



FROM PASTOR JOHN



“So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they proclaimed the word of God...”
Acts 13: 4-5

“Faith is A Journey Not a Destination”

I’ve found a memorable artwork downstairs in our fellowship hall. It says, “Faith is A Journey not a Destination.” Surely, this statement applies to me and my family who moved around a few different places for the last 17 years. After Mia and I came from South Korea in 2002, we lived together in Wisconsin, New Jersey, Idaho, Oregon and are living now in Washington. At one point, I had to stay by myself for a chaplaincy program in Rutherfordton, North Carolina for 3 months, and at another point, Mia had to stay by herself during her schooling in Evanston, Illinois for 9 months plus. We have two daughters: one was born in New Jersey and the other was born in Idaho. Over the past years, we have acquainted with at least 8 different congregations as I served as a youth pastor or a lead pastor in different towns across the U.S.

A few pictures taken from different places in my album are quite helpful to retrieve times and memories of different points in my life. However, I have never thought about “**mapping my faith journey**” on the canvas until reading Luke’s gospel and the Book of Acts. Have you? Somehow, we are living in a very fast-pace-driven society. It is almost impossible to learn “**how to slow ourselves down**” to doing nothing but celebrating and being mindful of the things that happened in the past and for the blessings we’re enjoying (or supposed to enjoy) today.

Isn’t it a wise practice to make a note or to do journaling while we’re traveling? Several years ago, I took my family who visited from Korea to Yellowstone Park early in September, but it wasn’t well-prepared. The whole family in a tent couldn’t stay more than two nights in the park because it went down to a freezing degree. Plus, we missed a few famous spots there including the Old Faithful. What would be “**one important thing**” to help me to have the trip satisfied if I had known it then? Do you have any special tip or principle (“**the practice of secrecy**”) for your trip to fulfil with your desires? What would it be to get your journey on the right track?

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Faith
is a
Journey

AROUND THE CHURCH



“Faith is A Journey, Not a Destination”

September 8	Luke 4: 16—21	“It’s Mapping Time!”
September 15	Luke 5: 12—16	“The Discipline of Slowing (Celebration)”
September 22	Luke 10: 1—11	“One Important Thing”
September 29	Luke 18: 9—14	“The Practice of Secrecy
October 6	Colossians 10: 10—17	“The Rule of Life” World Communion Sunday

Faith is a Journey Not a Destination (continued from page 1)

September is a time when many students (disciples) return to school for their new year. In the same way, our faith community needs a map for our ongoing mission and ministry in Christ Jesus just like a curriculum in school. Many of you have a lot of years in experience with the church and in a personal relationship with Christ Jesus, so what milestones or signs would you like to provide for those who are traveling after you? Shall we draw our own map for Mercer Island United Methodist Church in a way to celebrate and be mindful for what she’s done and who she is now? What one important message we’d like to mark on or make a note for the community here on the Island and its people who’re indeed parts of our faith journey? Will it be great and powerful to create “the rule of life” we as a church commit to follow, so the people may know we’re Christians by our action and deed?

God’s mercies in journeys,

Pastor John

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20



Newsletter Information

Passing It On is published the first working day of the month. Submit items and ideas to miumc@hotmail.com

AROUND THE 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.

Introducing Marquette Edith Dudley born Thursday, Aug 22nd, in Durango, CO, to proud parents Mac and Chloe Dudley, weighing in at 5 lbs 14 oz. "Edie" joins big brother Bronson. Congratulations to the Dudley Family!!



Around the Church

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Kickoff Sunday

We will celebrate Kickoff Sunday with a potluck right after worship service September 8th. We would like to recognize students going into the new school year and our Sunday school leaders.



Post worship Service Fellowship Time



Beginning September 15th, we will have after worship fellowship time. Anyone interested in helping can contact Judith. You are encouraged to stay and get to know each other better.



Barbecue Picnic—October 19th

The MIUMC Open House BBQ Community Event is coming up on October 19th from 12 Noon to 5 pm. It provides an opportunity to fellowship and engage with residents of our community, and allows others to see our church, meet us and learn more about our mission. Please mark the date on your calendars, and spread the word to others you know on the island and who live nearby. We encourage everyone who can to attend this fun event that will help your church and allow us to get to know each other better. We have two hour volunteer shifts available to give Carla some time off the grill and to help with cleanup. If you are able to help in any way with this event, please let Carla know.

Have a safe and enjoyable Labor Day!