

Magnolia Presbyterian Church

UpLook

Mission Statement: Magnolia strives to share God's love with all and grow spiritually in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

Volume XXVIII, No. 1

February 2020

Pastor's Pondering

Towards the end 2019, some of the MagPres staff and I received the dreaded anonymous letter. It was typed and printed but there was no name, no date, and nothing in the letter to indicate who authored the letter. I instructed the staff who received this letter to toss it, preferably putting it in the recycle bin.

Any book on leadership, particularly leadership in the church, tells us that anonymous communication is less than ideal. The advice that these books give is to simply ignore anonymous communication. I don't know where I heard this from, but I often repeat it: "Every Church seems to have the same 3 people in them: Some R. Hearing, cousin of Somefolks R. Saying, both of whom are friends with Ann Onymous."

Pastor Claire and I have been working on and continue to move MagPres towards healthier practices, one of which is ignoring anonymous



communication. But here's the thing, **I want to know what you think**, good or bad, about things happening in the church, city, and/or world, and **I want to**

hear it from you. I want to know your opinion is because you matter.

FIRE COMMITTEE UPDATE, As read in church, December 2019

Good morning everyone and thank you for your prayers and patience with the process of the aftermath of the fire.



The Fire Contracts Committee wants to share with all of you the progress that has been made recently. As a reminder, in May we selected our contractor, CA Construction. We also selected TR Design Group of Riverside as our architect and we brought that to you in August, the last time I spoke with you. We have been waiting for the undisputed amount to be settled with the insurance company in order to sign with our architect. We were really hoping to have an update in this regard and say we had an executed contract with the architect but we are awaiting the insurance company as of today.

In October, the Insurance company sent a substantial check for the part of the claim that was undisputed. We have received several payouts thus far, totaling over 1.45 million dollars. This includes the contents claim, half of the organ replacement value, extra expense payouts (meaning improvements to this space), payments to several subcontractors, and the undisputed amount to date of nearly \$1 million. In October we were assigned a new general adjuster at the insurance company and things seem to be moving along at a better pace.

Soft demolition within the sanctuary has been completed as of the end of October. If you are wondering, soft demolition means all of the stuff not part of the "contents", which had already been removed, so building pieces that are removable and don't impact significant structure.

Even though this building we are now sitting in was not damaged in the

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Encounter God Sundays
9 a.m. and 11 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Seven years ago, I started a yearly recognition of our long-time members celebrating milestone years (in five year spans), starting at 40 or more. Please join me, as this tradition continues, in wishing these special members "well done good and faithful servant" for their priceless, loyal and unwavering contributions to our Magnolia family.
Melanie Nelson, Clerk of Session



"Magnolia's Milestone Members for 2020" and their date of membership:

<i>Brenda Wynsma</i>	<i>45 year member</i>	<i>June 1975</i>
<i>Bruce Ferrel</i>	<i>40 year member</i>	<i>February 1980</i>
<i>Jeff Ludwig</i>	<i>40 year member</i>	<i>November 1980</i>

FRONT PAGE ARTICLES CONTINUED

PASTOR'S PONDERING

I care about you and what you think. I don't care about the opinions of "some people" or things you overheard. I care about you and your thoughts.

Reflecting on this anonymous letter, I wonder if the person who sent it didn't feel like they had an avenue to express what they thought. In college and grad school, I had professors who published office hours, where students could drop in with or without an appointment, and the professors would drop what they were doing to interact with their students. For 2020, I'd like to offer you the same. You are always welcome to make an appointment, but if you want to just stop by, I have set aside office hours where if you come in, I will drop what I am doing to interact with you. You have permission, and are encouraged to stop by and see me knowing that you will get face time with me (the only exception would be if someone else has come in before you).

My office hours for 2020 are:

Mondays from 9am-12noon

Wednesdays from 3pm-6pm

If you are unable to make these hours, please feel free to make an appointment around a time that works best for you.

