

# THE MULTNOMAH ANNOUNCER

Official Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church  
7555 SW 45th Avenue, Portland, OR 97219  
(503) 246-5459  
MultPresChurch.org



## PASTOR SEARCH UPDATE

On Sunday, October 16th the congregation voted in a Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). The committee members are Jesse Black, John England, Dick Eyberg, Adrienne Gassaway, Courtney Tomastik, Valentine Hellman, Lisa Shelley, and Nancy Unrath. The PNC held its first meeting with our Committee on Ministry (COM) liaison, Joanna Dunn from Bethany Presbyterian Church, who outlined the initial steps. John and Dick were elected as co-chairs, with Jesse as the communications person.

## VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

The Outreach/Fellowship teams have chosen to recognize our **Building & Grounds Team** as our Volunteers of the Month!!

## CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU

**DENNIS ZERBA, AMY CLEMENTS,  
KAREN BLACK, JOHN PRUTSMAN  
& DICK EYBERG!**



This hardworking and dedicated team continually takes wonderful care of our Church! Whether it's a paint brush, a mower, a shovel filled with bark dust, or getting rid of a boat; our B&G volunteers joyfully keep our Church looking beautiful inside and out. So the next time you see Dennis, Amy, Karen, John or Dick, please thank them for all they do...rain or shine!

## Sundays at MPC

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

## Worship Opportunities

Our sermon series for the month is  
**Living in God's Generosity  
Through Abundance and Scarcity**

**Sunday, November 6th  
Communion**

BOB STEBE

**Sunday, November 13th**

JENNIFER ACKERMAN

**Sunday, November 20th**

JENNIFER ACKERMAN

**Sunday, November 27th  
1st Sunday of Advent**

HEATHER HELLMAN



# Upcoming Events

**Congregational Meeting**  
Sunday, November 6  
after worship

**Westside Dinner**  
Monday, November 21  
5:00pm

## Advent Events

**Hanging of the Greens**  
Sunday, November 20  
after worship

**Blue Christmas Service**  
Tuesday, December 6  
7:00pm

**The Holly and the Ivories**  
Piano Concert Series  
December 7, 14, 21 @ 12pm

**Christmas Coffeehouse**  
December 16 @ 7:30pm  
December 18 @ 10:30am

**Christmas Eve Services**  
Saturday, December 24  
4:00pm & 7:30pm

**Christmas Day Service**  
Sunday, December 25  
Online Only @ 10:30am

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Session has called a congregational meeting immediately following the worship service on **November 6, 2022**, for the purpose of electing elders and deacons for the class of 2025, and a preliminary review of the 2023 church budget.

# HANGING OF THE GREENS

Plan on staying after the service on **Sunday, November 20** to decorate the church for the Christmas season. There'll be muffins and hot apple cider at Coffee Hour to welcome in this special Season at MPC.



# THE HOLLY AND THE IVORIES

MPC will be presenting three concerts of Advent and Christmas music throughout December - December 7th, 14th and the 21st. Concerts are at noon and will feature our music director, Ray McKean, at the piano. Get in the mood for the holidays, listening to your favorite songs performed in various styles (classical, jazz, pop, celtic) and sipping hot cocoa or cider. Each week will be a brand-new 45-minute program showcasing today's best sacred music arrangers.

Concerts are free and open to the public. Please invite friends and family to come enjoy these events and help spread the good news!





# MISSIONS MINISTRY

## COLD WEATHER KITS

During the four Sundays in November, the Mission Committee will be collecting cold weather items for the houseless. On Sunday, December 4th, following the service, we will assemble kits to be distributed during the Christmas season by HOMEpdx.

We are collecting the following items to be included in the kits:

- Hats
- Socks
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Handwarmers
- Thermal Blankets
- Disposable Ponchos
- Wipes
- Chapstick
- Tea Bags
- High Protein Snacks
- Instant Drink Packets
- Blank Christmas Cards



The houseless are always in need of sleeping bags. If you would like to donate a sleeping bag during this drive, the Mission Committee will deliver it to HOMEpdx along with the kits. Preferred sleeping bags are rated for cold weather, dark in color, water-proof (or accompanied by a tarp), and large enough for an adult male.

