



# Magnolia Presbyterian Church

## The UpLook

APRIL 2025

**SPRING WORK PARTY** - Saturday, April 5th, 8am - 12pm, All ages & abilities welcome!  
**DEACON OFFERING** - First Sunday of the month ~ Sunday, April 6th  
**TWO-CAN SUNDAY** - Non-perishable food collection for LSS ~ Sunday, April 13th  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY** - Soup Supper 6pm ~ Service 7pm ~ Thursday, April 17th  
**EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE** - Sunday, April 20th @ 10:00am ~ In person and online  
**YOUTH EGG-HUNT** - Sunday, April 20th - Following worship @11:20am

### PASTOR PONDERING

“What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have him, this Father of our Master Jesus! Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we’ve been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now! God is keeping careful watch over us and the future. The Day is coming when you’ll have it all—life healed and whole.”

1 Peter 1:3-5 (The Message)

It seems there are two different sentiments expressed in response to our world situation:

“I love what is happening.”

“I am worried about what is happening.”

Do you resonate with one of these statements?

Encapsulated in both these comments are joy and grief, hope and fear, arrival and longing. There is a significant amount of space between these two statements. It occurs to me that later this month, we will experience these feelings as part of the seasons of the church. On April 17th, we will remember and commemorate Maundy Thursday and the final meal in the upper room. On April 18th, we will experience a Friday called “good,” remembering the darkest hours in human history. But, on Sunday, April 20th, we will celebrate and experience new life and resurrection in Easter.

As we journey through Lent towards Easter, we are reminded that we are not limited to the binary thinking of either/or. Instead we recognize there is a spectrum and that God is present at the extremes and everywhere in between. Christians long ago and throughout history experience both grief and loss but also joy and hope.

Whatever you might be feeling at this moment, two things are true: 1) You matter and 2) You are not alone. You matter to God and this community of Christ followers and there is space for you no matter where you find yourself on the spectrum. You are not alone; there are others who feel the way you do or close enough to what you feel that you don’t have to experience this world alone. And God is with you.

Easter announces that God’s plan is greater than we can imagine. Easter reminds us that death is not final. Easter recounts the truth that each person has worth and that God is with us.

No matter what you feel about our world, God is with you and you matter. May you experience hope in the midst of whatever else you are feeling.

Your hope-bearing Pastor, Paul



**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday -Thursday 9am-3pm  
Closed Lunch 12pm-1pm  
Closed Fridays

# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



The idea of a bridge can be a symbol of connection, transition, and a path from one situation to another...

## How your Session is bridging gaps:

- ~ CROP Walk for Hunger took place on March 23rd
- ~ One Great Hour of Sharing offering, Easter Sunday
- ~ Rise Against Hunger Event on September 21st
- ~ Deacons planning to hold a mental health seminar
- ~ Support of Ramona High School's Christian Club Event
- ~ Peace & Global Witness Offering, World Communion Sunday, Oct 5th
- ~ Inviting Presbytery to hold its Stated Meeting at Magnolia, Nov 8th

*“Jesus answered ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” John 14:6*

**Melanie Nelson**  
Clerk of Session



# MISSION COMMITTEE

**The MagPres Mission Committee would like to thank all who walked and donated to the annual RIVERSIDE CROP HUNGER WALK on March 23rd. MagPres had 31 walkers and raised approximately \$7,000.00 !!!**



## The Far Reaches of Legacy Giving

What do Habitat for Humanity, Vacation Bible School, and our Children's Award Bibles Program all have in common? All are receiving funds from people who are no longer with us in body. But their spiritual faith and witness have outlived them, through special gifts made to our church through legacy giving. These gifts were made with the perpetuation of our church's future in mind. Recently, two of them came as a much appreciated surprises to us. This past December, we received notice that the church was named as a beneficiary to the Clyde P. Hughes Trust. We had not been in touch with him or his wife, Viola, since the 1990s. But from his estate, the church received a check for \$161,138. Then in January of this year, we received notice that the church was named as a beneficiary to the Shirley Shawler Trust. Shirley joined the church in 1947 – almost 80 years ago - and her parents were members before that. Though she was no longer a member, at some point, she was moved to include our church in fore-planning that was important to her. The church received a check from her estate for \$36,846.

Both gifts come as we have been praying to obtain resources for rebuilding our new sanctuary - and we are most grateful. We know that there are always unexpected needs that arise, that are outside of the regular church budget. Legacy gifts like these help us absorb those expenses, while allowing us to still continue funding our regular programs. According to our church records, one of our earliest legacy givers was Mrs. Florenz Weber Love (a.k.a. Mrs. W. K. Love). Her gift was received well before the church Endowment Program started in 1993. Her generous donation provided seed money for several of the current Endowment Fund categories we have today – Christian Education, Family Ministries, Pastoral Needs, Capital Improvement, and Where Most Needed, along with a Scholarship Fund and a Memorial Fund. Many other gifts have been given throughout the history of our church. We have a record of each one in our Endowment Notebook, so that they will be remembered over time.

