

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2025



K-KAMP 2025

Sixty-one kids and leaders just wrapped up an incredible week at K-Kamp, our elementary overnight camp at Montgomery Conference Center. This summer marked 14 years of this beloved experience. During the week of June 8th-12th, campers worshipped God, shot arrows, tubed behind boats, tie-dyed pillow cases, conquered rock walls, shared prayers, and forged friendships that will last a lifetime.

We had an amazing week growing in faith together – thank you MPC for your support of kids and families!!

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS



Donate your old t-shirts for a great cause!

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During July we will meet as one church family to worship together at 10:00am.

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In this newsletter you will find: upcoming events, a financial update, an events recap & more. Keep reading!

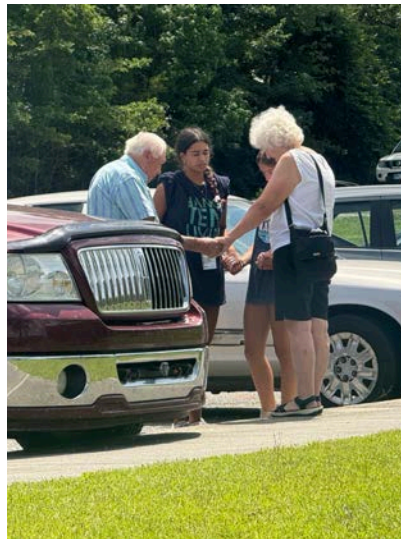
HS Ministry: GA Mission Trip



Our High School Ministry recently returned from an incredible mission camp in Mt. Vernon, Georgia! A team of 25 students and leaders joined other churches for worship and service at a local community and senior center.

The team primarily focused on cleaning up the exterior of the property. Their tasks included spreading mulch, mowing the lawn, moving rocks, trimming bushes, pulling weeds and picking up trash, among other activities.

In addition, some members of the team assisted with grocery deliveries to seniors, where students prayed for each individual and listened to powerful stories of hardship and hope. It was a wonderful week of faith in action!



June at MPC

God is moving in incredible ways this summer at Mandarin Presbyterian Church, especially in our Next Gen Ministry, which thrives thanks to the support of our congregation. Thank you for pouring into our next generation!

Summer at a Glance at MPC:

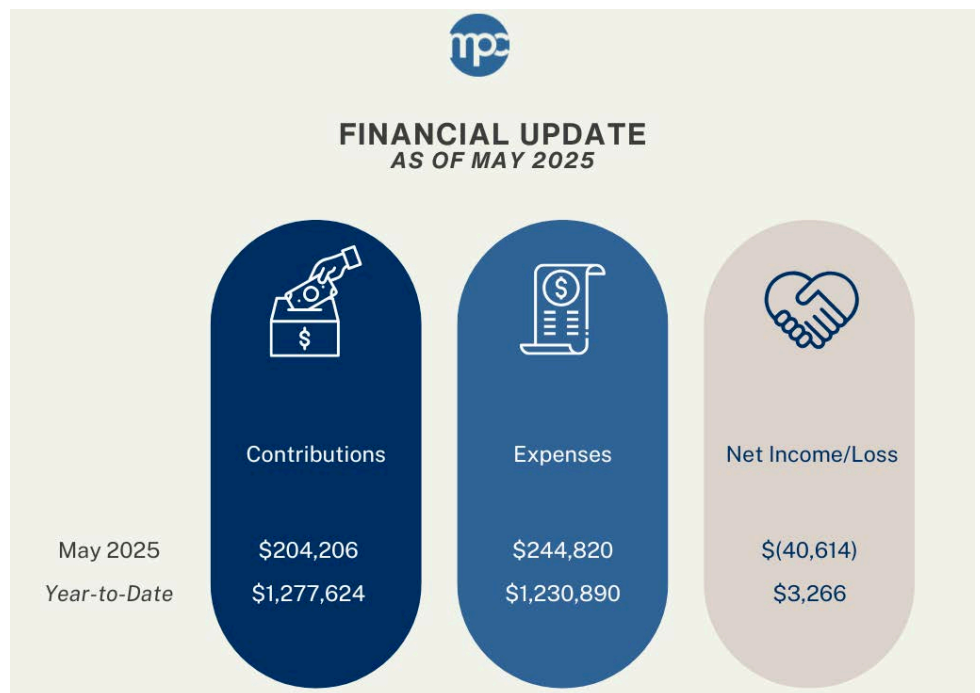
- Our High School Ministry gathers weekly for Tuesday Hangout Bible Study and has launched into an incredible summer of service with their first mission trip (page 2), plus exciting adventures like River Day in Fruit Cove and a trip to Volcano Bay in Orlando.
- The Middle School Ministry gathers weekly for Summer Nights to grow spiritually and have fun. They also have various outings such as trips to Ichetucknee River and Summer Waves.
- We hosted our 14th year of K-Kamp for elementary-aged kids to experience faith and fun.
- SCAMP welcomed more than 400 kids from Pre-K through 5th grade for an amazing week of learning about Jesus through fun activities and faith-filled adventures.
- We celebrated Carla Mayo's 20th year at MPC with a surprise event!
- Our J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth) group gathered for a coastal brunch.
- A Men's Ministry lunch with Brian Paul as the featured speaker, and more.

