

# **2025 Annual Congregational Report**



## **Multnomah Presbyterian Church**

**7555 SW 45th Ave.**

**Portland, OR 97219**

**503 246-5459**

**[www.MultPresChurch.org](http://www.MultPresChurch.org)**



## In Our Fond Memories



John Prutsman



Hank Downing



## **2025 Annual Congregational Report**

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## Clerk of Session

### Elders

Class of 2025 (Terms ending January 2026)	Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028 (Terms beginning January 2026)
Jenifer Aberle Kate England Randy McCourt	Spencer Magnusson Clay Morgan Chris Ulum	Kevin Marshall Lisa Shelley	Randy McCourt Jennifer Gassaway Janet Lowrey

### Clerk of Session

Lisa Shelley

### Staff

Amy McKean,  
Director of Marimba Ministry

Ray McKean,  
Director of Music

Vicki Smallwood,  
Office Manager

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ackerman, PhD  
Transitional Pastor

Heather Hellman,  
Pastor, CRE, Head of Staff

### Treasurer

Darlene Higgenbottom

### Elders Leading Ministry Teams

Building & Grounds  
Christian Education/Youth  
Fellowship & Outreach  
Finance & Administration  
Missions  
Nominating  
Personnel  
Worship

Clay Morgan  
Spencer Magnusson  
Kevin Marshall  
Chris Ulum  
Jenifer Aberle  
Kate England  
Randy McCourt  
Kate England

### Regular Session Meetings

January 21	March 25	May 27	August 26	October 28	December 16
February 25	April 22	July 22	September 23	November 18	

### Congregational Meetings

January 26, November 16

(continued **Clerk of Session Report**)**Board of Deacons**

<b>Class of 2025</b>	<b>Class of 2026</b>	<b>Class of 2027</b>	<b>Class of 2028</b>
<b>(Terms ending January 2026)</b>			<b>(Terms beginning January 2026)</b>
Janet Lowrey Jaonna Morgan Courtney Tomastik	Dick & Kate Eyberg Barb Jones Dave Tomastik	Pat Johnson	Judi Davis Jackie Magnusson

**Attendance and Membership****Average Sunday Worship Attendance**

<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021*</u>	<u>2020*</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
58	58	61	59	44	85	132	134	134	127

**Average Weekly Streaming Views**

<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
30	36	47	67	69	76

**Membership**

Active Members, December 31, 2024 127

<b>Losses:</b>		<b>Gains:</b>	
By death	1	By Reaffirmation of Faith	3
Removed from membership	26		
<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Total Gain</b>	<b>3</b>

Active Members, December 31, 2025 103

Removed by death: Hank Downing

Joined by Reaffirmation of Faith: Sarah Butler, Linda Stabler, Mary Cayton

\*Due to pandemic, in-person gatherings were suspended from March 14, 2020, through the end of May 2021, with the exception of one outdoor service on Oct. 4, 2020 followed by congregational meeting to amend bylaws to allow for electronic congregational meetings. Attendance for 2020 is based on Jan/Feb attendance only, and for 2021 on in-person services beginning June, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Shelley, 2025 Clerk of Session

## Leadership Report

2025 was the year we became known. I say that because for a long time we were that “little church on 45th.” People passed by quickly just seeing one side of our building, one part of our campus. They didn’t know us. Being known is important. It helps us to be the light to the city, Jesus calls us all to be. It helps us to make Jesus’ love, grace, mercy, and justice known. We aren’t just known, for many we are now a known resource and a trusted partner.

In 2024 and 2025 we worked hard to help the neighbors close by. We invited them onto our property to use our building and parking lot, we went out for community events and were visible in the neighborhood. We held the bike events that brought families and bike enthusiasts to our campus for the first time. We were also visible on the front lines of standing with our neighbors and standing up against oppression. That made us visible in local and national media. We are also more active in our Presbytery, sharing in worship and other experiences with other churches, inviting them to things we are organizing in the city. We were visible serving our neighbors in so many ways from Stevens Creek Crossing, to HOMEpdx, to coat distributions, and so much more. We also continue to be known for fun, engaging worship and programs that bring joy and hope. We are known and trusted in our community on so many levels now.

I had a retired minister, who has been familiar with MPC for a very long time, tell me that we make him believe in transformation because of what he has known and experienced from us over the years. He has seen our congregation open up in ways he never thought possible

For every event, every planning meeting, every rehearsal, every clean up and maintenance activity, every administrative task, every hour that you all volunteered made this possible: **Thank you.** I hope you feel your contribution is known and seen, because it is. I and others see the way you so lovingly give to this community in so many ways. We are even known for having a very high percentage of our congregation be active participants in the life of the church.

