



currents

Fall 2025

INSIDER

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AND MORE!



Visit us at MPCusa.org

A NOTE FROM DR. KORT

Dear MPC family and friends,

Since my arrival as your Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff, it did not take me long to recognize that MPC is a church family that deeply cares for one another. We are a community of believers who “pray without ceasing” (I Thessalonians 5:17). We are a church family that believes in the power of prayer.

Along with our personal prayer time and our prayers together as a congregation in worship, there are other opportunities for prayer. One is the MPC Prayer Chain and the other is the Pastoral Care List.

MPC PRAYER CHAIN – Many of you are familiar with the prayer chain at the church. This wonderful ministry consists of dedicated believers who faithfully pray for specific members and friends who have requested prayer. Ron Workman coordinates this caring ministry. If you have a specific prayer request or an ongoing prayer concern, I encourage you to contact Ron at ron_workman@prodigy.net or 215-808-0809. Each individual named must give their permission before it can be placed on the prayer chain list.

PASTORAL CARE LIST – This is a little different from the prayer chain and is coordinated by your pastoral staff for members of MPC and their families. When permission is given, the names of these individuals will be listed in our worship bulletin and will include life-changing experiences, such as a current hospitalization or a recent death or birth. You can contact the church office at office@mpcusa.org or 215-295-4191 to submit a name or update the pastoral staff on the status of an individual.

Long ago the Apostle Paul expressed his love for the church in Rome by writing, “I remember you always in my prayers.” (Romans 1:9). May we always remember each other in prayer.

God bless,

Tom

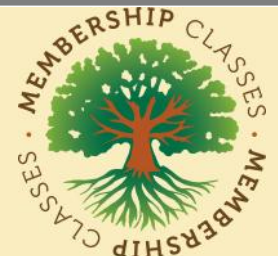


CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 19 immediately following worship to hear the report of the Church Nominating Committee and their recommendation of the eight members to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee as the next step in the search for the new Senior Pastor/Head of Staff.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES ANNOUNCED!

Are you interested in exploring church membership at MPC? New member classes are scheduled for Sunday, October 19 and Sunday, October 26. If interested, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or by contacting the church office at 215-295-4191 or email office@mpcusa.org for more details. Members would be received in worship on Sunday, October 26.



EVERYONE NEEDS A BOOLEY HOUSE

Dear Priesthood of All Believers,

In the beginning of Leon Uris's novel *Trinity*, the main character, Conor, travels with his best friend into the rugged hills of western Ireland for the summer. Conor and Seamus are sent to dig peat so the family can have enough fuel to burn for the coming winter. While they complete their task, Conor and Seamus stay for weeks in a Booley House. This simple stone structure with a heather roof was all they needed to get by. They were kids—only late elementary age, young middle schoolers at best. In this late 1800s setting, their parents sent them on their way to do what was needed for their family and they did. Uris paints a beautiful picture of childhood freedom: a full good day's work, friendship to share the time, and spacious evenings where Conor and Seamus were left to be young. A perfect combination of liberty, responsibility, and play.



Everyone needs a Booley House. A place where we can be free; time to embrace our inner child; moments to grow into the people God is calling us to be. As we move from the summer into the fall, I give thanks for the ways we cultivate these kinds of spaces for one another. I see it in our Mission Trip where youth and adults alike are able to grow in faith and service, as well as embracing their own Spirit growing within them. I see it where “one or two are gathered” in God's name at Bible studies, classes, and fellowship of all ages this fall. I look forward to seeing it even more in how God is calling us to Booley Houses we've yet to imagine: programs willing to adapt with the changing needs of our younger generations, invitations to care for the individual and the community, and opportunities to serve near and far in a world in desperate need of sacrificial love.

So I wonder, what does your Booley House look like? Who are you being invited to share it with? For God is inviting us each day to live out our inner freedom and create space for others in this world. May we go, sharing and receiving this gift as the body of Christ.

