

January 2022



Happy New Year!
Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness. Isaiah 43:19

This time last year we were hopeful, weren't we? We knew the vaccine was coming and hopeful the pandemic would end. Recently I heard Jim Gaffigan joke saying, "Remember the week we didn't have to wear masks?" We were looking forward to our new building breaking ground and well on the way to being built. And we were hopeful that we would be back to in person worship. Well at least for some of us that at least has come to fruition.

There is a well-known phrase that goes, "Life is what happens when you're busy making plans." So, what do we do when our lives don't go exactly as planned? The Hebrew people were very familiar with life not going as planned. In our verse from Isaiah, they have been in captivity in Babylon a long while, longing for home, which is taking longer than expected. Sound familiar? They are feeling pretty hopeless when God addresses them, speaking through Isaiah, offering hope for their return home. Interestingly, God prefaces "Look I'm doing a new thing..." with "Don't remember prior things; don't ponder ancient history." In other words, don't dwell in the past. Don't get stuck because otherwise you can't move forward. I heard someone recently use the phrase, "don't nurse and rehearse it." We do have a tendency to do that don't we? Whether it's wrongs we feel have been done to us, or decisions that have been made of which we don't agree, we have a hard time letting go.

As we begin a new year in our personal lives and here at MagPres, we have new opportunities to start afresh in 2022. As you are making your resolutions to get your finances, or your health, or whatever else needs tweaking in your life, don't forget about giving your spiritual life a new start. One of the ways you can do this is by joining a Rooted group. Rooted is a wonderful way to re-energize your faith, let go of things that have you stuck, and bond with others on a deeper level. Rooted groups begin January 30th, 2022. Verse 20 of Isaiah says, "I give water to my people, my chosen ones, this people whom I formed myself..." May the year 2022, be water for your thirsty soul; a new thing sprouting up within you.

Grace and peace in Christ, *Pastor Claire*

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DEACONS CORNER

As 2021 ends, the Deacons have been busy delivering poinsettias, putting together Christmas food baskets, serving at memorial services, and tending to our flocks. We celebrate adding five new members to our flock list. We are thankful for the dedicated work of the Deacons who have completed their term with ministry.

Now, we look forward to welcoming new Deacons joining our board in 2022 as we continue serving each other and our Lord.

Happy New Year!

Carla Carrasco
Deacon

NEW YEAR TRADITIONS

In many countries around the world, the New Year celebrations begin the evening of December 31st -New - Year's-Eve, and continue into early hours of January 1st. People often enjoy meals and appetizers thought to bestow good luck for the coming year. Although this is all great traditions for everyone, lets create in addition to those traditions and celebrate the many good things that the Lord has given us throughout the previous year. Take the time to thank your loved ones and appreciate one another. It has been a tough year for some, and the acknowledgement to let them know how much they are valued could mean a lot to them. We are all blessed to be a part of a New Year!

Happy New Year!
MagPres

ACCESS WORSHIP ONLINE

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

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



Please join me in thanking our Elders who are going off Session—Brenda Flowers, Deanna Cohen, Erin Gettis, and Chris Nettles. They have all given their time, talent and energy to making Magnolia great! As we turn the page to start a new year, we welcome Jaeson Robinson, Candice Bowman, and Kayla Crossen as they begin their first terms on Session. Read on to find out more about our newest three Elders:

Jaeson Robinson is serving his first term on Session and has been a member of Magnolia for 6 years. He is married to Allison (Ludwig) and has two children; Jaeson Robinson Jr., and Sofia Robinson. He is the owner/operator of a Midas Automotive Repair shop. If not this career path, he would choose to be an animal conservationist or one of those people who travel and eat on the food channel! Jaeson's favorite vacation destination is Hawaii. He enjoys traveling, sports and spending time with family and friends. His favorite Bible verse is Ephesians 2:8-9: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-not by works, so that no one can boast." A favorite thing about MagPres for Jaeson is the fellowship. He has served on the Stewardship Committee in the past. It was because of prayer and direction from others who have served that he answered the call to serve on Session. His focus for Magnolia's future is "growth and helping the church through this time of change and transition to help MPC be strong and thrive for future generations."

