



Groups and Organizations 2015

**Making Connections,
Building Community**

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Contents



1. Food Pantries.....	page 1-3
2. Community Outreach	page 1-3
3. The Giving Tree	page 4
4. Jail Ministry	page 4
5. Bake Me Home	page 4
6. Special Offerings	page 5



1. Worship Preparation	page 6
2. Vocal Choirs	page 7
3. Handbell Choirs	page 7



1. Adult Education.....	page 8
2. Youth CE Team	page 9-10
3. Children & Family	page 10-11



1. Membership.....	page 12-13
2. Congregational Care.....	page 14
3. Fellowship.....	page 15
4. Small Groups.....	page 16-18
5. Other Session Committees..	page 19



SERVE Ministry Team

The SERVE team meets monthly to coordinate the congregation's mission and outreach ministries. If you are interested in helping on the administrative side of SERVE, the team meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 pm. in Room 208. For more information, contact serveministry@mwpc-church.org. Responding to the needs of the hungry is a significant passion of our congregation. We focus on bridging the gap between meals that is a reality for too many families in our community and beyond. Through gifts of time, food, money, and prayer we are working to make an impact in this critical area through the following activities

Free Community Dinner

On the third Sunday of each month, MWPC hosts a free dinner for the entire community. All neighbors and church members are welcome. The meal is from 6-7 (doors open at 5:45). For more information - to eat or volunteer - please contact communitymeal@mwpc-church.org

SEM Food Pantry (SEM is Southeastern Ecumenical Ministries)

The house next door to MWPC (on the west) is the SEM Food Pantry. They offer food and financial aid to people in need living in Anderson, Mt. Washington and Clermont County. As the biggest contributor to the pantry (14 churches support this effort) MWPC donates food, money and time thanks to the many members who volunteer to stock, sort and assist guests. See their website for more information http://www.semcommunities.org/food_pantry.html

The Pantry Shelf

Sharing with others in need has never been so simple! You shop, we'll share; place your donations of non-perishable food/non-food items on the Pantry Shelf in the Gathering Area of the church. Volunteers sort and deliver the contributions to the SEM Pantry and the Batavia YWCA Pantry. Contact pantryshelf@mwpc-church.org



Mobile Food Pantry

MWPC hosts a mobile food pantry for an average of 150 families (reaching over 450 individuals) several times a year in partnership with the Freestore Foodbank. Each family can select up to 50 pounds of food, typically including meat and fresh vegetables, items that aren't usually available at smaller food pantries. MWPC volunteers have the opportunity to connect one-on-one with our guests, helping them select and pack their food. For more information contact: mobilefoodpantry@mwpc-church.org

Tender Mercies of Cincinnati

Tender Mercies provides security, community, and housing to homeless adults with mental illness. MWPC volunteers every other month on a Saturday, to cook and serve a meal for the clients of Tender Mercies in Over-the-Rhine. If you are interested in helping with the meal MWPC provides please contact tendermercies@mwpc-church.org For more information about Tender Mercies of Cincinnati and what they do, please visit <http://www.tendermerciesinc.org/>

Garden Project

MWPC grows and shares homegrown produce for clients of local food pantries. Over the spring, summer and fall, volunteers offer their love of digging in the dirt, planting, weeding and harvesting vegetables from our garden plot, located behind the church parking lot. Communal garden time is 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings but you may work in the garden at your convenience. May is the time to reserve a space in the garden plot. If you would like to share your "green thumb" please email gardenproject@mwpc-church.org

Power Pack Program

MWPC sponsors the Freestore Foodbank's Power Packs program at Mt. Washington School, which provides weekend food for children who are eligible for reduced or free school lunches. Volunteers pick up the power packs from the Freestore, and deliver them to the school. Interested in helping? Contact powerpack@mwpc-church.org



Alternative Gift Fair

The Alternative Gift Fair is a way to give a gift in more ways than one. Your friend or loved one (or yourself) get a lovely handmade gift and the profits support local and international missions and create income for people in developing nations. You can also get cards of support for agencies like Heifer International, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Church World Service. The fair is usually held on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. To get involved contact alternativegiftfair@mwpc-church.org

Backpack Ministry

Every fall, over 400 local kids receive backpacks filled with the specific school supplies they will need for the coming school year through the Backpack Ministry. Members donate money, supplies and time to sort and fill the backpacks every August. Want to get involved? Contact backpackministry@mwpc-church.org