Grace and Peace,

Alex

SIGN UP TODAY! CHURCH DIRECTORY IS NOW IN REALM

Thank you to those who have logged into Realm, reviewed your information, set your privacy settings, and added your picture. We are on our way to becoming more connected! Please check your spam folder if you haven't seen the email invitation in your inbox. To ensure it is not spam, note the email address will be from "notifications@onrealmmail.org". If you haven't received the email, or can't find it, please contact the church office to ensure we have your correct email and we will resend the invite to get you connected.

If you don't have an email account or simply don't want to use Realm, that's okay, we still want to get you into the church directory. Please contact the church office by calling 215-295-4191 or emailing office@mpcusa.org and let us know if we can add you to the directory. Please remember only members of MPC will have access to the online directory.



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

In Loving Memory

Our sympathy goes out to the families of those who have recently died:

- Nancy Ackerman
on Tuesday, July 8, 2025
- Kathrine Prosser
on Wednesday, August 6

Let us continue to remember these individuals and all of their family members in our prayers at this time.



BLUE JEAN SUNDAY

Blue Jean Sunday will be held on October 19 from noon to 3:00 p.m. Help be a part of the annual cleanup of the church and yards. Please contact Property Manager David Sterling at davidsterling@mpcusa.org for more details and to sign up.



CIRCLE MEETINGS

Just a reminder that Deborah Circle and Rebecca Circle meet on the second Monday of the month thru May. Deborah Circle meets at noon and Rebecca Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. Both meetings are in the lounge and all women of MPC are welcome.

DR. KORT SHARES SABBATICAL PLANS FOR PASTOR ALEX

The Personnel Committee and Session unanimously approved a sabbatical for Pastor Alex. Sabbaticals have been a part of the PCUSA's program for clergy for decades. Sabbaticals allow for an extended time away from the day to day responsibilities of ministry to allow for spiritual renewal and growth. Alex's sabbatical begins on April 13, 2026, and concludes on July 6, 2026.

During part of his time away, Alex hopes to travel to Iona, Scotland with the Shalem Institute. Within this "Spirit" centered community, he will experience the intersection of Celtic Christian roots and Reformed expressions of contemplation.

Complementing his time at Iona, through independent reading and study, he will focus on adaptive leadership practices, congregational organizational models and contemplative discernment. He will also participate in the PCUSA Board of Pension's CREDCO which provides resources for pastors. which includes such important topics as leadership, finances, and spiritual health and well-being for ministers.

In addition, Alex will have time to visit family, friends, and colleagues spread across the land that are so much a part of his faith formation. He also hopes to discover a few new hobbies along the way. Elizabeth will continue to fulfill her commitments to MPC, while also taking a chance to step back where she can to join Alex in his sabbatical and nurture their relationship.

In consultation with others, Alex has developed an intentional plan to assure coverage for his areas of ministry while he is away. He will return in time for the Youth in Mission trip.

We are excited to offer this sabbatical leave to Alex as he continues to grow in faith and live out his calling to serve the church of Jesus Christ.