## CHWELE/HARAMBEE CENTER

Grace Kuto visited with the Mission Committee and shared the news that she and her husband Paul will be moving to North Carolina to be near family. Her ministry in the village of Chwele, in Kenya, has been a blessing both to the people there and for us, to be able to be a part of it. While she will be stepping back a little, the work will continue. Our support of the clinic ambulance will continue, as well as the mental health program addressing alcoholism. But the primary attention of Harambee Center, Grace's organization, moving forward will be a scholarship program to assist teens in need of tuition help, and teen mothers. The Mission Committee approved a donation of \$300 towards the scholarship fund.

There will be a benefit dinner/African market for Harambee Center on Saturday, November 12th from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at the Tigard Community Friends Church to launch the scholarship mission and celebrate Grace and Paul.

## HURRICANE IAN/DISASTER RELIEF

In October, the Mission Committee approved a donation of \$1000 to World Vision for hurricane Ian relief.



## DOVE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

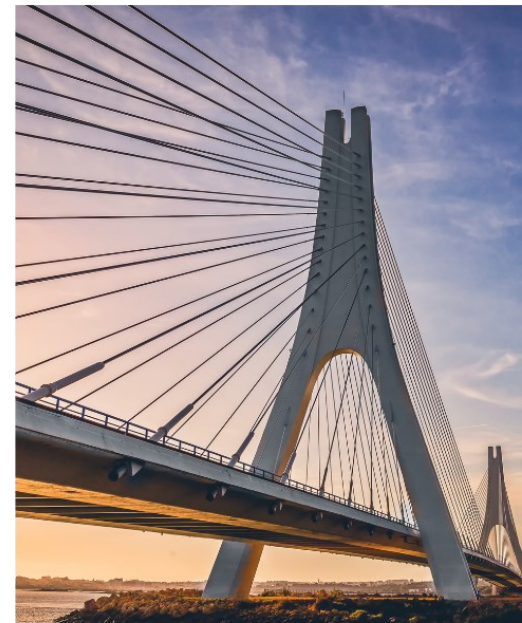
We had a very busy October at Dove. We learned how we can talk with God when we feel afraid. We celebrated the start of fall with a Fall Field Trip, complete with goats, chickens, a photo booth, crafts, apple cider donuts and lots of playing. We made apple crisp for Cooking Day, and had our first Show & Tell. We celebrated Halloween fun with costumes and trick-or-treating around the church. We've enjoyed the warm, sunny days, playing outside each time we're at school.

We'll be taking time in November to give thanks for family, friends and God. Dove will be closed the entire week of Thanksgiving. We wish all of you a relaxing and joy-filled holiday.

## SESSION UPDATE

At their last meeting, Session:

- Accepted the transfer of membership request from Libby Agosti to Columbia Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, WA, with regret.
- Authorized a brief survey of the church membership on values, priorities, expectations, etc.
- Decided to remove our membership designation in The Fellowship Community from our website, since MPC no longer participates in the Fellowship.
- Concurred with the Congregational Nominating Committee on those nominated for elders and deacons for the Class of 2024 and 2025.
- Moved \$1,000 from line item #1326 (World Vision) to line item #1316 (International Mission – Discretionary) for the purpose of donating to one of MPC's mission partners (Friends of PEB) for flood/disaster relief in Pakistan.
- Called for a congregational meeting on **November 6, 2022**, for the purpose of electing elders and deacons for the class of 2024 and 2025, and a preview of the church budget for 2023.
- Elected Michael Anderson as Presbytery Commissioner for the Presbytery meeting via zoom on Nov. 4 and 5, 2022.
- Added a line item in the budget under pastor expenses for a temporary pastor.





# YOUTH

## YOUTH GROUP TIMES

### High School

Wednesdays 7-8:30pm

### Middle School

Sundays 7-8:30pm

### Elementary School

(Grades 2-5)

Monday, November 28th 6-7:30pm

we will meet at the open door for pizza, games, and learning together

## ESCAPE ROOM

The High School Youth Group and our MPC Choir meet on Wednesday nights so we decided it was time to have a little intergenerational fun. The youth spent a couple weeks preparing a series of escape rooms (rooms with lots of puzzles) for our choir members to explore. Next month, the choir will host the youth for some Christmas fun.