House of Peace

Various groups of MWPC volunteers take turns providing a meal on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the House of Peace Battered Women's Shelter. Members of the scheduled group prepare portions of the meal and deliver them to MWPC. A volunteer delivers the meal to the shelter. To schedule your group to help with food, contact HOP@mwpc-church.org

The Drop Inn Center Meal Program

Volunteers serve dinner at the Drop Inn Center twice a month on the 2nd Thursday and the 3rd Tuesday. We meet in the church parking lot at 5 pm and carpool to the site. We serve dinner from 6 to about 6:40, returning to the church around 7 pm. The women are now housed in their new facility in Mt. Auburn, and the men will be moving to their new facility in September. Please visit www.dropinn.org for more information about the organization. To volunteer or learn more about our involvement, please email dropinncenter@mwpc-church.org



First Lutheran Church Community Lunch

MWPC volunteers join volunteers from other churches to prepare a community lunch at First Lutheran in Over-the-Rhine (OTR) the last Monday of each month. MWPC helps prepare (9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.), serve (11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) and clean up (1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.) for the meal, which feeds 200 - 300 residents of the OTR community. Contact firstlutheran@mwpc-church.org

The Giving Tree

This outreach ministry provides Christmas gifts for families in need in partnership with Mercy Hospital, Clermont YWCA, Birthright, Mt. Washington School, Prokids, and the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter. Members contribute gifts and volunteers sort, wrap and distribute gifts. Watch for the tree in November and take a tag to contribute or contact givingtree@mwpc-church.org

Jail Ministry

Our volunteers go to one of the Hamilton County Justice facilities to lead worship on the second Sunday morning of each month. For more on this ministry contact jailministry@mwpc-church.org

Bake Me Home

This program was the 'brain child' of 2 of our younger members and their Mom. They give mothers and their children a tote bag with materials to prepare a batch of cookies as a welcome home activity after leaving local shelters. At least 8 local agencies are served by this outreach program. Volunteers help to assemble cookie mix jars, deliver bags and assist with photo shoots of moms and kids. Check out their website for more information or contact them to volunteer at www.bakemehome.com



Special Offerings by PC(USA)

As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) we participate in denomination-wide special offerings each year. A portion of those offerings support national and global projects through PC(USA), and a portion is used by MWPC for special needs within our community.

- **One Great Hour of Sharing** - During Lent, on Palm Sunday
- **Pentecost Offering** - During Pentecost (typically in June)
- **Peace and Global Witness Offering** - On World Communion Sunday (first Sunday of October)
- **Joy Offering** - On the last Sunday of Advent

These offerings are organized by SERVE

serveministry@mwpc-church.org

except the Joy Offering is organized by the Personnel Team

personnelteam@mwpc-church.org

PC(USA) Disaster Relief Special Offerings

The national church provides a mechanism for the congregation to give financial support for disasters such as the Nepal Earthquake, Famine in the Horn of Africa, and others as the need arises. You are encouraged to give through MWPC (then the offering appears on your annual statement from the church). These contributions find their way to the areas identified through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). More information is available at <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/>



Celebrate Ministry Team

The Celebrate Ministry Team is responsible for all the elements of worship. They meet on the 2nd Monday of the month in the choir room at 7:15 PM. They suggest communion dates to session, decorate for church holidays, advise about all aspects of worship space, activities and furniture. For more information email celebrateministry@mwpc-church.org

Common Grounds

Teams provide friendship and fellowship as they prepare and serve coffee and tea before and between Sunday morning services. Join a team, or gather several people and create a new team! Contact CG@mwpc-church.org

Communion Preparation

Each month, communion preparation is completed by a small group of volunteers. For more information, contact sacristy@mwpc-church.org

Seasonal Preparation & Decoration

Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas decor is completed by a small group of volunteers. For more information celebrateministry@mwpc-church.org

Sunday Morning Soundboard Operators

This group makes it possible for the spoken word to be heard throughout the sanctuary. These volunteers welcome new members and offer training. Please contact sound@mwpc-church.org if interested.



Music/Choirs

Vocal Choirs

Adult, youth, and childrens choirs, contact choir@mwpc-church.org

Chancel Choir (adults)

Sing in Sunday services. Rehearse Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30p.m.

Celebration Choir (junior/senior high youth)

Sings routinely in Sunday worship. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 4:00 in the church.

Seasonal/Large Work Choir

If you like to sing but cannot commit to a full year, this is your chance. Members are welcome to join for special services such as Christmas Eve and Easter. In addition, we may prepare a large work with organ and/or instruments and present once a year usually in the spring.