Thank you all for your participation and support! It's what makes MPC a special place to worship, connect and serve!

Looking to find your place at MPC? We're here to help! Stop by one of our welcome desks on Sunday mornings or email our connections coordinator, Renata, at rkamp@mandarinpres.com.



Give online: mandarinpres.com/give.



Recurring donations provide the most reliable support for our ministries. They're easy to set up and help us plan effectively. Need assistance? Contact Anne Petrone: (904) 680-9944.

Thank you for your generous support!!

Daily Bread Food Pantry



Guest visitations to our Daily Bread Food Pantry and Clothes Closet continue at a steady pace. We at MPC are truly blessed to be a blessing to those in our community that need food and clothing assistance!

Total Guests
2025
through June 20th

Food	Clothing
1392	510

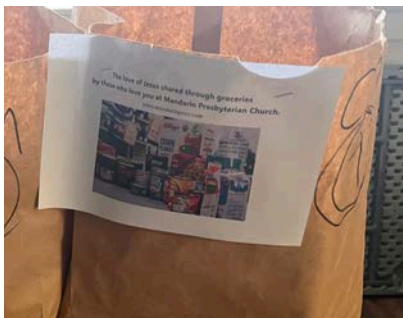


While our Pantry enjoys a strong roster of passionate volunteers, we are always happy to make room for more. If you are interested in this ministry, please reach out to Renata Kamp, MPC's Connections Coordinator, at rkamp@mandarinpres.com.

School Supply Drive

We are collecting school supplies for students of all ages for our Daily Bread Food Pantry until July 15th to help local students start the year prepared. Needed items include notebooks, notebook paper (college and wide ruled), markers, composition notebooks, 2-pocket subject folders, subject notebooks, #2 pencils, colored pencils, highlighters, crayons, glue sticks, and backpacks. Please drop off donations in the Food Pantry bins located on both campuses. Thank you!

Nourishing Hope, One Bag at a Time



Our Food Pantry delivers 2 bags of groceries every month to each of the 13 Homes for Hope transitional houses that serve as lifelines for people leaving recovery programs. On June 3rd, heavy rains moved our usual house-to-house deliveries indoors, but the support continued (pictured above). These homes fill a critical gap during the most dangerous time in recovery: the leap from structured treatment to independent living. In this vulnerable window, our monthly grocery deliveries provide more than food, they're a tangible reminder that this community cares about each person's journey toward lasting freedom and independence. Thank you, MPC, for your faithful partnership in supporting recovery and transformation in our community.

J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth)



J.O.Y. July Luncheon
Thursday, July 10
11:30am
Fellowship Hall

Join us for the July J.O.Y. luncheon for a coastal beach brunch.

Cost is \$7.00 per person
Please RSVP by July 8th
Contact us at 904-680-9944

MPC Men's Luncheon

The MPC Men's Fellowship Luncheon is held the second and fourth Wednesday of every month. We meet in the Fellowship Hall from noon until 1:15pm. We strive to have a guest speaker at one of the monthly meetings and have a discussion based on the previous Sunday's sermon at alternate meetings.

We have a lunch of sub sandwiches with the fixings on the side, along with potato salad, chips, drinks and dessert. The cost of lunch is \$8.00.

All men of our church and guests are invited to join us. Please consider joining us for fellowship, prayer, interesting guest speakers and discussion.

Please contact Randy Hester at 904-859-4996/hesterandy632@gmail.com or Wayne Gaff at 904-318-0002/w.gaff@comcast.net with any questions.

Great Banquet



Did you know that July 4th is Independence Day? Of course, you did! But did you know that July 4th is also noteworthy for something else? July 4th is 111 days from the start of the first of Two Great Banquet weekends: Oct 23-26 (Women's) and Nov. 6-9 (Men's). Sign up now, there's no time to lose! Learn more about the Great Banquet at nefgb.com.

Next Gen Ministry



Our MPC College Connect is back this summer for all rising college freshmen through seniors. If you know someone who might be interested, please share this information! Come hang out, grow in community and stay rooted in your faith this summer. For more details, visit mandarinpres.com/college.



Join us on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm in the "couch room" at the Office Campus. We will gather for dinner, community, Bible study and prayer. This is a group for those aged 22-30, looking to connect and navigate life's transitions together. For more details, visit mandarinpres.com/youngadults.



Our middle school and high ministries have lots of fun activities and adventures this summer!

Check out the summer calendars:
MS: mandarinpres.com/msevents
HS: mandarinpres.com/hsevents

Printed copies are available at both our Office and Church Campuses.



Have the summer of a lifetime close to home! MPC is hosting Winshape Camp again this year from July 14-18. Campers completing grades K-5th cultivate their God-given skills and talents in a mix of indoor and outdoor moments, physical activity and creative play. Invite friends and register at mandarinpres.com/kidsevents.

