



Monthly newsletter of Magnolia Presbyterian Church - December 2018

Watching for the Light

In these shortest days of the year (in the Northern Hemisphere anyway), many of us find ourselves positively longing for light. How we enjoy Christmas lights and candlelight and the warmth of fireplaces in this December season!

So too, many of us are deeply concerned by metaphorical darkness in our world. The hatred and violence and greed we see around us can weigh heavily on our hearts and spirits.

Just as we watch for Christmas lights as we drive around on a dark evening, we are called in this Advent season to watch for Christ, the Light of the World, shining in our midst. We are also called to be light in this dark world, doing our part to bring hope and healing, comfort and peace.

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it,” we read in the gospel of John. May we all be light-seekers and light-bringers in this Advent season.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Deb

CALENDAR

Dec 2nd

Advent Party and Sandwich Sunday

Dec 2nd

Welcome New Church Officers

Dec 2nd

Giving Tree Contributions Due

Dec 6th

Afternoon Women's Study

Dec 9th

Caroling at Coffee Hour

Dec 15th

Christmas Supper Club

Dec 16th

Children's Christmas Pageant

Dec 16th

Poinsettia Orders Due

Dec 18th

Evening Women's Study and Holiday Dinner

Dec 23rd

Christmas Joy Offering

Dec 24th

Christmas Eve Service

Jan 6th

Ecumenical Worship at Church of the Ascension



Advent Party December 2nd

Everyone is invited to stay after worship on Sunday, December 2nd for an Advent soup & sandwich lunch served in Fellowship Hall.

Would you like to lend a hand trimming the Christmas tree, or hanging wreaths and garlands? Meet in the sanctuary after lunch to be part of this group.

Meanwhile across the hall in the Mt. Rainier Room we'll make sandwiches for the folks at Tiny Cabins, Safe Harbor (formerly Tent City 5). You'll find all the sandwich fixings and supplies to help to prepare brown bag lunches, and we welcome your help delivering the lunches to the small community by the Magnolia bridge.

Angels and Shepherds Star in Children's Pageant

Join us for our Children's Christmas Pageant in worship on December 16th with a fun focus this year on the shepherds and the angels. How did the angels get ready to go and tell the good news of Jesus' birth? Did they have to practice their songs? What were the shepherds talking about as they sat around the campfire? What did they say after the angels had visited them? Come to hear our answers to these questions, see the kids in their costumes, and enjoy several beautiful songs the children have been practicing with Children's Director Liina-Ly Beatty and Music Director Andrey Spichak. The pageant is a beloved MPC tradition and we look forward to sharing it with you again this year!



Caroling December 9th at Coffee Hour

Do you have a favorite Christmas carol? The Worship & Music Team looks forward to kicking off a new holiday tradition this year, inviting everyone to sing carols together at coffee hour on Sunday, December 9th. See you there!

Welcome New Church Officers

We are pleased to be welcoming Dave Bowman, Vicki Ross, Sally King, and Mardell Smith onto our Board of Deacons for the new year, and Corinne Moore, Marion Wright, and Steve Bass to our Session. New Officers will be installed in worship on Sunday, December 2nd. Thank you, one and all, for stepping up to serve our church family with "energy, intelligence, imagination, and love!"



Thank You for your Giving Tree Contributions

The Connect Class (middle and high school) wants to thank everyone for your generous Christmas gifts to The Treehouse. Foster children and their caregivers will really appreciate this extra holiday cheer!

Unwrapped gifts and checks (made out to Treehouse) are due before worship on Sunday, December 2nd.



Poinsettias Orders Due December 16th

Help us decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas Eve. Poinsettia purchases may be made in memory of a loved one or to honor someone special in your life. Just fill out an order form in the Sunday bulletin, or contact the church office to place your order. Checks for \$10 per plant should be made out to Magnolia Presbyterian Church with "poinsettia" in the memo line. The final date for poinsettia orders is Sunday, December 16th.



Christmas Joy Offering

On Sunday, December 23rd the Christmas Joy Offering will be received. This is a special giving opportunity in our denomination which helps provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families. The Joy Offering also provides financial assistance to students attending Presbyterian racial-ethnic minority colleges and schools. Watch for more information in bulletin inserts in the coming weeks. Thank you in advance for your gifts of Christmas Joy!



