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SEPTEMBER 2025

Wings of the Spirit

February 2026

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

Annual **MEETING**

Sunday, February 8
During the Winter Potluck

Please Plan to Attend
Live-streaming Unavailable



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.

Sacred TURNING

**Celebrate Lent
with us at MPC
Sundays at 10 AM!**



Image: Power Play by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Soup Supper

February 18 at 6 PM

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 18 at 7 PM

Meet Your Deacon

February 22 at 11 AM

An Unlikely Lent Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 8:45 AM and
on Zoom at 6:30 PM

February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Tuesdays at 1 PM

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 23, 30

Weekend Food for Kids Packing

March 1 & 22 at 11 AM

Spring Festival

March 14 at 1 PM

Easter Egg Hunt

March 29 at 1 PM

Neighbor Picnic

March 31 at 3 PM

Lenten Labyrinth

March 29 - April 4 from
10 AM - 2 PM*

**Closed During Worship
April 2 from 10 AM - 7 PM*

Maundy Thursday Worship & Communion

April 2 at 7 PM

Easter Sunday Worship & Communion

April 5 at 10 AM
Flowering of the Cross



In our 2026 retreat, the session worked diligently to discern how we can dare greatly and serve abundantly to spread God's love and message as the Body of Christ in this place. Our goal was to work smarter not harder and spread out the tasks so more of us can use our gifts for the glory of God.

A key to this as with any change is communication and thoughtful implementation. If you hear about a change, and are unsure if something you 'have always done' is different now, do not fear, reach out to the same people you always have. Our session and staff are working diligently to make sure that we are all on the same page. The changes will be implemented slowly in pieces in a way that makes sense and allows us to pivot direction if something unanticipated occurs. Do you have a gift you think we could use but aren't sure who to talk to – email me at pastor@mpc-va.org!

Another goal was to have less meetings and share the load. Too often, the same people work, and work, and work and WORK – until they are burned out! The session is focusing on a few core teams, several groups and strategy elders. I suspect that if you are asked to be part of a group that meets twice a year or quarterly, that is totally different from being on a ministry team with monthly meetings.

Come to the annual congregational meeting to learn more, and stay tuned as we roll out our new improved way of serving God together. Worship will happen! Service will happen! God's name will be praised! Yes, a few changes are coming – you may not even notice!

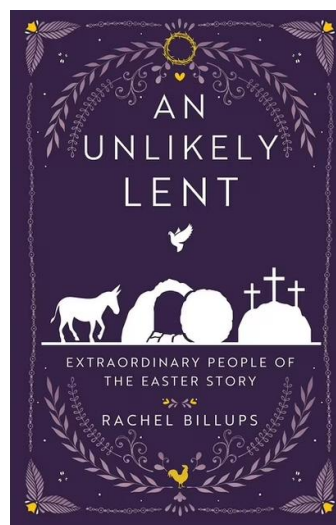
Shalom,
Pastor Laura

**2026 Lent Adult
Bible Study**

Sundays 8:45 AM (Rm. 5)
Sundays 6:30 PM (Zoom)

Tuesdays 1 PM (Rm. 5)

Book recommended, not required - \$15
available in the Narthex.



From the Clerk of Session

The Session started 2026 with a two-day retreat at Massanetta Springs, a Presbyterian Church USA conference center located in Rockingham County, Virginia. We were surrounded by the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley and settled in a cozy lodge. Being together in this quiet setting gave us time to get to know each other, contemplate the activities of our congregation, and dream about the future. On Sunday we had a special time of worship and prayer.

Refreshed and inspired, we are ready for an exciting year ahead.

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Open	Jim Chagnon	Drew Marsh
Ray Langley	Carl Dattel	JoAnne Gutliph
Kathy Massie	Pat Hodgdon	Julie Mahoney
Dave Williams	Laura Kimberly	Luther Nossett





Worship & Music Notes

Deborah Panell

Thank you from Portugal!



Hello, Deborah,

Thank so much for all. May the Lord reward you and your community.

Thank you so much for all, our principal music teacher (on the day of your visit she wasn't here) is amazed, and has committed to a project to make a presentation with the chimes at the end-of-year party, with children and elders in July.

