

*Deeds of the Word*

Summer  
2021

# Newsletter

MERCER ISLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE NEWSLETTER — SPECIAL SUMMER EDITION

## SAFE REOPENING GUIDELINES

FOR MERCER ISLAND UMC  
AS OF JULY 1, 2021

■ Fully vaccinated people may continue to wear masks if they choose, to show support for others who are wearing masks or if they want an extra layer of protection, but they are not required to wear a mask or physically distance in the church.

*Summer  
Is Here!*

■ People who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated should wear masks covering their mouth and nose, and they should physically distance themselves by six feet from others.

■ An extra measure of protection is the use of hand sanitizer which is provided here for your use.

■ We are not having the choir sing at this time, since singing in close proximity to others is a super spreader. The song leader will sing behind the plastic screen or maintain a distance of 15 feet from others when singing. If you are closer than 15 feet from others and are unvaccinated you should wear a mask while singing.

**We are seeking to keep our space safe by the use of plastic screens and cross ventilation. We encourage you to help us maintain safety for all by following these guidelines.**

- ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL



## Summer Events

### INSIDE this issue

- **The Holy Baptism**  
on July 25 during our Sunday worship.
- **Youth Outdoor Adventure Camp**  
at Camp Indianola from July 26-30 for the grades 5 through 7.
- **Mission U**  
Thursday through Saturday, July 29-31, online via Zoom, 4 hours each day.
- **Service Day**  
Wednesday morning followed by Weeders on August 25.
- **Movie Night**  
tentatively scheduled on Friday & Saturday nights (August 27-28).

VISIT US ONLINE [miumc.org](http://miumc.org)

SUMMER 2021



FROM THE LEADERSHIP:

## Notes from the Lay leader!

### Independence Day

July 4th, the day we celebrate our country's declaration of freedom, the day we remember as riding ourselves of oppression. Let us always be thankful for this liberty and never take it for granted.

How appropriate it is that the day our Church declares a degree of freedom from Covid restrictions happens to be Independence Day! Coming into the sanctuary this morning mask-less and seeing Bibles and hymnals in the pews, I felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude. I am so thankful that we are free to worship together, to pray together, to sing together. I am so grateful to see one another's smile.



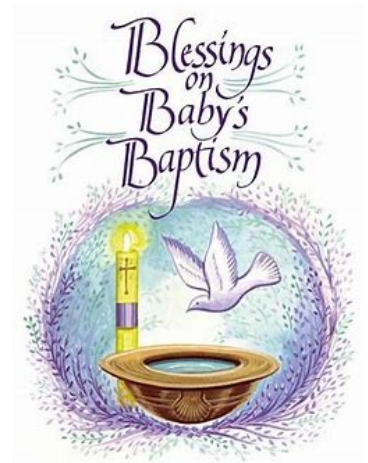
And I am reminded of how much we have been given in order to reach this level of freedom: the vials of vaccine,, the volunteers who administered the doses, all the first-responders, the teachers who learned new ways of reaching students, the pastors who reached out beyond their pulpits to their congregations. The list goes on and on. Freedom comes with a price and a responsibility, so let us hold this gift carefully and respectfully, always aware of the needs of others as we move forward as a Church. I pray that we will bring blessings to those who need our touch and long to be free of whatever binds them. Let us continue to go forth and be the Church.

*Linda Hodge*



All are invited to the **Holy Baptism Service** of **Charlotte Joy Dudley**, the daughter of Si and Rebecca on July 25th at 11am.

There will be a celebration party after the service outside the sanctuary.



### Birth Announcement

**Daniel Moon** to Christie and Travis Popped out a month early on Bastille Day (French Independence Day), but healthy and breathing better today. 5 lbs 15 oz and 18.75 inches at birth, He's a little blessing! Blessings to all.

-Damon

### Pacific Northwest Conference Reappointment



I am very grateful and humbled to be reappointed to MIUMC, her community and the Seattle area for another year. Please continue praying for us to be faithful to the Lord and his beloved communities.

*Pastor John Go*

Mia Mikyung Park is commissioned in June 26th from Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference. She is also reappointed to Blaine Memorial UMC as an associate.





