



MERCER ISLAND  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

## March Events

**March 2, 9, 16**

Bible Study &  
Soup Supper  
6:30pm—8pm

**March 13**

Daylight Savings  
Time Begins

**March 20**



**March 25**



Service 7:00pm



**March 27**

9:30am Egg hunt  
10am Easter brunch  
11am Festive service

# Passing It On

March 2016

## From Pastor John

A Sunday school teacher asked her class to write one sentence on *What Easter Means to Me*. One student wrote: “Egg salad sandwiches for the next two weeks!” Our risen Christ stays with us not just for two weeks; the risen Christ is with us always and forever! We have Eternal Life through the risen Christ.

One meaning of Easter applies for those of us who have lost loved ones, which is one of the greatest tragedies we ever have to endure. If death were the complete end, it would be tragic and sad indeed. Easter faith tells us that death is not the end. Easter is about acknowledging life will go on through Christ.

Another meaning of Easter is the risen Christ who overcame the power of death entering our life which provides us with a new higher quality of life. In one story a man of great wealth visits a rabbi and confesses that secretly, despite his riches, he is miserable. The rabbi asks him what he sees when he looks out the window, and the man tells him, “People. People walking by.” Then the rabbi asks what he sees in the mirror, and the man says, “I see myself.” The rabbi says, “Perhaps that is the problem. Notice that in the window there is glass, and in the mirror there is glass, too. But as soon as a little silver is added to the mirror, you cease to see others and see only yourself.”

To live in joy on the day of resurrection is to have a resurrection in the quality of our lives. The risen Christ breaks the attachment we have with our idols—wealth, status, greed, self-pride, shame, security... The resurrection is a new life experience that releases those strong attachments that keep us from being able to experience the ever-present God. We all can rise and come out of the tombs that imprison us. Our risen Christ calls us to renew our calling to give hope and help to those who live in darkness. The risen Christ offers us eternal life and improved quality of life. The journey of faith is not always an easy one; however, God’s eternal loving presence is always with us, guiding us and giving us promises for our life.

*Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!*

Peace and grace,  
Pastor John



## Rethink Church



### Open Hearts

Our hearts are full of love for our local communities and our world. Our service reflects that love.



### Open Minds

We all think in different ways. But when we work together to serve others we share a common goal.



### Open Doors

Our doors swing wide, not just to let others in but so that we can all get out to serve our community.

## MIUMC Leadership Administrative Council

### Chairpersons

Bill Blakney and Chick Hodge

Pastor - John Chae  
Secretary - Judith Hullin  
Diana Blakney  
Linda Hodge  
Sanny Bold  
Dave Hullin  
Carla Neames  
Jim Maners (at-large)

## Newsletter Information

*Passing It On* is published the first working day of the month. Submit items and ideas to [miumc@hotmail.com](mailto:miumc@hotmail.com).

# We Celebrate Our Glorious Spring

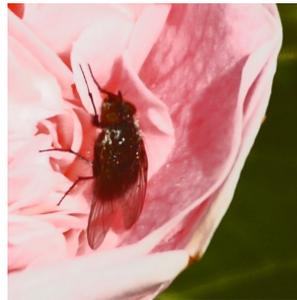


In his book, *Soul Keeping*, John Ortberg, makes this declaration: *God wants to make every moment of [our] life glorious with his presence.* He goes on to say that God wants to *fill our souls with beauty, splendor, wonder and magnificence.* And since not every day can be an Easter morning experience, we are left to find the beauty and glory around us in our everyday world. That splendor greets us each time we come to our church grounds and behold the beauty of the new growth that has begun this month.

Below, Darolyn Quayle, our church photographer, has captured for us a sample of God's gifts of nature found right here on our MIUMC grounds.



*For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.*  
—Song of Solomon 2:11-12



*The beautiful spring came; and when nature resumes her loveliness, the human soul is apt to revive also.* —Harriet Ann Jacobs



*Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time.*  
—Martin Luther