To find out more about legacy giving and our Endowment Program, please reach out to Pastor Paul or anyone on the Endowment Committee. We are a blessed church, and we will continue to answer God's call now and for the future.

- The Endowment Committee

### "RISING FROM THE ASHES"

Thank you to everyone who dined out on March 20th at El Torito!

We raised **\$402.00** towards the new building Capital Campaign!!



#### HOW TO GIVE TO MAGPRES

Please take advantage of these convenient

Giving Opportunities:

- DONATE:** Check or cash in offering plate or dropped off in the office
- BANK:** Set-up one-time or recurring donations with your bank bill pay
- ONLINE:** Visit our website at [www.magpres.com/give](http://www.magpres.com/give)
- U.S. MAIL:** Send check via US Mail to our address at 7200 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504





**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 children will meet in Rm 8 and Nursery in Rm 9 at 10:20 a.m.

To join the fun via Zoom simply sign in to Zoom

and use the Meeting ID: 259885602

and the Password 7200

Sunday School includes: Bible lessons, Songs, crafts, and play time.

**APRIL memory verse: John 20:29**

*Happy are those who don't see and yet believe.*

**Full Passage:**

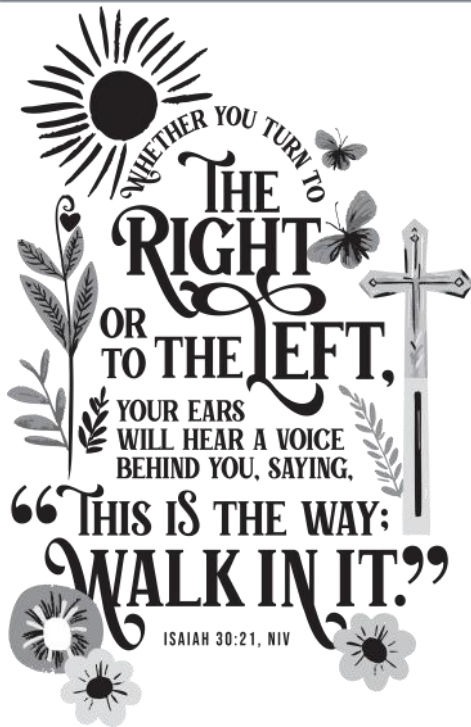
*Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me?*

*Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."*

**Students who learn memory verses will earn 'treasure chest stickers' in addition to 'attendance stickers'**



# REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH



## CHILDREN/YOUTH PERMISSION FORMS

Do you have a child/youth? We are accepting updated Student Permission forms for the 21024-2025 school year. To download a form please visit [www.magpres.com/permission](http://www.magpres.com/permission)

Contact Michelle Knopf or Jason Robinson if you have any questions

**CHOIR PRACTICE:** Meets Wednesdays at 7:00pm in the choir room

**SCOUT TROOP 16:** Meets Monday nights at 7:00pm in the Fireside Room. Our Charter Organization Rep is Tim Lewis ([webelewis@gmail.com](mailto:webelewis@gmail.com)).

**YOUTH GROUP:** meets on Sunday from 11:30-1:30 in the Youth Room.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday School for children in grades Kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade is offered during our 10am worship service in-person in Room 8 and via Zoom. Nursery is in Room 9. If you would like to connect on zoom, please use this link: **Meeting ID 559885602 Password:7200**

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

# STANDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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. Keep up the good work as we continue loving our neighbors who are hungry!

**STATER BROS. GIFT CARDS:** Gift cards in the amounts of \$25, \$50, and \$100 are available to purchase in the church office. Monday - Thursday, 9:00am - 3:00pm (closed 12-1pm). 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:** Instructions on downloading the app to our "Instant Church Directory" (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 at [church@magpres.com](mailto:church@magpres.com)**

**DEACONS OFFERING:** The first Sunday of every month, we collect the DEACONS 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.

**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.

**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 neighbor.





### Deacons Desk

Dear Magpres Family,  
I find myself this morning feeling a great sadness at the political and spiritual condition of our country, as I am sure many others of us also feel. I can't understand how we have gotten where we are today; the spiritual low I feel is real. So, right now, I did a search for verses about not putting trust political leaders, and I found one that spoke to me and encouraged me, Psalm 145:3-10.