Kayla Crossen is serving her first term on Session and has been a member of Magnolia for just over 20 years! Her Mom, Donna, is also a member. She is the Program Manager for Catalyst Community Children's Waiting Rooms. Since she was young, she has always had a passion to work with children and wouldn't want to stray too far from that career path. Kayla's hobbies include reading (two of her favorite books are the "Love Comes Softly" series as well as "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix." watching baseball and she is also the chapter advisor for the Eta Kappa Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi. A favorite vacation destination is always the beach, however, she loves to explore new places and has a huge bucket list of places she would like to go. As to her favorite thing about MagPres she says "I love the people that I have had the opportunity to meet that have become a big part of my life." Kayla shares that she answered the call to serve on Session "I wanted to learn about the inside workings of the church and help support it's growth however I can." Her hope for MagPres' future is to see it grow in members and to be able to get back to whatever normal we are able to have again.

Candice Bowman is serving her first term as Elder, and has been a member of Magnolia for 3 years. She is married and has 3 children; Chandler, Jena and LJ. She is a Financial Advisor Assistant. If she was not on this career path, she would be an accountant. Her hobbies include being Secretary for the Uptown Kiwanis and involved in Ramona High School Alumni activities. And she says "I love to volunteer". Her favorite vacation is camping at the beach. She is at Magnolia because of the people "they are so welcoming". She has served in the kids' ministry here at MagPres and has volunteered teaching Sunday School. She answered the call to serve on Session because "I feel God calling me to serve." Candice's focus for MagPres' future is "I want to help where I am needed."

Melanie Nelson
Clerk of Session

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

We began 2021 with the hope that a vaccine might help us reconnect. We continued adapting worship and ministry, in the midst of a Pandemic. We were able to stay connected because of the efforts of the worship team, Deacons, Elders and Pastors. Our first in person worship was on Easter Sunday out under the MacQuarrie Oak tree. For those who attended that first Sunday, there was a sense of reunion and joy of seeing one another. It wasn't long before we were able to move indoors. It was a big task to keep participants and leaders safe by following ever changing protocols. We were able to add technology that enhanced both in-person and Facebook worship experience. We combined both the Contemporary and Traditional services into an in-person 10 AM Unity service. Through all this effort, we experienced the adaptability and generosity of MagPres individuals and families.

While other congregations struggled to keep the doors open, we continued to give despite our absence at times. About 1/3rd of those who used to attend worship weekly, have not returned yet but remain committed to their giving ministry. We as the Stewardship Committee and leaders of the Session are grateful for your sacrifices and priorities to keep this ministry strong and faithful. While other congregations struggled to keep the doors open, we continued to give despite our absence at times. Many other congregations were only able to stay open because they received PPP grants and loans from the US government. **Our ministry has continued because of our giving.** We have been helped by using some of the interest our endowment has made (we never budget more than 10% of our budget to be from endowment interest and hardly ever use that much). Each dollar represents the faith of people present and past, whose giving continues to bless what we are doing today. **So again, we are thankful for generations past, whose giving continues to bless us today and will in the future.**

I want to share a story about a recent gift we received. It was from a new participant in our online worship ministry. Craig Raughley is the brother of Chuck & Carolyn. Craig lives in Pennsylvania but began joining his brother and family in worship each Sunday. This began as an invitation of one family to another to be in worship together online. Now Chuck and Carolyn have been in worship in person most every Sunday. Carolyn said they try to sit near the front so his brother and family, can see them and sometimes wave to family far away. What a blessing to realize that our efforts to stay connected to those here, has become another opportunity for the Gospel to be shared far beyond one community of faith.

We are not a global church, but we are part of One Church, the body of Christ living and resurrected. We are connected to each other and blessed by each other. When we struggle, we are not alone in our struggles. When we rejoice, we are not alone in our celebrations. When we look to the future, we are not alone. Please join us in thanking God for our willingness to entrust our giving to God's vision for us all. **How will God use our new sanctuary to share the good news? We are hopeful to see where God will lead us and confident in your continued faithfulness.**

Chris C. Nettles, Stewardship Chair (Elder) Jay Nicholson (Elder), Richard Kirby (Elder) Jan McKee, Brian Nelson, Marshall Lee, Adam Martinez, Pastor Claire and Pastor Paul

FINANCIAL SUMMARY November 30, 2021

Income-\$412,749.76

Expenses- \$400,253.97

Balance-\$12,495.79

HOW TO GIVE

Please take advantage of these Giving Opportunities

◇**ONLINE:** Visit our website at www.magpres.com/give

◇**MOBILE** via text "magpres" to 77977

◇**MOBILE** via app -- Download our church app through the

Apple App Store or Google Play. Search for "Magnolia Presbyterian Church"

◇**U.S. MAIL**

Send a check via US Mail to our mailing address:

7200 Magnolia Avenue | Riverside CA 92504

CHOIR REHEARSALS

After over a year off due to the pandemic, our chancel choir has returned to in-person rehearsals on Thursday nights at 7 pm.

