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THE MULTNOMAH ANNOUNCER

Official Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church

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ENHANCING OUR WORSHIP AS WE LEARN ABOUT WORSHIP TOGETHER

What do the words liturgy, and worship mean to you? Do you know why we do the things we do in our service?

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are exploring the possibilities of what the Vital Worship Grant could do for the way we worship as a congregation and our worship space. We will be looking at a video curriculum connected to the grant on three Sundays after worship from 11:45-12:30, starting Oct. 18th and the two Sundays following. They will help us study what worship is why and how we worship, will challenge us to examine our worship practices, and will invite us to dream of ways we could enhance them.

As part of this process we have a brief survey we would like everyone who watches or attends worship to fill out. The survey is available online at this link - <https://forms.gle/eA5rgYiqXwXrqfCE9> - or we will have paper copies provided at the church if you prefer, and can provide assistance in filling them out.

We hope this will be a fun process of learning, dreaming and realizing those dreams as we apply what we learn to the grant process.



Sundays at MPC

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

Worship Opportunities

October 4th
Communion
Matthew 21:33-36

October 11th
Matthew 22:1-14

October 18th
Matthew 22:15-22

October 25th
Matthew 22:34-46



Upcoming Events

Friday Men's Fellowship
Fridays, October 2 & 16

Harambee Centre
Benefit Dinner
Sunday, October 18

Worship Grant Meetings
11:45-12:30pm
Sundays, October 18, 25
& November 1

Trick-or-Treat w/
Multnomah Village
Saturday, October 31

Save the Dates

Advent Piano Concert - Dec 2

Holiday Gala - Dec 4

Tacoma Support Action
Dec 5

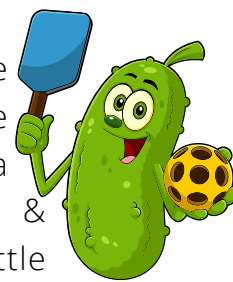
Coffeehouse Concerts
Dec 11 & 13

FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Friday Men's Fellowship returns! We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8am on **October 2nd & 16th** for a light breakfast of beverages and cereals and pastries along with a time of fellowship. Anyone who may be interested in joining us (Please note: **Women are welcome as well!**) are invited to attend. If you have any questions or would like to attend this meeting, please feel free to contact Dennis Zerba.

WOMEN'S PICKLEBALL GROUP

Inviting all women who are curious about the pickleball craze to come join the fun—No experience necessary! These sessions are about having fun in a low-stress environment. Come expecting to laugh & make mistakes while getting to know each other a little better. Sign up at <https://forms.gle/x67sMYSFiayVzjhH8> to attend a Saturday session, and feel free to email Fran Barth for more information.



YOUTH

Youth Group is on **Sunday nights from 7-9** for high school and middle school students. Good News Tues, our elementary group, will meet **October 20th**. All groups meet at the Open Door, the building across the lower parking lot.





TRICK OR TREAT IN MULTNOMAH VILLAGE

We are invited by the Multnomah Village Association to host trick-or-treat activities in Village Park again this year during the Multnomah Village Trick or Treat event. We will once again be hosting a pet costume contest, have a photo booth, and be giving out treats.

We expect over 1500 guests that evening and will need a lot of candy. You are welcome to bring bags of individually wrapped candy to the church either on Sundays or dropped off in the office on Tues-Friday.

We also would love to have volunteers there to help pass out treats and set up and clean up for the event. The event is on Saturday, Oct. 31st, we will be setting up at 2pm, and the event runs from 3:30-5:30. See Heather or Kevin with interest.



MISSIONS MINISTRY

HARAMBEE CENTRE FUNDRAISER

The Harambee Centre is celebrating it's 25th anniversary this year with a fun celebration and fundraiser. The event will be held **Sunday, October 18th** at the Embassy Suites Hotel near Washington Square. A silent auction and African market will be open from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. The program and African meal will be from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. Multnomah Presbyterian Church will have a table at the celebration, and we are looking for attendees to fill it. If you are interested in attending this wonderful event, please let Jennifer Gassaway or Lisa Shelley know by **October 4th**.

Our church has supported the Harambee Centre since its early days. We started our giving to help support a health clinic and ambulance in a rural town in Kenya called Chwele. Some of you may remember Grace Kuto, one of the founders of the Centre, attending our church and sharing mandazi, a donut-like fried bread, with us. The Harambee Centre's activities have expanded to provide scholarships to two schools - one in Chwele and one in Matala, Uganda. The Centre also helps support teen mothers with vocational skills training and mental health support. Visit <https://harambeecentre.org/> for more information.

The Mission Team always welcomes new members. Feel free to talk to members Jennifer Gassaway, Fran Barth, Amy Clements, Judi Davis, Linaya Leaf, Jaonna Morgan, and Lisa Shelley.



THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Worship is at the very heart of the church's life. All that the church is and does is rooted in its worship. The community of faith, gathered in response to God's call, is formed in its worship. Worship is the principal influence that shapes our faith, and is the most visible way we express the faith.

(Book of Common Worship, 1993, preface, pg. 1)

It's obvious that worship is at the heart of the church's life. It's the one thing we do, weekly on the "Lord's Day," in which most people participate one way or another. Considerable time, energy, thought, and sometimes anxiety are invested in it. In worship we are challenged and inspired, comforted and unsettled, enlightened and reminded who we are. It's a weekly family reunion.

It's also the work of the people. "Liturgy" means, literally, *work of the people* (Greek *leitourgia*). It is the word used to describe the elements of a worship service ordered in such a way as to convey meaning and theological affirmations, touch the heart, and engage the minds of the people of God. It can be as simple as a prayer, song, and sermon, or as fully developed as the Catholic Mass. In the rich tradition we share with many faith communities, and as outlined in our guiding documents, it has come to be expressed in a particular form sometimes called "Reformed" worship.

