

November's Focus: Education

Throughout the 2024-25 program year, we will be exploring what it means to deepen our connectedness to God, to one other, 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). We recently 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 10, 2024
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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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We Gather at God's Call

Introit

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

761

The congregation will join on the third verse.

*Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.*

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude

Lord God, We All Praise You

-Pachelbel

*Call to Worship (responsively)

Nancy Wayland, Worship Leader

To know the warmth of love,
to have the assurance that someone cares,
to be confident of our worth,
to be bold to love in return,
to be washed over with grace,
to be accepted as we are:
this is to know a bit of God.
Then let us worship our God.

*Hymn

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

81

*Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.
God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.*

This 18th century prelude is based on our familiar Doxology. You can listen for the tune as it is played in the pedal.

The Call to Worship serves to remind us why we have gathered. In a sense, it sets the stage for all we do in the service.

St. Augustine said, 'He who sings prays twice,' meaning singing adds to our praise and worship of God; our voices are gifts to be used for just such a purpose.

*Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which God gives them when they pray.*

*See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows, their thirst to assuage?
Grace, so like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.*

*In the Call to Confession
we are reminded that
'all have sinned and fall
short of the glory
of God' (Romans 3.23).*

*We are reminded not
because we are bad
people at our core, but
because God is good
and longs to help us
reflect this goodness in
all we do. Our
communal prayer
acknowledges we share
both our brokenness and
also God's desire to
make us whole.*

*Our response to
forgiveness is
thanksgiving and praise
to God for the gift that
we cannot earn, or in
any other way, achieve
on our own.*

*We ask for God's help in
both hearing and
understanding what
Scripture says to us.*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O God, thank you, for loving us.

We confess to holding onto your love

instead of letting it move through us.

We don't listen when people are talking to us.

We turn away from someone who needs help.

We don't always say what is true.

We use words that are hurtful to others.

We put our wants and needs first.

Forgive us, God, when what we do doesn't show your love.

Help us to share your goodness with others.

In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. He hears our confession and forgives us.

We give thanks to God for Jesus, who covers us in grace. Alleluia - amen!

*Response of Praise *All Creatures of Our God and King* (v. 1)

15

*All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*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 *Be Thou My Vision* (v. 2)

450

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

Life at Massanutten

- **Today we commemorate Veterans Day.** Thank you for sharing the name of those in your lives you are thinking about this year. Following the service, please take a moment to walk through the Gathering Area noting the names of those whose service is remembered along with other items reflective of their service.
- Next Sunday we will receive the **Thank Offering of the Presbyterian Women.** This offering provides a tangible way for us to give back in response to God's blessings in our lives. Gifts to this offering support health and other ministries in the United States and throughout the world. Offering envelopes can be found in the chair backs.
- **Happy 30th Anniversary to the Men's Prayer Group!** 30 years ago on November 16th, a group of men began meeting every Wednesday for fellowship, coffee, devotions, prayer, and the signing of cards. The MPG card ministry encourages our congregation and many others in our community. We welcome men to join us from 7:30—8:45 a.m. each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall. Please see Pastor Keith or any of the MPG members with any questions.
- **Come to the Table...** Wednesday, November 20th at 5:30 pm. On the menu that night: Pasta and Salad Bar along with assorted and delightful desserts. Let us know you'll be there! Write Table on the Connection Folder.
- **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).
- **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 **this Wednesday 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 10

9:00am Adult Sunday School (117, 119)
 9:30am Faith Village
 HS Breakfast
 Parent Fellowship
 10:30am Worship
 Godly Play
 1:00pm Recorder Ensemble (200)
 2:00pm Cub Scouts (108,119)
 5:00pm Fun with Handbells (HBR)
 6:00pm MS & HS Youth

Monday, November 11

10:00am Food Pantry
 6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 117)
 7:00pm Massanutten Ringers (HBR)
 7:00pm Boy Scouts (PS)

Tuesday, November 12

10:00am Morning Circle (GA)

Wednesday, November 13

7:30am Men's Prayer Group (FH)
 2:00pm Bethel Circle (SS)
 4:00pm Evening Circle (FH)
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 14

4:30pm Mosaic (HBR)
 5:30pm Spring Oaks HOA until 7:30pm (GA)
 6:00pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)
 7:00pm Food Pantry

Friday, November 15

Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 16

Fellowship Hall in use
 1:00pm Memorial Service for Dave Reser

Sunday, November 17

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

Serving in Worship November 10th

Door Monitor: Frank Gearing

Greeters: Denny & Rebecca Arthur

Ushers & Water Pourers:
 Dwight Newman and Julia Sensabaugh

Faith Village: Jennifer Coffelt & Sally Brown

Godly Play: Bill & Jean Kilby

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Erin Basgier

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer, Gus Scheidt, & Mark Palmer

Serving in Worship November 17th

Door Monitor: Harvey Mast

Greeters: Karen Mast

Ushers & Water Pourers:
 Lewis, Emily & Jacob Burkholder

Faith Village: Jennifer Coffelt & Sally Brown

Godly Play: Sarah & Jack Rimer

Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Sally Brown

Youth Group: Sarah Rimer, Gus Scheidt, & Karen Mast

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

Just as the hymns we sing together are a prayer, the anthem is a form of prayer that helps us listen to God speak.

