

Open Doors Open House

Join **Open Doors** for an **Open House** on **Tuesday, September 1!** Stop by to learn more about the organization, its work, and how it serves neighbors experiencing homelessness and other hardships.

This is a wonderful opportunity to tour the facilities and see where guests and community members find hope, stability, fellowship, and access to valuable resources. No RSVP is required. **We hope to see you there!**





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

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

10:30 a.m.

**An asterisk denotes an invitation to stand*

We Gather at God's Call

Chiming of the Trinity		
Introit	<i>Come Down, O Love Divine</i>	- Robins
Greeting and Pouring of the Water		
Prelude	<i>God of the Sparrow</i>	- Schalk
*Call to Worship (<i>responsive</i>)		
		Kath Wissinger, Worship Leader
God calls us each by name as we gather on holy ground.		
We come to this place, seeking to know the great I AM.		
Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.		
Let us worship God!		
*Hymn	<i>Praise God for This Holy Ground</i>	405

Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound.

Refrain:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

Praise God in whose word we find food for body, soul, and mind. (Refrain)

Praise God who through Christ makes known all are loved and called God's own. (Refrain)

Praise God's Spirit who befriends, raises, humbles, breaks, and mends. (Refrain)

Though praise ends, praise is begun where God's will is gladly done. (Refrain)

Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

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

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*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of mercy, we confess that, like the disciples,
we set our minds not on divine things but on human things.

Doubting your loving care, we grab for more than we need.
Doubting your loving purposes, we shrink from living as your followers.
Doubting your loving plan, we become stumbling blocks in your creation.
Doubting your empowering Spirit, we respond to your call with, “But ...”

Forgive us that we may gain new life in you,
for it is in Jesus’ forgiving name we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Christ does not abandon us, but died for us, was raised for us, and loves us still.
This is the good news that prevails!
In Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (v. 1) 610

*O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God’s grace!*

*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 *How Firm a Foundation* (v. 1) 463
for Illumination

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God’s excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

Time with the Children Hannah Altman

MPC Annual Church Picnic

Join us for MPC’s annual church picnic on Sunday, September 13, immediately after worship in the picnic shelter! *Newman’s super-special, super-secret BBQ chicken will be provided.* Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Food may be dropped off when you arrive at church and will be moved to the picnic shelter during worship.



Volunteers are needed! Please visit the easels in the Narthex to review volunteer needs and sign up to help make this year’s picnic a wonderful success!

Life at Massanutten

- ♦ **Presbyterian Women Annual Potluck Kickoff:** All women are warmly invited to join us for the Presbyterian Women Annual Potluck Kickoff tomorrow evening, August 31, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a favorite dish to share as we gather to begin another year of fellowship, faith, and service. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a meal together, reconnect with friends, welcome new faces, and learn more about how Presbyterian Women nurture faith through prayer and Bible study, support the church's mission, work for justice and peace, and care for one another and our wider community. Whether you have been part of Presbyterian Women for many years or are simply curious and would like to learn more, **we would love to have you join us!**
- ♦ Please note that there will be **NO Adult Sunday School class on September 6.** Adult Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 13.
- ♦ The **Coffee Break Small Group** will meet on **Thursday, September 3rd,** at **10:00 am** at the Kaffee Klatsch in the Dayton Market. **All are welcome!**
- ♦ **Sunday Morning Mingle Returns!** Join us on Sunday, September 6, from 10:00–10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to kick off our monthly Sunday Morning Mingle! Enjoy light refreshments, warm fellowship, and a wonderful opportunity to connect with friends—old and new. We’ll gather on the first Sunday of each month. Come share in the joy of growing together in faith and friendship. **You don’t want to miss it!**

