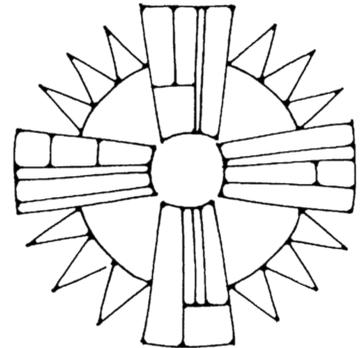


MPC News

September 2015

Sunday, September 6th

10 a.m. Season of Creation, Planet Earth Sunday Worship, with Youth Ministry Director Doug Vitro preaching. During this four-week season, we experience the deep impulse of God's word that calls forth creation and stirs life.



Sunday, September 13th

The fun starts at 8:30 a.m. with a Pancake Breakfast! Come share a meal and reconnect with your church family.

Pancakes served until 9:45 a.m. Donations for the breakfast support the Youth Mission Fund. After a celebratory Season of Creation, Humanity Sunday Worship Service with communion at 10 a.m., all ages gather in Schmidt Hall for an overview of education opportunities in the coming year!

Sunday, September 20th

Season of Creation continues with Sky Sunday worship at 10 a.m. At 11:15 a.m., PreK-8th gather upstairs, High School meet in the Narthex; Adult Enrichment: Art journaling with Kelley Gutman. Gather in Schmidt Hall to talk about art journaling as a spiritual practice, and give it a try! Some materials provided. Bring a journal if you like.

Sunday, September 27th

Season of Creation comes to a close with a vision of God's Holy Mountain: a place where we can recognize God's ongoing relationship with creation, and our call to live out the spirit of Shalom. A time of fellowship (featuring donut holes!) will take place after worship. This is an intentional time to connect as a community of faith. Strike up a conversation in the Narthex. Invite someone to lunch. Take a group to the farmer's market. Explore different ways of being in community with one another!

Come back to the church at 6 p.m. to enjoy a Cooperative Game night w/Pizza.

Sabbatical News!

By now, you may have heard that Milwaukie Presbyterian Church has been awarded a grant from the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs to cover all of the expenses associated with the sabbatical I will take in summer 2016. Not only does the grant provide for my study, travel and other renewal activities, it also includes funding for congregational renewal activities before, during and after the sabbatical, as well as honoraria for the staff and clergy who will care for the congregation in my absence.

In the Presbytery of the Cascades, sabbaticals after seven years of service are included in all pastors' terms of call. This is the rationale for sabbaticals from our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):

Sabbatical Leave for pastors and church educators is a planned time of intensive enhancement for ministry and mission. Sabbatical Leave follows precedents in the academic community and among a growing number of private sector groups. This "extended time" is qualitatively different from "vacation" or "days off." It is an opportunity for the individual to strategically disengage from regular and normal tasks so that ministry and mission may be viewed from a new perspective because of a planned time of focus.

Sabbatical Leave is an extension of the Biblical concept of a Sabbath day and a Sabbath year for renewal. It is both an act of faith that God will sustain us through a period of reflection and changed activity and an occasion for recovery and renewal of vital energies.

This sabbatical will be for us to reflect on how the church and our congregation might share a Christian witness to a changing world as we walk towards the future together.

My portion of the sabbatical will take place in three parts. The first part is a summer architecture intensive. The way our culture sees church is changing, and we need to be able to use our buildings as more than a place for Presbyterians on Sunday -- instead we need to look more closely at things like the needs of people in our neighborhood, ways to reach and meet the needs of people who travel on the MAX that will soon arrive in our neighborhood, ways to offer space to welcome students, adult groups and neighborhood groups, and ways to use the building as a base for missions. How can we use our building to say, "We are here for you -- what we do for others we do for Christ"? To do that, we need to rethink our space, change it, create new ways to use it, and engage our congregation in being part of the welcome. This requires a radical rethinking of the purpose of our building's physical space –

rethinking beyond what church buildings were in the middle ages, the 1800s, or the 1950s. Our buildings are too valuable not to be used for radically meaningful purposes in a time when our neighbors have so many physical and spiritual needs.

The second part is a pilgrimage to Cornwall, and travel in throughout England and Denmark. This is a time of concentrated study, reflection and meditation in a historical setting for pilgrimages, intended to give time for in-depth growing in my faith and silence in the presence of God. Out of these things, I will bring back insights for spiritual growth for our congregation.

