

Mission Statement: Magnolia strives to share God's love with all and grow spiritually in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

### September Sermon Series:

#### Faith that Works (Biblical book of James)

September 2 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost/Communion - James 1:17-27

September 9 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost—James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17

September 16 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost— James 3:1-2

September 23 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost—James 3:13-4:3

September 30 - 19th Sunday after Pentecost - James 5:13-20  
- Church Campout - Unity Service - Adam Martinez preaching



Get a head start on our scripture passages in September. Invite a friend for this immensely practical series. Express your faith in all situations. Experience "Faith that Works" in September.

Pool Party - Barbecue – Boat Race

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 8, 3:00 pm

Come to the all-church Regatta and End of Summer BBQ at the home of Wayne & Kristi Andrew.

No boat needed to attend. Come and cheer on your favorites. Bring swimsuits and towels as the pool will be open for swimming and water volleyball until the races begin.



Here are the rules for boat building:

- ◇ All boats must be homemade, (no kits.)
- ◇ Boats must be no larger than 3' x 3' x 3'.
- ◇ Your boat must be able to run 2 heats, if needed.

Prizes are given for various categories!

Sign up for this event on Sunday.

THANK YOU,  
YOUTH and  
YOUTH LEADERS,  
for a fantastic  
worship  
experience on August 19.



*Encounter God Sundays — 9 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
and 11 a.m. (Sanctuary)*

## A MINISTER'S MUSING



It's that time of year again! Yes it's Starbucks' pumpkin spice latte and children back in school time. We are approaching fall and looking forward to some cooler weather, right? Well I can dream can't I? Yes even though all of that is happening, what I'm talking about is **Growth Groups! Starting the week of October 7<sup>th</sup>**, our growth groups will be doing a study on "The Red Letters-*The words of Jesus for today's world.*" I remember about 20 years ago doing a study on the book of John thinking that I already knew what it said having heard those gospels my whole life. I was surprised and excited to discover that there were new things to learn! I discovered that really knowing who Jesus is and what he said impacts us no matter how long we have been on our journey as Christians.

*Red Letters* promises to provide thought-provoking introspection and conversation. A statement from Tony Campolo expresses well the purpose of this study. Campolo states, "You don't understand the Bible until you first come to grips with Jesus Christ...Only Jesus helps us to understand what the rest of the Bible is talking about." In letting go of categories like Evangelical, Orthodox, Liberal, and Conservative, we will concentrate on what we have in common, the teachings of Jesus. We will tackle topics such as materialism, compassion, spirituality, joy, and yes- even politics. We will promise at the start of each meeting to be respectful and mindful of each other's thoughts and opinions. We will not argue or try to change each other's minds but seek to hear each person's reflections. In order to accomplish that goal, Pastor Paul and I invite all facilitators to attend an orientation lunch on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:15pm in the church library.

If you have never participated in a growth group, we invite you to be a part of a group this fall. We believe this is the perfect time to explore an exciting walk with Jesus through the red letters of the Bible! Growth Group sign-ups will begin September 16<sup>th</sup>.

***In Christ,  
Pastor Claire***

## A PASTOR'S PONDERING

Perhaps you have heard or used this adage: "It is easier to ask forgiveness than permission." I have used it on a number of occasions and have had it used on me in a number of times too. Typing the phrase into Google led me to a page that investigated possible origins of the phrase and a listing of significant publications that used the adage (<https://quoteinvestigator.com/2018/06/19/forgive/>). Only one of the examples on this webpage involved the Church: a Cardinal advised a duchess to separate from her marriage, "it being less difficult to obtain forgiveness for it after it was done, than permission for doing it."

This adage seems to be utilized often in church environments, especially in Presbyterian Church environments where our core value of doing things "decently and in order" creates, what can be viewed as, impediments to getting things done quickly. Rather than navigate the bureaucracy or wait another month before the Session can approve it, some just make things happen then seek forgiveness later.

In our Summer series exploring the biblical books of Samuel, a verse spoke out to me, from 1 Samuel 15:22, "Listen to this: obeying is better than sacrificing..." (CEB). This theme of God preferring obedience to sacrifice is prominent throughout the Bible (search for the word "obedience" in a Bible concordance and you'll find a plethora of verses, including: Proverbs 21:3, Ecclesiastes 5:1, Isaiah 1:10-20, Hosea 6:6, Amos 5:21-22, Micah 6:6-8, Matthew 9:13, 12:27, Mark 12:33).

