

Newsletter

MERCER ISLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER — Summer 2022

Baccalaureate

At a dark time in a world full of war, shootings, floods, wildfires, and bigotry, a ray of sunshine came to our community.

Baccalaureate! On June 7 MIUMC hosted the ceremony for the Mercer Island graduating class. Our sanctuary was full of enthusiasm, optimism, and joy as more than 30 seniors and their friends and families shared in the Baccalaureate service. The youth who spoke expressed a sincere dedication to their faith. It was impressive to hear their commitment and positive outlook for the future.

While I am pleased that our church provided the space for that event, I hope we will continue to support the youth in our community and beyond. I hope we can find ways to encourage, nurture, and perhaps mentor these future leaders in our midst.

Could we host a scout troop?

Could we provide space for music classes?

How about an after school snack and homework time in our Fellowship Hall?

Or just let some kids hang out in our safe building?

As “Doers of the Word” I pray that we will increasingly look for ways to use our resources to empower and affirm children and youth with our love and support.

-Linda Hodge, Lay Leader

VISIT US ONLINE miumc.org

Upcoming events & meetings

July 3rd Holy Communion Service during Sunday morning worship at 11am.

July 4th Independence Day.

July 10th Sunday morning worship with Youth.

July 17th Sunday morning worship with the Wednesday Weeders.

July 23rd-25th Mission U @ Wesley UMC in Yakima.

July 26th Administrative Council at 11am in the church library.

July 28th Tiny Home Project from 9am to 3pm at Hope Factory.

August 7 Holy Communion Service during Sunday morning worship at 11am.

August 14 Sunday morning worship with a Guest Speaker.

August 21 Outdoor worship service at the Church garden.



FROM THE PASTOR:

“When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, ‘The Lord indeed is God; the Lord indeed is God.’” [1 Kings 18: 39].

I believe that receiving the power of the Holy Spirit is not something that we are supposed to do: perform miracles like Prophet Elijah did, but it is God’s heart and desire for us that is to walk in God’s strength and power.

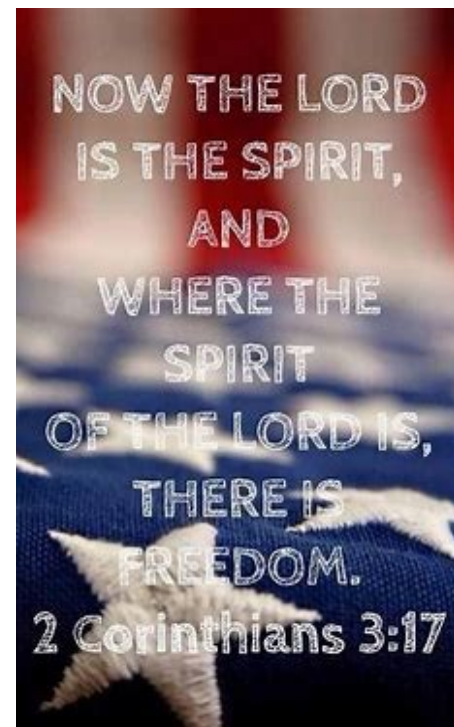
So, living in the power of God is to live a life for God’s heart and desire also. However, this power that the Holy Spirit gives us is not just for our own benefit, but is for the benefit of the people of God.

The true miracle is that people start to recognize God’s presence even in their fearful and challenging circumstances. And the true miracle is that people would change their hearts and turn their lives back to godly living through our example of courage and faithfulness.

God wants us to desire more of the Holy Spirit in our lives, who guides us and sustains the gifts we have already been given. Then, how can we connect and reconnect to the power of our God? It is a gift that we are able to walk with our God in our daily life. Is there anyone who is to contest against the world, the worldly patterns and power, like Prophet Elijah? Is there anyone of you who is in fear and hesitates to speak up for the truth?

Please know that you have already received the power through the Holy Spirit who is at your side and who is your helper and advocate for you. And be faithful to God’s heart and desire so that our God may empower you to walk in God’s power each and everyday.

Love & hope, *John Go*, pastor



Lectionary Sermon Scriptures of July & August

July 3

2 Kings 5: 1—14

“A Gift of the Holy Spirit”

July 10

Amos 7:7-17

July 17

Amos 8:1-12

July 24

Hosea 1:2-10

July 31

Hosea 11:1-11

August 7

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

August 14

Isaiah 5:1-7

August 21

Jeremiah 1:4-10

August 28

Jeremiah 2:4-13



Twenty-third Psalm for Hikers

By Carol Mariano

*The LORD is my trail guide I shall not get lost.
God leads me in pathways that test my
courage and develop my strength.
God reveals to me sudden vistas that take my*

breath away—

*Vast sweeping mountainsides, snow covered peaks,
Deep silken lakes, wide meadows carpeted with lupine,
Rocks bigger than a house that let me rest in shade,
Crisp needled trees where birds and chipmunks hide,
Grasses waving in the breeze.*

*The LORD sings in my soul songs of encouragement and peace,
Reminding me of God’s amazing power to create.*

Even though the way is hard,

With steep descents and brutal climbs,

With drop-offs where one false step would bring me my demise,

I will not fear, but keep my eyes on the pathway

And move carefully, one step at a time,

Until I come to the safety of the camp.

