



Multnomah Announcer

Monthly Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church

7555 SW 45th Ave, Portland, OR 97219 (503) 246-5459 www.MultPresChurch.org

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From the Pastor...

March 2021

Dear Church,

On February 19th and 20th, MPC staff and elders participated in a virtual event called *Future Church Summit*, which was put on by an organization called Fresh Expressions. It was great to have the opportunity to listen and learn from a wide array of leaders in the church. Throughout the conference, there were two consistent themes. First, that **the church of the future will be different from the church of the past**. Secondly, in this current crisis, **there is great opportunity**. Below are some of my reflections from this experience:

- **Virtual expressions of church are here to stay.** Len Sweet (one of the conference speakers) stated that the internet has become “the new front door for the church.” The era of COVID-19 has revealed an opportunity for the church to share the Gospel through digital means. Through the internet, we have the capacity to expand our reach far beyond the walls of the church building. Additionally, a digital presence is crucial when it comes to reaching emerging generations with the hope of Christ.
- **It is no longer “all about the building.”** Don’t get me wrong, I love our facility. It is a wonderful gift and a spiritual home for us. But for a long time, the strategy of the church has been largely *attractional*--meaning that we hold services, we sponsor activities, we establish programs, and we invite people to “come to church.” In our time and culture, especially in the Pacific Northwest, that model is no longer effective in reaching unchurched people. In order to move forward into this new reality, we must imagine a new way of being the church. What if our ministry is less about “getting people to church,” but rather *getting the church into the world*?
- **The church has a beautiful opportunity to be a place of healing and hope in a post-COVID world.** Let’s face it...the past year has been traumatic. The cascading crises of 2020-2021 are exposing some deep wounds in our society, and potentially within ourselves. But God has entrusted us with the greatest story ever told: the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have the opportunity to be stewards of the hope and healing that only Jesus can bring.
- **There is hope.** One speaker, Michael Beck, reminded us that the Church *will never die*. Jesus told Peter in Matthew 16, “on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.” As a church, as we step into a new reality, we may do so with confidence and hope because of the power of Jesus Christ in our midst.

With Gratitude for Your Partnership in Jesus,

-Pastor Danny Peters

Upcoming Sermons

Series: “Walking with Moses”

March 7: Exodus 13-14

March 14th: Exodus 17:1-7

March 21st: Exodus 20

March 28th (Palm Sunday): Exodus 33



Finance and Administration Update

F&A Committee met on February, 2021 to review the financial report for January 2021 and to discuss committee goals for 2021. January was a typical month in that it was similar to last year. Giving totaled \$ 22,562 while expenses totaled \$ 27,125.

We were fortunate to have a guest, Rob Hagan from the Presbytery. He is a retired pastor who now advises northwest churches on financial options. We invited him specifically to begin initial exploration of two topics. Legacy Giving is the process of estate planning that involves donating to worthy causes (such as MPC) at the end of life. We also discussed the process of developing a foundation account for endowments.

We are only in the early learning stages regarding these options but we hope to develop recommendations for Session during 2021.

Finally, we have begun to discuss how to financially plan for the post-Covidean era, when we can all get together again.

Stay well and walk with Christ.

Your Finance and Administration Committee



**Daylight Savings Time
begins at 2:00 am
Sunday, March 14th**

MPC Adult Sunday School “Church at Home”

Meeting Date/Time: Sunday mornings, 9:30 am

Format: Zoom (link will be sent out via email)

Group Leaders: Dan Williams, Tim Bernasek, and Kate England

To Sign up: Email Office Manager Courtney Tomastik at info@multpreschurch.org, or call the MPC office at 503-246-5459



Beginning Sunday, January 17th, our adult class began walking through the “Church at Home” study from The Bible Project. This is a great opportunity to go deeper into Scripture! And if you are not able to make it every time, that is perfectly fine. Anyone is welcome to join at any time. Each session represents a lesson on a unique biblical theme, so you don’t have to worry about falling behind in the study. We’d love to have you join us to be encouraged, and perhaps challenged by God’s Word.



Buildings & Grounds Update

Buildings & Grounds activities have included a few projects and ongoing activities:

- Maintaining minimal janitorial activities to support the staff presence upstairs.
- Working with the HVAC contractor to schedule and complete repairs needed for some of the church furnaces along with installing UV lights in the downstairs ductwork to help control the COVID virus.
- Thanks to help from John Prutsman, just before the snow hit, we were able to treat the parking lot and grass areas around the church and Open Door with moss killer.
- Met with the janitorial contractor to plan out a phased approach to address the janitorial needs for the preschool reopening and the eventual reopening of services and other activities at the church.
- Supporting the effort to upgrade audio, video and stage lighting in the sanctuary prior to live streaming services.