Finally, there will be time for personal study and renewal. This is an intentional time away from constant responsibilities to refresh and rebalance all areas of my life. Part of this is time for reading and family time. Both of these last two provide distance from the day-to-day routines and demands, so that new perspectives can emerge that will energize both my ministry and the ministry of our congregation.

The sabbatical begins in late June 2016. Between now and then, there will be many opportunities for us to talk about what will happen during the sabbatical and who will care for the congregation while I am away. Because of this grant, the sabbatical is a huge opportunity for us as a community, and for me as a minister. I approach this sabbatical with great joy and a little trepidation. Session has a solid plan for the sabbatical, and MPC is a wonderful community of leaders and helpers who bring so many gifts to the table. The sabbatical proposal was created by the hard work of the Session, the Sabbatical Team, staff and the congregation, especially: Ross Cottrell, Madeline Davis, Dave DeVore, Verne Duncan, Rusty Garrison, Kelley Gutman, Marci Hartson, Claire Hobson, Christopher Jenkins, Linda Marquam, Mark Neher, Colby Phillips, Melissa Thomsen, Doug Vitro, and Jill Winegar. Thank you so much!

- Pastor Katie Pate



Youth News

September Youth Calendar

Date	Time	Event and Details
Sun. 9/6	5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.	Middle School Youth
	7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	High School Youth
Sat. 9/12	11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Orange Line Kick Off!
Sun. 9/13	Youth & Families 7:15 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast and Fundraiser
Sun. 9/20	6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Youth Bowling! Meet at Kellogg Bowl!
Sun. 9/27	6 p.m.	Cooperative Game Night

September Youth Highlights

Pancake Breakfast! We're celebrating the start of a new year of Church School on September 13th! We are asking that youth and families be at church at 7:15 a.m. to help make batter, cook pancakes and sausages, and serve up syrup and drinks. Donations will go toward the youth mission fund.



Orange Line Kick-Off On September 12th we are asking families and youth to come help us hand out free ice cream bars and lemonade to folks coming to see and ride the new MAX Orange Line. Hope to see you out for a day of celebrating our city and its growth.

Materials for Pancake Breakfast Any families who are willing to help out with the pancake breakfast are asked to help with pancake mix, butter and syrup, and bringing their family griddle if available. Please let Doug know if you plan on helping this way so we don't end up with 1,000 pancakes and no syrup.

Youth Bowling On September 20th we will be kicking off the new year of youth activities. We will be bowling at Kellogg Bowl at 6 p.m. \$10 buys two games with shoes.

— Doug Vitro, Youth Ministry Director

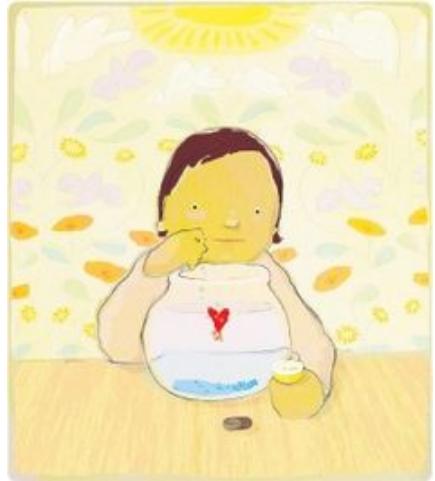
Children's Ministry

New Curriculum: *A Joyful Path - The Inner Wisdom Series* Spiritual Curriculum for Young Hearts and Minds

According to The Progressive Christian, this curriculum uses the Bible and other wisdom stories to teach interdependence, self-awareness, respect for nature, stillness, forgiveness, prayer, meditation, and integrity. *A Joyful Path* helps children learn how to follow the path of Jesus in today's world. This curriculum connects children with their own inner wisdom by emphasizing behavior over belief.

A unique and important aspect of this curriculum is that the lessons are both heart-centered and experiential. Through stories and activities, children's bodies and feelings are engaged as well as their minds. Giving children experiences that are real and meaningful helps them integrate and apply the ideals of Progressive Christianity to lives right now. Experiential learning also helps to create a solid foundation for a child's life-long spiritual journey.

Contact Children's Ministry Coordinator Sabina Shaughnessy (cmc@milwaukiepres.org, 503.654.7782) if you would like to participate in leading church school this fall!



September Church School

Starting Sunday, September 13, we will have church school for age 3 – 5th grade upstairs. Join us as we grow into the new curriculum and share ideas on how to build our Children's Ministry. Information packets will be available for families to share.