This theme of obedience rather than sacrifice seems to contradict the adage we know and occasionally employ, that it is easier to ask forgiveness (sacrifice) than permission (obedience). God invites those who identify as God's people to the harder, more difficult, yet more rewarding path. God expects us to prioritize order over expediency. God demands obedience.

The next time you consider employing the adage, "it's easier to ask forgiveness than permission," explore what God might be calling you to do differently.

***Your order-oriented Co-Pastor,  
Paul***

**Growth Groups will be forming soon.**

Beginning October 7, we will study "The **Red Letters**—The Words of Jesus for Today's World" by Tony Campolo.

**We need facilitators** for this exciting opportunity. Facilitator orientation will be held on Sunday, September 23 at 12:15 pm.

Contact Pastor Claire (claire@magpres.com) for more information.

All-Church  
Campout  
September 28-30,  
2018



Don't camp? Join us Saturday evening for potluck dinner and campfire. See Laurie McCormick or call the church office.

*Idyllwild*

*Thousand Trails*

BSA Troop 16 is now part of Magnolia Presbyterian Church! Help us give them a big hearty welcome. They meet on Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:30 to learn first aid, knots and lashings, citizenship, and more. They have monthly outings, too. Court of Honor is on September 26. **Youth over age 10 are invited to join up.** — Tim Lewis, Charter Organization



**UNITY SERVICE**  
Sunday, September 30  
10:00 am



**SPECIAL YOUTH EVENTS**

JUNIOR HIGH GAME NIGHT  
**Saturday, September 1, 6 pm to 9 pm**  
(no dinner provided)

HIGH SCHOOL SLEEPOVER  
**Saturday, September 8**, starting at 7:30 pm to Sunday morning, so that we may attend the service together that morning. No dinner during this event (but I might just pick up some donuts).

**Youth Group meets every\* Sunday evening.**  
Schedule may change due to holidays, church events or offsite activities.

Care Portal News

A family in Hemet was in need of AC units. I visited the family we are helping in Hemet yesterday. Their windows are very narrow-17 and 20 inches-too narrow for the standard window units. But I found and picked up two casement window AC units from San Diego this morning and hope to install them Sunday afternoon "with a little help from my friends." If you are available let me know. If you are planning on making a donation, just add it to your giving (make payable to Magnolia Presbyterian) on Sunday with a note designating how much is for Care Portal. I thank you all for making this commitment and for sharing your time, talent and treasure!

—Chris Nettles, Care Portal Pointperson



2018  
"Our Year of Commitment"  
August Financial Report

The Treasurer's Report contains great news!

It appears that many of you have taken our Stewardship theme for 2018 to heart, "Our Year of Commitment."

Our income for August was \$230,300.99 and expenses were \$214,319.52.

This results in a current positive balance of \$15,981.47 as of July 31<sup>st</sup>. Praise God!!

Also, if we consider the \$8,146.25 of endowment interest and \$5,885.57 of deficit reduction funds that were budgeted to meet potential shortfalls, our adjusted balance for August is \$30,013.29.

Thank you for supporting your Church's 2018 budget by staying current with your pledge. The Stewardship Committee is confident that our church family will stay committed to the use of their Time, Talent and Treasures for our church.



**What is the EASIEST way to contribute to MagPres?**

**Buy some Stater Bros. gift cards.**

Stater Bros. script cards are available in increments of \$25, \$50, and \$100 **on the first Sunday of every month** in Café Magnolia from 10:00 to 11:00. You can pay by cash or check. When you shop for your groceries – at any Stater Bros. store - you get full value for the card you purchase. MPC gets **6%** of every card purchased!

Cards can also be purchased in the office during regular hours.



*Back to School Time!*

Love Learning?

