

# THE MULTNOMAH ANNOUNCER

Official Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church

7555 SW 45th Avenue, Portland, OR 97219

(503) 246-5459

MultPresChurch.org

## HOLY WEEK

**PALM SUNDAY**  
MARCH 24TH 10:30AM



**GOOD FRIDAY**  
MARCH 29TH 7:30PM

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
MARCH 31ST 10:30AM



## SCRIPTURE REVIEW

**March 3rd**

Matthew 16:13-20  
Psalm 19

**March 10th**

Matthew 16:21-23  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

**March 17th**

Matthew 18:15-22  
Psalm 119:9-16

**March 24th**

John 12:12-16  
Mark 11:1-11

**March 31st**

Luke 24:1-12  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

## Sundays at MPC

Worship with us at 10:30am  
in-person or via our Youtube Channel

## Worship Opportunities

Join us during Lent as we follow Peter's  
journey with Jesus in the sermon series  
Wandering Heart.

Sunday, March 3rd  
**Communion**

Sunday, March 10th

Sunday, March 17th

Sunday, March 24th  
PALM SUNDAY

Friday, March 29th  
GOOD FRIDAY

Sunday, March 31st  
EASTER SUNDAY

# Upcoming Events

**SW Hope  
Community Food Drive  
February 14 - April 6**

**Men's Fellowship Breakfasts  
Friday, March 1 & 15**

**Daylight Savings Time  
Sunday, March 10**

**Spring Fun Day  
Saturday, March 16**

**Red Cross Blood Drive  
Friday, March 22**

**Palm Sunday  
March 24**

**Good Friday  
March 29**

**Decorating the Cross  
Saturday, March 30**

**Easter Sunday  
March 31**

**Alaska Mission Auction  
Sunday, April 28**

## FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Friday Men's Fellowship group meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month. We will meet in the Upstairs Fellowship Hall at 8am on **March 1st & 15th** for breakfast, along with a time of general fellowship and discussion. If you have any questions or would like to attend, please feel free to contact Dennis Zerba.



## LET'S CATCH A BASEBALL GAME

**Sunday, May 11th 4pm**

at Ron Tonkin Field in Hillsboro

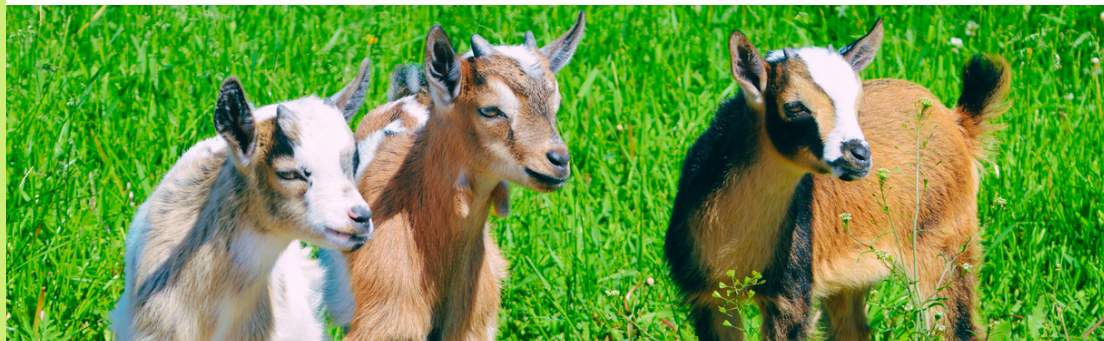
We can get premium seats for \$23 a piece (if 12 people sign up, the price drops to \$21 - what a deal!) We are close to being behind the dugout and there are backs on our seats! Please let Robyn Biehler know your interest by **Sunday, March 31st** so she can get our seats together!

(Peanuts & popcorn not included in the prices)

## SPRING FUN DAY

**Saturday, March 16th, 10am - Noon**

Easter eggs, baby goats, food and more. We hope you will invite people to this event for all ages so they can get to know our church and enjoy a fun morning together. We need volunteers to help with the pancake breakfast, the Easter egg hunt, set up, and more. Talk to Heather, Robyn, or Tom Jones if you are interested in helping.



