



Mount Airy

Presbyterian Church



"Come, all you who are thirsty,
Come to the waters."

Isaiah 55:1



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Presbyterian Church

CONTACT

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mapca.pst@gmail.com

www.mtairypca.org

Dear Pastoral Candidate,

Thanks so much for taking the time to consider Mount Airy PCA for your next pastorate. As you will see in this church description, we are a small church looking for a solo pastor who will help us to grow in knowledge and love for Jesus as we share His gospel with our community and the world. If that is your heart as well, we invite you to learn more about our church here. And if you sense that God could be calling you to become our pastor, we invite you to apply at the link on the last page of this document.

In Christ,

The Pastor Search Team

Annie Brady, Jeff Cagle, Stan Charles, Jessica Davis, Ken Hohl, Jan Horst, Brian Olson, and Martha Zeher

WHO WE ARE

www.mtairypca.org



PURPOSE

Mount Airy PCA exists in order to glorify God through worship and service. All of our activities are directed toward the end of showing the wonderfulness of God our Savior seen in the Gospel.

MISSION

Our mission is to make disciples according to Jesus' words to his apostles in Matthew: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

CURRENT VISION STATEMENT

By His grace and for His glory, the Mount Airy Presbyterian Church family exists to make, equip, and mobilize disciples who grow in love and maturity in Christ.



HISTORY



Mount Airy Presbyterian Church (MAPCA) sprang from a Shady Grove Presbyterian small group who had a vision and passion to bring a PCA church to Mt. Airy. In January of 1992, the small group and other volunteers conducted a telephone campaign, calling over 10,000 homes in the Mt. Airy region to spread the news that a new church was coming to Mt. Airy. The first service was held in March of 1992 at Mt. Airy Middle School. The church particularized in 1995 and the next year installed Dave Durant, the Pastoral Intern for the church plant, as the pastor.

The church moved several times, moving from Mt. Airy Middle School to the Damascus Church of God (just south of Mt. Airy) to the old Liberty Baptist Church building in Lisbon (just east of Mt. Airy). The church continued to attract visitors and members from the four-county region and outgrew its rental buildings. In 1999, the church bought land in Howard County with a Mt. Airy address. The building was completed in 2007 and the church began worship at its current location. MAPCA opened its doors to Cornerstone Academy, a small private school serving middle and high-schoolers with learning differences which used the building from 2009 until this year (2023) when Cornerstone found a more suitable location.

In 2011-2012 the church underwent a split over non-theological differences among the congregation and lost about half of its members. We continue to grow, but not to previous membership levels. We currently have 110 communing members and 14 non-communing members.

God blessed our congregation during the COVID outbreak by giving us members skilled at video streaming. The church was able to pivot to online services during the worst of the pandemic, followed by socially distanced worship in the parking lot. MAPCA continues to provide online worship for seekers, members who are away or ill, or those otherwise unable to attend in-person services.

In 2021 Dave Durant announced that he would be leaving MAPCA to begin work with Mission to North America/Ministry to State. Prior to his leaving, MAPCA was able to pay off the mortgage on the building, leaving the church debt-free.

Current Ministries

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Sunday School for all ages
- Children's Bible Time
- Nursery
- Youth Ministry
- Vacation Bible School
- Women's Ministry
- Men's Ministry
- Homeschool Umbrella Program

MISSIONS, OUTREACH, AND EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

- Short term missions trips to Fairmont, WV
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Addiction Recovery Ministries
- Operation Christmas Child
- Financial and prayer support for 9 long term foreign missionaries
- Financial and prayer support for Ministry to State (MNA), Baltimore Antioch Leadership Movement (BALM), Frederick Rescue Mission, and Reformed University Fellowship (RUF)

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

- Music Ministries (choir, handbells, wind ensemble, piano & instrumentalists)
 - Worship
 - Lorien Health Services
 - Mount Airy events
- Greeters

SESSION

- Small Groups
- Weekly Prayer Meeting

MAPCA Supports Missionaries located in...



TRANSITION

Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church has had the same pastor since our founding in 1993. To ensure a smooth transition to a new pastor, the church leadership engaged Interim Pastor Ministries (IPM) to assist with the process. Jim Richwine, the congregationally approved interim pastor provided by IPM, conducted a church health survey which highlighted the strengths and struggles of MAPCA. To address the issues the survey revealed, a Transition Team was formed. Using the survey, the team identified four areas of strength and four areas to improve. The strengths are areas that the congregation would like to continue and grow. The struggles are accompanied by objectives and goals – some of which we are currently working toward and others which are more long term. A summary of those strengths and struggles follows.

