

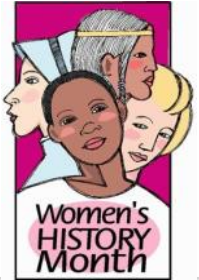


Magnolia Presbyterian Church

The UPLLOOK

March 2023

Youth Winter Camp! Join us in Big Bear for some Winter Fun, March 17-19th
CROP Walk: Ending Hunger One Step at a Time, Sunday, March 26th
One Great Hour of Sharing and Children's Fish Banks, Sunday, April 9th
Guest Chef welcomes more team members to cook & serve meals



Minister's Musing

Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness ...
 Matthew 4:1

Are you a Christmas or Easter person? If I could take a survey, my guess would be that most people will answer Christmas. If you went into my garage and tried to judge my answer to that based on how many bins of decorations I have for each holiday, you would probably guess that my answer would be Christmas. But you would be wrong. I am an Easter person. In fact of all the seasons of the church year, Lent leading up to and including Easter is my favorite time in the church calendar (and it's not because my favorite color is purple either). Maybe it comes from growing up in a very liturgical Episcopal church with all of the ritual and symbolism. However, I suspect it is something more. Since childhood I have been drawn to introspection and felt God's presence in my life. Later on it did not always feel that way. There were definitely times, especially during times of difficulty or doubt when God seemed very far away. And yet God would not let me go and in fact pursued me to the point of calling me to Ordained ministry.



It is easy especially in this time we find ourselves to be distracted by life that goes on around us. Whether it is world events, politics, making a living, social media and more, there is always something that wants to call us away from God. Lent is a time where we can refocus, regroup, renew, and maybe minimize a distraction or two that takes us away from hearing God's voice. This Lent, Pastor Paul and I will be preaching on the Lenten series **seeking: honest questions for deeper faith**. This is a perfect time to consider what God is trying to communicate to us through our questions and setting aside time to listen. We have printed devotions to aid you in your Lenten journey and it is not too late to begin. Whether you use these materials or something of your own choosing, my prayer is that you will feel God's presence along the way as you observe a Holy Lent-

~Pastor Claire



Saturday, March 11th

Don't forget to set your clocks **FORWARD** an hour Saturday night, **March 11th** or you'll be an hour **LATE** to church the next day!

In this Issue:

Youth Winter Camp	pg 2
Deacon's Corner	pg 2
One Great Hour of Sharing	pg 2
Session Highlights	pg 3
Crop Walk--Go Team Magpres	pg 3
Guest Chefs Needed	pg 3
Christian Education	pg 3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	pg 4
Prayer Calendar	pg 4
Events Calendar	pg 5
Women's Bible Study	pg 6
Children's Sunday School	pg 6
Café Magnolia	pg 6
Youth Group	pg 6
Meetings & Announcements	pg 7
Rising from the Ashes	pg 8
Flower Arrangements	pg 8



Youth Group!



Winter Camp

Worship | Delicious Food | Pipe Dreams | Zip Line | Leap of Faith | Crafts

March 17th - 19th
575 Prairie Ln, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Check In Starts At 3PM



More Info
www.bigbearlakechristianconferencecenter.com



You shall be called Repairers of the Breach
Isaiah 58

This years theme is "You shall be called Repairers of the breach" Isaiah 58. Providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. Everyone deserves access to food, clean water, and a safe home. Offering banks and envelopes can be found in the pews and in the church office. We will collect them all on Easter April 9th.



FISH BANKS ARE HERE!

Fish Banks are a great way to help children to get involved in the One Great Hour of Sharing and live out their Faith during Lent! Pick one up and let them know their coins & change can multiply like fishes and loaves!

CORNER

DEACONS'

It's March and Valentine's Day has passed and St. Patrick's Day is on the horizon. What is the significance of these days? Valentines' day is in celebration of Saint Valentine who was martyred in the 3rd century. He ministered to Christians persecuted by the Romans. The feast of Saint Valentine was recorded in the 8th century and was not romanticized until the 14th century, expanding it to include gift giving in 18th century England.

St. Patrick's Day celebrates a Romano-British priest who spread Christianity to Ireland in the 4th Century. He did not drive out the snakes but challenged the pagan beliefs of that era. He reportedly used the shamrock to demonstrate the trinity of God with the three leaves.