mpcusa.org

SUPPORTING DEACONS' HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

Submitted by Curt Rimler and Tim Stover

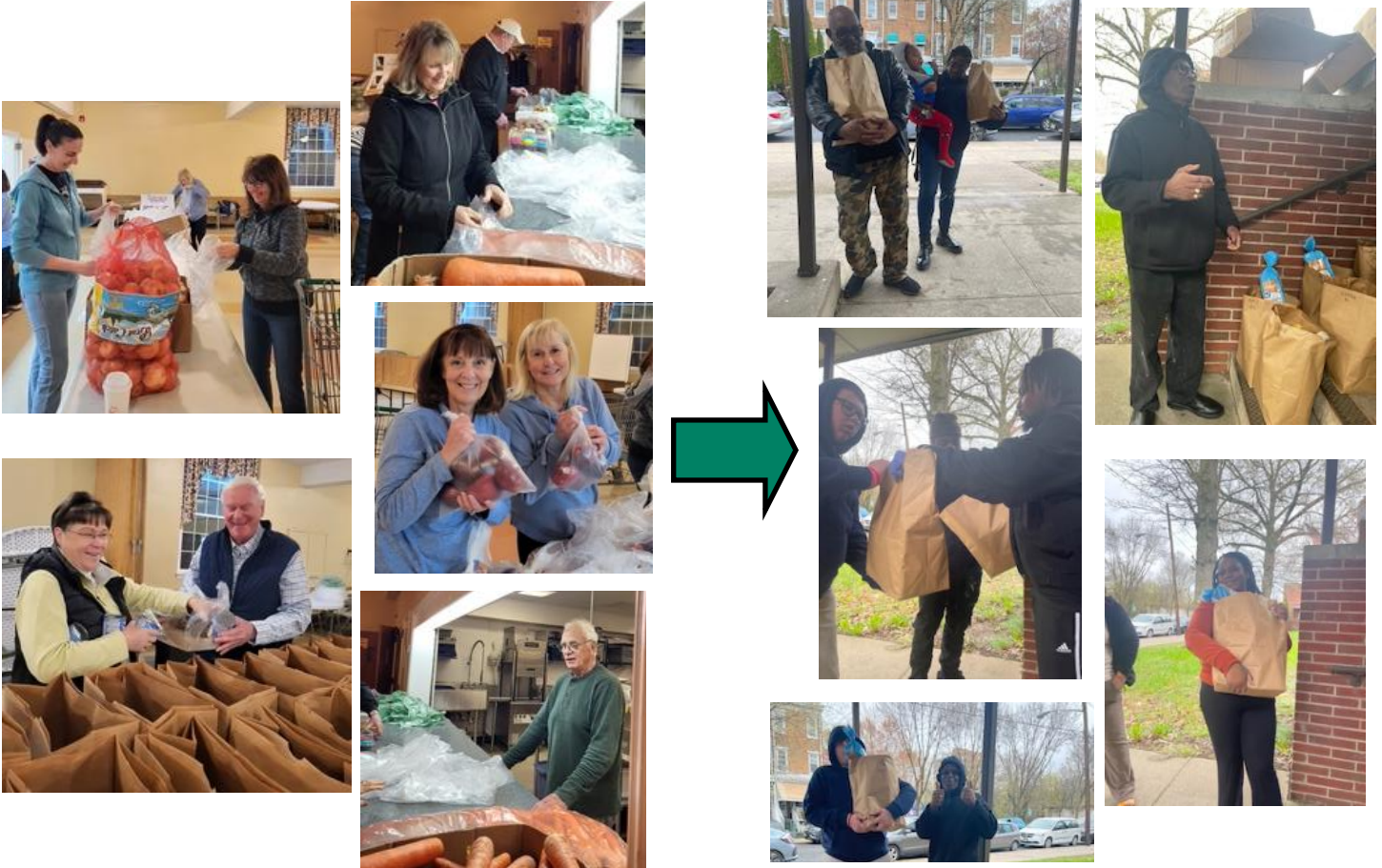
For over 40 years, the MPC deacons and congregation have been taking part in a mission we call the “MPC Deacons’ Holiday Food Baskets.” Each Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, a joyful group of deacons, youth, family and friends collect and assemble holiday baskets that are given to food insecure families in the area.

In 2024, the deacons noticed a marked increase in the cost of the baskets from Easter to Thanksgiving. This increase was driven by inflation and the rapid rise in the costs of food. This concern was heightened by the 2024 passing of a generous benefactor who covered the total costs associated with the Christmas baskets for many decades.

The cost of the baskets is primarily funded through the generosity of our congregation. The deacons realized that strategies had to be put in place to address the sustainability of this long-standing mission of our church. In late 2024, a task force was set up with oversight by the broader Board of Deacons. Some of the strategies implemented since start of the task force include:

- Solicitation of lower cost grocery partners.
- Corporate and business partner donation requests.
- Added fundraising and communication campaigns within our congregation.