September 13: meet & greet, games, share your ideas!

September 20: Who or What is God?

September 27: Intergenerational Fellowship and Donut Holes

Worship, Teaching and Community

Season of Creation: Planet Earth Sunday, September 6

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship**
- ◆ 5:30 p.m. **Middle School Youth Group**
- ◆ 7 p.m. **High School Youth Group**

Season of Creation: Humanity Sunday, September 13

- ◆ 8:30 a.m. **Pancake Breakfast (Youth + other volunteers, 7:15 a.m.)**
- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship with Communion**
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **All ages gather in Schmidt Hall before heading to class**

Season of Creation: Sky Sunday, September 20

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship**
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **Education Opportunities for all ages**
- ◆ 11:30 a.m. **Personnel Committee**
- ◆ 6 p.m. **Youth Group Bowling @ Kellogg Bowl**

Season of Creation: Mountain Sunday, September 27

- ◆ 10 a.m. **Worship**
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. **Fellowship, featuring Donut Holes**
- ◆ 6 p.m. **Cooperative Game Night & Pizza**



Coming up in Adult Enrichment this fall:

Embracing Spiritual Awakening DVD and Conversation

World-class author and commentator, Diana Butler Bass expands on the ideas she developed in her recent book, *Christianity after Religion*, exploring what Christianity may look like “beyond religion and beyond the church.”

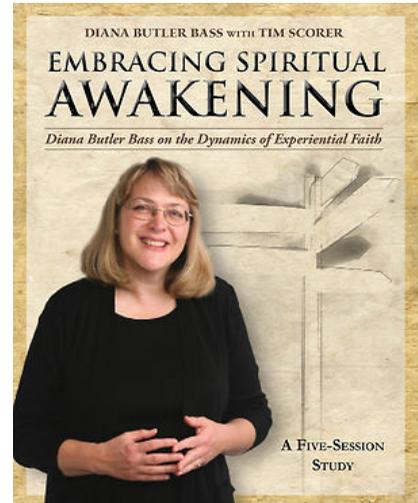
Session 1: Arriving – October 11th

Session 2: Believing – October 18th

Session 3: Behaving – November 1st

Session 4: Belonging – November 8th

Session 5: Awakening – November 15th



Diana Butler Bass is a best-selling author of multiple books examining dimensions of religion and spirituality in today’s secular world.

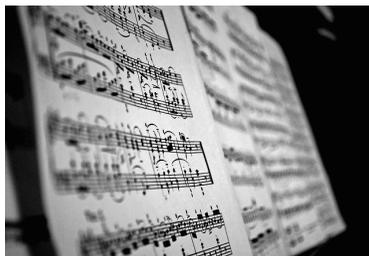
Back by Popular Demand: Living the Questions

Living the Questions is a source of curriculum and media for both seekers and “church alumni/ae” convinced that Christianity still has relevance in the 21st Century. Providing a variety of flexible resources, Living the Questions can help people explore the future of Christianity and what a meaningful faith can look like in today's world. Details to come.

Cooperative Game Night September 7th



Everyone is invited to join us for a night of cooperative tabletop games on September 7th at 6 p.m. Cooperative games are team focused games where players work together to beat the game instead of each other. We hope to have you join us for some cooperation and fun.



The **Chancel Choir** will resume singing on Sunday, September 13th. Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings before the services when they sing. The group enjoys a special camaraderie, building personal relationships set against the backdrop of fellowship sharing music with each other and the congregation. Talk to Kevin Lambert sometime

about how to moonlight with the choir for a few weeks to find out if singing with us is the right fit for you!

Thank You

Thanks for all the wonderful prayers and cards and the amazing meals arranged by Bill and Linda Marquam. Because of your love and concern my son Darren (who has been caring for me and staying at night) and I feel support and love from all of you. Thank you.

— Sarah Carver

In Our Community

Bus Buddies North Clackamas School District is looking for volunteers to help first graders and kindergarteners learn bus rules and safety for the first three weeks of school. See nclack.k12.or.us/Page/24474, or call Kathy Harrison at 503.353.6019. Let's make riding the school bus easier for our youngest students and support our Bus Drivers!



The Unending Conversation: Progressive Christian Apologetics in the Twenty-First Century September 24-25 at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 NW 19th Ave, Portland. In honor of Canon Theologian Marcus J. Borg, leading scholars John Dominic Crossan, Diana Butler Bass, Jacquie Lewis and Katharine Jefferts Schori address the challenge of progressive apologetics in the contemporary church. Learn more and register at trinity-episcopal.org/events.

