



# Sonshine News and Updates

December 18, 2025

**Special Note:** Please be aware that Sunday's scripture passage and message may trigger strong emotions and draw up hurtful events from your past. As part of the message, Pastor Mark will be talking about the victimization and sexual assault that Bathsheba experienced. Please know that Pastor Mark is available to each and everyone of you, if you need to talk after the service.

National Sexual Assault Hotline Available 24 Hours  
1-800-656-4673



Milliken Presbyterian Women will be preparing Christmas cookie trays to be distributed to the congregation following the church service on December 21st. Anyone interested in preparing cookies to add to the trays can bring them to the church by 10:00 AM Friday, December 19th.



The Mission and Outreach Ministry Team is still needing donation of Gravy and Pies for the Christmas Boxes the Pantry team will distribute. Please have your donations to the church by





## *Christmas at MPC*

*Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 pm –*

*Christmas Eve service*

*Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am –*

*Christmas Carol Brunch service*

*Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am –*

*Epiphany and dedecorating*



### **Christmas Carols and Brunch**

**December 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**

Please bring a potluck brunch item to share. Drinks and tableware provided.

If you are able and willing to help set up, please join Pastor Mark at 10 am on Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>.



## CHRISTMAS NATIVITY DISPLAY

### DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> - CHURCH NARTHEX

Do you have a favorite Nativity – share it with our church family.

To Register or if you have questions call:

Kristen Eidson 970-302-9382 or Donna Herman 970-396-1643

Bring your nativity to the church to Pat - Wednesday, the 17<sup>th</sup> or Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> between 9 AM and 12 PM. Or you may bring it Sunday morning **before 9:30 am**.

**We would like to know the origin of your nativity.**

**PLEASE LABEL YOUR NATIVITY, SO WE KNOW WHO IT BELONGS TO.**

The nativities that are brought to the church early will be stored in a locked room. We will have a monitor watching the display during worship on the 21<sup>st</sup>.



“Already? Didn’t we just put it UP?”

**We will dedecorate the church on Sunday, January 4th following worship service.**

**We will be serving a lunch of pizza to anyone who wants to volunteer to help with this project.**

*Data from Lifeway Research.*

*Those who don't typically show up at Christmas may simply be waiting on an invitation. Most (56%) say they would likely attend church if someone they knew invited them to attend with them at Christmas time, including 17% who are very likely. Around a third (36%) say they're unlikely, including 24% who are very unlikely. Another 8% say they're not sure.*

*Data from Lifeway Research.*

What can you do? INVITE SOMEONE!

### **Invite Someone to Christmas Service & Events**

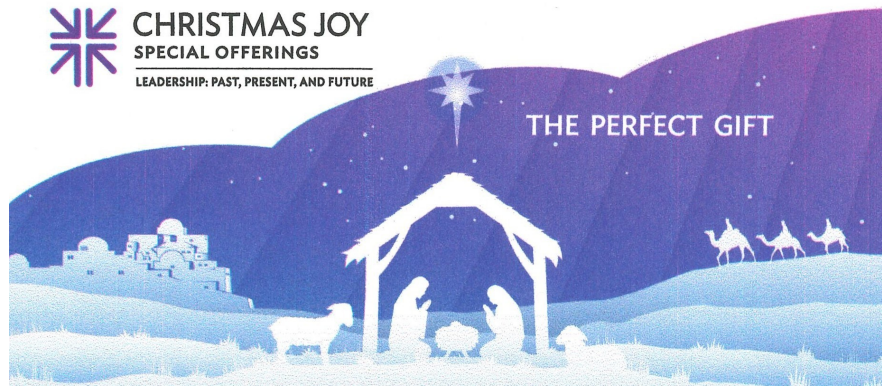
This Christmas share joy and connection. Pick an idea below and take action today to personally invite friends and loved ones to our Christmas service.

