



Outreach

March 2016



After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They replied, “The Lord needs it.”

They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

“I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

— Luke 19:28-40

Scriptures for March

3/6—Matthew 25:35-40 • 3/13—Isaiah 43:1-3a • 3/20—Luke 19:28-40 • 3/24—John 13:1-17, 31b-35 and Luke 22:14-23 • 3/27—John 20:1-18

montavilla



united methodist church

growing closer to God

Our Identity *Standing together hopeful, thankful, worshipful* • **Our Mission** *A loving, welcoming Christian community moving closer to God* • **Our Vision** *A Christ-centered, multi-generational family that values: faith-filled worship, spiritual growth, mission outreach, celebrating individual's gifts*

open hearts, open minds, open doors



A Reconciling Congregation

Montavilla United Methodist Church

232 SE 80th Avenue • Portland, Oregon 97215

503.254.5529 • montavillaumc@msn.com • www.montavillaumc.org

Thoughts From Our Pastor

Dear Friends • By the time you read this, hopefully, we will already have three vegetable beds sprucing up the east side of the church. Although the eastern portion of our property has traditionally been the least utilized by parishioners, dramatic plans are in the works to change that. Thanks to the tireless work of Robin Bown, and the visionary leadership of our Trustees, the coming year will see many changes to this long, narrow strip of land. And it is our hope that all of us will find ways of participating in that transformation.

Today, this area appears as it has for several years—mainly weeds and dirt. But plans have been adopted to turn this area into an oasis of learning, prayer, and play. The garden will be subdivided into three distinct areas. The southernmost third will contain the vegetable beds alluded to above. Here, children and adults, church members and those who participate in our pantry, can learn firsthand the providence of God by participating in the timeless craft of planting, tending, and harvesting. The middle third of the sanctuary will host our prayer and meditation garden. Here, benches and trellises will cradle those who come to read inspiring cement tablets and look



submitted by Rev. Tim Winslea



at the flowering trees and bushes. To the north, the final third will be laid out in grass so that kids can play during Sunday school or when their parents are shopping down in the pantry. On the outside of the fence, and possibly in other areas of the property, more engraved tablets will help communicate to our neighbors the ethos of our congregation. One of the important aspects of the project is an extension of the fence and a locked gate to ensure that the gardens are safe and clean.

Although Trustees have set aside some funds to ensure that parts of the project can begin immediately, a grant proposal was submitted to the Columbia District Church Extension Society that, if accepted, will enable the project to progress much more quickly. A decision should be made this month on the proposal, and I ask everyone to pray for its acceptance. Please feel free to ask Robin, one of the Trustees, or me if you have questions. We want this project to reflect the dreams, hopes, and needs of everyone in the church.

—Blessings, Timothy

Jesus at the Movies

Montavilla UMC will host a screening of the film *Vera Drake* on Wednesday, 3/16. Vera Drake is a working-class house cleaner in 1950's London who is devoted to her family, but unbeknownst to them, secretly performs abortions at no charge. She is arrested after one of her patients nearly dies and is eventually sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison as "a deterrent to others." Imelda Staunton delivers a powerful performance in the title role, which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actress in 2004. The running time is 132 minutes.

Jesus at the Movies is an educational program of Montavilla UMC. This year's selections focus on ordinary people growing in faith, grace, and understanding as they engage with social, cultural, and justice issues. Film screenings are regularly held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00PM in the church library. Please feel free to bring a snack and to invite a friend. Discussion follows each screening.



WOW (With or Without) Group Event

The March WOW event will occur on Saturday, 3/19, from 9:00AM to noon. We will meet with other members of our congregation to take part in the annual MUMC Church Clean-Up! This is a family-friendly event; children are strongly encouraged to take part. Please contact event coordinator Lisa Johnson if you have any questions. *Are you interested in being a member of this group? The coordinators for the WOW group at MUMC are Kate Shirley and Lisa Johnson; please contact one of them if you have questions.*



Montavillans & Superheroes!

