

MPPC Pacesetters News & Updates

Welcome

Pacesetters welcomes everyone to our **occasional** fellowship. In 2026 we will transition from nine to five events and in following years to maybe four events. Months that have traditionally low attendance will be dropped. It is hoped that this will allow us to enhance the programming of the better attended months in the program year.

January's Highlights

- **Volunteer Support is working well - our thanks**
- **Changes to February's Program**
- **April Event Welcomes back Carroll Brown**
- **2026 Budget year is pending**

Past Events

December

Palmetto Music Therapy's clients, therapists, and families helped celebrate the start of the 2025 Christmas season. The multifaceted celebration included Palmetto's Clients' presentation of seasonal music along with leading a songs and carols. The entire Palmetto Music Therapy family was delighted by the event. And those Pacesetters who attended left with more than a little joy in our hearts.

Current Event

January

"An evening with Shenwei Geng and Hrant Bagravyan" is this month's program. Shenwei and Hrant are sharing the customs, culture and music of their heritage and the paths that have brought them to MPPC.

Their musical skills were showcased at a December 7th MPPC Village concert. The current event focuses on helping us better understand their lives' journeys and aspirations, along with small snippets of the music they've found important along their way.

Future Events

February

And all of a sudden Valentine's is here again. We are fortunate to have several exceptionally talented Sopranos in our choir. The new year finds that **Taryn Phelan's** calendar is now the best fit for our event. We are very fortunate to have excellent options when needed.

Everyone knows Taryn's face and voice, but may not associate it with her name. A soprano with a grand voice who often leaves her fellow choir members breathless and the windows shaking. She participates in many different musical programs as well as helping with the Children's Choir. We are considering a variety of musical genres that were popular when Pacesetters were even younger than they are now and first in love. More as it develops.

April

We will skip March; leaving it to St Patrick, basketball, and all the other late winter happenings.

Our year will close with an April 10th blow out as **Carroll Brown returns** for an encore performance.

Carroll presented a St. Patrick's Day program last year that was well attended and well received. Many have asked for his return, and so we are making it happen. He plays venues up and down the coast. Locally he frequents Dunleavy's Pub on Sullivans and Tommy Condon's Irish Pub Downtown.

More as the date draws closer. In the meantime you can check out his web page: <https://carrollbrownmusic.com/>

Ongoing Concerns

BUILDING SECURITY

- Fellowship Hall is now being locked when the Foyer and doors are unattended; typically about 7:10 PM
- If locked out, Knock on the side doors or Text 843-819-5885 for access

VOLUNTEERS

- Volunteers are now more important than ever with Wayne no longer with us. Stacy and her husband are doing most of the heavy lifting at this time
- We are blessed with many willing and able volunteers who respond to our requests for assistance. We appreciate them all

ATTENDANCE TRENDS

December was hectic, the flu distracting, and January has been given over to organizing the new year.

Tracking attendance was sacrificed the last few weeks. Hopefully updates will be available next month

FINANCE

The 2025 Budget Year

- End of Year Reports have not been received from the church office yet. But Pacesetters should have ended the year with a healthy balance.

The 2026 Budget Year

- The 2026 Church budget is yet to be released. Preliminary indications are that Pacesetters will fare well. I suppose that in the interim we are under a “continuing resolution”.

About Pacesetters

WHAT IS PACESETTERS

- A Fellowship for Adults 55 & Older
- Open to all ages and beliefs
- A component of Adult Faith Formation
- Emphasizing fellowship with and caring for one another
- Pacesetters' focus is for those who enjoy gathering in the evening for a catered meal.
- Programming features a blend of local interests, entertainment, and history and culture.

BOARD MEMBERS

Planning Team

Pam Owen-Early
Mike Farmer
Andy Kay
Susan Mellichamp

Anne Farmer
Jo Ann Hiott
Nancy Lewis

Ex Officio Adult Faith Formation Team Members

- Ellen Creed Branham, Commissioned Pastor for Adult Education
- Tom Worrall, Adult Faith Formation ministry team (AFF) chair

CATERING

Pamala Reid / S&P Catering / 843-991-4519

POINTS OF CONTACT

- Contact a board member (See Realm)
- email Andy at mppcpacesetters@gmail.com
- The suggestion box at the event check-in table

REQUESTS, COMMENTS, AND INFO

Get information and provide input via:

- MPPC eNews & Pelican
- A digital link in the Adult Faith Formation web page (<https://mppc.net/adults/>) and there are occasional digital links in other MPPC media.
- Reach out to any of the points of contact listed above for additional information.

Third Act

WHAT IS THIRD ACT

- Third Act is Pacesetters sister Fellowship, also for Adults 55 & Older, open to all ages and beliefs, and a component of Adult Faith Formation.
- Third Act focuses on those who enjoy daytime gatherings. Programming features local interests and informative speakers at a potluck meal. Bus trips to places of interest in the area are offered on occasion.
- Third Act meets on the fourth Monday. Check the MPPC Media outlets for current information.