TL;DR (acronym for Too Long; Didn't Read) you matter and I want to know what you think, come talk to me.

Happy New Year and I hope to interact with you soon,
 Pastor Paul

FIRE UPDATE

fire, there have been upgrades and work completed to improve this experience in the interim. Do you like the new flooring? HVAC units and electrical upgrades have been installed. Unites are expected to be working in February. Some of this work has been covered by the insurance.

The Session has continued to meet and discern next steps to prepare to work with the architect on proposals for the church sanctuary going forward. Four elders have volunteered for the design committee to work with the architect and they are Tim Lewis, Brenda Flowers, Chris Nettles and Erin Gettis - making sure that both worship committee members and BAG members were included. Both pastors are part of the design committee as well for a total of 6. It is likely that in the coming months you will see the Fire Contracts committee complete their call to duty. The fire contracts committee members are Ann Lauder milk, Tom Safford, Tim Lewis and Erin Gettis. As Ann and Tom take a bow, be sure to give them extra thanks for their effort.

We continue to ask for your prayers for all of us working on this process, for the decisions facing Magnolia in the future and through the challenges that will continue to arise. Every week presents new things to consider. We C E L E B R A T E the progress so far and look forward to stepping into the design and rebuild. ~~~~~

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Here we are, in the '20's again! We do not yet know if they'll be "Roaring", yet Magnolia is certainly entering in to an "Era of Change."

Session is working diligently to make sure those changes are keeping with our church's mission statement "Magnolia strives to share God's love with all and grow spiritually in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other."

Countless hours have been spent determining what the vision is for Magnolia's future. The commitment to this vision in 2020 will come in the forms of:

Family Promise of Riverside

Sanctuary re-building, to provide community growth and mission opportunities

Moving from a program-based church to a group-oriented church

Continuing to have an outward focus on every committee

Stewardship campaign of "Building Gratitude and Generosity Together"

Reaching out to the community through live streaming of worship

The Roaring 20's

"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth."

Psalms 96:1

Melanie Nelson
Clerk of Session

Session Meetings and Minutes

Session meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday* of every month at 7 pm in the church library.

These meetings are open, so if you would like to attend and listen to the conversation, you are most welcome.

Copies of all session minutes are available in the office, or by email request.

*Adjustments made for holidays.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group meets every* Sunday evening.

Middle School (grades 6 to 8) meets from 5 to 6:30 pm.

High School (grades 9 to 12) meets from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. **NEW TIME**

First Sunday of each month there is a meal for the combined groups.

COME TO YOUTH GROUP—BRING A FRIEND

*Schedule may change due to holidays, church events or offsite activities.

If you want an easy way to give to MagPres, consider purchasing Stater Bros. Gift Cards...

They are available in \$25, \$50, and \$100 increments on the first Sunday of every month after each service. You can pay by cash or check. When you shop for your groceries – at any Stater Bros. store - you get full value for the card you purchase. MPC gets **6%** of every card purchased! Cards can also be purchased in the office during regular hours.

GOOD NEWS AROUND MAGPRES

- * January Two-Can Sunday Donations: 183
- * \$742 donated to Meals on Wheels (proceeds from the Pumpkin Patch)
- * 63 Blessing Bags of toiletries donated to Alternatives to Domestic Violence, by Monday Morning Women's Bible Study
- * \$128 (so far) for Youth Camp, through sub sandwiches.

Family Promise Invites You
Our next meetings are
March 2, April 6, and May 4
7 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Even if you have not attended
previous meetings, you can offer
your God-given talents to our
ministry.
See our Facebook page



[www.facebook.com/
familypromiseriverside](http://www.facebook.com/familypromiseriverside)

**We're making a difference
in 2020.**

MagPres will again participate in
the CROP Walk, March 15, 2020,
1:30 pm to 3 pm. More info in
the next issue.

**CROP
HUNGER WALK**
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

The logo for CROP Hunger Walk includes the text "CROP HUNGER WALK" in large, bold, blue letters, with "ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME" in smaller blue letters below it. To the right of the text is a large, stylized blue footprint.

