



Wings of the Spirit

June—July 2025

Manassas Presbyterian Church, 8201 Ashton Avenue, Manassas VA 20109
www.mpc-va.org • office@mpc-va.org • 703.369.2058

SATURDAY,
JUNE 21
1:30 PM

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE

Service of Ordination

FOR

Rebekah Greniven

BUSH HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4916 FRANCONIA RD, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22310

JUNE 8

**SPECIAL OFFERING:
PENTECOST**

On Sunday, June 8, MPC will collect a special offering for youth programming both at MPC and for PCUSA youth initiatives around the world.



Fellowship Ministry Team

SUMMER POTLUCK

June 8 right after worship.

Hamburgers and hot dogs provided!





In these tumultuous times, I invite you to remember that we are all beloved children of God. We sit side by side in the pews, and yet we differ in our opinions and beliefs of many things. In a recent interfaith panel about how our faith can heal the nation, I spoke about how the strength of Presbyterians is our unity in diversity.

And yet, this can quickly become a weakness if we diverge away from our respect and care for one another. We follow Christ together loving, respecting and trusting one another. Trust is a commodity that has unfortunately become rare in society today. Do you trust that your fellow congregants are focused on Christ in their lives when their actions and politics differ from yours? Do you trust that they truly and deeply care about Manassas Presbyterian Church even if they show it in ways that you don't understand?

Because the world around us is in a stew of mistrust where vitriolic and adversarial interactions are becoming the norm, mistrust is creeping into our beloved community. Can we listen, respect and love one another even stronger now? I call us back to what our MPC mission says is central to us as a community:

We believe God calls us to reflect Christ's love and mercy by

- **WORSHIPING** as a community of diverse ages, backgrounds and cultures;
- **ENGAGING** the whole congregation in fellowship, learning, service, and outreach to the wider community;
- **SERVING** by caring for each other and reaching out to the world God loves, seeking to understand and respond to needs;
- **GROWING** as individuals, families, and community as we continue to discover who we are in Jesus Christ; and trying to follow his example.

On the first page of our church web page, we say: "We are a warm and welcoming congregation and we invite you to join us!"

We are part of the Presbyterian Church (USA), grounded in the Reformed tradition, yet the vast majority of us have come from other denominations and faith practices, drawn by lively worship, superb music, exceptional learning opportunities, a commitment to service, and joyful life. We are a diverse group sharing a common faith and we take great pride in our 150-year history even as we eagerly embrace God's unfolding future."

Where is this future taking us together? What unites us is Christ and that is stronger than anything that seeks to divide us - ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." - Mark 12:30-31

Session Highlights

If you check out the PCUSA website, you will find that our denomination is dedicated to being good stewards of God's beautiful earth: "The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) believes that caring for the earth is an integral part of our faith. Through education and advocacy efforts across various ministries, and the policymaking of the General Assembly, we support economic, environmental, and missional decisions that reflect our values."



The Session is currently doing its part to save some trees by reducing our use of paper. To that end, Pastor Laura is guiding us to save and share MPC documents using Google Drive. For some of us, this is a learning curve, but we plan to be up to speed by the end of 2025.



Do you have other ideas about how MPC can be good stewards of the earth? Share your ideas with an elder!





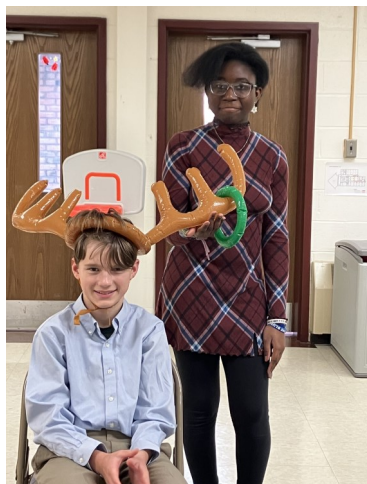
Worship & Music Notes

Deborah Panell

THANK YOU, CHOIRS!

As the close of another choir season comes, it is time to say "Thank you, good and faithful servant" to each of our singers and ringers. As they enjoy a well-deserved summer rest, here is a look back at some of our Music Ministry activities.





Many thanks to all singers, ringers, guest musicians, family members who made this season's children/youth and adult choirs successful!

SUMMER WORSHIP MUSICIANS

Many thanks to those who provide music for our summer worship services!