## VOLUNTEER CALL

It takes a lot of effort to keep things running smoothly at MPC. As autumn gets into full swing and Advent season approaches, we're finding ourselves a bit short-handed. Could you help us?

Below are a few areas that could use some help, along with contact information for each coordinator who can be reached for questions or to sign up to volunteer. Please consider sharing your time and talents by reaching out to:

### **A/V TEAM**

**Ray McKean**    [ray.mckean4@gmail.com](mailto:ray.mckean4@gmail.com)

We are looking for people willing to help us facilitate worship by running the slides, soundboard, or livestream system during weekly Sunday services, as well as other special events. If you would be willing to help with one of these tasks at least once a month (or even every 5-6 weeks), we would love to teach you!

### **BUILDINGS/GROUNDS**

**Dennis Zerba**    [dennis\\_zerba@msn.com](mailto:dennis_zerba@msn.com)

No matter the season, we are always in need of volunteers to help with keeping the church looking great and operating smoothly, with projects both inside and out. Let us know if you would be willing to help with regular maintenance, or with larger projects - we'd love to have your help!

### **COFFEE HOUR**

**Sherri Kessler**    [kesslersl@comcast.net](mailto:kesslersl@comcast.net)

Help us in facilitating weekly fellowship by either volunteering to assist with one Sunday's coffee hour, or by simply dropping off cookies or pre-packaged treats to the kitchen. And a continued thanks to all who consistently make coffee hour possible each Sunday!

### **DOVE PRESCHOOL**

**Kate Eyberg**    [mpcdoveboard@gmail.com](mailto:mpcdoveboard@gmail.com)  
**Barb Jones**    [barbejmobile@gmail.com](mailto:barbejmobile@gmail.com)

Help serve the preschool families by getting involved in periodical events and projects. Or become a regular helper on the Preschool Board.

### **USHERS & GREETERS**

**Dave Tomastik**    [d\\_tomastik@msn.com](mailto:d_tomastik@msn.com)  
**Michael Anderson**    [greatland.class@yahoo.com](mailto:greatland.class@yahoo.com)

Ushers pass out programs, assist people in finding seats, and perform a headcount during worship. Greeters welcome folks with the love of Jesus and assist newcomers in any way that they can. This is a great opportunity to welcome guests and make them feel comfortable. Please consider coming early *one* Sunday every *other* month and helping out. You can also use this link to sign-up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FAFAD2BA4FACF8-hospitality>



## FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

F&A Committee met on October 18th, 2022 to review our latest financial reports and continue the budget process for 2023. Budget performances for the month of September and the first nine months of 2022 are outlined below. Heather Hellman sat in representing the staff and will do so for now until we have a permanent pastor.

	Last Month	Year to Date
Income	\$ 22,949	\$ 270,464
Expenses	<u>\$ 31,589</u>	<u>\$ 269,460</u>
Net	\$ (8,640)	\$ 1,004

We ended the month with an account balance of \$ 279,045. Overall, we have a balanced budget for the year.

In our meeting we reviewed in some detail the rollup budget for the coming year. We invited Kelly Kindrick, our Personnel Committee chair, to update us on the costs and budget assumptions relating to the pastor transition that we will be undergoing in 2023. They are doing an excellent and detailed budget. This will help us plan effectively although it is hard to predict the duration of the search. We will share the preliminary numbers with Session on October 25th and then with the congregation on November 6th after our service. This will also be the kickoff of our Pledge Campaign. Please be considering strongly how important the MPC mission and activities are and plan to make a pledge. Pledge Sunday will be November 20th.

Once the pledges are in, and we have some idea of the resource we will have for the coming year, we will revise the budget accordingly and present it to the Session in January for final approval.

May God bless and keep you,

Your Finance and Administration Committee

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Happy Thanksgiving! Though this time of year has us scrambling to find time, means, and energy for all the events we organize and participate in, we hope you can take a moment. Breathe. And reflect on what gifts the Lord has given us.

