



Presbyterian Portfolio

First Presbyterian Church
390 NE 2nd Street, McMinnville, OR 97128
503-472-6256 / fpc.mcminnville@gmail.com / fpc-mac.org
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Upon Further Reflection

What Makes the Church Unique?

When I read the stories of Jesus, I'm often caught off guard by how he handles difficult situations. He answers questions with questions, he rejects the established protocols about the Sabbath Day, he goes out of his way to encounter people who are considered unclean, he speaks in parables that are difficult to understand, he is the Messiah but also wants his followers to keep his identity a secret.

What made Jesus different was that he operated out of a heavenly perspective rather than an earthly one. He was powerful, but his power was used to lift up people who were hurting rather than knock down people he disagreed with. He wasn't the least bit interested in accumulating political power, armed guards, or even money for his ministry.

He was worried about what God was up to in the world. He focused on the people who were left out and oppressed by the powers of the day. He sought to connect life here on earth with the things of heaven. That made a lot of people upset because their power and reputation were called into question by his lack of concern for worldly power.

What made Jesus unique is also what makes the church unique. The church is filled by the same Spirit of God who guided Jesus to his unusual perspective on life. The power of the church is found in coming alongside those who are hurting, rejecting the us-vs-them framework of the surrounding world, and following in the way of Jesus' self-giving love.

When we become fearful of political powers, armed guards, and monied interests, we can remember that Jesus never sought to engage with these worldly powers on their own terms. Like Jesus, our true citizenship is in heaven, and that is what makes us unique. In a world full of bad news, the church's uniqueness is also what enables us to be a sign of God's good news.

Pastor Matt Johnson

Worship

WORSHIP with us

**Communion Sundays
February 2nd & 16th**

Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am for worship in person or to watch the livestream. The service will be recorded and available on our website, fpc-mac.org, to view later.

Deep River Contemplative Services are on the last Wednesday of most months at 7:00 pm. The January service will be on January 29th. The service in February will be on the 26th.

Music Ministry

Guys! Want to try something different? We are going to have a POP-UP Choir experience. What, exactly, is that, you ask? Well, on Sunday, February 16th, the men of the choir (and me) are inviting other men within the congregation to join them in singing a hymn during the worship service in place of a regular choir anthem. If this idea interests you, come for a quick rehearsal of an easy hymn before the service begins. Our time to meet will be 9:45 am to go over the hymn a couple of times. Then, during the service, this POP-UP Choir will sing for worship. Easy-peasy. And, it will be fun to hear an all male group sing for worship. Come try it out! For more information contact Marcia at 971-387-6183 or marciastratman@gmail.com

Looking for musical volunteers to participate in various segments of worship is a constant search. I am thankful for my regular volunteers who use this opportunity to get better at whatever instrument they play while providing our congregation with meditative and spiritual music. There are always slots available and we can accommodate your schedule when choosing a Sunday for you to share your musical gifts. If you are interested or wish to have questions answered, let me know. Singers, pianists, organists, other instrumentalists – all are welcome. We will find a spot for you.

Marcia Stratman, Director of Music

After Worship Fellowship Time

Many thanks to so many people and groups who graciously hosted fellowship hours during the past year. Your efforts and kindness have been appreciated by all.

With the start of the new year it is time to fill in the open spots for the next few months. For those who already know how to use Sign Up Genius you may sign up on your own and you will be contacted to see if you need additional volunteers, supplies, or a dishwasher. If you are uncertain about the computer program, contact Linda Mihnos at mihnosl@aol.com.

All members, ministry teams, small groups, deacons, elders and staff are invited to participate. If you would like to coordinate a minute for mission opportunity during the Sunday service please contact Pastor Matt directly. Let's have a great year of connection and fellowship!

Earth Care



Earth Care Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:00 AM in the Whitman Room. You are invited to attend and become involved with Caring for God's Creation.

The Plastic Project

Next plastic collection event is **February 8, 2025**, 10am-1pm
First Baptist Church, 125 SE Cowls Street, McMinnville, OR 97128

February 6th at 4:30 PM bring your plastic to sort and combine with others to the Fellowship Area. The cost to recycle each bag is \$4.

Here is information from the Plastic Project Website:

Bring your non-curbside items sorted and bagged separately.

Plastic must be clean and dry to be accepted.

Combine smaller bags together into a large paper grocery bag.

\$4 per full paper grocery bag. Cash or Check accepted.

We recycle:

- Straws & Utensils
- Bread bag clips
- Clear (no color) #1 PET plastic
- #2 HDPE plastic
- #4 LDPE plastic
- #5 PP plastic
- #6 PS plastic

Re-usable Take Out Containers

Next time you're out and about getting coffee, baked goods, your morning smoothie or acai bowl, stop at Alchemist's Jam and Local Flow! Ask to join their Forever Ware program so you can start reusing your take-out containers.