We have an excellent team of deacons, elders, and staff that has led us to this place where we are known. While we are sad to say goodbye to Jennifer Ackerman from the leadership team, we are so grateful she is still part of MPC as someone who will worship and continue to use her gifts of music and preaching. Jennifer’s work as Transitional Pastor was transformational for us and helped guide us so skillfully and gently to where we are today. We are very excited to have Jeff Sievert join our team as parish associate. Jeff will focus a lot on pastoral care and hopefully that will help everyone in our congregation feel more known, loved, and served as he works alongside the deacons. Ray and Amy continue to bring us great joy and hope through our music programs that have really put us on the map and given us so many ways to participate in worship. Ray perfectly captures the theme of each worship service in music that helps bring us all back to the goodness of God each week. I also don’t

**(continued Leadership Report)**

know where we would be without Vicki our office administrator who keeps us organized and looking good in all of our communications, publications, and the millions of other ways she serves us with so much grace and good work.

As we continue to make ourselves known We are ever mindful of our mission statement loved by Christ we love, served by Christ we serve, invited by Christ we go, inviting others to him. Thank you for making Christ's love known to me as well, thank you for serving alongside me, and thank you for inviting me to stick around as part of our leadership team. It means so much to me to be chosen to continue to help lead MPC.

Submitted by Heather Hellman, Pastor CRE

## Personnel

The most significant MPC personnel decision in 2025 was migrating from temporary transition pastor support to a parish associate to work with Pastor Heather Hellman. In November, a special service was held establishing Heather Hellman as Pastor with representation from the Presbytery of the Cascades presiding. Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ackerman will be turning her attention to her full-time role with Fuller Seminary and staying with MPC as a valued member. To address this, Personnel Committee conducted a search in the fall that identified Rev. Jeffrey Sievert to serve as MPC Parish Associate starting in January 2026. Thank you to Roy Magnusson, Dick Eyberg, John England, Kate England, Jennifer Ackerman, and Heather Hellman who all participated in the process to complete this transition.

In November 2025 the role of the Pastor Nominating Committee was discharged of its duty. Thanks go out to John England and Dick Eyberg who co-chaired that committee with the assistance of Adrienne Gassaway, Jesse Black, Valentine Hellman, Courtney Tomastik, Lisa Shelley, and Nancy Unrath.

Personnel Committee was also involved in personnel reviews, writing position descriptions, helping finalize the building access and security plan, and establishing compensation for the 2026 budget year. In 2026 we will be recognizing and appreciating staff on the day after Valentine's Day (February 15<sup>th</sup>). Updating the Employee Handbook and policies of the church is a task ahead that will centralize access to the documents and address recent changes in church policy.

Anyone interested in participating in the Personnel activities is welcome and should contact the chair, Randy McCourt.

Submitted by Randy McCourt, Personnel Chair

## Worship & Music

*Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.*

*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!*

*Psalms 150:6*

2025 was a joyous time for worship and music at MPC! All of our musical ensembles (choir, praise team, marimbas, ukuleles) contributed to vibrant worship. Thank you to all of those who participated in these ensembles. Also a special thanks to Amy McKean for sharing her expertise and directing our Jubilation! Marimba Ensemble.

Throughout the year we used several approaches to sermon planning including using the Lectionary, creating themes, and two series by Sanctified Arts. Heather Hellman, CRE and Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ackerman shared the planning and the pulpit, bringing us sermons to help us grow in Christ. We made changes in the sanctuary to create a space that feels like a gathering space, such as using a circle arch in the back of the sanctuary for participants to move to during the passing of the peace for hanging prayers, taking words of encouragement, and more.

Our church joined with St. Andrews and Valley Presbyterian churches to celebrate Holy Week together. We celebrated Maundy Thursday at Valley, participated in the Palm Sunday service at St. Andrews (the choir and various readers), and hosted the Good Friday service at Multnomah.

Our ukulele group shared their gifts at the Portland Parkways event in May, led Christmas music at the Westside Dinner, and played at the Whoville Village during Multnomah Village's tree lighting night. They were joined by a trio of accordion, baritone, and trombone (thank you Janet Lowrey and Spencer Magnusson).

As we approached Advent we changed the seating in the sanctuary to have more than a dozen gathering areas around a table, which allowed us to have an interactive advent wreath. Going forward into 2026, we plan to roll out other interactive pieces for worshipers.

During Advent, we had the annual solo piano concert by Ray McKean (The Holly and the Ivories!) and our annual Christmas Coffeehouse Concert with our musicians and drama troupe all dressed as the angelic hosts (Harold and the Heavenly Hosts). Thank you to Spencer Magnusson and Heather Hellman for a wonderful script, and to all those that participated!

Also a shout out to our A/V Team – Rick Aberle, Steve Brandt, Russel Haynes, Elijah Hellman, Tom Jones, and Dave Tomastik – who make sure our services are seen and heard, not only in the sanctuary but also online!