Next meeting is on January 13, 2022. Masks should be worn during rehearsals and "singing masks" will be purchased for choir members. Interested in joining the choir?

Talk to John Wright- Choir Director at music@magpres.com.



WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

Women's Monday Morning Bible Study/Lectio Divina

Next Meeting: January 10, 2022

Where: In the Church Library & Via Zoom

Time: 9:30 AM to 11:00AM

Zoom Community Group link: 259 885 602 PW 7200

Contact Laurie Mordue for more info at: luluherndes@msn.com.



You may purchase Stater Bros gift cards.

Monday - Thursday, anytime between 8:30am - 3:00pm.

Buy yours in \$25, \$50, and \$100 cards and the church receives 6%!

- ⊗ **NEW directories are available in the Worship Center and the church office.**
- ⊗ **OR - call the office to have one mailed to you.**
- ⊗ **OR - visit www.magpres.com/people (call the office for the password).**

Always - if your address, phone, or email changes, notify church@magpres.com



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.

Our Daily Bread quarterly booklets are available in the Worship Center foyer and in the church office. Pick one up for yourself - and for a friend or stranger.

ce. Alternative times will be published later.

YOUTH GROUP

Welcome back Youth Group!

NEXT MEETING: January 9, 2022

Please keep our leaders and youth in your prayers.

Contact: Eric Brandenberger at epsouthernca@gmail.com for more info.

**exceptions for holidays and other events **



Fruit Pizza

- 1 (18 ounce) package sugar cookie dough
- 1 (8 ounce) container whipped topping
- 1/2 sliced banana
- 1/2 cup sliced fresh strawberries
- 1/2 cup crushed pineapple, drained
- 1/2 cup seedless grapes, halved

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Press cookie dough evenly into a 12 inch pizza pan. Bake in preheated oven for 15-20 minutes, until golden brown. Cool on wire rack. When cooled spread whipped topping over cooled crust. Arrange fruit in a decorative pattern. Refrigerate until ready to serve.



We want you to experience this truth and become a more fully formed follower of Jesus Christ by being a part of a life group. To join a life group, you first have to go through Rooted.

ROOTED provides the opportunity to **connect with God, the church community, and your purpose** in unexpected life-changing ways. This 10-week series is one of the most transformational experiences that we have at **MagPres**. Whether you have been following Jesus for years, or you are new to the faith, this is the perfect place to jump in!

visit magpres.com/rooted to sign up

We will have an initial meeting on [Sunday, January 30th at 5pm](#) where we'll get oriented to Rooted and meet our group for the first time. Want to know more? Visit magpres.com/rooted

BIBLE TRIVIA



1. Who recognized Jesus as the Messiah when he was presented at the temple as a baby?
 - A. Paul
 - B. Peter
 - C. Andrew
 - D. Simeon

2. Whose example does Paul say Christians should follow in chapter 5 Ephesians?
 - A. Matthew
 - B. Simon
 - C. Christ
 - D. John

3. Who baptizes Jesus?
 - A. Paul
 - B. Mark
 - C. John the Baptizer
 - D. Liam

Answer key on page 7.



JANUARY Birthdays

Flora Livingstone	January 2	Michelle Lauder milk	January 15
Margie Watson	January 3	Maddy Gipson	January 17
Krysten Stiffler	January 4	Lance Alford	January 18
James Walters	January 4	Deanna Lacy	January 19
Precious Mabena	January 6	Lowell Lacy	January 20
Susie Phillips	January 7	Makenzie Nelson	January 20
Chris Nettles	January 8	Sherry Nettles	January 22
Cynthia Spring-Pearson	January 8	Tammy Duncan	January 29
Payton Rinker	January 9	Laurie Ludwig	January 29
George Robbins	January 10		
Tamie Vasquez	January 12		
Clarke Prescott	January 13		
Leah French	January 14		
Wayne Andrew	January 14		
Steve McKee	January 14		
James Lauder milk	January 15		
Ryan Lauder milk	January 15		

Answer key: 1. Simeon, 2. Christ
3. John the Baptizer

NEW YEARS RESOLUTION

A new years resolution is a tradition, in which a person resolves to continue good practices, change a undesired trait or behavior, accomplish a personal goal, or otherwise improve their life at the start of a new year!

