



# The Magnolia Presbyterian Church

# UPLLOOK

SEPTEMBER 2023

## A Deacon's Moment

How well do you know the twelve apostles? There are a few, such as Peter, John, and James, who we have some information about, but for most of the disciples little is known. We know their names because of the four passages where they appear in lists in the Bible (Matthew 10:2-4, Mark 3:16-19, Luke 6:13-16 and Acts 1:13). Another reason it is difficult to know them is because they are sometimes referred to by different names, e.g., Simon, Peter and Cephas are the same person (Saint Peter). Much of what is known comes from "tradition" as little exists in the way of historical documentation to corroborate what we have come to know about these closest followers of Jesus. Here are the twelve:

**Peter** (AKA Simon, Simon Peter, Cephas). He is the only disciple known to have been married. He came from Bethsaida and lived in Capernaum. He founded the churches in Rome and Antioch and was crucified (upside down) in Rome.

**James** (AKA James the Greater). He is the patron saint of Spain and was the first disciple to be martyred. He is the brother of John. He is known as "the Greater" to distinguish him from the other disciple named James.

**John**. He was the youngest disciple and brother of James the Greater. He and James were called the "sons of thunder" by Jesus. John was the only disciple to die of natural causes. He, his brother James, and Peter were considered the inner circle. John is also known as the Beloved Disciple.

**Andrew**. He was Peter's brother and a follower of John the Baptist. He was the first disciple called and the person that brought Peter to the Messiah. Andrew was crucified in the Greek city of Patras on an "X" shaped cross, which is known as the Saint Andrew's Cross. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland.

**Philip** (AKA Philip the Apostle). Philip is often confused with Philip the Evangelist, who was one of the original seven deacons. Philip the Apostle was thought to have been preaching in Greece and martyred in the first century by being stoned to death; other stories state he was crucified upside down.



*(continued on page 2)*



## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

**Sunday, September 3**  
**Communion Sunday**  
 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Exodus 3:1-15; Romans 12:9-21  
 Pastor Paul preaching  
 Deacon offering

**Sunday, September 10**  
**MagCafe, Two-Can Sunday**  
 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Ezekiel 33:7-11; Matthew 18:15-20  
 Pastor Paul preaching  
 Baptism

**Sunday, September 17**  
**MagCafe**  
 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Ezekiel 33:7-11; Matthew 18:21-35  
 Pastor Paul preaching

**Sunday, September 24**  
**Youth Sunday**  
 Youth and Children lead worship  
 Ice Cream Social  
 Susie Phillips Memorial



(continued from page 1)

**Bartholomew** (AKA Nathanael). Philip and Bartholomew are usually mentioned ministering together as a team. Bartholomew is thought to have preached in India, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. He is a patron saint in Armenia and believed to have been martyred in Azerbaijan.

**Matthew** (AKA Levi). Matthew was a publican or tax collector for Rome in Capernaum when called to follow Jesus. His political views were in direct opposition to Simon the Zealot. Matthew is known to have collected the quotes and sayings of Jesus, which form a large part of the Gospel of Matthew. He was said to have preached in Judea before traveling to other countries to spread the Gospel. He was martyred in Ethiopia.

**Thomas** (AKA Didymus). He is commonly known as "Doubting Thomas" from the account in John 20:24-29. Thomas founded seven churches in India, where he was martyred. He is thought to have traveled, taught, and preached in Syria, Indonesia, China. Interestingly, Ancient oral tradition retained by the Guaraní tribes of Paraguay claim he was in Paraguay and preached to them.

**James** (AKA James the Lesser, son of Alphaeus). He was known as James the Lesser to distinguish him from James, son of Zebedee (James the Greater). He was thought to have been younger than the other disciple called James; hence, "the Lesser" designation. He may have been a cousin to Jesus and is often called a brother of Christ. Tradition tells us he was the first Bishop of Jerusalem. He preached and was martyred in Jerusalem.

**Jude** (AKA Thaddeus, Lebbaeus, Judas brother of James). Due to the commonality of the names Judas and Jude, there is no clear evidence that Jude was a brother (to James the Lesser) or son of James (Unknown which James is referred to as his father). Some believe he may be the brother of Jesus. He may be the author of the Epistle of Jude in the New Testament. Jude is one of the patron saints of Armenia. Tradition holds that Jude preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Libya. He is thought to have been martyred in 65 AD in the Roman Province of Syria.

**Simon** (AKA Simon the Zealot, Simon the Cananaean). Jude, James the Lesser and Simon may have been brothers. Legend has it that Jude and Simon were Martyred in 65 AD in the Roman Province of Syria. There are many stories of Simon spreading the Gospel in various areas of the Roman world. Some have him traveling to North Africa, Persia, and Roman Britain.

**Judas Iscariot**. As we know, "Judas" is synonymous with betrayal. Judas was the first disciple to die, but was not martyred, he died by his own hand. The motivation for his actions are unclear and there have been many speculative reasons given to comprehend why he betrayed Jesus.



**PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS**

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

On World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ's table of peace. Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith - a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together. Through participation in the Peace and Global Witness Offering. Our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God is with us... and God in Christ is with us through the Sacrament of Communion, celebrated on World Communion Sunday. We are not alone. Peace begins with each of us. 25% of the funds collected stay at our church; 25% goes towards mid-council to support peacemaking work in our region, and 50% supports presbyterian work across the globe. Please give what you can.

# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

In June, most of the Elders met in-person for a pre-Session meeting pot-luck. After 3+ years of holding the meetings via Zoom, this was a welcomed gathering, filled with laughter, sharing stories, and simply being together breaking bread.

And after a Presbytery-suggested sabbatical once a year (July), your Session is back to work. Early August, a Called meeting was held for two purposes: To approve a list of priorities for the new sanctuary to be given to the new architect; and to approve a Congregational meeting to revise Pastor Paul's Terms of Call.

*"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another- and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*  
Hebrews 10:25

Melanie Nelson  
Clerk of Session



## BUILDING UPDATE

Your Updated Design Team met with a new architect and is beginning to explore what our new sanctuary could look like. We will update you more as information is available.

Ann, Brenda, David, Dick, Heather, Melissa, Paul, and Tim

## FAMILY PROMISE MEAL TRAIN

We have the opportunity to provide FPR's guest families with meals and fellowship. If you can provide a meal, please sign-up at the link below... Help them fill September's calendar!

Homemade, Delivery, or Donation options at

<http://mealtrain.com/z3o1ly>





# September 2023 Prayer Calendar

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
					<b>1</b> those affected by storms	<b>2</b> those without homes
<b>3</b> FP of Riverside	<b>4</b> Steve & Jan McKee	<b>5</b> the McLaughlin/Sachs family	<b>6</b> Laura Medrano	<b>7</b> Bill & Ruth Megenney	<b>8</b> Bobby & Kriss Menosky	<b>9</b> Lance & Laurie Mordue
<b>10</b> Habitat for Humanity	<b>11</b> Monique Mowry	<b>12</b> the Na family	<b>13</b> Brian & Melanie Nelson	<b>14</b> Chris & Sasha Nelson	<b>15</b> Makenzie Nelson	<b>16</b> Chris & Sherry Nettles
<b>17</b> Path of Life	<b>18</b> Zach Ni	<b>19</b> the Nicholson Family	<b>20</b> Judy O'Bier	<b>21</b> Daniel & Tessa Paredes	<b>22</b> Jane Peden	<b>23</b> the Perez family
<b>24</b> Riverside Interfaith Council	<b>25</b> Ron & Cornelia Phifer	<b>26</b> Gary & Pat Platner	<b>27</b> Clarke & Jeanette Prescott	<b>28</b> Rosie Quinoñes	<b>29</b> Chuck & Carolyn Raughley	<b>30</b> Mel & Rhonda Rehnke



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



<u>September Birthdays</u>	
Craig MacDougall	1st
Jason Nicholson	1st
Laura Medrano	1st
Ruth Megenney	2nd
Allie Robinson	5th
Andi Mabena	5th
Kierstyn Cohen	5th
Mel Rehnke	6th
Patrick Na	8th
Melanie Nelson	12th
Peter Manley	12th
Alma Vierich	13th
Dave Richards	14th
Shawn Smith	14th
Becky Doshier	15th
Caitlyn Cohen	15th
Monique Mowry	15th
Carol Farmer	17th
Cherylyn Thornton	17th
Joey Contreras	19th
Norah Sachs	19th
Adam Martinez	23rd
Diana Lewis	26th
Colleen Allert	29th
Edith Grant	30th

<u>September Anniversaries</u>	
Steve & Jan McKee	1st
Phil & Sally Smith	2nd
Erin & Aaron Gettis	6th
Jeff & Laurie Ludwig	8th
Wayne & Kristi Andrew	9th
Ray & Loretta Ward	9th
Lance & Laurie Mordue	11th



# SEPTEMBER 2023 MAGPRES CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30		1	2
					Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	9:30am - EEEAC
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10am - Communion Sunday 10am - Deacon Door Offering 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	6:30pm - Boy Scouts, Troop 16 6:30pm - FOM Cmte. 7pm - BaG Cmte. 7pm - Mission Cmte.	6pm - CE Cmte. 6:30pm - FOM Cmte. 7pm - BaG Cmte. 7pm - Mission Cmte.		7pm - Choir Practice	Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	9:30am - EEEAC 4pm - Path of Life Meal Prep and
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10am - TWO-CAN Sunday 10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	6:30pm - Boy Scouts, Troop 16	6pm - Worship Cmte 7pm - Stew_Fin Cmte		6:30pm - FP Community Mtg 7pm - Choir Practice	Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	9:30am - EEEAC
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	Paul on Study Leave 6:30pm - Boy Scouts, Troop 16	7pm - Deacon Meeting			Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	9:30am - EEEAC
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10am - Worship Service 10:15am - Children's Sunday	6:30pm - Boy Scouts, Troop 16	7pm - Session Meeting	Session Mat'is 9:00 am	7pm - Choir Practice	Office Closed 5pm - EEEAC	9:30am - EEEAC



THANK YOU

The Christian Education committee would like to recognize the hard work of Tim Lewis and Ann Laudermilk who along with Mary Lee helped brighten the nursery space with fresh paint. Thank You!!