As we look to 2026, we also say thank you to Jennifer Ackerman as she steps away from her transitional pastor role, and welcome to Jeff Sievert as our new part-time Parish Associate.

Submitted by Kate England, Worship Chair & Ray McKean, Director of Music

## Outreach / Fellowship

We offered opportunities to our members to come together in many ways this year. Some tried and true, but some were new experiences for us all – bringing new events to our campus and showing up in the community to share our joy!

- Spring Fun Day brought over 100 ‘kids of all ages’ to our grounds to enjoy pancakes, baby goats, an easter egg hunt, and a beautiful spring morning.
- Sunday Parkways moved to May and once again we supported a rest stop – ukuleles and popsicles kept the masses happy!
- Tacos and Tunes brought us together for a meal and sing-a-long led by the now world famous Ukulele group!
- 3 Saturdays in the summer we hosted a “Bike Bus” event in the church parking lot (brought to us by John & Sarah Benenate) teaching kids how to ride and the team aspect of biking. It was a great opportunity to open our campus to our neighbors.
- Hosted a food cart event to gather people after church.
- Helped host the Table Talk discussions with Valley and St. Andrews for 6 Sundays in the fall.
- Added Halloween Trick-or-Treating to our Multnomah Village participation. Hosting a pet costume contest, a photo booth, and handing out candy to over 1000 trick or treaters.
- Supported Paint night – led by our own Sarah Butler to raise money for Project Lemonade.
- Once again brought the Grinch experience to the Multnomah Village Christmas Gala – bigger and better than ever! Shout out to Xander Hainer for an incredible Grinch experience.
- Provided treats and support to the annual Coffeehouse extravaganza in December.
- Introduced ceramic mugs to coffee hour.
- We coordinate ushers, greeters, and coffee hour to ensure that members and guests are welcomed and fed every week!

Shout out to everyone who stepped up to make all these events successful. Whether you were asked ahead of time or saw a need and stepped in to help in the moment – this all happens because of all of you! **THANK YOU!**

Joyfully submitted,

Kevin Marshall (Elder), Ray McKean, Tom Jones, Linda Stabler, Heather Hellman (Pastor)

## Missions Committee

The Mission Team thanks you for your support in 2025!

### HOMEpdx

We served a hot lunch with HOMEpdx four times this year. It was wonderful to be working together in the kitchen preparing these meals, and to be face-to-face with those in need in our community. Thank you to the volunteers, shoppers, and to everyone who supported these lunches.

In response to food bank cuts we collected high-protein and ready-to-eat items for HOMEpdx in May and June. In the fall we collected cold weather items such as hand warmers, jackets, blankets and tarps. These were donated to HOMEpdx to be distributed to our unsheltered neighbors.

### Neighborhood House

In the spring we were able to raise over \$4000 in 5K entry fees, cash and food donations for SW Hope: Feed The Hungry, the fundraising campaign for the Neighborhood House food pantry in Multnomah Village. This was almost double the amount donated in 2024. We again had a group from MPC participating in the 5K, which was a fun morning of fellowship in the community. Thank you to everyone who attended events, donated money, and brought in food items. We also collected food donations to celebrate Father's Day, and cash donations were made to the food pantry on behalf of visitors to our services.

### Project Lemonade

When Howard's Heart closed at the end of 2024, they recommended Project Lemonade, which also supports foster youth, as a new Mission partner. Since 2012, this organization has been inspiring self-esteem and helping youth in foster care. At the heart is their flagship store, where youth can shop for clothing and essentials at no cost. In addition, programming includes paid internships, support for teens aging out of care, and the WISH fund, which provides opportunities that empower youth to pursue their dreams, from creative projects to educational goals.

In the fall we collected many boxes of new clothing and accessories as well as more than \$1000 in cash donations. In November, member Sarah Butler lead a fun paint night which generated more than \$700 for Project Lemonade's WISH fund. At November and December Sunday services, Ray's The Holly and the Ivories Piano concert, and the Christmas Coffeehouse we had fun collecting many boxes of new stuffed animals, which were also donated to Project Lemonade.



(continued **Missions Report**)

### **Stephen's Creek Crossing Housing Community**

In November we provided \$1000 in gift cards to residents of Stephen's Creek Crossing, a low-income housing community in our neighborhood. Fran Barth continues to hold a weekly homework club at SCC for kids of all ages.

### **NW Children's Outreach**

In November the Mission Team purchased and delivered \$1000 worth of coats to NW Children's Outreach. NCO is an All-Volunteer, Christian-founded and -led group, desiring to love those in need with the love of Christ by providing material resources for children in need. We have been working with NCO for a number of years, and we hear again and again how grateful they are for these coats, and how needed they are. MPC member Randy McCourt also distributed 280 jackets donated by the organization Transforming a Life to NCO, Multnomah Safe Rest Village, Neighborhood House, and other mission partners in the area.