Here's how it works:

BORROW

Pay a \$5 deposit for a stainless steel container for take-out, delivery or leftovers

RETURN

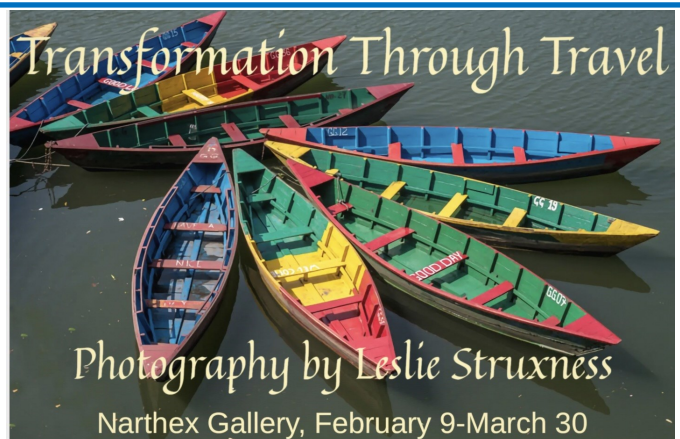
Get your \$5 back when you return that container to any participating restaurant in Mac

REPEAT

These containers will be sanitized and reused again and again, eliminating single-use plastic

**Coming to the Narthex Gallery
February 9th
Transformation through Travel
Photography by Leslie Struxness**

Join us after worship on February 9th for the
Artist's Reception
11:30am - 1:00 pm
in the Whitman Room



Children, Youth, & Family

CHILDREN'S TIME

Sundays at 10:30am

Children are invited to worship & will be excused to Children's Time

February 2: Communion
No Children's Time

February 9: Stay Awake!

February 16: God is Faithful

February 23: Transfiguration
of the Lord



KIDVENTURE

MONDAYS @ 5:15-6:30PM
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHILDREN KINDER - 5TH GRADE

February 3
Philippians
Life In Christ

February 10
2 Thessalonians
Rejoice, Pray, Give Thanks

February 17
No Kidventure
President's Day

February 24
Philippians
Lent

A JOINT MINISTRY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH & FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Children, Youth, & Family

- 2/2: Youth Band
@ McMinnville Covenant Church
3:30-4:30pm
- 2/2: Youth Group
@ First Presbyterian Church
MS-5-6:30pm, HS-6-7:30pm
- 2/5: Pizza Lunch at MHS, Room #DI22
- 2/9: Super Bowl Party
@ Toth's Toy Barn, 3:30-7:00pm
- 2/14-2/17: Winter Camp
@ Camp Arrah Wanna
- 2/16: No Youth Band or Youth Group
- 2/18: Youth Group Dinner @ Alf's, 6-7pm
- 2/23: Youth Band
@ McMinnville Covenant Church
3:30-4:30pm
- 2/23: Youth Group
@ First Presbyterian Church
MS-5-6:30pm, HS-6-7:30pm

McMinnville Youth Collective



McMinnville Youth Collective SUPER BOWL PARTY

February 9th
3:30pm to 7:00pm
2700 NW Pinehurst Drive, Mac
bring a dessert, snack, or side to share
(drinks and hotdogs will be provided)



McMINNVILLE YOUTH COLLECTIVE DINNER

Tuesday, February 18
6-7 pm @ Alf's

BRING MONEY FOR DINNER. FRIENDS ALWAYS WELCOME.



Nuts & Bolts

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

(Operating Fund)

<u>December:</u>	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Budget</u>	
Receipts	\$ 41,109	10.9%	\$ 31,286	8.3%
Expenses	48,335	11.2%	35,821	8.3%
Increase/ (Decrease)	\$(7,226)	13.3%	\$(4,535)	8.3%

<u>2024 YTD:</u>	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Budget</u>	
Receipts	\$ 407,826	109%	\$ 375,430	100%
Expenses	420,807	98%	429,846	100%
Increase/ (Decrease)	\$(12,981)	24%	\$(54,416)	100%

December receipts were greater than budget while expenses were also greater than budget, resulting in a deficit. The annual operating fund ended with a smaller deficit than budgeted.

Thank you for your continued support.

