

# THE MULTNOMAH ANNOUNCER

Official Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church

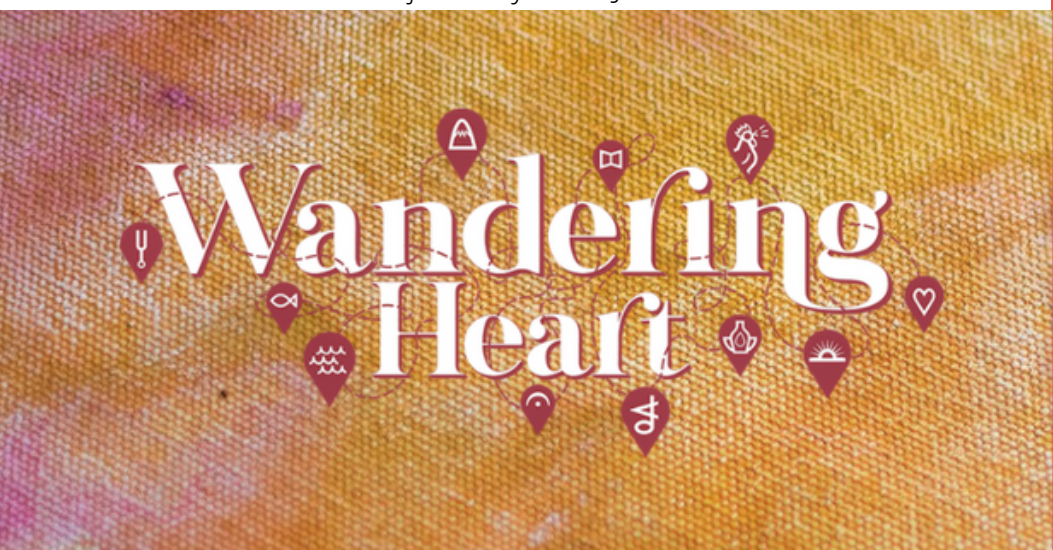
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## LENT

Lent starts February 14th with Ash Wednesday, and this year for Lent we are looking at a series called *Wandering Heart* where we follow Peter's journey with Jesus.



Peter is a normal person who experiences faith as both a steadfast follower and a clueless wanderer. Our faith ebbs and flows as we explore who Christ is and how we work out his teachings and presence in our lives.

Hopefully this series will resonate with you during our Lenten season and provide opportunities for us to ask questions and grow alongside Peter.

## SCRIPTURE REVIEW

### February 4th

Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm 147:1-11

### February 11th

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm 50:1-6

### February 18th

Luke 5:1-11  
Psalm 25:1-10

### February 25th

Matthew 14:22-33  
Psalm 22:23-31

## Sundays at MPC

Worship with us at 10:30am  
in-person or via our Youtube Channel

## Worship Opportunities

### Sunday, February 4th **Communion**

"Do you not know?  
Have you not heard?"

### Sunday, February 11th

"As surely as the Lord lives  
and as you live,  
I will not leave you."

### Sunday, February 18th

Jesus Saught Me

### Sunday, February 25th

Rescue Me From Danger

# Upcoming Events

Dove Open House  
February 1

Men's Fellowship Breakfasts  
Fridays, February 2 & 16

Food Cart Lunch  
February 11

Lent Begins  
February 14

Winterhawks Game  
March 2  
(RSVP by February 18)

Palm Sunday  
March 24

Good Friday Service  
March 29

Easter Sunday  
March 31

# MINISTRY TEAMS & LEADERSHIP FOR 2024





## FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND FUN!

Our next gathering will be **Sunday, February 11th**. Join us at BG's Food Cartel (4250 SW Rose Biggi Ave) for lunch and fellowship — invite family and friends! There are indoor & outdoor tables to accommodate no matter the weather, and plenty of options for all dietary needs. We will meet at the Food Cart Pod in Beaverton around 12:15pm. If you need to carpool please meet at the Welcome Desk by 11:45am.



Then, how about joining us for a Winterhawks (hockey) game? Robyn has reserved 20-25 tickets (we all sit together) for Saturday, **March 2nd at 6:30pm**. The event is held at The Veterans Memorial Coliseum, and we would meet there around 6pm.

Please let Robyn know no-later than **Sunday, Feb. 18th**. You can call or email the church office with your RSVP.

## YOUTH

### YOUTH GROUP TIMES

#### Middle School

Wednesdays  
6:30pm-8:00pm

#### High School

Wednesdays  
7:00pm-9:00pm

#### Elementary School

Good News Tues (now on Mondays)  
will be **February 19th at 6pm**.

