



Outreach

December 2016



Whether you know it or not, you are living in the end times. You do not know the day or the hour when the Son of Man will come. But you do know that the day will come when the Son of Man will come in clouds with power and great glory, and he will send his angels to gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the earth. But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, but only God. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

— Matthew 24: 36-42

Scriptures for December

December 4—Isaiah 11: 1-10 • **December 11**—Matthew 11: 2-11 • **December 18**—Matthew 1: 18-25 • **December 25**—Matthew 2: 1-11



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



Montavilla United Methodist Church
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Thoughts From Our Pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Over the past few weeks Matthew 5:44 has become an increasingly important text for me. In this season of darkness where the promised light has not yet come I commend it to you as well:

“But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.”

Dear God, I pray for the car full of people who threw a beer bottle at a Willamette student on campus in Salem while shouting “Chinker, head back to Asia where you belong. Job stealer.” Please, may their hearts be softened and may none of them ever know the kind of fear they inflicted on another.

Dear God, I pray for the white students at Shasta High who handed out fake deportation papers to the Mexican students at their school. Please, may their hearts be softened and may these students feel secure in their own place in the future of our nation.

Dear God, I pray for the man in Louisiana who robbed, beat and ripped the headscarf off a young Muslim woman on the UL-Lafayette campus. Please, may his heart be softened and may he know a faith so strong as to offer comfort when it is despised and abused by others.

Dear God, I pray for the woman who burned a pride flag and threatened to torch her LGBTQ neighbors. Please, may her heart be softened and may she heal from the pain, fear, or loneliness that afflicts her.



submitted by Rev. Tim Winslea



Dear God, I pray for the students responsible for creating a Facebook Group called “Nigger Lynching” at the University of Pennsylvania and invited every black student to join the group. Please, may their hearts be softened and may she heal from the pain, fear or loneliness that afflicts them.

Dear God, I pray for the elementary school boy who grabbed the vagina of his ten year old classmate saying, “If the President can do it, so can I.” Please, may his heart be softened and may he be safe from sexual assault and from the trauma and fear that it creates.

Dear God, I pray for the teacher at Wesley Chapel High in Florida who told African American students at his school he was going to call President Trump and have them sent back to Africa. Please, may his heart be softened and may he experience love and forgiveness from those he has hurt.

Dear God, I pray for myself. I know that I have, consciously and unconsciously, caused others to feel fear and shame, grief and pain; that I have done it my whole life and that I will likely do it today and tomorrow

and the next. Please, may my heart be softened and may I learn the depth of your love and forgiveness so that I may love my enemies more passionately and work with them to create a world where all are safe. Amen.

In Christ’s healing,
Timothy

Deck the Hall!

Patti Walker, Church Life Committee

Join us for Church Tree Decorating Party on Saturday, December 17 at 12:00PM; a pizza lunch will be provided! We also hope to see you at our Christmas Potluck Sunday, December 18 after worship.



WOW (With or Without) Group Event

The December event for the WOW group is a Christmas Party at the home of Nancy and Royella Burge! The party will take place on December 17 beginning at 7:00PM for our get together. Please bring the following: an appetizer to share; a gift around 10 dollars for a gift exchange game (children also will have an exchange separate from the adults; 5 dollars maximum cost for these. NOTE: Participating in the gift exchange game is not a requirement!); and drinks are welcome.

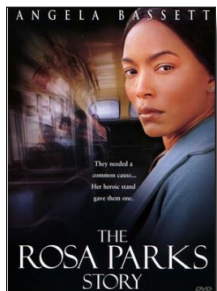
Are you interested in being a member of this group? The coordinators for the WOW group at MUMC are Kate Shirley and Lisa Johnson; please contact one of them if you have questions.



