

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



August 2023



Regular Service Times Return

As summer is winding down and families are preparing to return to school schedules and related activities, MPC will be returning to our regular Sunday morning service times beginning August 6th. We look forward to seeing everyone!

Traditional Service 9am
Contemporary 10:30am

GLORY
TO GOD

In This Issue

S.C.A.M.P

That's a wrap on S.C.A.M.P! Check out how MPC's version of Vacation Bible School impacted kids in our community.

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Series Preview

As we transition into the month of August, MPC will begin a new series entitled, "Grow."

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Daily Bread Update

The Daily Bread Food Pantry remains a vital resource to those in need in our community.

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S.C.A.M.P.

During the week of July 10-14, MPC Kids Ministry hosted SCAMP (Summer Camp at Mandarin Presbyterian) which is our version of VBS. The ministry saw God work in numerous ways as He allowed the church to host 323 children aged 4 years through rising 6th graders. The regular SCAMP program ran 9am-noon at both the Mandarin Road and Loretto Road campuses. The program also included an extended day portion that provided summer camp for 78 campers that lasted until 5:30pm each day!

It took 153 volunteers and many hours of preparation, study, and decoration to make this amazing week happen. Because of all the work and effort of so many MPC volunteers, kids had the opportunity to sing songs, play wild games, eat delicious snacks, and experience engaging Bible lessons, all pointing them to "Shine Jesus Light," which they repeated often all week long!



Update from the Daily Bread Food Pantry



Guest visitation to our MPC Daily Bread Food Pantry and Clothes Closet remains strong and consistent, with a recent uptick. On average, through the first six months of 2023, our seventy or so faithful volunteers have contributed to the weekly distribution of three grocery bags full of canned and packaged products along with breads and pastries, fresh fruit, vegetables, and dairy products. Weekly distribution has averaged just over 52 households (more than 125 individuals). Additionally, over 21 guests each week (70+ monthly) have taken advantage of a vast array of items from the Clothes Closet! We at MPC are truly blessed to be a blessing to those in our community that need food and clothing assistance!

The steady flow of miscellaneous donated dry goods remains the primary need. Recent increases in donations of good old BROWN PAPER grocery bags (we use 160+ per week) have helped GREATLY! Please keep them coming!! Our Clothes Closet remains in need of a steady flow of clothing donations of ALL kinds. In

particular: women's dresses and blouses/tops, children's clothes (all ages) and men's shirts and pants. Donations of all goods may be placed in the marked Food Pantry bins at the main sanctuary or church offices. Congregation-wide, steady food donations have served to stoke the fires of the Daily Bread Food Pantry (Ministry) for over 10 years!! Start thinking BOGO for the Pantry!! Better yet: B-O-G-O-D-O Buy – One – Get – One – Donate - One!! Everyone can participate, every week!!!

Lastly, we appreciate and are grateful for your prayers for this ministry and our guests, as we continue stepping and marching toward Jesus in support of our neighbors in need. God has truly shown his light on this ministry, and the love and support our congregant partners have consistently given since our first day has enabled us to be a positive provisioner in our community.

Praises to all!

With blessings and gratitude, Daily Bread Ministry -- Pantry Volunteers

MPC Meals on Wheels

MPC supports a Meals on Wheels ministry that currently serves 16 residents in the Mandarin area (32223 and 32257 zip codes) for a lunchtime meal Monday through Friday, including holidays.

Our army of volunteers, in teams of two, pick up those meals from Westminster Woods retirement community in Fruit Cove at 10:30 am each day and deliver the meals, a smile and some brief conversation in a routine that takes about three hours to complete from start to finish. Most of our volunteers deliver just once per month and it's a great volunteer opportunity for retired couples. We are in need of a couple more teams.

If you know of someone who might need our services or if you'd like to explore volunteering yourself, please give the church office a call at 904-680-9944 and they will put you in contact with an MPC Meals on Wheels coordinator.

As always, thank you for your prayerful and financial support of this ministry!





UPCOMING SUPPORT CLASSES

MPC will be hosting two upcoming classes for those dealing with loss.

MPC's GriefShare is for people grieving the loss of a family member or friend. GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

Our next Griefshare class will be **August 23 - November 15** from **6:00 - 8:00pm** in classroom #6 on the Loretto Road Campus.

LOSS OF A SPOUSE™

Loss of a Spouse helps men and women grapple with the challenges of losing a spouse. This two hour seminar features an inspiring video that's filled with moving stories, practical advice and a variety of perspectives on spousal loss.

