

October
2021

Doers of the Word

Newsletter

MERCER ISLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER — October

I am reading a book by Adam Hamilton, "Finding Gray in a World of Black and White." It seems to me to be very appropriate for these times.

Are We Listening?

In a world so polarized politically, spiritually, and now medically, Adam gives us ways to find a level of peace

One of the chapters in this book is about listening. Not just letting someone talk, but really listening with an open mind. A wise friend once said that active listening is not just parroting back what someone has said, but being open to have your mind changed.

Adam concludes this chapter with the following:

"Hope is not found in people on both sides shouting their views louder, but in people learning to listen, and actually hear what others are saying. Seeing gray in a world of black and white requires a willingness to risk, a self-confidence that allows you to not be driven by fear, and most important, a willingness to listen."

Thank you to Adam Hamilton for these thought-provoking words.

- Linda Hodge, Lay Leader

Upcoming events & meetings

- **Prayer Vigil**, Oct. 1 (Friday) at 11am. In the Sanctuary.
- **World Communion Sunday**, Oct 3 (Sunday) at 11am.
- **Celebration of Life for Jerry Bertenshaw**, Oct 9 (Sat.) at 11am., Calvary Christian Assembly
- **Gift Card Drive (All In for MIY&FS)**, Oct 17 (Sunday) at 11am.
- **Newsletter articles & pictures** for November due by October 25 (Monday).
- **Administrative Council**, Oct. 26 (Tuesday) at 11am. In the Church Library
- **Outdoor Movie Night**, Oct. 30 (Saturday) will begin at dusk.
- **2021 Charge Conference**, November 19 (Friday) from 6:30 to 8:30pm.

FROM THE PASTOR:

A Person with Integrity

There is a wealthy man in the Bible story named Job residing in an area called Uz with his extended family and vast flocks. He is described as "a man who was honest, a person of absolute integrity; he feared God and avoided evil." [Job 1:1, Common English Bible]

One day, this Job is given four reports, each informing him that his sheep, servants, and ten children have all died due to thieving intruders and natural disasters. Job rips his clothes and shaves his head in sorrow, yet he still praises God in his prayers. In today's passage, Job is distressed with terrible skin sores. Even his wife urges him to denounce God and to give up and die. What would you do if you were in such a circumstance that Job was facing?

Over the month of October, let us read together about this man with integrity. What must we learn from Job and how can we respond to unexpected suffering in the midst of our faith journeys?

Pastor John

Pastor John Go

Oct. 3 Job 1:1, 2:1-10
"A Person with Integrity"

Oct. 10 Job 23: 1-9
"Where is God when Bad Things Happen?"

Oct. 17 Job 38: 1-7
"How Great Thou Art!"

Oct. 24 Job 42: 1-6
"Now I Have Seen You, Lord!"



The Celebration for Jerry Burtenshaw's Life will be held on October 9th(Sat.) at 11am, Calvary Christian Assembly (6801 Roosevelt Way NE Seattle)

The Celebration for Karen Dunning's Life will be early Saturday afternoon (Time TBA) on October 23 at Mercer Island United Methodist Church.

Outdoor Movie Night

Will resume October 30th. Bring your neighbors and a lawn chair or blanket. Movie snacks and hot chocolate and apple cider provided. Movie will begin at dusk

Charge Conference

will be done through Zoom on November 19, 2021, 6:30-8:30 P.M. The first hour will be for SPRC only. Others will join at 7:30P.M.

...Do not forget
my Teaching,
But keep my commands in
your heart for they will
prolong your life for many
years and bring you
Peace & Prosperity
Proverbs 3:1-2

Youth & Young Adult Gathering

5P.M. Every Saturday

We are trying to create a safe, secure and sacred space for everyone to learn from the Bible stories and to share our stories in faith journey.

Everyone Welcome!

Ready for the New Season



Tuesday Fellowship celebrated birthdays of their members (Dave Hullin, Becky Dudley) with blessings and strawberry cake on their birthdays.



A few solar powered outdoor lights were added to brighten the season of fall and winter

Our sanctuary roof is ready for a new wet season as a couple of spots needed some immediate attention.

Thank you, John Zhang for the timely arrangement through Solomon Roof.



Fall Mission Opportunities

Gift Card Drive ALL IN FOR MIY&FS

The MIY&FS is in need of gift cards from our local grocery stores to help feed the hungry among our neighbors here on Mercer Island.

Their local food pantry is still unable to be open to in-person service.

Please consider purchasing a gift card in any amount and these will be dedicated on **Sun Oct 17** before being delivered to MIY&FS.

Thanking you for your donation to support those in need.

Dick and Becky Dudley





Special thanks to Dave & Judith Hullin for beautifying our church campus with the arrangement of a trimming project through Bartlett Tree Experts. and also a year long commitment to hire Jacob's landscaping serve.

Pastor John said, "As soon as we trimmed up the trees and made the church more visible and there we have had visitors come to worship every single Sunday!"

