

The View

Madison Presbyterian Church

FEBRUARY 2023



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are entering not only into the month of Love, but into the month of Lent. It is an appropriate joining. "See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down" (*Isaac Watts, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*).

On Wednesday, February 22, we will enter into Lent with a brief evening service for Ash Wednesday starting at 5:30. The service will include the imposition of ashes.

This is an important opportunity to renew our connection to the mystical union of the Trinity, to be mindful of our mortality, and therefore to seek to fulfill that last command of Christ's, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (*John 13:34-35*)

I know that you have love for one another. I have witnessed it. I see it in action. And God calls us to be mindful of the world that he loves as well, recognizing all as God's children, and therefore worthy of love, of the action of love such as we saw in Jesus – healing, feeding, pushing down evil, and sowing seeds of hope. 1 John 4 gives us this injunction:

"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us. (1 John 4:7-12)

Our mission statement says that we are a church "Bringing God's Love and Hope to Life". Let us begin every morning of Lent with that as our charge for the day, and by doing so shine a joyful light in our world.

Every Blessing,

Pastor Karen

Pastor Karen Contact Information

1. My Sabbath is Friday. I will not pick up calls or answer texts or emails on Fridays unless it's an emergency. Please do leave a message so I will know if your concern is urgent.
2. My cell is **540-414-3193**. Please do call or text anytime Sunday through Thursday between 9am and 7pm. If I am not available, I will call you back as soon as I am.
3. EMERGENCIES call **any time**. PLEASE call or text directly if you or your loved one goes to the hospital as soon as possible. Do not assume I know.
4. It is my intent to usually be in the office M, T, W from 9 to noon as we get started, do out visits in the afternoon, and have Thursday as a writing day – but this is not set in stone. I am HAPPY to make evening or weekend appointments for all of you who work! **My time will flex to accommodate you.**
5. If you want to drop by to see me instead of making an appointment, I will always be glad to see you. Just know you may have to wait if someone else has scheduled time with me.

Donna Kulesza, Church Administrator

I am in the office 8:00am-1:00pm Monday through Thursday. Please leave me a message on the phone or send an email if there's anything I can help with. If you have changes to your Address, Phone, or Email please send updated information to office@madisonpresbyterian.com.

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2023 Flower Calendar
has been posted
in the Narthex

Send flower dedications for bulletin to
office@madisonpresbyterian.com
or call the office at (540)948-6972



2022 Giving Statements will be mailed February 1st,
if they haven't been picked up from the Narthex

Stated Session Meeting Agenda

January 10, 2023 7:00 – 8:00

The Stated Meeting of the Session of Madison Presbyterian Church was held at 7:00 on January 10, 2023 in the Fellowship Hall. Those present, were Elders; Sue Strahan, Bill Pattie, Dana Edelman, John Quinley, Allan McLearn, Jean Pearson and Clarissa Berry. Moderator was Karen Allamon. A quorum was present.

1. Gather with Scripture and Prayer: Pastor Karen opened the meeting with Prayer

2. Review and Prioritize Agenda: The agenda was approved.

3. Clerk’s Report and Communications: The Minutes from November were previously reviewed via email. Jean moved to approve the minutes and Dana seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. We had no meeting in December. Sue reported an “evote” on December 19, 2022 for unanimous affirmation to receive new members; Beth Klocker and Richard Henn, by letters of transfer. Sue discussed the need to conduct a Roll Review. She will review the records from our last review and discuss with the team involved at that time.

4. Pastor’s report. Karen shared her plan to discuss Elder roles at our officer training on January 15th.

5. Treasurer’s Report

Dec 2022	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$15,155	\$10,587	\$130,853	\$127,000
Expenses	\$18,237	\$13,390	\$103,089	\$160,999
Difference	\$(3,083)	\$(2,803)	\$27,764	\$(33,999)

6. Area & Team Reports

a. Administration:

Finance: The finance team has an appointment with Edward Jones next week. The annual financial review is planned in February.

Karen asked what our current practice is for memorial gifts. Jean made a motion to appoint the Church Administrator to send thank you notes and tax letters to donors and to record memorial gifts financially. John 2nd the motion and the motion passed.

Presbytery amount and distribution: We have budgeted \$3000 for the Presbytery and 300 for Theology. Clarissa made a motion to distribute our contribution quarterly. Jean seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Pledge drive: Allan reported that we have received 26 pledges of \$99,739. Finance generally anticipated a 25% unpledged increase to that figure for budgetary purposes.