## FILLING RAMONA CLOSET

School is back in session and children are in need. Mission Committee has adopted the Ramona High School Closet and we could use your ongoing help. We are hoping to show students and parents that Magnolia Presbyterian Church cares. Please bring any of the following to the church office box and Laurie Ludwig will deliver: Warm clothes, blankets, gently used or new shoes, professional attire (to use for interviews, church, or prom), shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, mouthwash, lotion, etc



Our Let's Eat Out Event at Pepitos raised \$268 for our Capital Campaign



## WELL UPDATE

Earlier this month water was pumped out of the well until the construction murkiness was gone. Then the water was sanitized and that water was pumped out. Testing for bacteria followed. This sanitize, pump out chlorinated water, and retest cycle is repeated until it tests clean. Then they remove the pump equipment, sound wall, and construct a block wall around the final system. We are getting closer to having our parking lot back.



**Tim Lewis**  
Well Coordinator

## STANDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ACCESS WORSHIP ONLINE:** You can participate in worship by going to [magpres.com/watch](https://magpres.com/watch) or visiting our Facebook page ([facebook.com/magpres](https://facebook.com/magpres)). Services are archived for you to watch later (or again!)

**COMMUNION:** On the first Sunday of every month, communion is served as a part of the worship service.

For those worshipping via Zoom, feel free to gather your own “bread & cup” elements at home and join in the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper with the whole congregation.

**TWO-CAN SUNDAY:** On every 2nd Sunday of the month, we bring 2 Cans or Boxes of food to be donated to Lutheran Social Services of Southern California to help feed hungry neighbors in our community. Our numbers have been lower than before. Let’s see if we can get up to 200 in September as we continue loving our neighbors who are hungry! Our next Two-Can collection date will be September 10th.

**STATER BROS. GIFT CARDS:** Gift cards in the amounts of \$25, \$50, and \$100 are available to purchase in the church office. Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 3:00pm. Whether you are buying as a gift or to do your weekly grocery shopping, the church receives 5% of every sale! How nice--give twice!

**CHURCH DIRECTORY ONLINE:** go to [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](https://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com) & follow the “Sign In” prompts to “Create a login now.” You can also download the mobile app at the Apple® App store, Google Play™ store, and the Amazon Fire App Store. Use your email (as listed in **our directory**) to create a log-in. **As always - if your address, phone, or email changes, let us know with an email to [church@magpres.com](mailto:church@magpres.com)**

**DAILY DEVOTIONAL:** Our Daily Bread quarterly booklets are available in the Worship Center foyer (on the Welcome Table) and in the church office. Pick one up for yourself and for a friend or stranger.







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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

7200 Magnolia Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92504-3829  
Phone: (951) 684-7200  
Email: church@magpres.com  
Website: www.magpres.com  
Church Office Hours  
Mon-Thurs 8:30am—3pm  
Closed Friday



Magnolia Presbyterian  
Church Staff

The Rev. Paul Knopf  
*Pastor*

Lisa Gulino  
*Administrative Assistant*

Saw Shein  
*Contemporary Music Director*

James Walters  
*Trad. Music Director/Organist*

John Wright  
*Choral Director*

Cynthia Wright  
*Pianist/Accompanist*

Allison Robinson  
*Nursery Attendant*

Catelyn Garcia  
*Youth Leader*

# Susie Valerie Phillips

January 7, 1953 – June 28, 2023



Celebration of Life on  
Sunday, September 24, 2023  
Magnolia Presbyterian Church

On June 28th, Susan Phillips, a beloved member of the congregation, passed away.

Susie was a passionate teacher, a writer, an empathetic listener, someone who saw the best in and brought out the best in people. Maybe that's why she named her daughter Joy—because she found so much joy in her life, in her faith, and in being a mom.

She powerfully experienced God's unconditional love, and this love was her guiding light. She loved sharing her spiritual gifts with the church, by writing letters of encouragement, and sharing her favorite scripture, poems and wisdom from her experience. As a teacher, she dedicated herself to helping kids learn to read, continuing to do so long after she retired.

Susie considered her creativity a gift from God and always looked for opportunities to share it in ways that would bless others. Whether drawing, writing poetry, or making craft items—often with others—she wanted to spread beauty and delight throughout her world and lift up others around her in that way. She also loved to sing, whether at karaoke, with her grandkids, or to friends who needed their spirits lifted.

No matter in what aspect of her life, Susie was always asking herself, "How can I contribute?" and doing so brought her immense joy.

In her own words: "Step out and give a person a little attention or a smile. You may be surprised!"

We will be commemorating my mom in a service here at MagPres on September 24. We look forward to celebrating her together with you.

—Joy Hawley (Susie's daughter)

PS: I'm collecting excerpts of her letters for the memorial. If you received one of Susie's notes and are willing, please send a photo or scan of it to the church office at: [church@magpres.com](mailto:church@magpres.com)