STREAMING SERVICES

We have a new website! Visit www.magpres.com to keep up to date on the latest happenings, to re-cap Sunday's worship and sermon, and to get all the info you need on anything church-related.

By the way, did you miss worship on Sunday? Are you going to miss this coming Sunday?

You can watch our service live on www.magpres.com/watch and access our archive of services.

Only interested in hearing audio of the sermon? Visit magpres.com/sermons to listen to recent sermons. Sunday sermons are usually posted to the website by the following Tuesday.



A Rich Tradition...

NOTICES

Church Office Closed
Monday, February 17 in observance of
Presidents Day.



**Confirmation
Class Dates**
Feb. 9, 2020
Feb. 23, 2020
March 15, 2020

Did you know...

...we have a wedding coordinator.

Contact Maddy Gipson
(madelinenelson7@gmail.com or 951-218-6448)
if you or someone you know is considering a
wedding here at MagPres.

...you can purchase a floral
arrangement to celebrate a
person or event. Call the church
office to find out how.

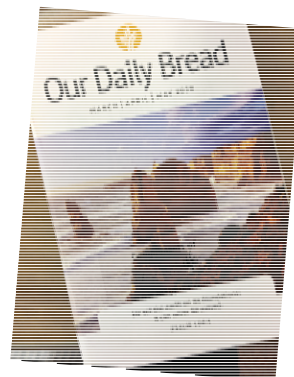
Women's Monday Morning
Bible Study. 9:30 - 11 am,
Christian Education
Building
February 3, 10, and 24.
(They have goodies!)



Boy Scout Troop 16 meets
every Wednesday at 7 pm.
Room 4 in CE Building.
Contact Charter
Organization Rep, Tim Lewis at
webelewis@gmail.com.



See the inserts
Master Calendar
Prayer Calendar
New Elders



Our Daily Bread

Available in the
foyer and Fireside
Room.

Pick up one for your-
self - one for a friend!

Belated January Birthdays and Anniversaries

Flora Livingstone January 2
 Margie Watson January 3
 Krysten Stiffler January 4
 James Walters January 4
 Precious Mabena January 6
 Susie Phillips January 7
 Chris Nettles January 8
 Cynthia Spring-Pearson
 January 8
 Payton Rinker January 9
 George Robbins January 10
 Wayne Andrew January 14
 Steve McKee January 14
 James Laudermilk January 15
 Ryan Laudermilk January 15
 Michelle Laudermilk January 15
 Maddy Gipson January 17
 Lance Alford January 18
 Deanna Lacy January 19
 Lowell Lacy January 20
 Makenzie Nelson January 20
 Sherry Nettles January 22
 Betty Hillebrand January 28
 Laurie Ludwig January 29

Megenney, Bill and Ruth —
 January 5
 Thornton, Cherylyn & Thomas—
 January 15
 Rehnke, Mel and Rhonda—
 January 17
 Rinker, Kyle and Kendall—
 January 27

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Lent Begins February 26 with an  
 Ash Wednesday service.  
 We will have daily devotionals available for  
 purchase for the Lenten Season.



**FEBRUARY**  
 Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sharon DeLeal February 1  
 Janis McKee February 5  
 Aaron Gettis February 6  
 Julie Hutchinson February 7  
 Paul Knopf III February 7  
 Christian Garcia February 8  
 John Wright February 8  
 Canon Sindaha February 10  
 Jean Belangeri February 15  
 Ann Laudermilk February 15  
 Liam Rinker February 17  
 Abby Sindaha February 18  
 Baylee Belangeri February 20  
 Karrie Brooks February 21  
 James King February 22  
 David Laudermilk February 22  
 Anne Denham February 23  
 Tom Hutchinson February 23  
 Gary Belangeri February 24  
 Louise Walker February 25  
 Anna Brandenberger February 26  
 Catelyn Garcia February 26  
 Sonia Campos February 28  
 Alyssa Timoschuk February 29