Children's Choir and Music

Rehearse within the Super Wednesday schedule and sing/ring about monthly during the program year.

Praise Band

Leads Sunday worship during the Morning Glory service. They are made of various instrumental musicians and have a rotation of singers. Mini music retreats are held quarterly to learn new repertoire. Weekly rehearsals take place prior to worship on Sunday mornings. Contact band@mwpc-church.org

Handbell Choirs for adults and youth

Contact handbells@mwpc-church.org

Carillon Ringers (adults)

Ring monthly in Sunday services and rehearse on Sundays from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Learn

Christian Education Ministry

The Christian Education team oversees learning opportunities for all ages: adult, youth, and children & families as follows.

Adult Education

The Adult Ed Team

Plans and supports educational programs for adults. All are welcome here, with programs open to members and non-members alike. The organizing team meets bi-monthly to develop and promote a variety of adult Christian education opportunities. If you would like to help with the administrative side of Adult CE, or have ideas for educational opportunities, contact adultce@mwpc-church.org

Monday Morning Book Group (MMBG)

Meets in the library weekly on Mondays from 9:20 - 10:30 a.m. to discuss books chosen by members. Recent reads include *Amazing Grace*, *Spiritual Gems of Islam*, *The Gift of Years*, and *The Fourth Gospel*. For more information contact mondaybookgroup@mwpc-church.org

Sunday Morning Adult Ed Classes

Held in the church at 9:30 and/or 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Classes range from DVD/discussion series on a variety of topics to Bible and book studies. Please see current offerings at www.mwpc-church.org/adult-ministries-and-fellowship or, for more information contact adultce@mwpc-church.org

The Jenkins-Jones Lectures

Held biennially in the fall of the year. In 2012 we were excited to welcome Marcus Borg and in 2014 our guest was John Shelby Spong. For more information contact JJLS@mwpc-church.org

Guest Speakers

Occasionally scheduled, and their appearances are open to the public. Check the church website, www.mwpc-church.org, for upcoming special events and speakers.



Learn

Youth CE Team

The Youth CE Team

Plans, implements, and evaluates programming for our junior and senior high youth including those listed below. The organizing team meets monthly to discuss and plan activities to engage our young people. A dedicated group of adults support this effort, and there is always room for new ideas and helping hands. The team meets in the lower level media room when they meet. More information is available from youthce@mwpc-church.org

Youth Sunday School

All happen on Sunday mornings from 11:00 a.m. - noon. Sunday School classes are broken out between junior and senior high youth. High school freshmen who choose to participate in Confirmation learn more about their faith and what is involved in a commitment to membership in the congregation. For more information, contact youthce@mwpc-church.org

Youth Fellowship

Gives junior and senior high youth the opportunity to return to church on Sunday afternoons for dinner and activities for each age group. These include fun and games, serious discussions, and service opportunities. More information is available from youthfellowship@mwpc-church.org

Below Zero

Youth outreach program. (It is so 'cool' that it is below zero!) Local kids from the community gather with church youth in the lower level to see a movie, play games, or hang out in a safe and supervised atmosphere. Below Zero operates 1st and 3rd Friday evening from 7:00 - 10 p.m. to learn more check with BZ@mwpc-church.org

We Play Video Games and Talk about God (GVG)

A group designed for 7th and 8th grade boys. It provides a fun, safe, supervised place for play, study, and discussion. They meet on Wednesdays at the church. Find out more at youthfellowship@mwpc-church.org



Youth CE Team (cont.)

Wonderfully Made

Designed for 7th and 8th grade girls, providing a fun, safe, supervised place for Bible study, craft activities, and open sharing. They meet on Wednesdays at the church. More information at youthfellowship@mwpc-church.org

Youth Summer Trips

These are planned each year, contact youthfellowship@mwpc-church.org

Children and Family Learn Team

The Children and Family Learn Team

Plans and implements opportunities for our children to develop loving relationships within our church community. We pray that they will be nurtured into a life-long relationship with God. A dedicated group of adults support this effort, and there is always room for new ideas and helping hands. The team meeting times change with the seasons and offerings. For more information about our children's ministries, contact c&fministries@mwpc-church.org

Cribbery Room

Provides care for babies from birth to one year while parents attend worship in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings.

Toddler Room

Provides care for children up to two years old.

Sunday School

Classes are offered for children by age group during worship at 9:30 a.m. Bible-based curriculum integrates worship, mission, and education.



Children and Family (cont.)