I know that you are with me as I walk the way

And feel your hand on mine upon my trekking poles.

I come to patches of sweet huckleberries and stop to savor them.

Flashing sunlit creeks in soft green moss

Remind me to refill my water bottle.

Surely such goodness as this will continue to nourish my soul

Throughout my life, and even my death



It is a joyful reminder that “Jesus loves you BUT I am his favorite.” Happy birthday to you, Sulmo Mariano and Linda Hodge!!!
 May God continue to bless your journey and bring you health and strength!

Beverly Parker is now in her new room (Rm#211) on the 2nd floor of Aegis. When Bob visits her mom (almost everyday), he shares his homemade cookies which makes her smile.



Mother’s Day corsages were prepared by the Youth group to present to our oldest member of MIUMC, Ann Knoll, and all mothers and mother figures.



Grace and her friend’s music group and UNICEF club in Mercer Island High School made a cooperated music event to raise funds for Ukrainian families and children. The MIUMC family was a big part of supporters and they raised over \$5,000 on that night. Thank you all for your generosity!



Hosting the 2022 Baccalaureate brought great smiles, meeting our community members, and also a hope for the world through our young leaders from faith communities on Mercer Island.



Our 'Roof Project' is now completed!

So far we have raised and reached over 60% of the entire project amount.

Thank you for your ongoing support! Let us make these buildings be a conduit of God's blessing to all!

On Pentecost Sunday 2022, we wore 'Orange' which has become the defining color of the gun violence prevention movement. Therefore, it is our prayer to the Holy Spirit:



“Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.”

-United Methodist Hymn by Sy Miller & Jill Jackson



Congratulations the class of 2022! We give thanks to God for Kendal Toy and Colton Bold who graduated this year from their colleges. May our Lord bless them, keep them, and guide them for their new adventures!

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky and District Superintendent Rev. Derek Nakano announced pastor John's another year of serving at MIUMC during the 2022 PNW Annual Conf.

Doers of the Word

Sound Foundation NW



It's time to mark your calendar for the date!

Our next trip to 'Hope Factory' to build tiny homes is scheduled on July 28th (Thursday) from 9am to 3pm.

It's a great opportunity to meet Barbara, director of the Hope Factory, and to learn more about her vision and mission through 'Tiny Homes Projects' & 'Tiny House Villages' around the Seattle area.

We have only 12 spots as a group, so please contact Pastor John (miumc@hotmail.com) to reserve your spot, and also reach out to Dick (mddudley@comcast.net) for more info and details including his working experience in Hope Factory.



Madrona Lodge Renovation

CAMP INDIANOLA

One of the Pacific Northwest Conference camps has a major renovation project and reached out to us to be a partner with their mission.

Madrona Lodge is one of the most popular buildings at Camp Indianola. It works great for adult groups, who love the semi-private rooms

and the common spaces. However, even though the building has served us very well for the past 40 years, it is no longer up to guest groups' standards. After its renovation, Madrona Lodge will be served as a beloved building to better meet the needs of our retreat groups. Here are a few words from Colin who visited us Sunday morning in May:

"At Camp Indianola, we are transforming lives of all ages and abilities, and fostering sacred and holy encounters with Christ. We lay the groundwork for moments of inspiration to life-changing experiences. Your gifts help to make this possible. On behalf of all campers, we thank you for your support." -Colin Cushman, Director of Camp Indianola

For more info or to donate, visit the following: www.campindianola.org/madrona-renovation or mail a check to MIUMC with 'Madrona Lodge Renovation' in the memo.



Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities of Hope and Joy

Great news— COMMUNITY is God's desire for us! Please join us at Mission u 2022 as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be!

The dates for Mission u are fast approaching. It will be at **Yakima: Wesley United Methodist Church July 22-24**. Mission u is a PNW event offered cooperatively by the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church and the National Division of United Women in Faith (UMW). Rev. Carol Mariano is the dean, and Pastor John Go and Gloria will be leading the singing.

This year, as we study Luke 13, we find ourselves in a period of disruption and uncertainty. In the midst of a devastating pandemic, divisive political climate, unaddressed systemic racism, ecological crises and economic turmoil, we turn to the stories of Jesus that have anchored Christian communities for two millennia.

Our hope is that we will leave Mission u with a bigger and broader vision of the community Christ is calling us to be in times of loss, grief and massive disruption. What would be possible if we tend to the needs of our communities in small yet radical ways, as Jesus did in Luke 13?

Our newly designed Mission u 2022 is more flexible and intergenerational than ever— with curricula for youth, children and adults focused on the 13th chapter of the Gospel of Luke.

Here is the curricula we will be using.

Who Can We Be Together? (Adult)

Community in the Midst of Challenging Times (Youth)

Our Growing Tree

From Self-Love to the Beloved Community and All of God's Creation (Children)

We will stay in local hotels and meet at the church for catered meals and the program. COVID protocols will be observed as outlined by Yakima County. For a detailed description of program offerings and leadership and to register go to pnwumc.org/uwfaith/ or talk to Carol Mariano or Pastor John.

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