These efforts have resulted in an approximate cost savings of forty percent from Thanksgiving 2024 to Easter 2025 and increased awareness and funding streams from external partners. We remain grateful to our congregation for your support over the years and the Board of Deacons will continue to check and address the economic climate to ensure the food baskets can continue for another forty years.



REFLECTIONS ON THE YOUTH IN MISSION TRIP

In July, Youth in Mission held their annual mission trip. They returned to Pipestem, WV to build a ramp for a family in need and continued working on renovations to a former school from the 1950s that now houses a community church in a nearby former coal mining town that had experienced severe flooding. Other activities included enjoying the outdoors exploring New River Gorge National Park and Preserve. In the evenings, the group enjoyed sharing dinner responsibilities, devotional time, square dancing, playing group games, or just enjoying some downtime. The YIM team is very grateful to the many supporters within our congregation who generously support this youth mission every year.

The following are two reflections on the trip.

Submitted by Heidi Dous

I'll be honest—I never thought this mission trip was something I could do. I'm not handy. I don't know the difference between a circular saw and a jigsaw. I'm not a camper and haven't really ever been. But as a member of the Youth Ministry, I knew there was a need for another chaperone. I set aside my hesitation and volunteered. Many people had told me how amazing the experience could be, so I trusted their words and jumped in.

Early in the week, we learned our group would be working at two job sites. One crew would be repairing part of the roof on a local church and community center—the same church our group worked on last summer. That church is led by Mike, a man who pours his heart and soul into serving this small, struggling community.

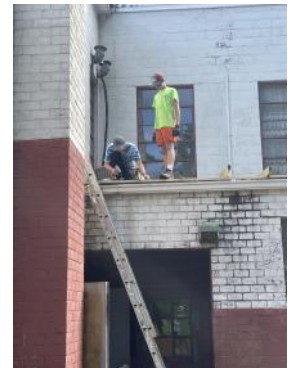
The second job site (and the one where I was working) was a trailer home down the road from the church, where we would build a ramp for a man named Jack and his wife, Freda. Freda has recently been diagnosed with cancer and also suffers from heart issues. She's currently using a walker, but they're working through Medicaid paperwork to get her an electric wheelchair. When that day comes, she'll need a way to safely leave the house.

One of the biggest blessings of this trip, beyond building the ramp, was getting to know Jack.

Jack is in his seventies and has lived in this town all his life. Just up the mountain from his home are four coal mines, now closed, where his father once worked. At one time this town had over 5,000 residents, many of them miners. But with time and the closing of the mines, only forty-one people remain. Jack, Freda, their daughter and grandson, and Jack's brother's family—who live just across the street—make up nearly twenty percent of the town's population.

Jack sat on the porch most of the week, quietly watching us work. He would occasionally strike up a conversation, sharing bits of his life. One day he told me that when he found out Freda wouldn't get better, he cried and prayed because he didn't know how he'd take care of his wife of fifty-one years. Jack is disabled himself. He injured his leg on the job years ago and now walks with great difficulty. He knew he wouldn't be able to push a manual wheelchair, which made the electric one a necessity.

Greg, who works for the Appalachian Folk Life Center, helps connect groups like ours to families in need. Jack didn't know Greg personally but had heard of him. Around the time of Freda's diagnosis, Jack saw Greg's truck pass by and decided to follow him up the hill to the community center. That day, in a parking lot, Greg told Jack that he could help—and things started moving from there.



MISSION TRIP REFLECTIONS (CONTINUED)

Throughout the week, Jack told me about his small church, which has around thirty members. He said he knows every one of them, though he joked he doesn't necessarily like them all. Jack has a great sense of humor. I told him about MPC and about how generous our congregation is—how your donations are a huge part of making this trip possible each year. More than once, Jack asked me to thank all of you for your generosity. He said the ramp we were building was life-changing for him and Freda and that it would make her remaining time more comfortable. That meant everything to him.

On Friday, our last day, we gave Jack one of our red mission trip t-shirts signed by the whole group. He immediately put it on over his other shirt and wore it proudly. He spent the rest of the day joking that we couldn't leave and had to come back Monday because he had more work for us. And honestly, I didn't want to leave either. Jack and Freda had become such a meaningful part of our lives in just a few short days.