CHURCH STRENGTHS

Biblically Based, Doctrinally Sound Church

- Bible based preaching and teaching.
- Worship organized around the ordinary means of grace.

Missions

- Yearly Fairmont teams organized to introduce and train young and old in service and evangelism.
- Opportunities to serve with ESL Ministry and Addiction Recovery Ministries.
- Generous support to numerous foreign and domestic missionaries.
- Annual support for Operation Christmas Child and quarterly support for Mt. Airy Net, "A community network providing a safety net for those in need".

Music

- Engaging the community through music ministry in downtown Mt. Airy, Lorien Assisted Living, hymns sung at member's homes, and the yearly Lessons and Carols.
- Assisting the congregation to worship through music.

Growing Disciples

- Biblically based programs for all ages including Sunday School, Children's Bible Time, men's and women's ministries, youth ministry, and small groups.
- Weekly prayer meeting.
- Fellowship among members.

ADDRESSING OUR STRUGGLES

Community Involvement

Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church seeks to express the love of Christ by engaging with the Mt. Airy region through a variety of events and activities that benefit our community, build trust, and foster relationships.

- We endeavor to demonstrate that MAPCA is a church that cares about its community, the community's residents, and loves them with the love of Christ.
- Leadership models hospitality by ensuring that all those who may come to our place of meeting are welcomed into the lives of our members and the fellowship of the body.

Discipleship

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church seeks to be a congregation that has a love for the lost and a zeal for sharing their faith, in word and deed, with the Mt. Airy region and beyond.

- Prayerfully equipping, encouraging, and mobilizing all ages of our congregation by training and mentoring in evangelism and discipleship.
- Preaching that regularly emphasizes the Biblical teachings on evangelism and discipleship.
- Organizing our evangelism (and discipleship) activities under a committee.

Leadership

Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church seeks to follow Christ by being a congregation whose servant leaders know their Biblical roles and take joy in serving the Lord. Our leaders – elders, deacons, and those who serve without office – serve by faith and in the Spirit while cultivating future leaders.

- Elders act as shepherds, helping those under their care to grow in grace. As a Session they have care over the teaching ministries of the church while administering the vision of the church.
- Deacons serve the physical needs of the church and model such service to the members.
- All leaders maintain effective communication and relationships both with one another and the congregation as an expression of fellowship and also as a way of caring for the body. They commit to focused prayer for each other and the congregation under their care.
- The congregation joyfully submits to and regularly prays for their leaders.

Vision

We the congregation, empowered by the Holy Spirit, are unified in our vision.

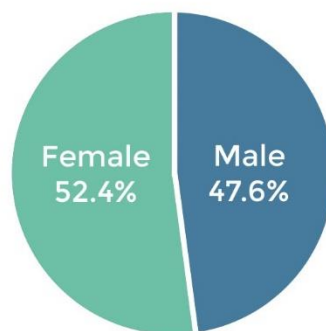
- Our leadership models the vision, and guides, supports and challenges the congregation to embrace and live it out.
- All of our ministry activities flow out from the church's vision.
- The congregation engages in regular concerted prayer and times of fasting seeking the Lord's leading in fulfilling our vision.
- We use Biblical conflict resolution to maintain our unity of vision.

Our Commitment to Prayer

Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church earnestly endeavors to give honor, glory, praise, and thanks to the Lord and seeks the Lord's grace, mercy, and guidance through regular and intentional prayer. All of our worship, ministries, and other activities are undergirded with prayer through scheduled times of prayer by the congregation as a whole, during ministry and administrative meetings, as part of any church activity and by its member family units. A significant part of our prayers is for those who are lost and unsaved and for our hearts to be broken for them and zealous to share the hope of the Gospel.