June

29 David Saylor, guitar

July

6 Jenny Katebini
13 Andi Zumbrum and Bill Lacy
20 Robin Miller
27 Andi Zumbrum and Ken Adams

August

3 David Saylor, guitar
10 Jennifer Ita, Ken Adams, and Bill Lacy
17 Robin Miller
24 Sue Munson
31 Sue Munson



Thank
you!



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

JUNE

- 1 Rebecca Shell
- 3 Stacey Burroughs
- 4 Aiden Helgason
- 5 Jackie Thamm
- Cecilia Allen
- 7 Matt Hostutler
- Ian Miller
- 8 Erin Orlando
- Todd Hodgdon
- Lucas Allen
- 11 Anthony Maiorano
- 12 Jim Kimberly
- Kerri Mohl
- Jeff Shriver
- Cole Thomsen
- 13 Sharon Rudolph
- 14 Al Ruhl
- 16 Edie Rutz
- 19 Hannah Dickson
- 20 Laurie Short
- 22 Bill Johnston
- Luther Njweipi
- 23 Mark Dzaba II
- 24 Lori Anne Shoemaker
- 25 Elizabeth Onyenobi
- 26 Gene Barndt
- Barb Stanton
- 27 Liam Fu
- 28 Dawsen Loesch
- 29 Julie Mahoney

(IF WE MISSED YOUR BIRTHDAY,
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE)

JUNE 15



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

JULY

- 1 Jan Short
- Jim Short
- 7 Sara Miller
- 8 Thea Hiller
- 9 Luther Nossett
- Pastor Laura
- 10 Susan Adams
- Pam Sackett
- 14 Sally Altman
- Sharon Maimon
- Sue Munson
- 16 Christian Brady
- 17 Zsazsa Markowitz
- Peter Baca
- Festus Olayinka
- 20 Malachi Attah
- (Mbuchi)
- 22 Mike Yelanjian
- Mirabel Mbuchi
- 23 Rachel Dickson
- 25 Chris Christy
- 26 Jeremy Marsh
- Elizabeth Storey
- 28 Bill Lacy
- 30 Roselind Lane
- Scott Allen

(IF WE MISSED YOUR BIRTHDAY,
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE)



Church Flowers

If you'd like to provide church flowers for worship, please use this website:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45ADA623A5FFC16-54102886-worship#/>

From The Loving Hands Prayer Shawl Ministry



This ministry is a yearlong group of dedicated creators of not only shawls but also hats and scarves. Here is Julie checking on the hat size. Looking good, Julie.

Please join us from 10 to 2 any Thursday this summer. There is always a task that needs hands to complete.

Bless you all,
Dana Renninger

FALL INOVA BLOOD DRIVE
MANASSAS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE
SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 23 2025
8:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW
IN-PERSON SIGN UP BEGIN AUGUST 17TH

MISSION
JULY 8-9
MANIA
AT MPC

High School and Middle School Youth
 Contact Pastor Rebekah for more information. Sign up now!

GOOD TIMES

LOCAL MISSION

Weekend Food for Kids (WFFK) - Year in Review

For the first time since its startup, the WFFK Mission Program packed for three elementary schools, Sudley, which was our first school, Westgate, which started one year later and then this year, our neighbor, Innovation became our third school. For the 2024-2025 school year we packed gallon bags of non-perishable food items for 150 students for the weekend beginning in October 2024 and ending June 2025. In eight separate setups and packings during the year, we as a Congregation packed 4950 bags (3400 last year). Additionally, we packed over 1800 snack bags (1200 last year) of cheddar fish to assist teachers with snacks for students in need. Each gallon bag contained 16 food items and a positive message favor. From a time perspective: For Pre-setup, six people setup tables and counted food items to set out on the tables for a total of 12 hours; for Setup, ten to twelve people opened boxes, placed the food items in larger containers, and broke down the boxes for recycling for a total of 16 hours; and for Packing, 30 to 40 people, including the youth, placed items in gallon food bags and placed them in larger containers for delivery to the schools and reset the rooms for a total of 12 hours to complete all the packings for the school year. Amazing work everyone! CONGRATULATIONS, and THANK YOU!