#### **Proven strategies**

- **Fill a Blank Church Provided Invitation:** Write a note and invite someone to join you for Christmas service.
- **Snap a Selfie Photo:** Send a personal photo and invite someone to join you for Christmas service (share on church Facebook/social media).
- **Record a Video:** Make a short, cheerful invite and invite someone or few friends to Christmas service (share on church Facebook/social media).
- **Send a Blessing:** Give a card, photo, or quick video to show love and invite them to Christmas service.
- **Coffee Cards:** Give members a \$5 coffee gift card, invite a friend for coffee and to Christmas service.
- **Cookies:** Gift a small bag of cookies and invite someone to Christmas service.
- **Gift an Ornament:** Attach the Christmas service details to a festive ornament and invite them to Christmas service.
- **Write a Note:** Pen a short, heartfelt invitation to Christmas service.
- **Secret Santa Surprise:** Leave a small gift with a personal invite them to Christmas service.
- **Advent Countdown Card:** Give a mini card counting down to Christmas service (mini advent calendar gifts).
- **Church Puzzle Invite:** Make a fun puzzle with the details of the event.
- **Church Photo Collage:** Share photos from past Christmas services with a friendly invite and invite to Christmas service.

**Christmas Eve** service is at **5:30 pm** on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Our annual **Christmas Carols and Brunch** is on **Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**. Please note the earlier start time. There is no education hour on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Bring a potluck brunch item and the guest you invited! Guests do not need to bring an item. There will be plenty to go around.





## Christmas Joy Offering

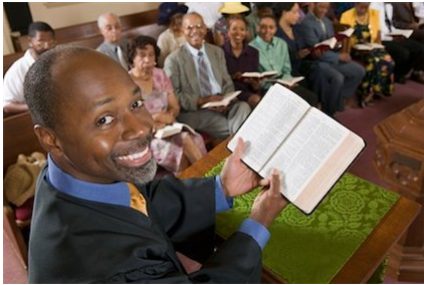
Christmas is a special time of year when we focus more fully on Jesus Christ and the joy of giving to others. A wonderful opportunity is the Christmas Joy Offering. This offering was started over 90 years ago and has evolved into all donations being split between two very worthy causes.

Half of the money raised goes to the Board of Pensions to assist those servants of the church living on inadequate pensions or needing nursing home care. The other half goes to Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges. Recipients include the Menaul Schools in Albuquerque, NM(98% go on to college!), Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, TX, and Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL. Take a moment to look online at these three schools and their wonderful Christian environment where students are thriving.

Please consider donating to these worthy Presbyterian programs any time during the month of December. If you choose to donate, be sure and write Christmas Joy on the memo line of your check.

Thank you,  
Your Mission and Outreach Ministry Team

## Two opportunities to help lead worship!



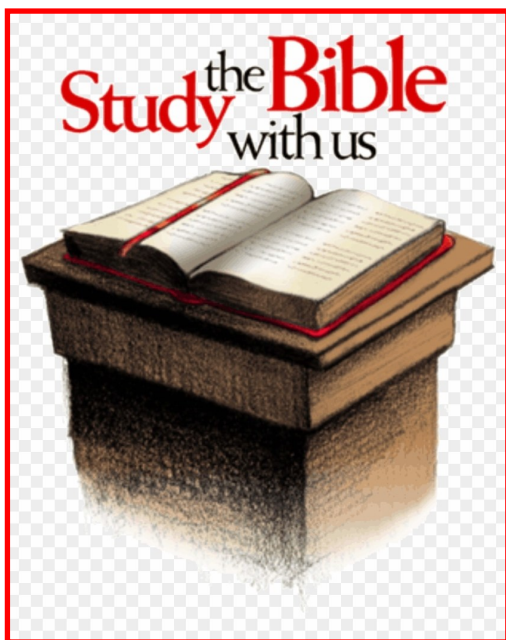
### Worship Leader

Would you like to be a worship leader? Would you like to try it out and see how it feels? Pastor Mark is getting ready to make the worship leader schedule for the spring of 2026. This is a great time to get in the rotation or give it a try and see if you want to be a part of the worship leader rotation. Pastor Mark welcomes people of all ages beginning with 3<sup>rd</sup> graders (who are proficient in reading). You can even do it with a partner if you would like. Pastor Mark will provide training for any new worship leaders.