Also we appreciate Linda Hodge's leadership on 'the Wednesday Weeders' and every weeder's diligent work throughout the 2021 calendar year. We all meet

I hope you have had a chance to drive by the church and see all the changes that have taken place over the summer. The trees have been trimmed, opening up a wonderful space beneath them, where we hope to make a trail for a prayer walk.

Soon there will be a new wooden bench installed as an Eagle Scout project by Kai Smith, a place for the children and their parents to sit as they wait for the school bus. The dead madrone tree on the west side of the sanctuary has been removed. The sign in front of the fellowship hall is being relocated so landscaping can take place behind it, with perhaps the addition of a Peace Pole. We hope to have a Little Free Library soon.

The church yard has seen much pruning and weeding by the Wednesday Weeders. A big thank you to all who have contributed to this work of creating beauty to lift our spirits and honor our God.

The COVID pandemic has not kept us down. We are planning for a bright future to come sometime soon, all in God's time.

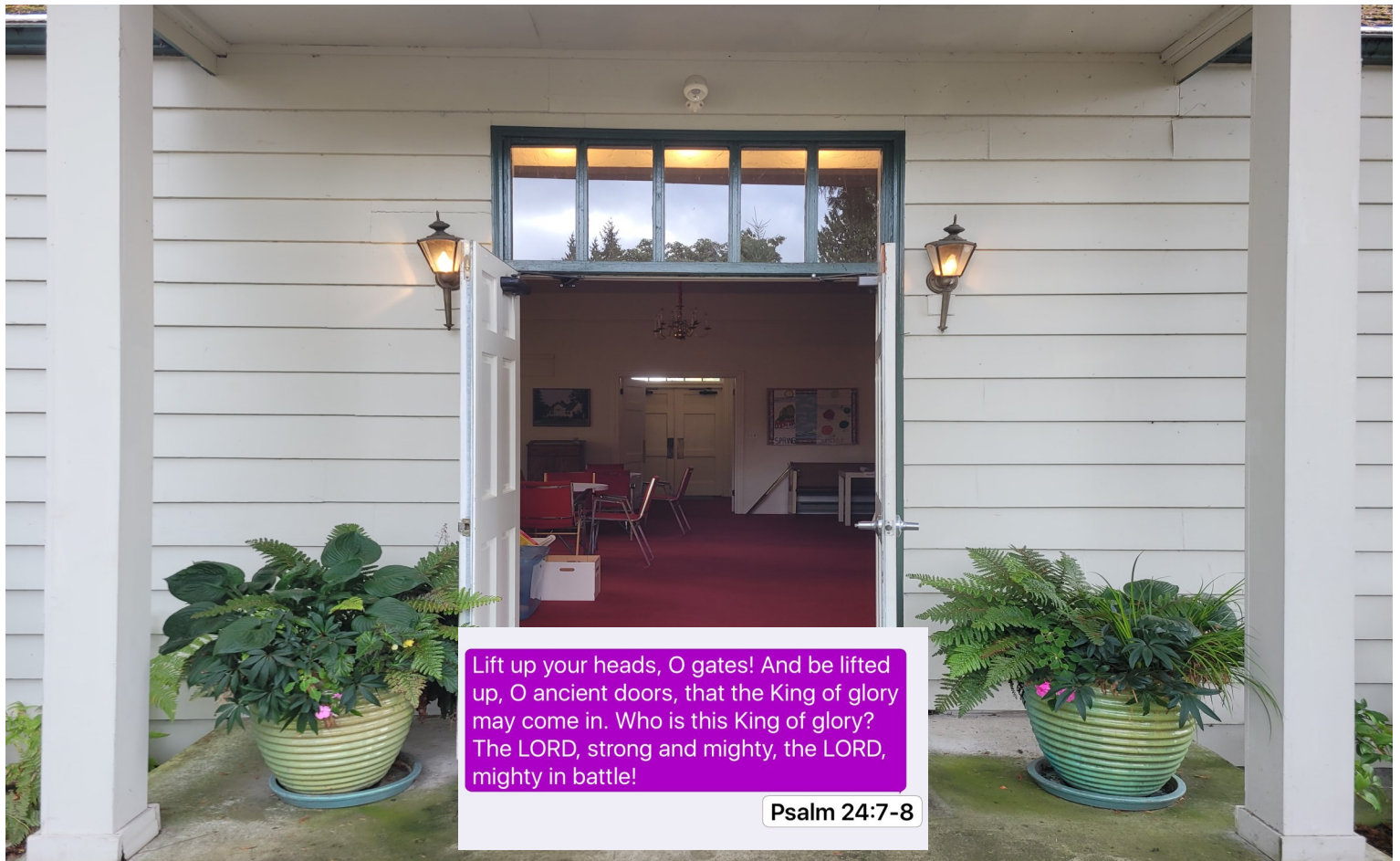
Carol Mariano, Administrative Council Chair



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Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

Psalm 24:7-8