



The Oak Tree Capital Reserve Fund and Acorn Endowment Fund are the Legacy Programs at MPC. They aim to help our ministry grow today and in the future. Here are the fund balances as of Sept. 30th:

**Acorn Endowment Fund:** \$20,139.95  
Goal: \$50,000 balance by end of the year

**Oak Tree Capital Reserve Fund:** \$99,388.98  
Goal: \$250,000 by end of the year

If you have questions or would like to make a donation, please call the church office, visit [massanuttenchurch.org](http://massanuttenchurch.org), or speak to one of our Legacy Board members: Skip Wissinger, Barbara Palmer, Deb Thompson, or Pastor Keith

**Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session**

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

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

**Elder Commissions:**

- A = Administration & Finance
- CL = Community Life
- MS = Mission & Service
- ND = Nurture & Discipleship
- W = Worship & Music

**Massanutten Presbyterian Church Staff**

**Rev. Keith Phillips**, Pastor ([kphillips@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:kphillips@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Bob Jerome**, Director of Music ([bjerome@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:bjerome@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Carol Lown**, Organist ([clown@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:clown@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Hannah Altman**, Children and Youth Program Director ([haltman@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:haltman@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Ashlea Liptrap**, Administrative Assistant ([office@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:office@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Katie Rodgers**, Financial Administrator & Nursery Caregiver ([finance@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:finance@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Anna Richardson**, Digital Worship Coordinator ([media@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:media@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Danielle Cunningham**, Digital Media Communications Coord. ([dcunningham@massanuttenchurch.org](mailto:dcunningham@massanuttenchurch.org))

**Dick Leecy and Cindy Grimes**, Custodians

**CONTACT US:**

50 Indian Trail Road  
Penn Laird, Virginia. 22846  
540-434-6194  
[massanuttenchurch.org](http://massanuttenchurch.org)

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*The Nominating Committee is currently seeking members who feel called to serve as Ruling Elders. If you are interested in the position, please reach out to any member of the committee for more information. We also welcome your nominations; however, please ensure that the nominee is interested in the position before submitting their name. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. Committee members: David Allen, Emily Burkholder, Chris Hamilton, Ric Leobold, Gus Scheidt, and Nancy Wayland.*



**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  
*Nineteenths Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Follow Me - Honor God's Diversity*

October 19, 2025 10:30 a.m.

**We Gather at God's Call**

Introit *We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom* - Moore

Greeting and Pouring of the Water

Prelude *Amazing Grace* - Carter

\*Call to Worship (*responsively*) Ron Matthews, Worship Leader

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?  
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you  
**but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?**

\*Hymn *Light Dawns on a Weary World* 79

*Light dawns on a weary world  
when eyes begin to see all people's dignity.  
Light dawns on a weary world:  
the promised day of justice comes.*

**Refrain:**

*The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!  
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.*

*Love grows in a weary world  
when hungry hearts find bread and children's dreams are fed.  
Love grows in a weary world:  
the promised feast of plenty comes. (Refrain)*

*Hope blooms in a weary world  
when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.  
Hope blooms in a weary world:  
the promised green of Eden comes. (Refrain)*

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel,  
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.  
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,  
but we are content to live in separation.  
You call us to seek the good of all,  
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.  
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,  
but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.**

**Forgive us, O Lord.**

**Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,  
and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others;  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name; you are mine.  
God is doing a new thing: now it springs forth!

By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God!**

\*Response of Praise

*Glory Be to the Father*

581

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.***

\*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

*Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken*

455

***Listen to the word that God has spoken;  
listen to the One who is close at hand;  
listen to the voice that began creation;  
listen even if you don't understand.***

Time with the Children

*Who Is My Neighbor?*

Hannah Altman

Anthem

*Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

- Wilson

*Lord, you give the great commission, "Heal the sick and preach the Word."  
Lest the Church neglect its mission, and the Gospel go unheard.  
Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*



## **Attend the Open Doors "Re-Introduction" Presentation**

MPC has supported Open Doors for many years – including hosting guests in our building several times. Since the new Navigation Center opened last year, there have been many changes from the "rotational" model that we were accustomed to. These changes have led to many misconceptions and incorrect information about the needs and operation of Open Doors. The Open Doors Board of Directors and Advisers is giving presentations to "re-introduce" Open Doors to its partners. On **Sun., Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>** after worship in the Fellowship Hall, Dale Dobroth (President of the Open Doors Board) will give the 15-20-minute presentation and answer questions you may have. In keeping with Presbyterian tradition, lunch will be served.

### **Life at Massanutten**

- ◆ Join us for the **Virtual Dementia Tour (VDT)** at MPC on **Thursday, October 23rd**. This is an evidence-based experience developed by dementia specialist P.K. Beville, M.S., who uses patented sensory tools to help participants understand the challenges faced by those with dementia. Guided by trained facilitators, you'll wear devices that alter your senses while attempting everyday tasks. For more information, visit the [Second Wind Dreams website](#) or contact [VDT Clinical Manager Melora Jackson](#). To register for the tour, visit the [VPAS website](#).
- ◆ **Today, through November 2nd**, we will continue to receive the **Thank Offering of the Presbyterian Women**, which supports health and other ministries in the United States and throughout the world. Offering envelopes are in the chair backs.
- ◆ Open Doors, in partnership with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office, invites you to participate in a **Community Action Poverty Simulation** on **Saturday, November 1st, from 9am to noon at the Navigation Center**. This powerful, interactive experience offers an opportunity to step into the shoes of our neighbors who work hard but struggle to make ends meet. Participants assume roles in real-life scenarios and navigate a month of poverty in just a few hours, helping to build empathy, spark dialogue, and deepen our understanding of the challenges our neighbors face.
- ◆ **This is your last chance if you are interested in joining some of your MPC friends for dinner! The MPC Dinner Groups will gather for food and fellowship from the October 26th through November 1st.** Each group will meet at the home of a designated host, who will assign food contributions. **Please indicate your availability in the Special Events section of the Connections Folders by October 19th.**