We finished the ramp Friday afternoon, and Jack invited us—hot, sweaty, and dirty—inside to meet Freda. She was sitting in her chair and welcomed us with warmth and gratitude. She shared how much the ramp meant to her and that it came just in time—she had two doctor's appointments the following week. We also bought a few flowers for their yard, and Freda lit up when she saw them. She told me she loves flowers and was so thankful for the gift.

Our theme for the week was the Holy Spirit and how it moves in our lives. I can say without hesitation that I felt the Holy Spirit more strongly in that little town, in the front yard of a weathered trailer home, with Jack and Freda, than I ever have before.

Please pray for Freda—for strength and healing. And pray for Jack, who faces the hard task of caring for her, day in and day out, with deep love and quiet devotion.

Submitted by Hope Massey

On Sunday, our first full day in West Virginia this year, we went on an off roading jeep tour through the mountains. We got to see beautiful and historic sites, but not without the winding and bumpy roads through the mountains. The man leading us advised us to "trust the rut", which was his way of telling us to keep the jeep moving through rough roads and trust that we would make it through just fine. This saying of "trust the rut" became our trip motto. This year's mission trip was vastly different than any other.

We had two job sites, one being the house of a coal miner to build a wheelchair ramp for his ill wife. I was on the other work site, which happened to be the same church we worked on last year. Last year we painted the front of the church, which was a similar job to what I had done every other year on this trip. I had gotten pretty good at painting over the years, and was excited to just do that again. That was until the staff at the folklife center explained our jobs. I was assigned to the site to build a roof. To say I was nervous would be an understatement. Not only would I not get to put my painting skills to use, but I would be building, which I had no experience with, and using power tools I hadn't touched in years.



MISSION TRIP REFLECTIONS (CONTINUED)

I spent almost all of my time on the work site on top of the roof. This project was not easy in any regard. A lot of time was spent measuring, cutting wood, supporting beams, and drilling into cinder blocks. But, as Travis would say, a lot of time was spent scratching our heads. Problems that were entirely out of our control continued to pop up. Every time we felt as if we were getting into a good groove, something else came up. And there was nothing we could do.

But, we pushed through and did the best that we could with Pastor Alex advising us to lean into the discomfort and confusion. On Friday, our theme of the day was Funky Friday, which ended up being much too fitting. We went in early, enthusiastic to do as much as we could and make an impact on this church. We worked tirelessly until lunch. As we ate our sandwiches, we noticed that it started to rain. The rain turned into a downpour. The downpour turned into a thunderstorm. When we attempted to get back out there and work more, Pastor Alex had to tell us we could no longer work on the project. We had to pack up and leave it since the conditions were no longer safe.

And just like that, my final year on the mission trip ended in an unfinished project due to circumstances that were out of our hands. I felt angry, feeling like all of our hard work this week should have amounted to more than it did.

After discussing our feelings on this seemingly disappointing ending in the car, I realized just how much I had gotten out of this project by learning from everyone on my work site. From Travis, I learned how to use power tools again, how to go with the flow and accept whatever the project threw at us, and how to persevere despite the frustration. Pastor Alex has taught me how to lean into new and different feelings as he graciously answered all of my many questions. From working with Charlie and Bella, I learned just how much team work means. Sharing joy when things go well and understanding each other's frustration when they don't go a long way.

Along with all that, I got the opportunity to learn about my own faith. The most important thing I gained this year was the security of knowing that God will always put me in the right place.

I learned so much about trust, faith, and myself through the people around me and through that unfinished roof, and I knew God called me to be there.