Photo Directory Signups



MPC Families and Friends: Signups for portrait sittings for our new photo directory are in progress! We'd love to have all of you - our entire MPC community - take part. We want our new directory to reflect us all -- a snapshot of who we are and what we do in 2015.

Everyone who has their picture taken will receive an 8x10 portrait and a copy of the directory once it's printed. This is at no cost to you. You and your family will also have the opportunity to sit for additional professional portraits so you may purchase something beautiful to frame for yourself. Sign up to have your picture taken on Friday, September 11th and Saturday, September 12th. If those dates don't work for you, there will be make-up dates in mid-October. Timeslots are filling up fast, so get in touch with us soon. Online signups are available during the week, or you can sign up in person on Sundays in the Narthex. Questions? Contact any one of your Directory Team: Jackie Freeman, Mary Kulm, Andi Coover or me.

— Pat Carter

MPC's third annual Craft Fair will be here November 7th!

At the MPC Craft Fair you'll find handmade top-quality crafts and delicious homemade soups and pies. Throughout the day drawings help create high-energy fun. Best of all you'll see lots of people you know - and everyone having a good time!



We are looking for gift baskets to raffle in support of MPC ministries. It's not too early to begin to think of a theme and start to get together supplies. Get together with a buddy/partner/spouse and have fun. The sky's the limit your creativity, but the cost needn't be -- smaller baskets are welcome!

Baskets not your thing? We'll need pies (especially fruit pies) for our Craft Cafe. Last year we sold out 12 donated pies - can we do that again...or better?

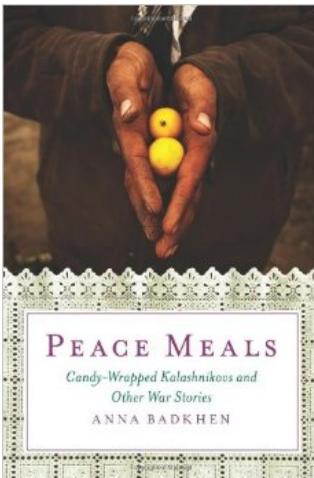
— Pat Carter

Welcome Orange Line!



Come join the neighborhood celebration as the Main Street/Milwaukie Light Rail officially opens up on Saturday, September 12! Volunteers are needed to serve lemonade and ice cream bars in the church parking lot from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. This is a great opportunity to connect with our neighbors! Let Pastor Katie Pate know if you are available to help out (pastor@milwaukiepres.org, 503.654.7782).

Read Eat And Discuss Book Club



READ meets on Sunday evening, October 4th, at the home of Dave and Cynthia DeVore. We will share a potluck meal together at 6 p.m. and discuss the book beginning at 7 p.m. You are all invited and welcome to join us for the meal or just the discussion.

This fall's selection is *Peace Meals* by journalist Anna Badkhen. The most important lesson she has "observed in conflict zones from Afghanistan to Chechnya is that war can kill our friends and decimate our towns, but it cannot destroy our inherent decency, generosity, and kindness—that which makes us human."

— Cherie Kennedy

Session Updates from the August Meeting

- + Session approved the adoption of *A Joyful Path*, new elementary age church school curriculum from The Progressive Christian (see page 5 for more information).
- + Session approved a youth pancake breakfast fundraiser for 8:30 a.m. on September 13th, as well as a Backpack Buddies fundraiser in the month of September.
- + Session received word that the Presbytery's Trustees approved a Park & Ride agreement between MPC and TriMet. Part of MPC's front lot will be a Park and Ride Mon.-Fri., 5 a.m.-7 p.m. The parking lot will be repaved and re-striped in August.
- + Session learned that MPC was awarded a grant from the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs to fund Pastor Katie Pate's sabbatical in summer 2016.
- + Session continues work on a Vision Statement based on information gleaned in Vision Committee meetings and congregational conversations.
- + Memorial gifts given in honor of Harold Kulm were designated to purchase the remaining pieces of a new Nativity set. Memorial gifts given in honor of Bud Burdick will go towards an update the sound system and projector in Schmidt Hall.
- + Other investment earnings on the Battin Bequest were given to the Property Committee to complete the front landscaping (\$900). Money from the Endowment Mission Fund was given to the Outreach Committee (\$5000).

