



MERCER ISLAND  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH  
NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2019

## APRIL CALENDAR

*April 14th*



*April 19th*



*April 21st  
Easter Sunday*



FROM PASTOR JOHN



The first Disciples of Christ, who had great first hand experiences of miracles, hopes, and dreams with Jesus, were frightened and insecure. The horrible memory of the crucifixion and the rumor of an empty tomb kept them from showing their faces in Jerusalem. They

huddled in a room and locked the door. Fear immobilized those first disciples. We are sometimes locked up by our fears. Many people are suffering from a bad case of the what if's and I'm afraid to's. People are locked in fear. The dream that Jesus had awoken in them had come to nothing.

The good news is that the Risen Christ broke into the locked room of those first disciples and sought to dispel their fear, insecurity and suspicion. The disciples were being transformed; from fearful to peaceful, from spectators to witness, from powerless to powerful, from vacillating to authoritative. They breathed the breath of Christ; they felt God's forgiveness, God's peace uniting them, with him, with one another.

They reached out to enfold one another in a circle of reunion. Christ breathed on the disciples and began forming them into a new creation, and a new kind of existence with a new sense of community.

As we claim our faith in the resurrection of the body of Christ, we come to see the event of Resurrection as a reality of everyday life. We are called to break through all the boundaries. We are called to create love that allows the weakest among us to live well. We are called to go far beyond the place where people are greedy for control. This Easter season, we celebrate becoming true companions by breaking down all the barriers, and opening the doors for the future.

Easter time is an exciting season in the life of the church. It has helped us to celebrate the power and meaning of the resurrection for a sustained period time rather than for one day only. May our celebration of this Easter season allow us to experience the resurrection and to live a resurrected life.

**Happy Easter!**

Pastor John

## AROUND THE CHURCH

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."

**John 21:15**



The Pass It On Meal to raise funds for our Tiny House Project was very successful. Thank you to all who donated, the Womens Group for providing the delicious meal, and the many helpful hands who participated in the organization and clean up! Construction is scheduled to start April 3<sup>rd</sup>.



The back story of how we (Building Dreams) hooked up with MIUMC is that Carol Mariano heard of us through the Conference promotion by DS Rich Lang who put a letter out in his blog in Cross Connections. Carol and I met in December and she set me up with Dick Dudley and Tom & Mariane Kofler in late January. Together we set this project in motion. MIUMC raised the funds, Building Dreams organized the build, and over the next few weeks the Tiny House will be created and then picked up and delivered to one of LIHI's tiny house villages.

**Dale Hoff**



### 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)

# AROUND THE CHURCH (cont'd)

## Open Hearts



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

## Open Minds

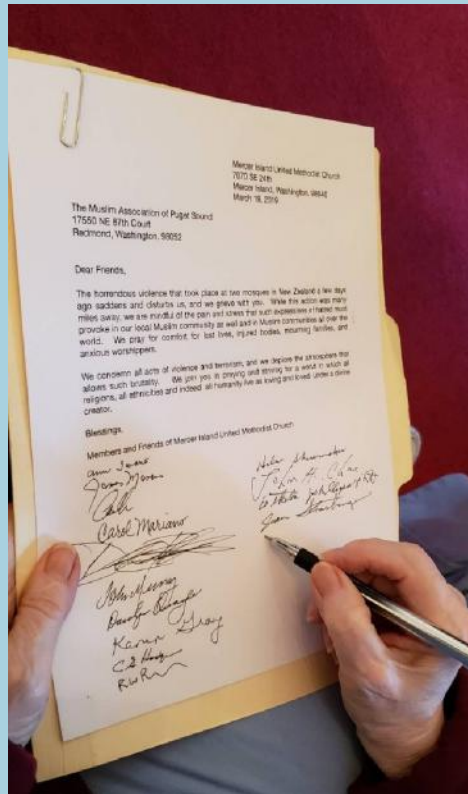


We all think in different ways. But when we work together to serve others we share a common goal.

## Open Doors



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



The horrendous violence that took place at two mosques in New Zealand a few days ago saddens and disturbs us, and we grieve with the victim and their families.

Members of the Mercer Island United Methodist Church signed a letter which was sent to the Council on American-Islamic Relations in Seattle as well as The Muslim Association of Puget Sound in Redmond, and we join them in praying and striving for a world in which all religions, all ethnicities and indeed all humanity live as loving and loved under a divine creator.

# AROUND THE CHURCH (cont'd)

## OUR NEW PASTOR

Change is always with us, especially if we're Methodists!

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky has announced the appointment of Rev. John Go to be our pastor on the retirement of Pastor John in July, 2019. Rev. Go is a graduate of Kangnam University in Yongin, South Korea, and from the theological school there. He also holds a Master of Divinity degree from Drew Theological School, a Methodist seminary in Madison, New Jersey.

Rev. Go and wife, Mia, are the parents of two young daughters, Grace, aged 13 and Gloria, aged 9. Mrs. Go will graduate this spring from the Methodist school, Garret Evangelical Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. The family will live in our parsonage here on 24th street.

Those of us who met Rev. Go last week were impressed with his warm and friendly personality and the depth of his commitment to his calling. As we prepare with love, gratitude and sadness to say goodbye to Pastor John and Regina, we can look forward to welcoming Rev. Go and his family to our congregation.

**Dottie Hughes**  
**Administrative Council**

\*\*\*\*\*

- **SAVE THE DATE FOR MIUMC's Easter Sunday Breakfast! Once again it will take place at 10 am on Easter Sunday. The Egg Hunt will follow at 10:30 am. Easter Service will begin at 11 am.**
- **The next meeting of the Administrative Council is scheduled for Sunday, April 28th, 2019, following the worship service. Damon Plackis will begin his tenure as chair of the council at that time. Everyone is welcome to attend.**

**Dottie Hughes**  
**Administrative Council**

## 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.