### Children's Message

Have you ever thought it would be fun to give the children's message on a Sunday morning. Pastor Mark is interested in creating a rotation of Children's Message leaders. He will provide the scripture(s) and even resources and hints for developing the children's message. Pastor Mark will be holding a training for all interested persons on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> following worship. If you are not sure about one or both of these opportunities, but have questions, please talk to Pastor Mark. Please let him know if you are interested in being a worship leader no later than this Sunday. You can email him at [pastormark@millikenpres.org](mailto:pastormark@millikenpres.org), leave him a note on his desk, or call/text him at 303-981-5673. If you are interested in leading the Children's Message, please let him know. *Note: I tried to find a picture of a woman leading worship, but I am sorry to say, I could not find one. It was easy to find a picture of a woman leading the children.* Of course women are welcome to be worship leaders and men are welcome to lead the Children's Message!





Please join us at MPC  
for Bible Study the  
1st and 3rd Thursday's  
from 10 - 11 am

January 15th  
February 5th

as we

**"Research the meaning of  
specific words  
used in Biblical text."**

Co-Led by Sharon Morgan  
and Donna Herman

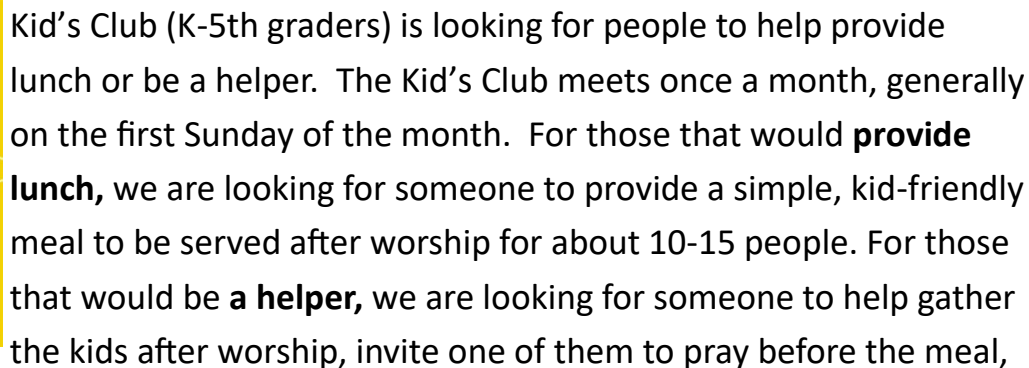
The Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders)

The Youth Group will not meet December 21st  
or 28th.

They will meet again on Sunday, January 4th  
at MPC from 1 to 3 pm for activities. A snack will  
be provided.

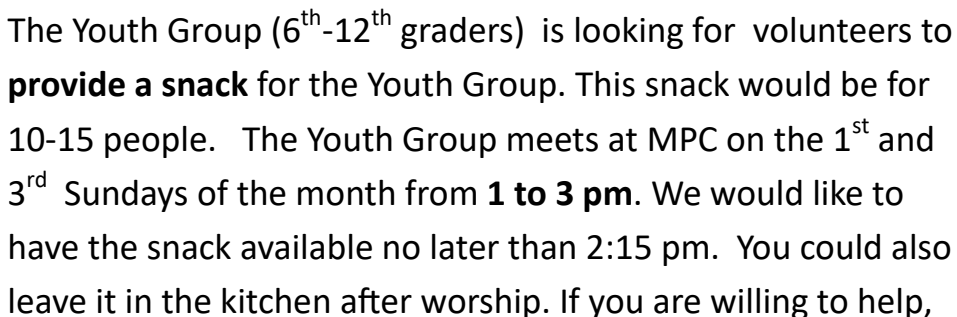
Friends are invited and welcome to join us!





**We need meals for the following dates:**

**January 4th      February 1st      March 1st**



please sign up on the sign-up page in the entry way or let Pastor Mark know .

