

THE MULTNOMAH ANNOUNCER

Official Newsletter of Multnomah Presbyterian Church

7555 SW 45th Avenue, Portland, OR 97219

(503) 246-5459

MultPresChurch.org

FROM THE PASTOR

It was a joy and a delight to worship alongside the MPC family during Holy Week last month. What a blessing it is to worship the risen Jesus!

Each year, I always make a point of reminding us that Easter is not merely a day that we celebrate...rather, it is a reality that we live. Because Jesus rose from the grave, you and I can experience new and abundant life in the here and now. I'm always amazed whenever I read stories about the early church from the Book of Acts. Shortly after the resurrection the disciples were hiding in a house, but by the time we get to Acts the church is proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus with boldness, authority, and conviction. By the power of the Holy Spirit, a group of frightened men became the foundation on which the church was built...incredible! And even more amazing is that you and I are a part of that story. We too have been given the Holy Spirit, the very presence of Jesus Christ. We have been given the Holy Spirit so that we might continue Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice to the world around us.

Every year at Easter I'm always reminded of a poem written by Wendell Berry. The poem is called "The Mad Farmer Liberation Front" (it's too long to include here, but look it up!), and the final two words are: "Practice Resurrection." Resurrection is not some intellectual belief...it's something we live, something we practice. By the strength and power of God, we (the church) have the capacity to bring life to dead places. May it be so!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Danny Peters

Sundays at MPC

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

Worship Opportunities

Sunday, May 1st

Guest Preacher:
Curtis Holm

SERMON: "WEDDING CRASHERS"
TEXT: MATTHEW 22:1-14

Sunday, May 8th

Communion

TEXT: COLOSSIANS 1:1-23

Sunday, May 15th

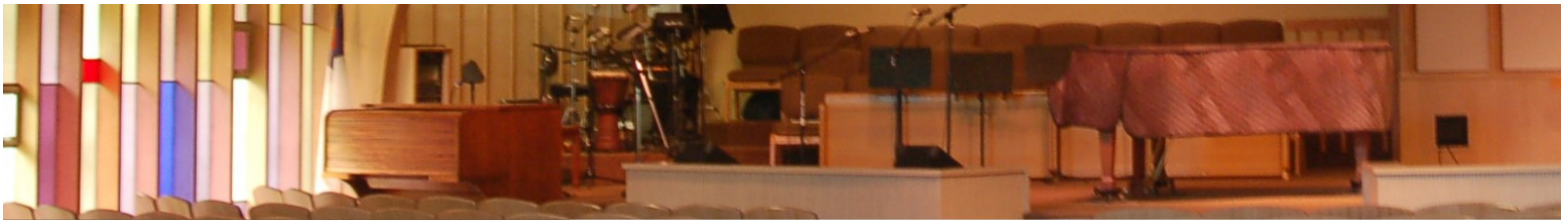
TEXT: COLOSSIANS 1:24-2:5

Sunday, May 22nd

TEXT: COLOSSIANS 2:6-15

Sunday, May 29th

TEXT: COLOSSIANS 2:16-23



Spring Coffeehouse Concert

**May 14th
7:00PM**

**Enjoy refreshments,
fellowship & music!**

**All donations
benefit Ukraine
through
Presbyterian
Disaster
Assistance**



MUSIC

Our MPC Coffeehouse Concert has returned! Please join our praise team, marimba ensembles, choir and special guests as we present "Songs of Hope", celebrating the arrival of Spring and offering musical words of encouragement for those in need. Come listen to rock & reggae, country & folk, jazz & world music, enjoy refreshments and fellowship, and help us raise money for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's fund for Ukraine.

Mark your calendars and invite your friends!

For more info on Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and their response to the crisis in Ukraine, please visit <https://pda.pcusa.org/>.



CHURCH OUTSIDE THE SANCTUARY

We want to plan more activities and events we can do together as an MPC family. Do you have any favorite hikes or paddling spots you would like to invite a group from church to experience with you? Heather can help you organize! We just need date, time, location, some basic info about level of exercise to be expected, and any gear or apparel recommendations. We can help publicize the event and give people an opportunity to RSVP or just join day of. These events can help us reconnect and are a great opportunity to invite friends to get to know our MPC community outside of the church.