You'll discover that you're not alone in your grief and what you are going through is normal.

Our next Loss of A Spouse class will be **August 12** from **10:00am - Noon** in the Chapel on the Mandarin Road Campus.

To learn more or to register for Loss of a Spouse and/or Griefshare, visit griefshare.org or contact Carla Mayo cmayo@mandarinpres.com | 904.680-9959.

JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT

Thank you for your faithful giving to MPC!

CONTRIBUTIONS

June
6/1 - 6/30
\$144,646.00
YEAR TO DATE
1/1 - 6/30
\$1,122,522.00

EXPENSES

June
6/1 - 6/30
198,498.00
YEAR TO DATE
1/1 - 6/30
\$1,152,021.00

NET INCOME/LOSS

June
6/1 - 6/30
\$ (53,852.00)
YEAR TO DATE
1/1 - 6/30
\$(29,499.00)

Upcoming Events



Here's the Scoop...

JOY is going bananas! Does that sound A-Peeling-ing? Please join the Just Older Youth ministry on Thursday, August 10th at 11:30am to celebrate National Banana Split day! RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, August 8th, at 680-9944.



Men's Burger Bash

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 26th as the MPC Men's Ministry hosts an ALL Guys, ALL Ages block party. There will be games, food, and fellowship. For more information please visit mandarinpres.com/mensministry.



Burgers & Bunco

Food, fun and fellowship with the MPC Women's Ministry on Saturday, September 16 from 11am - 2pm! We'll enjoy lunch together and a game of bunco in our Fellowship Hall. Sign up via the Women's Ministry page on the MPC website.



August Sermon Series

At MPC, each of our Sermon Series are designed with a purpose, and this one is no different. During the month of August, we aim to launch you into the “new year,” and challenge you with the question:

“How are you going to grow as a disciple this year?”

Date/Theme

August 13 - Invite

August 20 - Connect

August 27 - Serve

September 3 - Equip



NextGen Summer Calendars

The summer calendar of events for our Middle School Ministry (Hang 10) and High School Ministry (Crave) are available. You can pick up a hard copy of the calendars on Sundays in the wall racks of the lobby of the Loretto Road Campus.

You can also visit our website and download your copy for Hang10 at mandarinpres.com/msevents or Crave at mandarinpres.com/hsevents.

MPC Men's Luncheon

The MPC Men's Luncheon takes place at noon in the Fellowship Hall on the Mandarin Road Campus on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

Please contact Randy Hester for more information.

Phone 904-859-4996 or email: hesterrandy632@gmail.com.

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HELLO FROM THE SESSION

Just a note from the Session: though the Session did not have a meeting in July, our Kids Ministry was very active.

Our high school students went on their mission trip to Costa Rica and led us in worship when they returned. Their theme for their trip was "Walk": walking with God daily, building your relationship with Jesus. What is preventing you from walking with God?

S.C.A.M.P. week was full of laughs, snacks and worship. Approximately 250 kids swarmed both campuses and learned that when things are bad, when you are sad, when others are not nice, you should always "Shine Jesus' Light". Thank you to the 100+ volunteers who served these kids and showed them the love of Jesus.

We are back to two services

starting August 6th. Don't lose the new connections you made while we worshipped as one during the month of July.

Our sermon series in the fall will be from the Sermon on the Mount. Small groups will be formed for discussion that follows the message. This is a great opportunity to plug-in with others. Stay tuned for more information on how you can get connected to a group.

We want to hear from you! At any time when you may have a question or just want to say hello, you can reach out to us individually or you can email the Session at elders@mandarinpres.com.

We continue to pray for our church, our community and our world! We serve a mighty God!



Left to right: Front Row - Carol Yelinek, Rev. Dr. Andrew Stepp, Chris Davis, Danielle Caplin,
Middle Row - Bob Graumann, Kim Harris, Curt Etheridge, Joan Pooley,
Back Row - Craig Henderson, Rosa Heard, Matt Balanky, Rev. Jenn Arnold, Rev. Jeff Arnold.
(not pictured - Hawley Smith III and Tami Shepler.)

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The Great Banquet

The - means specific, set apart, unique; like "this one"; as opposed to "a", which could mean any old one. Translation: The Women's Great Banquet, **October 19-22**, and The Men's Great Banquet **Nov. 2-5**, will be something special.

GREAT - means huge, gargantuan awesome, splendiferous. Translation: you don't wanna miss out!

BANQUET - a feast, an epicurean delight, more than enough to fill you up. Translation: you are the honored guest! Pick up your invitation from the GB kiosk or the church office.