**Women's Monday**

**Morning Bible Study** will



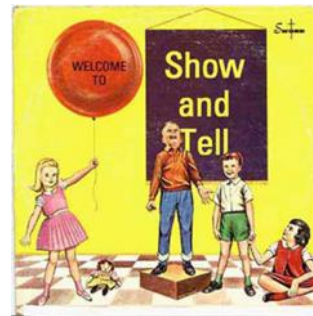
kick off the season with a Slide Show of Magnolia Presbyterian's past led by our Historian Jan McKee on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Women's Study group meets Mondays 9:30-11:00 am in the Christian Education Building. We will explore the Old and New Testament Scriptures as listed in the 2018-2019 Presbyterian Planning Calendar.

Come join us for fellowship, food, prayer and spiritual renewal.

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Are you old enough to remember “show and tell”? I believe when my kids were little, they called it “share time.” It was a time of the school day where you brought a favorite toy or book to show or were able to share a story about a friend, your summer, weekend, or a daily activity.



Each month at their respective meetings, an Elder attends the Deacon meeting and a Deacon comes to Session. Each Elder shares details on Session happenings, especially with activities relating to their individual committees. For example, an Elder serving on Christian Education may share about the upcoming Sunday school curriculum; a Stewardship Elder can share about the budget process or the theme of the stewardship campaign.

Likewise, a Deacon attends Session each month, describing a few of their many ministries in which they serve. Some of the activities they have shared with Session this year include: number of cans collected for Lutheran Social Services from Two-Can Sundays, great turn out for their annual Pancake Breakfast, bereavement receptions given, Giving Basket recipients, updates on their “flocks” and special friends programs, serving Communion, lifting up Magnolia members in prayer, their annual retreat and the card ministry.

This important connection of sharing between Deacons and Elders reinforces Magnolia’s commitment to strong church leadership.

*“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had.”*  
*Acts 4: 32*

Melanie Nelson  
Clerk of Session

**Session Meetings and Minutes**  
Session meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 pm in the church library. These meetings are open, so if you would like to attend and listen to the conversation, you are most welcome.  
Copies of all session minutes are available in the office, or by email request.

## Deacons Corner

As Deacons we have the responsibility for the church and the people in it. We pray for the church, the people including the pastors. We pray for the community. We as Deacons help set up memorial services. We do hospital visits as well as home bound visits. We collect food cans for Two-can Sunday every month and send them to Lutheran Social Services.



So in many ways we as deacons have responsibility to look out for each other as a church family.

*From Deacon Amanda Schlegel*

## Time and Talent Recognitions

- † Thank you to **those who brought us special music in August** while the choir was on vacation.
- † Thank you to **Jeff Ludwig** for bringing extra school supplies.
- † Thanks to **Hannah Dickenson** for filling in for Diana Lewis while she was on vacation.
- † We have locking cabinets for the Financial Secretaries/Historian thanks to **Ryan Laudermilk, David King, and Tom Safford**.
- † **Ken and Sheryel Eberwein** provided the youth meal in August.
- † Thanks to the **Social Programming Committee** for the work that went into the end-of-summer bash. Thanks to **Laurie McCormick** for hand delivering flyers to neighborhood residences.
- † Thanks to those **unsung helpers who provide transportation** to those in need.
- † Thanks to the **Stewardship Committee** for organizing and **those who ate at the California Pizza Kitchen** fundraiser. We raised \$391.16.
- † Thanks to the **Youth and their leaders** for the Worship Service on August 19.

### September Birthdays

• Craig MacDougall	September 1
• Laura Medrano	September 1
• Jason Nicholson	September 1
• Ruth Megenney	September 2
• Kierstyn Cohen	September 5
• Andrea Mabena	September 5
• Allison Robinson	September 5
• Josh Crossen	September 6
• James King	September 6
• Melvin Rehnke	September 6
• Grace Sarring	September 11
• Peter Manley	September 12
• Melanie Nelson	September 12
• Janet Nicks	September 12
• Alma Vierich	September 13
• Jennifer Megenney	September 14

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!**

Dave Richards	September 14
Shawn Smith	September 14
Gale Teunissen	September 14
Gary Welman	September 14
Caitlyn Cohen	September 15
Rebecca Doshier	September 15
John Peden	September 15
Josie Gonzales	September 16
Cherylyn Thornton	September 17
Joseph Belangeri	September 19
Adam Martinez	September 23
Julie King	September 25
Diana Lewis	September 26
Richard Vierich	September 28
Janelle Anderson	September 30
Edith Grant	September 30

