

Newsletter

MERCER ISLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER — May 2022

Something Beautiful



Somewhere in our storage closet stands a wooden cross covered with chicken wire. Once a year, at Easter, that cross stands in our sanctuary and later in the Church garden for a few days.

“Something beautiful, something good...All I had to offer God was brokenness and strife, but God made something beautiful of my life ...”

[United Methodist Hymnal 394]

But somehow that old wooden cross looks different. It is still a cross, but now it is beautiful. We have placed, one by one, green leaves and colorful flowers in the chicken wire so that the cross is transformed into something new, a symbol of resurrection.

In the same way we can help transform something barren into something beautiful. When we build a tiny home we help restore new life into a homeless person. When we visit a lonely patient in the hospital we instill hope with that connection. And when a loved one dies, our faith reassures us that even though death is real, like the wood in the cross, new life is the beautiful reality. That new life, like the blossoms on our cross, brings us peace and joy.

-Linda Hodge, Lay Leader

Upcoming events & meetings

May 1st Holy Communion during Worship at 11am.

May 5th Tiny Home Dedication ceremony from noon-3pm at Southend Village across from Rainer Beach Station

May 8th Mother's Day Sunday

June 5th Pentecost Sunday Worship at 11am

June 7th 2022 Baccalaureate at 6pm in our Sanctuary



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FROM THE PASTOR:

“I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

[John 10:10]

“*The Mission of Motherhood*”

The month of May has captured many memorable moments in my life. As I grew up in South Korea, the month of May was designated to the family. There is the Children’s Day that opens the month of May and the Parents’ Day follows, and then the Teachers’ Day. These holidays are still recognized in South Korea in the month of May.

I remember to buy two corsages of red carnations for the first time for my parents on the 8th day of May. I had to save my allowance from the previous month to purchase them and sang the song about ‘Sacrificial Love’ of the parents. Because of this significant childhood memory, Mother’s Day in the U.S. has never been foreign to me, but it’s never been easy to celebrate it with our mothers (my mother and Mia’s mother) who’re living 6,000 miles away.

A setting of the local church has been a wonderful way to celebrate Mother’s Day without my mother, but with many mothers in the church family. Indeed, I feel more strongly about ‘Motherhood’ throughout the faith community where I am currently serving, because that is the purpose of the church: nurturing those who search for the true ‘Love’ and providing ‘Safe, Secure, and Sacred Space’ for those who would be considered as the least, the lost, and the last in this challenging world.

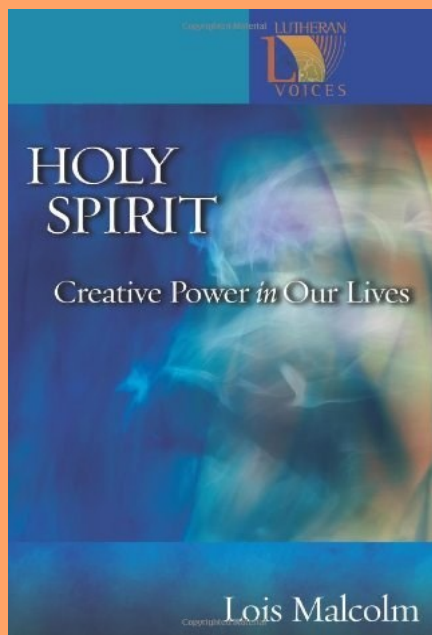
Any churches who are desiring to be ‘Missional’ need to be rekindled by this mission of Motherhood because we are sent to live in God’s world to love people there like “a hen gathers her chicks under her wings.” [Matthew 23:37] I think that’s how we want to be a missional church in today’s world and that would be our call to serve our community like a mother who does share her love and grace to her children. What a wonderful month it is to remember ‘Love of God’ through many angels of God who are called ‘Mother’ amongst us. Happy Mother’s Day to all who share ‘Motherhood’ to the world today!

John Go, Pastor

Adult Sunday School

We’re having a new book on May 8th, and Dr. Vince will lead discussions about “Who is the Holy Spirit? How does the Spirit work in our lives as individuals, families, communities, and in the world at large?, etc.”

Sunday School starts at 9:45am and the copies of ‘Holy Spirit’ will be available for you to buy in the class.



AMAZING
LOVING ♥
STRONG
♥ HAPPY ♥
SELFLESS
GRACEFUL

Lectionary Sermon Scriptures of May 2022:

May 1

John 21: 1—19

“Do You Love Me?”

May 8

John 10:22-30

May 15

John 13:31-35

May 22

John 14:23-29

May 29

John 17:20-26

June 5

John 14:8-17, Acts 2:1-21

The 2022 HOLY WEEK is more colorful than ever before

On Palm Sunday, we shouted out 'Hosanna! (Save Us)' with prayerful messages on our palm branches.



On Maundy Thursday with many paintings by Vincent van Gogh we reflected on his life and faith.



On Good Friday we were invited to the contemporary 'Stations of the Cross' with medication & prayers



On the Left: Prayers for Peace in Ukraine at the Town center on Mercer Island.

On the Right: On Earth Day, crowds gathered at Seward Park sending out their messages to President Biden and to the world





Birthday Girls in April:
Happy and blessed birth-
days to Helen Shewmaker
& Gloria Go!

Eagle Scout Project,
accomplished by
Kai Smith:
Thank you &
Congratulations!



Easter Morning Worship led by the Choir's procession
& anthems



The picture of flowery cross taken by
Carla Corkern in Easter morning worship



The Sign (Flowery Cross) of the Good News
carried out by Bev & Jason on Easter morning!



Doers of the Word



Praise be to God for the generous donors who raised \$5,300 that was dedicated to the 'YESIREE' tiny home which we started building on March 31. Special thanks to all who joined the team, building 4 walls at Hope Factory, making curtains, and supporting finance and prayers.



The Dedication Ceremony is scheduled for May 5th from noon to 3 pm at the Southend Tiny Home Village right across from the Rainer Beach Station.

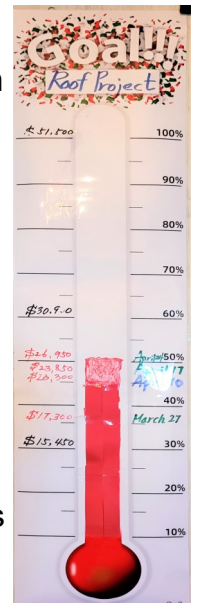
Our next team trip to build another tiny home at Hope Factory will be July 28th(Thursday). In the meantime, you can email to Sound Foundations(SoundFoundationsNW@gmail.com) or click the link below to sign up individually to volunteer there:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4eacaf2aa0f4c52-builders37>



Our Roof Replacement Project has just started on May 4th. Crews from 'Pro Roofing' tore off the old shingles, replaced a few pieces of the rotten plywood, and covered the Fellowship hall building with waterproof roof runner underlayment.

We thank for all your effort to raise this Project Fund over the last two months. So far we have raised \$26,950 which is over 50% of the entire project amount (\$51,500). Thank you, thank you and thank you!



Please continue to pray for the successful and safe replacements for both buildings and to support making our space to be safe, secure, and sacred for our local and global communities.



On June 7th, we're hosting the 2022 Baccalaureate in our church. It is one of the significant and traditional events on Mercer Island led by the MIHS PTA baccalaureate committee sponsored by the MI clergy association.

We will hear from the 2022 class graduates from all different faith backgrounds about how their faith has shaped and continues to guide their life journeys.

There will be special musical performances and also messages to the 2022 graduates and their parents. All are welcome to attend and cheer for them with your wishes and blessings.

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