MISSIONS MINISTRY

SW HOPE: FEED THE HUNGRY

Thank you, thank you, thank you!
SW Hope this year was a big success. MPC was represented in the SW Hope 5k by 22 participants which adds up to over \$650 in registration fees! We collected 210.5 pounds in spices, diapers, hygiene items, and other essentials. \$1,750 was collected in cash and checks and there was additional \$700 in reported online donations. Your generosity helped us meet our goal and will help the Neighborhood House food pantry continue to feed our neighbors in need throughout the rest of the year. Neighborhood House met their matching goal for the 5k and raised over \$50,000 this year.



There are two great events coming up in May.

OPERATION NIGHTWATCH

The first is a trash pick-up around the area of St. Stephen's Church in a partnership between Operation Nightwatch and SOLVE. "We will respectfully help our unhoused neighbors rid their areas of trash, with a focus on treating all with dignity and a friendly approach." If you are interested, you can email Emily at Operation Nightwatch: nightwatchboard@gmail.com.

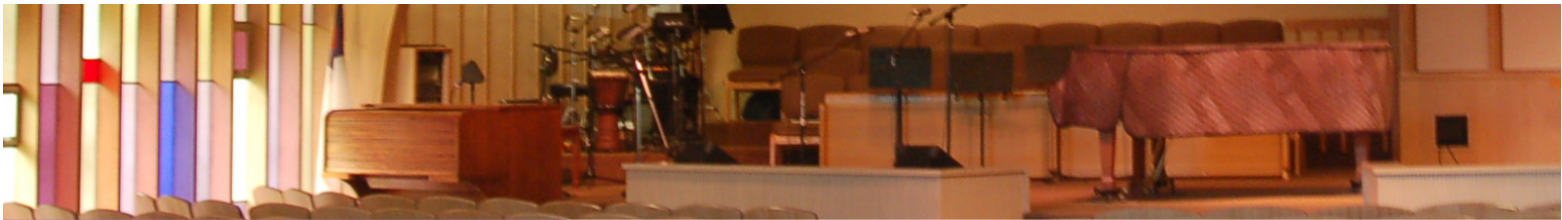


UNION GOSPEL MISSION

The second is the annual fundraiser tea for Union Gospel Mission, benefiting women and children escaping homelessness, addiction, and abuse. It will be on **May 14th from 12pm-2pm** at The Embassy Suites in Tigard. You can register using the QR code on the right, or at the following address:

<https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/home.php?e=22669>





Weekly Activities

Quilters

Mondays

1:00 - 3:00pm

Bible Study

Wednesdays

3:30 - 5:00pm

Marimba Ensembles

Saturdays

Jubilation! (Adults)

Rejoice! (Youth)

10:00 - 11:00am

11:15am - 12:15pm

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS UPDATE

From a Maintenance perspective the month of April was fairly busy around MPC. A contractor completed the annual testing of the Fire Alarm System and the Fire Sprinkler System is scheduled for testing in early May. Resolving some issues with the Sanctuary and Downstairs heating systems was a bit problematic in trying to find contractors to even come and diagnose what was wrong. A neighbor of Dick Eyberg, who is a retired electrician, offered to come and look at what was going on. After doing some troubleshooting, he was able to pinpoint the problem and made some wiring changes which restored the system to normal operation.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

F&A Committee met on Tuesday April 19th, 2022 to review the financial reports summarizing the first quarter of our budget year and discuss a number of agenda items as outlined below.

Here is a summary of our finance numbers and trends.

Assets/Balance Sheet – Assets were listed at \$296,191 at the beginning of the budget year. By the end of the first quarter this had increased to \$315,931, an increase of just under \$20,000.

Revenue – Income from pledges and other sources for the first quarter was \$92,076 averaging 30,692/month. This is up from the same time period last year by \$13,800.

Expenses – Spending is currently at 22% of budget and therefore under budget YTD.

Bottom Line – We are in the black overall with a margin for the first quarter of just over \$1000.

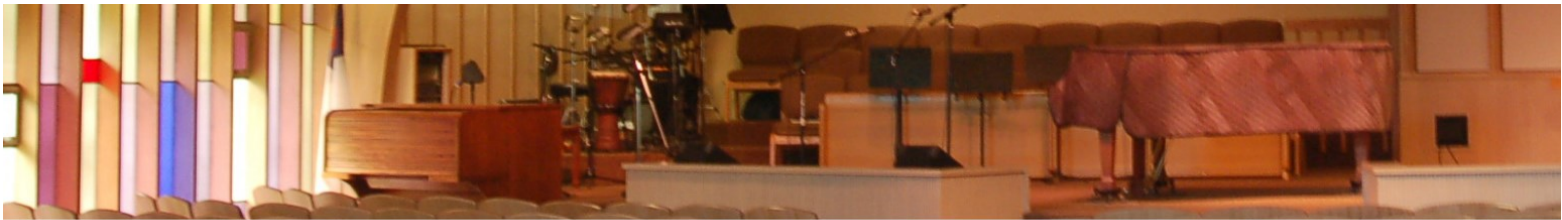
Session approved our updated Financial Policies and Procedures last month. We have scheduled our Annual Review and the process should be complete by the end of May.