### **2025 Monetary Donations**

Throughout the year, we made discretionary donations from our budget to Faithful Friends, Neighborhood House and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Myanmar Earthquake relief.

Additionally, as part of our budget, we supported the preaching work of Juveninto Martinez in Mexico via In His Name Ministries; Christian-run schools in Ethiopia via Light of Hope ministries, a part of Frontier Fellowship; trade scholarships for young mothers at Harambee Centre, Kenya; Loves & Fishes/Meals on Wheels; Salvation Army; the Christian-run Pamoja House hospitality center and English school for immigrants; Operation Nightwatch, an organization that serves the unsheltered community; and the Presbytery of the Cascades Mission Fund.

### **Special Offerings**

Our Christmas Eve Offering supported ICE detainees and their families through the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIrJ). We also promoted individual donations to PCUSA's quarterly special offerings.

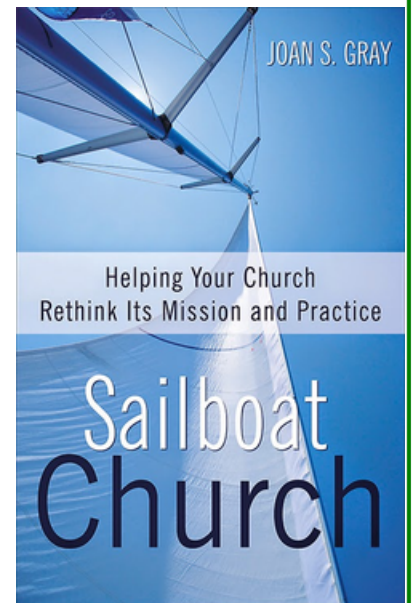
Submitted by Jenifer Aberle, Chair of the Mission Committee

## Congregational Nominating Committee

The 2025 Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) was chaired by Kate England, while Spencer Magnusson was the Session representative and Kate Eyberg represented the Deacons. Our at-large members were Kathy Wheeler and Darlene Higgenbottom. The committee was tasked with discerning replacements for two elder positions and three deacon positions. Randy McCourt was eligible to rotate off of Session, but opted to stay on for another term, leaving us with the two positions to fill. The elders rotating off are Jenifer Aberle and Kate England. Each served our Multnomah Presbyterian Church with the gifts and talents they were each blessed with, leading our church to the best of their abilities, and we thank them for their dedication, expertise, and leadership through their terms on Session.

The deacons who have terms ending include Janet Lowery, Courtney Tomastik, and Jaonna Morgan. They each served this congregation faithfully and with grace using their gifts and talents, for which we thank them wholeheartedly.

As the CNC went about prayerfully considering potential candidates for deacons it became clear to us that we would only be able to have two leaders step into these roles. The CNC continues to practice principles from the book titled *Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink its Mission and Practice* by Joan Gray. The premise of the book is comparing a sailboat to a row boat. In this analogy, the sailboat is powered by the Holy Spirit, whereas the row boat is based on our actions. The CNC applied many of the book's principles, mainly prayer and allowing for time to listen for the Holy Spirit before making a decision. The CNC asked nominees to prayerfully consider serving our congregation as elders or deacons. We are pleased to have Janet Lowrey and Jennifer Gassaway commit to the role of elder, and Jackie Magnusson and Judi Davis commit to the role of deacon. CNC shared the candidates names in December and January, then the slate was presented to the Congregation as the "Class of 2028," installed on January 18, 2026.



The Congregational Nominating Committee will be reformed once Session and Deacons determine their representatives for 2026. Our at-large members Darlene Higgenbottom and Kathy Wheeler will continue for the coming year.

Submitted by Kate England, 2025 Congregational Nominating Committee Chair

## Christian Education

This year Multnomah Presbyterian continued to support youth and kids in our community with a safe space, fun programming, and opportunities to grow in their faith. In addition to regular youth groups for middle- and high-schoolers, we had special events like the holiday celebration, where we brought back the old tradition of a mall scavenger hunt with a new twist. While we don't have weekly activities for elementary-aged children, we do have Good News Tues, our monthly youth group, which Sherri Kessler helps to lead. We have flexibility and plenty of materials to add more days of Sunday School, and will if the need arises. For now, we count our blessings that we have any kids around, as many churches in our denomination are not so fortunate.