Both these men followed the teachings of the gospel, giving aid to the oppressed and spreading the word of Christ Jesus. These are also the commands to us as Christians. We see the need for this daily with the poor and unhoused whether it is due to the



economy, drugs, or mental health.

In Matthew 25 the final judgement is described. I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me. We are to do this to the least of us according to this passage. As a church, we support Family Promise, the pantry at Lutheran Social Services, and with the Christmas food boxes and Blessing Bags. We try but it is not always easy.

Romans 10:14 asks the question about spreading the gospel. "How are they to believe in him whom they have never heard? How are they to hear without someone preaching? Faith comes from hearing through the word of Christ." I know that it is not always easy talking to others about our faith.

If it was easy, everyone would do it. If only it were so. We do what we can. A smile and a greeting can be a good start. So, God bless you and have a great day!

~ Lance Mordue, Deacon



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

A new year of Session has begun and there's an air of excitement for happenings among the Elders and their respective committee work. Here are just a few things going on:

Soup Supper prior to Ash Wednesday service; Sunday School meeting in person and on-line; CROP Walk participation; beginning of Lent; Family Promise of Riverside officially opens on campus; Café Magnolia fellowship once a month after worship;

Compassion International sponsorships; Youth groups have a core group of participants and they are also inviting friends; possible return of the Progressive Dinner; sleeping bags for the homeless outreach program; Christian Education building painted and new windows installed; continued support of our global missionaries; Praise and Pie events; Capital Campaign committee looking into ways to raise funds for the new sanctuary; drilling for the water well; Youth Winter Camp; local support of Path of Life Guest Chef nights; continued updating of on-line streaming and sound quality during worship; "Rooted" study; men's group may re-start; AND the trenching for the new sanctuary building had begun!

*"Shout with joy to the Lord,
all the earth. Break out in
praise and sing for joy!" Isaiah 12:6*

Melanie Nelson
Clerk of Session

WHERE YOU CAN HELP...



SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH

Join the MagPres team for The Crop Hunger Walk on March 26, 2023. This year it will be a two mile loop starting at First United Method Church up to Trinity Lutheran Church and back. We are looking for walkers and donations to reach our \$5,000 goal! If you would like to walk or donate please see Laurie Ludwig and go to: Events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/magpres-riverside-mission



HELP NEEDED FOR GUEST CHEF

Would you like to be a team lead or help cook and serve a meal at the City of Riverside Emergency Shelter Cabin Village at Hulen Place? The commitment would be three times a year for a team of four to prepare, bring, and serve a meal at Hulen Place. If interested please contact Barbara Johnson.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dear Church Family, The Christian Education Committee is seeking volunteers to teach Sunday School. It can be for one week at a time or more. Individuals / couples or friends / youth under the age of 18--all are welcome. Contact Christian Education Committee Chair, Heather Dickenson, at hdickenson61@gmail.com or the church office. Thank you all for your prayerful consideration.



HOW TO GIVE TO MAGPRES

Please take advantage of these Giving Opportunities.

ONLINE: Visit our website at www.magpres.com/give **MOBILE:** Text "magpres" to 77977

MOBILE: Download our church app through Apple App Store or Google Play. Search for "Magnolia Presbyterian Church"

U.S. MAIL: Send check via US Mail to our address at 7200 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504

March 2023 Prayer Calendar

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
			1 Lisa & Craig MacDougall	2 Peter, Michelle, Allison, Gavin, & Gwennyth Manley	3 Adam Martinez	4 Steve & Jan McKee
5 Personnel Committee	6 Dorothy Sachs/ McLaughlin, Norah & Arlo Sachs	7 Laura Medrano	8 Bill & Ruth Megenney	9 Bobby & Kriss Menosky	10 Lance & Laurie Mordue	11 Monique Mowry
12 Family Promise of Riverside	13 Bethany, Christian, & Patrick Na	14 Brian & Melanie Nelson	15 Christopher Nelson	16 Donna Nelson	17 Makenzie Nelson	18 The Rev. Chris & Sherry Nettles
19 Boy Scouts of America	20 Zach Ni	21 Jason, Katie, Destiny, & Addison Nicholson	22 Janet Nicks	23 Judy O'Bier	24 Tessa Islas-Paredes & Daniel Paredes	25 Jane Peden
26 Buildings & Grounds Committee & Capital Campaign Committee	27 Giovanni & Monica Perez	28 Ron & Cornelia Phifer	29 Susie Phillips	30 Gary & Pat Platner	31 The Rev. Clarke & Jeanette Prescott	



