

November's Focus: Education

You may be wondering why this bulletin is larger than the ones you're accustomed to at Massanutten. Wonder no more (see below)!

Throughout the 2024-25 program year, we will be exploring what it means to deepen our connectedness to God, to one another and to the world. We will do this in a variety of ways - focusing for a season on one of five traditional discipleship practices (represented by the roots on the program year logo you see at right). A few weeks ago we concluded the focus on worship. Later in the program year, we will focus on generosity, prayer, and service.

This month, our focus is on education. In John 13:34-35, Jesus says, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Without learning how Jesus loved his disciples, how can we keep this new commandment and be known as disciples of Jesus Christ? Without understanding the stories of God and God's people in the Old Testament, how can we understand how God's love for the world led to Jesus becoming "God with us?" Without learning how the Holy Spirit has been at work in others throughout time and space, how can we recognize and respond to the work of the Holy Spirit within and around us as the Kingdom of God breaks in more and more?

We encourage you to deepen your understandings in these areas of education - this month and always. The bulletins this month will be larger to include notes along the order of worship as we better understand why we worship in the ways we do. There will be at least two new Bible study small groups beginning later this month. Our Third Wednesdays dinner on Nov. 20th will feature a fun Bible game. And, of course, our regular faith formation programs for folks of all ages continue this month.

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope." - Romans 15:4



A Service for the Lord's Day
November 3, 2024
All Saints Sunday
24th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather at God's Call

Introit *Spirit, Open My Heart* 692

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude *Adagio* -Bennett

*Call to Worship (*responsively*) Kath Wissinger, Worship Leader

A wandering people wondered what their new life would be like, and Moses said:

You shall love the Lord with all your heart.

Generations later, leaders argued over which rules were most important, and Jesus reminded them:

You shall love the Lord with all your soul.

And in this world that so often feels broken, we recognize God's call:

You shall love the Lord with all your might.

With heart, soul, and might, let us worship God.

*Hymn *Spirit, Open My Heart* 692

In Exodus 3:18, the Lord called the Hebrew people out of slavery in Egypt so they could worship and make sacrifices to God. This is just one of the scripture references that show why we gather at God's call.

Our opening hymn often serves as an extension of the Call to Worship. Through song, we continue to recognize God's call to worship and we re-orient ourselves towards this work. In fact, the word "liturgy" (which describes the words we speak together in worship) is from a Greek word that means "work of the people."

Refrain:
Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living. As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving. Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender. All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. (Refrain)

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story. In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory. (Refrain)

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

Class of 2025 Jan Arnold Ben Craig Bill Frazier Chris Hamilton Julia Sensabaugh	Class of 2026 Erin Basgier Ashley Gordon-Becker Jennifer Coffelt Deidre Lenderking Beth Smith	Class of 2027 David Allen Kathy Frakes Pam French Lindsey Harvell-Bowman Ric Leobold
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Clerk: Ron Matthews

Moderators: Rev. Ann Pettit and Rev. Keith Phillips

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Staff

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

Dick Leecy and Cindy Grimes, Custodians

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*May I weep with those who weep;
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. (Refrain)*

Through confession, we admit that we have not kept God's law perfectly. We are bold to say this to God because we are reassured of God's forgiveness through Jesus Christ. It's important to remember that we not only ask for forgiveness, but we also ask for our hearts to be transformed through the working of the Holy Spirit. A disciple is one who knows they are human and reliant upon the grace of God. They are also folks who gratefully respond to God's grace through a life of continual growth and transformation by the work of the Holy Spirit.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Beloved God,
who was known to those who came before us,
have mercy on us.
We do not always love as you would have us love.
We do not always do as you would have us do.
In our stubbornness,
we turn from you when we should run toward you.
Forgive us, and renew us by your Holy Spirit.
Fan in us a new and brighter flame of faith, that,
like those who have gone before us,
our words and deeds would mightily declare the good news of salvation,
given to all in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
We praise you for the grace you shower on us,
constantly forgiving our errors,
especially the ones that we don't share with any but you. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Hear this good news: the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting;
through Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

*Response of Praise *Angels We Have Heard on High (v. 1)*

71

*Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Sharing the Peace of Christ (*responsively*)

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

We Gather Around God's Word

*Sung Prayer for Illumination *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.**

Blessing of Retiring Staff Members

This quote from Reformed Theologian Daniel Migliore helps us understand why we include a prayer for illumination in worship: "We have not yet exhausted the riches of the gospel ... The Spirit brings forth new light from the Word of God. We are called to faithful discipleship here and now."