**We need snacks for the following dates:**

## January 18th

## February 1st

## February 15th

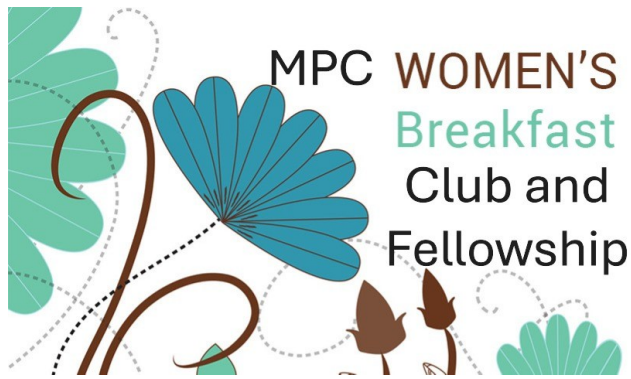


**Scan this QR code to download  
the MPC Church App**



**Scan this QR code to download  
the MPC Giving App**





**Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 9:00 am**

**Butter's Breakfast and Lunch**

**2018 35th Avenue**

**Greeley, CO 80634**

**Hosted by Becky Hook, Vicky Gilmer  
and Heather Farquhar**

**The 2nd Saturday of each month**

**Please RSVP to Becky Hook**

**By phone or text - 970-776-0734**

**Or email at - [dbsshook@proton.me](mailto:dbsshook@proton.me)**



<b>Cara James</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Kristin Eidson</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Kaliyah Hutton</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Kellyn Wortman</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Doris Fields</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Emilia Grace Mendez</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Gabriel Farquhar</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Wesley Mayfield</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Angel Blocksom</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Kylie Schneider</b>	<b>31</b>

**Coffee with Pastor Mark  
Wednesdays at 10 am  
Mill Haus Coffee  
1109 Broad St. Milliken**



***Bring a friend!***



### **Sunday Worship Service**

Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for our live-streamed worship service from the sanctuary via [Facebook Live](#) or You Tube. You can see past services online as well. Be sure to invite your friends to "follow" us on Facebook and "subscribe" to us on [YouTube](#).



# Church Calendar

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December 19	10:00 am	Presbyterian Women preparing cookie trays
December 19	5:00 pm	Girl Scout Meeting
December 21	9:15 am	Education Hour
December 21	10:30 am	Worship Service
December 21	11:30 am	Cookie Tray Distribution
<b>December 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>
<b>December 24</b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Service</b>
<b>December 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>Office closed</b>
December 27	10:00 am	Set up for Carol Brunch
<b>December 28</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Christmas Carol Brunch</b>
<b>December 29-31</b>	<b>Pastor Mark Out</b>	<b>Vacation</b>
<b>January 1</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>	<b>New Year's Day</b>
January 3	9:00 am	Easy Worship
January 4	9:15 am	Education Hour
January 4	10:30 am	Worship Service
January 4	11:30 am	Dedecorating Sanctuary
January 4	11:30 am	Kids Club
January 4	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Youth Group at MPC
January 5	11:30 - 2:00 pm	Food Pantry
January 5	6:30 pm	P.E.O.
January 6	5:30 pm	Trustees Meeting
January 7	3:00 - 5:30 pm	Food Pantry
January 8	6:30 pm	Praise Team
January 9	10:00 am	Presbyterian Women
January 10	9:00 am	Women's Breakfast and Fellowship Club
January 11	9:15 am	Education Hour
January 11	10:30 am	Worship Service



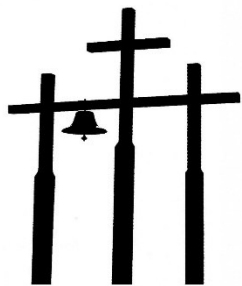
## Your contributions are welcome!

Mail your monetary donations to the church office, mark your check "Food Pantry" on the memo line.