In addition to the Congregation, the WFFK Coordinating Team especially thanks:

Favors Program

(Over 5000 positive message favors were made by the congregation through the creative leadership and assistance of these members. This aspect of the program receives wonderful feedback from the kids who receive them—according to the teachers at each school, the kids can't wait to see what favor they're going to receive)

Pam Shriver
Julie Mahoney
Dana Renninger

Labeling Gallon Bags

(Over 4950 gallon bags were labeled with the appropriate week and month by Brad, Myra and Renee.)

Brad Bradley
Myra Stephenson
Renee Chagnon

Recycling

(Imagine 15 yellow WFFK collection containers filled with cardboard—that is how much cardboard was moved and recycled by these members. Several other people stepped in when Donna moved—the Bacas and the Langleys.)

Julie and Mike Mahoney
Donna Hoover
Bill and Barbara Johnston

Delivery

(495 containers were delivered to the schools throughout the year by these members.)

Dave Williams -- Sudley
Jim Crane -- Westgate
Gene Barndt -- Innovation

Presetup

(For about an hour for each packing, these folks setup tables, counted and moved boxes, cases and individual food items and placed them on the tables in preparation for packing.)

Gene Barndt
Carl Dattel
Sue Hakes
Ray Langley
Kathy Massie
Diane Roberts
Pam Sackett

The WFFK Logos created by Keagan Loesch and JoAnne Gutliph last year have been incorporated into all things Weekend Food for Kids. The Apple and the Circle of kids symbolize WFFK!

This Mission Program is truly a TEAM effort and could not be done without the help of each and every one of you, member or friend. You are “feeding his sheep!”

Look for an article in this newsletter regarding the 2nd Annual WFFK Crafting Days scheduled for July 19th and 26th and learn how you can help and have fun doing it! There will be other opportunities over the summer to help through donations of school supplies and more boxes of Rice Krispie bars and Fruit Gummies for the 2025-2026 school year. Keep your eyes peeled!

Opportunities to help with Pre-Setup, Packing, and Delivery nine times during the 2025-2026 school year:

- Would you be a member of a Pre-Setup Team that sets up the Fellowship Hall for packings; counts food items for each packing?
- Would you be a member of a Packing Team that monitors tables during packing; resets tables; and moves filled containers?
- Would you be a member of a Delivery Team that moves the containers to and from a vehicle and delivers them to one, two or three schools?

Each Team would be responsible for two to three setups, packings or deliveries in the school year. Contact Laura Kimberly via email at llskimberly54@gmail.com with any questions.



Feeding Friends is Now **SERVING FRIENDS**

As noted in the May newsletter, the Gainesville United Methodist Church (GUMC) clothing truck, affectionately known as Mildred, could no longer be repaired. GUMC has been looking to purchase another vehicle to continue their ministry. MPC helped to support this effort by donating the proceeds (\$1300) of the free will offering collected during our Asian Potluck that included entertainment from our very own Kelly Glyptis and Deborah Panell. Well, GUMC has found and purchased a truck to support their mission and with this purchase have changed the name of the mission from “Feeding Friends” to Serving Friends, which will soon be painted on the sides of the truck. In the meantime, GUMC has already put her into action (the truck’s new name is Getrude or “Gertie”)!

Serving Friends comes to the MPC parking lot every Tuesday from 3PM to 5PM to serve individuals in need. They provide clothes and other items, like blankets and toiletries, in addition to a bagged lunch and bottled water.

In addition to the monthly picnics, MPC can help GUMC by providing any of the following, either directly to the clothing truck or by putting the items in the identified basket in the Vestibule:

Needs for men and women-all sizes (no kids sizes please):

- ⇒ New or gently used T-shirts, jeans, leggings, hoodies, sweatshirts, athletic shorts or pants, sneakers/boots/sturdy shoes, backpacks, coats and jackets
- ⇒ New: underwear and sports bras
- ⇒ Blankets, sleeping bags, flashlights

Gatorade and Nutri-grain type bars are also welcomed items.

A huge THANK YOU to the entire congregation for supporting this important ministry of “helping the Least of the These”! The Mission Team continues to ask that you keep the MPC mission programs in your prayers.

Also, the formerly known as *Serving Our Neighbors* mobile unit is now in the church parking lot under Prince William County Social Services and is open on Thursdays from 3PM to 6PM to provide services to those individuals who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless.