We are off to a great start in 2022 and look forward to re-starting a number of programs as spring arrives and pandemics fade. It was great to see so many of you at our Easter Service.

He is risen, He is risen indeed.

-Your Finance and Administration Committee





THE LEGEND OF NOAH'S ARK AT MPC HAS COME TO AN END



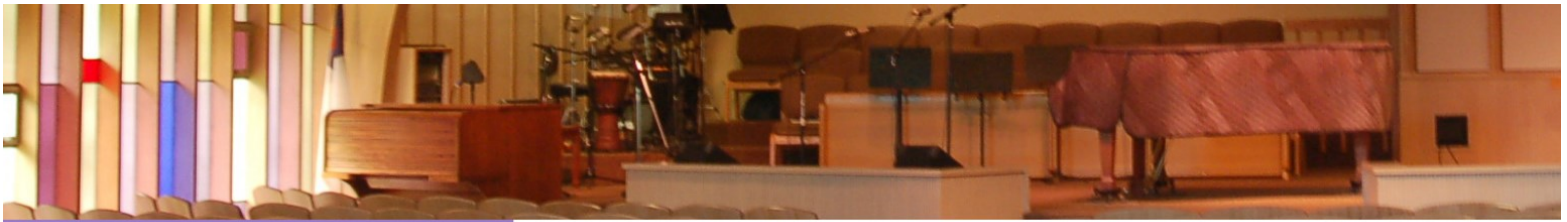
After having a boat abandoned on church property, we were left with quite the mystery and more than a little frustration. Nearly a month later, following much investigative work by Dick Eyberg, we have finally closed the book on the ark. Our crew cut it up and put it in a dumpster, which was then hauled to the Metro Waste facility in Oregon City for disposal. A legend, to be sure, but hopefully one that won't be repeated anytime soon.



Disposal Crew

Mike Barth, Rick Aberle, Tom Jones, Dave Tomastik, John Green, Dick Eyberg and Dennis Zerba





May Birthdays

- 1 Brad Doane
Betty Trowbridge
- 2 Sherri Kessler
- 3 Dennis Zerba
- 6 Tabitha Hellman
Michael Kuehnel
- 9 Pat Hoff-Clement
Chris Ulum
- 10 Barbara Geurink
Janet Lowrey
- 12 Lloyd Nackley
- 15 Amy Clements
Holley Carlson
- 16 Lori Roberts
- 20 Lorraine Larson
Grecia Denisse Peña
Nathaly Peña
- 21 Brittany Williams
- 22 Samuel Ulum
- 23 Mac Sedwick
- 25 Betsy Deich
- 28 AJ Colenso
- 31 Ray Enzor

DEACON NEWS FOR YOU

This month's "Meet Your Deacon" spotlights **Janet Lowrey**, who is in her third year as a deacon.

Janet grew up in Homewood, IL, a suburb of Chicago. After graduation from the University of Illinois, she drove to Portland, Oregon sight unseen. She now lives out in the country near Woodburn with her husband Dan. Her oldest child Cameron would be 28 years old and is keeping her parents company in heaven. Her daughter Jordan is 27 years old and just bought her first home in Auburn, WA. Their nephew Chris is 20 years old and successfully living and working independently.

Janet was a teacher for six years: two years as a substitute, and four years teaching 6th grade. She transitioned into being a stay-at-home Mom for 16 years, volunteering with Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, PTA, Little League, and Art Literacy. Later on, she returned to school at PSU and became a CPA. She began her next career in 2011 as an auditor with the Oregon Secretary of State Audits Division. Janet says she is very fortunate to love her very fulfilling job.

Janet learned about MPC from her Mom (Evva Swan). After Janet enrolled Jordan in Dove Christian Preschool in 1998, her mom suggested Janet take the Alpha course. Reluctantly she said Yes, but really enjoyed the course. She has remained at MPC ever since.