Prayer Requests

Contact Carley Bushart at
503-560-0183 or prayer@fpc-mac.org

Next Portfolio Deadline: February 17, 2025

Portfolio Staff

Managing Editor: Matt Johnson
Editor: Nancy MacDonald

Church Staff

Pastor: Matt Johnson
mattj@fpc-mac.org
Administrative Coordinator: Nancy MacDonald
nancym@fpc-mac.org
Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries:
Kate Satterstrom
kates@fpc-mac.org
Director of Music: Marcia Stratman
marcias@fpc-mac.org

Session Highlights

Action taken and information items are summarized for the Portfolio monthly. These are the highlights of the Jan. 15th Session meeting:

1. Session approved the following expenditures: \$2854 plus labor to install a new motor in the heat pump that serves Calvin Hall West: \$1098 for new handrails for the stairs at the front of the sanctuary.
2. Set the communion schedule to remain as the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month
3. Approved the new ministry team and committee assignments for elders:
 - Building & Grounds - Tom MacDonald
 - Children, Youth, & Family - Denise Collins and Mary McBride
 - Creative Arts - Cathy Stephens
 - Mission - Tom Mann
 - Stewardship, Budget, & Finance - John Bush
 - Worship & Music - Linda Mihnos
 - Nominating Committee - Sandra Sherwood and Cathy Stephens
 - Personnel Committee - Sandra Sherwood and Tom Mann
 - Clerk of Session - Sharon Laddusaw

Staff Out of the Office

Kate Satterstrom will be at the APCE Conference in Memphis Tuesday, Jan. 28th through Saturday, Feb. 1st. She will also be out Tuesday, Jan. 11th.

Nancy MacDonald will be on vacation Monday, Feb. 24th through Friday, Feb. 28th.



The church office will be closed

Monday, February 17th

Upcoming Events

Caring and Connecting Small Group

There are times in all of our lives when burdens feel especially heavy and sometimes we would like to find Christian comfort and support among friends. Perhaps you are providing care for a spouse, relative or friend or are grieving the loss of a loved one or feeling your life changing by any number of life events. There are great differences in what we are experiencing but there are also great similarities. Sorrow, fear, exhaustion to name a few. We wonder if anyone else understands or cares about us or if God is even with us.

The big picture answer is yes, God is with you and yes, there are plenty of us who have been through similar experiences. At FPC we are forming a new small group with a different format. This group is open to anyone who would like to drop in for as long as you like or to come and go over time, as needed. We will be meeting the first Tuesday of every month in the Witherspoon room at 10:00 am. Please feel free to stop in for coffee, connecting, idea exchange and Christian support.

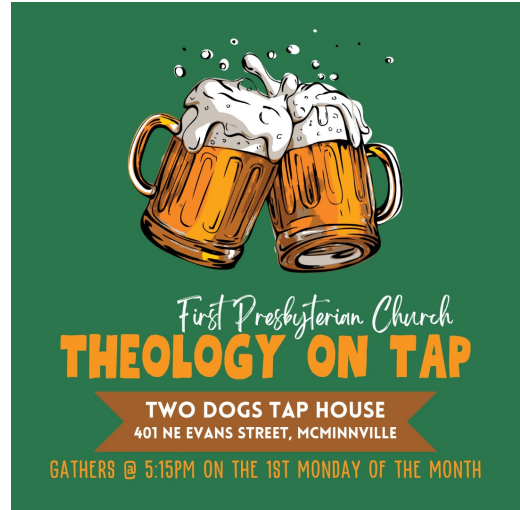
This is time for you to focus on maintaining your own emotional, physical and spiritual health. It is not a formal class, there is no curriculum. We will share lives and emotions confidentially, look for resources where appropriate and pray together. You don't need an invitation, but if you would like to speak with someone first, please contact Becky Donaly or Linda Mihnos for more information.

Tom Wright Speaking in Tualatin

Friday, February 7th
8:30 am - 12:15 pm
Rolling Hills Community Church

Here is the link to register and for more details:
<https://luispalauassociation.regfox.com/gospel-gathering-with-nt-wright>

Let Pastor Matt know if you are going and would like to carpool.



Join Pastor Matt on Monday, February 3rd at 5:15 pm for fellowship and discussion.

Weekly Bible Study Mondays at 1:00 pm

A weekly Bible study, led by Pastor Matt, on the scripture reading for the following Sunday meets on Monday afternoons at 1:00 pm in the Whitman Room.

We will not meet on Feb. 10th as Pastor Matt will be out of the office and on the 17th which is the President's Day holiday.



Social Justice Book Club

The Social Justice Book Club meets monthly on Zoom to discuss a book selected by the group. For our next gathering on Wednesday, February 26th at 4pm we will meet to discuss "Generations" by Jean M. Twenge.

Contact Kate Satterstrom for the Zoom link.

All in the Family



Sheila McCluskey	1st
Barb Schoof	1st
Scott Smith	2nd
Micah Johnson Soderlund	4th
Lynn Foster	5th
Ardeth Parry	5th
Ayele Amuzu	8th
Norm Kramer	12th
Jillian Staneck	12th
Chris Steinman	14th
Karen Harper	15th
Cathy Stephens	15th
Sandra Sherwood	18th
Caroline Moore	19th
Kevin Moore	21st
Aaron Brunner	24th
Dolores Sterling	24th
Ann Widen	24th
Maggie Custer	25th
Nancy MacDonald	26th
Jim Rogers	28th

Happy Birthday!