It's wonderful.

God bless you and thank you so much.

Pedro

Pedro Paulo Duarte - Psicólogo
Centro Social Paroquial
São Vicente de Paulo
Lisboa Portugal

Thank you to our Portugal travelers who had a dream for these children and with the help of MPC members turned their dream into a reality.

-Deborah

The Manassas Chorale
Voices United Festival Choir

"Gathered As One"

Joel Raney, conductor

Saturday March 21 - 7:30 PM
Hylton Performing Arts Center

Members of MPC's Music Ministry will be performing along with singers from the NOVA area for this popular, annual concert.

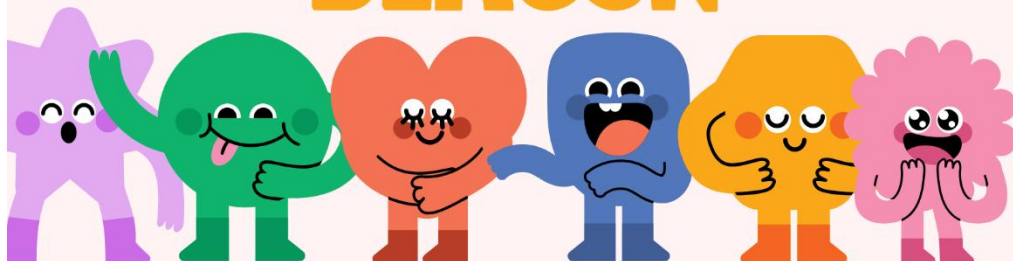
The first half of the concert will be performed by the Manassas Chorale and the second half will feature the ecumenical Voices United Choir. Both choirs will be accompanied by orchestra and piano and combine for several selections.

Invite a friend to share in this ecumenical choral experience!

Tickets available via the Hylton Center Box Office www.hyltoncenter.org

FEBRUARY 22 * 11 AM * FELLOWSHIP HALL

Meet Your
DEACON



Presbyterian Women Retreat

Hope All the Way Down

Join us April 18 from 9 to 12:30 for a Women's Retreat at MPC featuring speaker The Reverend MaryAnn McKibben Dana



The Reverend MaryAnn McKibben Dana is a writer, pastor, speaker, and ministry coach living in Reston VA. She is author of four books, *Better Than Normal* (2026); *Hope: A User's Manual*; *God, Improv, and the Art of Living*; and *Sabbath in the Suburbs*. She writes a weekly newsletter for thousands of subscribers called [The Blue Room](#), and her writing has also appeared in multiple outlets including TIME.com and The Washington Post. She was featured on PBS's Religion and Ethics Newsweekly for her work on Sabbath and was recognized by the Presbyterian Writers Guild with the 2015-2016 David Steele Distinguished Writer Award. MaryAnn currently serves as associate pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Herndon, VA. She is a graduate of Rice University in Houston, Texas and received her M.Div. from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. She is a mother of three, an aspiring gardener, and an occasional ultramarathoner.

SPECIAL OFFERING

MPC Congregational Ministry for Children and Youth

Sunday, February 8

Your gift supports scholarships, gatherings, and learning opportunities that nurture faith, fellowship, and Christian living in MPC's children and youth.





Weekend Food for Kids (WFFK) Mission Program Update

Weekend Food for Kids (WFFK) Mission Program Update

THANK YOU to all in the congregation and beyond who helped to make 2025 - 2026 WFFK packings happen! 1,280 gallon bags of nonperishable food items were packed on January 4th and February 1st for the three elementary schools we support. Additionally, during the February 1st packing we packed 737 cheddar fish snack bags to help support the teachers at Sudley, Westgate and Innovation. We have more to do in 2026, so mark your calendars! Here are the remaining Setup and Packing dates for the 2025-2026 School Year:

Setup (Saturday) and Packing (Sunday) Dates

Setup: February 28;	Packing: March 1	(4 weeks)
Setup: March 21;	Packing: March 22	(4 weeks)
Setup: May 2;	Packing: May 3	(4 weeks)
Setup: May 30;	Packing: May 31	(2 weeks)



Other ways the congregation can support this program:

- BRING BOXES OF RICE KRISPIE BARS (60 or 40 bars) and
- BRING FRUIT GUMMIE SNACKS (40 or 90 packages-Welches or Motts) Place them in the big yellow bin in the Vestibule
- Give financially, noting "WFFK-Food" on your donation.