When asked about some unique qualities or talents, Janet mentioned being a childhood acrobat, a baton twirler, and a unicycle rider! She has also played the cornet, the baritone and been a member of the bell choir. Janet is currently in the chancel choir and marimba ensemble at MPC.

When asked about vacations and traveling, Janet said all her vacations are her favorite. Her Dad treated the family to two memorable vacations: one in Ireland & Scotland and the other on a 2-week driving trip through Iceland. She has an upcoming trip this September with a college friend and husbands, travelling from Toulouse & Foix in France, to Barcelona & Madrid in Spain.



DEACON NEWS (continued)

When asked about things on her bucket list, Janet mentioned an upcoming trip in May to drive through 5 states back east which will finalize her goal of visiting all 50 states. For the future, a ride in a blimp and diving or snorkeling in Molokini, Hawaii is still on the list.

When asked about something she has done in her life that she is proud of or makes her very happy, she replied "Going back to school, being an honor student (finally) and passing the CPA exam." She is very thankful she was able to spend so much time with her children during their childhood.

Parting thought:

John tells us that "Jesus is the vine and his Father is the vine grower, and that we are the branches [John 15]. Jesus reminds us to be rooted in him and we will bear fruit. To be connected to the Lord brings us joy as well as hope.

"As we look back on the many struggles of this COVID season, maybe we see how we remained strong in the vines of our relationships. Perhaps we recall times we felt cut off from everyone. The good news is that a branch that is trimmed is made stronger, better fruit is produced. The vine grower prunes the dead branches so the healthy vine may be fruitful. During this springtime we see the results of pruning in the rich foliage and vibrant growth of every tree and flower around us. The lesson is clear when Jesus tells us to remain in him and make his words remain in us. Then whatever growth we desire will be given! Jesus, being the trusted vine grower over the past year of pruning, has prepared us for what lies ahead. And whatever that may be, it will be good if we stay connected to him."

Sister Jeanne, SHCJ, Rosemont College

Blessings From Within Our Church

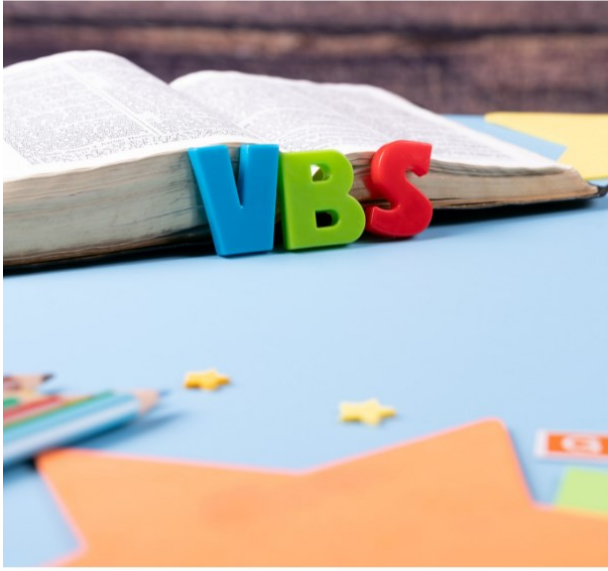
The Eybergs are blessed to have two fine young men graduating in June.

Petting and holding baby goats.



Dove Preschool made it the entire year without a case of COVID in any of the children.

If you would like to share your blessings, please send them to Janet Lowrey, Dave Tomastik, or your own Deacon.



YOUTH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for Volunteers for our VBS **June 20-24** from 3pm-6pm. This year our VBS is open to the community again, and it is a great way to welcome families to our campus. The curriculum is designed and tested with kids for maximum fun and understanding. We need adults to help oversee some of our learning stations and oversee our youth guides We are keeping our groups smaller this year so that we can better maintain any Covid safety precautions that may be necessary. If you are interested in helping please talk to Heather.