Super Wednesday

Our mid-week offering for children from Kindergarten - 6th grade. This program fills the church with energy while kids and volunteers focus on their relationship with God through Bible study, worship skills, games, activities, and dinner. Volunteers act as table parents, activity leaders, and help with choirs. Super Wednesday meets on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 -7:00 p.m., October through March.

Vacation Bible School

We hold VBS each summer at the end of July. Children age 4 through those who have completed 5th grade will dive into God's love through stories, crafts, hands-on mission work, and fun music.

Seasonal Celebrations

During the seasons of the church year many activities are held to celebrate and educate children and adults about the meanings and impact of specific days. These events include Advent, Christmas eve family service, Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent.

Celebration of Children

Of course we celebrate our children all the time, but each spring we hold a special event for them. We have had lots of activities and entertainment and educational booths to celebrate our children. Everything from a local pediatrician with information about nutrition, to rescued wild animals; from rope jumping teams, to a nationally known children's entertainment star; from infant massage to kindermuzik, from tours of our preschool, to local elementary school artists. Many from the community and the church benefit and children everywhere are celebrated. Contact c&fministries@mwpc-church.org for more information.



Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry Team is comprised of Deacons who provide care in lots of ways for our congregation. The Care team works through its four subcommittees (Membership, Congregational Care, Fellowship, and Small Groups) and regularly enlists the help of other MWPC members and friends in pulling together their activities. The Care Ministry Team meets monthly on the 3rd Monday evening. Subcommittees meet in various locations at 7:00 p.m., Plenary for the whole team is in room 212 at 7:45 p.m. General information about Care ministry is available from careministry@mwpc-church.org

Membership

Contact membership@mwpc-church.org

Classes for Prospective New Members

Offered several times each year for those who want to learn about what is involved in joining the church. Classes help people to learn about Presbyterian polity and practices, MWPC ministries and staff, and ways to become active in the church. The sub-committee is planning to enlist 'shepherds' for those who elect to become new members. For more information on attending the class, being a shepherd, or assisting in the class, email InterestedInMembership@mwpc-church.org

Members Photo Directory

Created about every 5 years. The Membership teams engages the photography company, sets up locations and appointments, organizes the final product and makes necessary arrangements with assistance from the church office staff.



Membership (cont.)

Community Events

The membership sub-committee works to engage others in our wider community (Mt Washington and Anderson) by having a presence at events such as Anderson Days. For such things we team with the A-Team (see other session level committees.) For example In July 2015 MWPC had their third year with a booth at Anderson Days. This year they encouraged attendees to participate in making soup mixes for SEM pantry as part of our mission to feed the hungry and handed out wooded spoons with MWPC's name to those visiting our booth. The soup mixes and spoons were a great hit!

Welcoming Visitors

Every Sunday after worship the Care Ministry usher greets new visitors with a smile at the "Welcome Center" near the sanctuary, gives them a MWPC water bottle, gets their contact information and helps them find their way around our church and our ministries. In addition, the membership committee will provide an entry point into church activities for repeat visitors or those expressing interest in future membership.

Membership and Attendance Data

The membership committee regularly reviews attendance and membership data to identify trends and take actions to retain current membership rolls. Committee members will plan to contact those who haven't kept up church attendance or participation, and invite them to join in worship or other church activities.



Congregational Care

Contact congregationalcare@mwpc-church.org

Cooks on Call

Providing meals for member families in times of need such as illness and bereavement. If you need assistance or want to prepare food to share, please contact cooksoncall@mwpc-church.org

Faith Community Nursing

We are working on beginning a nursing program with educational as well as hands-on programs. We hope to offer blood pressure screening and health education programs. Contact faithcommunitynurse@mwpc-church.org

Extended Communion

We plan to offer communion to our home bound members twice in the fall of 2015.

Card Ministry

Keep in touch with those who are ill or grieving with a simple card and note to let our extended church family know we care about and pray for them.

Care Connections Ministry (CCM)

The "Care Connections Ministry" (CCM) involves training and empowering interested church members to making regular contact with members of the church who are unable to attend worship. We want all our members to know they are missed and that we care about and pray for them. The trained visitor offers a listening ear, a visit or a call, a card or a note on a regular monthly basis. If you are interested in being visited, or in visiting others, please contact CCM@mwpc-church.org

Transportation

We offer transportation services for church members by church members to church events. Contact Transportation@mwpc-church.org if you need or can to provide a ride to other members.