So you sit and think... how can this year be any different from the last? Well, it starts how much desire you have to change or accomplish your goal. Here are 10 steps to help you achieve your goal.



1. Choose a specific goal
2. Limit your resolution to only one you most desire
3. Put time into planning
4. Start with small steps
5. Renew your motivation
6. Avoid thinking about pass failures
7. Always remember it doesn't happen over night, change is a process
8. Get support from your loved ones
9. Focus
10. Keep moving forward and persevere when it gets difficult

Happy New Year!



A Rich Tradition...A Bright Future

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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
Website: www.magpres.com
Church Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 8:30 am—3 pm

January 2022

Happy
New Year!

Magnolia Staff

The Rev. Claire Schlegel
Co-Pastor

The Rev. Paul Knopf
Co-Pastor

Lorraine Chapa
Office Manager

James Walters
Music Director/Organist

Saw Shein
Contemporary Music Leader

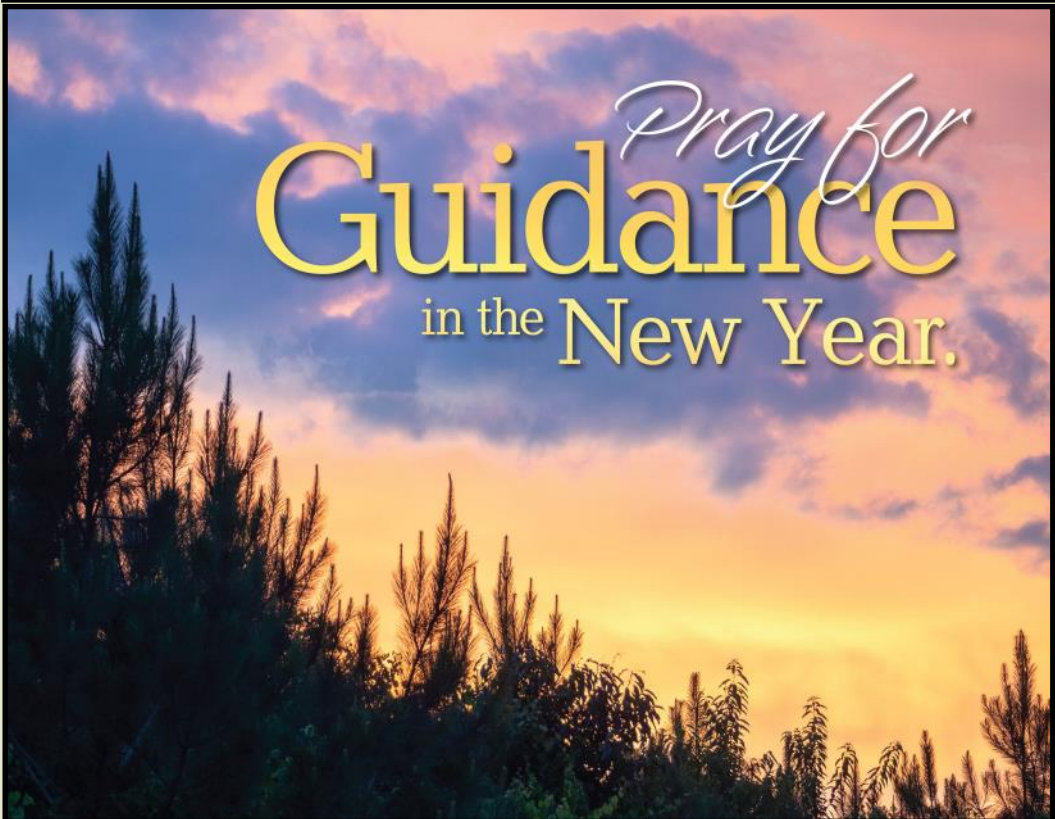
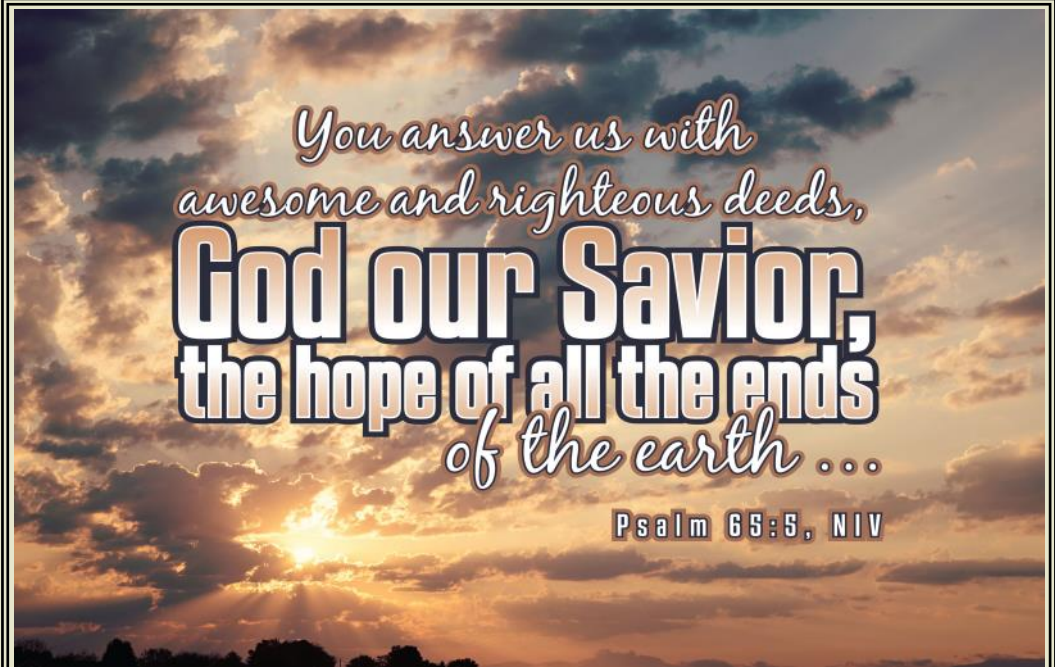
John Wright, Choral Director

