



# Multnomah Announcer

Monthly Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church

7555 SW 45th Ave, Portland, OR 97219 (503) 246-5459 [www.MultPresChurch.org](http://www.MultPresChurch.org)

Volume 47, Number 2

From the Pastor...

February 2022

*“Holy delight and joy is the great antidote to despair.” -Dallas Willard*

Dear MPC Family,

About a year ago, a friend of mine asked me a great question: “Danny, what are you *delighting* in right now?” Like I said, it’s a great question, and I’ve been coming back to it again and again throughout this pandemic season. A couple of weeks ago, we took our kids up to Government Camp to go sledding. It took a little convincing, but I finally was able to get my three-year old daughter to ride with me on the sled. After the first trip down the hill, she was hooked: “Dad...again!! One more time! One more time!” For her, it was pure joy...pure *delight*. For children, delight comes incredibly easy and naturally. But it seems that as we get older, our capacity for delight is somewhat diminished. Perhaps this is one reason why Jesus said we must “become like children” to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Genesis chapter 1 tells a story of delight. Our Lord created, and saw that it was good. After six days of creative work, God set apart the seventh day to delight in what He had made. Friends, you and I were made to delight. We were made to delight in God. We were made to delight in relationships with others. We were made to delight in the good gifts of God’s creation. And something tells me that in a season of profound disruption, *delight* is a practice that will sustain us and give us new life.

As a means of encouragement, I put the same question to you: **what are you delighting in right now?** (And if you feel so moved, I’d love to hear what’s bringing you life and joy in this season!)

Yours in Jesus,

-Pastor Danny Peters

**We wanted to update you on an upcoming change to online giving at MPC. Beginning February 1st, 2022, our online giving app will change from GivePlus to [Vanco Mobile](#). Here is what you need to know:**

- **NOTE:** This only applies to those who give through the mobile app. If you give online through the website, nothing will change for you.
- If you give using the mobile app, you will need to download the Vanco Mobile App (available in Apple Store or Google Play).
- You do not need to set up a new account. You may use the same account you did before with the GivePlus App.
- Here is a [LINK](#) with some information on how to donate using Vanco Mobile.

If you have any questions, please direct them to [treasurer@multpreschurch.org](mailto:treasurer@multpreschurch.org).



## Session Update

At the January meeting, Session:

- Designated Karen Black and Julia Meyer as Elder Commissioners representing MPC at a Special Presbytery meeting to be held Feb. 2, 2022, at 7 pm via Zoom.
- Elected Darlene Higgenbottom as Treasurer for MPC for 2022.
- Elected Julia Meyer as Clerk of Session for 2022.
- Elected Roy Magnusson as President and Julia Meyer as Secretary for MPC for 2022.
- Approved the 2021 Church Statistical Report as written.
- Approved 2022 communion dates to be the first Sunday of every month February 2022 through January 2023, Ash Wednesday (March 2), and Good Friday (April 15).
- Approved the 2022 budget of \$411,894, a 3% reduction from 2021's budget.
- Approved year-end balance transfers from 2021 budget year (Pastor Sabbatical Fund, Youth Director Ed. Allowance, Music Director Ed. Allowance, Office Manager Ed. Allowance).
- Approved to change name of Designated Fund 392 from "Musical Equipment" to "Music Programs."
- Appointed Karen Black and Robyn Biehler as Session representatives on the 2022 Nominating Committee, with Karen Black as chair.



## Missions Ministry

### HOT LUNCH

On January 16<sup>th</sup> a small group from MPC served a hot meal in connection with HOMEpxd to the community living on the streets around OMSI and the East bank Esplanade. About 50-60 people came to partake of the plated meal and take boxed leftovers back to friends and neighbors. Thank you to everyone who made this happen, including the serving team, everyone who helped out with preparation in the kitchen, and the Mission Committee. Everyone was extremely grateful and full of compliments about the meal.



### REFUGEES

We received an update from Refugee Care Collective who is helping new refugees, including those from Afghanistan, get settled here in Portland. They are in need of restart kits as always, but are also running a digital devices drive, including tablets/laptops and phones up to five years old. They are in particular need of electric griddles and skillets, and male mentors to work with youth in East Portland.