Sunday Morning Worship on Zoom.

We will have worship together, **every Sunday at 10:30 am on Zoom**. It is encouraging to be able to see each other as we worship, and also to connect with one another through our "virtual Coffee Hour" following the service. Here are some details that will be helpful in accessing our services:

- **Link to join Zoom Worship** (the link will be the same every week): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89257926328>
- **Zoom Meeting ID:** 892 5792 6328
- **Call in Options:** You do not need a smartphone or laptop to worship with us! If you would like to use a phone (mobile or landline) to call in and listen to the service, you may dial (253) 215-8782 and enter the Meeting ID (listed above).
- **The service recording** will be available on the [MPC Youtube Channel](#) in the evening on Sundays. It takes some time to edit and upload the video, hence the delay.



Missions Ministry

SW HOPE

It's time again for SW Hope: Feed The Hungry, the campaign to keep the food pantry at Neighborhood House – the largest food pantry on the west side of Portland – stocked for the next few months. MPC is partnering with dozens of other faith communities and businesses to help food insecure households right here in the neighborhoods surrounding our church. The campaign will look a little different this year, but the needs are greater than ever: in 2020, the food pantry at Neighborhood House served *4x as many people as the year before* – around 8000.

There are a few ways to participate in SW Hope. First, you can make a financial donation by mailing a check to our church. Please make the checks out to Neighborhood House and put SW Hope in the memo line. You can also donate directly to Neighborhood House on their website at nhpdx.org/sw-hope or text SWHOPE to 44-321.

There are also several events you can participate in:

March 9 (Tuesday) – Take Out to Donate at Salvador Molly's

March 18 (Thursday) – Virtual Panel on Food Insecurity (6-7pm)

March 23 (Tuesday) – Take Out to Donate from Shalom Y'all SW

March 28 (Sunday) – Take Out to Donate from Yalla in Multnomah Village

April 3 (Saturday) – Drive Up to Donate food/cash at the SW Community Center (10am-2pm) and each \$20 is a raffle entry

April 6 (Tuesday) – Take Out to Donate from Mediterranean Exploration Company

April 5-11 – Virtual 5k

Please visit the SW Hope website (nhpdx.org/sw-hope) if you are interested in one of these events and need more details.

SACK LUNCHES

On February 10th our last round of sack lunches were delivered to HOMEpx. They were very grateful, particularly for the generously large lunches. Thank you so much for your participation!

Please stay tuned to the weekly bulletin announcements for the next opportunity to love our unsheltered neighbors through this ministry.



Items Needed for the Neighborhood House Pantry

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Boxed Milk (powder) | 8. Dishwashing detergent |
| 2. Can openers | 9. Feminine hygiene products |
| 3. Salt & Pepper shakers | 10. Diapers (any size) |
| 4. Sugar and Flour | 11. Shampoo |
| 5. Tuna in packets and/or cans | 12. Toothpaste |
| 6. Sandwich bread | 13. Stove Top Stuffing |
| 7. Cake/Brownie mixes &/or canned frosting | |

THESE CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE DOLLAR STORE



MPC Lent Book Study

***The Common Rule: Habits of Purpose for an Age of Distraction* by Justin Whitmel Earley**

Dates: Thursday Evenings from February 18-March 18

Time/Format: 7:00-8:15pm on Zoom (link will be shared via email)

Facilitators: Kate England and Gene Roberts

Use the following link to sign up: <https://forms.gle/wk3ztCkS2cxDXkUn8>

All participants should order a copy of the book or eBook for themselves from Amazon or another retailer.

On Thursday evenings during Lent, we hope you can join us for this study of *The Common Rule*. Throughout the study, we are encouraged not simply to read but also to practice habits that form us in our faith. All are welcome to join us to learn and to be mutually encouraged in following Christ!

“The Common Rule offers four daily and four weekly habits, designed to help us create new routines and transform frazzled days into lives of love for God and neighbor. Justin Earley provides concrete, doable practices, such as a daily hour of phoneless presence or a weekly conversation with a friend. These habits are “common” not only because they are ordinary, but also because they can be practiced in community. They have been lived out by people across all walks of life—businesspeople, professionals, parents, students, retirees—who have discovered new hope and purpose. As you embark on these life-giving practices, you will find the freedom and rest for your soul that comes from aligning belief in Jesus with the practices of Jesus.”



Dove had to close its doors on March 13, 2020. But we're happy to report that as of March 29, Dove will again be in business!! The Preschool Board and Session voted in favor of getting Dove up and running. Dove will have some modifications for the 9-week spring session. But what won't change is the love and care each child will receive when they walk through the door.

