

THE MULTNOMAH ANNOUNCER

Official Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church

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MultPresChurch.org

SESSION UPDATE

Session met for its monthly meeting on July 28th. The meeting began with prayer and a reflection on Proverbs 3.

In addition to its regular monthly business, Session approved the creation of a new designated fund to hold donations for Dove Christian Preschool, and removed Margie Bender from the membership rolls at her request.

Session heard ministry reports and reminders about upcoming events. This included a discussion of the youth trip to Alaska, the summer kids camp, and a treasurers round table representing 30 congregations in the Presbytery of the Cascades.

Session will meet next on August 25th.

DOVE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

The new teachers have been working hard to prepare for a new school year. They've also been meeting the kids at local parks in order for the kids and families to meet before the start of school. Dove has changed to an online administrative system. We've been getting trained as well as getting families switched to the new system. It will streamline everything from registration to tuition payments.

There is still available space in both the Pre I and Pre II classes for Fall 2026. If you have friends, family or neighbors that are looking for a preschool, please refer them to Dove at: www.dovepreschool.com | dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com

Sundays at MPC

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

Worship Opportunities

August 2nd
Communion
Matthew 14:13-21

August 9th
Matthew 14:22-23

August 16th
Matthew 15:21-28

August 23rd
Matthew 16:13-20

August 30th
Matthew 16:21-28



Upcoming Events

Family Bike Event
August 29 10am-Noon

Red Cross Blood Drive
September 24



Presbyterian means “elder”, and in this case, the Presbyterian “elder” smooths and marks the way. People spin. We all cheer. Our Saturday offering rings from the Vermont Hills! Leg Speed tells people we are in granny gears and they don’t need to be afraid. (It’s like the blue tees on the golf course.)

The latest miracle, on our course of course, is the new smooth pavement on the lower “Dove Lot!”

Thank you so much Peace makers. It takes a Village.



YOUTH GROUPS

Both Middle & High School groups meet together Wednesday nights from 7 to 9pm during the summer.

PEACE WITH LEG SPEED

A safe place to pedal fast, MPC’s parking lot cycling clinic with Bicycles and Ideas for Kids’ Empowerment is fun. Teamed up, our offering is truly Special.

Kevin and Linda place gifts of helmets, gloves, and stickers, then cut and serve watermelon and other snacks. It's magic.

These beginner's families climb the hill and get their times recorded by our Pastor, as well as a professor retired from the US Army War College. Colonel Rich lives just a few doors down.

Moving all around our clinic on their bikes are Cycling Coaches recovered from the wreckage of Alpenrose Velodrome by the wisdom of MPC.





THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

The other day, in late July, I scheduled a date for an upcoming event, discovering that it would land in *August*. Already? How does that happen? How'd we get to August so fast? There's still plenty of summer, but the writing's on the wall. Or in the sky, because these are the Dog Days of summer.

Some might think, especially here in dog-centric Portland, that the expression "dog days of summer" is related to furry friends' panting in the August heat. In reality it's a reference to the "Dog Star" Sirius in the Canis Major constellation. In late July to early August it rises with the sun. Ancient Greeks and Romans noticed this and believed that the heat of the two stars caused high temperatures, droughts, and bad luck.

We're interested in space and time because our lives are completely wrapped up in them right down to the very cells of our bodies. We're connected to the universe. Our bodies contain the dust of stars.

We also care because God does. God spins the whirling planets and sets their courses. And while God transcends time and space, God chooses to do business in it. To dwell in it, most notably in Jesus of Nazareth whose very Spirit breathes in us today.

So while we might sometimes lament the passing of summer, of any season, or of the day, or time with family and friends, it's where God meets us. In the Dog Days and the bleak midwinter, in good times and hard times, in time and space.

I look forward to sharing time and space with you 2-3 Sundays each month, and at men's breakfast, Session and Worship Committee meetings, and other settings.

Grace and peace on the journey-

Pastor Jeff
Parish Associate



August Birthdays

1 Sibyl Barnum

3 John Dilworth
Roy Magnusson

7 Tim Bernasek

10 Thomas Bernasek
Steve Hendricks

13 Teri Bertell

14 Vicki Smallwood

17 Valentine Hellman

19 Jan Hawthorne
Louise Hood

21 Duane Deal

25 Grant Wheeler

26 Lukas Aberle

30 Ethan Morehouse

DEACON NEWS FOR YOU

Things have been fairly quiet on the Deacon front this summer. We take that as a good sign that everyone is doing well and enjoying the beautiful summer months. We have been blessed with beautiful weather, so many gorgeous flowers, and mostly good health. If things happen to change and you need assistance, please reach out to your Deacon. If your Deacon is out of town, there is always another Deacon to step in. Enjoy this last month of summer!



FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

As shown in the table here, we had a loss of \$1860 in the month of June. Through the first half of the year, we are about \$13,000 in the red.

	June	Year To Date
Income	\$ 25,098	\$ 142,220
Expenses	\$ 26,959	\$ 155,190
Net	- \$ 1,861	- \$ 12,970

However, given our consistent history of increased income, particularly in the fourth quarter of prior years, we are not recommending changes to our budget at this time. Thank you for your continued support, financial and otherwise, of our church!

Sincerely,

Your MPC F&A Committee

Chris Ulum (Elder), Darlene Higgenbottom (Treasurer),

Gayle Clopton, Kate Eyberg, Dennis Zerba

A long-exposure photograph of a night sky with star trails, set against a dark landscape with mountains and trees.

MISSIONS MINISTRY

Here are our most recent actions:

In May, our church donated \$250 to the Friends of PEB (Presbyterian Education Board). This organization supports several Presbyterian schools located in Pakistan. These schools provide high-quality, values-based education to over 5,500 students, many of whom come from underserved communities where access to education—particularly for girls—is limited or discouraged.

Friends of PEB was raising funds to add additional security measures to keep the students safe so that they can continue to attend school. The ongoing conflict involving Iran, as well as the Pakistani military's ongoing operations against Afghanistan and the Taliban-led government, are placing immense pressure on the country's stability and economy. This is leading to the need for additional security measures at the schools.

In June, we were able to deliver 100 sack lunches to Our Lady of the Lake Church for their Meals of Mercy outreach. Our Lady of the Lake strives to distribute 1,200 sack lunches every week to the food insecure population in the Portland Metro area. They were grateful for our help. Thank you for your sack lunch donations and taking the time to help assemble them!

In July, we donated 1,500 pencils to St. Luke Lutheran Church's Grauer Back-to-School Project. St. Luke will have a "shopping" day for students in August.

Join the Missions Committee! We are looking for a couple of additional members to help us plan our mission activities. If interested in joining, please talk to Jennifer Gassaway. Of course, you can always participate in our missions without joining the committee.



Blessings From Within Our Church

Praise for a
successful youth
Alaska Mission Trip

Praise to John
Benenate for putting
on the bike events

Thankful the
potholes are filled
and we have a
smooth driveway
again

If you would like
to share your
blessings, please
send them to
Barb Jones,
or your own Deacon.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

We have a lot to celebrate this summer! We have spent the past few months ministering to families in our community in some very big ways.

We had VBS again in June and reached families from all over our community as we provided a safe place for kids to have fun learning about God's love for them. We heard from many families that this is the favorite camp of the summer and one that kids eagerly race out of the house to attend. These families may not be part of our weekly worship services, but they see our church as an important part of their family's summer each year. We also had new families express to us how surprised they were that their kids were excited to come to church because they were having such an amazing time, and their kids could actually articulate all that they were learning. MPC continues to have an impact in the growing faith of our community.