Chuck and Delores Tobin—February 7  
 Richard and Jeanne Hood—February 14

~~~~~

*Ash
 Wednesday*

Deacon's Corner

And suddenly my first year as a Deacon is behind me... here are just a few things I've observed throughout this year as a Deacon:

- ~~ A simple gesture of a phone call to let people know they are being thought of goes a long way
- ~~ It is not hard to reach out to people in need of a visit, a call, a hug or smile
- ~~ It is a privilege to serve at a Bereavement Reception
- ~~ It is an honor to prepare the elements for Communion
- ~~ It is heart-warming to sit in a Deacons meeting with such caring souls
- ~~ It is heartening to hear prayers of both thanksgivings and petitions from members of our flocks



I realized quickly that all of these gestures are not limited to the ministry of Deacons. Any one of us can take the opportunity to create moments of kindness to each other.

Melanie Nelson
Deacon

Time and Talent Recognitions

- ✝ John Reinhardt for painting the parking lot wall.
- ✝ The Grants for years of taking Deacon food to Lutheran Social Services, and for the Welmans for continuing.
- ✝ Deanna Cohen for tireless work with Family Promise.
- ✝ Deacons for luncheons for the DeLeal and McGraw families.
- ✝ The Elders and Deacons who have said yes and have begun their new terms.
- ✝ Tessa Islas and the youth for the yum-my sub sandwiches.



Session 2019 Committee Assignments	
Buildings and Grounds Ann Laudermilk - Chair	Tim Lewis Erin Gettis
Christian Education Jean Riggs- Chair	Sherry Nettles
FOM (Fellowship, Outreach, Membership) Kris Shea- Chair	Melissa Holden
Mission Interpretation David King – Chair	Sheila Roche Zachary Gipson
Stewardship Jay Nicholson- Chair	Chris Nettles Dick Kirby
Worship Brenda Flowers – Chair	Deanna Cohen

MISSION STATEMENT:

Magnolia strives to share God's love with all and grow spiritually in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

7200 Magnolia Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504-3829

Phone: 951-684-7200

Email: church@magpres.com

Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30 am—3 pm

Closed Friday

www.magpres.com



February
2020

Staff

Rev. Claire Schlegel
Co-Pastor

Rev. Paul Knopf
Co-Pastor

James Walters
Music Director/Organist

Saw Shein
Contemporary Music Leader

John Wright
Choral Director

Cynthia Wright, Pianist

Allison Robinson
Nursery Attendant

Tessa Islas
Interim Youth Leader

AJ Belangeri
Interim Media/Audio Coordinator

Diana Lewis
Administrative Assistant

A merry heart does good ...



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 www.facebook.com/magpres


 church@magpres.com

 www.magpres.com

A Rich Tradition... A Bright Future


Magnolia Presbyterian Master Calendar

Feb 2020 (Pacific Time - Los Angeles)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
 <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">All dates, times, and locations are subject to change. See www.magpres.com/calendar.</p>						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>Deacons Door Offering</p> <p>Stater Bros. Cards For Sale,</p> <p>9am - Worship w/ Communion +</p> <p>10am - Annual Congregational</p> <p>10am - Super Bowl Sub Sale</p> <p>11am - Worship w/ Communion +</p> <p>5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30</p> <p>7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30</p>	<p>9:30am - Women's Monday</p> <p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7pm - Family Promise</p>	<p>6pm - CE Cmte.</p> <p>6:30pm - FOM Cmte.</p> <p>7pm - BaG Cmte.</p> <p>7pm - Mission Cmte.</p>	<p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7pm - Troop 16 @ FH, CE 4</p>	<p>8am - Kari Pel Tax Prep @</p> <p>10am - Rvsd. Presby. Personnel</p> <p>6pm - Alleluia Ringers</p> <p>7pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>Office Closed</p> <p>5pm - EEEAC Worship</p>	<p>8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various</p> <p>10am - Sack Lunch Prep @</p> <p>11am - Memorial Service, C.</p> <p>12pm - Sack Lunch Serve @</p> <p>4pm - Path of Life Meal Prep and</p>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<p>Scout Sunday</p> <p>TWO-CAN Sunday</p> <p>9am - Worship + SS</p> <p>10am - Conf/Class10</p> <p>11am - Worship + SS</p> <p>12:15pm - MagPres Staff</p> <p>5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30</p> <p>7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30</p>	<p>9:30am - Women's Monday</p> <p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7pm - Men's Group</p>	<p>5:30pm - Stewardship Cmte.