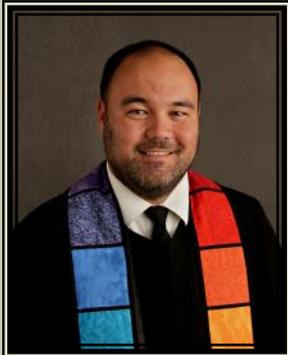


# Magnolia Presbyterian Church

## The Uplook

August 2021



On the last Sunday in July, my mom joined us for worship, in-person here at MagPres. And while waiting for worship to begin, she observed many of us make the long trek from the parking lot to the worship center. She noticed something peculiar about us: every couple that arrived together, were holding hands as they made their way to the worship center. Even my in-laws, who also attended in-person worship that day, were observed holding hands too as they walked up to the worship center. Upon hearing my mom's observation, my in-laws were surprised to hear they were doing it too, not because they are opposed to holding hands, but because they had not realized they were doing it.

Attending worship at MagPres, being a part of MagPres, being in proximity to this community, it changes people. Whether we are aware of it or not, we are different people because we gather to worship God together. For some of us, that means gathering on Sunday mornings, in-person, in our worship center. For others, it means tuning in online. And while many of us long for a return to "what is normal:" all of MagPres worshipping together, in-person; that normal may never return.

Phyllis Tickle, in her book *The Great Emergence*, posits that the (big C) Church experiences great upheaval about every 500 years. She identifies the incarnation, Jesus walking this earth, as the starting point. Then approximately 500 years later (circa 451), theological debates about the divinity and humanity of Jesus, as well as the codification of scripture, changed the landscape. Approximately 500 years after that (c. 1054), there was the Great Schism, where the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches split. Approximately 500 years after that, came the Great Reformation (1517), when Martin Luther nailed the 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Chapel sparking the Protestant Reformation. Tickle then identifies our modern day as the The Great Emergence, a time when our global connection, the internet, and other advances will lead to a new landscape for the Church. And while she could not have predicted COVID, our current situation has altered the Church in ways similar to previous 500 year intervals.

As part of this approximately 500 year interval, we at MagPres are committed to providing both in-person and online worship experiences. Our goal is to provide experiences that allow you to worship in ways you feel safe and comfortable. In fact, you may remember that we began live streaming our worship services prior to the pandemic. This requires us to consider new ways of doing life together and being the church wherever we are. And as we embrace the new reality that is in front of us we will continue to make a difference in people's lives, as we have for over 140 years. And we do this all in Jesus' name.

I look forward to embracing this new future together with you.

Your embracing the future Co-Pastor, Paul.

### Inside this issue

Pastors Message 1

Deacons Corner 2

Session Highlights 3  
Youth Group

Stewardship 4  
Financials

Choir Message 5

Recipe's, Trivia 6

Birthdays & 7  
Anniversaries

Ending Credits 8

## DEACON'S CORNER

Recently I was reminded of the parable of the mustard seed. As a deacon, I have been called upon to care for and tend to the needs of our friends of MagPres who are gathered into flocks. One of the members of my flock has, in turn, helped me. I called her to determine what I can do for her as she goes through the painful process of chemotherapy. When she first answered the phone, she greeted me by name and I could hear the smile on her face. She asked me how I was. Incredible. Our conversation continued as she shared with me her needs, yet the whole time she shared with me the positives that have come from her situation. She again asked me how I was and I shared with her my upcoming family reunion. She emphatically told me to have a wonderful time and to embrace the gifts that I have in family. The joy with which she stated it was truly remarkable. Her faith was inspirational and, much like the parable of the mustard seed, did go a long way... she helped me to grow in my faith. The lessons that I take from the parable .. And my conversation, is that a small amount of faith can lead us to do great things, it is contagious, and it will allow you to serve God in many ways.

Anna Brandenberger  
Deacon/Vice-Moderator

## Chris Enoch's Retirement

**We would like to announce that Chris Enoch has decided to retire. Chris served Magnolia Presbyterian as an associate Pastor from 2002-2006. His retirement date is set for September 26, 2021.**

**We wish Chris & Susie all the best on this new chapter of their life. They will be living his days of retirement in Texas and they are looking forward to their future....**

**We wish them on their new chapter of their life. May all the years bring great joy and relaxation.**

**If anyone would like to send him any correspondence, you may send it to:**

**Presbyterian Church of Marion  
P.O. Box 178  
Marion Center Pennsylvania, 15759  
[www.marionpres.org](http://www.marionpres.org)**



## 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://facebook.com/magpres)). Services are archived for you to watch later (or again!)



## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session was “dark” in July...  
Highlights will return in September

*“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,  
faithful in prayer.” Romans 12:12*

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.\***

## YOUTH GROUP

**Youth Group is taking a break in August!**

**NEXT MEETING: September 12, 2021**

Please keep our leaders and youth in your prayers until we resume...  
Contact: Eric Brandenberger at [esouthernca@gmail.com](mailto:esouthernca@gmail.com) for more info.

*\*exceptions for holidays and other events \**

## COVID-19-UPDATE

### **COVID-19-News update from the Re-opening Committee**

Based on the recommendation and In accordance with CDC guidelines: **Effective as of August 1, 2021** The session at MagPres has decided that, **Everyone whether vaccinated or not, must wear masks indoors. This mandate includes children of all ages due to the rising transmission rates.**

Thank you for your understanding...



## STEWARDSHIP NOTES

Our Regional Presbyterian representative from the Presbyterian Foundation, where our Endowment Funds are growing, visited with us and included a concept called "The 60, 20, 20 Rule".

She said it was as measure for health of congregational giving and income. At least 60% should come from giving of families and individuals,

No more than 20% should come from Endowment Income Interest, and

No more than 20% should come from Rental Income from outside groups.