With this being my last trip, I got the opportunity to reflect over everything I've done over the past five summers. The largest difference was how much my faith and trust in God has grown. The first time I went was the summer after my eighth grade year. We were coming out of the COVID pandemic and I had had a year full of confusion and struggling. I had been dealing with long-term mental health issues that seemed to constantly persist, which challenged my faith, and I didn't know where I stood with God. I went on a walk one day, and I prayed to God to give me a sign that he was still there for me. I was unstable in my faith and I was desperate for reassurance. Around two or three months later, I went on my first mission trip. I had no idea what to expect and I was terrified of the unknowns, and I begged my dad to let me stay home instead. He insisted that I go, and I did. I can confidently say that trip changed my life. Sure, I was awkward, and it took me a long time to find my footing, but everyone was so kind and they accepted me as I was, no matter what I had been through.

Looking back, that trip was all the proof I needed that God was still looking out for me. After that trip, my life took a drastic turn for the better as I started high school. I believe that trip was an answered prayer, and going to Pipestem, West Virginia every year has shaped me, my faith, and the way I accept and treat others. Since that first trip, I have been steadily learning how to lean into new and unknown things that God calls me to.



MISSION TRIP REFLECTION (CONTINUED)

That week we talked about the Holy Spirit, who is always surrounding us. I lean into where I feel called, and learn to trust God and the Spirit, and that He is always looking out for me.

I encourage anyone who will be of eligible age for this trip to go. It will be different, and scary, and not always comfortable, but if you're willing to lean into it you will learn so much about yourself and others. If you are someone who can't go on a trip like this, I encourage you to find things you feel called to do in every day life that are new and different. Step out of your comfort zone, and lean into that discomfort, and you can open the doors to new opportunities to learn about yourself and your faith.



SAVE THE DATE FOR 2026 YOUTH IN MISSION TRIP

If you know of any youth interested in going on a meaningful trip of service and fun, please save the date for our trip next year, July 11 to July 18, 2026. For more information or questions please contact Dan Jones or Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org.

MPC CLOTHING CENTER REOPENS FOR 2025-26 SEASON

The MPC Clothing Center has reopened! Donations of fall and winter clothing, coats, hats, gloves, shoes, and boots as well as jewelry, household items and decorations for fall, winter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas are being accepted at this time. Please visit mpcusa.org/clothingcenter for more details, including items the Clothing Center does not accept. We look forward to seeing you for our 2025-2026 season and invite to you come and discover we have more than just clothes!



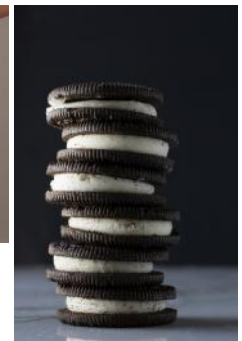
FOOD CENTER'S FALL REQUESTS

The following food items are requested for each month listed. A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Your continued generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

October - Canned Beans

November - Shelf Stable Milk or
Canned Evaporated Milk

December - Cookies



mpcusa.org/food-center

FOOD CENTER OPPORTUNITIES

The Food Center is run by a lively and committed group of volunteers, who find the work rewarding and fun. Most people only think of the Wednesday food distribution aspect of the Food Center, but there are many behind the scenes tasks that have to happen in order to be able to distribute food to clients on Wednesdays. Currently, there are several opportunities available:

- Inventory Control (at home, on your schedule)
 - Monitor pantry inventory (with the help of on-site volunteers)
 - Order free food from Philabundance weekly
 - Set up every other month deliveries from our grocery supplier
- Delivery Receiving (Monday mornings, and occasional Wednesday afternoons)
 - Be on site to accept and unload food deliveries
 - Maintain and communicate with a team of 2-3 helpers
- Food Pick-Ups (at your convenience, every other week)
 - Drive your vehicle, or the Food Center van, to Aldi to purchase bulk items
 - Unload and shelf food in the pantry.

Please consider joining the team! Contact the Food Center at mpcfoodcenter@gmail.com to sign up and submit questions.

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

Our Brown Bag Bible Study (aptly named because you can bring a brown bag lunch!) meets every Wednesday at noon. You can join us in person in the Conference Room (2nd floor by the main office) or online via Zoom. EVERYONE is welcome! Whether you have time to spare and plan your day around it, joining us from your desk at work, and whether you read the Bible often or hardly at all, we welcome your presence with us and hope you'll join this fun-filled, faithful group of Bible explorers!