Building: Bill gave us an update lights, locks and security cameras. 2 cameras will be \$400 and Nick is willing to install them. Sue made a motion to allow B&G to purchase and install 2 cameras. Clarissa 2nd the motion and the motion passed. Locks: To rekey all exterior doors will cost ~\$700. The crash door would be \$1000 or \$1500 if we want the Administrator to be able to let visitors in from her desk. Jean made the motion to permit B&G to contact a company to provide a high, medium and low estimate for changes to our locks. Sue seconded the motion and the motion passed. Bill will arrange a meeting to obtain the estimate. B&G was encouraged to come up with a "Key Policy".

b. **Congregational Life:** No report

c. **Witness:**

Mission – Clarissa reported that historically, our Church's mission work has been financial based rather than talent based. Our distributions are made at the end of the year. The team was unable to meet, as usual this year, due to scheduling conflicts. They have a meeting planned on 1/22, after Church. The agenda will include the goal to make allocations more regularly throughout the year. Clarissa wants to identify a "charity of the month" to highlight and support. She also wants to promote a non-monetary mission that we can participate in.

MESA's current status was discussed, as their future direction is unclear to us in light of the recent decision to close the thrift store and expand the Food Pantry. Karen agreed to call the Director to introduce herself and to invite her to come talk to us.

Clarissa also identified a discrepancy in the Pentecost offering of \$800 and questioned the \$700 Equal Exchange line item in the budget. The team will discuss this with the Administrator for clarification.

d. **Communications:** Dana reported a cable has been rewired so it no longer crosses the floor in the Narthex. We expressed appreciation to Dana and his grandson for doing this work. The rewiring is noted to have improved our Mps. Dana indicated the team continues to do research into the performance of both the camera and the mics. Karen said she has the name of someone that should be able to help.

9. A moment of Thanksgiving for Dana and John as they rotate off of session

10. Next Stated Session Meeting: February 14. We have officer training and a Called Session meeting on January 15th.

11. Prayer and Adjournment: Jean moved that we adjourn, Bill seconded, the meeting was closed with prayer.

A Called Meeting of the Session of Madison Presbyterian Church was held, in the Fellowship Hall of MPC at Noon on January 15, 2023 for the purpose of installing Bobbie Carroll and Joan Corbin. Elders present were Bill Pattie, Jean Pearson, Clarissa Berry, Allan McLearn, Sue Strahan and Moderator Karen Allamon. Bobbie Carroll and Joan Corbin were in attendance. A quorum was present. Karen opened the meeting with a prayer.

Jean made a motion to install Bobbie Carroll and Joan Corbin for a 3 year term. Clarissa seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Karen presented a request for vacation: She agreed to arrange her own coverage
April 10-18 (1 Sunday)

September 8-18 (2 Sundays)

December 25-31 (1 Sunday)

Karen requested Study leave:

June 18-22 (1 Sunday) Barth Conference, Princeton

October 8-12 (1 Sunday) Guthrie Scholars Program, Columbia

Sue moved that Karen's requests be approved. Jean seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Upcoming dates:

Lent begins on February 22, 2023, Easter is April 9, 2023.

Session Appointments were discussed, the following Elders agreed to be session liaisons:

Administration: Bill Pattie and Allan McLearn

Congregational Life: Clarissa Berry and Joan Corbin

Witness: Bobbie Carroll

Communications: Sue Strahan

Pro Tem Clerk of Session: Jean Pearson

Bobbie reported that Christian Ed met last week and identified a tentative date of Aug 6 for their Summer Event.

Our next Stated Session meeting is February 14. Because this is Valentine's Day, we discussed changing the date. We also agreed to change the time of future meetings from 7pm to 6:30 pm.

The meeting was closed by prayer.

Counters February-April 2023

February 2023

Sue Strahan
Sam Strahan

March 2023

Heidi Sage
Allan McLearn

April 2023

Dana Edelman
Art Pearson

The Card Group makes greeting cards for nursing home residents and church members that are home bound, and for other occasions. They will meet Friday, February 3rd, 10th and 24th in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. All are welcome to join!

The Brown Bag Book Study meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Tack Room at 11:00am for lively discussions and follow with our brown bag (or whatever color you like) lunch. The current book is *"How Music Heals Us"* by Kim Cannon. We would love to include you in our sometimes wandering discussions. We have more interesting titles coming soon so stay tuned. Join us February 1st. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Bobbie Carroll 540-948-9922.

Bible Studies

Morning Bible Study

Thursdays at 10AM in the Tack Room

Evening Bible Study

Tuesdays at 6:30PM on Zoom

We are studying the Gospel of Matthew
All are welcome

Breakfast Buzz meets the 3rd Friday of each month at 9am

Planting for Bees and Butterflies

Join us Friday morning February 17th at 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Buzz welcomes Geni Cate with a presentation on plants to grow in our area that attract bees and butterflies. Our environment is becoming increasingly difficult for all helpful insects to inhabit. This presentation might help us with our continuing effort to be a Green Church and community.

Join us for breakfast and an enlightening speaker.

