

# MPC News

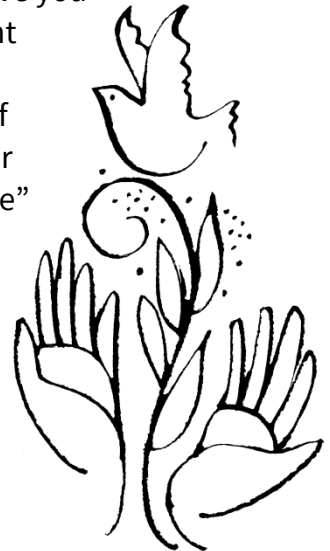
March 2015

## A letter from the Sabbatical Team

Next year, our pastor will have the opportunity to take a sabbatical. This has great potential as a time for renewal and learning, for both Pastor Katie and our congregation. Our Presbytery believes that sabbaticals are an important way to support pastors' continuing professional growth with exposure to experiences away from the church itself. Since January, a Sabbatical Team has met weekly to discuss plans for the pastor's study, travel and renewal activities, as well as for congregational renewal activities and coverage of pastoral and head of staff responsibilities while Katie is away. MPC is applying for a grant from the Lilly Foundation to fund the sabbatical plan. The deadline for grant proposals is fast approaching, and the sabbatical team needs your feedback!

The theme we are working with is "Creating a Space." Katie's course of study will be to explore how churches and other community gathering places (often called third places) affect our perceptions and experiences. The congregation will contemplate similar questions through a different process. What makes room for reflection, or for community, or for learning? What spaces give you a sense of awe? Where do you experience the Holy? The grant allows us to request funding for congregational renewal activities while the pastor is away. The committee has lots of ideas, but we want to hear from you. Our central question for the congregation is this: What do you want to create a "space" for here at MPC?

To this end, you are invited to attend an open conversation and potluck on March 1 at noon to check out the sabbatical proposal before it goes to session, and to contribute ideas. You are also welcome to contact any member of the Sabbatical Team to share your ideas.



— Ross Cottrell, Verne Duncan, Rusty Garrison, Kelley Gutman, Katie Pate, Melissa Thomsen, Doug Vitro

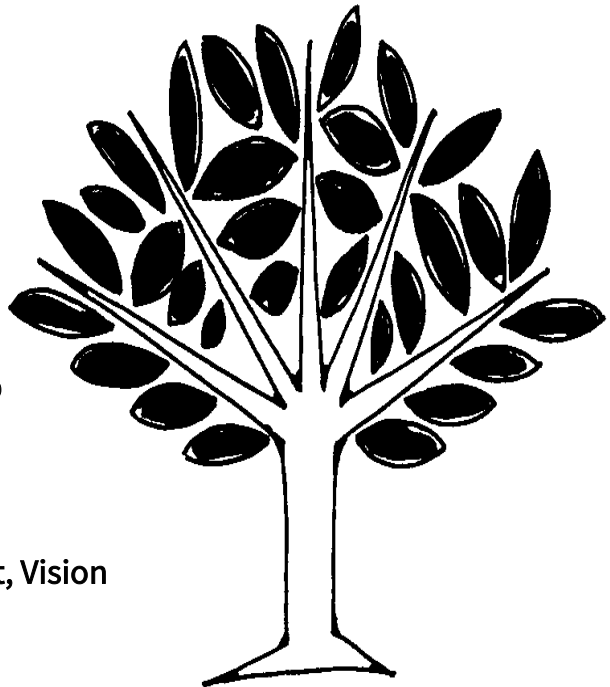
# Worship, Teaching and Community

Sunday, March 1

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship with Communion**
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **Christian Enrichment, Vision Committee**
- ◆ 5:30 p.m. **Middle School Youth Group**
- ◆ 7 p.m. **High School Youth Group**

Sunday, March 8

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship**
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **Christian Enrichment, Vision Committee**
- ◆ 5 p.m. **Caravan Trip meeting**
- ◆ 5:30 p.m. **Middle School Youth Group**
- ◆ 7 p.m. **High School Youth Group**



Sunday, March 15

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship**
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **Christian Enrichment, Vision Committee**
- ◆ **Noon Outreach Committee**
- ◆ 7 p.m. **High School Youth Group**

Sunday, March 22

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship**
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **Christian Enrichment, FINAL Vision Committee**

Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Intergenerational Worship** led by Children and Youth
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **Christian Enrichment, Vision Committee**
- ◆ 6 p.m. **Combined Youth Bowling**

# Holy Week



## Palm Sunday is March 29!

Last year, 19 children and adults led worship on Palm Sunday, setting a new record. Would you or someone in your family like to help out? Excellent! Contact Katie Pate at [pastor@milwaukiepres.org](mailto:pastor@milwaukiepres.org) or 503.654.7782.