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



March Birthdays

Ray Ward	1st	Adrieh Spring-Pearson	9th	Gary Platner	16th
Lucas Wynsma	2nd	Ann Lowry	9th	Eleanor Miller	17th
Mary Lee	3rd	Pat Platner	9th	John Reinhardt	23rd
Nicholas French	4th	James Goulet-Perez	12th	Kathy Cohen	26th
Jackson Duncan	6th	Marcus Goulet-Perez	12th	Amanda Schlegel	28th
Allison Manley	7th	Janet Doshier	12th	Michelle Manley	29th

March Anniversaries

		The Rev Karn & Suzanne Griffen	1st
Dick & Bonnie Kirby	3rd	Chris & Marge Cox	11th
The Rev Clarke & Jeanette Prescott	17th	The Rev. Clarke & Jeanette Prescott	17th
		Bev (Birchi) & King Williams	15th
		Lee & Bob Lewis	28th

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
John W. Off 10am - Communion 10am - Deacon Door 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's 6pm - Youth Group! Dinner	9:30am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Boy Scouts,	9:30am - Staff Meeting 6pm - CE Cmte. 6:30pm - FOM Cmte. 7pm - BaG Cmte. 7pm - Mission Cmte.	6:30pm - Rooted 7pm - Choir Practice	6:30pm - Rooted 7pm - Choir Practice	Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	9:30am - EEEAC 4pm - Path of Life Meal
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10am - TWO-CAN Sunday 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's 6pm - Youth Group!	9:30am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Boy Scouts,	9:30am - Staff Meeting 6pm - Worship Cmte 7pm - Stew_Fin Cmte	Session Mat'ls 9:00 am	6:30pm - Rooted 7pm - Choir Practice	Youth Group Winter Camp Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC 	Youth Group Winter Camp 9:30am - EEEAC
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Youth Group Winter James W. Off 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's	9:30am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Boy Scouts, 	UpLook Articles 9am 9:30am - Staff Meeting 10am - EP Search Team 7pm - Deacon Meeting	10am - EP Search Team	6:30pm - Rooted 7pm - Choir Practice	Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	9:30am - EEEAC
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Crop Walk (time TBA) John W. Off Saw S. Off 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's 6pm - Youth Group!	9:30am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Boy Scouts,	9:30am - Staff Meeting 7pm - Session Meeting		7pm - Choir Practice	Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY Every Monday!

The Women's Bible Study meets every Monday morning at 9:30 am in the Church Library. Join us for a great discussion of the previous Sunday's scripture passages as well as prayer and fellowship. All women are welcome!

NEWS YOU CAN USE!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL for children in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade is offered In-Person and via Zoom during our 10:00 a.m. worship service. In-person will meet in the Fireside Room at 10:20 a.m. Those attending via Zoom simply sign in to Zoom and use the Meeting ID: 259 885 602 and the Password 7200 to join the fun. Sunday School includes Bible lessons, songs, crafts, and play time.

Our memory verse for March is John 13:34

"I give you a new commandment: Love each other."

For more advanced Bible scholars, the full verse is: "I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other."



CAFÉ MAGNOLIA will be offered on Sunday, March 12th right after the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Join us in the Fireside Room for Java and Treats...and stay for the Fellowship and Conversation! Please sign up on the kitchen counter on Sunday if you think you can occasionally bring treats, help set up or clean up.

CHURCH DIRECTORY...ONLINE

View our directory online or via the FREE mobile app. Go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com & follow the "Sign In" prompts to "Create a login now."



Confirm your email address to sign in. Download the free mobile app at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store, and the Amazon Fire App Store. Use your email (as listed in our directory) to create your log-in. Need help or have any questions? Please contact Pastor Paul (paul@magpres.com).

This last Presidents Weekend Troop 16 got a camp out in at Chino Hills State Park...just before the rains. Many were able to complete requirements for the cooking Merit Badge. A challenge of a 5 mile hike was done. They are looking forward to obtaining a programming merit badge by attending the RCC event being held for STEM program Feb 25. Besides our weekly Monday evening meetings at 6:30 the troop plans to help staff a Cub Pinewood Derby March 4 and a "Breakfast with Bunny" on March 25 at the 1st Methodist Church. All young men age 11-17 are welcome to join in the fun. The Troop wishes to thank Gary & Pat Platner and John Wright for their gifts of backpacks with trail experience that will help today's Scouts! ~Tim Lewis



**Sunday nights
from 6-8 p.m.**

Both Middle Schoolers (grades 6-8) and High Schoolers (9-12) welcome.

