

Getting Involved at Montclair Presbyterian Church

There are so many ways to engage with the MPC community! To get started, just skim the list below and reach out to the contact person for whatever group you'd like to join. Contact information for all those listed is available on Realm: <https://onrealm.org/MPC/>

What's the name of your committee or group?	In a single sentence, what is the purpose of your committee or group?	What are the options for folks to get involved in your committee or group?	Who's the main contact person?
Membership and Outreach	Led by our faith, we promote the spiritual and social activism values of Montclair Presbyterian Church to the wider community, We welcome visitors and help them to feel included and become members or friends of the family, and manage the status of existing members.	They can take part in our worship services and committee meetings, help with outreach activities, and help with welcoming new members. They can also volunteer with community events: August Sundays, Christmas Holiday Stroll, etc.	Steve McKiernan and Bill Neely
Food and Shelter Team	Relieve hunger and housing insecurity in Oakland	During Covid, we have two ongoing projects. We make a hot meal for unhoused persons once a month on a Friday evening. We can always use more cooks. We provide groceries every other Saturday at the Fruitvale Pantry. We're not adding volunteers right now, but you can donate food or funds to help that continue.	Deborah Brooks
Celebration Committee	Supporting the staff in planning our worship services.	We have opportunities for helping with seasonal sanctuary decorations (Advent, Lent, Pentecost), weekly flower arrangements, communion service and "Extended Communion" to shut-ins, lay leaders, and August barbecue dinners.	Sloan White and Shelley Kelly

College Avenue Cooks (subgroup of the Food & Shelter Committee)	Assist College Avenue Presbyterian Church with their Friday night homeless dinner program.	During Covid - volunteer to prepare part of a dinner at home & deliver to CAPC once a month. Post Covid - volunteer to prepare & serve dinner on site on select Friday afternoon/evenings.	Debbie Fallehy
MPC Hospitality (subgroup of Family Life Committee)	Help coordinate MPC in-person hospitality events	Post Covid: Volunteer to make & serve coffee during in-person Family Hour on Sunday mornings. Provide cookies for Family hour Assist with Kitchen & Family Room coordination for non-hosted MPC events and/or Church family memorials	Debbie Fallehy
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Essential Spirituality	The purpose of this on-going Adult Ed Class is to explore seven perennial practices as laid out in Dr. Roger Walsh's book of the same name, to deepen our connection with our essential spiritual nature.	The group I'm involved with is called a class. It's more of a support system that meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. It can be found when sign-ups happen for Small Group and Adult Ed classes.	Melinda Maxwell-Smith

Buildings and Grounds	The B&G committee is responsible for the maintenance of our church campus.	Membership and Outreach encourages participation on work days, help with small projects, and repairs based on your skill set. Lend a hand to help others when able. These activities from gardening to construction build community.	Allen Todd, Janet Mulshine
Lay leaders	Volunteer to read Scripture, Prayer for Peace or Call to Celebration	Volunteering to read Scripture, Prayer for Peace, or the Call to Celebration are easy ways to participate in the worship services at our church, to feel included, and to know our Pastors on a more personal level.	Cheryl Geckeler
Children and Youth Committee	We oversee all programs and special events for infants, children, teens, and their families, and ensure that all of our young people are welcomed and embraced throughout our church life.	Our committee oversees our Nursery, Sunday morning Godly Play for preK through grade 6, and Youth Group for grades 7-12. We plan the annual Christmas pageant and Easter Egg Hunt. We ensure that our children and youth are active participants in Sunday morning worship. We have multiple ways for volunteers to serve our children and youth -- currently on Zoom. Volunteer as a "greeter" in Godly Play (Zoom, Wednesdays at 5), volunteer as a youth group advisor (Zoom, Sundays at 7), or attend committee meetings semi-monthly. Another rewarding volunteer opportunity that requires some training is being a Godly Play storyteller. Training and support are provided for all volunteers.	Cindy Gullikson, Committee Chair
Fundraising	To raise funds to support MPC's programs as well as important charitable work outside MPC.	We have lots of opportunities to help with planning and carrying out fundraising events, such as auctions, parties, sales, etc.	Suzanne Jones or Leslie Louie
Adult Ed Committee	Provide adult education classes focused on both religious themes and social issues.	Attend committee meetings, develop topics and recruit speakers, prepare class brochures, and host Zoom meetings.	Mike Griffith

Celebration Committee	It works with the pastors to plan and oversee aspects of the worship service: communion, lay leaders, music and flowers.	We have meetings several times a year and need volunteers to help decorate, serve communion and work at the August dinners.	Sloan White or Shelley Kelly
Peace & Justice Steering Committee	Our purpose is to find opportunities to work with allies within and outside our church who share our nonviolent approach to help bring about a more just and peaceful world one step at a time, with spiritual values and consciousness as the foundation we build upon.	We have an email group of 24, of which about 8 meet 10 times a year, with breaks during the summer and holidays. Volunteer opportunities are announced in Contact.	Eloise Gilland
The Storytellers Committee	We organize "Works in Progress" featuring writings from one of MPC's writers once a year and currently, "Open Mic" nights via Zoom every last Friday of the month from 7-8:30pm.	Contact Margaret Irvin for next committee meeting	Margaret Irvin or Anna Dabney for opportunities. All are welcome!
Buildings and Grounds Committee	Oversee all campus maintenance and repairs, and work with staff to bring in contractors or assign volunteers as needed; oversee any campus upgrades.	Periodic meetings are held to review status of facility maintenance and repair needs, and to develop plans to address them. Occasional work days are organized for all congregation members to help on one-time special projects.	To get information about current meetings and/or projects, call or email Allen Todd.
Nursery	We help take care of kids aged 0-5 during the service on Sunday.	We are always looking for community members willing to volunteer for a Sunday in the nursery taking care of the little ones.	Blake Thompson