Life at Massanutten

- This morning we will remember the **saints of Massanutten Presbyterian Church** who have joined the Church Triumphant since last All Saints Sunday. The Tablecloth on the Communion Table bears the names of those who have served the Lord, here and in other places. Some have joined the Church Triumphant—others continue sharing themselves with the Church in our time. We give thanks for the faithfulness of each and all of them and for the love of God which holds us in life and in death.
- It's Coffee (and Tea) Time! The **Coffee Small Group** will gather this Thursday, November 7th at 10:00 am at the Kaffee Klatsch in the Dayton Market. No reservations needed—just come and enjoy the fellowship.
- **Next Sunday, November 10th we will commemorate Veterans Day.** The *Community Life Commission* invites you to share the name of a veteran(s) in your life, how they are connected to you, and the branch of the service in which they served. There are blank cards in the chairbacks to use this morning—please them in the offering plate as you leave the service.
- **MPC Preschool is selling Shirley's Popcorn** to support the school's program. Orders may be placed in the Narthex today through November 17th and will be available for pick-up well before Christmas, on December 8th. Questions? Please contact Carrie Markowitz (mpcpreschool3s4s@gmail.com)
- **Happy 30th Anniversary to the Men's Prayer Group!** 30 years ago on November 16th a group of men began meeting for breakfast, prayer and fellowship. Through the years their time together grew to include a card ministry that has ministered to the congregation—and many other people near and far. We give thanks for their faithfulness to the practice of prayer, and their steadfastness through many seasons of congregational life.
- **Thank you for your support of the Building a Place for All Campaign** for Massanetta Springs. As of Wednesday, individual gifts and commitments totaled: \$30,485 (our goal was \$25,000). Commitment forms and information about the campaign may still be found in the Narthex.
- **Community Thanksgiving Service**—Sunday, November 24, 3pm at the Keezletown United Methodist Church. There will be a time of refreshments and fellowship following the service. A free will offering will be received for Massanutten Food Pantry.
- **Responding to Hurricanes Helene and Milton.** Along with our prayers, we can continue to support their work through financial gifts to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Gifts can be made through our website's giving portal or by check (write *hurricane* in the memo section).
- **Salvation Army Santa Sacks** – This annual local mission project of Presbyterian Women benefits the Salvation Army and we are invited to join them in this effort. A list of needed items can be found in the Narthex, on the Santa Sack Collection Box. Please make your contribution by November 24th.

Valley Interfaith Action (VIA) is working hard to bring a trial for county wide, door-to-door, demand-response transit to Rockingham County. VIA has organized \$200,000.00 - the local match for the state's \$800,000 transit grant. No county dollars would be used in the trial proposed by VIA. We need to impress upon our Rockingham County Board of Supervisors the importance of a county-wide trial **and you can help!**

1. Come to the next Board of Supervisors meeting on **Wed. Nov. 13 at 2:45 pm**. We are meeting outside the county office and will enter the meeting room together a little before 3 pm. We have committed to having 10 people participate from MPC.
2. Come to the next Public Action on **Tues. Nov. 19th at 6:30 pm** at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Much like the refounding in March 2022, VIA intends to fill the space with citizens of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County of all faiths, parties, cultures and economic stations. Help MPC bring 25 people to that Action write Nov.19 on the connection folder.

This Week At MPC

Sunday, November 3

9:00am Adult Sunday School (117, 119)
 9:30am Faith Village
 HS Breakfast
 Parent Fellowship
 10:30am Worship with Communion
 Godly Play
 Reception in Fellowship Hall following
 Worship
 2:00pm Cub Scouts (108,119)
 5:00pm Fun with Handbells (HBR)
 6:00pm MS & HS Youth

Monday, November 4

2:00pm Election Day Setup (FH, Narthex)
 6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
 7:00pm Massanutten Ringers (HBR)
 7:00pm Boy Scouts (PS)

Tuesday, November 5

6:00am Election Day until 7pm (FH, Narthex)

Wednesday, November 6

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

Thursday, November 7

10:00am Coffee Small Group (Dayton Market)
 4:30pm Mosaic (HBR)
 5:30pm Spring Oaks HOA until 7:30pm (GA)
 6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)

Friday, November 8

Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 9

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 10

9:00am Adult Sunday School (117,119)
 9:30am Faith Village
 HS Breakfast
 Parent Fellowship
 10:30am Worship
 Godly Plan
 2:00pm Cub Scouts (108,119)
 5:00pm Fun with Handbells (HBR)
 6:00pm MS & HS Youth

Serving in Worship November 3rd

Door Monitor: Phil Miller

Greeters: Bettye Davis & Deb Thompson

Ushers & Water Pourers: Chris & Phyllis Hamilton

Faith Village: Jennifer Coffelt & Sally Brown

Godly Play: Robin & Diann Reed

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sharon Lam

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer, Gus Scheidt
& Nancy Wayland

Serving in Worship November 10th

Door Monitor: Frank Gearing

Greeters: Denny & Becky Arthur

Ushers & Water Pourers: TBD

Faith Village: Jennifer Coffelt & Sally Brown

Godly Play: Bill and Jean Kilby

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sharon Lam

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer, Gus Scheidt & Mark Palmer

Would you like to volunteer to serve in one of the above roles during an upcoming worship service? Write "volunteer" in the connection folder.