</p>	<p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7pm - Troop 16 @ FH, CE 4</p>	<p>6pm - Alleluia Ringers</p> <p>7pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>High School Winter Camp @ Forest Home, 40000 Valley of the Falls</p> <p>Pastor Paul Vacation</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>5pm - EEEAC Worship</p>	<p>UpLook Articles Due</p> <p>8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various</p>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<p>High School Winter Camp @ Forest Home, 40000 Valley of the Falls</p> <p>Pastor Paul Vacation</p> <p>9am - Worship + SS</p> <p>11am - Worship + SS</p> <p>5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30</p> <p>7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30</p>	<p>Office Closed Pres. Day</p> <p>9:30am - Women's Monday</p> <p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>7pm - Deacon Meeting</p>	<p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7pm - Troop 16 @ FH, CE 4</p>	<p>6pm - Alleluia Ringers</p> <p>7pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>Office Closed</p> <p>5pm - EEEAC Worship</p>	<p>8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various</p> <p>9am - LEAD EVENT @ Calvar</p>
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<p>9am - Worship + SS</p> <p>10am - Conf/Class11</p> <p>11am - Worship + SS</p> <p>5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30</p> <p>7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30</p>	<p>9:30am - Women's Monday</p> <p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>7pm - Session Meeting-L</p>	<p>Lent Begins (Ash Wednesday)</p> <p>1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7pm - Troop 16 @ FH, CE 4</p>	<p>6pm - Alleluia Ringers</p> <p>7pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>Office Closed</p> <p>5pm - EEEAC Worship</p>	<p>8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various</p>

February 2020

February 2020							March 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				 Prayer Calendar		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Our Co-Pastors and Families	Everal Hathaway	Tom and Marti Hendrix	Betty Hillebrand	Melissa Holden, Sonia Campos, Gio	Richard and Jeanne Hood	Dave and Cyndee Hurlebaus
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
MagPres Ushers	Tom and Julie Hutchinson	Tessa Islas	John and Connie Jackson	Barbara Johnson	Dave and Mary Josslyn	Kay and Caitlin Keovilay
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
MagPres Deacons	David and Claudia King	Jim and Julie King	Dick and Bonnie Kirby	Paul and Michelle Knopf, Ekolu and AJ	Lowell and Dee Lacy, Deanna	James and Ann Laudermilk Family
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
MagPres Session	Marshall and Mary Lee; Ben and Sam	Timothy and Diana Lewis	Flora Livingstone	Adrien Lowery	Mrs. Ann Lowry	Jeff and Laurie Ludwig

Meet Your New Elders

A New Episode in Leadership

As the calendar turns to 2020, it is with pleasure I introduce you to a new episode of Session. Please join me in thanking our Elders who are going off Session—Marshall Lee and Heather Dickenson who have each served two 3-year terms, as well as Cherylyn Thornton, Judy O’Bier having each served one term. They have all given their time, talent and energy to making Magnolia great! In this next episode, we welcome Zach Gipson, David King and Kristine Shea as they begin their first terms, Jay Nicholson, serving his 3rd term, Dick Kirby, his 4th, and Deanna Cohen, fulfilling a two-year unexpired term. Read on to find out more about our newest Elders:

Zachary Gipson is serving his first term on Session and has been attending Magnolia for 5 years, member for 1½ years. He was born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas. He has an older brother and younger sister and a 6 year old nephew. He has been married to Maddy (Nelson) for 3 ½ years. He is a High School History and Theology teacher. His favorite vacation destination is the beaches of the Caribbean. If not a teacher, he wouldn’t mind being a zoologist. Zach’s hobbies are varied and include reading, playing/singing music, hiking, cooking/grilling, running and working out (his wife IS a personal trainer), craft brewing and distilling. He’s known to be a Kansas City Royals baseball fan, however,