So how do we measure up using our giving? For the year 2020 (over 9 months with no in-person worship) our income was:

**63% from pledges, non-pledge giving and loose offering**

**21% from Rental Income**

**And 16% from Endowment Fund Interest.**

Well done good and faithful, our generosity continues despite covid 19 and the results of the fire which destroyed our sanctuary. We thank the Session and committees for leadership during these stressful times. We thank the Pastors for helping keep us connected. And we thank you for your giving.

Chris C. Nettles, Stewardship Chair

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**2021 January – June**

<b>Income</b>	<b>\$188,603.80</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$175,426.35</b>
<b>Positive</b>	<b>\$ 13,177.45</b>

### HOW TO GIVE

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 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

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



## A World Without Music!

Can you imagine a world without music? Can you imagine worship without music? I can't imagine either one of those scenarios. Now, let me ask; are you looking for a place to plug-in at church? Church choir is a great place to get involved, and to get to know better the people you see in front of you every Sunday (nearly every Sunday.)

At choir we sing together, pray together, share with one another, and have fun. It is a great place to share in a non-threatening environment, and to share the talents that God has given you. Don't tell me you don't have talent. God sees you singing in your car, at home or wherever. So why not sing for Him? It is very rewarding and you get to hang out with me! That's like a win win. (I usually say win win for everybody, but Cynthia corrects me every time.) Which of course is why I do it.

We will begin choir on Thursday September 16 at 7 PM. Usually it runs about an hour, sometimes a little more. Once we share and pray, we are generally out by 8:30 at the latest. James, Cynthia and I look forward to singing with you and leading worship together. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions. I would love to discuss this with you. You can reach me at [music@magpres.com](mailto:music@magpres.com)

John Wright  
Choir Director

### Rain

One rainy afternoon I was driving along one of the main streets of town, taking those extra precautions necessary when the roads are wet and slick. Suddenly, my son, Matthew, spoke up from his relaxed position in his seat. "Mom, I'm thinking of something."

This announcement usually meant he had been pondering some fact for a while. And was now ready to expound all that his six year old mind had discovered. I was eager to hear.

"What are you thinking?" I asked. "The rain!;" he began, "is like sin, and the windshield wipers are like God wiping our sins away." After the chill bumps raced up my arms I was able to respond. "That's really good, Matthew." Then my curiosity broke in. How far would this little boy take this revelation? So I asked..."Do you notice how the rain keeps on coming? What does that tell you?"

Matthew didn't hesitate one moment with his answer: "We keep on sinning, and God just keeps on forgiving us." I will always remember this whenever I turn my wipers on. In order to see the rainbow, you must first endure some rain. We must continually come to the LORD and seek His forgiveness.



By: Brenda Hunter

## Southwest BBQ Chicken Tacos



- 1 cup of BBQ sauce
- 1 Tbsp. southwest seasoning
- 1/2 tsp. hot sauce (any brand)
- 2 tsp. olive oil
- 3 cups of shredded chicken
- 8 (6 inch) flour or corn tortilla
- 1/2 cup chopped tomatoes
- 1/2 cup finely shredded fiesta blend cheese
- 1/2 cup chopped cilantro
- Lime wedges, for serving

Combine BBQ sauce, seasoning and hot sauce in a small bowl, let stand for 15 minutes. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat until hot. Add chicken; cook and stir 5 to 10 minutes until chicken is cooked through. Add BBQ sauce mixture. Cook additional 3 to 5 minutes until chicken is coated and sauce thickens slightly. Heat tortillas according to package directions. Spoon chicken mixture evenly onto the center of each tortilla. Top each taco evenly with tomatoes, cheese and cilantro, serve with lime wedges. You may serve your tacos with additional toppings, if desired, such as chopped red onions or jalapeno slices.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Bible Trivia



Circle the correct answer. For answers please turn to page 7.

**What does Paul mean when he said that Apollos watered the seed?**

- A. Apollos was a great Gardner.
- B. Apollos was edifying the converts Paul has won.
- C. Apollos was softening the hearts of unbelievers for the Gospel.
- D. Apollos was diluting the work of the Gospel.

**Paul gives a message to the Corinthians about what type of wisdom?**

- A. The wisdom of this world.
- B. Wisdom of Princes.
- C. Wisdom of God
- D. Wisdom of the Mature

**Where will you find: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."?**

- A. Matt 1: 1
- B. Gen 1:1
- C. John 1:1
- D. Rev 1:1



**Birthdays**

Marge Cox	August 9
Jimmy Doshier	August 9
Bruce Ferrel	August 10
Gary Grant	August 14
Mike Doshier	August 15
Taylor Stiffler	August 17
Bev Williams	August 19
Kathy Safford	August 20
Linda Welman	August 22
Beverley Guidero	August 24
Jerry Fisher	August 27
Barbara Johnson	August 28
Marti Hendrix	August 29
Robin Smith	August 29

**Anniversaries**

<b>Cohen, Kathy &amp; Neil</b>	August 14
<b>Dickenson, Richard &amp; Heather</b>	August 14
<b>Copeland, Rev. Brad &amp; Lori</b>	August 20
<b>Platner, Gary and Pat</b>	August 30

**Answer Key:  
B, C, B**

**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](http://www.magpres.com/people) (call the office for the password).**
- Always - if your address, phone, or email changes, notify [church@magpres.com](mailto: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.**



*A Rich Tradition...A Bright Future*

**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
RIVERSIDE, CA**

**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

**August 2021**



**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

Devote  
yourselves  
TO  
prayer.

COLOSSIANS 4:2



● Connect With Us ●

 [www.facebook.com/magpres](http://www.facebook.com/magpres)

 [church@magpres.com](mailto:church@magpres.com)

 [www.magpres.com](http://www.magpres.com)