This Week At MPC Sunday, August 30 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm PNC Meeting (L) Monday, August 31 5:00 pm Preschool Parent Meeting (Sanc) 5:30 pm PW Annual “Potluck” (FH) Tuesday, September 1 Wednesday, September 2 7:30 am Men’s Prayer Group (FH) 12:00 pm “LOL” Lunch Grp (GA) 6:00 pm Personnel Comm Mtg (L) 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (200)	Thursday, September 3 10:00 am Coffee Small Group (KK) 4:00 pm Mosaic (FH) Friday, September 4 6:30 pm Dance Group (FH) <i>Church Office Closed</i> Saturday, September 5 <i>Church Office Closed</i> Sunday, September 6 10:00 am Sunday Morning Mingle (FH) 10:30 am Worship - Communion 2:00 pm Chancel Expansion Committee (L) 3:00 pm PNC Meeting (L)
<i>Church Office Closed for Labor Day:</i> <i>The church office will be closed on Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day.</i> <i>The office will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8.</i> <i>We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Labor Day!</i>	
Serving August 30 Door Monitor: Jack Rimer Greeters: Sarah Rimer and Ellen Blose Ushers & Water Pourers: Deb Thompson and Clayton Robertson Nursery: Katie Rodgers and Erin Basgier <i>The children and youth programs will resume on September 20th.</i> <i>We hope you have enjoyed your summer!</i>	Serving September 6 Door Monitor: Harvey Mast Greeters: John and Pam Davis Ushers & Water Pourers: Keith and Linda Knupp Nursery: Katie Rodgers and Diann Reed <i>The children and youth programs will resume on September 20th.</i> <i>We hope you have enjoyed your summer!</i>
 Mark Your Calendars for these Special Dates! 	
Sun., 9/6 Sunday Morning Mingle resumes	Wed., 9/16 Third Wednesday Dinners resume
Sun., 9/13 Adult Sunday School resumes Annual Picnic after worship	Sun., 9/20 Children & Youth programming resumes

Anthem	<i>Oh, For a Closer Walk with God</i>	- Kitchen
<i>Oh, for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame, A light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb! Where is the blessedness I knew when first I saw the Lord? Where is the soul refreshing view of Jesus and his word?</i>		
<i>What peaceful hours I once enjoyed! How sweet their memory still! But they have left an aching void the world can never fill. Return, O Holy Dove, return sweet messenger of rest! I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.</i>		
<i>The dearest idol I have known, what’er that idol be, Help me to tear it from thy throne and worship only Thee. So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame; So Purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.</i>		
Scripture	Exodus 3:1-15	
Sermon	Pastor Keith Phillips	

We Respond to God’s Word

*Affirmation of Faith (<i>unison</i>)	From <i>The Confession of 1967 (9.31)</i>
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community.	
This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other.	
Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.	

Invitation to Offering		
Song of Thanksgiving	<i>Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven (v. 1)</i>	619
<i>Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, should sing God's praise? Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!</i>		

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 *Will You Come and Follow Me* (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 *Will You Come and Follow Me* (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

We Pray for Our Church Family...
Patricia Armstrong (receiving treatment for a GIST tumor), **Don Enslen** (cancer), **Bettye Davis** (receiving treatment for cancer), **Adele Durost** (pneumonia and receiving treatment for cancer), **Bill Painter**, **Deborah Roberts** (back and shoulder injuries), **Kathy Marlowe** (recovering from TIA), **Helen Groves** (heart procedure Sept. 2).

We Pray for Friends of Our Church Family...
Owen Mann; **Linda Caldwell**, mother of Kevin Caldwell; **Doug Joyner** (great uncle, cancer and Alzheimer’s Disease), **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; **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; **Dick Stutzman** (Parkinson’s), friend of Ron Matthews; **Rev. Jerrod Lowry** (cancer treatments) and family, friends of Pastor Keith; **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); **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; **Lynda Coffelt** (mother of Jason Coffelt); **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; **Karol Scarce** (multiple myeloma), friend of Sharon Posey; **John Black** (philanthropic work in the Philippines); **Holly Veenis** requests prayer for a family member who was recently hospitalized for mental health recovery; **Christopher Rice and family** (strokes), neighbors of Holly & Drew Veenis; **Holly Veenis** asks for prayers for Gezzy, a friend going through a divorce; **Randy Moody** (recovering from sepsis and a broken hip) and **Jerry Moody** (recovering from a fall), cousins of John Davis.

We Extend Sympathy to ...
Dennis and Adele Durost, whose son-in-law, Trek Palmer, died on Aug. 24th in Massachusetts. Trek was husband to Dara Durost, and father to 11-year-old Augustus.

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); **Matt 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).