# SESSION UPDATE

At the February meeting, Session:

- Approved the 2024 Financial Policy and Procedures.
- Approved the 2023 MPC Year End transfers.
- Approved moving designated funds as recommended by the Treasurer and approved by F&A.
- Approved the 2023 Revised Church Statistical Report for General Assembly.
- Noted Session members and staff, including the Treasurer, participated in a Leadership Retreat on Saturday, February 17, 2024, 12:30-5 PM.
- Noted that longtime member Maxine Shuler passed away on February 5, 2024.
- Voted to regretfully remove Tim and Poppy Bernasek from membership, at their request; membership stands at 127.
- Voted to regretfully accept the deacon resignation of Sherri Kessler, class of 2024.
- Heard an update from the Security Task Force (Clay, Randy, Tom, Chris). They came up with 3 areas to address: 1. Door management - checking & locking doors 2. Events – having consistent protocols for all groups using the church 3. Equipment – locks, security cameras, doors. Focus will be on the two areas of Dove Preschool and the Sunday services.
- Started the discussion to define the Dove Preschool 5-year plan.
- Added events to the 2024 Calendar and discussed events like a Hillsboro Hops BB game, “adopting” a street or highway near MPC to keep clean, volunteer opportunities at Maplewood, hosting a recycling day with James Recycling.
- Approved the quote from Kone Inc. for maintenance work on the elevator for a maximum of \$3,317. The 2-man crew will install 3 new batteries and remove the covers and lube the tracks and all pivot points that can't be reached with the covers on.

## FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

The MPC Finance & Administration (F&A) committee met on February 13, 2024, and reviewed January's financial statements.

As you can see, we have started 2024 on a strong note thanks to the generous giving of MPC members. We strive to budget conservatively and realize some positive net income to carry forward each year. Given our \$10,527 net income in January, we are off to a great start in 2024! Please let me know if you have any questions.

	Last Month	Year to Date
Income	\$ 31,395	\$ 31,395
Expenses	<u>\$ 21,509</u>	<u>\$ 21,509</u>
Net	\$ 10,527	\$ 10,527

Sincerely,

Your MPC F&A Committee

Chris Ulum (Elder), Darlene Higgenbottom (Treasurer), Tom Base, Gayle Clopton, Roy Magnusson, Dennis Zerba

# MISSIONS

## REFUGEE CARE COLLECTIVE

### Washcloth sets to be collected in February & March

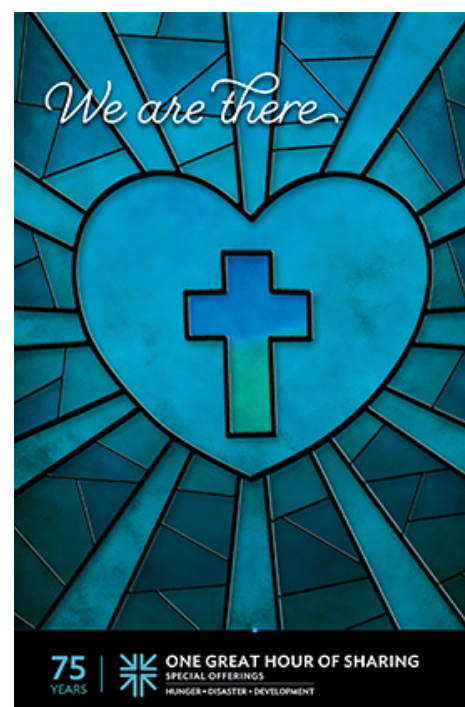
Refugees arrive in Oregon with few possessions and have to quickly build their lives again. The Collective works to provide critical support through essential household items to 125 newly arriving families in the coming months. These families will arrive through the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program and most will arrive from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Ukraine.

The current inventory of these essential items is low, so we would like to again support this organization by **collecting a minimum of 50 sets of 6-8 new washcloths in February and March** as part of the Refugee Care Church Response. We need about 40 more sets to reach our goal. Please bring in your donations to the box by the red barrel in the Fellowship Hall.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

This special offering received by PCUSA in February and March supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People funds, which all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Although MPC will not be collecting this offering in the plate on Sundays, we encourage you to find more information and online donation at [pcusa.org/oghs/](http://pcusa.org/oghs/). Envelopes for mailing individual donations are available at the Missions table by the welcome counter and at the sanctuary entry table.



## SW HOPE COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE February 14th - April 6th

This year we will again be supporting the **Neighborhood House Food Pantry**, with a goal of raising \$2,000 in monetary and food donations. Food insecurity is an even greater issue this time of year, when donations and interest dip after the holidays.

Since 2007, SW Hope has seen faith communities, local businesses, and other SW community groups band together to support the Food Market! SW Hope is much more than a food drive – it is our community's resounding commitment to help neighbors forced to go without.



# FROM Hunger TO Hope

18th Annual  
community food drive

February 14 – April 6 2024

neighborhood house

SW Hope aims to raise \$75,000, which will provide a 3-month supply of meals that will feed 16,000 food-insecure neighbors who depend on us for this basic necessity. There are several events throughout SW Hope, with a way for everyone to get involved to help neighbors in need.