## Buildings & Grounds Update

Things have been quiet around the church and Open Door from the maintenance and project perspective. Ongoing minor repairs and maintenance of the landscaping continues with help from several volunteers.

### The Barn

The Tent has now been replaced by "The Barn." The canvas top and sides were put back on the frame and the soggy ground was covered with wheat straw. The crew putting things back together were: Mike Barth, Dave Tomastik, John Green, Tom Jones, Dick Eyberg (sleeping on the job) and Dennis Zerba.



### Surplus Tables for Sale

Over the years we have been gradually changing out the folding tables used at the church to acquire ones that have adjustable legs to better fit how tables are used. We now have a few surplus tables with folding legs that we would like to make available to church members. We have two 30Wx96Lx29H and one 30Wx72Lx29H folding table with a Melamine surface on high density particle board. If you are interested or know of anyone who may be interested in any of these tables, please have them contact Dennis Zerba (503.710.7128).





Everything is moving along quickly at Dove. We spent the month of January talking about safety, learning what to do in case of fire, talking about stranger danger, and how to keep ourselves safe every day. Our friends, Dennis & Dick, helped us with a fire drill. Because we couldn't have a fire station field trip, we did lots of fun fire safety things at school to become fire experts. We will be talking a lot about love in February and celebrating Valentine's Day with our friends.

Dove is currently taking registrations for Fall 2022. Families can schedule one-on-one tours, or attend a yet-to-be scheduled Open House (it will be sometime in mid-February). We have openings available in the Pre I class (3-year-olds) and a potential opening or two in the Pre II class (4-year-olds). If you have friends, family or neighbors looking for a great preschool, have them contact us, [www.dovepreschool.com](http://www.dovepreschool.com) or [dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com). We'd love to talk with them. Thank you for your referrals! And thank you for your continued prayers for our Dove children and families.



## MPC Staff Update

Dear Multnomah Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your support during my time working in the MPC office. I've enjoyed working for our wonderful staff, treasurer, and committees, and for our Lord, so very much. It's been an honor to hold this position and I'm very grateful for being given the opportunity. I'm going to miss being in the office but I'm definitely intending to support the mission of MPC by joining our troops in the many ways we offer God's love to our community, and continue loving to sing in the choir. Before that though, Dave and I are going to fly away to paradise to visit our daughter and grandson on Maui for awhile. Happy 2022 to you all and I'll be seeing you when we return.

**Love always,**  
Courtney



## Deacon News for You

As 2022 begins, MPC's Deacons are ready to serve the congregation for the New Year. Deacon districts and assignments have been updated. You should be hearing from your deacon soon to let your family know you are a member of their respective district, and look for assignments in the next church directory. If you feel you don't have a personal deacon and would like one, please contact the church office or Janet Lowrey to be added.

While the deacons work together to care for MPC's congregation in all areas, specific assignments and leads include:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Janet Lowrey          | Co-Moderator, Westside Dinner                   |
| Dave Tomastik         | Co-Moderator                                    |
| Christie Sargent      | Bereavement Coordinator, Deacon Assistance Team |
| Jan Hawthorne         | Food Barrel Delivery                            |
| Jaonna Morgan         | Nominating Committee Deacon                     |
| Mary and Allen Pinero | Assist Deacon Activities as Needed              |
| Poppy Bernasek        | Bereavement shopper                             |
| Sherri Kessler        | New Member Welcome                              |
| Libby Agosti          | Deacon Assistance Team Lead                     |
| Deacon Board          | Deacon Assistance Team                          |

Also, throughout the year the Deacons take care of Special Projects as they occur.

As you continue to give to MPC this year, please keep in mind the Deacon Assistance Fund. Be sure to clearly indicate the fund on your contribution. This is a wonderful opportunity for the church to assist our community when in need.

Blessings – Please email blessings to Janet Lowrey or Dave Tomastik for inclusion in the Announcer.