## STORIES TO SHARE



### THERE REALLY IS SUCH A THING AS SACRED SPACE

In the beginning when God created humans, God planted a garden and put the humans in the garden to take care of it. We were made to keep a garden. The beauty of a garden can draw us to consider God's creative power. The wonder of a garden can open us up for an encounter with the sacred, holy presence of God. It becomes a catalyst, drawing us to attend to that which our senses enjoy and our mind

intuits. When we smell a wonderful fragrance, we stop to discover where it is coming from, we walk toward it and bend down to drink it deeply into our souls.

"Sacred spaces form people by greeting them with images and smells that cause our heart to dwell on God's presence," says Ellen Davis. "They contribute to our awareness of new possibilities for living in

the presence and to the glory of God." When people are in tightly enclosed spaces such as solitary confinement, their soul is diminished. They may even have brain damage. God uses beauty and the openness of a garden to draw us close to God's heart and to sanctify us. A garden is a sacred space.

*Rev. Carol Mariano*

## outdoor SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT

SAVE THE DATES

Friday, August 27

Saturday, August 28

7:30 p.m.—9:30 pm.

Join us on the lawn of  
Mercer Island United  
Methodist Church for  
a family-friendly movie.

Bring your neighbors and  
a lawn chair or blanket.

Movie snacks and lemonade  
provided. Movie will begin  
at dusk!



**Karen Dunning** shares her recently published book, *Sparkly and Strong*. Some copies are available now for us at the church, and more information about her and her book is also available through the link below.

<https://www.karendunning.org/writer>

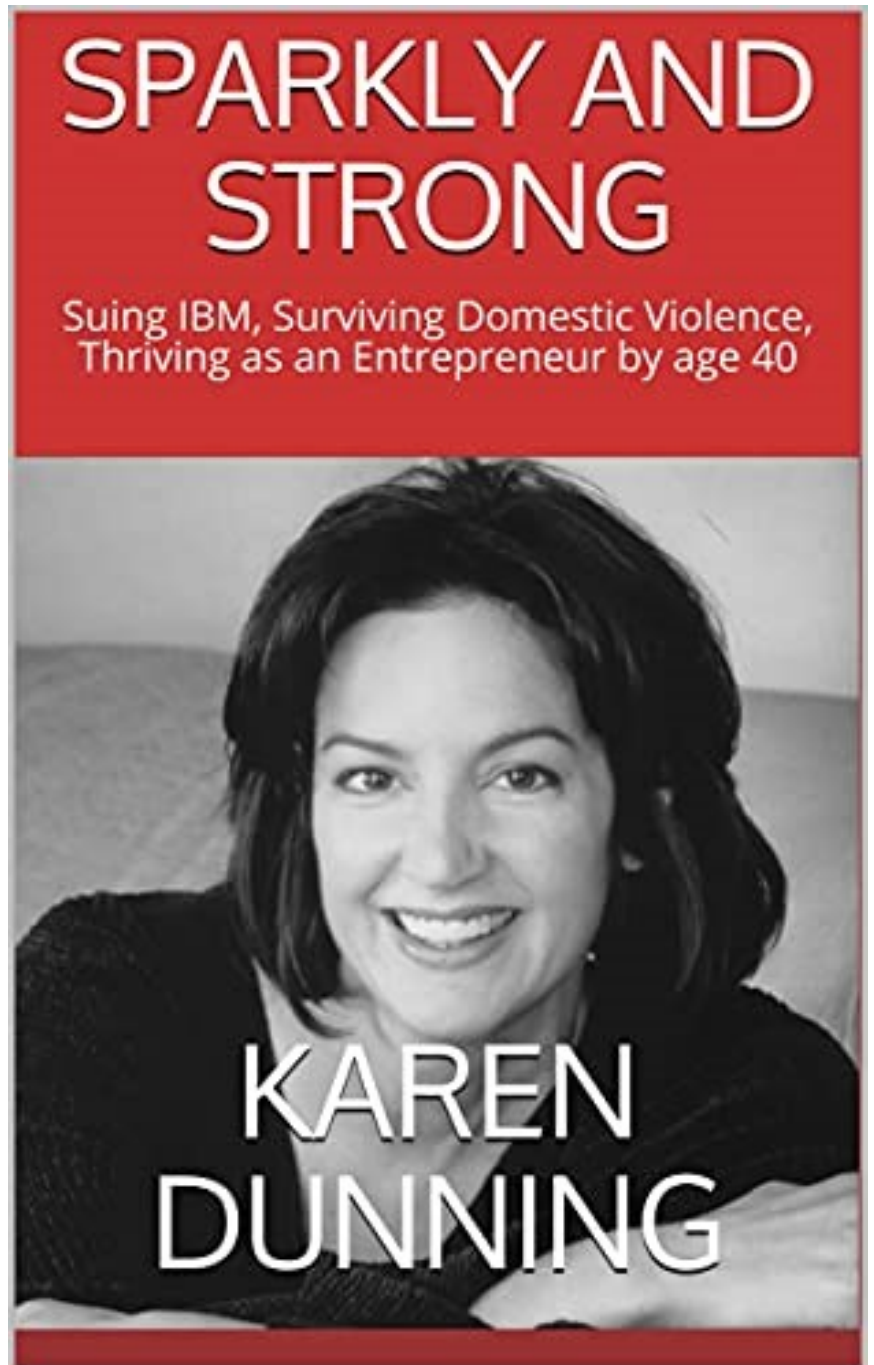
This memoir about female empowerment will captivate and inspire readers as they follow one woman's journey to loving herself back into wholeness and rediscovering her divinity. Many of the lessons learned can be applied to the reader's own life and hopefully heal or serve as an example of how powerful each person is from the inside out.