Cynthia Wright, Pianist

Allison Robinson
Nursery Attendant

Jeff Ludwig
Treasurer

[vacant] Youth Leader



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 www.facebook.com/magpres

 church@magpres.com

 www.magpres.com

Monthly Calendar



January

Happy
New Year!

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Communion Sunday 10am-Worship Deacon Door Offering	3 Office Closed	4 6pm - CE-Cmte 6pm - Mission Cmte 6:30pm - FOM Cmte 7pm - Bag Cmte	5 3pm - Crossways #1 7pm - Crossways #2 7pm - Troop 16	6	7 Office Closed	8
9 10am – Worship 2pm-Two Can 6:30pm – Youth Group 11:15am-Cong Meeting	10 9:30 am Women's Bible Study	11 6:30pm Stewardship Cmte	12 3pm - Crossways #1 7pm - Crossways #2 7pm - Troop 16	13 7pm - Choir Practice	14 Office Closed	15
16 10am – Worship 6:30pm – Youth Group	17 Office Closed Martin Luther King 9:30 am Women's Bible Study	18 6:00pm-Deacon Meeting	19 3pm - Crossways #1 7pm - Crossways #2 7pm - Troop 16	20 7pm - Choir Practice	21 Office Closed	22
23 10am – Worship 6:30pm – Youth Group	24 9:30 am Women's Bible Study	25 7:00pm-Session Meeting	26 3pm - Crossways #1 7pm - Crossways #2 7pm - Troop 16	27 7pm - Choir Practice	28 Office Closed	29
30 10am – Worship 6:30pm – Youth Group 11:15 am - Annual Congregation meeting	31 9:30 am Women's Bible Study					

Prayer Calendar

January



2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<p>1</p> <p>Evelyn Shea</p>
<p>2</p> <p>MagPres New Building Construction Start</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Kristine Shea</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Saw Shein</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Diane Sieckmann</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Roger & Susan Simmons</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Ramsey & Abby Sindaha</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Phil & Sally Smith</p>
<p>9</p> <p>EH-Riverside Ending Homeless Endhomless.info</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Shawn & Robin Smith</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Cynthia Spring Pearson</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Krysten Stiffler</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Jon Swearingen</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Cherylyn & Thomas Thornton</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Chuck & Delores Tobin</p>
<p>16</p> <p>World Religion Day</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Alma Vierich</p>	<p>18</p> <p>James & Susan Walters</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Alene Ward</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Ray & Loretta Ward</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Margie Watson</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Olive Watson</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Riverside Police Safety www.riverside.ca.gov</p>	<p>24</p> <p>John Wayne</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Linda Welman</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Trisha Weston</p>	<p>27</p> <p>King & Beverly Williams</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Kit & Dee Wilson</p>	<p>29</p> <p>John & Cynthia Wright</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Our Pastors and their families</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Brenda Wynsma</p>					