*Don't put your confidence in powerful people; there is no help for you there. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth, and all their plans die with them. But joyful are those who have the God of Israel as their helper, whose hope is in the LORD their God. He made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them. He keeps every promise forever. He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The LORD lifts up those who are weighed down. The LORD loves the godly. The LORD protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked. The LORD will reign forever. He will be your God, O Jerusalem, throughout the generations. Lord, help us to be godly people and remind us to be truly joyful in the knowledge that You our one true Helper. Amen.*

Love,  
Holly Goulet Perez



**Join the Choir...**  
You'll Be Glad  
You Did!

**Come join the Choir! We meet  
Wednesday Nights at 7:00pm  
in the Choir Room located in the  
Church Office.**



*Praise the LORD! Sing to  
the LORD a new song.*  
Psalm 149:1, NRSV

## SPECIAL DAYS IN APRIL

- ✦ **PALM SUNDAY ~ APRIL 13th**
- ✦ **MAUNDY THURSDAY ~ APRIL 17th**
- ✦ **GOOD FRIDAY ~ APRIL 18th**
- ✦ **EASTER SUNDAY ~ APRIL 20th**



...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 9:00am-3:00pm  
Closed 12-1pm Lunch  
Closed Friday



**Magnolia Presbyterian  
Church Staff**

The Rev. Paul Knopf  
*Pastor*  
Lisa Gulino  
*Administrative Assistant*  
John Wright  
*Choral Director*  
Cynthia Wright  
*Pianist/Accompanist*  
Allison Robinson  
*Nursery Attendant*  
Jaeson Robinson  
*Youth Leader*  
Robbie Yates,  
*Audio-Video Tech*  
Michelle Knopf,  
*CE Leader*

**APRIL 13th**

Every 2nd Sunday of the month MagPres collects non-perishable food donations for Lutheran Social Services local food distribution. Last month we collected over **151** items! Thank you all for your generosity!

*Donations may be dropped off during Sunday Service or in the church office.*



**SPRING WORK PARTY**

**SAT. APR. 5th ~ 8am-12pm**

**All ages & abilities welcome!**



# MagPres April 2025 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	31 7pm - Scouts - Troop 16	1 6pm - CE Cmte. 6:30pm - FOM Cmte. 7pm - BaG Cmte. 7pm - Mission Cmte.	2 7pm - Choir Practice	3 12pm - Thursday Midday Bible	4 Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	5 8am - Spring Work Party 9:30am - EEEAC
6 10am - Communion Sunday 10am - Deacon Offering 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	7 7pm - Scouts - Troop 16	8 6pm - Worship Cmte 7pm - Stew_Fin Cmte	9 7pm - Choir Practice	10 12pm - Thursday Midday Bible	11 Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	12 9:30am - EEEAC 4pm - Path of Life Meal Prep and
13 Palm Sunday 10am - TWO-CAN Sunday 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	14 7pm - Scouts - Troop 16	15 7pm - Deacon Meeting	16 Session Mat'ls Due 9am 7pm - Choir Practice	17 Maundy Thursday 12pm - Thursday Midday Bible 6pm - Soup Supper 7pm - Maundy Thursday Service	18 Good Friday Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	19 9:30am - EEEAC
20 Easter 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday 11:20am - Easter Egg Hunt	21 9am UpLook Mat'ls Due 7pm - Scouts - Troop 16	22 7pm - Session Meeting	23 7pm - Choir Practice	24 12pm - Thursday Midday Bible	25 Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	26 9:30am - EEEAC
27 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	28 7pm - Scouts - Troop 16	29	30 7pm - Choir Practice	1	2 Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	3 9:30am - EEEAC

# APRIL 2025 PRAYER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Tom & Lauren Rogers	2 Claudia Roman	3 Betty Rosenthal	4 Beverly Rounsaville	5 Tom & Kathy Safford
6 Riverside Fire Dept.	7 Amanda Schlegel	8 Julianne Schlegel	9 The Rev. Claire Schlegel	10 Alli Shaff	11 Evelyn Shea	12 Kris Shea
13 Building & Grounds Comm.	14 Saw Shein	15 Diane Sieckmann	16 Roger & Susan Simmons	17 The Sindaha Family	18 Bob & Carla Smith	19 Phil & Sally Smith
20 Calvary Presbyterian	21 The Smith Family	22 The Spring-Pearson Family	23 The Stiffler Family	24 John Swearingen	25 Thomas & Cherylyn Thornton	26 Alyssa Timoschuk
27 Teen Challenge	28 Chuck & Delores Tobin	29 Chris Tollleson	30 Phyllis Townsend			



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



### April Birthdays

Sam Lee	1st	Timothy Lewis	8th	Liberty Mabena	21st
Bev Rounsaville	2nd	Joy Bower	11th	Addison Nicholson	22nd
John Jackson	2nd	Ramsey Sindaha	13th	Adrien Lowrey	22nd
Dave Josselyn	4th	Aaron Cohen	16th	Julianne Schlegel	23rd
Kylee Stiffler	6th	Bob Lewis	19th	Sydney Smith	26th
		Dee Lacy	21st	Susan Simmons	27th

### April Anniversaries

Mike & Janet Doshier	4th	Lowell & Dee Lacy	8th	Edith & Gary Grant	26th
		Jason & Katie Nicholson	8th	Joel & Dorothy McLaughlin/Sachs	28th