

THE MULTNOMAH ANNOUNCER

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

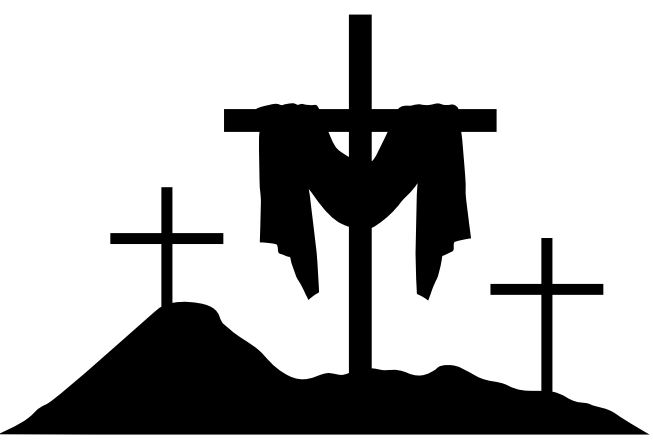


HOLY WEEK

We have the privilege of worshipping with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Valley Community Presbyterian Church again this year for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. This year Palm Sunday and Good Friday will be at MPC and Maundy Thursday will be at Valley. We look forward to spending Holy Week together as we follow Jesus through his actions rooted in justice and mercy, through his suffering and into the Good News of Resurrection.

Maundy Thursday

6:00pm @ Valley Community Presbyterian
(8060 SW Brentwood St, 97225)



Good Friday

7:30pm @ MPC

Easter Sunday

each congregation will be worshipping on its own
MPC Easter service is at 10:30am



Sundays at MPC

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

Worship Opportunities

Friday, April 3rd
Good Friday
7:30pm

Sunday, April 5th
Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 12th
Communion

Sunday, April 19th

Sunday, April 26th



Upcoming Events

**Maunder Thursday Service
at Valley Presbyterian**
April 2 6:00pm

Good Friday Service
April 3 7:30pm

Community Meal at ICE
April 4

Easter Sunday
April 5

SW Hope 5K Walk/Run
April 11

Men's Fellowship Breakfast
April 17

**Alaska Mission Fundraiser
Auction & Prom Night**
April 25

Sunday Parkways
May 17

VBS
June 15-18

FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Friday Men's Fellowship group usually meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month. We'll meet in the Upstairs Fellowship Hall at 8am on **Friday, April 17th** for a light breakfast of beverages, cereals, and pastries, along with a time of general fellowship and discussion. If you have any questions or would like to attend, 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.

HELP OUR FLOWER CROSS BLOOM

At MPC we have a tradition of having a cross covered in flowers for the Easter Sunday service, and we need your help to make it happen. Please bring flowers and flowering branches from your gardens to help decorate the cross for Easter Sunday. Flowers can be brought to the church during office hours **Friday, April 3rd**, or brought to the main entrance **Saturday, April 4th** before noon. And anyone is welcome to come at noon on Saturday to help arrange flowers.





BREAKING BREAD TO BREAK ICE

Our monthly meals outside of the ICE facility are providing some much needed fuel to continue the fight against cruelty in our city. These times of ministry through a meal have provided good relationship building opportunities and allowed us to be a light and a presence of Jesus's love in our community. We will be breaking bread again on Saturday April 4th. If you want to help with the meal, contact Heather.

WHO DO I TALK TO ABOUT THIS?

We are blessed to have a large body of engaged, collaborative leadership with deacons, elders, and staff. Sometimes, though, with such a large body of leadership it can be hard to know who to go to with questions, concerns, and suggestions. In our directory and in the photos on top of the name tags in our entryway, you can see which elders represent our committees. You can also find that information and which deacon is there for your household in the directory.

If you have suggestions for ministry opportunities, you can take those to the elder of the particular committee responsible. If you aren't certain which committee is the right place to go, you can always talk to Pastor Heather (and she is certainly available for other questions and concerns, too). If you or someone you know in our congregation are experiencing hardships, struggles, need prayer or other support, those are great things to take to our deacons, Pastor Jeff, or Pastor Heather. If you want more information on participating in worship with music or helping with reading scriptures, those are questions for Director of Music, Ray McKean, or our worship elder. Vicki in the office can always help direct you to the right person to talk to as well. We want to make sure your input is received and your questions are answered, and thankfully we have a whole team of leaders to make that happen.

SESSION UPDATE

Session met for its monthly meeting on March 24th. The meeting began with a reflection on the discussion from our February retreat regarding our dreams for MPC and how we have seen our prayers for those dreams playing out over the past month.

In addition to its regular monthly business, ministry reports, and reminders about upcoming events, Session approved the removal of four inactive members from the membership rolls, and voted for the plate collection from the combined Palm Sunday service with St. Andrew's and Valley Presbyterian to go to SW Hope, the Neighborhood House food pantry fundraiser.

Session will meet next on April 28th.



