

PNC Update to Congregation: The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is grateful for your continued prayers and support throughout this important journey. After much prayer, discernment, and careful consideration, we are pleased to share that we have identified top candidates with whom we are moving deeper into the interview and discernment process. While we are not yet able to share additional details, we are moving thoughtfully through the next steps of the process. We ask that you continue to pray for the candidates, the committee, and our congregation as we seek God's guidance and trust in God's timing. — Bill, Ka, Jean, JoAnn, Ruth, Holly, and Wanda

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
David Allen (ND)	Gina Holden (ND)	John Davis (W)
Kathy Frakes (W)	Jean Kilby (W)	Linda Knupp (A)
Pam French (CL)	Bill Marlowe (CL)	Sarah Rimer (ND)
Lindsey Harvell-Bowman (MS)	Riley Scheidt (MS)	Deb Thompson (MS)
Ric Leobold (A)	Doug Sensabaugh (CL)	Kath Wissinger (A)

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

Elder Commissions

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

Pastor Nominating Committee

Bill Frazier, Ka Guinn, Jean Kilby, JoAnn Leobold, Ruth Rascoe,
Holly Veenis, and Wanda Wallace

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, Office Manager (office@massanuttenchurch.org)

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

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

Dick Leecy and Cindy Grimes, Custodians

CONTACT US:

50 Indian Trail Road
Penn Laird, Virginia. 22846
540-434-6194
massanuttenchurch.org

USE THIS QR CODE
TO SHARE YOUR
OFFERING ONLINE



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
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

10:30 a.m.

**An asterisk denotes an invitation to stand*

We Gather at God's Call

Chiming of the Trinity

Greeting and Pouring of the Water

Prelude

Come Thou Almighty King

- Page

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 119)

Kathy Frakes, Worship Leader

Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,

whose love has conquered death.

Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,

who leads us into life.

Let us worship God!

*Hymn

God of Great and God of Small

19

*God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

*God of land and sky and sea, God of life and destiny,
God of never-ending power, yet beside me every hour,
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

*God of silence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
God of day and darkest night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

*God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,
God of now and days before, God who reigns forevermore,
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*responsive*)
Spirit, intercede ...
 **when we fall short of your glory,
 when we do not deserve your promises,
 when we do not act like those who have been called your family.**

Spirit, intercede ...
 **when our words wound,
 when our silence speaks volumes,
 when our actions are a far cry from what you would have us do.**

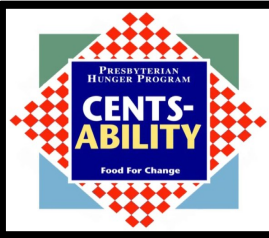
Spirit, intercede ...
 **break forth into our lives,
 forming us into the image of your Son,
 that we might never feel separated from you again.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)
Beloved, hear this good news: God is for us.
Not even our sins can separate us from the love of God.
 Glory be to God for this grace and mercy!

*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.*

Introduction to Four Cents a Meal



Today we receive the 4-Cents-A-Meal offering - a ministry of the PC(USA)’s Cents-Ability program. Gifts to 4-Cents-a-Meal support hunger ministries near and far. 25% of what’s received will remain at MPC. We will use it to support the purchase of food for our Blessings-in-a-Bag/Food-for-the-Weekend program at South River Elementary School in Grottoes.

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.*

*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.*



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 the end of the second quarter (June 30th):

Acorn Endowment Fund: \$56,906
 Oak Tree Capital Reserve Fund: \$128,567

If you have questions or would like to donate, please call the church office, visit massanuttenchurch.org, or speak to one of our Legacy Board members: **Barbara Palmer, Deb Thompson, Kath Wissinger, or Pastor Keith**

