

****Reminder: Please Beware of Suspicious Emails & Texts****

No one at Massanutten Presbyterian Church will ever ask you to purchase anything or to provide money via email or text. If you ever receive such a message from someone who appears to be a church staff member, do not respond to it.

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Erin Basgier	David Allen	Gina Holden
Jennifer Coffelt	Kathy Frakes	Jean Kilby
Ashley Gordon-Becker	Pam French	Bill Marlowe
Deidre Lenderking	Lindsey Harvell-Bowman	Riley Scheidt
Beth Smith	Ric Leobold	Doug Sensabaugh

Clerk: Ron Matthews, **Moderator:** Rev. Keith Phillips

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Keith Phillips, 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)

Ashlea Liptrap, Administrative Assistant (office@massanuttenchurch.org)

Katie Rodgers, Financial Administrator & Nursery Caregiver
(finance@massanuttenchurch.org)

Anna Richardson, Digital Worship Coordinator (media@massanuttenchurch.org)

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

Dick Leecy and Cindy Grimes, Custodians

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**USE THIS QR CODE
TO SHARE YOUR
OFFERING ONLINE**



Safety Message:

***Do not unlock or hold open exterior doors.
A designated door monitor from your group should
allow people to enter, and those arriving
late can use the doorbell.***



Massanutten
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our mission:
*To nurture disciples of Jesus Christ
who are sent to join boldly
with the Spirit's work in the world.*

A Service of Worship
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 2025

10:30 a.m.

We Gather at God's Call

Greeting and Pouring of the Water

Prelude *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* - Bach

*Opening Sentences (*responsively*) Hunter Davis, Worship Leader

People of God, who are we here to worship?

We are here to worship our God who is Love.

People of God, why do we spend time in God's Word?

Because God's Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path.

People of God, let us prepare to receive God's love and light.

Let us worship God!

*Hymn *Here in This Place* 401

*Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.*

*Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young; our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the
earth.*

*Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess our failure
to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.**

**By your loving mercy,
help us to live in your light and abide in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.
Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! (refrain only)* 591

***Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

Introduction to Four Cents a Meal

<p>Today, we receive the 4-Cents-a-Meal offering, part of the PC(USA)'s Cents-Ability program. Contributions to 4-Cents-a-Meal supports hunger relief efforts both locally and globally. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the funds raised will stay at Massanutten. We will use this portion to support food purchases for our Blessings-in-a-Bag/Food-for-the-Weekend program at South River Elementary School in Grottoes.</p>	
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Four Cents a Meal Offering *Give Thanks* 647

***Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.***

 * **We welcome our new Digital Worship Coordinator: Anna Richardson!** Anna will
 * be running the programs that allow us to live stream our worship services and to use
 * our projection screens in the sanctuary. Anna follows in the footsteps of her cousin,
 * Logan Davis, who recently moved to Indiana for graduate school.

Life at Massanutten

⇒ **Attention Presbyterian Women:** The annual Potluck Kickoff is this Tuesday, August 26, starting at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Following the potluck dinner, Gina Holden and Gayle Allen will present an overview of this year's Bible study based on the book FINDING RESILIENCE, JOY, AND IDENTITY IN JESUS CHRIST. **(Please contact Gayle Allen if you need a book, \$15.00.) Please join us for an evening of food and fellowship and bring a dish to share.**

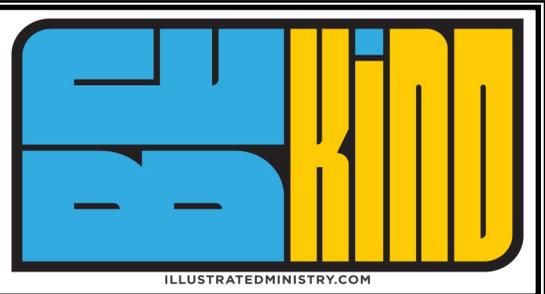
⇒ **The "Deep Dive" Bible Study** will meet this **Wednesday, August 27th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Library.** This group focuses on exploring scripture and other faith-related books in depth, promoting discussions that lead to a deeper understanding of the truths conveyed by the Holy Spirit. Participants should be prepared to consider and wrestle with interpretations of scripture that may challenge their existing beliefs. For more information, please see Ron Matthews or David Allen.

⇒ ****REMEMBER** There will NOT be Sunday School on August 31st.** The Faithful Conversations and Covenant Class will resume on September 7th.

⇒ **Open Doors is in need of travel size toiletries** - particularly shampoo, conditioner, and deodorant. If you're preparing to travel this summer, pick up some extra toiletries to support Open Doors! They can be left in the designated basket in the Narthex.