OUR PEOPLE

Gender



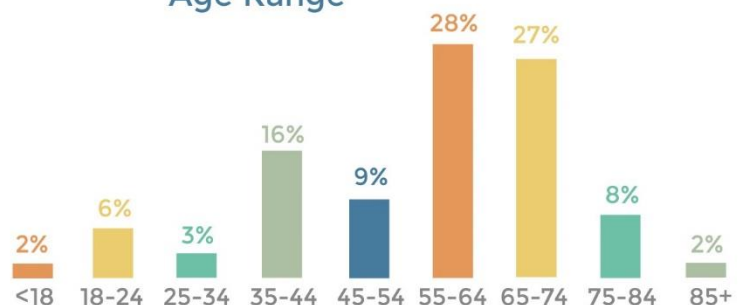
Membership Status



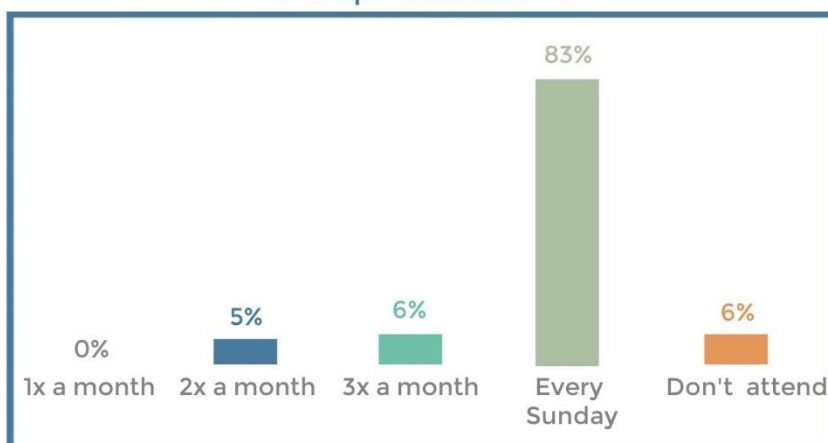
Years Attending MAPCA



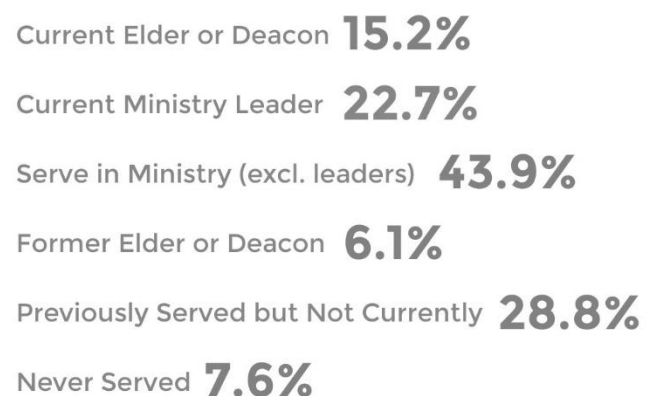
Age Range



Worship Attendance



Ministry Involvement





The Mount Airy Community

Mt. Airy is a rural town situated at the crossroads of four Maryland counties: Frederick, Carroll, Montgomery, and Howard. The town itself is contained within Carroll and Frederick counties. It is also within an hour's drive of Washington D.C. and Baltimore, and within 20 minutes of the city of Frederick. Because of its location housing prices trend higher – the current median home listing price is \$589,500. The town considers itself a “bedroom community” with the majority of residents finding work outside the immediate area. The mayor and town council work hard to balance the “small town” feel with the ever-increasing demand for more housing.

For a small town, Mt. Airy has some wonderful resources – parks, trails, dining, shops (both boutiques and national chain stores), good schools, youth activities, elderly care facilities, and much more. Downtown is a quaint mix of shops, restaurants, local businesses, and the Mt. Airy Museum, in an atmosphere that encourages strolling and window shopping. Mt. Airy has its own police department (the crime rate is very average, about 11 per 1,000 residents) as well as a large volunteer fire department. The library is situated near Wildwood Park and is co-located with a Carroll County Senior Center. The fire department hosts an annual fair and 4th of July fireworks. To see all that the town offers, the town website is www.mountairymd.gov.



MOUNT AIRY REGION DEMOGRAPHICS

AT A GLANCE:

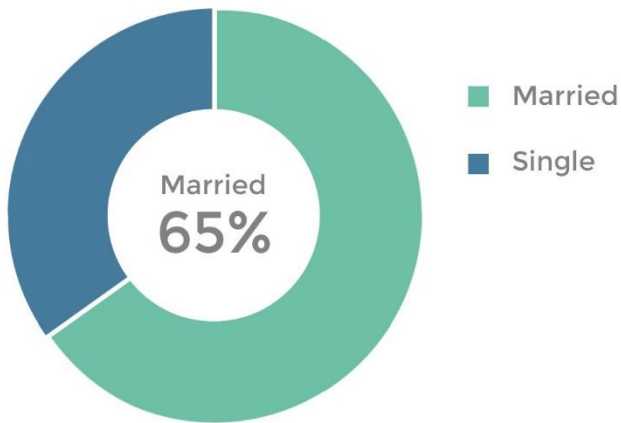
Population

≈9,800

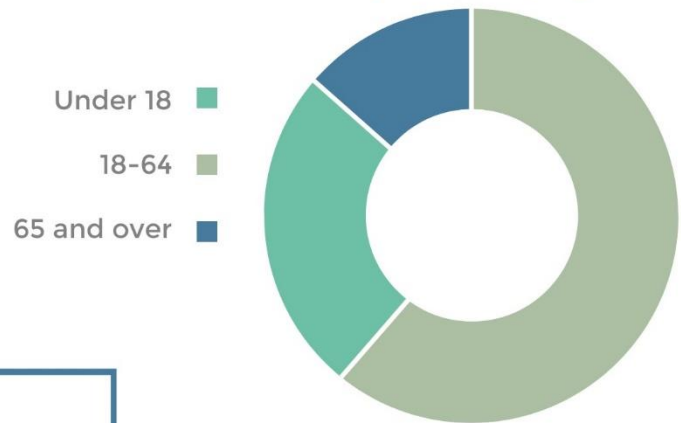
Household Income



Marital Status



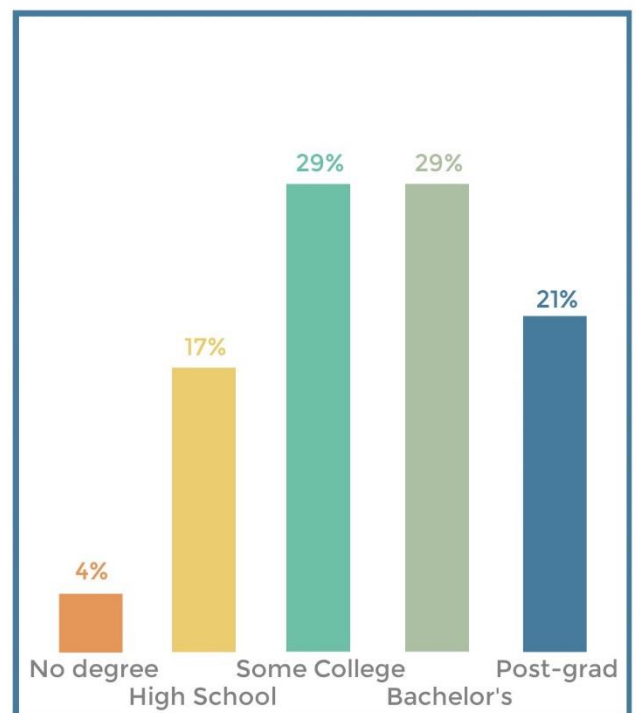
Population by Age



Where We Are



Population by Highest Level of Education



Leadership Team

SESSION

Jeff Cagle has been a ruling elder at Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church since 2005. He teaches math, science, and robotics at a local Christian school and the middle school Sunday School at MAPC. He is interested in the study of theology, insects, mathematics, and enjoys spending time with his wife Colleen, and their two daughters.

John Horst has been living in the Washington, DC area for many years. He came to Maryland to attend the University of Maryland - College Park in the early 1970s because his piano teacher in Pennsylvania said that Maryland had a great piano department.

He met his wife-to-be, Jan, in a music theory class. It was quite a bit later that they met again and married, but that was after John came to believe in Jesus and trust His word, the Bible. He is still learning and growing as he reads, meditates on, and puts into practice this marvelous book-of-books! This same book says of itself (in 1 Thessalonians 2:13) "when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe."

Gregg Moore has been a ruling elder at Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church since 1995. He was part of the original church plant core team and previously served as a Deacon from 1989-1995. Gregg has been married to Patricia (Pat) since 1980. They have four grown children and seven grandchildren. For fun he plays (or tries to) both the electric and acoustic guitar. He also enjoys doing various projects around the house. The Lord saved Gregg through Young Life when he was 16 years old at a camp in upstate New York. He has a degree in Information Systems Management.

Mike Zeher was raised in a Christian home where he attended an Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC) through his childhood and committed his life to Christ at the age of 15. He has been in the PCA since 1980, where he has served as an Elder for the past 25 years. Mike and his wife Martha have been attending Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church since 2005. They are blessed with three grown children and two grandchildren. Mike works in the aerospace industry as a Systems Engineer and Project Manager. He is a founder of a local Christian school and serves as Chairman of the School Board. His hobbies include reading, investing, canoeing, and hanging out with his family.