Wednesday Night Movies: Films, Food & Faith

submitted by Jeanne Knepper

Film is a great way to learn about parts of life that we haven't experienced. In the last year, we focused on the stories of ordinary people who were motivated by their faith to loving, compassionate, courageous actions. This year, we are going to explore elements of the (mostly American) black experience of the last century. Most of the stories we will see tell us a portion of our history through the work of well-respected black playwrights, actors and directors. Whenever possible, we will use subtitles, so that those who have difficulty hearing can follow the story. As before, we will gather at 6PM, watch the movie, talk about it, and share snacks and memories. Plan to be here from 6:00-8:45PM. Please feel free to bring a pick-up meal, if you come from work, or snacks to share. Except for December, all of the movies will show on the third Wednesday of the month.



12-14 **The Rosa Parks Story** • 1-18 **4 Little Girls** • 2-15 **The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman**
3-15 **Selma** • 4-19 **Antwone Fisher** • 5-17 **The Pursuit of Happyness**

Caroling with Montavilla Music Project!

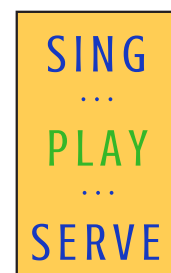
submitted by Audrey Voon

Do you find yourself already humming your favorite seasonal tunes and carols? Can't wait to get in the Christmas spirit? Needing fellowship and craving a little winter music this season?

We have just the thing! Join the Montavilla Music Project for Advent, Christmas, and winter music during the month of December as we prepare for our special caroling night at St. Anthony Village (3560 SE 79th Ave, Portland, OR 97206) the Thursday before Christmas. Our schedule is listed below. You are invited to join us for any or all that you are able to attend. All ages, all skill levels welcome!

Montavilla Music Project December Schedule: 12/1 - Montavilla UMC, 5:30-6:30PM, 12/8 - Montavilla UMC, 5:30-6:30PM, 12/15 - Montavilla UMC, 5:30-6:30PM, 12/22 - St. Anthony Village, 5:30-6:30PM

Questions? Contact Audrey to learn more: 503-310-2024, audreygrace.voon@gmail.com.



Birthdays of the Month

submitted by Turella Woods

Starting in January during the Second Sunday Lunches after worship, we will be celebrating all the birthdays of that month. There will be an opportunity for you to bring a birthday offering representing 10 cents for each year and place it in the "vintage" church bank that was made by members many years ago. The birthday offerings will go to purchase vegetables for our garden. Lunches aren't served in May or December but we will make sure and honor you during the coffee hour.



DECEMBER 2016

MONTAVILLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CALENDAR

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 MONTAVILLA MUSIC PROJECT (5:30pm) CHOIR PRACTICE (7:00pm)	2	3
4 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00am) WORSHIP & COMMUNION, CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, YOUTH GROUP (10:30am) JACK ROBERTS' MEMORIAL LUNCHEON (12:00pm) JACK ROBERTS' MEMORIAL SERVICE & RECEPTION (1:00pm)	5 BROWN BAG LUNCH BIBLE STUDY (12:00pm) BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL (6:30pm) TRUSTEES MEETING (7:00pm)	6 SIMPLE GIFTS @ JUDY WALKER'S HOME (6:00 pm)	7 MARY CIRCLE @ CHERRYWOOD (9:30am) MISSION COMMITTEE (6:30pm)	8 MONTAVILLA MUSIC PROJECT (5:30pm) CHOIR PRACTICE (7:00pm)	9 XYZ GROUP (12:00pm)	10 M&M'S CHRISTMAS PARTY
11 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00am) WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (10:30am) COOKIE WALK EUGENE O'KEEFFE MEMORIAL (5:30pm)	12 BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL (6:30pm)	13	14 UMW CHRISTMAS PARTY (10:00am) FILMS, FOOD & FAITH: <i>THE ROSA PARKS STORY</i> (6:00pm)	15 MONTAVILLA MUSIC PROJECT (5:30pm) CHOIR PRACTICE (7:00pm)	16 OPEN HEARTS FOOD PANTRY (5:00-6:00pm)	17 OPEN HEARTS FOOD PANTRY (10:00am-12:00pm) SANCTUARY TREE DECORATION PARTY & LUNCH (12:00pm) WOW GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY @ NANCY & ROYELLA BURGE'S HOME (7:00pm)
18 LYDIA CIRCLE (9:00am) ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00am) WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, YOUTH GROUP (10:30am) CHRISTMAS POTLUCK <i>OUTREACH ENTRIES DUE</i>	19 BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL (6:30pm)	20	21	22 CAROLING AT ST. ANTHONY VILLAGE (5:30pm)	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE (7:00pm)
25 CHRISTMAS DAY ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00am) WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (10:30am)	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28 OFFICE CLOSED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING (6:00pm)	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