Brown Bag Bible Study will be continuing with their discussions of Luke by venturing into the Book of Acts. Rev. Dr. Carter Lester will be leading our weekly discussions. The book to start will be *Acts for Everyone, Part One* (ISBN 13:9780664266424) by N. T. Wright. This volume covers chapters 1-12 of Acts. There is also a *Part Two* (ISBN # 13: 9780664268725) which covers the remainder of the Book of Acts. Both books are available from a variety of sources such as PCUSASore.com, Amazon, or ChristianBook.com. If you need assistance in acquiring a book, please contact Christopher Bannister at bannistercr@gmail.com.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

This year the Adult Education on Sundays will be using a curriculum titled *The Present Word; Judah, from Isaiah to Exile*. This curriculum will help the class to see the hand of God in our own lives and all human affairs. It will provide a base for the weekly discussions, provide opportunities for multiple leaders, and provide continuity for the fall semester. It also will allow for a departure into other subjects throughout the year.

Currently we are continuing along our timeline under the reign of King Josiah and begin to explore the book of Jeremiah. Jeremiah was both a priest and a prophet. Jeremiah was just a young boy when God spoke to him and set him on a path to spread the word of God for over forty years. When God spoke to Jeremiah, he replied to God "I do not know how to speak, I am only a child" (Jer. 1:8). Amos was only a shepherd. We often think of ourselves as only a teacher, student, mechanic or doctor, but we are so much more than that. We, too, can be so instrumental in spreading the word of God.

Adult Sunday School is held each Sunday starting at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room located on the second floor. If you are unable to attend in person, you may also attend remotely through Zoom. Links to the meeting may be found in the weekly email. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Bannister at bannistercr@gmail.com or 401-932-3619.

LOOKING FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL TOPICS

Do you have a topic you are passionate about that you would like to share with Adult Education group? Adult Ed is looking for members of the congregation who would like to share with the class an experience they have had which helped shape their faith, a book they have read that enhanced their faith, or an organization they belong to which helps fulfill the mission of the church. If you would like to share with the class for one or more sessions, please contact Christopher Bannister at bannistercr@gmail.com or 401-932-3619.

Missed a service or want to listen again?

Search "Morrisville Presbyterian Church" online at these streaming services.



MPC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Submitted by Dan Jones

Along with the Youth in Mission trip, one of the highlights and joys of the Youth Ministry Committee's year is to award scholarships to so many of the youth we have served with, some from the time they were born and baptized.

You know them. They have served our MPC family in many ways, preaching from our pulpit as well as representing us on missions far from home, in our community, and in our building. They are either in or heading off to colleges and universities learning how to be the hands and heart of God in this world with studies in the fields of medicine, education, engineering, and architecture.

It is a joy to be able to share with these youth and young adults \$20,000 in scholarships from funds established over many year at MPC for this purpose.

This year's scholarships and the recipients are:

