

# Magnolia Presbyterian Church

**UpLook**  
**December 2020**



## News You Can Use

- **Family Promise** is looking for people to help with our golf tournament. We have an experienced chair that has secured the date and location but he needs some helpers. If you are able to help, please contact Deanna at [dncohen@hotmail.com](mailto:dncohen@hotmail.com) or 951-295-0787. The tournament will be Monday, April 26th at Victoria Country Club.
- **TWO CAN SUNDAY** is December 13, 2 - 3 pm in the front parking lot. Bring TWO CANS (or boxes) of food for distribution through our friends at Lutheran Social Service. They need a LOT of food.
- An exciting opportunity is coming in 2021! MagPres will have a Bible listening group with the intent for individuals **to LISTEN to the entire Bible in a year.** Interested? Contact Eric Brandenberger at [magnoliahas ears to hear@gmail.com](mailto:magnoliahas ears to hear@gmail.com). He has the Bible on CDs (or you can listen through an app of your choosing). There will be a blog for participants to communicate with one another. That's [magnolia has ears to hear@gmail.com](mailto:magnolia has ears to hear@gmail.com). (no spaces between words)
- **MISSION COMMITTEE** is soliciting donations for grocery gift cards for those in need.  
**GOAL: \$1875** == 25 gifts of \$75 each.  
YOU can give through check or online giving, noting "food box" in the memo line.

## ACCESS WORSHIP ONLINE

**You can participate in worship by going to [magpres.com/watch](http://magpres.com/watch) or by visiting our Facebook page ([facebook.com/magpres](https://www.facebook.com/magpres)).**

## ZOOM GROUPS

**Meeting ID for all Meetings**

**259 885 602 (password 7200) or use the link**

<https://zoom.us/j/259885602?pwd=VUJQMxR0SVZ3My91amMyaGpQQk9QQT09>

Having problems with Zoom? Call the church office

(leave a message! if no one answers) and we'll help you during the week.

**10 - 10:30 a.m. Time for Children | 12:30 p.m. Zoom Community | Prayer Group**

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



This Christmas season looks a little different at Magnolia...

Even though there won't be poinsettias decorating the Sanctuary; the Progressive Dinner taking place; Lessons and Carols service to enjoy in person; and the Christmas Eve service will be a different experience, there are ways to incorporate these in unique ways.

You can donate money for the Christmas Food outreach through the Mission Committee; bring an appetizer, main dish and dessert for someone alone this holiday; put on some Christmas Carols and read the passages that are shared during the Lessons and Carols service:

Genesis 3:8-15; Isaiah 11:1-4; 6-9; Isaiah 9:2,6,7; Micah 5:2-5; Luke 1:26-35, 38; Luke 2:1-7, 8-16; Matthew 2:1-11 and John 1:1-14

*"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11*

Melanie Nelson  
Clerk of Session

## Session Meetings and Minutes

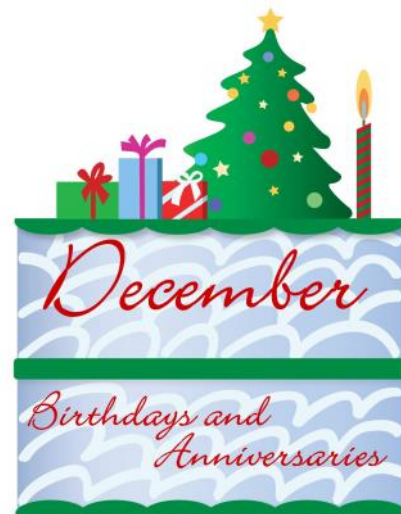
Session meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday\* of every month at 7 pm via Zoom.

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.

\*Adjustments made for holidays.

Eric Brandenberger	December 3
Claire Schlegel	December 7
AJ Knopf	December 12
AJ (Adrian) Belangeri	December 19
Chris Cox	December 19
Brenda Flowers	December 22
Thomas Thornton	December 24
Paul Knopf	December 25
Ann Brady	December 28
Kristina Andrew	December 30

Brooks, Dan and Karrie	Dec. 19
Simmons, Roger and Susan	Dec. 19



## Deacon's Corner

How Can We Transcend The Challenges We Face in These Uncertain Times?

This year has been extremely challenging with all that's happening in the world. The holidays will be very different in that we can't gather in groups, no special church services in person and no progressive dinner party, which is always a highlight of the Christmas season. Of course, the pastors and musicians will do a wonderful job of putting together the services on the internet. We are grateful for that! With God's help, we can find joy in different ways this year celebrating the birth of Jesus..

I'd like to share a few excerpts from a poem called "Continue" by Maya Angelou.

*During this time of crisis, we have a chance to get in touch with our true selves If ever we need to do that, it is now.*

*My wish for you is that you continue, continue to be who and how you are, to astonish a mean world with your acts of kindness.*

*Our true selves are grounded in love, the ground of our being, a life of gratitude, trust, humility, confidence, mutual flourishing. It is through this mutual flourishing and thoughtful togetherness that we will survive.*

*We must be an instrument, a chalice, a vessel through which  
God's amazing work can flow.*

*Continue to remind the people that each is as good as the other and that no one is beneath or above you*

*Continue to remember your own young years and look with favor upon the lost and the least and the lonely..*

Submitted by Flora Livingstone, Deacon

## FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



Please take advantage of these Giving Opportunities

- ◇ **ONLINE:** Visit our website at [www.magpres.com/give](http://www.magpres.com/give)
- ◇ **MOBILE** via text Text "magpres" to 77977
- ◇ **MOBILE** via app -- Download our church app - COMING SOON!
- ◇ **U.S. MAIL**

Send a check via US Mail to our mailing address  
7200 Magnolia Avenue | Riverside CA 92504

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Questions? Email [stewardship@magpres.com](mailto:stewardship@magpres.com)



MISSION STATEMENT:

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

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

**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

[vacant] Youth Leader

AJ Belangeri  
Interim Media/Audio Coordinator

Diana Lewis  
Administrative Assistant