Leadership Team

DEACONS

Denis Brady has been a deacon since the church particularized in 1994, and with his wife Annie were one of the founding members of Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church. During the first 20 years of the church Annie served as the church secretary as Denis served on the board of deacons and co-chair of the building committee, providing oversight to the builders during the construction of our facility. He is the Chief of Security at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in Rockville, MD and enjoys spending time with family and friends, particularly his three adult children who all live in the area.

Tom Criss has been a deacon at Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church since 2009. He is a Physicist at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. In addition to physics, he likes reading history, playing board games with his family and friends, and just fiddling with things.

Josh Davis has been a deacon at Mt Airy Presbyterian Church since 2015. He works as a Plumbing Inspector and enjoys doing work projects around the house, gardening, and working out in his shop. Josh also enjoys spending time with his wife, Jessica, and their three children.

Ken Hohl has been a deacon at Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church since 2020 and a member of the church since it particularized in 1994. He also serves on the Missions Committee and is the Director of the English as a Second Language (ESL) ministry. Ken has been married to Janice since 1997 and has three children and four grandchildren. He graduated from Geneva College in 1980 with a B.S. Degree in Information Systems which led to a career in software development. Ken enjoys tennis, kayaking, hiking, camping, backpacking, and spending time with family and friends.

Jamie Moore grew up attending Mount Airy Presbyterian Church. His personal testimony is "God is faithful!" On the side, he enjoys sports, hiking, and spending time with family.

PASTOR SEARCH TEAM



JEFF CAGLE is the Pastor Search Team Chairman and an Elder at Mount Airy Presbyterian Church. His BIO can be read under Leadership Team, Session.



KEN HOHL is a deacon at Mount Airy Presbyterian Church. His BIO can be read under Leadership Team, Deacons.



ANNIE BRADY came to faith at an early age, and after wandering a bit during high school and college, landed at Shady Grove PCA after her marriage to Denis. She and Denis were part of the small group from Shady Grove that founded MAPCA and she served as church secretary from the founding till 2009 when she left for a full time position outside the church. Annie and Denis have three grown children who live in the area and she loves spending time with them.



JESSICA DAVIS grew up attending MAPCA as a child of one of the original church plant families. She is a former teacher, homeschooling mom of three, and the wife of a Mt Airy PCA deacon. She currently serves as the Children's Bible Time coordinator. Jessica enjoys growing and arranging flowers, reading, and being creative.



STAN CHARLES is an ordained PCA Elder from a previous PCA church. He is a retired sales manager in the semiconductor industry. His hobbies are refinishing furniture and repairing lamps. He is a widower after 64 years of a wonderful marriage. He has a son (deceased), two daughters, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



JAN HORST is a wife, mother of four adult sons, a grandmother and a retired music teacher from a classical Christian school. She has been a member of MAPC for 25 years and has served in the choir, VBS, youth ministry, Sunday school teacher, and as the Christian Education Coordinator from 2012-2020. She enjoys singing, reading, knitting, and gardening.



BRIAN OLSON became a member of Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church in 2015 and is currently the Chairman of the Missions Committee. He has been married for ten years with two young boys. His profession is in pharmacy and his hobbies include hiking, camping, and a wide variety of sports.



MARTHA ZEHER is a recently retired school principal. She is the wife of a Mt Airy PCA elder and currently serves as the Sunday School coordinator. Martha has three grown children and two grandchildren.

THE PASTOR FOR WHICH WE ARE PRAYING

Passion for Christ

- A pastor whose life and teaching demonstrate a passion for Christ, faithfulness to His Word and His Church, magnifying God alone, and exhibits effective spiritual leadership by his pursuit of personal holiness.

Preaching and Teaching

- Balanced expository preaching, teaching, training, and shepherding of our members in both doctrine and application.

Shepherding

- Work together with church leadership to develop and support the educational and relational needs of all members from new believers to session members, children to adults.
- A pastor with zeal for providing ministry to those in and outside our community, along with foreign and local missions, seeking to lead others within the church to serve and witness to the world.
- Support and exhort parents as they instruct and train their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Leadership

- A pastor who works together with current elders in the training and shepherding of the congregation.
- Actively engages and encourages two-way communications between leadership and congregation. Assisting in conflict resolution, problem solving, and decision making given varying opinions.

Additional Qualifications

- Educated and trained in solid reformed theology.
- Bachelor or Master's degree from a PCA-approved theological seminary.
- Ordained or ordainable in the PCA.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in applying to be the next pastor of Mount Airy Presbyterian Church, please submit an application and other required documents at www.mtairypca.org/employment.