



MPC Highlights

May 2024
Newsletter of Milwaukie Presbyterian Church

Make an Impact at MPC!

by Katie Pate, Pastor

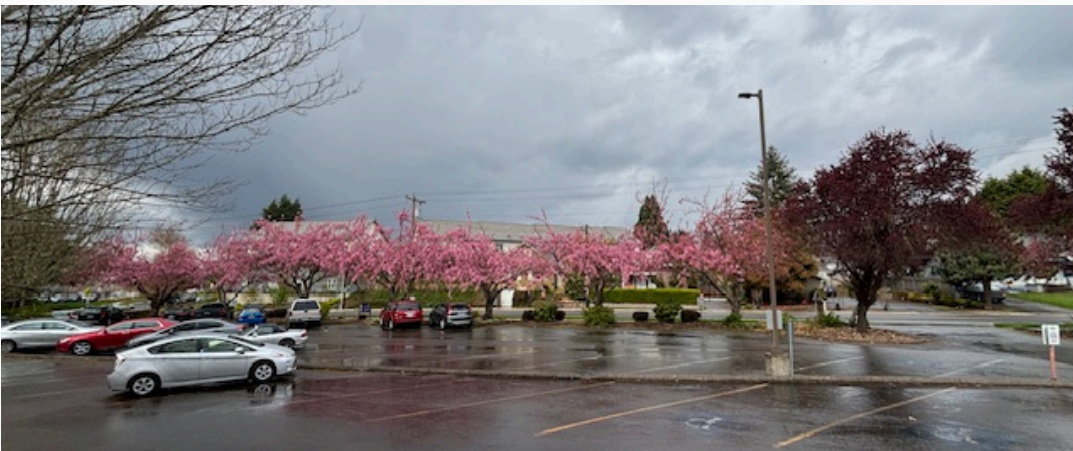
What are the blessings of this current season of our life together?
How do you express gratitude for the gifts in your life?
How do we decide how we will invest our time, energy, and other resources?

Each spring, you are invited to make a pledge to support the ministries of MPC. Our pledges and offerings ensure that MPC has the staff and structure in place to fulfill our shared mission. Our pledges equip and empower MPC to be a justice-seeking, intellectually curious, and inclusive congregation that cares deeply about one another, the Milwaukie community, and the world.



As the Session creates a budget this spring, pledges equal plans. Please consider making a pledge commitment to support MPC's mission and ministries in 2024-2025 and beyond. Every gift makes a difference.

Grace be with you!
Pastor Katie Pate



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FROM STAFF

MPC Choir

by Molly Kerns, Music Director

I love hearing stories of the healing power of music, especially as it relates to memories. As Pastor Katie mentioned in a recent sermon, listening to the music from our teen years can improve our happiness. Listening or playing music can help those working through memory loss. The power of music is strong, especially as we associate it with particular moments in life. This spring, we are lucky to make these musical memories with the tradition of singing “Come to the Water” at baptisms. The Sing One Sunday in April, as well as our upcoming baptism this month, present opportunities to keep this tradition alive.

This month, however, we get to experience the dichotomy of music traditions. In the same month that we carry on the tradition of “Come to the Water,” we will also make new musical memories. We will explore not only a new song, but a new language. You will soon hear a beautiful Hawaiian song about the coming of spring, with the chirping birds. I so appreciate the choir’s willingness to take on new challenges, such as this song. When we do, we open ourselves up to new experiences; we can experience the beauty of poetry such as the translation for our anthem, “E Nānā Kākou I Nā Manu” by Herb Mahelona.

Look at the birds in the sky

High above the earth they fly freely

Look at their soaring.

High above the earth they fly freely.

Be still, be calm (as water)

and we will hear them.

Listen to the song of the birds.

Be still, be calm. They are chirping joyously.

Listen to the chirping of the birds.

Be still, be calm. They are chirping joyously.

I look forward to this spring of new beginnings, continued traditions, and voices raised in song together.

Emergency Assistance Fund

by Melanie Bocek, Office Administrator

Many people in our community are facing overwhelming challenges, whether with finances, housing, physical and mental health, and much more. The Church office receives frequent calls asking for urgent assistance in paying rent and bills, helping with gas or food, or anything at all. While we cannot help everyone in all the ways they need, MPC does offer a valuable service. Our Emergency Assistance Fund supplies \$50 Fred Meyer gift cards which I am able to give to those in need (one per person per year). They can use this for groceries, gas, prescriptions, or anything else available at Fred Meyer.

All change placed in the offering goes to the this fund. You may also make a donation through the regular channels, marking it “Emergency Assistance.” Thank you so much for your generosity and compassion for those who struggle.

OUTREACH AND MISSION UPDATES

One Great Hour of Sharing *by Linda Marquam, Outreach Chair*



Thank you for supporting Presbyterian Disaster Assistance with your donations to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. MPC raised over \$1318 to support international ministries of hunger, disaster relief and self-development of people.

Clackamas Women's Services *by Linda Marquam*



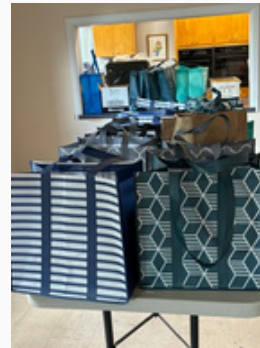
Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to give Clackamas Women's Services \$200 and 11 bags containing:

- 38 toothpastes
- 54 toothbrushes
- 12 flosses
- 27 shampoos
- 9 conditioners
- 12 body lotions
- 19 razors
- 21 bars of soap
- 12 deodorants
- 5 bags of misc toiletries

Backpack Buddies *by Cherie Kennedy*

The supplies on our shelves are running low now, but we will deliver the last full bags for our Head Start families in June. Stay tuned for our campaign to help re-stock the shelves again in the fall! Thanks to everyone who has donated and helped with the Backpack Buddies program this year.