The author writes about her midwest upbringing, her work at IBM and subsequent IBM lawsuit at age 27, owning, founding and growing her own successful businesses and being awarded Entrepreneur of the Year.

She shares her experience of surviving domestic violence intertwined among her many awards and successes. By age 40 she is officially retired and starts an entirely new life chapter joining the Screen Actors Guild, appearing on Chicago Hope, doing stand-up comedy and becoming a singer/songwriter. At age 54 she becomes a Professor of Practice in Entrepreneurship for American University in Yola, Africa.

At age 63 she is suddenly and unexpectedly diagnosed with stage IV cancer which allows her to surrender to her divinity and experience internal peace, love joy and grace.

-Book review from Amazon





# Camp Indianola



Whether it's their first time at camp or they're returning yet again, this is the week that your child will be talking about for the rest of the

year. Complete with games, giant swing, boating, and archery by day; great campfires and conversations by night. This week will give your camper plenty of opportunities to have fun and succeed under the supervision of our creative, caring staff. All while spending time outdoors, camping in tents, and exploring the acres of woods at Camp Indianola. Trust us, you're not going to want to miss this!

This camp is designed to be safe, as well. It is completely outdoors, decreasing transmissibility. We will be sleeping in a tent, outside at a campsite.

**For more information, contact Pastor John who will take our youth to the camp and also serve as a camp pastor.**

A camp experience can be one of the most powerful and formative times in one's life. Camp can often be the first opportunity for kids to develop their "unique voice" that will serve them throughout their lives. Discovering leadership potential, experiencing an intentional Christian community, discovering the outdoors, building self-esteem, and strengthening personal faith are all central to what the camp experience is all about.

**For a Camp Scholarship or a Donation to Camp Indianola, make the check payable to MIUMC with a note: Camp Indianola or send it directly to:**

**Camp Indianola  
PO Box 1150  
Indianola, WA 98342**

**July 25—29  
Grades 5-7**

**Outdoor  
Adventures**

## Mission U (July 29-31)

Registration is now open, deadline is July 24, 2021!

### "There is no cost"

To register, send the information below to Susan Chamberlain

Via email at [susancchamberlain@yahoo.com](mailto:susancchamberlain@yahoo.com).

**NAME** (Please use this name when you are attending the zoom meeting)

**EMAIL ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER**

**WHETHER YOU ARE AN ADULT, YOUTH OR CHILD**

**CHURCH, DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE**

If you'd like to support financially, please make it to "Pledge to Mission".

Make checks payable to Mission U and mail it to:

Susan Chamberlain, 5404 NE 121st Ave, #25, Vancouver, WA 98682

For any questions, please call me at 360-859-3740

**Thursday through  
Saturday,**



**Mercer Island United Methodist Church**

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[www.miumc.org](http://www.miumc.org)

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Jesus  
loves the  
little  
children