Meet us in the youth room (enter off Potomac St, through the gate on the left, and use the first door).

Meets Every Sunday in March except March 19th

**Join us for dinner on March 5th
and Winter Camp March 17-19th**

March 2023

**Treasurer's Report
General Fund as of 1/1/2023**



Balance Jan. 1, 2023	\$0.00
2023 Income	\$39,986.71
2023 Expense	\$34,904.60
Balance Jan 31, 2023	\$ 5,082.11

*Session will meet again in March
Giving Info for 2023: Per Capita = \$40, Envelope Costs = \$5*

REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH



CHOIR REHEARSALS: Come lend your voice to the Chancel Choir! Rehearsals are Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. Have Questions? Email John Wright at music@magpres.com

WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY: Monday mornings 9:30 a.m. in the Church Library (main office building). Join us for a relaxing time to delve into the previous Sunday's Scripture, pray, and fellowship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School for children in grades Kindergarten thru 5th grade is offered in-person & via Zoom during our 10am worship service. In-person will meet in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to connect on zoom, please use this link:

Meeting ID: 259885602 Password: 7200

STANDING ANNOUNCEMENTS



ACCESS WORSHIP ONLINE: You can participate in worship by going to magpres.com/watch or visiting our Facebook page (facebook.com/magpres). *Services are archived for you to watch later (or again!)*

COMMUNION: First Sunday of every month, communion is served as a part of the worship service. For those worshipping via Zoom, feel free to gather your own “bread & cup” elements at home and join in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with the whole congregation.

TWO-CAN SUNDAY: On every 2nd Sunday of the month, we bring 2 Cans or Boxes of food to be donated to Lutheran Social Services of Southern California to help feed hungry neighbors in our community. In January, we collected over 100 food items. **Keep up the good work(!)** as we continue loving our neighbors who are hungry! Our next Two-Can collection date will be **March 12th**.

DEACONS DOOR OFFERING: The first Sunday of every month, we collect the DEACONS DOOR OFFERING. This is a dedicated offering to help friends and family of MagPres members experiencing hardship. Your gift, large or small, is a gift of kindness.

STATER BROS. GIFT CARDS: Gift cards in the amounts of \$25, \$50, and \$100 are available to purchase in the church office. Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 3:00pm. Whether you are buying as a gift or to do your weekly grocery shopping, the church receives 5% of every sale! How nice--give twice!

CHURCH DIRECTORIES: Directories are available in the church office, or you can have one mailed to you. Instructions on downloading the app to our “Instant Church Directory” are on page 7 (great way to keep up with birthdays and anniversaries in our church family!)

As always - if your address, phone, or email changes, let us know with an email to church@magpres.com

DAILY DEVOTIONAL: *Our Daily Bread* quarterly booklets are available in the Worship Center foyer (on the Welcome Table) and in the church office. Pick one up for yourself and for a friend or stranger.

...making fully formed followers of Jesus Christ

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

7200 Magnolia Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504-3829
Phone: 951-684-7200
Email: church@magpres.com
Website: www.magpres.com
Church Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 8:30 am—3 pm
Closed Friday



Magnolia Presbyterian
Church Staff

The Rev. Claire Schlegel
Co-Pastor

The Rev. Paul Knopf
Co-Pastor

Adrien Lowery
Office Manager

James Walters
Music Director/Organist

Saw Shein
Contemporary Music Leader

John Wright, Choral Director

Cynthia Wright, Pianist

Allison Robinson,
Nursery Attendant

Jeff Ludwig, Treasurer

[vacant] Youth Leader

Watch your Email and Snail Mail for exciting news
about our 2023 Capital Campaign Launch:

Rising from the Ashes

You can help us make our new church home a reality!



Say It With Flowers!

If you would like to donate a flower arrangement to display in the Sanctuary to honor a special occasion or person, please email the Church at Office@MagPres.com to receive a Flower Request Form.

Arrangements are \$60 each*



*Butterflies Not Included