We continue to be amazed by your support for this program. Thank you for sharing Christ's love!

Mission Outreach

Food Collection Dates

February 1 and 15

Serving Neighbors

with Gainesville UMC at MPC
Tuesdays at 3:00pm

Neighbor Picnic Feb. 24

WFFK



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 18
7 PM
All Are Welcome



SOUP SUPPER

FEBRUARY 18
FROM 6 – 6:45 PM.

SIGN-UP SHEETS ON THE WORSHIP BULLETIN
BOARD.



Early Learning Center

We are excited to share that Julie Mahoney is filling in as our Interim Director at the Early Learning Center. With her experience both as a teacher and as an employee of the preschool doing music with the children, MPC is blessed to have Julie step into this role for the remainder of the school year.

Know someone who would be a good director for this special mission of the church? Contact JoAnne Gutliph, Luther Nossett or Kathy Massie for information on how to apply. We look forward to discerning who God is calling to lead this ministry into the future.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2	Sadie Bard
2	Yvonne Ampomah
3	Janice Moore
4	Bill Stuart
6	Nancy Bentrem
6	John Papp
6	Matt Bohn
9	Noreen McCann
9	Marko Prokopchuk
11	Jerry Zumbrum
13	Steve Honey
14	Sue Hakes
16	Donna Manchee
17	Lois Franco
17	Scott Moore
20	Stacy Zigah
20	Pearl Dzaba
21	Elaine Sours
21	Lynn Rickard
21	Laurel Ulrich
22	Ray Langley
24	Sarah-Arlana Dzaba
25	Mandy Weaver



February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Food Bank Donation Collection</i> 8:45am Adult Education Class 10:00am Worship with Communion 11:15am WFFK Packing 6:30pm Adult Bible Study via Zoom	2 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes	3 10:00am Martha Circle 3:00pm Serving Friends 7:00pm Board of Deacons	4 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes 9:30am ELC PTO Meeting 12:30pm Retired Men's Lunch (ROMEOS) 5:00pm Jerusalem Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Joyous Ringers Rehearsal	5 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	6 Church Office Closed 10:00am ELC Parent-Teacher Conferences	7 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
8 8:45am Adult Education Class 10:00am Worship 11:00am Annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck 6:30pm Adult Bible Study via Zoom	9 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes 7:00pm Family Ministry Team ZOOM	10 11:15am ELC Chapel 3:00pm Serving Friends 7:00pm Mission Team Meeting via Zoom	11 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes 11:15am ELC Chapel 3:00pm Admin./Finance Ministry Team 5:00pm Jerusalem Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Joyous Ringers Rehearsal	12 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team 4:00pm Personnel Team Ministry Meeting	13 Church Office Closed	14 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
15 Transfiguration Sunday <i>Food Bank Donation Collection</i> 8:45am Adult Education Class 10:00am Worship 11:30am Family Ministries and Choir Programs for Children/Youth with Lunch 6:30pm Adult Bible Study via Zoom	16 Presidents' Day Office Closed	17 12:00pm Alpha-Agape Circle 3:00pm Serving Friends 6:00pm Session Meeting	18 Ash Wednesday 5:00pm Jerusalem Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	19 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	20 Church Office Closed 10:00am ELC PTO Winter Event	21 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
22 8:45am Lent Study 10:00am Worship 11:00am Meet Your Deacon 11:30am Family Ministries and Choir Programs for Children/Youth with Lunch 6:30pm Lent Study via Zoom	23 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes	24 3:00pm Neighbor Picnic 1:00 Lent Study 3:00pm Serving Friends 7:00pm Covenant Renewal Circle	25 9:30am BEACON ELL Classes 5:00pm Jerusalem Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Joyous Ringers Rehearsal	26 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Team	27 Church Office Closed	28 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:30am WFFK set-up