# Marple Presbyterian Church

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**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, November 22, 2026 - 10:30 a.m. Worship, Cantata**
Attendees are invited to donate non-perishable food items for Chester Eastside. Please stay for the work day after worship today. We will be sorting items for Chester Eastside. Lunch will be provided.

**Rev. Roberta Kearney, Transitional Pastor | Sermon – Stewardship of Legacy**

We welcome you to join us in-person or virtually. You can access the live stream on Twitch HERE.
Past services may be viewed on our YouTube channel using the link on our website.
The live stream link and weekly bulletins are also available on our website, www.marplepres.org.

**Pastor Roberta Kearney's e-mail – rkearney@marplepres.org**

**MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN THRIFT SHOP**
**Saturday, Nov. 21 10 am – 4 pm**
**Tuesday, Nov. 24 10 am – 3 pm**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS ON ZOOM**
**Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 3 – 4 pm**
zoom.us/j/6103561098 Password MPC

**Thursdays** at 6:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal

**Nov. 24 at 7 pm –** MN Clergy Assoc. Interfaith Worship Service at Wesley Enhanced Living Main Line, 100 Halcyon Dr, Media, PA 19063, USA

**Nov. 25 - 27** - Church Office Closed

# Stewardship

GROWING OUR FAITH

## Stewardship of Legacy

What does it mean to leave a legacy? We often think of accomplishments, milestones, or the lasting marks we leave behind. But the story of Moses invites us to consider a different understanding of faithfulness.

After leading the Israelites through the wilderness, Moses stands on a mountain and sees the Promised Land. He knows he will not enter it. His journey is ending, and Joshua will lead the people forward. Moses does not see the final outcome of his life's work, but he has helped prepare a people to continue their journey with God.

**In God's economy, success is not measured only by what we accomplish, but also by what we nurture in others and entrust to the future.**

Moses was a remarkable leader, yet his story was not without struggle or disappointment. He could not guarantee the Israelites' future or know how Joshua's leadership would unfold. Instead, he had to trust God's promises and the community's ability to move forward.

This is the stewardship of legacy: investing in people, sharing responsibility, and preparing others to carry on the work. Rather than relying on one person's strength, God's economy invites us into connection and shared calling. We are blessed not simply to receive God's gifts, but to become a blessing to others.

Psalm 90 reminds us that our lives are finite and asks God to teach us to number our days so that we may gain a wise heart (Psalm 90:12). Our time is precious. How we use it matters—not because we can control the results, but because we can faithfully plant seeds whose fruit we may never see.

Churches, too, experience seasons of change, loss, and uncertainty. We may remember earlier days with gratitude and grieve what has changed. Honoring our past is important, but our legacy is not simply preserving what once was. It is carrying forward the faith, wisdom, love, and service that will help future generations grow.

We cannot know exactly what lies ahead. We can, however, trust that God's work is larger than any one person or generation. Our calling is to serve faithfully, encourage one another, and make room for those who will follow.

As Psalm 90:17 prays, may God establish the work of our hands. May we leave behind not merely a record of what we accomplished, but a community strengthened by our love and prepared to continue God's work.

**Reflection Questions to Consider:**

1. What gifts of faith, wisdom, or service have others passed on to you?
2. What might our congregation need to celebrate, grieve, or release as it prepares for the future?
3. How can we invest in younger generations and emerging leaders without needing to control the outcome?
4. What does it mean for us to be a blessing to those who will come after us?

**Prayer:** Faithful God, thank you for those who have led us and prepared the way. Help us honor our past, trust you with our future, and faithfully nurture the gifts of others. May the work of our hands bless generations we may never know. Amen.

**Touchpoint Church Growth Project**

A small group of us that are interested in working on ways to build our church attendance and hopefully membership, met again after church this past week. We are developing some interesting ideas. Thanks to those that have stayed and contributed. This is not a 'closed' group of people so if you are curious or interested in sharing ideas please join us for our next short meeting on November 29. The group changes week to week due to personal schedules so this is not a 'must attend every week' situation. We will NOT meet this coming Sunday so that we can join in the effort to help with the Chester Eastside project. Doing more for others (including those outside our building) is one of the keys to growth. So, if you can stay and help organize the food donations and / or the clothing needs PLEASE help!
Our Touchpoint group is adopting the theme: Help Us to Help Others.
The Chester Eastside project maps perfectly to this theme.

See you in church!

John Strain

# Marple Presbyterian Church will be collecting donations for Chester Eastside on Sunday, Nov. 22.

CHESTER EASTSIDE
Est. 1985

**The CEI Food Pantry Most Needed Items:**




- beans, rice, and pasta
- soup, stew
- canned fruits and vegetables
- peanut butter and jelly
- tuna fish and canned fish/meat
- biscuit/pancake mix
- instant mashed potatoes
- cornbread mix

**The CEI Clothes Closet Most Needed Items:**



- socks, underwear, hats
- blankets
- toiletries

**Please mark your calendars for Nov. 22 – we will have a workday after Worship to sort items from the MPC Thrift Shop for Chester Eastside. Lunch will be provided.**

# A Feast of Carols:  Nourishment for Body and Soul

## Sunday, December 6, 2026

## Following Worship

**We will be having a Caroling Luncheon after worship on Sunday, December 6, 2026.  We will have a time of fellowship and singing to welcome in this season of Advent.**

**Please RSVP by Nov. 29 if you plan to attend. Please let Debbie or Lori know if you will attend.**

**We would ask that each of you brings a potluck dish to share.**

**Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex if you plan to bring a potluck dish or dessert.**

**Please contact Debbie if you have any questions or would like more information.**






# MY FAVORITE CAROL

Our Advent and Christmas theme this year features the ways carols have shaped our faith experiences. We want to know about your favorite carols and perhaps a bit about why you like them. This handout helps you do that AND helps you dig a bit deeper into the study of the carol to learn about its history. You can search the internet for the history of any carol!

**My favorite carol of the season** _____

**I like this carol because** _____

_____

**This carol brings up memories of** _____

_____

**This carol reminds me that** _____

_____

**Here is what I learned or know about this carol** _____

_____

**My name is** (we might share the information above so you can tell us your name, or not!)

_____




**Angel Tree 2026**
Marion Brower is again leading our Angel Tree Campaign.
Details are expected around Thanksgiving.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**
**Dec. 2 at 7:30 pm** – Deacon's Meeting via Zoom
**Dec. 6 at 10:30 am** – Worship, Communion, Caroling Luncheon after Worship
**Dec. 13 –** Deadline to order Poinsettias. Order forms are available in the narthex.
**Dec. 16 at 7pm –** Session Meeting
**Dec. 21 at 7 pm –** Longest Night Worship Service
**Dec. 24 at 7 pm –** Christmas Eve Worship Service
**Dec. 28 – 31** – Church Office Closed for Christmas Break
**Jan. 1 –** New Year's Day Holiday, Church Office Closed

During this time of pastoral transition please be aware that the Deacons will be available for addressing and communicating any pastoral needs. You can email or text/call:

Joyce Holmwood jholmwood433@comcast.net 610-888-7458

OR

Linda Pursley lpursley1981@gmail.com 631 942- 5758

or any Deacon listed in the bulletin. Please be sure to e-mail Pastor Roberta as well at rkearney@marplepres.org