Fellowship

Contact fellowship@mwpc-church.org

Annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction

This is held each year on a Saturday evening in the spring. We gather to share appetizers and try some new wines, while we peruse the silent auctions table and bid on baskets, entertainment , and vacation options. All proceeds go to our hunger ministry.

Church Picnic

The annual picnic is a celebration of summer for adults and children alike. Family-friendly activities and entertainment provide a fun environment to connect with old friends as well as welcome new friends to our church family.

Annual Chili Challenge

This fall event gives MWPC the opportunity to make and share chili recipes made by members and guests willing to step up to the challenge! A prize will be given to the best chili in each category and the ultimate prize is goes to the church with the most winners.

Auxiliary Fellowship Events

Throughout the year, the Fellowship Committee will hold events of all types like movie nights for the family, date nights for adults and themed parties for the congregation to enjoy. For those with interest in volunteering or new event ideas, please contact us at fellowship@mwpc-church.org.



Small Groups

The Small Group subcommittee helps folks identify and organize new small group opportunities. The following groups are currently active at MWPC

Contact smallgroups@mwpc-church.org

EXPLORE MWPC

Bi-annual event in September showcases and recruits for all the ministry teams and events in the church. Each group who wants to recruit and expand their ministry is invited to have a table in Davies Hall after each service to tell folks what they are doing and invite others to join them.

Stephen Ministry

A confidential one-on-one lay ministry of listening, caring, and support. Trained volunteers work with MWPC members in times of need. Contact stephenministry@mwpc-church.org for more information or to find out about being a care giver or a care receiver. Care givers meet for support and continuing education the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:45p.m. in Beran Parlor.

Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Venture Crew

MWPC has sponsored Boy Scout Troop 112 for over 70 years. In 2007 the troop launched Venture Crew, a program for girls 14-21 years old. Over 40 adult leaders are focused on making a difference in the lives of over 100 young men and women through Scouting. Boy Scouts meet Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. in Davies Hall; Cub Scout Pack 212 and Venture Crew meeting times vary. To learn more contact boyscouts@mwpc-church.org

Softball

Teams provide fellowship over winning or quality of play, by playing with other Anderson Township church teams. Our two teams each play on Monday evenings from April through mid-August at either Julifs or Riverside Parks. For more information contact softball@mwpc-church.org



Small Groups (cont.)

Library Committee

This dedicated group maintains and promotes materials in the church library. The committee meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. Please contact library@mwpc-church.org

The Men's Discovery Group

Men of all ages meet every Saturday mornings beginning at 7:30a.m. They usually meet at MWPC in Room 202-203, except on holiday weekends when they meet offsite. This multi-generational group discusses current events, led by group members. For more information contact mensdiscovery@mwpc-church.org

Men's and Women's Retreats

Separate retreats for men and women are held in different formats depending on the needs of the participants and offer opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. More information is available through menstretreat@mwpc-church.org or womensretreat@mwpc-church.org

WINGS (Women in God's Study) Bible Study

Held on Friday mornings from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Beran Parlor. Childcare is available. For more information, contact WINGS@mwpc-church.org

Mariners

This group of couples and singles gather to do lots of interesting programs and meals together.

Dinner With Friends

If you would like to get to know some other members or friends of the church over a meal then "Dinner With Friends" is perfect for you. Once or twice a year we gather several folks willing to host dinners and others sign up to go to dinner on a specific date. They are then matched together and a great time is had by all! Contact DinnerWithFriends@mwpc-church.org



Small Groups (cont.)

Presbyterian Women

Many different circles are offered for women interested in fellowship, service, and Bible study. The Women also hold two rummage sales a year, Fall and Spring. All proceeds go to local charities and mission organizations.

PW Circles include:

- **Eve Circle:** 2nd Tuesday at 7:15 p.m. in Beran Parlor. evecycle@mwpc-church.org
- **Martha Circle:** 2nd Thursday at noon in Beran Parlor. Call Dottie Hehn at 752-8324. marthacircle@mwpc-church.org
- **Rachel Rebekah Circle:** 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at New England Club. rachelcircle@mwpc-church.org
- **In Stitches Circle:** is a knitting, crocheting, stitching group which meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:00 pm. in Beran Parlor. If Thursday evening are not good for you there are the Twisted Stitches meeting Wednesday. Check on them through institches@mwpc-church.org or twistedstitches@mwpc-church.org



Other Session Level Committees

Annual Stewardship Campaign

Interprets the needs of the church for the congregation, and the ministries of the church can be supported throughout the year. Planning begins in late spring toward the campaign, which generally runs from September through November.