And may the following be true for all --





# BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

## SANCTUARY WINDOWS

The sanctuary stained glass windows were cleaned inside and out by a team lead by Amy Clements which included Dan Williams, Gene and Lori Roberts and Tim and Poppy Bernasek.



## TENT/PLAY AREA

A crew consisting of Rick Aberle, Dave Tomastik, John Green, Dick Eyberg, and Dennis Zerba joined forces once more to set up our tent and play area to the north of the preschool. The play area has been upgraded from last year's straw on bare ground to cedar chips over vinyl fabric with an interlocking border system to help keep the chips from wandering outside the play area.







## LANDSCAPE PROJECTS

A major cleanup of the landscaped areas on the bank near the lower driveway was completed by Francisco and his crew from RMZ Landscape Maintenance.



The lower bank from the church sign to the north parking lot went through a major cleanup of weeds and overgrown bushes as well as trimming several trees. Several loads of debris were hauled away.



Several dead or invasive trees were removed from various landscape areas. Cedar trees near the flow-through planter by the Open Door, which had died from the excessive heat in 2021, were cut down, and a "Peanut Tree" in the area near the south end of the sanctuary and office was removed due to its invasive root system. This work was completed with help from Roy and Jackie Magnusson, Dave Tomastik, Dick Eyberg, and Dennis Zerba.





# November Birthdays

# DEACON NEWS FOR YOU

- 2 Randall Fuehrer  
Liz Graff  
Lisa Shelley
- 3 Brian Kirkland  
Matthew Kirkland
- 5 Adrienne Gassaway
- 6 Bill Kirkland  
Dave Meyer
- 7 Andrew Hill  
Cindy Mullins
- 8 Claire Lawrence
- 9 Maeson Graff
- 11 Emily Gaston
- 12 Jaonna Morgan
- 15 Jeff McKenzie  
Kaitlin Peters
- 18 Gene Roberts
- 21 Ed Kuehnel
- 22 Chris Fraher
- 23 Pat Johnson
- 25 Carlos Peña-Cibrian
- 27 Melissa Ulum
- 30 Kathy Wheeler



After a two-year hiatus, we will once again host a dinner for Westside Community Focus. Our friends reside in four group homes, or live by themselves with support from WCF. 2020 would have marked our 37th dinner. Together, let's resume this loving tradition.

## VOLUNTEERING

There are multiple ways you can help. Look for sign-up sheets after Sunday services. You can also email coordinator Janet Lowrey at [pdxjlow@gmail.com](mailto:pdxjlow@gmail.com) to find out more information or to sign-up. We have a reliable process in place, so all hands are welcomed, with no previous experience needed. Teamwork makes the dream work!

- Volunteer to bring a pie!
- Volunteer for one or more jobs!
- All positions include eating dinner with our guests!
- Volunteering is a great way to "get to know" each other!

## ABOUT WESTSIDE COMMUNITY FOCUS

"Born from a passion for helping others, Westside Community Focus has assisted adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Portland Metro area for more than 50 years. Our Portland group homes are managed by 24-hour staff who provide a safe, fun, and supportive living environment for adults with disabilities, and they are capped at five residents each to ensure the highest level of care. Our Supported Living Program offers personalized assistance with housekeeping, grooming, money management, budgeting, community inclusion, and other everyday activities and tasks."

<https://www.westsidecommunityfocus.org/about-us>



# DEACON NEWS FOR YOU (continued)

## REMINDERS

Please remember our **Food Donation Box** in the Fellowship Hall. Our Deacons deliver donated food to our local Neighborhood House in Multnomah Village. Please look in your pantry and bring sustainable things like soup, pasta, tuna, etc., to our donation box so we can help stock the Neighborhood House pantry for our neighbors in need.

If you are in need of prayer or support, please contact your deacon, a co-moderator, or any deacon. Find us Sunday after service, or call during the week. We are here for you.

## Blessings From Within Our Church

Mary Pinero's accident was tended to quickly and she had successful shoulder replacement surgery.

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

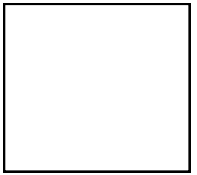


## PRAYER

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.




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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