Marple Presbyterian Church

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WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 15, 2026 - 10:30 a.m. Worship

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

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.

Touchpoint Growth Program

Those interested in helping us grow our church family and weekly church attendance will meet again after church this Sunday, November 15. We had an excellent discussion with great ideas emerging last week! Thanks to all those who have shown interest and have contributed creative ideas for the program. Please join us, if you are curious about the program and have not been able to attend earlier sessions. It's never too late to help. Besides working on ideas to grow our attendance, I want this to become a fun as well as a worthy endeavor. The meetings at the front of the church have been running about 15 minutes so this is not a huge investment of your time.

John Strain

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

MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN THRIFT SHOP
Saturday, Nov. 14 10 am – 4 pm
Tuesday, Nov. 17 10 am – 3 pm

Nov. 18 at 7 pm – Session Meeting

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

Stewardship

GROWING OUR FAITH

Stewardship of Delegation and Sacred Limits

Without naming it as “God’s economy,” we have been reflecting on the core values of living in accord with God's economy and how God shows us these values in Exodus.

Much of how our human economy as it is designed – creates isolation from one another, a feeling of not being or having enough, of feeling our worth comes only from what we can produce, and fear and control. Whereas God’s economy operates by building our connections with others, trusting there is enough for everyone, working together with a sense of shared calling, and where everyone has something to contribute, by sharing burdens, accepting of each person’s gifts, and the blessing of God’s grace.

Even after liberation, Moses slips back into the economy of Egypt, carrying too much work and burning out. Jethro's loving confrontation reminds us that doing too much is not faithfulness. In God's economy, limits are sacred and accountability is a gift.

Moses's father-in-law, Jethro, acts as a wise and caring voice of counsel in this week's passage. Moses has taken on too much and Jethro shows up as the kind of mentor and friend we all need sometimes. He approaches Moses first with curiosity and questions. We might read his questions with a tone of criticism or judgement, but that might be the voice of judgement we hear in our own heads.

What if we imagined Jethro joining Moses during a lull in the crowd of people, sitting down beside him. Or, perhaps he brought Moses a cool drink or a snack in the midst of a busy day? Then he asks a few questions with gentle care, showing genuine curiosity and concern for Moses's well-being. Maybe Moses's answers confirm his suspicions and Jethro shares ideas of other ways to do things. Or maybe he is an idea guy, who is brainstorming ideas at that moment. Jethro is a mentor, who seeks to offer support.

The plan Jethro suggests leans into God's economy of uncovering people's gifts, sharing in leadership and care together, and trusting in the abundance of resources in the community. This requires the people to trust in themselves and in each other.

This plan also requires Moses to actually believe in the value of the new way God has offered. It requires him to trust other people and to accept care for himself. It requires him to trust there is enough in the gifts and abilities of others and trust this enough to rest. The new way of God's economy takes practice. Practice not just individually, but as a community, by learning to be accountable to one another along the way. Living and being accountable to the Sabbath practice of rest, and our need of rest in other settings.

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

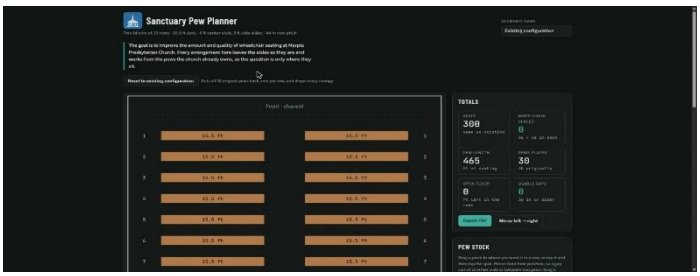
Please mark your calendars for Nov. 22 – we will have a workday after Worship to sort items from the MPC Thrift Shop for Chester Eastside. Lunch will be provided.

Making Room for Everyone

Recently we said goodbye to Kristen's father Rich. Our friend Jen, who uses a wheelchair, came through the receiving line and asked where she should sit. The honest answer was the aisle or a few spaces at the very back of the sanctuary. When I shared this conversation, others from our church told me their own version of the same story. Raising questions about what could be done.

So I inventoried every pew and built the Pew Planner. It lets you test seating layouts on a computer screen before we ever finalize a plan to move a single pew. Changing the sanctuary is a big deal. The look and feel of our worship space matters deeply to many of us. But making room for everyone is important too, so these decisions should be made with input from you.

Detailed instructions on using the app are found in the Oct. 29th eblast newsletter. Instructions are also on the site Ben has created, with the link listed below.



How to Use It

1. Go to **www.1031f.com/pew-planner.html** on a computer or tablet.
2. Click a pew and press Delete to remove it. Drag a pew from Pew Stock to place it.
3. Check the Totals panel, then name your layout.

Your Part

Please try the planner this week and email your plan to **benmitchelliii@gmail.com**. As you work, consider:

- A baptism or wedding with a family member in a wheelchair. How close would you want them to sit?
- Any of us may need mobility help someday. Where would you want to sit then?
- How close do you want to be to your usual seat, and what would you adjust so others can sit near their families?

Pray about it, then send us your plan.

Ben Mitchell III

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:
Nov. 22 - Cantata; Attendees are invited to donate non-perishable food items for Chester Eastside
Nov. 24 – Marple Newtown Clergy Association Interfaith Worship Service; **More information TBA**.
Nov. 25 - 27 - Church Office Closed
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.

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