### September Anniversaries

• McKee, Steven & Jan	September 1
• Smith, Phil & Sally	September 2
• Gettis, Aaron and Erin	September 6
• Ludwig, Jeff & Laurie	September 8
• Ward, Ray & Loretta	September 9
• Bingham, Bill & Linda	September 26
• Andrew, Wayne & Kristi	September 29

Happy Anniversary

### TWO-CAN SUNDAY REPORT

157 Cans Collected in August

Bring your two cans of food on Sunday, September 9,  
for distribution to Lutheran Social Services. What we give is  
MATCHED by a grant! So give generously.

Men's Group is starting up again. We meet the second Monday of every month. Our next meeting will be September 10 at 7 pm at the home of Tim Lewis. Call the church office or see Tim for more info.

## Reaching Out to Our Community



Did you know members of Magnolia have fed 851 needy people in our community during the first 6 months this year? Magnolia participates in two homeless feeding programs: a sack lunch program and the Guest Chef program. Members of Magnolia prepare and distribute sack lunches to the homeless in downtown Riverside on the second and fifth Saturdays of each month. Magnolia's Guest Chefs prepare the evening meal at the Path of Life Hulen Place Shelter on the second Saturday each month. Our dedicated members plan a menu, purchase food, and prepare a hot meal at the homeless shelter. The Mission Interpretation Committee is looking for members to lead teams for the Guest Chef feeding program. It is a wonderful thing to give a person in need a good meal. If you feel participating in one of these programs is a way you can serve your community and enrich your faith journey, please contact Flora Livingstone.



Have you ever been driving along and a really good song comes on the radio in your car? Do you start singing along and pretend your steering wheel is a drum? Or standing in the shower and a song pops into your head, and you sing as if you were some operatic virtuoso? You know, God can hear you, even though you think no one is listening. And I am going to bet that God has never once said to you, "stop that horrible noise!" Well, if God can put up with your voice, so can our church. We all pledged at the beginning of this year that we would give our time, talent and treasure to God.

Come join the choir on Thursday nights from 7:00 PM to about 8:30 PM and then again on Sunday mornings from

10:00 AM until about 12:15 and fulfill that pledge of giving of your time and talent. And let God take that gift and turn it into a treasure for both you, the congregation and for Himself.

You don't have to be able to read music and you don't have to be a virtuoso. You do your part by showing up and let God take care of the rest. And you know, it's never a bad thing to be part of a group who will love you, pray for you and not judge you. That is what our choir does. It is more than just making music. We minister to one another at every gathering. How can that be a bad thing? I challenge you to join us for 1 month. If at the end of that month you determine this is not for you, feel free to leave and no one will complain. I am betting that you will feel loved, and will want to continue without question.

**John Wright, Choir Director**

*Lisa MacDougall and her mom, Anne Denham, established an endowment fund in memory of Lisa's father and Anne's husband, Phil Denham. The Endowment Committee asked Lisa to share why she and her Mom felt it was important to establish this endowment; the following is their response.*

### Those Who Came Before

Magnolia Presbyterian is indeed a church with a rich history. We are blessed. We are the recipients of the generosity and planning of those who came and worshipped at Magnolia before us. They had the wisdom and forethought to set aside monies that would grow and create funds that could be used to continue the work Magnolia does in the lives of its congregants and community, and even around the world.

It is because we received that we give. When Dad died, we wanted to set up an endowment in his name because it would continue the blessing of money being there when needed for those who worship after him, and after us. We started with a relatively small amount and will add to it each year on his birthday.

The Presbyterian Church was a big part of Dad's life. It is the church that gave him the backbone on which to support and build the rest of his life. Dad loved the institution of the church. He loved caring for its grounds, which he did for many years at both Calvary and Westminster (Escondido) Presbyterian churches. It is fitting that we leave money for Magnolia to use however they see fit to continue to bless the institution of the church and its mission.

