



Marple Presbyterian Church

105 N. Sproul Road
Broomall, PA 19008-2023
Phone: 610-356-1098
Email: marplepc@gmail.com
Website: www.marplepres.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026 - 10:30 a.m. Worship, 1st Sunday in Lent

The Rev. Jim Reisner, Transitional Pastor – Sermon - Wilderness

Certainly, God remains “the Lord,” sovereign in all ways. Nonetheless, God is also “our Lord,” a divinity we can imagine holding shares in our enterprises, caring what happens to us. Is any thought more consoling? What are human beings that God should care for us? . . . These are deep matters, ultimate mysteries, driving to the roots of what it means to be human. If we derive from the providential will of a God all-powerful and all-good, then our lives may make great sense, despite their apparent chaos. If God holds our hand, then even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of darkness, we may fear no evil.

John Carmody
Psalms for Times of Trouble

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.

MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN THRIFT SHOP

Saturday, Feb. 21 10 am – 4 pm

Tuesday, Feb. 24 10 am – 3 pm

JOYS AND CONCERNS ON ZOOM

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 3 – 4 pm

zoom.us/j/6103561098 Password MPC

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Thursday - 6:30 pm, MPC Chapel



MPC Spring Clean Up – March 21 from 9 am to 12 pm
Rain Date March 28



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 29 - 10:30 am
Palm Sunday Worship Service

Thursday, April 2 - 7:00 pm, Chapel
Maundy Thursday Worship Service
Communion

Friday, April 3 - 1:00 pm
Good Friday Interfaith Service

Sunday, April 5 - 10:30 am
Easter Sunday Worship Service

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YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR 2025-2026

MPC's Youth Group is open to all youth currently in 6th to 12th grade, regardless of membership at Marple Presbyterian Church. We typically meet a few Sundays per month from 4 – 7 pm in the Rowland Room at MPC, 105 N. Sproul Rd, Broomall, Pennsylvania. See below for meeting dates and special events!

Youth Group Meeting Dates:

October 19	February 15
November 2	March 1
December 7	March 15
December 21* – Christmas Party!	April 5
January 11*	April 19
January 25*	May 3
February 1	May 17

**For the Christmas Party, Youth Group will run from 3 pm to 6 pm. Youth are invited and encouraged to stay and attend MPC's Longest Night Service which is from 7-8 pm.*

**For January meetings, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at the normal time.*

Special Events:

November 15-16 – Lock-in @ MPC

December 27 – Go Karts Trip

***We would like to plan an away retreat once we have a sense availability for our members in the Spring. We will announce dates and information after the holiday season.*

June 6 – Youth Group BBQ

***We are considering turning the BBQ into a campout at the Mitchells' house if members are interested in trying this. We have access to two campers, some indoor accommodations and may be able to procure tents for anyone really wanting to "rough" it.*

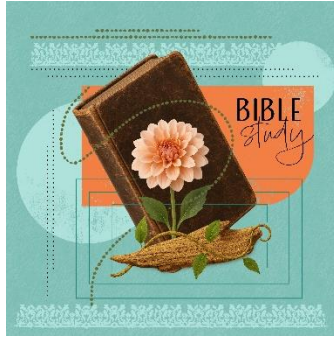
For more information, contact Kristen Mitchell at klizzano@gmail.com or 302-494-1146.

MEET THE SINGERS: CHOIR MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The Marple Presbyterian Church Choir is a small but active community of diverse and talented individuals. The choir nurtures mentorship between experienced and new singers, and creates a supportive fellowship that extends beyond Sunday services. Throughout the year, we will be spotlighting some of the choir members in the weekly eBlasts.

This week, we feature **Douglas Ballard**, who was born and raised in Emmaus, PA. We are significantly blessed to have such a multifaceted musician within our midst.

1. Vocal Range (e.g. Soprano 1) and do you have any formal vocal training? ***I am a Bass 2 when singing in choir, but soloing I am classified as a Lyrical Operatic Baritone***
2. What first inspired you to start singing? ***My Grandmother always sang everywhere she went in the house. I liked to join in.***
3. Do you play any other musical instruments? ***I am a professional F Horn and Trumpet player, and can play all brass instruments. I can also play most woodwinds at a high school level. I also dabble in drumset and pitched percussion.***
4. ***How long have you been singing with the MPC choir? I joined the MPC Choir in 2008***
5. What inspired you to join this specific choir? ***Susan Greene asked me to join.***
6. How would you describe your music-reading ability? ***I am a band director, I would not do well at my job if I didn't read music.***
7. What songs or styles of music do you enjoy singing the most? ***I enjoy Gospel and a capella tunes in choir, they often give me frision.***
8. What is your favorite choir anthem? ***Susan will tell you that it's Gospel of Grace, but it's actually Witness.***
9. What does participating in a church choir mean to you as a form of ministry? ***I feel that without worship music is exceptionally important to expressing your faith in God, and sharing it with the congregation is tantamount to my ministry.***
10. Tell us about an inspiring or memorable 'music' moment in your life: ***I was in a very bad spot at my previous employment. I had been reassigned to a position that I was getting zero fulfilment of and was slowly falling into deep depression because of it. I had been applying for new jobs for almost 2 years, when the job I realized I really wanted called me and offered me the position. I happened to be at Marple Presbyterian Church for choir practice, and answered the phone call with the job offer to become the band director at Upper Darby High School came through. Unbeknownst to Susan, who was still running rehearsal as I answered the phone call, she began the opening bars on the organ of the Hallelujah Chorus with the gusto of the full array of pipes... right as the HR Administrator from UDSD had offered me the job. I believe the timing was God's way of saying "be sad no more." I did have to explain to that befuddled HR administrator that that was not a planned event, and was totally spontaneous... but I do believe God's Angels were singing for me at that moment.***
11. What is your favorite color? ***Blue***
12. What is your go-to comfort food? ***Spaghetti and Meat Sauce***
13. Favorite down-time activity or hobby. ***I enjoy playing video games. I am currently working my way through Baldur's Gate 3. For fitness I enjoy swimming laps at the Springfield YMCA.***



During the six Sundays, Pastor Jim Reisner will lead a Bible Study based on the Gospel of Luke. All are welcome to attend the study will take place in the sanctuary shortly after the close of worship. This Sunday we will focus on the 9th chapter of Luke where it says "[Jesus] set his face to go to Jerusalem." (Luke 9:51).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 4 – Deacon's Meeting via Zoom at 7:30 pm
March 18 - Session Meeting at 7 pm
March 21 – MPC Spring Clean Up from 9 am to 12 pm
March 22 – Calvary's Mountain (Cantata)
March 29 – Palm Sunday
April 2 – Maundy Thursday Worship in Chapel at 7 pm
April 3 – Good Friday Interfaith Service at 1 pm
April 5 – Easter Sunday

CAUTION

Please be aware that the outside steps from the parking lot are often very icy (the sun does not hit them) and therefore we mark them with a caution cone to direct entering to the narthex door or via the doors in the carport / breezeway.

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.