2nd-5th graders are invited to join us for games, a meal, and a lesson in the Open Door (our youth building across the parking lot).

### ALASKA MISSION MEETINGS WILL START THIS MONTH

It's time to start planning for our trip this summer. Registered team members will be meeting Sunday nights 6:30-8:30pm starting **February 11th**. A complete schedule of meetings will be available at our first team meeting on the 11th.





# BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Greetings MPC, and Happy New Year from your new Buildings and Grounds Elder, Clay Morgan.

## TREE REMOVAL UPDATE

There is **free** wood available to whomever would like to haul it away next to the Open Door.

As a result of recent removal of the dead trees near the Open Door, the city required us to replace them. Karen Black, in photo, was able to provide, move, and replant the (3) trees we needed. They are located next to the BioSwale in the lower parking lot. Big shout out and **thank you** to Karen for this!!



Note: The MPC Street Sign is currently in a "redesign/refurbishment" phase such that the current lighting is a bit dim at night. Once the weather turns drier and warmer Temps return, the new sign will be completed.



## JANUARY ICE STORM

The next big challenge Building & Grounds had was - you guessed it - the snow and ice!



All the buildings were without power and internet for a number of days. Thankfully, power came back on Saturday, Jan. 20th, so we were able to have our in-person worship service on the 21st.

And thanks to some quick shovel work, by our crack team of professional shovelers, a path was cleared to assist in accessing the main entrance on Sunday - Thank You Shovelers!!



Internet was finally restored on Monday, the 22nd. Another shout out to Dennis Zerba & Jesse Black for troubleshooting and arranging for Comcast to come out and get the system back up & running. Jesse also installed battery back up power supplies for most of the electronics in the electrical room. Again, Thank you Jesse!

In Christ, We Serve  
Clay



## SESSION UPDATES

### At January's meeting, Session:

- Met with deacons and discussed security concerns in the Presbytery.
- Appointed a Security Task Force of representatives of the Buildings and Grounds, Personnel, Outreach/Fellowship and F&A committees (Clay, Randy, Tom & Chris respectively) to research the security issue and create a security policy and procedure.
- Noted that a women's choir will be using the sanctuary on Monday nights starting in February.
- Approved Ray McKean, staff, and Darlene Higgenbottom, treasurer, as Corresponding Members for 2024.
- Examined incoming elders and deacons.
- Noted the following were ordained and/or installed on January 21, 2024: Elders Clay Morgan, Spencer Magnusson, and Chris Ulum (ordained); Deacons Barb Jones, Dick and Kate Eyberg. Dave Tomastik (deacon-elect) was unable to attend and will be installed at a later date.
- Regretfully accepted the request from John Graf to be removed from MPC membership. Membership stands at 130.
- Noted the Session Retreat is February 17, 2024, 12:30pm – 5:00pm at church.
- Elected Darlene Higgenbottom to serve as Treasurer of MPC for 2024.
- Elected Karen Black to serve as Clerk of Session of MPC for 2024.
- Elected Chris Ulum as President and Karen Black as Secretary of MPC for 2024.
- Elected Kate England and Jenifer Aberle to serve as Session representatives to the 2024 Nominating Committee.
- Approved serving communion on the first Sunday of each month and Good Friday (Mar. 29).
- Agreed to request Presbytery allow a delay in payment of budgeted, per capita apportionment, on an installment basis with payment completed by September 30, 2024. Per member amount: **\$45.60.**
- Approved the 2024 Counting Procedures Policy.
- Approved the 2023 Annual Statistical Report to General Assembly.
- Agreed to add **non-binary** to the membership tracking spreadsheet. Non-binary is an option for gender distribution on the annual statistical report. Options are male, female, and non-binary.
- Noted there are 46 pledges for the 2024 budget covering above 70% of the budget, which is in line with previous budgets.
- Approved the 2024 MPC Budget as proposed.
- Noted that Heather Hellman has been accepted and affirmed by the CRE (Commissioned Ruling Elder) Committee.



## MISSIONS

### HOMEPDX LUNCH ON THE WATERFRONT

Thanks for all, including the youth group, for participating in our first lunch on the waterfront for 2024. We provided a chili, cornbread, and salad lunch, which was especially appreciated during the cold icy weather.



### REFUGEE CARE COLLECTIVE WASHCLOTH SETS TO BE COLLECTED IN FEBRUARY & MARCH

Refugees arrive in Oregon with few possessions and have to quickly build their lives again.