Make-A-Wish® Oregon will host a superhero-themed “Walk for Wishes” at the Oregon Zoo on Saturday, 4/16, starting at 9:00AM. Laila Cook invites you to join the church’s team, *Montavillans and Superheroes*, by registering at <http://walkforwishes.kintera.org/2016/montavillansandsuperheroes>. Standard registration costs \$10 per walker; you are welcome to raise additional funds and earn prizes, including an event T-shirt. The mission of Make-A-Wish® uniquely blends with that of our church in that we both strive to care for, and bring hope to, the sick. All villain and hero costumes are welcome and appreciated! Please contact Laila (503-246-3587, lailajoy@yahoo.com) for further information.

Scholarship Money Available

from the Columbia District Office of Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference

The United Methodist Church has scholarship money available for local church members who are attending college or graduate school. We need your help to get the word out! The information and links to the application materials are on the Conference website at www.umoi.org/scholarships.

The application deadline for General Church-sponsored scholarships is March 1st. The application deadline for Conference-sponsored scholarships is April 4, 2016, for the 2016-2017 academic year, so this information is timely for the folks you know in your church who could benefit from this assistance.

UMW Corner

submitted by Kate Shirley & Becky Warren



UMW GENERAL MEETING • The next UMW General Meeting will be held on Sunday, 4/3, from 9:00-10:00AM. Sarah Berkemeier will present a Personal Safety class designed by WomenStrength, a program of the Portland Police Bureau. This organization has provided free self-defense classes and personal safety workshops to people around the Portland area since 1979. Light refreshments will be served. For more information about WomenStrength, please visit www.portlandoregon.gov/police/35911. *All members of MUMC, both men and women, are encouraged to attend this meeting.*

“LEAST COIN” NAME CHANGE • *Least Coin* has been an offering taken throughout the year at circle meetings. At the beginning of a new year, the board would send the money to Church Women United since *Least Coin* was their “thing.” However, it took them over a year to cash the last check, plus their organization seems to be dwindling in numbers.

Therefore, (FYI and for publication purposes), the Board at their February 17 meeting passed a motion to change the name of *Least Coin* to *Small Change for Big Changes* and to give the \$150 collected over the past two years to Giving Connection (this was the group that presented the February 14th program) to help fight human trafficking. Money collected for *Small Change for Big Changes* during 2016 will also be given to Giving Connection.

UMW CIRCLES • Tuesday, 3/1: Simple Gifts at the MUMC library, 6:00PM • Wednesday, 3/2: Mary Circle at the home of Ellen D., 10:00AM • Wednesday, 3/2: Martha/Miriam Circle at the home of Mickie E., 10:00AM • Sunday, 3/20: Lydia Circle at MUMC, 9:00AM

MONTAVILLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CALENDAR—MARCH 2016



WELCOME TO THIS PLACE OF REST, LAUGHTER, AND GROWTH.

WE COME HERE BECAUSE OUR QUESTIONS ARE RESPECTED, OUR INSIGHTS ARE ENCOURAGED, AND OUR HUNGER FOR MISSION IS SHARED.

MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY—WHO INCLUDE PEOPLE OF VARIOUS ETHNIC GROUPS, INCOME LEVELS, LEVELS OF ABILITY, RELIGIOUS BACKGROUNDS, SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS, AND GENDER IDENTITIES—INVITE YOU TO MAKE THIS YOUR HOME.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 SIMPLE GIFTS @ MUMC LIBRARY (6:00pm)	2 UMW CIRCLES MEETINGS (10:00am) MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING (6:30pm)	3 BELL CHOIR (5:45pm) CHOIR (7:00pm)	4	5
6 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00am) WORSHIP, COMMUNION, CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, & YOUTH GROUP (10:30am) CHURCH LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING (12:00pm) SCRIP ORDERS DUE	7 BROWN BAG LUNCH BIBLE STUDY (12:00pm) BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING (7:00pm)	8	9	10 BELL CHOIR (5:45pm) CHOIR (7:00pm)	11 XYZ GROUP MEETING (12:00pm)	12 UMW DISTRICT MEETING (9:30am-3:00pm)
13 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00am) WORSHIP & MONTAVILLA SINGERS (10:30am) SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH	14	15	16 UMW BOARD MEETING (10:00am) UMW BOOK GROUP (1:15pm) FINDING JESUS @ THE MOVIES (6:00pm)	17 GUN VIOLENCE BIBLE STUDY (12:00pm) BELL CHOIR (5:45pm) CHOIR (7:00pm)	18 OPEN HEARTS FOOD PANTRY (5:00-6:00pm)	19 CHURCH CLEAN-UP (9:00am-12:00pm) OPEN HEARTS FOOD PANTRY (10:00am-12:00pm)
20 PALM SUNDAY ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL & LYDIA CIRCLE (9:00am) WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, & YOUTH GROUP (10:30am) FINANCE COMMITTEE & SPRC MEETINGS (12:00pm) OUTREACH ENTRIES DUE	21	22	23 M&Ms @ OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING (6:00pm)	24 MAUNDY THURSDAY GUN VIOLENCE BIBLE STUDY (12:00pm) WORSHIP (7:00pm)	25 GOOD FRIDAY	26 HOLY SATURDAY
27 EASTER SUNDAY ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00am) WORSHIP & MONTAVILLA SINGERS (10:30am)	28	29	30	31 GUN VIOLENCE BIBLE STUDY (12:00pm) CHOIR (7:00pm)		

PLEASE CHECK THE CHURCH WEBSITE (www.montavillaumc.org) FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, AS WELL AS EVENT DESCRIPTIONS AND LOCATIONS.

Save The Date! Saturday, May 7 • 6PM to 9PM

INSANITY

Youth Group Party

with live music by Montavilla Experience
 playing Matt Redman, Mercy Me, Hillsong United,
 Jordan Feliz, Hawk Nelson, Chris Tomlin & more!
Insanity meets every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at 10:00AM.
Join us for discussion, games, community service, and fun!



Joys

We were delighted with: the strong turn-out for Ash Wednesday service (approximately 20 people attended), an auspicious beginning to the Lenten season; the arrival of our new copies of *Worship & Song* (a dedication service is planned for Sunday, 4/3/2016); and the new podium in the church narthex, the handiwork of Bob Lindberg, purchased with Yost Memorial funds.

Concerns

We lift up: Verlene Ross, who is still recuperating from a heart attack; Viola Medd, who is suffering from a serious, persistent cough; and our neighbors who grieve losses due to gun violence. We pray that the Columbia District Church Extension Society will approve our grant proposal to install a garden space along the east side of our church property. We also pray that, as the presidential election process unfolds, Spirit will guide both voters and candidates toward choices which will ensure a more peaceful, more just, and more compassionate nation.

Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program

You can help Montavilla United Methodist Church earn money just by shopping with your Fred Meyer Rewards Card! Each year Fred Meyer donates \$2.5 million dollars to non-profits in Alaska, Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Here is how the program works: If you have an existing Rewards Card with Fred Meyer, go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Sign in with your password and email address; click on your name in the top right hand corner; scroll down to Community Awards and enter our MUMC account number 80249.

If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store. Every time you show and use your Rewards Card, you are helping MUMC earn a donation. You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates, just as you have been doing. If you have questions, please see Turella Woods. Each quarter when our church receives their part of this \$2.5 million, we will let you know as we watch our donations grow!

