

# MVP Journey

Tending the Garden of God



**Faithful Eating and Building Local Food Economies  
Presented by the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)**

Hosted by the Zanesville Parish  
Trinity Presbyterian Church - May 18, 2013

# MVP in Mission



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## **MVP exists and is called to...**

**Strive to excel in building up the church.** I Corinthians 14:12

- Equip and encourage leaders and congregations in living their call,
  - Nourish and build spiritually and emotionally healthy congregations,
  - Nurture, challenge and support disciples to be Christ in the world.
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- 8:30am**      **Registration, Coffee, Resource Table Conversation**
- 9:15am**      **Welcome by Moderator Jon Carlisle with Prayer**  
**Introduction of Presbyterian Hunger Program - Suellen Skinner**
- 9:45am**      **Faithful Eating & Building Local Food Economies**



Why work on the root causes of hunger and poverty matters and compliments other important hunger work. Explore what faithful and compassionate eating looks like as individuals, families, congregations, and communities.



PHP will facilitate spirited conversation and provide tools for incorporating more fully the spiritual, ecological, and social justice aspects of purchasing, preparing, and enjoying local food, as well as advocating for local food economies that meet residents needs.



Local Initiatives with panelists S Forteberry, Goodness Grows; Name Forthcoming, Joseph Badger Meadows Camp & Conference Center; Casey Henry, PHP Ameri-Corps VISTA Food Bank, and more...

**11:15am-11:30am - Break with opportunity to visit Local Initiatives Tables**

**11:30am-12:30pm - Local Initiatives**

**Living Forward... Mission Opportunities:**

- Take **CentsAbility** and use for local and international initiatives
- Start or join a **Food Resource Bank** growing project
- Purchase **Fair Trade** coffee, Eco-Palms, gifts
- **Youth/mission trips** to PHP partners
- Film series: **Just Eating** curriculum; PHP Bible Study and many more possibilities
- **Drop Off a Manager's Letter** to Wendy's urging them to join the Fair Food Program
- Join **Food Justice Food Fellows** for peer support with local food initiatives
- **Support a PHP Mission Co-worker** and the communities that are addressing root causes of poverty

**12:30-1:30pm - Lunch with opportunity to visit resource tables!**

**1:30-2:30pm - Worship led by PHP staff, Alexa Smith & Rebecca Barnes and MVP Leaders**

# MVP in Worship

Gathering music and communal setting of worship space

Song "Come All You People" (Sing The Faith #2274)

Opening prayer and Call to Worship

Communal Refrain

Leader: Here we are.

People: **We come, God, to worship!**

Sung Prayer for Illumination "Come and Fill Our Hearts" (STF #2157)

Scripture reading: Genesis 2: 5-15

Reflection

Hymn "**At the Dawn of Your Creation**"

**May Presbytery**

**Tending the Garden of God**

## HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7 D ("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")

At the dawn of your creation, God, you spoke, "Let there be light!"  
You divided earth from heaven, you created day and night.  
You made sunbeams dance with shadows, you created energy!  
Peaceful evenings, bright tomorrows, all began with "Let there be...!"

By your word, you formed creation: dry land, water, ocean breeze.  
Soon there burst forth vegetation-- plants with fruit, majestic trees.  
Rain and snow and changing seasons, creatures filling land and sea--  
God, your very good creation all began with "Let there be...!"

When you made us as your children, sending us throughout your lands,  
You commanded, "Have dominion-- care for earth; it's in your hands."  
Yet we hurt this world you've given; we harm earth and sky and sea.  
We forget it's your creation-- you, who once said "Let there be...!"

At this joyful celebration, may we hear your word anew:  
May we care for your creation, knowing it's a trust from you.  
Just as daily there's a dawning, bringing light to all we see,  
So we daily hear your calling-- you, who once said, "Let there be...!"

## Communion of the People

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion

(please come forward to receive elements by intinction, if you are able)

Prayer after Communion

## Communion Hymn "For Everyone Born" (#38 Glory to God sampler)

Responsive seed-planting

(You will be invited to come forward and plant seeds as a response of thanksgiving to God. The plants will be given to local gardens.)

Final song: "We Are Called" (STF 2172)

Charge/benediction

## **Jennifer Ann Baer, Statement of Faith**

I believe that the church is a communion of believers, who at their best, and through the work of the Holy Spirit, can occasionally manifest the Kingdom of God here on earth. The church is also a place where our human nature is evident. As church I believe that we are called to find ways to work together for the good of God's kingdom. That through community and the work of the Holy Spirit we can at our best transcend our human nature.

The Holy Spirit is at work in all of us. It is at work in the world transforming churches and communities and in individuals opening their hearts and minds and conforming us to the will of God. The Holy Spirit moves in communities providing energy and encouragement toward where God is calling us. It is through the work of the Holy Spirit that we are able to have a glimpse of who God is and who God calls us to be.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God, fully divine and fully human. Christ came into the world to deliver us from bondage to sin and death. Through his death and resurrection Christ opened to us fellowship with God and the promise of eternal life. Christ models for us some of the nature of God, through his life as told to us through scripture we are able to grasp some ideals and virtues.

I believe in God who from the very beginning has journeyed with humanity. God has been faithful to us when we have lost faith in God. I believe that God hears all who cry out for justice, peace, and salvation. God is perpetually reaching out to all of humanity and drawing near to those whose hearts and minds are opened by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I believe that scripture enables us to begin to grasp the nature of each part of the trinity as well as our own nature. Scripture reminds us of our dependence on God and of God's fidelity to us. Scripture tells us the story of the family of faith into which we were adopted through Christ's sacrifice. Through knowing those stories we are able to shape our identities as children of God and our place in the world.

# MVP in Service



## 2:45pm - Discussion & Vote

- The Heidelberg Catechism
- Other GA recommendations



## Report of Council - MVP Mission

- Update on Seek the Shalom
- MVP Mission Immersion
- Ordination Exams for Jennifer Baer



## Report of Administration

- Update on the Financials
- September Presbytery: A Spirit of Generosity, Equipping & Resources from the Presbyterian Foundation



## Youth Triennium 2013

- It's coming: July 16-20 @ Purdue University!
- Update from Triennium team
- **Depart with love to serve the Lord!**