The **Collective** works to provide critical support through essential household items to 125 newly arriving families in the coming months. These families will arrive through the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program and most will arrive from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Ukraine.

The current inventory of these essential items is low, so we would like to again support this organization by **collecting a minimum of 50 sets of 6-8 washcloths in February and March** as part of the Refugee Care Church Response. Please bring in your donations to the red barrel in the Fellowship Hall.

Contact Jenifer Aberle or Lisa Shelley for more information.

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

This special offering, received by PCUSA in February and March, supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People funds, which all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Although MPC will not be collecting this offering in the plate on Sundays, we encourage you to find more information and online donation at **<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/make-a-gift/gift-info/oghs/>**. Envelopes for mailing individual donations are available at the Missions table by the welcome counter and the sanctuary entry table.

# February Birthdays

4 John Graf

6 Jessica Kindrick

9 Darlene  
Higgenbottom

11 Ellen McKean

12 Fran Barth

13 Sierra Killian

14 Olga Iturralde

15 Janice Mullins

19 Quinn McChesney  
Mike Mullins

21 Matthew Eyberg

24 Nancy Unrath  
Dean Nackley

25 Gayle Clopton  
Stacy Kerwood

## DEACON NEWS FOR YOU

The Deacons for 2024 met to get organized for the coming year. It's possible you will have a new Deacon this year. You'll be hearing from that person in the near future. One of the goals for the Deacons is to reach out and make sure the congregants of MPC are cared for. Thank you for giving your Deacon time to get to know you so that, if needed, we can pray for you or assist you in some way.

The Deacons also provide help, not only to our MPC family, but also to people in the community that may need assistance with rent, groceries, or gas (to name a few things). We appreciate your monetary support of the Deacon fund for this reason. You can make a contribution using the Deacon Fund envelope, or mark a check for Deacons.

We look forward to serving you this year!

## PRAYER

You're invited to call or email the church with any prayer requests (joys, concerns, and updates) you have, and they will be forwarded on to the Prayer Team who is continuing to meet via Zoom each Tuesday evening.

## MINISTERING TO EACH OTHER

Our church family includes several "homebound" individuals – those who now have temporary or permanent limitations reducing their involvement in the church. When our homebound congregants are unable to come to church, we can take the church to them through prayers, visits, rides to church, and letters. Please inform the deacons as you become aware of someone who is homebound.



## FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Friday Men's Fellowship group meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month. We will meet in the Upstairs Fellowship Hall at 8am on **February 2nd & 16th** for breakfast, along with a time of general fellowship and discussion.

On the 2nd, we will be treated to a breakfast prepared by Steve Graeper, along with a discussion about Young Adults and the Church led by Heather Hellman. If you have any questions or would like to attend, please feel free to contact Dennis Zerba.

## DOVE PRESCHOOL

Dove Preschool had an interesting January, having to take a week off because of the weather. We managed to piece together lost time and still learn a lot about safety and health. Lessons included fire safety, stranger danger and the police. The local fire station visited the Pre I class. The Pre II class will take a field trip to the fire station in February (our original trip was postponed due to weather). Dennis & Clay helped both classes with a fire drill. Our health lessons included learning about germs and our teeth. We will be focusing on God's love during February.

We are currently enrolling for Fall 2024. The January Open House was postponed to February 1. If you receive this prior to that date, please share with anyone you know with preschool age children. We'll be opening the school from 6:30-7:30pm for prospective parents to see the class, meet the teachers, and pick up registration materials. We also schedule one-on-one tours. Dove can be contacted at **dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com** or through our website, **www.dovepreschool.com**. Go to our Facebook page and give it a like.

If you have an interest in serving on the Dove Preschool board, please let us know. We would love to have people who are interested in helping continue to make Dove a great school. Contact Barb Jones for more information (by email or find her at church).

## Blessings From Within Our Church

Praise that the power came back in time so the meal could be prepared for HomePDX.

Praise that Daniel Eyberg's flight was not interrupted by weather or other things so he could get to Iowa for his Grandma's funeral.

Praise that Courtney is seeing the Lord healing her knee after surgery.

If you would like to share your blessings, please send them to Janet Lowrey, Dave Tomastik, or your own Deacon.





Presbyterian Church

7555 SW 45th Ave.

Portland, OR 97219-1516

**Return Service Requested  
Dated Material  
Please Do Not Delay**



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:  
LOVED BY CHRIST, WE LOVE. SERVED BY CHRIST, WE SERVE.  
INVITED BY CHRIST, WE GO, INVITING OTHERS TO HIM.

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