Scrip: Have you ever thought of using scrip to purchase items for our Open Hearts Food Pantry? If you buy Fred Meyer, Safeway, Albertsons or New Seasons scrip, then use it to purchase food for the pantry, the church receives a portion and the pantry receives food! A great way to do two terrific things at the same time. Scrip orders are sent in the first Monday morning of the month through the church office. It's easy to pick up a form in the folder in the library, fill it out, attach your check, and put it in the file for "completed" scrip orders. Your scrip cards will be delivered to you the following Sunday. Any questions, please see the church office.

Vegetable Seed Packet Drive

submitted by Pat Johnson

United Methodist Women is again sponsoring a vegetable seed packet drive to benefit the Jackson Area Ministries Green Thumb Garden project in Jackson, OK, through Sunday, 3/20. Please deliver your donations to the designated collection basket in Fellowship Hall. All donations will be distributed to low-income families in the Jackson area, so that they may plant gardens to raise food for themselves.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 4 Denny Dolan
- 8 Lois Raynis
- 12 Ashley Wever
- 15 Morgan Shirley
- 16 Sandy & Marvin Thompson
- 17 Pat Johnson
- 19 Paul Baker
- 20 Paul & Kathleen Baker
- 22 Chris Walker
- 25 Diana Smith-Covey
- 26 Michelle Frost
- 26 Scott Walker
- 27 Anne Bell



2016 General Conference

from the Oregon-Idaho General Conference
(For more information, and to read the entire letter, go to <http://www.umoi.org>)

Portland is going to be hosting one of the most significant events in United Methodism. As you may have heard, the General Conference, the policy making body of our entire denomination, is coming to Portland in 2016 for the first time in 40 years. The Conference will bring together as many as 5,000 United Methodists from all over the world. They will meet May 10-20 at the Oregon Convention Center. While they are here, they also will be exploring Portland and worshipping at local churches. This is a great opportunity for you and your church to be involved in a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Here's how:

- Volunteer to help host the event. There are many roles we will play in providing that extravagant sense of hospitality and welcome that the Northwest is known for. You can volunteer online at gc2016pdx.org.
- Invite people to worship at your church on May 15, Pentecost, or May 8 for early arrivals.
- Participate in General Conference Volunteers Sunday on November 22. (Details will come in a separate message.)

Now is not too soon to begin planning. We are already getting inquiries from people about their time in Portland.

What an amazing opportunity we have to participate in our church's General Conference and to interact with our brothers and sisters in faith. Thank you for your interest. God bless.

William R. Haden, Chair, General Conference 2016 Host Committee

Rev. Tim Overton-Harris, Coordinator, City Services Team



Housing Needed

The Oregon Convention Center (777 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, 503-235-7575) will host the 2016 United Methodist Church General Conference, May 10-20. Local UMC congregations are asked to provide housing for a delegation of 13-15 volunteers, both couples and singles, visiting from Alaska. As a host, you will be responsible for offering your guest(s) breakfast each morning and either providing transportation to and from the convention site or assisting with transportation arrangements via bus or MAX. If you are interested in hosting, whether for the entire duration of the conference or for only a portion of it, please contact Janice Stevens (503-860-1452, grandmamaj@comcast.net).



Your Feedback is Important!

submitted by Turella Woods, SPRC Chair

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is making available a Feedback Form for you to use in sharing your ideas, celebrations, concerns, and questions. These forms will be available in the church office, on the slant boards in the church entry ways, and occasionally in bulletins throughout the next several months.

After completing the form, place it in a sealed envelope and then into the Staff Parish Relations Committee file in front of the church office. You may also give it to a Staff Parish Relations Committee member.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

March 2016

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Administrative Assistant, Christopher Gunther
Children's Choir Director, Audrey Voon
Youth Director, Jennifer Greenley
Child Care Providers,
Sharon Nellist, Pre-K to Grade 1
Cassidy Cortez, Grade 2 to 5
JoAnna Taylor, Nursery Care
Outreach Editor, Kate Shirley

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00AM to 1:00PM
Pastor available other hours by appointment