**This Week At MPC****Sunday, October 19**

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

**Monday, October 20**

6:30 pm Cub Scouts (FH)

**Tuesday, October 21**

9:30 am Presbytery of Shenandoah  
 Committee Meeting (FH)

**Wednesday, October 22**

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

**Thursday, October 23**

10:00 am VDT Program (112, 117, 118)  
 4:30 pm Mosaic (HBR)  
 6:00 pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)

**Friday, October 24**

*Church Office Closed*  
 5:00 pm Generosity Team Meeting (L)

**Saturday, October 25**

*Church Office Closed*

**Sunday, October 26**

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (117,119)  
 9:30 am *No Faith Village*  
*No MS Sunday School*  
*No HS Breakfast*  
*No Parent Fellowship*  
 10:30 am Worship  
 Open Doors Re-Intro (FH)  
 Godly Play  
 2:00 pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)  
 5:00 pm Fun with Handbells (HBR)  
*No Youth Group*

**Serving October 19**

**Door Monitor:** Robin Reed

**Greeters:** John and Pam Davis

**Ushers & Water Pourers:**

Julia Sensabaugh and Doug Smith

**Faith Village & Middle School:**

Hannah Altman & Jennifer Coffelt

**HS Breakfast:**

Mary Mabry & Emily Burkholder

**Godly Play:**

Emily Burkholder & Jacob Burkholder

**Nursery:**

Barbara Palmer & Katie Rodgers

**Youth Group:**

Chris Hamilton, Gus Scheidt

**Serving October 26**

**Door Monitor:** Marc Davis

**Greeter:** Bettye Davis

**Ushers & Water Pourers:**

Bill and Kathy Marlowe

**Faith Village & Middle School:**

*No Faith Village & No MS Sunday School*

**HS Breakfast:**

*No High School Breakfast*

**Godly Play:**

Jack and Sarah Rimer

**Nursery:**

Sally Brown & Katie Rodgers

**Youth Group:**

*No Youth Group*

*Lord, you call us to your service: "In the name baptize and teach."  
 That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each.  
 Give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community;  
 With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

*Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father what they do, forgive."  
 Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give.  
 May your care and mercy lead us to a just society:  
 With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

*Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."  
 Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend.  
 And amid the cares that claim us hold in mind eternity;  
 With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.*

Scripture

Micah 6:1-8

Sermon

"Work for Liberation While Challenging Oppression" Pastor Phillips

**We Respond to God's Word**

\*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

*Adapted from The Belhar Confession*

We believe that God wants to bring about true justice  
 and lasting peace on earth;  
 we believe that God is, in a special sense,  
 the God of the suffering, the poor, and the downtrodden.

**We praise God who gives justice to the oppressed  
 and bread to the hungry;**

**who sets captives free and makes the blind to see;  
 who protects the strangers, orphans, and widows  
 and obstructs the plans of the wicked.**

We believe that the Church belongs to God  
 and that it should stand where God stands:  
 against injustice and with those who are wronged.

**We commit ourselves to reject all forms of injustice  
 in ourselves and amongst us;  
 and to struggle against all forms of injustice  
 and every teaching that allows injustices to flourish.**

We are called to confess and to do all this  
 in obedience to Jesus Christ, our only Lord,  
 even if authorities and laws oppose this,  
 even if punishment and suffering may be the consequence.

**Jesus is Lord! We will follow Him!**

**To the one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
 be honor and glory forever and ever.**

Invitation to Offering

Song of Thanksgiving *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* 606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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 *What Is the World Like* 771

*What is the world like when God's will is done? Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive: roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.  
This is how God moves us each to believe.*

*What is the world like when God's will is done? Witness the wandering child coming home; watch as the parent breaks into a run.  
This is how God longs for us when we roam.*

*What is the world like when God's will is done? No more is neighbor just ally or friend; peace thrives in places where once there was none.  
This is how God works when rivalries end.*

*What is the world like when God's will is done? Ready for feasting, we watch through the night, tending our lamps till the new day's begun.  
This is how God readies us for the light.*

*These are the stories that Jesus imparts, filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.  
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,  
this is a new world where God's will is done.*

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* (v. 5) 543

*Christ in the eyes of all who see me,  
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

### Congregational Concerns

**We Pray for Members of Our Church Family...**

**Bill Painter, Patricia Armstrong** (receiving treatment for a GIST tumor), **Sharon Pafford** (receiving treatment for cancer), **Don Enslin** (knee pain and mobility difficulties), **Kathy Frakes** (recovering from illnesses), **Bettye Davis** (receiving treatment for cancer), **Elfie Finn-McKenzie** (recovering from stroke), **Greg Trobaugh** (recovering from hip replacement surgery).

**We Pray for 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); **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; **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; **Rev. Patrick Pettit**, son of Harry & Jean Pettit (recovering from kidney infection).

**We Extend Sympathy to ...**

**Ellen Blose, Barbara Palmer, Sarah Rimer**, and their family on the death of Ellen’s sister, Nancy Raines Byrd, on Oct. 8th.

**We Pray for Our Mission and Ministry Efforts...**

Our MPC Nominating Committee; Massanutten Food Pantry, Blessings in a Bag, Habitat for Humanity, Open Doors, Valley Interfaith Action.

**We Pray for Those 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).