**Good Friday Community Worship @ MPC** April 3, 7 p.m.  
Gather with our neighbors from St. John the Evangelist Episcopal, Milwaukie Lutheran and King of Kings Lutheran for a contemplative candlelight service.

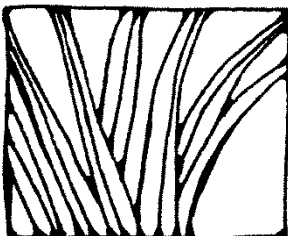
**Flowering of the Cross** How does your garden grow? Bring flowers, blossoms and greens to the church April 4 at 3 p.m. to flower the cross. Many hands needed!

## Easter Sunday

Come join the celebration with a festive worship service at 10 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt immediately after worship, Easter Sunday, April 5, ALL children invited!

Hot Cross Buns & Brunch Fellowship after Easter Sunday service on April 5th. Please bring hot cross buns or a brunch item to share.



# Christian Enrichment

Sunday School, Upstairs,  
age 3 – 5th grade



11 CORINTHIANS 4:16

- March 1: Children's Lenten Art Project
- March 8: Lesson from Seasons of the Spirit
- March 15: Lesson from Seasons of the Spirit
- March 22: Lesson from Seasons of the Spirit
- March 29: Children's Lenten Art Project

## Adults, Schmidt Hall

March 1: Explore Marcus Borg's idea of Centering on God via Imagining What God Loves. For starters, watch Dr. Robin Meyers on *The Empathic Imagination*:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZ\\_ZjORYeeY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZ_ZjORYeeY).

March 8: A structured discussion focused on how the Gospel writers, Paul and early Christians understood Christ's crucifixion. When and why did the notion that Christ died for our sins enter into Christian theology?

March 15: Some Progressive Christians find meaning in Christ's crucifixion separate from a theology of atonement. Study includes the thoughts of Catholic priest Henri Nouwen, Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber, and others.

March 22: With the help of voices from a variety of resources -- pastors, theologians, artists, poets, songs, video clips, prayers, and an essay or two -- let's try to answer the question, "Why in the world is Good Friday 'Good?'"

March 29: Guest Speaker, Rev. Aric Clark, "The Cross: An Instrument of Torture, a Symbol of Love"

— Sam Cole, CE Director

# Youth News

**Gear up for the Caravan Trip!** On June 21 we will be heading to Yakima with Moreland Presbyterian to serve with Native American tribes. There will be a meeting at 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 8, for all interested HS youth and parents, as well as any interested volunteers.

## Regular Youth Groups

Middle Schoolers @ 5:30 p.m. March 1 and 8.

High Schoolers @ 7 p.m. March 1, 8, and 15.

Spring Break begins March 22, no youth groups that day.

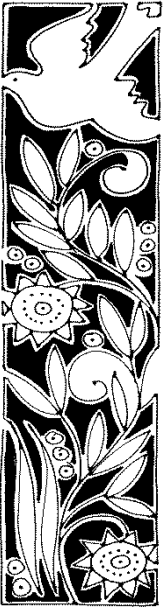
**Combined Youth Bowling** March 29, 6-8 p.m. \$10, details to follow.

**Middle school lock-in** on March 13-14 at Valley Community Presbyterian Church in honor of Pi Day. 6:30 p.m. March 13 – 2 p.m. March 14. Cost is \$10. Let Doug know by March 8 if you plan on attending, [youth@milwaukiepres.org](mailto:youth@milwaukiepres.org).



**Thanks** to all who attended the youth Valentine's Dinner. We had a blast cooking, serving and singing for you. We raised \$803. Thanks for all of your support!

— Youth Ministry Director, Doug Vitro



# Outdoor Sanctuary Maintenance/adoption

MPC Friends and Families - the heavy work of restoration of our Outdoor Sanctuary has been completed and we are officially transitioning to the lighter work of maintaining what we have all achieved!