Life at Massanutten

- ♦ **MPC Community Life Fellowship Event: Join us today at 3:00 pm at Brix & Columns Vineyards in McGaheysville** for an afternoon of fellowship. Beverages will be available for purchase, and bottled water will be provided. Please bring a small snack or refreshment to share. We look forward to seeing you there!
- ♦ **Our Adult Summer Sunday School Class meets each Sunday at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall through August 23.** Join us for meaningful learning, thoughtful discussion, and Christian fellowship. Whether you are returning or joining us for the first time, all are welcome!
- ♦ **A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who has shared their musical gifts in worship this summer!** Special music is scheduled through August 2, with tentative plans for August 9. Those interested in providing special music on August 16 are invited to contact Bob Jerome, with no pressure or obligation. **Wednesday evening choir rehearsals will resume on August 19. The choir will also rehearse at 9:00 am on Sunday, August 23, before singing in worship that morning.** Everyone is welcome to join the choir! If you are interested, please contact Bob Jerome with any questions or for more information.
- ♦ **Important Safety Notice – Email Scam Alert:** We regret to report another fraudulent email impersonating Pastor Keith and other church members. These messages urge recipients to reply, either by inviting them to a dinner party or by claiming Pastor Keith has something urgent to discuss. Please do not respond to these emails or click any links they contain! Pastor Keith’s official email address is kphillips@massanuttenchurch.org. If you receive a suspicious email or text message, verify it directly with the church before responding. And absolutely never share personal or financial information with anyone.

Welcome Today’s Guest Preacher

Today, We are pleased to welcome **Rev. Dr. Nancy Meehan Yao** as our guest preacher. Rev. Dr. Meehan Yao serves Shenandoah Presbytery as Associate General Presbyter. She holds a Master of Divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. Prior to her current role, Rev. Dr. Meehan Yao served as co-pastor alongside her husband, Rev. Jim Yao, and has also provided leadership as a temporary supply and interim pastor to congregations in the Finger Lakes region of New York. Together, they have two adult sons.

This Week At MPC		
Sunday, July 26		Thursday, July 30
9:00 am	Summer Adult Sunday School Class (FH)	Friday, July 31 <i>Church Office Closed</i>
10:30 am	Worship	
2:00 pm	PNC Meeting (L)	Saturday, August 1 <i>Church Office Closed</i>
3:00 pm	Congregational Gathering at Brix and Columns Vineyard	
Monday, July 27		Sunday, August 2
		9:00 am Summer Adult Sunday School Class (FH)
Tuesday, July 28		10:30 am Worship - Communion
Wednesday, July 29		3:00 pm PNC Meeting (L)
7:30 am	Men's Prayer Group (FH)	
12:00 pm	"LOL" Lunch Grp (GA)	
5:30 pm	Deep Dive Bible Study (L)	

Reminder: Please note that there will be ***no Session Meeting and no Administration Commission Meeting*** during the month of ***July***. Regular meetings will resume according to the normal schedule in ***August***.

Serving July 26		Serving August 3
Door Monitor: Marc Davis		Door Monitor: Dick Leecy
Greeters: Chris and Phyllis Hamilton		Greeter: Karen Leecy
Ushers & Water Pourers: Jan Arnold and Hunter Davis		Ushers & Water Pourers: Larry and Pam French
Nursery: Katie Rodgers and Sally Brown		Nursery: Katie Rodgers and TBD
<i>The children and youth programs will resume in the fall. We hope you enjoy your summer!</i>		<i>The children and youth programs will resume in the fall. We hope you enjoy your summer!</i>

We Gather around God’s Word

Time with the Children		Hannah Altman
Special Music	“ <i>The Truth Shall Make You Free</i> ” MPC Choral Ensemble* Lindsay Pace, accompanist	- Red/Courtney
Scripture		Matthew 13: 31-33
Sermon		Rev. Dr. Nancy Meehan Yao

We Respond to God’s Word

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

**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.**

Invitation to Offering		
Song of Thanksgiving	<i>Now Thank We All Our God (v. 3)</i>	643

*All praise and thanks to God,
who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven
and earth adore, the God who was, and is,
and shall be evermore.*

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

God of the Fertile Fields

714

*God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,
that all in every land be clothed and fed.*

*We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give;
help us in love to share, teach us like you to care
for people everywhere, that all may live.*

*As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, so your reign grows.
Let all our toil be used, no gift of yours abused,
no humble task refused your love bestows.*

*God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one:
we pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

God Be with You Till We Meet Again (v. 1)

542

*God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.*

***MPC Choral Ensemble**

Dave and Deidre Lenderking, Jan Arnold, Hunter Davis, Nancy Davis, Wanda Wallace, Kath Wissinger, Selah Sprinkel, Drew Veenis, Ron Matthews, Doug Sensabaugh, and Kathy Frakes