How can you help? Monetary donations are the most effective way to support the drive, since Neighborhood House can purchase food through their partnership with the Oregon Food Bank. Cash and checks (made out to Neighborhood House with SW Hope written on the memo line) can be put in an envelope marked SW Hope and placed in the offering basket. You can also donate online, text "SWHOPE" to 44-321 (please email [info@multpreschurch.org](mailto:info@multpreschurch.org) so we can count these in our total), or donate food products like canned fruit or dried pasta in the red collection barrel in the fellowship area.

## Dine Out to Donate Nights

Enjoy a night out at any of these restaurants, and 10% of your meal price will be donated to SW Hope. Get a group together and make a night of it!

- March 4th:** Mediterranean Exploration Co.
- March 5th:** Shalom Y'all
- March 6th:** Lil' Shalom
- March 11th:** Yalla
- March 12th:** Dolly Olive
- March 13th:** Icarus Bar

## Empty Bowls

**Saturday, March 16, 11am-2pm  
at new location, 8959 SW Barbur Blvd**

At Empty Bowls you can savor soups and hearty bread from SW Portland's finest restaurants, and take home your own hand-crafted bowl, all while supporting our Free Food Market. For just \$5 you'll get a tasting flight of soup and breads. Then, purchase your favorite bowl and soup to take home. **Gather at MPC at 10:45am to carpool, or meet at Neighborhood House on Barbur around 11:00am.**

## 5K Walk / Run

**Saturday, April 6 - kids 10am/adults 10:30am - at Oregon Episcopal School**

The SW Hope Campaign will finish with a 5k event. Last year, a group of more than 20 of us represented MPC and we plan to do it again! We will meet before the event and walk (or run) together for a time of fellowship and fresh air. Invite friends and neighbors. Sign-up (and see some familiar faces from last year!) at <https://runsignup.com/Race/OR/Portland/swhope5k> and join the "Multnomah Presbyterian Church" group when you register. Although some participants will be running, many of us will be walking. Those who are walking more slowly, or are daunted by the length of the course, can opt out of the second lap. Hope to see you there!



## YOUTH YOUTH GROUP TIMES

**Middle School**  
Wednesdays  
6:30pm-8:00pm

**High School**  
Wednesdays  
7:00pm-9:00pm

### Elementary School

Good News Tues (now on Mondays)

**March 18th** is our elementary school youth group for 2nd-5th graders. We eat together, play games, make art, and learn about Jesus.

## ALASKA AUCTION

Preparations are underway for our Alaska Youth Auction on **Sunday, April 28th**. This funds our youth trip to Skagway for another year of providing camps for children and teens. Our students work on planning the logistics, event programming and more for the trip, making it an amazing opportunity not only for growth in faith but also leadership. For over a decade this trip has made a big impact on all the students, both here and in Skagway. We appreciate all donations of items and services to the auction - every bit helps. If you have something you would like to donate, please talk to Heather.

## DOVE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL



Dove celebrated love for family, friends and God during the month of February. Each class had a Valentine party, delivering valentines to their friends, and having a special snack and games. The Pre II class visited Fire Station 53 in Beaverton. They enjoyed seeing the fire engine, sitting behind the wheel, and checking out where fire personnel eat & sleep while on duty.

With the coming of March, we will be preparing for Easter. We'll spend the month learning about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Both classes will be on Spring break starting March 25.

Dove continues to enroll students for both classes for Fall 2024. If you have a friend, family or neighbor that is looking for a preschool, please refer them to Dove's website, **[www.dovepreschool.com](http://www.dovepreschool.com)**, or have them email us at **[dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com)**.

Also, if you're looking for somewhere fun to serve, come check out the Dove Preschool board. We'd love to have you join us!

# BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Hello MPC Family -  
The Buildings and Grounds Team was busy in February!

Tasks included:

- Renovation of the MPC street sign, with new LED lighting, interior & exterior panels, and a new upper sign.



- Removal of large gratefully donated - **not** - pile of tree limbs dumped in the upper parking lot by a crack team of experts. Thank you Roy, Dennis, Kinton, and Dick for your assistance



- General yard debris cleanup was completed - thank you Kinton for your assistance.

Upcoming Projects:

- ManLift (elevator) Servicing
- Fire Panel Alarm Investigation/Resolution

In Christ We Serve,

Clay Morgan, B&G Elder



# March Birthdays

- 2 Marion Potthoff
- 4 Jenifer Aberle
- 7 David Gassaway  
Kelly Kindrick
- 8 Joshua Peters
- 9 Victoria Kerwood
- 11 Courtney Tomastik
- 14 Ralph Loomis  
David McKean
- 18 Kate Eyberg
- 19 Greg Snook
- 21 Sammy Morehouse  
Jacquelyn Ulum
- 23 Matthew McKenzie  
Joyce Bradshaw  
Joy Hall
- 27 Ashley Gannett  
Danny Peters  
Dan Williams
- 28 Tom Agosti  
Barbara Stavig-Doane
- 29 Carol Hendricks
- 30 Christie Plame

# DEACON NEWS FOR YOU

## MEET YOUR DEACON

There are several new Deacons who started their terms in January. This month we would like to introduce you to **Barb Jones**.