We also worked hard to fundraise and plan for another Alaska Mission Trip. Our group of teens and adults put on a Star Wars themed auction this year to provide for the travel and expenses of the trip to Skagway. Students helped plan the logistics of the trip, as well as events for Skagway youth group each night, and once again we created a curriculum for Vacation Bible School that was used both in Portland and Skagway, and focused on animal friendships (symbiotic relationships). The community of Skagway and Skagway First Presbyterian were grateful for our time with them this summer. We heard from many parents that this is something their kids look forward to all year. Our VBS attendance is primarily made up of kids from outside of our MPC membership, so it continues to be an outreach to families. In addition to the amazing adult volunteers, we also had youth helpers from the community, and our Alaska Mission Team. A big thanks to all who have volunteered with the youth this past year!

Our Adult Sunday School program is led by John England and has a regular following of 8-10 participants. At the start of 2025, the group read *The Will of God as a Way of Life* by Jerry Sitzer, a Whitworth professor and pastor. Each week the group explored the written material and discussed practical life applications of the content. Once that book was complete, the group studied Jesus' parables in a discussion format, often accompanied by a related video. Currently the group is reading a book by Adam Hamilton titled *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts and Outlaws*. Along with reading about the author's explanation of Jesus' care and compassion for all, including the sinners and outcasts, the group is following a Bible reading guide for the Book of Luke. Adult Sunday School meets on Sundays from 9-10 from late September to late May and people are welcome to join at any time.

Submitted by Spencer Magnusson, Kate & John England

## Deacons

*The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress.*

Your deacons have cared for the congregation of Multnomah Presbyterian Church to the best of our abilities, as well as to our neighbors.

- We kept in touch with families through phone calls, cards, emails, and visits at church. We are ready to supply and coordinate meals in times of need.
- Neighborhood House food collection – we continue to collect non-perishable, non-expired food and paper products in the Fellowship Hall for our local community.
- Bereavement Coordinators – We assisted with the service for John Prutsman.



- Westside Thanksgiving Dinner for our friends from Westside Community Focus, with Multnomah's Ukulele Group playing Christmas songs. We thank the volunteers and those who donate financially or through pies, without whom we could not continue this long-standing event.

Photos courtesy of Steve Brandt

### • Deacon Assistance Fund

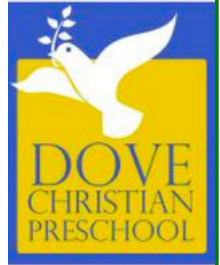
- We provided \$2,409 in assistance to four families, consisting of rent and utility assistance and car repair.
- We provided \$72.52 in gas vouchers to Multnomah Chevron.
- We thank those who contribute to the Deacon Fund to help provide these services.

Three deacons ended their terms in 2025: Janet Lowrey, 6 years; Jaonna Morgan, 6 years; and Courtney Tomastik, 3 years. We welcomed Judi Davis and Jackie Magnusson as new deacons for 2026. Both have served as deacons previously, so our congregation remains in good hands.

In His service,

Janet Lowrey & Dave Tomastik  
Deacon Co-Moderators

## Dove Christian Preschool



Dove Christian Preschool successfully completed another full school year, led by Barb Jones & Katrina O'Hearn. Both the Pre I (3-year-olds) and Pre II (4-year-olds) classes had an active and joyful year. The year included a wide range of activities for the children to experience. During the last 5 months of 2025, there was a visit from the fire station for Pre I, and a field trip to the fire station for Pre II. Both classes held a Spring Luncheon which included pizza and salad with their families. Both classes were able to enjoy a field trip to the Oregon Zoo. And on the last day of school, we held Pastries with Parents. Parents came to enjoy pastries and lunch with their children. At the end of May 2025, fifteen students graduated from Dove.

During the summer, Dove families who enrolled for Fall 2025 met at various parks so the children could play and the parents could get to know one another.

The 2025-26 school year began in September on our regular schedule. Dove was blessed with 17 kids enrolled in Pre II and 13 enrolled in Pre I. It has been a year filled with activities and learning. Both classes went to the Jones Estate for the Fall Field Trip, with many activities as well as a small pumpkin patch where the kids could pick a pumpkin for home. With the help of office staff and other MPC members, the kids enjoyed a Halloween celebration, wearing costumes and trick-or-treating. The Christmas program once again was a highlight, with the kids sharing the story of Baby Jesus through song. On top of all these activities, the kids learned how to be members of a classroom, along with academics to prepare them for elementary school.

Dove board members include Melissa Ulum & Kathy McCourt, co-Presidents; Kristin Young, Treasurer; Kate Eyberg, Treasurer Assistant; and Margie Bender, Secretary. We have a parent representative from each class, Camilla Morrison and Amy Gray. As always, Dennis Zerba, along with Clay Morgan and Dick Eyberg continue to provide help as requested (fire drills, maintenance needs and other requests). We are very grateful for everyone who serves this amazing preschool.