PLEASE CHECK THE CHURCH WEBSITE (www.montavillaumc.org) FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, AS WELL AS EVENT DESCRIPTIONS AND LOCATIONS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD AN EVENT TO THE CHURCH CALENDAR, LEAVE AN "OFFICE NOTE" IN THE BOX AT FRONT ENTRANCE.

Charge Conference 2016

from the Montavilla UMC website, www.montavillaumc.org

Charge Conference 2016 was held at Montavilla United Methodist Church on Sunday, October 16 from 4-6:00PM. In attendance at this new "Cluster Conference" were the following UMC congregations: Lents Tongan, Rockwood, Cherry Park, Tabor Heights, and Montavilla.

Go to http://www.montavillaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Montavilla-Charge-Conf-Report-2016_full-final.pdf to download the full version of the Montavilla UMC Charge Conference Report 2016.

Appointment Update

from the Oregon-Idaho Conference UM Connector

In consultation with Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, Rev. Margaret (Peg) Lofsvold will begin medical leave on January 1, 2017 for treatment of autoimmune disease. Rev. Lofsvold has been serving as Cascadia District Superintendent since July, 2012. Previously she served four local church appointments (including Montavilla UMC) and as a hospice chaplain. In a letter to district clergy, Lofsvold shared that a leave will allow her to stabilize the disease she has lived with for many years, and a "hope that I will return to pastoral ministry in the future."



Joys

Christmas season, for all the relatives and friends and parties that people will have; cookie walk; decorations in the church; mission project for flood relief; for new members; for the new Facebook MUMC Chat Group community; for friendship and our village who look out for one another; for tooth ceremonies; for beautiful Advent and Christmas music.

Concerns

For all those who are widows and widowers at this time of year; for the homeless during the rainy and cold season; for our nation during this transition into a new administration.

Sharing Our Gifts

A few weeks ago during one of our weekly music jams with the Montavilla Music Project, we shared with the group about our strengths. The prompt: "What is something you're good at, something you do well that you could, perhaps, use to help other people? And, remember, it's okay to acknowledge your strengths; it's not bragging to admit that you are good at something." The result was a very real, very special conversation, spanning generations (4 years old-wise adults).

Here is our list of gifts: Swimming • Singing • Speaking Spanish • Sharing toys • Cooking • Helping others to feel good/bringing others joy • Listening • Teamwork • Volunteering • Artwork and drawing • Teaching

As a facilitator of learning, it felt so good to listen to every person in our group share their gift, that skill they can use to help others. How empowering to be able to say, "I am good at _____," and not feel ashamed or embarrassed to admit this aloud to a group of people. Yet, much to my surprise, was how difficult it was when my turn came around to admit, not to myself, but to a room of people, learners, friends, that "I am good at teaching." And, how liberating this confession was to speak those words, to embrace those words in the coming days and the weeks that have followed. How reassuring to sit with those words and fully realize their meaning: My strength, my gift to others, my ability to help, to teach, is a gift that has been given to me. I am an instrument of God's love. God works through me, and there can be no shame in that.

So, friends, I ask, what are your gifts? What strengths has God given you? How does God work through you?

