



From the Pastors:

Did you know that the empire state building is 2,540 bananas high? This was a fun fact we learned at our middle school retreat this last weekend. Sunday morning after three days filled with worship, messy games, small group times, water activities, pizza, and little sleep – three buses pulled up to the courtyard at the exact time the doors swung open and our second service was ending. As 80 middle schoolers and tired leaders poured off buses, even more worshippers poured out doors. Showered worshippers welcomed less clean campers and it was a beautiful picture of the church. This is who we are!

Life in community is good. In fact, it's the life God has designed us to live. Hebrews 10: 24-25 says, "Consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the day approaching."

We invite you this month to join us in worship for a sermon series on hospitality. Better yet, join us and bring a neighbor or friend! We will look at Biblical examples of hospitality and consider what it means to live like Jesus when it comes to welcoming and doing life together. There may even be something surprising in the sanctuary this week! Can't wait to see you there!

Jenn and Jeff Arnold

Week 1: Hospitality: More than a Handshake

Week 2: Hospitality: Making Space in Busy Lives

Week 3: Hospitality: Widening the Table

Week 4: Hospitality: Aggressive Hospitality and Other Things

GREETINGS FROM YOUR PNC - We'd like to share an update on the search process. Over the past months we have identified and spoken with many wonderful candidates who have shown interest in our senior pastor position. As we reviewed each candidate, we prayerfully considered their qualifications and experience in light of the needs and mission of our church. We are grateful for the time and hearts that these pastors shared with us. Through this process, we have narrowed our list to a preferred candidate and are advancing this candidate through the process. We are excited about the possibilities and ask that you join us in prayer for this candidate and the process.

As we all know by now, the search process takes time, and we are grateful for your patience and prayers. We firmly believe in and trust God's plan for our church and the outcome of our search. Please continue to support our church and search in prayer. God knows MPC and our future far better than we do, and we are dependent on His guidance and timing.

And most importantly, thanks to our staff and pastors for leading so well in this transitional season.

Grace and peace,
Your PNC

HELLO FROM THE SESSION!



Since we last wrote in March, much has happened in April and there is a sense of excitement as we experience God's moving in our midst. This past month we heard the exciting update from the PNC that they have narrowed their list to a preferred candidate and are advancing this candidate through the process. We share their excitement about the possibilities and ask that you join us in prayer for this candidate and the process. It has been announced that Wendy Greer will be joining MPC as the new Children's Director. Wendy comes with over 12 years of Kids Min experience in both large and small church settings. She and her husband, Wes, will be with us on May 15th for everyone to meet and

welcome them to our church family.

As mentioned last month, Anne Petrone has been training with Cindy Bean to step into the role of handling MPC's accounting functions. We thank Cindy for her many faithful years of service to MPC as she moves to the next phase of her career. Thanks also goes to Mark Brown, who officially handed the baton as Facilities Manager to Brad Cheek.

The month of April was full of meaningful opportunities to hear God speak to us and to express our hearts to God. There was the Prayer Walk on April 9th covering both campuses in prayer, the Maundy Thursday service that was a deeply moving experience, and the celebration of Easter – The Best Day of the Year! There were over 1,200 in attendance at the three services (Sunrise, 9AM & 10:30AM).

We hope that all who attended the Palm Sunday Picnic on the River enjoyed the great weather, food, fun, games, and fellowship at that wonderful space on our campuses. The month of April gave us much to be excited about.

We look forward with excitement to the new sermon series coming in May on Hospitality, led by Jeff and Jenn Arnold.

We trust you share our enthusiasm for all that God has prepared for MPC, and are thankful for your prayers and continued support as we listen to follow God's direction for our community of faith. The Session meets next on May 23, 2022.

Craig Henderson, Clerk
craighenderson@gmail.com
904-412-6804

Matt Balanky
mattbalanky@hotmail.com
912-220-6331

Danielle Caplin
danielle.ricky@gmail.com
904-710-7447

Chris Davis
Cpdavis1180@gmail.com
904-382-0771

Curt Etheridge
curtetheridge@bellsouth.net
904-699-3971

Zan Frick
zfrick@comcast.net
904-349-0535

Wayne Gaff
w.gaff@comcast.net
904-318-0002

Bob Graumann
rjgraumann@gmail.com
860-573-5195

Rosa Heard
mheard@bellsouth.net
904-655-7788

Joan Pooley
jcpooley@comcast.net
904-318-2139

Bobby Schrader, Assoc.Clerk
BobbyandMargaret@aol.com
904-476-3024

Tami Shepler
tamishepler@gmail.com
904-233-5823

NEXT GEN MINISTRY



NEW CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR! - We are excited to introduce Wendy Greer and her husband, Wes! They will be moving here from Charleston, South Carolina and starting at MPC Sunday, May 15th. Wendy has over 12 years of kids min experience and is passionate about Jesus and growing the faith of kids and families. Wes is a book-aholic and loves to read historical fiction as well as biographies of many kinds. Wendy loves tennis, hiking, and most outdoor activities. They are both thrilled about coming to Florida with their two dachshunds and being at MPC. On SUNDAY, MAY 15th we will have a greeting time between our services to welcome them to MPC!

KIDS MIN:

- K-Kamp – June 12th - 15th for 1st - 5th grades. Register now on our website.
- SCAMP – July 11th - 15th for VPK - 5th grades. Register for wait list now on our website.
- We still need SCAMP volunteers! Click [here](#) to sign up.

YOUTH MIN:

Summer calendars are coming soon and will be posted on our events pages - mandarinpres.com/msevents and mandarinpres.com/hsevents. Stay tuned!