Lisa MacDougall, with Anne Denham  
In honor of Phil Denham (October 28, 1923 – August 5, 2017)

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

Magnolia strives to share God's love with all and grow spiritually in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

7200 Magnolia Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92504-3829

Phone: 951-684-7200  
Email: church@magpres.com  
Church Office Hours  
Mon-Thurs 8:30 am—3 pm  
Closed Friday

www.magpres.com



September  
2018

**Staff**

Rev. Claire Schlegel  
Co-Pastor

Rev. Paul Knopf  
Co-Pastor

James Walters  
Music Director/Organist

Saw Shein  
Contemporary Music Leader

John Wright  
Choral Director

Cynthia Wright, Pianist

Allison Robinson  
Nursery Attendant

Chris Stanley  
Youth Leader

Interim Media/Audio Coordinator  
AJ Belangeri

Diana Lewis  
Administrative Assistant

***A merry heart does good ...***

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Thanks to SoloTotoCoyote

02-07-2014

**MOSES AND NOAH HAVING AN ARGUMENT**



# MagPres Master Calendar - September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
<b>Pastor Paul Vacation</b>						6pm - Junior High Game Night
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Pastor Paul Vacation</b>		7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 5:45pm - CE Committee 6pm - MEW Committee 7pm - BaG Committee 7pm - MIT Committee	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall 6:30pm - Troop 16 @ FH, CE 4	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 10am - Riverside Presbytery 7pm - Choir Practice	<b>Office Closed</b>	10am - Presbytery of Riverside 10am - Sack Lunch Prep and 3pm - Pool Party and Boat Race 4pm - Path of Life Meal Prep and <b>7:30pm - Senior High Overnight</b>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>TWO-CAN Sunday</b> <b>Senior High Overnight</b>		7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall 7pm - Men's Group	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Stewardship Committee	<b>Pastor Paul Out</b>		<b>Office Closed</b> <b>UpLook Articles Due</b>
9am - Worship + SS 10am - New Member Class @ 11am - Worship + SS 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30			7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall 6:30pm - Troop 16 @ FH, CE 4	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Choir Practice	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building,	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<b>Growth Group Signups Begin</b>		7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Deacon Meeting	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall 6:30pm - Troop 16 @ FH, CE 4	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Choir Practice	<b>Office Closed</b>
9am - Worship + SS 10am - New Member Class @ 11am - Worship + SS 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30					7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building,	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9am - Worship + SS 11am - Worship + SS 12:15pm - Growth Group 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30	<b>Paul Study Leave</b>					
	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Session Meeting-L	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall 6:30pm - T16 - Ct. of Honor @	7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Choir Practice	<b>All-Church Campout @ Idyllwild Rv Resort Thousand Trails, 24400</b>	
					<b>Office Closed</b>	10am - Sack Lunch Serve @ FH 12pm - Sack Lunch Serve @
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Paul Study Leave</b>						
<b>All-Church Campout @ Idyllwild</b>						
<b>Peace and Global Witness</b>						
10am - Unity Service 12pm - Growth Groups Begin -- 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30						

All dates, times and locations are subject to change.  
See [www.magpres.com/calendar](http://www.magpres.com/calendar) for the most current calendar.

# MagPres Prayer Calendar

## September 2018

September 2018							October 2018						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
30													

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Sep 1 Gene and Sharon DeLead
2 MagPres Men's Group	3 Anne Denham	4 Richard and Heather Dickenson; Hannah	5 Mike and Janet Doshier; James, Rebecca, Robert	6 Chris and Tammy Duncan; Anderson, Jackson	7 Ken and Sheryel Eberwein	8 Alice Ehlers
9 MagPres Women's Bible Study	10 Joyce Ehlers	11 Carol Farmer	12 Bruce Ferrel	13 Janet Field	14 Brenda Flowers	15 Leah French; Nick, Travis
16 Local Elected Officials	17 Aaron and Erin Gettis; Estella, Cole	18 Zach and Maddie Gipson	19 Danielle Good	20 Holly Goulet-Perez; James, Marcus	21 Ilene Gradney	22 Gary and Edith Grant
23 State and National Leaders	24 Karn and Suzanne Griffen	25 Sandra Griffith	26 Beverly Guidero	27 June Hall	28 Everal Hathaway	29 Tom and Marty Hendrix
30 World Leaders	<b><i>Please pray for the individuals and groups listed for each day.</i></b>					