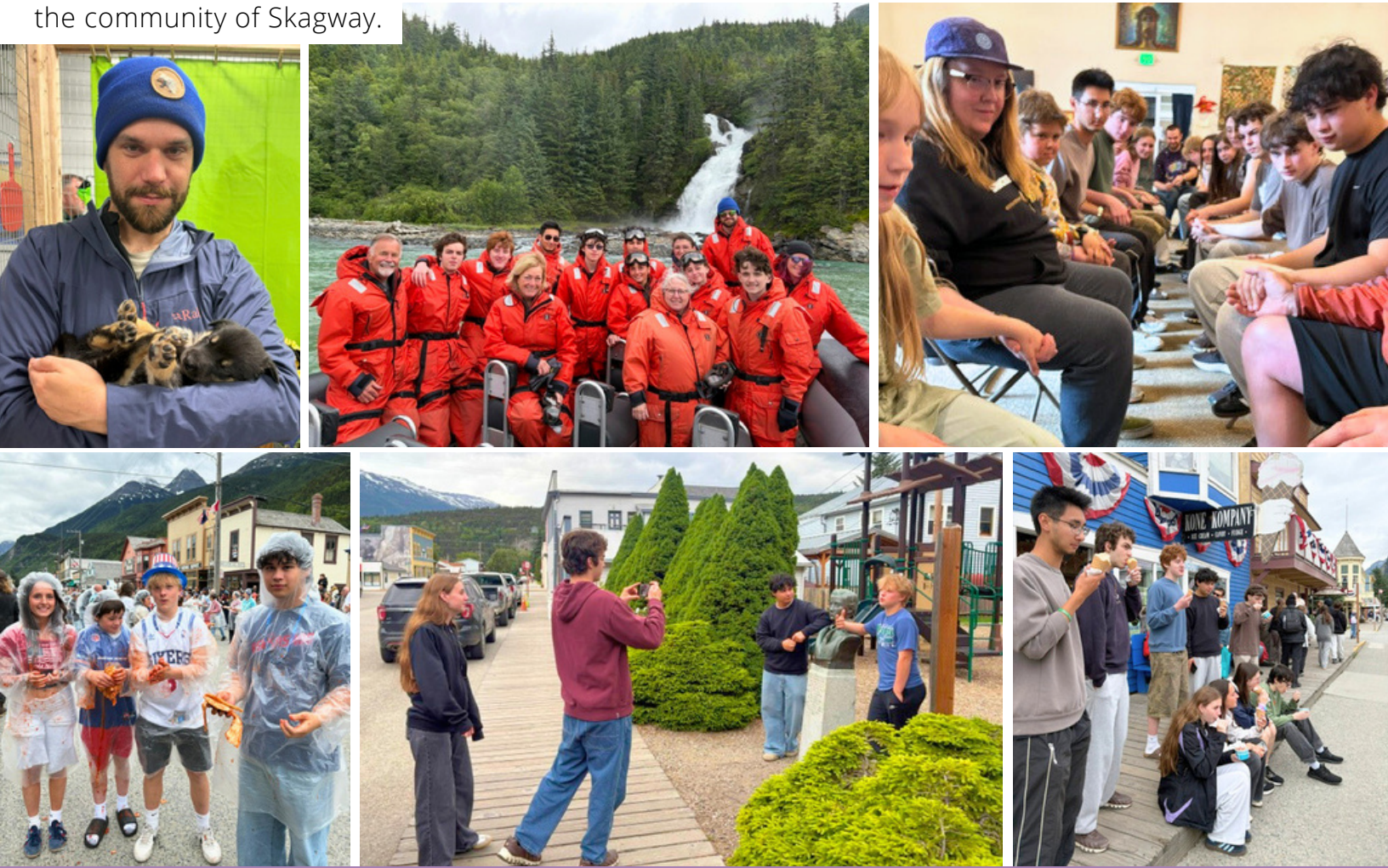




We also took that VBS up to Alaska once again and helped First Presbyterian Church of Skagway connect with families in their community, including those that are there just to work the summer season. Our Portland Youth and adults create the curriculum for our VBS here and in Skagway. They also plan youth activities for each night in Skagway.

We had an amazing time of ministry there. Each day and evening we added to the number of participating students as word got out. We heard from families, as we saw them on July 4th, what a great time their kids were having and how much our presence each summer means to their family. We also had students from our first trips 16 years ago tell us how much the experiences they had with us still mean to them, and the impact the things they learned with us still have. By the end of the week you wouldn't be able to tell the Portland youth apart from the Skagway youth when they were together for the 4th of July events, like the Pizza Toss and the World's Largest Egg Toss.

Our youth from Portland brought home some important experiences that will continue to shape them long after this trip is over as they grew in leadership skills and in relationship to that community. The trip to Alaska continues to be a vital opportunity to serve not only our Portland youth but especially the community of Skagway.





We have also welcomed families to our campus for the cycling events with BIKE for kids. John Benenante and Sarah Joy along with their team of cycling coaches and experts have held three cycling clinics so far, and there will be a fourth and final one on August 29th. These events have been great opportunities for families in the community to connect with MPC's community as they engage with volunteers from our church and enjoy our beautiful campus. We are also grateful to all who have worked to make the parking lot a safer and more welcoming place to cycle for these events, and for our everyday church use.



While our ministry to youth, children, and families looks different than it did pre-pandemic, we are still actively serving families in our community. This summer has been a particularly busy time for that ministry. We are thankful to all the volunteers that made these events possible. Our volunteer leaders and facilitators are the reason these programs are so amazing and the only way we can continue to be a resource for families in our community. We hope our incredible volunteers are able to get some rest this month!



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Greetings MPC Family - Here's what we've been up to this summer:

RESURFACING OUR ENTRIES

As most everyone has seen by now, the Lower Drive and a portion of the lower lot has been repaved, along with a large section of the Main entry.



OPEN DOOR WINDOWS

The upper windows across the face of the Open Door were replaced (under Warranty!!) by Milgard due to seal failure.



OTHER B&G SUMMER PROJECTS

- Some small pothole patching was done on/near the bike event paths to help reduce the potential risk to riders.
- Hand rails will be installed on the Open Door East side outdoor stairs.
- The mold issue in the West room of the upper level in the Open Door will be removed and that ceiling area will be repainted with mold-resistant paint.
- We plan to re-stripe all parking lot white lines and paint the yellow curbs.
- The City of Portland notified MPC that in September they will stage some trucks in the lower lot area, in order to install a sleeve in the culvert under SW 45th. Exact date and more details still to come.

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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