Special Notices

July Worship



We will be having one worship service in July at 10:00am. As we have done in previous summers, we will come together as one church family to worship. The service will incorporate elements from both the traditional and contemporary services. Stick around afterward for some sweet, cold summer treats to beat the heat!



Join us on July 20th for a special youth-led service and hear from the next generation of MPC leaders as they share their experiences from recent mission trips.

MPP



What a joyful four weeks we've had at Mandarin Presbyterian Preschool Summer Camp! From yoga to creative crafts to silly songs and playground adventures, our campers filled each day with love, laughter and friendship. The classrooms and playground were buzzing with excitement as our little ones explored fun weekly themes and made lasting summer memories. We'll have one more week of camp at the end of July for our preschool friends.

As we look ahead, we're already getting excited for the upcoming school year. There are still a few openings available for the fall. If you or someone you know is interested, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact Lee Samuels at 904-680-6406 or lsamuels@mandarinpres.com for more information or to schedule a tour.

We're so grateful for the continued support of our church family. Here's to a joyful finish to the summer and a blessed year ahead!

Join Us!

Sign Up Today!



Ladies, mark your calendars for a delightful evening! Join us for our 'Summer Soiree' on Wednesday, July 30th, from 7 to 8:30pm at our Office Campus in the Fellowship Hall.

It will be a delightful evening of desserts, fellowship, and fun with friends both old and new! We're thrilled to welcome our guest speaker, Lisa Kiral, from Rethreaded, a wonderful Jacksonville nonprofit creating new beginnings for women escaping trafficking through meaningful employment. Their artisans create unique scarves, suede jewelry and handcrafted home goods that make perfect gifts while supporting a meaningful cause. Come ready to shop at the Rethreaded Pop-Up store!

Want to make a difference? Bring along any t-shirts you can spare (any condition, as long as they're 100% cotton or 50/50 blend) - your donation helps transform lives! See more details in the next column.

The event cost is \$5. Save your spot at mandarinpres.com/soiree.

Your Old T-Shirt = A New Beginning



We are collecting t-shirts for Rethreaded, an organization restoring choice for survivors of human trafficking through business. Rethreaded turns t-shirt donations into handcrafted products, such as their signature Grace Scarves and premium industrial cleaning rags that outperform traditional options.

What we need: 100% cotton or 50/50 blend t-shirts in any condition.

What happens next: Survivors receive job training and steady employment in Rethreaded's production and operations departments. Your donation becomes their pathway to independence and choice.

The impact: There is zero waste sent to landfills. 100% of every shirt will be utilized. Most importantly, survivors will gain the dignity of meaningful work through Rethreaded's mission.

Donations will be accepted at both campuses by July 30th - thank you!

June Events Recap



More pictures from K-Kamp and the Georgia Mission Trip!



We marked Carla Mayo's 20th anniversary at MPC on June 18th with a surprise celebration! Carla has contributed her many God-given gifts in various capacities over the years and MPC wouldn't be the same without her. Thank you Carla!

Just a note from the Session: June Session Update



(Left to right)

Front Row: Curt Etheridge, Tami Shepler, Rev. Jenn Arnold, Danielle Caplin, Rev. Dr. Andrew Stepp

Middle Row: Frank Talbot, Carol Yelinek, Rosa Heard, Kim Harris, Penny Kievet, Chris Davis

Back Row: Rev. Jeff Arnold, Matt Balanky, Hawley Smith III, Bob Gillander

Looking ahead to fall, our next sermon series is "Jesus Changes Everything" and MPC will host church classes for discipleship. Starting in September, we will be learning about Evangelism and Spiritual Gifts. Do you find it difficult to tell others about Jesus? Are you worried you won't know what to say? Do you know your Spiritual Gift(s) given to you by God? This 5-week class is where you want to be to answer these questions and many others. In October, we will start sermon-based small groups that will offer time to discuss the previous Sunday message and dig a little deeper into His Word. More details for fall happenings will be announced soon.

Skipping ahead to Spring, Cover to Cover will return in 2026. If you missed it the first time or want to read the Bible cover to cover again, then this time is for you.

Our Vision of **More People Moving Toward Jesus** and our Core Values drive all that we do:

- Jesus First
- Every Generation
- Deep-Spirited Community
- Courageous Faith
- Whole-Life Generosity

The closer we get to God, the harder Satan works to drag us back into his army. Ephesians 6:10-20 reminds us that we can be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. He gives us His armor so that we can take a stand against the devil's schemes. "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have everything, to stand." (verse 13) "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." (verse 18).



Wow! Our Next Gen Ministries has hit the ground running this summer. Our elementary students experienced fun and fellowship at K-Kamp, while our high school students have been on fire for service, completing a mission camp trip to Georgia, heading to Costa Rica the first week of July, and preparing for Jamaica later in July. More than 400 preschool and elementary children from across our community joined SCAMP to learn about Jesus. Our middle school students are preparing for Southwind, where they will have time to be still and know that He is God. We're also thrilled to host WinShape Camp for the third year in a row this month, serving K-5th graders from MPC and our community. God is moving in mighty ways through our next generation!

This summer, we continue our "Ten" sermon series on the 10 Commandments. Have you memorized them?

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