*“The Truth Shall Make You Free” is from the pulpit musical Celebrate Life.
We thank these musicians for sharing their gifts in worship today.*

Congregational Concerns

We Pray for Our Church Family...
Patricia Armstrong (receiving treatment for a GIST tumor), **Don Enslen** (cancer), **Bettye Davis** (receiving treatment for cancer), **Mary Morris** (recovering from hip replacement surgery), **Ashley Gordon-Becker** (recovering from recent surgery), **Adele Durost** (recovering from pancreatitis and gallbladder surgery, cancer), **Bill Painter** (recovering from pneumonia & an infection); **Carol Waterhouse** (upcoming knee replacement surgery on 7/20).

We Pray for Friends of Our Church Family...
Owen Mann; **Linda Caldwell**, mother of Kevin Caldwell; **Janet Binion**, **Jim Roe**, family of Bill Frazier; **Sandra Rohrer**, mother of Lisa Rohrer Folks; **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; **Ray Harvell**, father of Lindsey Harvell-Bowman (health concerns); a member of our church seeks prayers for a private family health concern; **Kim Hoschar** (health, transportation); **Dennis Oakes** (prostate cancer), brother-in-law of Patti Hobbie; **Lauren Kusterbeck** (cancer treatment), friend of Sharon Posey; **Tony** (brain tumor), friend of Diann Reed’s family; **Jean Shepley**, mother of Sherry Matthews; **Charles Matthews** (heart issues), brother of Ron Matthews; **Dick Stutzman** (Parkinson’s), friend of Ron Matthews; **Rev. Jerrod Lowry** (cancer treatments) and family, friends of Pastor Keith; **Peggy Kuehl** (cancer), friend of Carol Lown and Kath Wissinger; **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. Will Roberts** (prayers for discernment as he seeks his next call); **Taffy de Planque** (therapy for fractured hip), mother-in-law of Jennifer Davis; **Heather Brockhoff** (cancer), sister-in-law of Jan Reser; **Rev. John B. Sterrett** (recovering from stroke), son of Doug Sterrett; **Randy Appleton** (recovering from stroke), son of Shirley Appleton; **Christine Eacho** (recovering from heart failure), mother-in-law of Holly Veenis’s sister; **Blayke Liptrap** (son of Ashlea Liptrap); **Nathan Bales** (house burned down, recovering from broken ankle), son of the late Bob & Patsy Bales; **Amanda Phillips and family** (house fire), cousin of Pastor Keith; **Lynda Coffelt** (mother of Jason Coffelt); **Katherine Sorensen** (broken pelvis), daughter of Frank and Jean Gearing; **Viki Lynch** (detached retina), friend of Diann Reed; **Jeff Wilson** (recovering well at home after a 50-foot fall while rock climbing in Italy), friend of Helen Groves; **Dr. Jennifer Aycock** (Prayer for teaching and travel at Zomba Theological University in Malawi, Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, June 6 - August 10); **Doug Joyner** (cancer), great uncle of Pastor Keith; **Karol Scarce** (multiple myeloma), friend of Sharon Posey; **Janet Nagele** (fractured neck after fall), great aunt of Pastor Keith; **John Black** (philanthropic work in the Philippines).

We Pray for Our Mission and Ministry Efforts...
The Pastor Nominating Committee, Massanutten Food Pantry, Blessings in a Bag, Habitat for Humanity, Open Doors, Valley Interfaith Action

We Pray for Those Serving Our Country...
Frank Overstreet, grandson-in-law of Helen Groves (Middle East); **Jackie DeGaine**, daughter-in-law of Ka & Mike Guinn (Fort Jackson, SC); **Justin Brockhoff**, nephew of Jan Reser (recently moved from Germany back to the United States); **Marcus Sensabaugh**, son of Julia and Doug Sensabaugh (deployed); **Hunter Barr**, nephew of David & Alicia Gutschow (Parris Island, SC); **Matí Riordan**, grandson of Jack Heintzleman (Fairbanks, AK); **Dylan Kenny**, nephew of Gus and Stephanie Scheidt (Navy); **Elizabeth Lee Davis**, daughter of Marc & Nancy Davis (Tampa); **Dan Balch**, grandson-in-law of Harry and Jean Pettit, (Navy, Japan).