A-Team

The A-Team is a session level committee working to advertise and attract new folks to MWPC. They have created a series of publicity flyers for local newspapers and have used them for postcard mailings to new residents. In addition to promotional items and ads in local publications, they work with the membership sub-committee to engage in community events like Anderson Days and the 4th of July parade. They also provide community publicity for other MWPC events. If you have interest and/or expertise in advertising or publicity please contact them to see how you might get involved at A-team@mwpc-church.org

Artisans' Affaire

This reconstituted event has returned for fall 2015 after a couple years away and is generating lots of excitement. Sponsored by its own session level committee and benefiting the church budget, the 2015 Artisan's Affaire is a juried art show with silent auction, bake sale, and other special treats like "Christmas card photos of your child with baby Jesus in the manger rather than Santa at the mall." Contact email is artisansaffaire@mwpc-church.org



Index of Groups

Alternative Gift Fair.....	3	Mariners	17
Backpack Ministry.....	3	Martha Circle	18
Drop Inn Center Meal Program.	3	Members Photo Directory	12
First Lutheran Church Lunch	4	Men's Discovery Group	17
Garden Project	2	Men's Retreat	17
House of Peace	3	Mobile Food Pantry	2
Pantry Shelf	1	Monday Morning Book Goup	8
Power Pack Program	2	New Members Class	12
Tender Mercies	2	Omega Ringers	7
Adult Education	8	Parish Nursing	14
Artisans' Affaire	19	PC(USA) Disaster Relief	5
A-Team	13, 19	Praise Band	7
Bake Me Home.....	4	Presbyterian Women	18
Below Zero	9	Rachel Rebekah Circle	18
Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts	16	Seasonal Decorations.....	6
Card Ministry	14	Seasonal Family Celebrations	11
Care Connections Ministry	14	Seasonal/Large Work Choir	7
Care Ministry Team	12	SEM Food Pantry	1
Carillon Ringers	7	Softball	16
Celebration Choir	7	Special Offerings by PC(USA)	5
Celebration of Children	11	Stephen Ministry	16
Chancel Choir	7	Stewardship Campaign	19
Children & Family	10-11	Sunday Morning Adult Ed Classes	8
Children's Choir	7	Sunday Morning Sound Board	6
Chili Cookoff	15	Sunday School	11
Christian Education	8	Super Wednesday	11
Church Picnic	15	Toddler Room	10
Common Grounds	6	Ushers for Worship Services	13
Communion Preparation.....	6	Vacation Bible School	11
Communion, Extended	14	Vocal Choirs.....	7
Cooks on Call	14	We Play Video Games & Talk About God	9
Cribbery Room	10	Welcome Center	13
Dinner with Friends	17	Wine Tasting	15
Eve Circle	18	WINGS Bible Study	17
Explore MWPC	16	Women's Retreat	17
Free Community Dinner.....	1	Wonderfully Made	10
Fusion	10	Youth CE Team.....	9-10
Giving Tree.....	4	Youth Fellowship	9
Guest Speakers	8	Youth Summer Trips	10
Handbell Choirs.....	7	Youth Sunday School	9
In Stitches Circle	18		
Jail Ministry.....	4		
Jenkins-Jones Lectures	8		
Library Committee	17		

Starting a Small Group

Congratulations! You're starting a new group. It's an exciting time and a bit overwhelming. Whether you've led before or you're a brand new small-group leader, you'll find everything you need here to get your group started.

Group Requirements

- Must be gathered under a common interest.
- Small groups are generally defined as having 3-12 members. Larger groups are encouraged to sub-groups.
- Must be open to accepting additional group members (both members and non-members of MWPC).
- Begins with a prayer and asks for joys and concerns
- Has a main contact/leader

Main Contact Responsibilities

- Serves as contact point for Deacons (Small Groups roll up under Deacons when asking for church resources as well as for reporting on number of members)
- Maintains group email account (to communicate with Deacons and to receive inquiries from potential new members)
- Creating a brief annual report
- Informs Associate Pastor of major member concerns (ie hospitalization, familial deaths, etc)



Mt. Washington
Presbyterian
Church

Our Mission

Blessed by the grace of God, following Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit, we:

Celebrate with joy and gratitude, God's abundant love;

Learn and grow as disciples of Christ;

Care for each other and our neighbors;

Serve God's people with compassion, sharing the Good News.

This brochure contains information compiled for the Explore MWPC Event. Some MWPC groups may not be included in this document. Please contact careministry@mwpc-church.org if you are seeking information on a group/activity not listed in this brochure.