



MERCER ISLAND
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

May Events

May 8



Mother's Day

May 15

**MI Youth &
Family Services
program here/
Pass It On meal**

Pentecost



May 30

Memorial Day



Passing It On

From Pastor John

May is the month of *Christian Home and Family*. During May, let us keep in mind our homes and family because they are important gifts in our lives.

Recently I've noticed people using magnifying lenses to see the print in newspapers, books, and other reading material. These lenses help them see the small print, and is a very helpful tool. We can also magnify the world around us for a larger view. At times we want to see ourselves in a bigger role and more important. In our minds we are using "magnifying thoughts" about ourselves. If this becomes a habit, seeing ourselves puffed up in an unnatural way, it becomes unhealthy. It brings about self-centeredness. We only see what we have accomplished and ignore the achievements and efforts of others. We put down the good things that other people have done.

We must somehow turn our "magnifying lenses" to look outward at the accomplishments in others. We then become humble and appreciative of others and bring about harmony. This is a virtue that blesses our homes, our church, and our community.

For example, take someone person who experiences sorrow and sees only that sorrow through their magnifying glass, thinking they are the unhappiest person in the world. They are so wrapped up in their sadness and self-pity that they cannot see any good coming from it. When we listen to their story we sense there are still many blessings surrounding them, but they don't see these gifts. Their magnifying lenses are focused only on their unhappiness and self-pity. This happens also if they receive criticism over a minor thing and enlarge it with magnifying lenses. It is hard for them to accept helpful criticism, and they put their defenses up, get angry, and overreact.

To keep peace, love, and harmony in our homes and our community of faith, we need wisdom to look at things without magnifying them, keeping them in the proper perspective. Instead of dwelling on our own pain, with a shift in the angle of the lenses we can bring comfort and be there for other people who are hurting. Instead of our enlarged self-centered pride, we can encourage others.

Sometimes we don't need glasses to see others: *Soon after our last child left home for college, my wife was resting next to me on the couch with her head in my lap. I carefully removed her glasses. 'You know, honey,' I said sweetly, 'without your glasses you look like the same beautiful young woman I married.' 'Honey,' she replied with a grin, 'without my glasses, you still look pretty good too!'"*

Let us look at others with a magnifying glass to find the accomplishments they have done. With this new angle, we make our relationships peaceful and full of harmony.

May God bless your family.

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.

Doers of the Word Behind the Scenes at MIUMC



A surprise birthday celebration for Darolyn Quayle. The 3 candles represent all the blessings Darolyn brings to MIUMC: past, present and future.



Pastor John takes a moment to help with cleaning duties.

Ikebana Seattle Chapter Enjoys Our Fellowship Hall



Ikebana Chapter Meeting



Ikebana is a learning organization

Mercer Island Youth & Family Services

Representatives will be with us in worship on May 15 to talk about MI Youth & Family Services' program. A Pass It On meal to benefit this organization will follow at noon.

In Our Garden This Month