Candlelight Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve

At 7:00 pm on December 24th we will enjoy a traditional service of Lessons and Carols featuring familiar Scripture readings and favorite hymns. Toward the end of the service, the sanctuary lights will be dimmed as we sing "Silent Night" by candlelight.

Young children are invited to sit with their parents; we will provide activities for them to enjoy in their seats. We hope you will invite family and friends to join us for this beautiful Christmas worship service.



Congratulations, Alex Clark, WSU Graduate!

Alex Clark is graduating from the Edward R. Murrow College of Communication at Washington State University in Pullman on December 8th. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Communication with a specialization in Broadcast Journalism. Alex graduated from Bothell High, Bellevue College (Associates transfer) and has been at WSU since the fall of 2014.

During his time at WSU Alex has been very active with the college radio station, KUGR, hosting his own sports shows.

Through his tenure with the radio station Alex has had the honor of calling several football games including two Apple Cups and the game featured on College Game Day last month. Twice he has travelled to San Diego to call for his Cougs in the Holiday Bowl. Alex also holds the distinction of calling the very first and the very last college plays of WSU quarterback Tyler Hilinsky.

Along with football, Alex has called several basketball games, including men's games played in southern California and the Pac 12 Tournaments in Seattle for women's basketball the past two years. He has been a regular calling the WSU baseball games, where his heart has always been.

Outside of school Alex has been working for Inland Northwest Broadcasting. This is the Moscow based radio station and the local ESPN affiliate. This past summer was spent in Pullman where Alex was the official voice of the baseball American Legion team the Pullman Posse. This was an accomplishment for Alex as some games were aired on the ESPN channel.

He is now the official voice of the Pullman, Colfax and Moscow high school teams and also called for the Lewis and Clark College football team based out of Lewiston ID.

Congratulations, Alex, from your whole MPC family!

Christmas Supper Club December 15th

Anné and Brom Wikstrom will host the annual Supper Club Christmas Party on Saturday, December 15th. All adults are invited to join in the celebration. Bring a dish to share and enjoy an evening of good food and holiday fun. We'll meet at 6:30 pm at the Wikstrom home, 2725 West Lynn Place. To let us know you'll be at the party, call (206) 683-7844 or e-mail miele444@comcast.net. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ecumenical Worship at Church of the Ascension, January 6th

On Sunday, January 6th we will join with neighbors from a number of local congregations at Church of the Ascension for their 10:15 morning worship service. We look forward to gathering again with our ecumenical friends! Please note that there will NOT be a morning worship service here at MPC on January 6th.

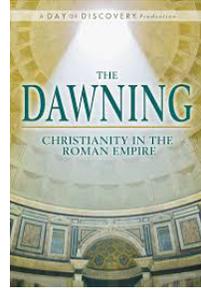
Thursday Men's Fellowship

A group of MPC men has been meeting weekly at Caffé Appassionato at 9 am on Thursdays. We invite you to join us for fellowship, community building, and lively conversation about the integration of faith and work.

Evening Women's Study & Holiday Dinner

Save Monday, December 18th for our Holiday Dinner and Evening Bible Study at the home of Sharlene Bathum, 1209 NW 120th Street. Please bring an appetizer, salad, main dish or dessert to share. We'll enjoy dinner at 6 pm, followed by our lesson on the faith of Abraham led by Robin Maddox.

Afternoon Women's Study December 6th



Our afternoon women's study group will continue the video series The Dawning: Christianity in the Roman Empire at 1:30 pm Thursday December 6th. In this study we are learning about the foundation of the Christian faith during the time of the Roman Empire. Questions? E-mail Janet Friedrich philipf@comcast.net.

Still Time to Turn In 2019 Pledges

Many thanks to all who have turned in pledge cards indicating your expected giving to the church for the coming year. If you were not able to be with us on Pledge Dedication Sunday, there is still time to turn in your pledge. Extra cards are available in the narthex and in the pew racks here at church. Completed pledge cards can be left in the offering plate or mailed to the church office. Thank you for your faithful giving to MPC!