- The deacons would like to thank Courtney Tomastik for the cheerful and professional assistance she has provided the deacons in her tenure as Office Manager. She is a true blessing and we wish her well in retirement.
- The Pinero's niece has continued to heal from sickness and maintain job security.
- It was a blessing to celebrate Hank Downing's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. Did you know that back when Hank was a young pharmacist up at OHSU and Courtney was a young college student, she spent a couple summers working for Hank at the pharmacy. Years later they got reacquainted when Courtney joined MPC. So, now we're celebrating Hank's 95<sup>th</sup> and Courtney's retirement at the same time.

As we begin to navigate through 2022 with its many uncertainties, please keep all deacons in your thoughts and prayers as they serve to the honor and glory of our amazing God. Who knows on these rainy winter days with some restrictions in place, maybe during the year we can once again have an in-person Meet-Your-Deacon Sunday or even that Westside Turkey Dinner.

Blessings and have a great year.



# Prayer



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

**Please keep those who can't make it to church each Sunday in your prayers:**

Maxine Shuler

## Music News

Choir and Marimbas have started up again. If you would like to join in the fun of either ministry, please contact Ray McKean at [ray.mckean4@gmail.com](mailto:ray.mckean4@gmail.com).



## Presbyterian Women



### Happy Valentine's Day

As we celebrate Valentine's Day, let's remember Jesus' command: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

Mark 13:34

Let's remember each other this month through phone calls, emails, texts, Zoom, Facebook, etc. We can continue to pray about meeting in-person soon!





multpresyouth

**ALASKA MISSION TRIP 2022**



We are hopeful that this summer we can get back to regular ministry in Skagway, Alaska, with a team of students and adult leaders.

Last year, a very small team was able to travel to Skagway and reconnect with the people of First Presbyterian Church and the town, but a Covid breakout prevented us from doing kids' camp and most of our planned youth group activities. We are hoping and praying that by this summer, it will be safe to do all of our normal activities and take a full team to Skagway. We are planning for July 1-10, with an Alaska Youth Auction this spring. There will be an information meeting over Zoom for parents and students on February 13 at 6:30 pm.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Is this the year we get to throw open the doors for the community to attend our kids' day camp again? We hope so!!! This year we hope to bring VBS back with original curriculum created with the kids and youth of our church. We will be looking at Australian animals and what they can tell us about Jesus and his love for us. We are planning to hold VBS in-person, June 20-24. Registration will start in a few weeks online. Pre-pandemic, camp filled up very fast so please share the registration news with friends and sign your kids up ASAP. Check your email for sign-up links.



**GOOD NEWS TUES IN THE BARN**

**Good News**

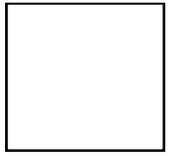


Tues

Our elementary-aged youth group is back after a break for the Covid spike. We will be outside in our upgraded tent, now referred to as "the barn" on Monday, February 21st from 6-7:30pm. We will not be having dinner together this month.

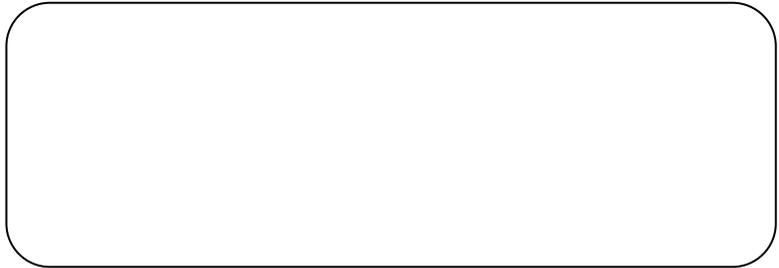
- 4 John Graf
- 6 Jessica Kindrick
- 9 Darlene Higgenbottom
- 11 Ellen McKean
- 12 Fran Barth
- 13 Sierra Killian
- 14 Olga Peña
- 15 Janice Mullins
- 19 Quintin McChesney  
Mike Mullins
- 21 Matthew Eyberg
- 24 Charles Walls  
Nancy Unrath  
Dean Nackley
- 25 Gayle Clopton  
Stacy Kerwood





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**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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