Dove is also making plans to prepare for a full school year starting in Fall 2021. Because of the past year's closure, we have to build both classes from the ground up. So if you have family, friends or a neighbor that might be looking for a preschool for a 3 or 4-year-old, please have them contact Dove, www.dovepreschool.com or email dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com.

And as always, thank you for continued prayers for the success of Dove during this short spring session, and a return to regular operations in the fall.



Prayer



Prayer Night

You're invited to call or email the church with any prayer requests you have and they will be forwarded on to the Prayer Team who is continuing to meet via Zoom each Tuesday evening.

Please keep those who can't make it to church each Sunday in your prayers:

Eleanor Caufield
Nancy & Chuck Hill

Maxine Shuler
Evva Swan



In Memoriam

It's with great sadness that we announce the passing of long-time member, Faye Quinn, in February. Faye, and her husband, Frank, were very active at MPC. Faye was our organist at one time and sang in the Chancel Choir. Please keep the Quinn family in your prayers.

Deacon News for You

Your Deacons continue to hope and pray that the snow & ice storm did not leave you "in the cold." Our phone numbers are available to you as well as our church number (503-246-5459) if you and/or someone you know EVER needs assistance of any kind. We will be meeting this month on Sunday, March 21st, on Zoom.

Here is more information about The Neighborhood House:

1. **Food Donations** - are accepted at 3445 SW Moss St. that are Unopened, Unexpired and labeled with ingredients listed on the package. Monday & Wednesday from 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am-5:00 pm. **Items needed are listed in the article on page 4.**

2. **Financial donations: Check made out and sent directly to: Neighborhood House
7780 SW Capitol Hwy
Portland, OR 97219**

\$10 - provides 1 first Aid kit for an at-home childcare provider.

\$20 - provides 80 lbs of food for a hungry family.

\$50 - pays for 1 week oh healthy, organic food for 10 children

\$100 - covers moving costs and rental applications for a family transitioning to permanent housing.

\$250 - provides 30 rides to medical appointments for Seniors in need.

Praying for your Faith that our Almighty Savior blesses your life with HIS peace, love and joy. Let us stay hopeful.

Nancy Trullinger - 503-245-4388

Robyn Biehler - 503-351-4780



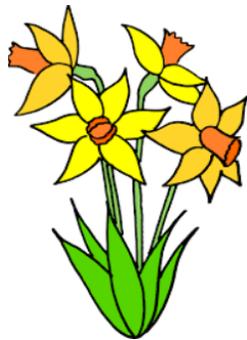


- 2 Aiden Megarry
Marion Potthoff
- 4 Jenifer Aberle
Anne Braun
Mathew Unrath
- 7 David Gassaway
Kelly Kindrick
- 8 Michael Dzurenko
Joshua Peters
- 9 Victoria Kerwood
- 11 Courtney Tomastik
- 14 Ralph Loomis
David McKean
- 18 Ginger Blauer
Kate Eyberg
- 19 Greg Snook
- 21 Sammy Morehouse
Jacquelyn Ulum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

Easter Events



- Sunday, March 21st Easter package drive–thru in MPC parking lot, noon to 1:30 pm
- Sunday, March 28th **Palm Sunday** 10:30 am Zoom worship service
- Friday, April 2nd **Good Friday** worship service 7:30 pm on Facebook Live and [MPC Youtube Channel](#)
- Saturday, April 3rd Bring cut flowers and branches to decorate cross in front of the church, 10 am to 2:00
- Sunday, April 4th **Easter Sunday** 10:30 am Zoom worship service and photo session in front of the cross from noon to 2:00 pm



Thank You for Your “Per Capita” Contribution

Our church pays an annual assessment to our denomination. This year the fee is \$36.50 per member. The apportionment covers administrative and other costs of the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Your contribution to cover the fee is appreciated.

Presbyterian Women

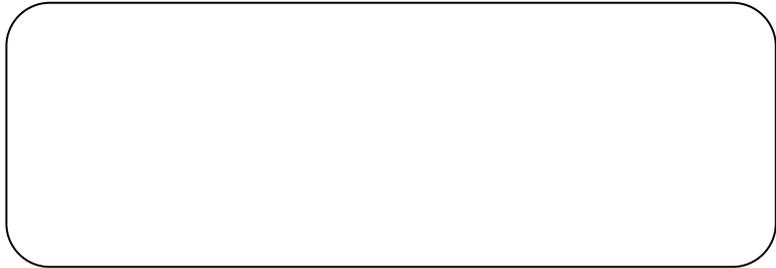
As we look forward to spring, we hope everyone is doing well. Let’s pray that we can all receive the Covid shots soon and get closer to the time when we can get together again.





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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