If you would like to volunteer, make a food donation, or if you have any questions, please contact me at clkennedy88@hotmail.com.



SON Thank You

from Peter Rosenblatt, Senior Programs Manager: Homeless Intervention Services & Resident Services and Liaison to SON

Hi, Everybody,

As the 2023-2024 SON season comes to a close I want to take a moment to thank you all for the continued amazing work that you and your congregations did this past year. The trauma of homelessness is extremely taxing on everyone within a family and being able to eat a hot meal together, one prepared for you by others, provides a needed respite from the stress. The work of SON is most meaningful in the ways it shows our households that they are not alone, that they are not forgotten. Thank you all for becoming a part of the community that works together to end homelessness – a hearty thanks indeed.

**Peter will join us on Sunday, June 9 at 11:15 to update us on the state of housing issues in Clackamas County and Annie Ross House/NW Housing Alternatives. This event will be hybrid, so plan to stay after worship that day.*

FELLOWSHIP AND EVENTS

Easter 2024

by Spiritual Formation Committee

Thank you to everyone who helped, hunted eggs, and hippity-hopped all together on Easter. It was a fun day and the celebratory spirit was felt by all!



FELLOWSHIP AND EVENTS

Faith Thru Art

by Katie Pate

A good time was had by all at Faith Thru Art on April 21 after worship. Many thanks to Kelley Gutman for guiding us down new creative and spiritual pathways. This fully hybrid activity was a great way to feel more centered and connected!



Earth Day Cleanup

by Melanie Bocek

Many thanks to the Waldorf School students for their efforts during their annual Earth Day cleanup of our Outdoor Sanctuary. And thank you to Shirley Stageburg, David DeVore, and Jon Cottrell for hosting this event.



FELLOWSHIP AND EVENTS

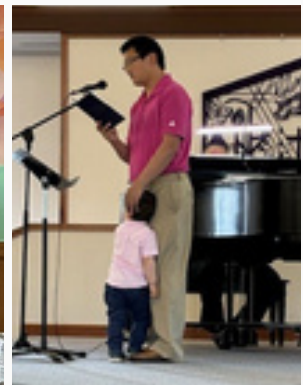
May Day Bouquets

We gathered after worship to make bouquets to take home or to share with a neighbor or friend. Many thanks to all who donated flowers, ribbons, jars, time, talents, and love for this delightful event. Special thanks to the Deacons for envisioning this event - such a fantastic idea!

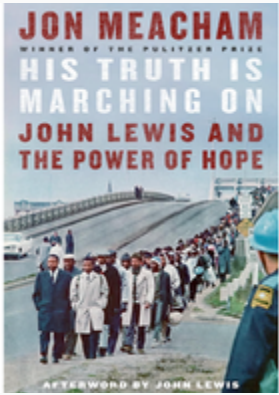


FELLOWSHIP AND EVENTS

Other April Fellowship



FELLOWSHIP AND EVENTS



Courageous Conversations Spring Study

by *Katie Pate, Pastor*

Mondays on Zoom at 7 pm through May 20

Join Courageous Conversations in reading *His Truth Is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope* by Jon Meacham. This book is for sale online and is available from local libraries.

- May 6: Chapter 5
- May 13: Chapter 6
- May 20: Chapter 7 and Epilogue

For more information:

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/606295/his-truth-is-marching-on-by-jon-meacham/>

Stewardship Commitment

Sunday, May 5, 10 am

Town Hall Church Update

Sunday, May 5, after worship

Grab a cup of coffee and gather for an informal time to learn about what's going on at MPC in this season. This event will be accessible online and onsite.

Pentecost Pizza Party at Pietro's

Sunday, May 19, 11:30 am

Pentecost is the unofficial birthday of the church. Come to worship to celebrate the baptism of Brooklynn and Logan Fisher, then gather at Pietro's at 11:30 am for an informal, no-host pizza party to celebrate the gifts of the Spirit.

CALENDAR - MAY 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 12 pm BCG *No Choir*	2	3 7 pm AA	4
5 10 am Worship w/Communion *No Choir* After Worship: Town Hall Church Update 12:30 pm Deacons	6 10 am Personnel Mtg 7 pm Courageous Conversations	7 8 am Men's Group	8 9:30 am Property 12 pm BCG 7 pm Choir	9	10 7 pm AA	11 9 am Second Saturday
12 10 am Worship <i>Mother's Day</i>	13 7 pm Courageous Conversations	14 8 am Men's Group 10:30am Outreach 11:40 am Staff Mtg 12 pm Prayer Shawls 4:30 PM Finance Mtg	15 12 pm BCG 7 pm Choir	16	17 7 pm AA	18
19 10 am Worship w/Sing One Sunday & Baptism 11:30 am Pentecost Pizza Party at Pietro's	20 10 am Personnel Mtg 4 pm Worship Mtg 7 pm Courageous Conversations	21 8 am Men's Group 7 pm Session	22 12 pm BCG 7 pm Choir	23 *Office Closed*	24 7 pm AA	25
26 10 am Worship *No Choir* After Worship: Faith Thru Art	27 *Office Closed*	28 8 am Men's Group	29	30	31 7 pm AA	

Zoom meeting login and links:

[Worship Services](#) (Meeting ID: 309 450 149, Passcode: 940126)

[Bible Conversation Group](#) (Meeting ID: 839 8936 5187, Passcode: 216802)

[Courageous Conversations](#) (Meeting ID: 892 3674 0770, Passcode: 686553)