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Mulch 4 Missions fundraiser! We are so grateful. Our mission teams will be going to Milligan, Tennessee in June and Costa Rica in July.

MPC ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP - Mandarin Presbyterian has an Endowed Scholarship for graduating seniors planning to begin college in the summer or fall, who are members of MPC. Application instructions and requirements are on the website, mandarinpres.com/scholarship and the deadline for submission is May 2nd. Applications must include all the required information and none will be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on May 2nd.

PRESCHOOL:

Summer will be here before we know it! The Preschool has opened registration for our fabulous Summer Fun program to 3, 4, and 5 year olds regardless of whether your child attends MPP.

When: Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Thursdays from 9:00am to 12:00 noon.

Cost: \$60/week. You may sign up for as many or as few sessions as you like.

Lunch Bunch available: T/W/Th from 12:00-3:00pm for an additional \$15/afternoon.

Session dates and themes:

1. May 31st - June 2nd Encanto
2. June 7th – 9th Ahoy Maties (Pirate)
3. June 14th – 16th Super Duper Super Heroes
4. June 21st – 23rd Wild, Wild West
5. June 28th – 30th Under the Sea

If you have a preschool age child and are interested in registering, please call 680-6406 for further information.

The Registration form can be obtained one of 2 ways:

- Email mhenderson@mandarinpres.com to request a digital copy
- Stop by our Preschool office to pick up a hard copy

PRELIMINARY APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT:

	<u>APRIL</u> 4/1/22-4/30/22	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u> 1/1/22 – 4/30/22
Contributions	\$149,293	\$701,113
Expenses	\$130,344	\$562,507
Net Income/Loss	\$18,949	\$138,606

Thank you for your faithful giving to MPC!

MPC MEN'S LUNCHEON: Meets in the Fellowship Hall the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at noon. We usually have a guest speaker once a month and on the alternate Wednesdays we have a discussion about the previous Sunday's sermon and enjoy the fellowship. Lunch is brought in (sandwiches from Publix with sides, drinks and dessert). Cost is \$7.00. Please contact Randy Hester for more information. Phone 904-859-4996 or email plsalesco@aol.com.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Ladies Coffee Catch-Up on May 13th, 9:15-10:30am. Please join us for casual coffee and catch up with old and new friends! All ladies welcome, head over to the MPC website for event details and RSVP.

J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth) It's KENTUCKY DERBY TIME! Hats & Horses, Bowties & more...Here's a little glimpse of what's gonna be in store: Prizes for best hat, most colorful bowtie, winner of our Derby race and more. Lunch and desserts from Derby traditions, including Derby Pie & Kentucky Butter Cake! Join us on Thursday, May 12th at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$7.00 per person and RSVP's are due before Tuesday, May 10th by calling the church office at 680-9944. Riders up...hope to see everyone there!

MPC DAILY BREAD FOOD PANTRY - We'd like to provide a quick update on the MPC Daily Bread Food Pantry. Over 500 households have been served during the first quarter of this year, the most we've had visit us during the first quarter...ever!! The Pantry volunteers would like to thank you, thank you, thank you for all of your support, donations and prayers that help provide a well rounded set of groceries to the surrounding community for going on 9 years. Donations of canned or prepackaged goods are always welcome. And, our Clothes Closet continues to provide the opportunity for guests to select from a wide variety of clothing options. Your donations of gently worn outerwear help provide clothing for infants through adult aged guests. Very truly, this is a ministry that demonstrates how our Church continues to be blessed to be a blessing to those in need. **ALSO...**The Mandarin Rotary Club is sponsoring a Virtual Silent Auction for the benefit of the our Daily Bread Food Pantry The online auction will be held from April 23rd through May 7th and will include more than 100 items, including golf outings and equipment, dining opportunities, hunting adventures, sightseeing in a private airplane, and much more! To participate, go to mandarinrotary.home.qtego.net/ where you can view all of the items in the auction and bid on those that interest you.

GREAT BANQUET - THANK YOU doesn't begin to capture the gratitude and appreciation to MPC for once again hosting and welcoming the Great Banquet weekends March 31-April 3, and April 21-24. You all have been SO generous and willing to sacrifice for the teams, guests, and volunteers. You are God's Gift of Grace to the Great Banquet community! We are also indebted to those who were involved or contributed their time and energy in any way to making the Great Banquet weekends so special and successful. Hats off, hands clapping, cheers going out for you all! *Stay tuned for the announcement of the GB weekend dates for Fall 2022.*

TABLE FOR 8 - Table for 8 is a great way to get to meet new people at MPC. We will form groups of 8 people who meet monthly to share a meal and get to know one another. Someone will host the meal and provide the main course. The others will bring a side, a salad, dessert, etc. Hosting will be shared within the group. You can even co-host with someone. Every 3 months, you'll have a chance to switch to another Table for 8 dinner group and meet even more people! What a fun way to connect with each other! Visit mandarinpres.com/tablefor8 for more details.

MILITARY PRAYER LIST - We are currently updating our Military Prayer List. Please email apetrone@mandarinpres.com to add a name to this list.

In the spirit of thoughtfulness, please refrain from stronger perfumes and colognes when coming to church. Someone around you may be sensitive or allergic. Thank you!

MPC ONLINE MEDIA TOOLS

RIGHTNOW MEDIA - RightNow Media is like the Netflix of Christian Bible Studies. Through MPC, you can sign up to have access to thousands of Bible study videos and movies for all ages. Email Carla in the church office, cmayo@mandarinpres.com. She will provide your email to RightNow Media and you will be sent an invitation to sign up. There is no cost for this service.

Follow MPC on our social media channels:



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