After 24 years at Dove, Teacher Barb announced her retirement at the end of this school year. We are in the process of hiring a new teacher, and working out details for the preschool moving forward. A new board has been named, and will work with the current board for a smooth transition.

Thank you to the church for its continued support of Dove, and to all the people who pray for the school. The families are truly appreciative of the love and care their children receive. We strive to introduce the children to their world and to all that God has created. We are very blessed and fortunate to have such a special program. Thank you for sharing Dove with others -

Dove's website, [www.dovepreschool.com](http://www.dovepreschool.com) and email, [dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com).

Submitted by Barb Jones

## Buildings & Grounds Committee

The primary objectives of the Buildings & Grounds Committee are:

- To provide a comprehensive plan for dealing with maintenance issues facing MPC.
- Communicate information to Session and the congregation about the needs and priorities for accomplishing church maintenance and improvement projects.
- Identify volunteer and contractor resources to work on the various tasks and projects.
- Continually evaluate maintenance needs and adjust the priorities as necessary.

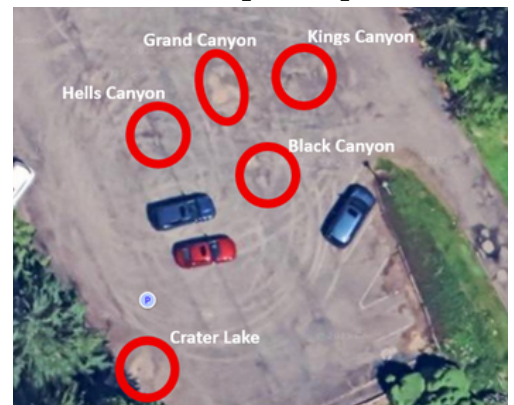
### 2025 Accomplishments

Another year of challenges for everyone tasked with maintaining the church facilities & grounds was completed. Thanks to the continuing contributions from the congregation to the Building Fund and budgeted maintenance funds, the B&G Team was able to accomplish quite a few projects in 2025.

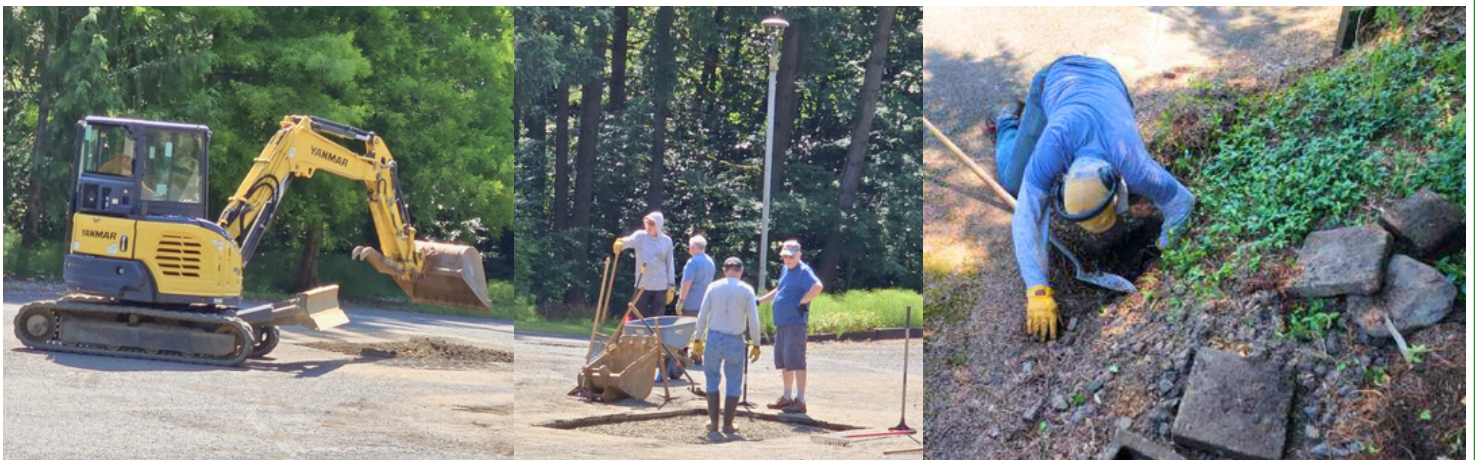
A few highlights are:

#### • Lower Lot Improvements

Our biggest project of 2025: the excavation and fill-in of numerous **potholes** in the lower parking lot. This project included saw cutting the asphalt and digging out the rock & dirt under it, then re-paving the patches.



We were able to recycle some materials by using a lot of the asphalt chunks to make a border along the public walking trail that crosses MPC property and connects to Gabriel Park. We also used extra gravel from the project to smooth out the trail.



The success of this project removed potential trip hazards the potholes presented for preschool drop-off & pick-up. To that end, we also added **new parking stripes** (which will be refreshed this coming spring).

