

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

<p>Class of 2026 Erin Basgier Jennifer Coffelt Ashley Gordon-Becker Deidre Lenderking Beth Smith</p>	<p>Class of 2027 David Allen Kathy Frakes Pam French Lindsey Harvell-Bowman Ric Leobold</p>	<p>Class of 2028 Gina Holden Jean Kilby Bill Marlowe Riley Scheidt Doug Sensabaugh</p>
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Clerk: Ron Matthews, **Moderator:** Rev. Keith Phillips

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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
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 31, 2025

10:30 a.m.

We Gather at God's Call

Introit *Be Still for The Presence of the Lord* - Evans

Greeting

Pouring of the Water

Prelude *What a Friend We Have In Jesus* - Cherwien

*Call to Worship (*responsively*) Deidre Lenderking, Worship Leader

God calls us to service,

rather than honor.

God calls us to love the unknown,

rather than the familiar.

We come to this time of worship,

trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,

who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

*Hymn *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* 509

*All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.*

*All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.*

*All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, forgive us when we exalt ourselves and mock the humble.

**We choose to believe we are self-sufficient
rather than trust in your strength.**

Open us to your Spirit,

**that we might serve all people without regard to the outcome,
devoting ourselves to your honor alone.**

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

God rejoices when we repent and return,
offering us finest wheat and honey from the rock
to sustain us in new life. Rejoice!

For you have been reconciled to God and to one another.

With joy, seek the honor of God's service.

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.

*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. 3)

450

***Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.***

Time with the Children

Hannah Altman

Anthem

Things That Never Die

- Dickens/ Dengler

*The pure, the bright, the beautiful that stirred our hearts in youth,
The impulses to wordless prayer, The streams of love and truth,
The longing after something lost, The spirits yearning cry,
The striving after better hopes, these things can never die.*

Life at Massanutten

⇒ **Happy Labor Day: The church office will be closed on Monday, September 1, 2025 to honor Labor Day.** We will return on Tuesday, September 2 at 9:00 am. May you and your families have a safe and blessed holiday weekend!

⇒ **Coffee Break Small Group:** The September Coffee Small Group will gather next **Thursday, September 4th, at 10:00 am** at the Kaffee Klatsch at the Dayton Market. All are welcome!

⇒ **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!**

⇒ ****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.

⇒ **Safety Message:** Always accompany your children when leaving the sanctuary. We often find unattended children roaming the halls, playing in rooms, hiding in closets, and outside on the playground during worship. **Please keep a close watch on your children!**

<p>This Week At MPC</p> <p>Sunday, August 31 9:00 am Chancel Choir (CR) 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Monday, September 1 - Labor Day <i>Holiday - Church Office Closed</i></p> <p>Tuesday, September 2</p> <p>Wednesday, September 3 7:30 am Men's Prayer Group (FH) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (CR)</p>	<p>Thursday, September 4 4:30 pm Mosaic (HBR)</p> <p>Friday, August 30 6:00 pm Dance Group (FH) <i>Church Office Closed</i></p> <p>Saturday, August 31 TBD Mosaic (FH) <i>Church Office closed</i></p> <p>Sunday, September 1 9:00 am Chancel Choir (CR) 10:30 am Worship 1:00 pm Recorder Rehearsal (200)</p>
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<p>Serving August 31</p> <p>Door Monitor: Dick Leecy</p> <p>Greeters: Karen Leecy & Karen Enslin</p> <p>Ushers & Water Pourers: Bo and Pattie Hobbie</p> <p>Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Katie Gray</p> <p>Children & Youth Program: <i>Resumes September 14th</i></p>	<p>Serving September 7</p> <p>Door Monitor: Phyllis Hamilton</p> <p>Greeters: Ric and JoAnn Leobold</p> <p>Ushers & Water Pourers: Chris Hamilton & Doug Smith</p> <p>Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Emily Burkholder</p> <p>Children & Youth Program: <i>Resumes September 14th</i></p>
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****REMINDER****

The Faithful Conversations and Covenant Class resumes on September 7th.

*The timid hand stretched forth to aid a brother in his need,
A kindly word in grief's dark hour that proves a friend indeed;
The plea for mercy softly breathed when justice threatens high,
The sorrow of a contrite heart, these things shall never die.*

*Let nothing pass, for every hand must find some work to do,
Lose not a chance to waken love; Be firm and just and true,
So shall the light that cannot fade beam on thee from on high,
And angel voices say to thee, these things can never die.*

Scripture Reading

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sermon

Pastor Keith Phillips

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

From A Declaration of Faith

**With concern for justice in the social order,
God has never forgotten the needs of individuals.
In the end the Lord will judge all persons
by the simple, unremembered acts of kindness
they did or failed to do for the least of their sisters and brothers.**

**We acknowledge God is at work here and now
when people show personal concern for each other
and work to make helping agencies,
including the church itself, more compassionate.**

**We believe God sends us to risk our own peace and comfort
in compassion for our neighbors.
We are to give to them and receive from them,
accepting everyone we meet as a person;
to be sensitive to those who suffer in body or mind;
to help and accept help in ways that affirm dignity and responsibility.
We must not limit our compassion to those we judge deserving,
for we ourselves do not deserve the compassion of God.**

Invitation to the Offering

Song of Thanksgiving

Now Thank We All Our God (v. 1)

643

*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

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 *We Are One in the Spirit* (vv. 1-3) 300

*We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:*

Refrain:

*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

*We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (Refrain)*

*We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (Refrain)*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *We Are One in the Spirit* (v.4) 300

*All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

Congregational Concerns

Members of Our Church Family...

Bill Painter, Patricia Armstrong (recovering from treatment for a GIST tumor), **Sharon Pafford** (receiving treatment for cancer), **Don Enslin** (hip pain, recovering from infection), **Kathy Frakes** (recovering from illnesses), **Bettye Davis** (receiving treatment for cancer).

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; **Sandy Zook** (Alzheimer's Disease), grandmother of Cherokee Adams.

Our Mission Efforts...

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

Serving Our Country...

Jackie DeGaîne, 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).