Your team has divided our 3 and 1/2 acre property into 10 sites and is offering everyone the chance to adopt one of these for a year (that is, 3 seasons: Spring, Summer and Fall) - with option to re-up for the following year. Here's your chance to bestow some loving care on a part of our beautiful church property.

Information, Site description, Map in the Narthex

— Pat Carter

## Community Events

**Former Youth Director Joshua Dunham is getting ordained!**

Moreland Presbyterian Church has called Joshua Dunham as their Associate Pastor. All are welcome to witness and celebrate his ordination at Moreland Presbyterian Church on Sunday, March 15, at 2 p.m.

**Walking into Lent: A labyrinth Walk**

Saturday March 21, 3 -5 p.m., St. Pius X, 1280 NW Saltzman Rd, Portland, OR 97229

In ancient times the church used the labyrinth for the community to make pilgrimages when it was not safe to travel to the Holy lands. As the labyrinth returns as a practice of prayer and peace, we offer our Pilgrim's Traveling Labyrinth, lit with sacred candle light, to make your own pilgrim's journey. Use this time to walk the labyrinth for meditation, a time to honor those who have passed, or any other sacred stirring of your heart. The labyrinth can be a great healing tool as it calms the mind and allows for sacred focusing of the heart. Come in to release, receive and return as you step on to the sacred path of light. With Mary Jo Saavedra.

# Spring Ring!

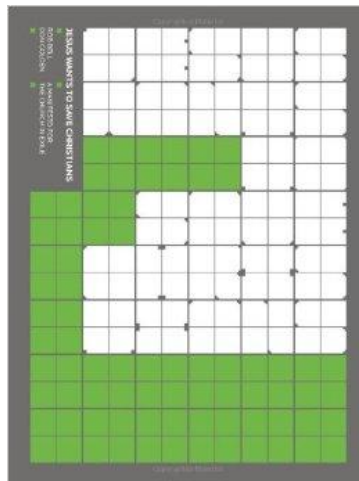
We will have beautiful handbell music in worship on Sunday, April 19th. If you are looking for a musical outlet, this is a safe and friendly environment to give music a try. If you are a beginner, I will happily find an entry-level bell assignment that allows you to participate! Sunday rehearsals after worship will begin on March 8, with no rehearsal on Easter Sunday. Please contact me via email ([music@milwaukiepres.org](mailto:music@milwaukiepres.org)) or let me know in person if you are interested in joining for this short-term musical commitment.

— Kevin Lambert, Music Director

## Read Eat And Discuss Book Club

The book club is reading *Jesus Wants to Save Christians* by Rob Bell. Come discuss the book on Sunday April 26 at 7 p.m., at the home of Cherie Kennedy. RSVP 503.698.8308 or [clkennedy88@hotmail.com](mailto:clkennedy88@hotmail.com). All are welcome, whether you've read the book or not.

From the back cover: “We want you to discover the Bible as its own best commentary. We offer you a way to read the Bible that doesn't require a library or a preacher or a politician or an academic to interpret for you. Once justice is seen as the thread woven into the fabric of biblical history, the whole Bible becomes much clearer.”



**A memorial service to celebrate the lives of Wes and Margaret Roushall** will be held at Milwaukie Presbyterian Church on Saturday, March 7 at noon. A graveside service will be held March 6 at noon at Willamette National Cemetery.

# March Mission Drive



Clackamas Women's Services shelters are in need of household items: cookware and dinner ware (pots and pans; spoons, knives, and forks; cooking utensils); linens and bedding (crib/twin/queen sheet sets; towels, washcloths, comforters, blankets, new pillows); paper goods / cleaning products (toilet paper, paper towels, tissue, dish soap, hand soap, laundry soap). This drive continues through the end of March.

CWS offers free services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

They provide emergency shelter where women and children fleeing domestic violence as well as other support and 24-hour crisis and support lines where survivors and their families can get confidential help and support when in crisis or just in need of a sympathetic ear. More information:

[www.cwsor.org](http://www.cwsor.org).

**One Great Hour of Sharing** is a Christian effort to empower, provide water, supply food, and give relief from disasters. Your offering supports:

## Water Projects

One Great Hour partners with organizations worldwide to provide access to clean water to help eradicate disease and transform communities.

## Hunger Projects

Whether from disaster, displacement or drought, One Great Hour seeks to feed the hungry in the name of Christ.