Decorations for Fellowship Hall Tables

Attention all crafters: If you are interested in making table arrangements for the seven tables in the fellowship hall, please sign up behind the door of the Cumberland storage room in the basement. Table arrangements are left up for a month and we have a lot of vases and decorations available for you to use.

If you have questions, please contact Mary Ellen Fleeger.

A graphic with the text "PRAYING FOR YOU" in white, uppercase letters, set against a green, textured background that looks like a splash of paint or a brushstroke.

February Prayer Calendar

"Devote yourself to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2

Please lift each household name or group listed below in prayer on that day of the month.

1. Tom & Carolyn Mann
2. Carrie Martin
3. Kidventure
4. Pat Martin
5. Mary McBride
6. Sheila McCluskey
7. Fred & Marie McDonnal
8. Shawna McRae, Savannah & Holden
9. Linda Mihnos
10. Robert & Suzanne Miller
11. Ron & Donna Miller
12. Wednesday Breakfast
13. Ted & Paula Miller
14. MYC Winter Camp
15. Community Dinner
16. Kevin & Caroline Moore, Grayson, Adelynn, & Ryan
17. Joanne Mucken
18. Janet Myatt
19. Session
20. Lee Niederer
21. Tom & Mary Norton
22. Betty Olson
23. Karen Olson
24. Janet Oswald
25. Steve & Rachel Parker
26. Bob & Ardeth Parry
27. Zoe Pearson
28. Dave & Gudie Pfendler

Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time 12:00pm Annual Congregational Meeting 5:00pm MYC Middle School Youth 6:00pm MYC High School Youth	27 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 1:00pm Bible Study 5:15pm Kidventure	28 9:00am Earth Care Committee 9:30am Women in the Word Leadership 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:00pm Social Justice Book Club on Zoom	29 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 5:30pm Women's AA Group 7:00pm Deep River Contemplative Worship	30 9:30am Women in the Word 5:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	31 Office Closed	1 5:00pm Community Dinner (take out only)
2 Communion 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time 5:00pm MYC Middle School Youth 6:00pm MYC High School Youth	3 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 1:00pm Bible Study 5:15pm Kidventure 5:15pm Theology on Tap	4 10:00am Caring & Connecting Small Group 10:00am Staff Meeting	5 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 5:30pm Women's AA Group	6 3:30pm Mission Team 4:30pm Plastic Recycling Sorting 5:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	7 Office Closed 8:00am Tom Wright Event in Tualatin	8 10:00am Plastic Recycling Collection at FBC 3:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal 5:00pm Community Dinner (take out only)
9 10:30am Worship 11:30am Artist's Reception 11:30am Fellowship Time 3:30pm MYC Super Bowl Party	10 Pastor Matt at Menucha 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 10:30am Small Group 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 1:00pm 99 GAL Friends 4:00pm Building & Grounds Team 5:15pm Kidventure	11 Pastor Matt at Menucha 9:30am Women in the Word Leadership 10:00am 99 GAL Friends Event 1:00pm Garden Club Committee	12 Pastor Matt at Menucha 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 1:30pm YCCO/SIT 5:30pm Women's AA Group 6:00pm Sarah Circle	13 Pastor Matt at Menucha 9:30am Women in the Word 4:00pm Membership Exploration Class 5:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	14 MYC Winter Camp Office Closed	15 MYC Winter Camp 5:00pm Community Dinner (take out only)
16 Communion MYC Winter Camp 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time 6:00pm Investment Club	17 MYC Winter Camp Office Closed 9:00am McMinnville Garden Club 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club	18 9:30am Women in the Word Leadership 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm MYC Dinner	19 Portfolio 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 9:30am Agape Circle 5:30pm Women's AA Group 7:00pm Session	20 9:30am Women in the Word 5:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	21 Office Closed 10:30am 99 GAL Friends CES Focus Team	22 5:00pm Community Dinner (take out only)
23 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time 5:00pm MYC Middle School Youth 6:00pm MYC High School Youth	24 Nancy on vacation 9:00am Monday Morning Maintenance 10:30am Small Group 12:00pm Oak Valley Bridge Club 1:00pm Bible Study 5:15pm Kidventure	25 Nancy on vacation 9:00am Earth Care Committee 9:30am Women in the Word Leadership 10:00am Staff Meeting	26 Nancy on vacation 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast 4:00pm Social Justice Book Club on Zoom 5:30pm Women's AA Group 7:00pm Deep River Contemplative Worship	27 Nancy on vacation 9:30am Women in the Word 3:00pm 99 GAL Friends Women's Health Team 5:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	28 Nancy on vacation Office Closed	1 5:00pm Community Dinner (take out only)