- **Mary Carver Roberts Scholarship** - Ella Carver Duke established the Mary Carver Roberts Scholarship in 1987 in memory of her sister, Mary. This scholarship fund supports those seeking a career in medical professions or ministry.
 - Sarah Cain graduated from Notre Dame High School. She will be a freshman at Penn State University Main Campus, where she will be studying biomedical engineering.
 - Joely Gardner is continuing her studies at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, PCOM.
 - Angel Kamara is continuing her studies at Bucks County Community College. Angel would like to pursue a career in nursing.
 - Madison Neiman is continuing her studies at Ursinus College. She is majoring in health science with minors in neuroscience, psychology, and biology.
 - Caroline Stover is headed to the University of Rhode Island as a freshman pursuing a degree in nursing.
- **McClanen Scholarship** - The parents of Don McClanen established the Don McClanen Scholarship in his honor. Don's parents were members of MPC. In 1954 Don formed the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, an international organization that today supports tens of thousands of Christian coaches and athletes in over 80 countries around the world.
 - Madeline McCleskey graduated from Neshaminy High School this year. She is heading to Roger Williams University in Rhode Island to study architecture.
 - Andrew Neiman is continuing his studies at West Chester University in the field of physics and engineering.
- **Patti Jane Reeves Scholarship** - We are grateful for the Reeves family who established the Patti Jane Reeves Scholarship in 2010 in memory of Patti Jane. Many of you may remember Patti Jane and her daughters Catherine and Elizabeth who were very involved in the Youth Ministry here. This scholarship is given to a student entering college as a freshman based on their involvement in the life of MPC and in the community, and their scholastic achievements.
- **Clara Burgess Scholarship** - We are also grateful for those who established the Clara Burgess Scholarship; a fund that was created in 1948 in memory of Clara Burgess, a member of the church since the late 1800s.
 - Hope Massey is receiving a Reeves Scholarship, Burgess Scholarship, and a McClanen Scholarship (listed above). Hope graduated from Pennsbury High School this year and will be a freshman at Ithaca College where she will study music education.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPEENTS (CONTINUED)

- **Helen Borden Scholarship** - We are grateful to the family of Helen Borden who established the Helen Borden Scholarship in memory of Helen in 2015. A long-time faithful member of MPC, I am sure many of you remember Helen.
 - Meg Oleynick continues her studies this fall as a sophomore at Penn State University Main Campus. Meg is enrolled in the Penn State Schreyer Honors College studying applied data science & health policy and administration.

We thank God for those whose generosity allowed for the establishment of these scholarships, and we thank God for our youth that mean so much to us and with whom we share these gift as the paths to their future.

MPC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

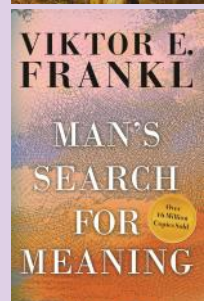
Submitted by Shellie Stoddard

The MPC Book Discussion Group will meet Monday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. starting October 20 and spacing the discussions out six weeks to give folks more time to read!

The first reading is *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamanta. A retelling of *Genesis 34* (also known as the rape of Dinah) from Dinah's perspective. Published in 1997, the book has been enjoyed by generations of women. Perhaps you have already read it?

The second meeting will be on December 1 to discuss *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl. Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's memoir has riveted generations of readers with its descriptions of life in Nazi death camps and its lessons for spiritual survival. Based on the author's own experience and the experiences of others he treated later in his practice, Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose.

The next reading selections will be firmed up following the October meeting. Other dates will be January 12, February 23, April 13, May 18. For more information, please contact Shellie Stoddard at stoddard.shellie@gmail.com.



PROGRESSION OF ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT



SCENES FROM RALLY DAY

The MPC program year starts every year on Rally Day. It is not only the first day of Sunday School for all ages, but a celebration to kick off the new year. The annual luncheon was served in Fellowship Hall due to the weather where there were also activities for the children. This year's highlight was a pie eating contest with participants of all ages competing to finish their pie first. Austin Massey was the winner.

Rally Day also served as the start of the MPC Stewardship Campaign. Members were invited to consider their financial contribution to the church but also where they may use their time and talents 'with a grateful heart' to serve the missions of MPC.



Anniversary Sunday Luncheon

With a grateful heart

Sunday, October 26

Fellowship Hall

following

Worship Service

Please RSVP by signing up in the Welcome Center
or by contacting the church office at
215-295-4191 or office@MPCusa.org.

All are welcome!

***Come, be a part of something great -
MPC Food and Fellowship All In One!***

SAVE THE DATES



October 19, 2025

**Anniversary Sunday
Luncheon**
October 26, 2025



All Saints Sunday
November 2, 2025



Advent Festival
November 23, 2025

Advent begins November 30, 2025!

Join us as we start our journey

Bethlehem Bound!

Be sure to check upcoming bulletins, emails, and social media for more details on these and other upcoming events at MPC. Visit mpcusa.org to signup for emails and where to find us on Facebook and Instagram.

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