(continued **Buildings & Grounds**)

- **Cost Saving**

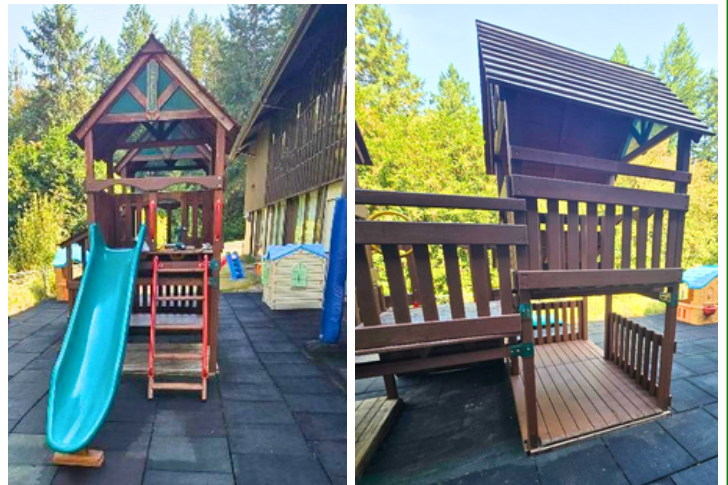
Our application to the City of Portland for “Clean River Rewards” was submitted and approved, resulting in a cost savings on our storm water run-off expense. Also, our garbage bill was reduced by switching from weekly pick up to bi-weekly.

- **Bike Salon**

A family-friendly bike riding safety event occurred, primarily to educate new riders on how to safely ride their bikes in a group. (More events are potentially coming this summer.)

- **Preschool Play Structure**

After an inspection, one tower of the play structure was deemed unsafe for continued use. This tower was removed/torn down. The remaining portions were sanded and given a fresh coat of stain/paint. We also removed and installed two new ladders and the climbing wall.



- **Entry Doors Refinished**

The main office door and all fellowship hall entry doors were sanded and refinished.



- **Thank You Dinner**

A complete turkey dinner was cooked and consumed by all our awesome B&G volunteers & committee members as a huge **THANK YOU** for another successful year at MPC.



## **Volunteers**

Thank You to all the individuals who continue to help with routine and special maintenance projects around the church this past year. Without your help, many maintenance needs would go unaddressed.

Respectfully submitted by the Buildings & Grounds Committee:

Rick Aberle, Tom Base, Amy Clements, Dick Eyberg, Kinton Hutchinson,  
Roy & Jackie Magnusson, Randy McCourt, Dennis Zerba, and Clay Morgan (Chair)

## Finance & Administration Ministry Team Report

### **Looking Back**

In last year's report, we mentioned that 2024 was a year of substantial change in our approach to serving Christ in our community. While we do continue to evolve as a church, it seems 2025 was a year of stability – in how we serve the church and how we engage with our community. Fortunately, 2025 was also a year of financial stability, as we will discuss in this annual report. Thanks to another strong November and December, we finished 2025 in the black! We also did a good job of increasing our total income through non-pledge sources such as building use (\$3,825 in 2025), and interest on our cash savings (\$4,760). Multnomah Presbyterian is in good financial standing, and we look forward to seeing what 2026 has in store for MPC!

### **Actual 2025 Income/Expenses**

In 2025, our total income was \$301,872. Our expenses were tightly managed, and we finished 2025 with total expenses of \$297,800, which is about 5.5% below our 2025 budget. Therefore, we finished the year with positive net income of \$4,072! Recall in 2024 we finished with a smaller net income of \$1,597. Importantly, we finished the year in a strong financial position with \$273,632 on the balance sheet.

### **Pledge Report**

As of January 12, 2026, we have 40 pledges (versus 41 for 2025) for 2026, totaling \$238,628 (versus \$229,183 in 2025). This figure represents approximately 73% of the proposed 2026 budget of \$326,227. Many thanks for the generous support you continue to provide!

### **2026 Budget Recommendation**

The \$326,227 budget that we prepared for 2026 is \$11,000 higher than the 2025 budget. This 3.6% budget increase for 2026 is almost entirely based on cost-of-living adjustments and change in church personnel. A summary of the proposed budget is included below. A detailed budget is available in the office for review.

### **Looking Forward**

It has been wonderful to continue our worship and fellowship together at MPC throughout 2025. We are very grateful for all the volunteers and contributors who help our church thrive. As always, we will keep a watchful eye on our spending, keep looking for ways to better serve our church and community, and keep praying that the Holy Spirit will continue to “fill the sails” of our church.

It is with great gratitude and infinite hope for the future of the church that the members of the MPC F&A Committee thank the congregation for allowing us to serve as your financial team.