Food donations can be dropped off at the church front door  
Monday -Thursday  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



# Milliken Presbyterian Church



## Our Ministry Teams

Pastor Mark Hutton  
Treasurer – Chris Hurley  
Administrative Assistant – Pat Woods  
Nursery Caregiver - Angel Blocksom  
Music Director and Pianist – Becky Selby  
Organist – Janice Williams



## BOARDS

### Session

Becky Selby - 2025  
Jo Keller - 2025  
Pete Keohane - 2025  
Peggy Wakeman - 2026  
Ron Uttecht - 2026 - *Clerk*  
Donna Herman - 2026

### Deacons

Kellyn Wortman - 2025  
Michelle Sanchez - 2025  
Doris Fields - 2025  
Karen Kammerzell - 2026 - *Chairperson*  
Phyllis Nelson - 2026  
Jan Carlson - 2026

### Trustees

Shari Schneider - 2025  
LeeAnn Young - 2025  
Mindy Wakeman - 2025  
Cassy Stoaks - 2026 - *Chairperson*  
Amy Ehrlick - 2026  
Becky Hook - 2026

## MINISTRY TEAMS

### Nominating

Jo Keller - *Co Chairperson*  
Becky Selby - *Co Chairperson*  
Doris Fields  
Max Morgan  
Jan Carlson  
LeeAnn Young

### Spiritual Growth

Kellyn Wortman - *Co Chairperson*  
Kylie Smith - *Co Chairperson*  
Wendy Fields  
Vicky Gilmer  
Shari Schneider  
Gabrielle Farquhar  
LeeAnn Young  
Amanda Young Sullivan  
Sabrina Hook  
Pete Keohane - *Liaison*

### Communication

Larry Wakeman - *Chairperson*  
Jennylei Wright  
Peggy Wakeman - *Liaison*  
Pat Woods - *ex-officio*

### Finance

Bill Selby - *Chairperson*  
Wendy Fields  
Martha Leadbitter  
Kristin Eidson - *ex-officio*  
Peggy Wakeman - *Liaison*

### Personnel

Donna Herman - *Chairperson*  
Dave Crego - *Liaison*  
Catherine Crego - *Liaison*  
Kylie Smith - *Liaison*

### Mission and Outreach

Katie Ehrlich - *Chairperson*  
Jo Keller - *Liaison*  
Doris Fields  
Karen Kammerzell  
LeeAnn Young  
Dani Jennings  
Gabrielle Farquhar

### Worship

Becky Selby - *Chairperson*  
Jan Carlson  
Peggy Wakeman  
Donna Herman  
Heather Farquhar

**Interested in joining a Ministry Team? Speak to the Chairperson or Pastor Mark**

## Contact Us!

201 S. Olive Ave. Milliken, Colorado 80543  
(970) 587-2378

[office@millikenpres.org](mailto:office@millikenpres.org)

*Office Hours* - Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

[www.millikenpres.org](http://www.millikenpres.org) Look for us on [Facebook!](#) Subscribe to us on [YouTube!](#)



Milliken Presbyterian Church  
201 S. Olive Ave.  
Milliken, CO 80543



*Forwarding and/or Return Service Requested*

## First United Presbyterian Church

201 S. Olive Ave.  
Milliken, CO 80543

Telephone – 970-587-2378

Website – [www.millikenpres.org](http://www.millikenpres.org)  
Office email – [office@millikenpres.org](mailto:office@millikenpres.org)

**Education Hour** at 9:15 a.m.  
(September - May)

**Sunday Worship** at 10:30 a.m.

Join us live on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#)

### **Office Hours**

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## **Sonshine Newsletter**

is a publication of the First United  
Presbyterian Church of Milliken, Colorado.

### **Deadline**

Information to be included in the next update  
should be in the church office no later than  
12:00 p.m. Wednesday of each week

### **Submissions**

Send your church related event, news,  
meeting highlights, announcements,  
prayer requests or more to the church office at:  
[office@millikenpres.org](mailto:office@millikenpres.org)

Put “*Sonshine News*” in the subject line.  
Paper submissions can be mailed to the church  
address or placed in the drop box  
by the front door of the church building.  
All submissions are subject to edit and approval.

The Sonshine Newsletter is primarily available  
online through the website.  
Paper versions available on request through the  
church office.