Session Gratitudes:

- + Rusty Garrison, for negotiating the contract with TriMet, and for all of his good work on the grounds
- + John Armentrout, for the School Supply drive, and for keeping new plantings healthy and watered
- + Cheryl Anderson in the Presbytery office, for assisting with the approval of our Park & Ride agreement
- + Mary Surface, Bill and Linda Marquam, for helping to prepare communion
- + Marci Hartson and Dave DeVore, completing their terms on Session
- + Verne Duncan, for all of his activities in the church
- + Marilyn Zetterberg, for providing gorgeous flowers for the Sanctuary
- + Mark Neher, for his patience and guidance in the Vision process
- + Jill Winegar, for all that she does as Treasurer

September Donation Corner

Backpack Buddies - Breakfast for All Campaign

Backpack Buddies is a national grassroots program partnering local churches and service groups with schools to provide extra weekly nutrition for school age children experiencing food insecurity over the weekends.

MPC is in its seventh year in partnership with the Milwaukie Lions Club to bring this program to nearby Oak Grove Elementary. The Lions provide the majority of the funding for the food, with our church packing for weekly delivery to the students and purchasing fresh produce and breakfast to add to the weekly bags.

In the past we have served around 40 students. We suddenly found ourselves serving twice that amount last year. The news does not make us think that number will go down anytime soon. A higher percentage of children live in poverty now than did during the Great Recession, according to a July report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. About 22% of children in the U.S. lived below the poverty line in 2013, compared with 18% in 2008. In 2013, the U.S. Department of Human and Health Service's official poverty line was \$23,624 for a family with two adults and two children.

Funding for 4/5ths of MPC's portion of the program comes from an MPC Endowment Fund Grant. **One-fifth of our budget comes from you, the congregation, during the fall Breakfast for All Campaign.** We are currently accepting cash and food donations. The following items can be brought to church and placed at the donation corner:

- 1-1.5 oz. boxes of raisins
- Packets of instant oatmeal (plain or flavored)
- 9-20 oz. boxed or cello bagged cereal (small enough for a backpack, but bigger than individual size)
- 16-20 oz. plastic jars of peanut butter (light enough for a kindergartner to carry home)



Thank you for helping to give a good nutritional boost to children in need.

— Cynthia DeVore

Giving Update, 2015-2016

As of 7/31/2015	Actual to date	Budget to date	Annual Budget
General Fund Income:	\$27,460.81	\$15,000.00	\$215,000.00
<i>Transfers from Savings:</i>	\$0	\$1,300.00	\$15,600.00
Expenses	\$17,403.41	\$18,623.00	230,600.00
Difference:	\$10,678.93		\$(15,600.00)
Surplus/(Deficit)			

Elders	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Outreach</u>	<u>Christian Enrichment</u>
	Madeline Davis	Linda Marquam	Vacant
	<u>Property</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Stewardship</u>
	Rusty Garrison	Mark Neher	Cherie Kennedy
	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Hospitality</u>	<u>Worship</u>
	Chris Didway	Vacant	Kelley Gutman
	Christopher Jenkins		<u>Finance</u>
			Claire Hobson

Deacons	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
	Kim Adams	Wayne Sabin	Lynette Hall
	Carolee Neighorn	Sarah Carver	Bill Marquam
	Richard Nelson	Tom Muti	Cheryl Decker
	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 October newsletter is September 15.

Send submissions to office@milwaukiepres.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September</h1> <h2>2015</h2>		1 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's	2 5:30 p.m. Slow Church	3 7 p.m. Deacons	4 7 p.m. AA	5
		6 10 a.m. Worship, Doug Vitro preaching 5:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group 7 p.m. High School Youth Group	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's 8:30 a.m. Staff meeting	9 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	10
13 8:30-9:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast 10 a.m. Worship with Communion 11:15 a.m. Church School	14	15 October Newsletter Deadline 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's 8:30 a.m. Staff meeting 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6 p.m. Boy Scouts 7 p.m. Session	16 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	17	18 7 p.m. AA	19
20 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Church School 11:30 a.m. Outreach Committee, Personnel Committee 6 p.m. Youth Bowling @ Kellogg Bowl	21 6 p.m. Boy Scouts	22 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's 7 p.m. Not-just Prayer Shawls	23 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	24	25 7 p.m. AA	26
27 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship, featuring Donut Holes 6 p.m. Cooperative Game Night	28 6 p.m. Boy Scouts	29 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Libbie's	30 5 p.m. Worship Committee 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. You can also find our church calendar online at www.milwaukiepres.org/calendar		