Sincerely,

Darlene Higgenbottom (Treasurer), Tom Base, Gayle Clopton,  
Heather Hellman, Dennis Zerba, and Chris Ulum (Chair)

## Multnomah Presbyterian Church

## 2026 Annual Budget Summary

Final

		2023		2024		2025		2026	Change 2025 Budget to 2026 Budget %	Change 2025 Budget to 2026 Budget \$
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget Requested		
<b>PASTORAL</b>										
1000	Pastoral Expenses	125,116	13,300	94,000	94,971	100,166	97,897	111,642	11.46%	11,476
		125,116	13,300	94,000	94,971	100,166	97,897	111,642	11.46%	11,476
<b>PERSONNEL</b>										
1210	Youth Director	62,516	68,086	-	-	-	-	-		
1220	Music Director	31,346	33,530	34,380	33,380	35,615	34,615	36,342	2.04%	727
1240	Office Manager	35,978	31,127	37,381	31,210	34,250	31,664	34,950	2.04%	700
1250	Other Staff	7,775	5,339	8,600	3,669	4,230	2,561	4,250	0.47%	20
1290	Taxes	14,000	12,043	13,500	12,866	13,905	13,911	16,370	17.73%	2,465
		151,615	150,125	93,861	81,125	88,000	82,752	91,912	4.45%	3,912
<b>MISSIONS</b>										
1330	Missions	36,050	34,260	29,400	29,051	25,000	25,000	25,000	0.00%	0
		36,050	34,260	29,400	29,051	25,000	25,000	25,000	0.00%	0
<b>CHURCH BUILDINGS &amp; PROPERTY</b>										
1410	Church Building	61,420	53,162	61,082	51,352	60,797	54,656	56,967	-6.30%	(3,830)
1421	Open Door	3,060	3,424	3,020	2,469	3,443	2,913	3,336	-3.11%	(107)
1431	Grounds	2,600	2,357	2,000	787	1,450	43	1,200	-17.24%	(250)
		67,080	58,943	66,102	54,609	65,690	57,613	61,503	-6.37%	(4,187)
<b>OFFICE EXPENSES</b>										
1510	Office	8,700	9,993	8,968	8,056	6,650	6,599	6,600	-0.75%	(50)
1530	General Administration	14,900	13,849	14,380	14,268	16,414	16,967	17,340	5.64%	926
1540	Computers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
		23,600	23,842	23,348	22,324	23,064	23,565	23,940	3.80%	876
<b>IN-BUDGET MINISTRIES</b>										
1610	CE General	1,300	425	1,300	771	830	555	830	0.00%	0
1620	Youth Programs	2,050	1,417	2,050	1,539	1,600	1,592	1,600	0.00%	0
1630	CE Curriculum	1,300	268	1,300	211	300	12	300	0.00%	0
1640	CE Programs	2,400	1,102	2,100	577	0	-	-		0
1650	Outreach	1,300	768	1,300	802	800	1,255	1,050	31.25%	250
1660	Fellowship	2,466	721	2,325	1,384	2,000	933	1,600	-20.00%	(400)
1670	Worship/Music	3,700	2,806	3,400	2,408	3,100	2,840	3,100	0.00%	0
		14,516	7,507	13,775	7,691	8,630	7,187	8,480	-1.74%	(150)
<b>ORGANIZATIONS</b>										
1711	Session/Planning	700	119	400	594	700	37	450	-35.71%	(250)
1721	PC(USA) Per Capita	6,795	6,794	6,075	6,075	3,750	3,750	3,300	-12.00%	(450)
1731	The Fellowship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0
		7,495	6,913	6,475	6,669	4,450	3,787	3,750	-15.73%	(700)
<b>TOTALS</b>										
1000	PASTORAL	125,116	13,300	94,000	94,971	100,166	97,897	111,642	11.46%	11,476
1200	PERSONNEL	151,615	150,125	93,861	81,125	88,000	82,752	91,912	4.45%	3,912
1300	MISSIONS	36,050	34,260	29,400	29,051	25,000	25,000	25,000	0.00%	0
1400	CHURCH BUILDINGS	67,080	58,943	66,102	54,609	65,690	57,613	61,503	-6.37%	(4,187)
1500	OFFICE EXPENSES	23,600	23,842	23,348	22,324	23,064	23,565	23,940	3.80%	876
1600	IN-BUDGET MINISTRIES	14,516	7,507	13,775	7,691	8,630	7,187	8,480	-1.74%	(150)
1700	ORGANIZATIONS	7,495	6,913	6,475	6,669	4,450	3,787	3,750	-15.73%	(700)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>425,472</b>	<b>294,889</b>	<b>326,961</b>	<b>296,441</b>	<b>315,000</b>	<b>297,800</b>	<b>326,227</b>	<b>3.56%</b>	<b>\$11,227</b>

