come With Joy

-Wren

*The spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
Is in such friendship better known, alive among us here.*

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

-Carter

*Call to Worship (*responsively*)

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
Make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him;

Tell of all his wonderful works.

Glory in his holy name;

Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Praise the Lord!

*Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

12

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
Then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**God of fruitful labor,
work sometimes brings out the worst in us.
At home, at school, in the workplace,
even in our relationship with you,
we too easily question what others do and get,
instead of taking care of our own business.**

**Take away our bitterness.
Teach us the art of the careful complaint.
Give us grateful hearts, we pray. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Hear the good news:
what we do matters, but our salvation is God's doing.
God hears our complaints, but also our prayers.
**God will not forget us.
In Christ's name, we are forgiven. Amen.**

*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.

Life at Massanutten

- **Active Shooter Scenario Presentation** — Homeland Security Advisor Jamie Finney will be giving an Active Shooter Scenario Presentation on Tues., Sept. 26 at 7 pm. Call or email the church office to RSVP. All are welcome!
- MPC program kick off tables are set up in the Narthex and Gathering Area. If you have missed viewing the tables, please check them out today. As you have heard over the last few Sundays, there is Power in the Invitation.
- **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.

Rev. Colleen Earp is our guest preacher this Sunday. Colleen has been the Program Director at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center since mid-2021. She's a proud native of New Jersey, but has spent plenty of time in Virginia, too, including undergraduate work at the University of Mary Washington, serving on the director team at Camp Hanover, earning a Masters of Divinity at Union Presbyterian Seminary, and a yearlong chaplain residency at UVA Medical Center. Colleen is a member of the Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association and the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Activist Council.



**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 24	Thursday, September 28
9:00am Adult Sunday School	4:30pm Mosaic (HBR) until 7:00pm
9:30am Faith Village	
HS Breakfast (MS Room)	Friday, September 29
Parent Fellowship (HS Room)	Church Office Closed
10:30am Worship	Saturday, September 30
Godly Play	Church Office Closed
11:45am Session Meeting (FH)	
5:00pm Fun with Handbells	Sunday, October 1
6:00pm MS & HS Youth	9:00am Adult Sunday School
	9:30am Faith Village
Monday, September 25	HS Breakfast (MS Room)
Pastor Ann returns from Sabbatical!	Parent Fellowship (HS Room)
	10:30am Worship with Communion
Tuesday, September 26	Godly Play
10:00am PWCT Meeting (GA)	5:00pm Fun with Handbells
7:00pm Active Shooter Presentation (FH)	6:00pm MS & HS Youth
Wednesday, September 27	
7:30am Men's Prayer Group (FH)	
7:00pm Chancel Choir (CR)	

Serving September 24	Serving October 1
Door Monitor: Fred Good	Door Monitor: Bill Lam
Greeters: Chris Hamilton	Greeters: Dave & Jan Reser
Ushers and Water Pourers: Harvey & Karen Mast	Ushers & Water Pourers: Dale & Dorothy Dobroth
Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sally Brown	Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Erin Basgier
Faith Village: Nancy Wayland	Faith Village: Nancy Wayland
Godly Play: Emily Burkholder & Gayle Allen	Godly Play: Robin & Diann Reed
HS Breakfast: Ross & Sarah French	HS Breakfast: Ross & Sarah French
MS Youth: Sarah Rimer	MS Youth: Sarah Rimer & Karen Mast
HS Youth: Gus Scheidt	HS Youth: Gus Scheidt

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.*

Time with the Children Kristen Enslen & Carolina Rascoe

Anthem *Come, Labor On* -Noble

*Come, labor on!
Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain
While all around is waves of yellow grain?
And to each servant does the Master say.
"Go work today?"*

*Come, labor on.
Claim the high calling angels cannon share;
To young and old the gospel gladness bear.
Redeem the time, its hours too swiftly fly.
The night draws nigh.*

*Come, labor on.
Cast off all gloomy doubts and faithless fear!
No arm so weak but may do service here.
Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill God's righteous will.*

*Come, labor on.
No time to rest, till glows the western sky,
Till the long shadows o're our pathway lie,
And a glad sound come with the setting sun,
"Well done, well done!"*

Scripture Reading Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon Rev. Colleen Earp

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

A Declaration of Faith

God created human beings with a need for community and with freedom to enter into it by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience and to one another with love and helpfulness.

We believe that we have been created to relate to God and each other in freedom and responsibility.

We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility by trying to live without God and other people or against God and other people.

Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being, and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them.

Since every human being is made for communion with God and others, we must treat no one with contempt.

We are to respect and love all other people and ourselves as well.

Sharing Our Faith: *The Power of Invitation*

Nick Swartz

Invitation to the Offering

*Song of Thanksgiving

We Give Thee But Thine Own (v.1)

708

*We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

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

For the Fruit of All Creation (vv. 1-2)

36

*For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.*

*In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *For the Fruit of All Creation* (v. 3)

36

*For the harvest of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.*

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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