

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY

The Session of Massanutten Presbyterian Church has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, September 27th, immediately following worship, for the purpose of receiving the report & recommendations of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

Information from the PNC and Co-Pastor candidate has been sent by postal mail & email. It is also available in the Narthex of the church.

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)	Doug Sensabaugh (CL)	Deb Thompson (MS)
Ric Leobold (A)	Vacancy	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



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
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026 10:30 a.m.

*An asterisk denotes an invitation to stand

We Gather at God's Call

Chiming of the Trinity		
Introit	We Will Walk with God	- Bell
Greeting and Pouring of the Water		
Prelude	O God Our Help in Ages Past	- Young

*Call to Worship (responsive) Wanda Wallace, Worship Leader
Praise the Lord who is our provider.
The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.
God brought us out of bondage and has made us free.
The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.
Glorious are the deeds of our God, and mighty are God's acts.
The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.

*Hymn I, the Lord of Sea and Sky 69

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Holy God, we confess to you:

We are not of the same mind.

We act in selfish ambition and do not regard others as better than ourselves.

We have not looked to the interests of others instead of ourselves.

We do not embrace the humility of Jesus Christ.

Forgive us.

**Continue to be at work in us, that we might serve each other as you served us,
and reflect your glory in this world.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

When we lift up our souls to God, God does not put us to shame.

God forgives us, leads us in the truth, and leads us in what is right.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Response of Praise *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (v. 1)*

611

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

Introduction to Four Cents a Meal

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.***

Prayer of Dedication



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.

Life at Massanutten

- ◆ Our **monthly coffee group** meets this Thursday at 10am at the Kaffee Klatsch in the Dayton Market. All are invited to join in this fellowship opportunity! The group meets the first Thursday of each month at 10 am.
- ◆ After today, **Pastor Keith will begin a vacation**. He will return to the church on Tues., Oct. 6th. Rev. Stephanie Sorge of Trinity Presbyterian Church (Harrisonburg) is on call for any pastoral emergencies.
- ◆ Mark your calendars! The **Fall Cleanup at Massanetta Springs** is on Sat., Oct. 17th. More details will be shared soon, or you can speak with Doug Smith.
- ◆ Safety Notice: It's that time of the year where **immunizations for flu, COVID, and RSV are available**. We encourage you to protect yourself and everyone around you - including those who are immunosuppressed.



MPC will collect the PC(USA)'s World Communion Offering on Oct. 4th. This offering works to ensure all God's people flourish as God intends through ministries working for racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations. To learn more, visit pcusa.org/wco.

This Week At MPC		Thursday, October 1	
Sunday, September 27		10:00 am Coffee Small Group (KK)	
9:00 am	Adult Sunday School (117,119)	4:30 pm Mosaic (HBR)	
9:30 am	Preschool Sunday School, Faith Village, MS Sunday School, and Parent Fellowship	Friday, October 2	
		<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
10:30 am	Worship with Godly Play Congregational Meeting after worship	6:30 pm Dance Group (FH)	
1:00 pm	Recorder Rehearsals (200)	Saturday, October 3	
6:00 pm	Youth Group (FH)	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
Monday, September 28		Sunday, Oct. 4—World Communion Sun.	
6:30 pm	Mass. Ringers (HBR)	9:00 am Adult Sunday School (FH)	
Tuesday, September 29		9:30 am Preschool Sunday School, Faith Village, MS Sunday School, and Parent Fellowship	
Wednesday, September 30		10:30 am Worship with Godly Play and Communion	
7:30 am	Men’s Prayer Group (FH)	6:00 pm Youth Group (FH)	
12:00 pm	“LOL” Lunch Grp (GA)		
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal (200)		

Serving September 27		Serving October 4	
Door Monitor: Harvey Mast		Door Monitor: Nathan Enslen	
Greeters: Dexter & Cyndi Taylor		Greeters: Chris & Phyllis Hamilton	
Ushers and Water Pourers: Mike and Ka Guinn		Ushers and Water Pourers: TBD	
Preschool, Faith Village and MS Sunday School: Holly Veenis, Jennifer Coffelt, Ellen Blose, and David Allen		Preschool, Faith Village and MS Sunday School: Holly Veenis, Jennifer Coffelt, Ellen Blose, and David Allen	
Godly Play: Holly Veenis and Robin Reed		Godly Play: Diann and Robin Reed	
Nursery: Sally Brown and Diann Reed		Nursery: Katie Rodgers & Barbara Palmer	
Youth Group: Gus Scheidt, Cherokee Adams, and David Allen		Youth Group: Gus Scheidt, Cherokee Adams, Sarah Rimer, Hannah Altman	

We Gather around God’s Word		
Time with the Children		Jean Kilby
<i>Children age 4 through second grade may go with our adult leaders to Godly Play, an interactive children's Bible study that features story, wonder, and play. They will return to the sanctuary before worship ends.</i>		
Anthem	<i>Standing in the Need of Prayer</i> (see bulletin insert for words to the anthem)	- Hogan
Scripture		Matthew 21:23-32
Sermon		Pastor Keith Phillips

We Respond to God’s Word		
*Affirmation of Faith (<i>unison</i>)		<i>from</i> A Declaration of Faith
Jesus lived with a constant sense of his Father's presence.		
He put God's claim on his life above all else.		
He joined others in God's worship and praise.		
He drew strength from the Scriptures.		
He prayed and taught his disciples to pray.		
We believe Christ gives us and demands of us		
personal lives that are centered in God and open to God's reality and rule.		
Christ teaches us to put obedience to God		
above the interests of self, family, race or nation;		
to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time.		
It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest,		
setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work,		
celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness.		
We need constantly to search out God's way in Scripture,		
not expecting detailed directions for every decision,		
but relying on the Word to tell us who God is,		
to press God's present claim on us,		
and to assure us of God's grace and comfort.		
We are charged to pray for ourselves and others		
with gratitude, boldness, and persistence,		
confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all.		

Life in God's presence issues in life for others,
for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see,
we cannot love God whom we do not see.

Sharing Our Faith MPC Safety Committee Skip Wissinger

Invitation to Offering

Song of Thanksgiving Great God of Every Blessing (v. 3) 694

*Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer
Leader: *Listening God* All: **hear our 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 Go with Us, Lord 748

*Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.*

You may be seated for the Congregational Meeting after the Benediction Response.

Upcoming Opportunities at MPC

Next Sunday, October 4th, Dr. Jennifer L. Aycock will be with us to share God’s Word and to share about her experience last summer teaching at Zomba Theological University in Malawi, a university of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian. All are welcome to hear Dr. Aycock speak during the adult Sunday School hour (9-10 a.m.) in the Fellowship Hall. Then Dr. Aycock will preach in worship for World Communion Sunday.



In two weeks, October 11th, all are welcome to a Lunch and Learn after worship put on by the MPC Legacy Programs. This will feature a conversation with Rev. Erin Skinner of the Presbyterian Foundation about planned giving. Lunch will be provided, and folks are asked to RSVP in the Connection Folders by writing “Legacy” and the number of people present for lunch.