when it comes to football loyalty... His favorite books of the Bible are the Four Gospels and appreciates the fact that Magnolia is of a Reformed confessional heritage. Over his years at Magnolia, he has been involved in Men’s Group, choir and the first service worship team. When asked why he answered the call to become an Elder, Zach says “there is a need for willing and qualified individuals to take responsibility for church leadership and I think I can serve effectively and faithfully in the capacity of an Elder.” He hopes MPC “will grow in its commitment of believing the gospel of Jesus Christ, crucified for the sins of the world and risen from the dead and see spiritual awakening within our congregation which would lead to faithful outreach in the work of the Great Commission.”

Dick Kirby is serving his fourth term on Session, having been a member of Magnolia “on and off since 1952.” He is married to Bonnie and is retired. His hobbies include fishing and woodworking and his favorite vacation destination is Maui! Had he not been in the construction business, he would have gone into law enforcement. He has a deep devotion and love for rescue dogs. A favorite reading for Dick is the Apostle’s Creed. When asked what keeps him at Magnolia, he says “the friendships”. He has been involved with the Buildings and Grounds Committee for years. Dick answered the call to serve on Session for a fourth term because “a voice told me it’s time.” His hope is to be a part of Magnolia’s next chapter.



Kristine Shea grew up at Magnolia in the 70's and 80's. When she left for college, her Mom, Evelyn, kept her membership going. In her 30's, when most of her friends were starting families, she remained in the "minority group of single, never married and no children." She spent a lot of time on the "church search" looking for "others like me." A few years ago, she was on her way to Sandals, when a voice as clear as day said "Go to Mag." She says she was startled enough to say "Wow, okay, I heard that!" She made a u-turn and headed to Magnolia. After that she waited and watched to see what God had in-store for her future. She says "A feeling over time grew inside me and one Sunday I looked around and realized I was exactly where I was supposed to be." This is Kris' first term on Session. Her occupation is an Educational Audiologist and had she not chosen this, Genetic Engineering would have been her path. Her hobbies include genealogy, and anything family. Her favorite vacation destination is Ireland. Her favorite story in the Bible is about Mary and Martha. The best part of Magnolia, what keeps her here is "real people." She has served on the Fellowship, Outreach and Membership Committee for the last few years. When asked why she answered the call to serve on Session, she says "I think I can help bridge old Magnolia traditions with new Magnolia transformation. Her hope for Magnolia's future is to "not outgrow who we are."

David King is serving his first term on Session and has been attending Magnolia for 3 years, member for 1 ½ years. He has been married to Claudia for 23 years and they have 2 daughters and a son, and 6 "beautiful grandchildren". He and Claudia are business owners, doing tradeshow exhibits, corporate interiors and museums. His favorite hobby is spending time with his wife and grandkids. His favorite vacation destination is the "R" – a ranch in the sequoias to which they have been going to for 23 years. If not the owner of his current company, he would like to buy, fix up and flip houses. His favorite verse in the Bible is 1 Corinthians 10:13 "God will not allow you to take more than you can handle and He will find you a resolution." His favorite thing(s) about MPC are "the snacks, the people being very inviting and our Co-Pastors" (David's order). He answered the call to serve on Session as "an opportunity to grow and be involved." His hope for Magnolia's future is "that we find the way to get young people involved and coming to MPC and to flip the shrinking congregation cycle of many churches."

Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up. Galatians 6:9, Common English Bible (CEB)