In worship we respond to what God has done and what we've heard. While the work that God has started in our hearts and minds through the sermon continues, the Affirmation of Faith provides a way for us to say together what we believe.

Time with the Children

Pastor Keith Phillips

Anthem

Open Thou Mine Eyes

-Harlan

*Open Thou mine eyes and I shall see.
 Open Thou mine ears and I shall hear.
 Incline my heart, I shall desire,
 Order my steps and shall walk in the ways of Thy commandments.*

*Open Thou mine eyes and I shall see.
 Open Thou mine ears and I shall hear.
 Incline my heart, I shall desire,
 Order my steps and shall walk in the ways of Thy commandments.*

*O Lord, my God be Thou to me a God
 That I may love You, that I may serve You,
 That I may worship You, and adore You,
 That I may follow You, that I may look to You.*

*Open Thou mine eyes and I shall see.
 Open Thou mine ears and I shall hear.
 Incline my heart, I shall desire,
 Order my steps and shall walk in the ways of Thy commandments.*

Scripture

Ruth, Selections

Sermon

Pastor Ann Pettit

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith (*responsively*)

The Confession of 1967, *selections*

The institutions of the people of God change and vary as their mission requires in different times and places. Wherever the church exists, its members are both gathered in corporate life and dispersed in society for the sake of mission in the world.

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God's word for humankind, to baptize and to join in the Lord's Supper, to pray for and present the world to God in worship, to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, to order and organize its own corporate life, to be tested, renewed, and reformed, and to speak and act in the world's affairs as appropriate to the needs of the time.

The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship and theological reflection. Their witness is the church's evangelism. Their daily action *in the world is the church in mission to the world.* The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure of the church's fidelity.

Sharing Our Faith

Presbyterian Women Thank Offering

Gayle Allen

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 the*

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

The Summons (vv. 1-4)

726

*“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

The Summons (v. 5)

726

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

Congregational Concerns

Members of Our Church Family...

Bill Painter, Flo Hall, Luke Hamblen, Mike Finn-McKenzie, Nick Swartz

Friends of Our Church Family...

David Frye, friend of Mike and Ka Guinn; **Owen Mann**; **Andy Schoof**, friend and coworker of Bo Hobbie; **Linda Caldwell**, mother of Kevin Caldwell; **Janet Binion, Jim Roe**, family of Bill Frazier; **Sandra Rohrer**, mother of Lisa Rohrer Folks; **Heather Brookhoff** (lung cancer), sister-in-law of Jan Reser; **Barbara Phillips** (great aunt, breast cancer), **Ken Jones** (cousin, melanoma and liver cancer), family of Pastor Keith; **Ella Perry** (connective tissue disease), friend of Pastor Keith; **Jeff Batton**, friend of Keith Knupp; **Pat Forester** (back pain and esophageal cancer), friend of Jeannie Sutherland; **Kristin Lam** (receiving treatment for jaw tumor), daughter of Mike and Elfie Finn-McKenzie; **Bob Voorhees**, father of Patti Hobbie; **Mark Heltzel**, son of Helen Groves (recurring blood clots in legs and lungs); **Christina Scott**, sister of Kathy Marlowe (myeloma cancer diagnosis)

This morning we recognize with gratitude those who have served our country in both peacetime and in conflict.

We lift our prayers for families and communities affected by wars in the Middle East and Ukraine along with areas affected by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton and other storms as the long and hard work of recovery continues.

We Extend Sympathy...

Jan Reser on the death of her sister, Jean Gilbert after a period of declining health.

Our Mission Efforts...

Massanutten Food Pantry, Blessings in a Bag, Habitat for Humanity, Open Doors, Valley Interfaith Action.

Serving Our Country...

Jackie DeGaine, daughter-in-law of Ka & Mike Guinn (Fort Jackson, SC); **Justin Brockhoff**, nephew of Jan Reser (Germany); **Marcus Sensabaugh**, son of Julia and Doug Sensabaugh (Texas); **Hunter Barr**, nephew of David & Alicia Gutschow (Parris Island, SC); **Matt Riordan**, grandson of Jack Heintzleman (Fairbanks, AK); **Tanner Kenny**, nephew of Gus and Stephanie Scheidt (Deployed); **Dylan Kenny**, nephew of Gus and Stephanie Scheidt (Navy); **Joseph Knight**, brother of Ben Craig (Air Force); **Elizabeth Lee Davis** (Jordan).

Most of our worship services are over in about an hour. Yet, they don't simply end and we don't just leave—we are sent: to carry forth what we've just done; to continue the work to which God has called us; to be God's hands and feet wherever we find ourselves each day.