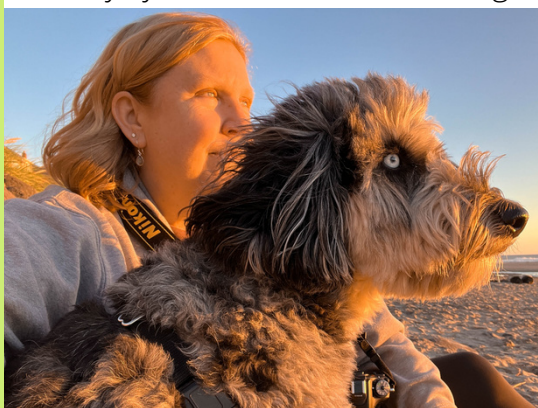
Barb grew up in Winnebago, Illinois, a tiny town a few hours west of Chicago. When she started high school, her family moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin (where Barb was born). Barb moved west to Missoula, and graduated from the University of Montana, then moved further west and landed in Portland. Barb met her husband, Tom, during a college summer job in Colorado. They got married in Milwaukee a year after college graduation. Barb & Tom have 2 kids, Mariah & Sam. Both are living in Missoula.

Barb worked as a substitute teacher before getting hired at Security Pacific Bank, now Bank of America. From there, she was hired as a recruiter for Nike. Barb then became a stay-at-home mom until Dove Christian Preschool called, asking if she'd like a job. She has been there since 2001.

Barb & Tom had been attending a larger Presbyterian church, and after visiting Multnomah Presbyterian, decided they liked the small atmosphere. People were very inviting and friendly, and the kids enjoyed Sunday School and youth activities. Barb became a Deacon early on, and also served a term on Session.

Barb dabbles in different things, which, she jokes, makes her an amateur in many things and an expert in nothing. She tried her hand with various instruments, and currently enjoys the marimbas and ukulele and singing with the choir. She played volleyball and basketball in junior high and high school. Volleyball continued for many years with a rec league. Now she enjoys getting on the

pickleball court periodically. She walks and hikes a lot with her dog, Bear. Barb rides a Vespa scooter, but only in good weather. She is a member of PEO, an organization that raises funds for women's education. And she loves to take pictures, mostly of animals and nature.







## DEACON NEWS FOR YOU (continued)

She carries that love of photography into her travels. Barb has enjoyed many road trips. She and Tom try to drive off the beaten path in order to find unique things and little pieces of history. Barb likes going to pioneer cemeteries, and learning about the history of old places. They've taken an Alpine Europe tour, and will be going to Spain soon. But Barb still loves to travel in the US because there are so many places to see. The bonus is that driving allows her to take Bear on all these adventures. She'd love to own a camper van and do more traveling. Top on her destinations list are the east coast, Alaska and Canada.

Barb looks forward to serving MPC as a Deacon once again. She believes we should all use the gifts that God has given. In order for MPC to continue to move forward, it's important we all get involved to make it happen. As Dr. Seuss says, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

Peace.

## Blessings From Within Our Church

**Thankful for Fran Barth leading a pickleball session just for women who would like to learn to play.**

**Thankful for the current children and families of Dove, and for the new families God has led to the preschool for the fall.**

**The family of Maxine Shuler shared, "We will be forever grateful for the help, concern, and love you showed us at the passing of our mom."**

**If you would like to share your blessings, please send them to Barb Jones or your own Deacon.**



## PRAYER

You're invited to call or email the church with any prayer requests (joys, concerns, and updates) you have, and they will be forwarded on to the Prayer Team, who continue to meet via Zoom each Tuesday.

## MINISTERING TO EACH OTHER

Our church family includes several "homebound" individuals – those who now have temporary or permanent limitations reducing their involvement in the church. When our homebound congregants are unable to come to church, we can take the church to them through prayers, visits, rides to church, and letters. Please inform the deacons as you become aware of someone who is homebound.



Multnomah  
Presbyterian Church

7555 SW 45th Ave.

Portland, OR 97219-1516

**Return Service Requested**  
**Dated Material**  
**Please Do Not Delay**



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:  
LOVED BY CHRIST, WE LOVE. SERVED BY CHRIST, WE SERVE.  
INVITED BY CHRIST, WE GO, INVITING OTHERS TO HIM.

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