ALASKA MISSION

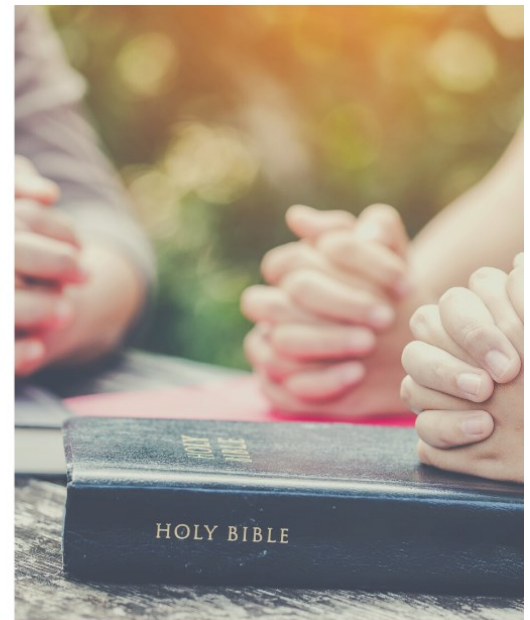
This newsletter will be published before the auction, but we wanted to say thank you. So many people are already donating to the trip and expressing their excitement that we are sending a team back to Skagway. We hope you will continue to support the youth and leaders in prayer as we prepare for the July 1-10 trip. As many people are experiencing, the airlines are continually changing our flights which may add some overnights away from Skagway to our travels. These are logistical nightmares for any traveler, but a group of fifteen creates an even bigger challenge, so please pray things work out so we can spend the maximum amount of time possible with our community in Skagway and also get our people home on time. We so appreciate all the enthusiasm and support of this ministry and we look forward to celebrating the auction total info in the June newsletter.

PRAYER

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.

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.





EASTER JOYS



Goats provided by www.portlandgoatparties.com



COFFEE HOUR UPDATE

We are so glad to have our coffee hours back on Sunday mornings. It's always a good feel to see the congregation enjoying a cup of coffee and treat after church while visiting with each other. There are always ways you can help which include:

- Donating Cookies, store bought or homemade, which can just be dropped off at the kitchen.
- Volunteering to assist with a coffee hour. If you have never been involved in a coffee hour we have detailed instructions to help familiarize yourself with the procedures.

We are so grateful for those individuals and groups who are coordinating a coffee hour each month. But we need additional volunteers, particularly for the third and fourth Sundays throughout the summer. With that in mind, we will be contacting people to see if they'd like to be involved in helping in the next few months.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Robyn Biehler or Sherri Kessler.



SAVE THE DATE FOR BETTY

Please join us for a special Coffee Hour on **Sunday, June 5** honoring Betty Trowbridge. You'll have an opportunity to wish Betty a fond farewell before she moves to Washington later in the month to be near family.

There'll be a basket for cards, as well as cards available for you to write her a note.

Hugs are allowed!!!





DOVE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

The month of April flew by with all the activities that kept the kids at Dove busy. We celebrated Easter, shared donuts with Dads, and took a field trip to the Oregon Zoo. At the same time, we continued to learn things to help the Pre II kids get ready for Kindergarten, and the Pre I kids to make the move up to the Pre II class. The month of May will be just as busy as we celebrate Moms and take care of all the last things before summer. The Pre II kids will graduate on May 25. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to transition into new schools in the fall.

Dove currently has openings for Fall 2022 in the Pre I class (3-year-olds). If you know family, friends or neighbors that may be looking for a school, please have them check out Dove at www.dovepreschool.com or contact us at dovechristianpreschool@gmail.com.



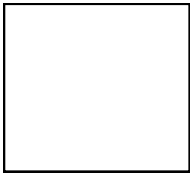
QUILTERS NEWS

We have had some generous donations of lovely fabrics this Spring. Jackie has designed some lovely quilts. We can use 1½ yard pieces for backings on the quilts. Cotton percale and flannel are preferred!!

We will be working on quilts until the end of May, then we will take a break until September. Please consider joining us in the Fall. We meet from 1-3 pm on Mondays!! We need folks for tying quilts, ironing, matching backings to tops and sharing your talents. **You can also tie quilts at home as another option!** We have given over 2,000 quilts to CARES NORTHWEST, shut ins, new babies at Church, veterans, foster children, and for sales for the Alaska Auctions.

It is a wonderful group of women with which to fellowship around the tables!! Please call Priscilla Downing with any questions.

Hope to see you!! 😊



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.

MAY ANNOUNCER

BIRTHDAYS IN MAY	6
BLESSINGS WITHIN OUR CHURCH	7
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS UPDATE	4
CHURCH OUTSIDE THE SANCTUARY	2
COFFEE HOUR UPDATE	10
DEACON NEWS FOR YOU	6-7
DOVE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL	11
EASTER JOYS	9
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION	4
FROM THE PASTOR	1
LEGEND OF NOAH'S ARK	5
MISSIONS MINISTRY	3
MUSIC NEWS	2
PRAYER	8
QUILTERS	11
SAVE THE DATE	10
WEEKLY ACTIVITIES	4
WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	1
YOUTH	8