Massanutten Presbyterian Church Session

Stated meetings of Session occur on the 3rd Sunday of the month after worship (except July & Dec.)

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,
Moderators: Rev. Lynne Clements*, 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. Lynne Clements, Co-Pastor (**starting Nov. 16th*)
Rev. Keith Phillips, Co-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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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
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026 10:30 a.m.

An asterisk is an invitation to stand* **Bold indicates congregational participation

We Gather at God's Call

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* - Akers

Greeting and Pouring of the Water

Prelude *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* - Hayes

*Call to Worship (*responsive)*
The LORD is King!
Let the peoples tremble! Let the earth quake!
Let us praise your great and awesome name.
Holy are you!
Extol the LORD our God, and worship at God's holy mountain;
for the LORD our God is holy.

*Hymn *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* 1

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Almighty God, who loves justice, you are the one who established equity.
You worked justice and righteousness in our ancestors in faith,
and continue to call us to this work today.

But we are hypocrites. We test one another maliciously.
We sin against you and one another in thought, word, and deed.

Forgive us, gracious God.
Help us as we seek to follow Jesus Christ each day,
that we may do so with humility and grace.

(*Time for silent confession) Amen.*

*Assurance of Forgiveness
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Response of Praise *Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil* 750

Goodness is stronger than evil;
love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours; victory is ours,
through God who loves us.
Victory is ours, victory is ours,
through God who loves us.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ *(responsively)*
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Life at Massanutten

- **Dinner Groups** are being formed for later this month! See the colorful insert in today's bulletin or your *Blessings* email newsletter for all the details and to sign up. Signups must be made by tomorrow (Monday, October 19th).
- Come to the Table this Wednesday afternoon! It's our monthly "**Third Wednesday" dinner** at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome for dinner, games, and a special bonus! (see the next point below)
- Come for a "**short and sweet concert**" **by the Massanutten Ringers** after the Third Wednesday Dinner on Wed., Oct. 21st, in the Fellowship Hall!
- The **suggested donations list for the Food Pantry** has been updated! You can get a copy of the list on the table in the Narthex outside of the church office or in your *Blessings* email newsletter.
- Looking Ahead:
  - Pastor Keith will be on continuing education at Montreat next week. Rev. Tom Holden will be available for any pastoral emergencies.
  - We will recognize veterans of the US military at the church on Sunday, November 8th. See the *Blessings* email newsletter to find out how to include yourself, your loved one, or your friend in this recognition.
  - The Presbyterian Women is asking for items for Salvation Army Santa Sacks by November 15th. Please see the *Blessings* email newsletter for a list.

Do you know an MPC college student?
The Nurture & Discipleship Commission
is hoping to bring back the College Connection.
Church members would agree to contact students
with notes & emails of support & encouragement
for a period of at least one year.

We need the following student information:
college mailing & email addresses, birthday,
and any other pertinent information.
Email Gina Holden at vholden1@aol.com
with this information or for questions.

COLLEGE
CONNECTION
Massanutten
Presbyterian Church

This Week At MPC

Sunday, October 18

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (117, 119)
9:30 am Preschool Sunday School, Faith Village, MS Sunday School, HS Breakfast, and Parent Fellowship
10:30 am Worship with Godly Play Session Meeting after worship
4:00 pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)
6:00 pm *No Youth Group*

Monday, October 19

8:30 am Preschool (118, 119)
6:00 pm Scouts (108, 119)
6:30 pm Mass. Ringers (HBR)

Tuesday, October 20

8:30 am Preschool (118, 119)

Wednesday, October 21

7:30 am Men's Prayer Group (FH)
8:30 am Preschool (118, 119)
12:00 pm "LOL" Lunch Grp (GA)
1:00 pm Insurance Meeting (L)

Wednesday, October 21 (cont'd)

5:30 pm Third Wednesday Dinner (FH) with Mass. Ringers bell concert after dinner
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (200)

Thursday, October 22

8:30 am Preschool (118, 119)
4:30 pm Mosaic (HBR)
6:00 pm Scouts (108, 119)
6:30 pm Safety Team Meeting (L)

Friday, October 23

Church Office Closed

Saturday, October 24

Church Office Closed

Sunday, October 25

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (117, 119)
9:30 am *No programs for children, youth, or families this AM*
10:30 am Worship with Godly Play Four Cents a Meal collected
1:00 pm Recorder Rehearsal (200)
4:00 pm Cub Scouts (108, 119)
6:00 pm Youth Group (FH)

Serving October 18

Door Monitor: Robin Reed

Greeters:
Doug Smith

Ushers and Water Pourers:
Deb Thompson and Clayton Robertson

Preschool Sunday School, Faith Village, Middle School Sunday School, High School Breakfast: Jennifer Coffelt, Carol Lown, Holly Veenis, Emily Burkholder, Sarah Rimer

Godly Play:
Emily Burkholder and Hannah Altman

Nursery:
Katie Rodgers and Holly Veenis

Youth Group:
No Youth Group
(Homecoming Weekend)

Serving October 25

Door Monitor: Harvey Mast

Greeters:
George & Lynda Gibbs

Ushers and Water Pourers:
Greg and Ann Trobaugh

No programs for children, youth, or families this morning

Godly Play:
TBD

Nursery:
Katie Rodgers and Diann Reed

Youth Group:
Cherokee Adams, Karen Mast, Gus Scheidt, Chris Hamilton

We Gather around God's Word

*Sung Prayer for Illumination — *Breathe on Me Breath of God* — 286

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Time with the Children — Pastor Keith Phillips

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. Includes crackers and juice. They will return to the sanctuary before worship ends.

Anthem — *Hush, Somebody's Callin' My Name* — - Dennard

Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name.
Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Oh my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

I'm so glad that trouble don't last always. I'm so glad that trouble don't last always.
I'm so glad that trouble don't last always. Oh my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name.
Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Oh my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

I'm so glad I got my 'ligion in time. Hallelujah, Lord!
I'm so glad I got my 'ligion in time. O Glory, Lord!
I'm so glad I got my 'ligion in time.
Oh my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?, What shall I do?

Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name.
Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Oh my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

Soon one morning death come creeping in my room.
Soon one morning death come creeping in my room.
Soon one morning death come creeping in my room.
Oh my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name.
Hush, hush, Somebody's calling my name. Oh my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

Hush, Hush, Hush.

Scripture — Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon — Rev. Colleen Earp

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith *(responsively)* *from* A Declaration of Faith

Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor
to include those ordinarily despised and excluded.
His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death.
He commanded his disciples to live the same way.

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize
all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet.
Christ teaches us to go beyond legal requirements
in serving and helping our neighbor,
to treat our neighbor's needs as our own,
to care passionately for the other's good,
to share what we have.

It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity,
avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival.
We are obligated to speak the truth in love,
to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies,
to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

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 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* 753

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (v. 1)* 546

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.

Today's Guest Preacher: Rev. Colleen Earp

Rev. Colleen Earp serves as the Program Director at Massanetta Springs. She previously served on staff at Camp Hanover in Mechanicsville, Virginia, as well as Presbyterian camps in New Jersey and Louisiana. She has also served as a chaplain resident at UVA Medical Center. Before graduating with an MDiv from Union Presbyterian Seminary, she earned a BA Geography from the University of Mary Washington and an MS Geography from Rutgers University, working in environmental education and conservation. Colleen loves the outdoors, and spends much of her free time hiking and exploring nature, stopping to greet every rock and wildflower along the way.