Multnomah's gifted team, led by Ray and Pastor Heather, along with the Worship Committee serve the congregation faithfully in preparing and leading Sunday worship. Songs and other music are carefully crafted to connect with and strengthen presentation of the texts of the day and sermon. Yet a Presbyterian maxim is that we are the church reformed, always to be reformed (by the Spirit of God), *Ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda*.

So Session has approved the worship committee's plans to seek a Lily grant to review and study our form of worship and sanctuary furnishings, and consider ways for worship to more fully express our faith, and be formed by it for service in the world. The congregation will be invited to share their experience of our liturgy and participate in education about it in the coming months.

This is a particular interest for me. So, as your Parish Associate I look forward to offering my support in this holy task. Together, we do the work of the people, to be God's people in the world.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jeff



SESSION UPDATE

Session met for its monthly meeting on September 22nd.

The meeting was opened with a prayer, and a reminder that we are supposed to be people of salt and light, of hope and persistence. We are called to be voices of hope to each other, and a presence of hope outside of the church. Session heard ministry team reports and reminders about upcoming events, and also discussed the ongoing search for a new treasurer so that Darlene may retire from the role after her years of dedicated service.

Presbytery of the Cascades has its fall stated meeting in late October in North Bend. Session did not commission any elders to attend, but Heather and Jeff will be attending.

The 2027 budget planning season has begun. Committees will be preparing budget proposals to turn in to the treasurer by October 13th.

The Congregational Nominating Committee met for the first time this year. Two out of three elder positions have been filled by elders who have agreed to second terms. The third elder position is still undecided at this time. At least one deacon position will need to be filled by a deacon who is not already serving their first term. The other other deacon positions may be filled by second term deacons who are still deciding. The deacons will need a new moderator in 2027.

Session also met before the church service on September 27th for a breakfast with prospective new members. After the breakfast, a vote took place to admit the candidates as new members.

The next regular Session meeting will be on October 27th.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

As shown in the table here, we had a positive net income of roughly \$3,119 in the month of August. With this positive month, we are now only \$7,340.13 in the red through August.

We are very encouraged by these financial results, and given our consistent history of increased income

in the fourth quarter of prior years, we are not recommending changes to our budget at this time. Thank you for your continued support of MPC!

Sincerely,

Your MPC F&A Committee

Chris Ulum (Elder), Darlene Higgenbottom (Treasurer), Gayle Clopton, Kate Eyberg, Dennis Zerba

			August	Year To Date
Income			\$ 27,074	\$ 194,817
Expenses			\$ 23,955	\$ 202,157
Net			\$ 3,119	- \$ 7,340



October Birthdays

2 Kristen Young

3 Ryan Soumokil

4 Christie Sargent

6 Ann Lemon
Linda Miillé

7 Kathy McCourt

12 Karen Beers

15 Pat Bell

22 Callie Wheeler

23 Lisa Bode

27 Shari Erickson

28 Dennis Erickson

31 Jack Bertell
Dick Eyberg

DEACON NEWS FOR YOU

Sometimes Halloween conjures up feelings of fear. Fear is something we all experience. It can come when life feels uncertain, when circumstances are changing, or when we are facing something we can't control. Fear can make us feel alone, overwhelmed, and unsure of what to do next. But Scripture reminds us that we do not have to face fear alone. The Bible says, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." (Psalm 56:3) It doesn't say, "*If* I'm afraid," it says, "*when* I'm afraid." Fear is a part of life, but it doesn't have to control us. Instead of allowing fear to grow in our minds, we can bring our concerns to the Lord in prayer. We can tell Him what worries us, what we don't understand, and what we are struggling to trust.

One of the gifts of the church is that we have one another. We can pray together, encourage one another, and carry one another through difficult seasons. Sometimes simply knowing that someone is praying with us can make a tremendous difference. As we enter a new season this fall, there may be many things we cannot predict. There may be changes, challenges, and questions ahead. But we can step forward with confidence, not because we know exactly what tomorrow will bring, but because we know that God holds tomorrow.

So when fear comes, pause. Pray. Remember God's promises. Reach out to your church family, reach out to your Deacon. We are here for you!





THANKS FROM PRISCILLA DOWNING

Many thanks for your loving greetings, cards and flowers for my 98th Birthday celebration!



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.

Blessings From Within Our Church

The new paint stripes and curbs look great!

Praise for the success of Project Lemonade.

Praise for all the people who serve in our church.

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



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Greetings MPC Family - Here's what we've been up to in September:

- The floors in the upstairs Kitchen & Restrooms plus 90% of the downstairs floors have been cleaned.
- Hand rails were installed on Open Door east stairway.



- All yellow curbing and white parking lines have been pressure-washed and new paint was applied.



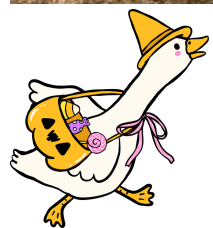


DOVE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

What a wonderful beginning to a new year at Dove Christian Preschool! The returning families and new families were so excited to meet new friends, and have fun learning. Teacher Katrina and Teacher Nicole were thrilled to see the classroom come alive with laughter, learning, and fun. We are thankful for each child God has entrusted to Dove and look forward to all that this new school year will bring!

In October, Dove will host a Back-to-School Night where parents can come and see how things are going, meet each other, and see all their children are doing so far. The classes will also be going to Yesteryear Farms for the annual Fall Field Trip. This is a new farm this year, and they are excited to experience what this place has to offer.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Dove. We're thankful that Dove is able to continue offering a quality preschool experience for the community.





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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