Presbyterian Women

The Circles have completed their Bible Studies for the 2024-2025 season: Alpha-Agape and Covenant Renewal Circles studied the 2024-2025 PW/Horizons Bible Study, *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation* and Martha Circle studied Eugenia Gamble's latest Study, *Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit: Tending the Wild Garden*. To celebrate finishing their studies, the Circles will hold a celebration tea on Saturday, July 12th, more information to come.

Do you want to know more about the Circles, contact one of the Circle representatives: Martha Circle - Christy Tayler & Pam Shriver (Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 10AM); Alpha-Agape Circle - Lois Franco & Julie Mahoney (Meets the third Tuesday of each month at noon); or Covenant Renewal Circle - Rebecca Shell (Meets through Zoom, the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7PM).



High School Graduates

- **Rachel Dickson** is a Battlefield High School graduate. Rachel will attend Virginia Commonwealth University in the Fall and major in Public Relations.
- **Mya Hostutler** graduated from Colgan High School.
- **Corinne Orlando** graduated from Colgan High School and will attend Roanoke College in the fall. She plans to study Athletic Training/Sports Medicine. She will also be playing Division 3 Field Hockey for Roanoke College.
- **Jordan Ulrich** graduated from Brentsville District High School, where she earned a National Merit Rural and Small Town Award for her academic achievement. Jordan will attend James Madison University in the fall, majoring in Math.

College Graduates

- **Cooper Fitzgibbon** graduated Cum Laude with a BS in Anthropology from Washington State University in December, 2024. He is also a Letterman from Southern Methodist University for his two years on the Men's Swim Team there.
- **Linda Njweipi** received her masters in Project Management from Purdue University.
- **Emily Michelle MacKenzie** graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a Master of Arts in Art History.

**Save these
Dates**

Weekend Food for Kids Summer Crafting Sessions

Saturday, July 19th & Saturday, July 26th
9:30am - 11:30am

Color

Cut

Tie

Glue

Fold

Wrap

Paint

Assemble

Come join us at our second annual *Weekend Food for Kids Summer Crafting Sessions*. We will be making assorted favors that go home with students from Sudley, Innovation, and West Gate Elementary Schools in the monthly food bags.



If you think you are not crafty and don't have any skills that we could use ...

You Do!

We have jobs for everyone.

This is a multi-generational event.

Don't miss out on the fun this year.

Please invite friends and family to join in.
On Saturday, July 19th, stay after the session and join us for pizza and fellowship.

We look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Please contact
pshrivermpc@verizon.net

Early Learning Center

Susan Ferguson

And just like that, our 2024-2025 school year at the ELC is a rap! We celebrated our final week of school with the graduation of 29 rising kindergartners. We held last day of school parties, gave out lots of hugs and told our returning students not to grow TOO much.

While most of our staff are planning to return next year, Shannon Keller, our White Bear Teacher is leaving after 11 years here. She has been an advocate for our youngest learners for many years and she will be sorely missed!

Summer camp has begun, and we have a very robust camp this year. Almost 30 campers are joining us for a "Pirate Party" and "Ball Bonanza". Teachers are also in the process of cleaning their rooms and getting ready for a well-deserved summer break.

As we look toward next year, we will be busy preparing to add a class, and welcome what we hope will be an increase in our enrollment. We already have over 60 students enrolled for next fall, which is well ahead of where we were this time last year. Also, we are hiring! So, if you know of someone who wants to join the fun, have them contact Sue Ferguson at elc@mcp-va.org.



**CHURCH
CALENDAR**



To view the current MPC calendar, check the church website at mcp-va.org.

PRAYER
Requests

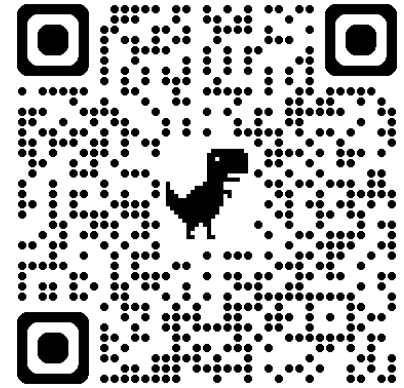
To submit a prayer request, please email it to prayers@mcp-va.org. To receive the prayer list, please email the church office at office@mcp-va.org