Communion Servers and Pew Guide February-March 2023

February

Sue Strahan

Mike Willis

Dana Edelman

March

Heidi Sage

John Quinley

Bobbie Carroll

NOTE: There is no Session meeting February 14th

Christmas at Madison Presbyterian Church



Your Stewardship Team

The Stewardship theme for 2023 is “**New Beginnings**”. The last few years have been trying times. We have been experiencing New Beginnings as a church and congregation since John’s retirement, then an interim pastor, Covid, interim pastor leaving, guest ministers and PNC search, etc...With everything that has been going on over the last few years it seems like New Beginnings has become our theme. Just a few months ago we welcomed Pastor Karen to lead us. We are truly blessed and grateful to have her with us. Jeremiah 29:11 says – “For know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Job 8:7 – “Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be”.

Let us live by faith, trusting in God through uncertainty and tribulation. New Beginnings!

Breakfast Buzz had a showing of the documentary *Alive Inside* during our January meeting. We are now exploring the possibility of helping the nursing homes in the area by creating individualized recordings for those who would like it. If you missed the showing and would like to see it, here are your options for doing so. It is possible to rent “*Alive Inside*” on **Amazon Video, Google Play Movies, YouTube, Vudu, Microsoft Store, Apple iTunes** online. Also if you want more information on the project, check out aliveinside.org for bios of success stories and all about the man who has made it his mission to bring these people alive inside.

Please talk to any Christian Ed member (Mary Linda McLearn, Cindy Pattie, Jane Lamar, or Bobbie Carroll) if you have questions or would like to help in any way.

Loaves and Fishes

This is a mission of Madison Presbyterian Church and Hebron Lutheran Church. At the present time we are feeding 36 children for weekend meals which they should be able to prepare themselves. Our Church has once again been privileged to receive a Grant from The Hunger team of Presbytery of the James. We have received \$500 and may be able to receive more as funds become available through the 5¢/meal program. We collect 5¢/meal every first Sunday of the month.



Birthdays

Rives Wetsel 02/01
 Avery Hughes 02/02
 Ruth Pearson 02/07
 Sam Strahan 02/11
 Jackie Haines 02/15
 Sharon Carter 02/16
 Carter Rees 02/17
 Ashley Haines 02/23
 Frank King 02/24
 Dudley Pattie 02/27

On Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of each month, the outside ring is Wine, the inside is Juice



10 Green Resolutions for 2023

1. Create less waste
2. Spend more time in nature
3. Learn more about your impact
4. Get rid of the things you don't need
5. Stop buying plastic
6. Waste less food
7. Start a wildflower garden for the bees
8. Make your home more energy efficient
9. Switch to non-toxic cleaning products
10. Start composting



Social Services Needs

February Foods of the Month

Infants and Children

Baby foods, diapers, finger foods, baby cookies, small cans of spaghetti or soup, packages of macaroni and cheese, instant oatmeal, cereal, cream of wheat, peanut butter and jelly, Pudding or Jell-O cups, fruit cups, juices, instant dry milk

Please place your donations in the big red container in the Fellowship Hall

Items will be distributed by

Madison Social Services

to help our neighbors in need.



Madison Presbyterian Church
 1236 Fishback Road
 Madison, VA 22727
 540.948.6972
 www.madisonpresbyterian.com

Church Administrator: Donna Kulesza

office@madisonpresbyterian.com

Pastor: Karen Allamon

pastorkaren@madisonpresbyterian.com

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 – 1:00

February 2023

BUT THE greatest
OF THESE IS love.
1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<i>1</i> Book Club 11am	<i>2</i> Bible Study 10am	<i>3</i> Card Group 10am	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i> Worship 10am AA 5:30	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm	<i>8</i> Pres Women 10am	<i>9</i> Bible Study 10am	<i>10</i> Card Group 10am	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> Worship 10am AA 5:30	<i>13</i> Quilt Guild 6:30pm	<i>14</i> Valentine's Day Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm	<i>15</i> Book Club 11am Woman's Club 7PM	<i>16</i> Bible Study 10am	<i>17</i> Breakfast Buzz 9am	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i> Worship 10am AA 5:30	<i>20</i> President's Day	<i>21</i> Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm	<i>22</i> Ash Wednesday Worship 5:30	<i>23</i> Bible Study 10am	<i>24</i> Card Group 10am	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 1st Sunday of Lent Worship 10am AA 5:30	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm				

Sunday, February 5 Isaiah 58:1–9a [9b–12] Psalm 112:1–9 [10] 1 Corinthians 2:1–12 [13–16] Matthew 5:13–20

Sunday, February 12 Deuteronomy 30:15–20 or Sirach 15:15–20 Psalm 119:1–8 1 Corinthians 3:1–9 Matthew 5:21–37

Sunday, February 19 Exodus 24:12–18 Psalm 2 or Psalm 99 2 Peter 1:16–21 Matthew 17:1–9

Ash Wednesday, Feb 22 Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isaiah 58:1–12 Psalm 51:1–17 2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10 Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

First Sunday in Lent, February 26 Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12–19 Matthew 4:1–11