Please gather in the Fellowship Hall following worship as we give thanks for Karen Leecy & Greg Trobaugh. Collectively, they've faithfully served at Massanutten for nearly 82 years: Karen as *Office Manager* for 44, and Greg as *Church Treasurer* for nearly 38. Today we celebrate their ministry among us and bless them as they look forward to retirement.



Trusting in the work of the Holy Spirit, we believe that the time with the children, the choral anthem, the scripture itself, and the sermon are all ways that the Word of God is proclaimed in worship.

Our first response to the proclamation of the Word of God is to affirm our faith together. We utilize selections from the Presbyterian Church (USA) Book of Confessions, other proclamations of faith in our tradition, or scripture itself to do this together.

We believe that part of our response to God's Word is returning a portion of what God has given us to further the work of the Holy Spirit in the world.

All Saints' Day has been celebrated on or around November 1st since the ninth century. Throughout the church, this day is an opportunity to honor all the saints, remembered and forgotten, known and unknown. At MPC, our tradition is to recognize and remember people from our community of faith who have joined the Church Triumphant over the last year.

Time with the Children Hannah Altman

Anthem *Ancient Words* -DeShazo

Scripture Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Sermon Pastor Ann Pettit

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) *From A Declaration of Faith*

Jesus Christ stands at the center of the biblical record. The Bible is the account of God's word and action in history, together with his people's response in faith.

It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church towards the kingdom of God, his just and loving rule over all.

It is the story of the one God, who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

That story is still unfolding and in faith we make it our own.

It forms our memory and our hope.

It tells us who we are and what we are to do.

To retell it is to declare what we believe.

We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell.

The story itself tells us God works his sovereign will among all peoples of the earth.

We believe God works beyond our imagining throughout the universe.

Invitation to the Offering

We Are Fed at God's Table

Invitation to the Table

...This morning we remember those saints who have joined the Church Triumphant and now rest from their labors. In particular we remember:

Gary Moyers 11/6/23
Carole Kreowski 12/29/23
Irene Hartman 1/28/24
Martha Floyd 2/7/24
Helen Scully 2/12/24
Sarah Lobban 3/4/24
Nancy Kegley 4/8/24
Peggy Reinhold 4/30/24
Sue Garber 9/8/24
George Stickley 10/3/24
Dave Reser 10/25/24

*Song of Response

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

730

*I sing a song of the saints of God,
patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died
for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shepherdess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too.*

*They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,
and God's love made them strong;
and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake,
the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
and there's not any reason, no, not the least,
why I shouldn't be one too.*

*They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is bright with the joyous saints
who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
for the saints of God are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too.*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (*responsively*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right to give you thanks, God ... and sing forever to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest

The 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.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving is offered to the Triune God to give thanks for God's creative power, providential care, and covenant faithfulness; to remember God's acts of salvation through the birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus and for his institution of this meal; and to call on the Holy Spirit to draw worshipers into the presence of the risen Lord, nourish them in the body and blood of Christ, unite them with the communion of saints and the church in every place, and send them in mission to the world.

Breaking of the Bread

Pouring of the Cup

*Communion of the People

(Please move toward the center of the church, then move to the station serving your section. Servers will offer you a piece of bread—please cup your hands to receive it and move to the next server to take a cup from the tray. After you receive the elements, partake as you feel led. You may leave your cups in the chair racks or dispose of them as you leave the sanctuary. For those who would be helped by a gluten free bread, please come to the center aisle and receive the elements from the server in the middle.)

* Prayer after Communion

We thank you, Most Holy God, for refreshment at your table where along with your saints we receive all Christ's gifts. Provide for your church on earth a strong faith and increased love for one another. Give us the grace to praise you with our lives in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

We Are Sent to the World

*Hymn

For the Bread Which You have Broken (vv. 1-3)

516

*For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.*

*By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.*

*With the saints who now adore you
seated at the heavenly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.*

*In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *For the Bread Which You have Broken (v. 4)*

516

*In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.*

Our benediction serves as both a charge and a blessing. This blessing is in the name of the Triune God. Since we are blessed in order to be a blessing to others, our benediction also calls us to go forth as agents of God's mission in the world.