April Birthdays

- 1 John England
Jennifer Gassaway
- 3 Robyn Biehler
- 4 Ray McKean
- 6 Thomas Base
- 7 Jennifer Ackerman
- 13 Barb Jones
- 18 Caroline Brandt
- 24 Derek Gannett
- 25 Steven Goodfellow
- 27 Evelyn Prutsman
- 28 Allen Pinero
- 29 Tom Jones

DEACON NEWS FOR YOU

The Deacons have spent time getting more organized for the coming year. Hopefully you have heard from your Deacon (if you have a new one), or will hear from that person soon. If you'd like to see your Deacon in person, come to church on **April 19** and "Meet Your Deacon". The Deacons will be hanging out after church on that day, and we would love for you to stop and say "hello". It's always nice to put a face to a name. And especially for our new Deacons, they would love to meet the people in their district personally if they don't already know you.

Remember, your Deacons are available to help you with anything big or small, so don't be shy about reaching out if you need help. If you are unsure who your Deacon is, check the directory (now updated!), or contact the church office. Better yet, come see us on April 19!

Easter Blessings to everyone at MPC!





Please Join Us in Celebrating
Evelyn Prutsman's 90th Birthday!

Saturday, April 25th
From 3 to 4:30 PM

West Hills Village
5711 SW Multnomah Blvd.
Portland, Or 97219

Danner Room (Theater) on the ground floor

No presents please, just your loving presence!

RSVP to Linda Redmond
(503) 805-2828

PRAYER



Blessings From Within Our Church

Praise to our sister
churches for joining
us during Holy Week

Praise for
Palm Sunday and
Easter music

Praise to Evelyn
Prutsman turning
90 years young!

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

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.



FROM THE PARISH ASSOCIATE

*Stars lived and died to put flecks in your eyes and in eons will never repeat them.
How tiny the odds of you being you and how lucky it was you beat them.*

— Elle Cordova

What a gift it is to be alive, and to share in the community of faith that is the Multnomah Presbyterian Church of Portland. We are the legacy of stars and the faithfulness of those who came before us. The light of God's love shines in us and through us to the world around us, beginning on 45th Avenue in Multnomah.

Our lives unfold within vast systems we can barely fathom. Signs and seasons guide and shape us in ways we sometimes forget. Easter Sunday is tied to the cycles of celestial mechanics. It's the first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Pentecost (pente-50) follows from that, 50 days later. The whole cycle shifts back and forth from year to year depending on how the planets align.

That means we now get 50 days to celebrate and reflect on the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It's called Eastertide, the Easter Season, the Great Fifty Days, the Feast of Weeks. Because resurrection is too great a thing for just one day.

The lectionary texts will take us through post-resurrection encounters with Jesus as well as the glimpses of the early, post-resurrection church living into its new reality.

We're also living in a new reality, resurrection in our church and in our own lives, against a backdrop of dark and difficult times. It is lamentable. But it is also an invitation to discover new depth and breadth of faith and community and service in our times. The early church grew within a world of Roman imperial occupation and severe persecution. So can we.

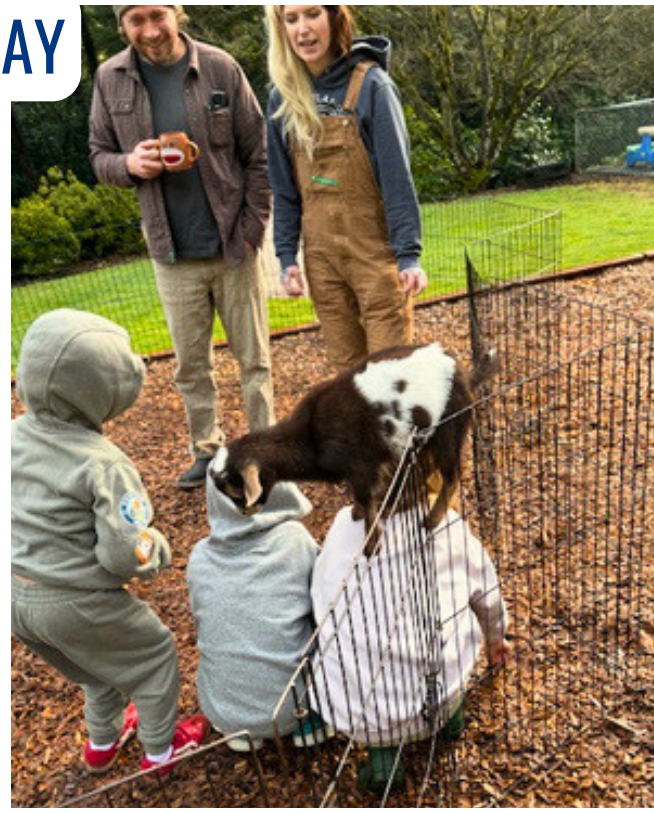
Happy Eastertide,

Jeff Sievert





SPRING FUN DAY





BUILDINGS & GROUNDS


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

- The Open Door heater was worked on - the fan was replaced, and the main circuit board was replaced only to discover the new circuit board was defective. The Tech put the old circuit board back in and the unit is functioning ok, for now. We will monitor it and hopefully it will continue to perform as it's intended.
- New black & white rock was added near the office entry - Thanks Dick & Dennis, it looks great.
- De-escalation Training was conducted by "Portland Peace Keepers" in the Fellowship area on February 21st. About 40 people attended, 14 of which were MPC folks. Anyone who will be performing Greeter or Usher duties has and/or will be briefed on who to contact, should a "situation" arise.



FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

As you can see in the financial summary table, we had a loss of \$5,776 in February. Through two months we are also in the red.

	February	Year To Date
Income	\$ 18,096	\$ 39,201
Expenses	\$ 23,872	\$ 47,768
Net	- \$ 5,776	- \$ 8,567

Please note - we are now registered as a non-profit on a platform called Benevity. This platform provides a simple way to have your donations to MPC matched, should your employer happen to have a policy of matching employee financial gifts. We will talk more about this Benevity program later this spring.

Thank you for keeping MPC in your prayers, and for your continued support of our church!

Sincerely,

Your MPC F&A Committee

Chris Ulum (Elder), Darlene Higgenbottom (Treasurer), Tom Base, Gayle Clopton, Dennis Zerba



MISSIONS MINISTRY

SW HOPE COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE

March 11 - April 26

The SW Hope food drive has officially kicked off. Neighborhood House has been holding this food drive for the past 20 years. Their goal is to raise \$50,000 to help feed our neighbors in need. In Oregon, one child out of six is at risk of not having enough to eat, and with SNAP benefits cut back, more families will struggle to put food on the table.

We have set a goal to raise \$2,000 for the SW Hope food drive by April 26, 2026. Please consider donating by check in the offering plate on Sundays and make the check out to "Neighborhood House" with "SW Hope" on the subject line. Or, donate directly to Neighborhood House online using **this link**.

Our church will also be participating in the SW Hope 5K Run/Walk on **April 11th** at Oregon Episcopal School under the team name "The God Squad." You can use the following link to sign up. If you sign up on the team, you will need the password: GodSquad123!

<https://runsignup.com/Race/OR/Portland/swhope5k>

If donating online or signing up for the 5K, **let the church office know**, so we can count your donation towards our goal.

Your support for SW Hope helps stock Neighborhood House's Free Food Market with fresh choices. It delivers groceries to neighbors who can't access the market. It fuels programs that make sure families, seniors, and children have healthy food on the table.

Dine Out to Donate Events

Enjoy a meal at these restaurants, and a percentage of your meal price goes directly to Neighborhood House when you eat there on their selected date. The remaining April events are on the right. So get a group together and make a night of it!

Dine Out to Donate

A percentage of meal sales will be donated to SW Hope

April 1st: Yalla

April 7th: Salvador Molly's

April 8th: Bless Your Heart Burgers





YOUTH

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sundays 7:00-9:00pm

GOOD NEWS TUES

(Grades 2-5)

April 21st 6:00-7:30pm

Join us for dinner, games, and a lesson about Jesus's great love for us.

ALASKA AUCTION PROM NIGHT

The Alaska Auction Prom Night is coming **Saturday April 25th at 7pm**. We are switching things up this year with an after-hours event and an 80's theme. The cover charge, which includes hors d'oeuvres and desserts, suggested donation is \$10. We will have music and dancing, and, of course, both a silent and live auction. Prom or 80's themed attire is suggested but not mandatory. We will have a photo booth and more fun in store, so we hope you will join us.

We are also now accepting donations of auction items, gift certificates, services, vacation house stays, housewares, art and more. All funds go to our youth Alaska Service trip to Skagway Alaska.

VBS IS COMING JUNE 15-18

This year we are looking at aquatic animals who persevere and just keep swimming. The cost is \$30 per student. Camp runs 9am-noon. Register at the QR code below and feel free to pass this information on to families who may be interested in participating.



AQUATIC FRIENDS ADVENTURE

June 15-18, 9am-Noon



DOVE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

The kids at Dove celebrated pets during the month of March. Families brought in their pets and shared information about them. We had several dogs, a duck, and parakeets. The last week of March was spring break. We won't have a lot of time for Easter learning when we return, so we will continue Easter throughout April.



From Dove Preschool,

Happy Easter

He Lives!



The Assistant Teacher, Katrina, has been promoted to the Lead Teacher at Dove starting in Fall 2026. She has been with Dove since 2020. Her experience will help transition Dove upon the retirement of Teacher Barb. There are several candidates for the Assistant Teacher position who we will interview after spring break.

We're also accepting new students for Fall 2026. If you have family, friends or neighbors that are looking for a preschool, please have them contact us at dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com or check out the website, www.dovepreschool.com.



Presbyterian Church

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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