## Disaster Relief Projects

When disaster happens, One Great Hour is there to help with short and long term needs.

## Empowerment Projects

Helping men and women provide for themselves and their families is an important part of the work of One Great Hour of Sharing.

Our OGHS offering will be gathered on Palm/Passion Sunday, March 29.





# Giving Update, 2014-2015

As of 1/31/2015	Actual to date	Budget to date	Annual Budget
General Fund Income:	\$134,135.79	\$127,852.00	\$217,040.00
Carryover 2013-14:	\$8,395.00	\$8,395.00	\$8,395.00
Expenses:	\$137,125.82	\$140,966.00	\$241,640.00
Difference:	\$5,404.97	\$4,731.00	\$(16,205.00)
Surplus/(Deficit)			

Thank you for keeping your pledge current! Your generous gifts help our building and staff support our congregation as well as the wider community. Thank you!

<b>Elders</b>	<b><u>Finance</u></b>	<b><u>Outreach</u></b>	<b><u>Vision</u></b>
	Claire Hobson	Linda Marquam	Mark Neher
	<b><u>Property</u></b>	<b><u>Grounds</u></b>	<b><u>Youth</u></b>
	Dave DeVore	Rusty Garrison	Christopher Jenkins
	<b><u>Personnel</u></b>	<b><u>Hospitality</u></b>	<b><u>Worship</u></b>
	Madeline Davis	Marci Hartson	Kelley Gutman
<b>Deacons</b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
	Andi Coover	Kim Adams	Wayne Sabin
	Lynette Hall	Carolee Neighorn	Sarah Carver
	Pat Jones	Richard Nelson	Tom Muti
	Bill Marquam	Mary Surface	Phyllis Zimmerman

Email or drop a note in the church office to be added to the MPC mailing list,  
or to receive our weekly enews.

The deadline for the April newsletter is March 15.

Send submissions to [office@milwaukiepres.org](mailto:office@milwaukiepres.org).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 Second Sunday in Lent</b> 10 a.m. Communion Worship 11:15 a.m. Christian Enrichment, Vision Committee Noon Sabbatical Team Presentation & Potluck 5:30 p.m. MS Youth Group 7 p.m. HS Youth Group	2	<b>3</b> 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's	<b>4</b> Noon Finance Committee 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal Sabbatical Team	<b>5</b> 9 a.m. Music Staff meeting 10 a.m. Program Staff meeting 7 p.m. Deacons	<b>6</b> <b>Presbytery Meeting Medford</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Presbytery Meeting Medford</b>  Noon Roushall Memorial
<b>8 Third Sunday in Lent</b> 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Christian Enrichment, Vision Committee, Handbell rehearsals 5 p.m. Caravan Trip meeting 5:30 p.m. MS Youth Group 7 p.m. HS Youth Group	9	<b>10</b> 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's  7 p.m. Session	<b>11</b>  7 p.m. Choir rehearsal Sabbatical Team	<b>12</b> 9 a.m. Music Staff meeting	<b>13</b> Pi Day Lock-in – Middle School Youth	<b>14</b> Pi Day Lock-in – Middle School Youth
<b>15 Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Christian Enrichment, Vision Committee, Handbell rehearsals Noon Outreach Committee 2 p.m. Josh Dunham ordination @ Moreland Pres. 7 p.m. HS Youth Group	16	<b>17</b> 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>18</b>  7 p.m. Choir rehearsal Sabbatical Team	<b>19</b> 9 a.m. Music Staff meeting 10 a.m. All-Staff meeting	20	21
<b>22 Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Christian Enrichment, Final Vision Committee, Handbell rehearsals	23	<b>24</b> 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's  7 p.m. Not-just Prayer Shawls	<b>25</b>  7 p.m. Choir rehearsal Sabbatical Team	<b>26</b> 9 a.m. Music Staff meeting	27	28
<b>29 Palm Sunday</b> 10 a.m. Worship led by Children & Youth One Great Hour of Sharing 11:15 a.m. Christian Enrichment, Handbell rehearsals Noon Personnel Committee 6 p.m. Combined Youth Bowling	30	<b>31</b>  7 p.m. Session Meeting	<h1>March</h1> <h2>2015</h2>		<b>Office Hours:</b> Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. You can also find our church calendar online at <a href="http://www.milwaukiepres.org/calendar">www.milwaukiepres.org/calendar</a>	