⇒ **Sally Brown sincerely thanks everyone who supported the pancake supper, yard sale, book sale, and bake sale.** Thanks to your generous contributions, we were able to buy school supplies, book bags, and earphones. **Just last week, we gave out 44 book bags filled with school supplies to children in our community.** Many families need help, and your support makes a big difference. **Thank you!**

Folks who
come for the
Blessing of the Backpacks
will receive this backpack tag
today:



This Week At MPC

Sunday, August 24

9:00am Choir (CR)
10:30am Worship
Blessing of Backpacks
1:00pm Recorder Rehearsal (200)

Monday, August 25

6:00pm Preschool Back-to-School
(San & FH)

Tuesday, August 26

9:00am Legacy Meeting (L)
4:00pm PW CT Meeting (FH)
5:30pm PW "Potluck Kickoff" (FH)

Wednesday, August 27

7:30am Men's Prayer Group (FH)
5:30pm Bible Study (L)
6:00pm Mosaic Open Ring (FH)
7:00pm Choir (CR)

Thursday, August 28

4:30pm Mosaic (HBR)
6:30pm Worship Comm. (FH)

Friday, August 29

Church Office Closed

Saturday, August 30

Church Office Closed
6:30pm Mass. Ringers (PS) -or-
(FH) if raining

Sunday, August 31

9:00am Choir (CR)
10:30am Worship

Serving August 24

Door Monitor: Robin Reed

Greeters: Greg and Ann Trobaugh

Ushers & Water Pourers:
Cheryl Henderson & Julia Sensabaugh

Nursery: Katie Rodgers &
Erin Basgier

Children & Youth Programs:
Resumes September 14th

Serving August 31

Door Monitor: Dick Leecy

Greeters: Karen Leecy & Karen Enslin

Ushers & Water Pourers:
Bo and Pattie Hobbie

Nursery: Katie Rodgers &
Katie Gray

Children & Youth Programs:
Resumes September 14th

*Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.*

*And now let the weak say, "We are strong;" let the poor say,
"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"*

*And now let the weak say, "We are strong;" let the poor say,
"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks.*

We Gather around God's Word

Blessings of the Backpacks Hannah Altman

Special Music *On Eagle's Wings* - Joncas
Hannah Altman, Soloist

Scripture Psalm 119:105, 1 John 4:7-21, Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon Gus Scheidt and MPC Youth

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith (unison) From *A Declaration of Faith* (9.5)

**Jesus announced the coming of God's kingdom
and its hidden presence in the midst of the world's kingdoms.
He taught his disciples to seek God's kingdom first.**

**We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom.
Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey
all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful.
No more than Christ are we spared
the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world.
We are in the world, but not of the world.
Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people
do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world,
but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom.
Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom:
to serve as he has served us;
to take up our cross,
risking the consequences of faithful discipleship;
to walk by faith, not by sight,
to hope for what we have not seen.**

Congregational Concerns

Invitation to the Offering

Song of Thanksgiving *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* 609

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People and 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.**

We Are Sent to the World

*Hymn *Together We Serve* (vv. 1-3) 767

*Together we serve, united by love, inviting God's world to the glorious feast.
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy, extending God's love to the last and the least.*

*We seek to become a beacon of hope, a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through until we see Christ in each person we meet.*

*We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor, the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.
We offer a home to those who will come, our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *Together We Serve* (v. 4) 767

*Together, by grace, we witness and work,
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,
remembering love is the strength of our song.*

Members of Our Church Family...

Bill Painter, Patricia Armstrong (recovering from treatment for a GIST tumor, now back at home), **Sharon Pafford** (receiving treatment for cancer), **Don Enslen** (hip pain, recovering from infection), **Kathy Frakes** (recovering from illnesses), **Bettye Davis** (receiving treatment for cancer), **Marc Davis** (recovering from pneumonia and heart procedure).

Friends of Our Church Family...

Owen Mann; Andy Schoof, lifelong friend of Bo Hobbie; **Linda Caldwell**, mother of Kevin Caldwell; **Janet Binion, Jim Roe**, family of Bill Frazier; **Sandra Rohrer**, mother of Lisa Rohrer Folks; **Barbara Phillips** (great aunt, breast cancer), **Ken Jones** (cousin, melanoma and liver cancer), **Ella Perry** (friend, connective tissue disease), family and friends of Pastor Keith; **Bob Voorhees**, father of Patti Hobbie; **Mark Heltzel**, son of Helen Groves; **Christena Scott**, sister of Kathy Marlowe (blood cancers); **John Grimm**, brother of Sharon Posey (kidney failure and diabetes); **Ray Harvell**, father of Lindsey Harvell-Bowman (health concerns); a member of our church seeks prayers for a private family health concern; **Christopher Swartz**, brother of Nick Swartz and son of Roy & Becky Swartz (cancer); **Kim Hoschar** (health, transportation); **Dennis Oakes** (prostate cancer), brother-in-law of Patti Hobbie; **Lauren Kusterbeck** (cancer treatment), friend of Sharon Posey; **Mindy** (cancer) and **Tony** (brain tumor), a married couple who are friends of Diann Reed's family; **Jean Shepley**, mother of Sherry Matthews; **Martha Hamblen** (colon cancer, housing), sister of Matt Hamblen; **Dick Stutzman** (undiagnosed neurological disorder), friend of Ron Matthews; **Rev. Jerrod Lowry** (cancer treatments) and family, friends of Pastor Keith; **Ty Heilman** (cancer), brother of Sally Brown; **Peggy Kuehl** (cancer), friend of Carol Lown and Kath Wissinger; **Mark Carter** (hospice care), brother-in-law of Ron and Sherry Matthews, **Rev. Patrick Pettit** (knee replacement surgery on Aug. 20th), son of Harry and Jean Pettit, husband of Rev. Ann Pettit; **Ezra Miller** (diagnosed with leukemia), attended the 4 year old preschool program at MPC last year.

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**, daughter of Marc & Nancy Davis (Tampa).