JUNE 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45am Adult Education Class 10:00am Worship with Communion 11:00am Portugal Choir Trip Meeting 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)	2 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes	3 10:00am Martha Circle 3:00pm Feeding Friends 7:00pm Board of Deacons	4 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes 11:30am BEACON Literacy Appreciation Reception 12:30pm Retired Men's Lunch (ROMEOs) 1:00pm Communications Ministry Team Mtg. 3:30pm Prayers for Peace 5:00pm Jerusalem Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Joyous Ringers	5 Church Office Closed - Staff Program Planning Meeting 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	6 Church Office Closed	7 Church Picnic - Setup 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
8 Pentecost Graduate Recognition Special Offering - Pentecost 8:45am Adult Education Class 10:00am Worship 11:15am Church Picnic 11:15am Food Bank Donation Collection 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)	9 7:00pm Family Ministry Team ZOOM	10 3:00pm Feeding Friends 7:00pm Mission Team Meeting via Zoom	11 3:00pm Admin./Finance Meeting 3:30pm Prayers for Peace 5:00pm Jerusalem Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Joyous Ringers Rehearsal	12 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team 4:00pm Personnel Team Ministry Meeting 7:00pm ELC Board Meeting	13 Church Office Closed	14 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
15 Father's Day Trinity Sunday 8:45am Adult Education Class 10:00am Worship with Stephen Minister Commissioning 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)	16 Church Office Closed - Holiday	17 3:00pm Feeding Friends 7:00pm Session Meeting	18 3:30pm Prayers for Peace 5:00pm Choir EOY Party	19 Juneteenth 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	20 Church Office Closed	21 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 10:00am Featherweight Friends of NoVA 1:00pm AP Rebekah's Ordination at Bush Hill Presbyterian Church
22 VBS Commissioning 10:00am Worship 11:15am Food Bank Donation Collection	23 9:15am Vacation Bible School	24 9:15am Vacation Bible School 3:00pm Feeding Friends 3:00pm Neighbor Picnic	25 9:15am Vacation Bible School 3:30pm Prayers for Peace Portugal Choir Rehearsal	26 9:15am Vacation Bible School 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	27 Church Office Closed 9:15am Vacation Bible School	28 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
29 Montreat MS and HS Trip Commissioning 10:00am Worship	30					

JULY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 3:00pm Feeding Friends	2 12:30pm Retired Men's Lunch (ROMEos)	3 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	4 Church Office Closed Independence Day	5 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
6 10:00am Worship 11:15am Food Bank Donation Collection	7	8 Mission Mania - Youth 3:00pm Feeding Friends 7:00pm Mission Team Meeting via Zoom	9 Mission Mania - Youth Pastor Laura's Birthday	10 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team 4:00pm Personnel Team Ministry Meeting	11 Church Office Closed	12 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 11:00am PW Celebration Tea
13 10:00am Worship with Communion	14 7:00pm Family Ministry Team ZOOM	15 3:00pm Feeding Friends	16 Middle School Montreat	17 Middle School Montreat 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	18 Church Office Closed Middle School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation	19 High School Montreat Middle School Montreat 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:30am Crafting for WFFK 10:00am Featherweight Friends of NoVa
20 High School Montreat Middle School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation 10:00am Worship 11:15am Food Bank Donation Collection	21 High School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation	22 High School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation 3:00pm Feeding Friends	23 High School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation	24 High School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	25 Church Office Closed High School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation	26 High School Montreat WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:30am Crafting for WFFK
27 WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation 10:00am Worship	28 WFFK Crafting Session and Reservation	29 School Supplies Packing Setup 3:00pm Feeding Friends 3:00pm Neighbor Picnic	30 School Supplies Packing Setup	31 School Supplies Packing Setup 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team 11:00am Staff Meeting 3:00pm Admin./Finance Meeting		



Scan the QR code to register.

Register Today for Vacation Bible School

**At Manassas Presbyterian Church
(8201 Ashton Avenue, Manassas)**

June 23-27, 2025

9 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

At Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School (VBS), we will enjoy an energizing summer camp adventure with God. Campers will discover how to put their trust in God in every situation. Interactive Bible lessons, crafts, music, science exploration, games and snacks will all work together to expand our discoveries each day. Let's go on an adventure!

VBS is for children 4 years old (by July 1, 2025, and toilet trained) through 5th grade.

There is a cost of \$20 per child.

Questions? Contact MaryBeth Yelanjian at vbs.director@mpc-va.org.