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 Don Richardson
- 3 Kathy Minger
- 3 Larry & Donna Wittmayer
- 7 Tiso Panapa
- 9 JoAnna Taylor
- 10 Natasha Hendricks
- 10 Dale & David Johnson
- 12 Dianne Lawrence
- 16 Bob Eisenhart
- 17 Dohn Kruschwitz
- 18 Donna Wittmayer
- 22 Wanda Adams
- 24 Glenna Brinker
- 26 Reva Emmert
- 27 Bob & Helen Eisenhart
- 27 Michael & Joanne Love
- 27 John Wittmayer
- 28 Audrey Voon
- 30 Allyson Walker



submitted by Audrey Voon

Through me
let there be kind words, a warm smile,
and a caring heart.

Through me
let there be a willingness to listen
and a readiness to understand.

Through me
let there be dependability, steadfastness,
trust and loyalty.

Through me
let there be compassion, forgiveness,
mercy and love.

Through me
let there be every quality I find, O God, in Thee.

*This prayer was shared with me during a daily staff prayer time at a private Catholic school where I once taught. Printed on a small paper heart with a little bluebird cutout attached at the upper right corner, it now lives above my home office desk. I can never read through it just once, rather, it has become somewhat of a meditation, a mantra I can repeat to myself over and over again.
Author unknown.*



UMW News

The 2017 slate of officers were voted on at the UMW General Meeting in November and will be installed during worship in January:

President – Janice Stevens • **Vice President** – Lou Ann Lindberg • **Secretary** – Becky Warren
Treasurer – Jorja Orr • **Communications** – Turella Woods • **Nomination Chair** – Emmy Lou Johnson
Nomination Committee — Jill Simonis and Becky Warren • **Receptions** – Anna Marie Clayville
Kitchen – Audy Cullen • **Membership, Nurture & Outreach** – Carrie Wilson • **Spiritual Growth** – Judy Burge
Social Action – Glenna Brinker • **Education & Interpretation** – Pat Johnson • **Program Resources** – Anne Bell

UMW Christmas Party • United Methodist Women will hold their annual Christmas Party on December 14, 2016 at 10:00AM in the Fellowship Hall. Come and sing carols, watch “The Women of Christmas” performed and enjoy a lunch. Soup, bread and beverages will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

UMW Reading Program • We are nearing the end of the 2016 year. Please get the year’s list to Anne Bell by January 1st. If you need a form let her know.

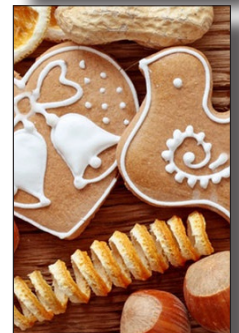
Miriam-Martha Circle Update • President Janice Stevens has announced that the Miriam-Martha Circle has discontinued their meetings and their members will be joining one of the three existing circles; Mary Circle, Lydia Circle or Simple Gifts Circle.

Gifts for Shepherd’s Door • United Methodist Women have decorated a Christmas tree in the Fellowship Hall for their holiday project. Please bring any of the items listed below and place them in the basket by the tree. They will be taken in January to Shepherd’s Door which is a Christian community of single women and women with children ages 10 and under. Here they find a sanctuary of peace and security as they move into a healthy lifestyle while dealing with the pain of addiction and previous choices.

Socks, New Undergarments, Hats, Gloves, Jeans, Twin Blankets, Backpacks, Women’s Hygiene Products, Spray Deodorant, Hair Products (all ethnicities), Disposable Razors, Toothbrushes

Cookie Walk • The Annual United Methodist Women Cookie Walk will be held in the Fellowship Hall following worship on December 11th. Come purchase homemade cookies, candy, breads and other wonderful holiday items. This is the largest UMW unit’s fundraiser to fulfill their mission pledge and supply new books for the library and UMW Reading Program.

UMW Circle Meetings • Lydia Circle - December 18 at 9:00AM, location TBD • Mary Circle - December 7 at 9:30AM, Cherrywood, hosted by Lois Gerlach • Simple Gifts Circle - December 6 at 6:00PM, potluck at Judy Walker’s home



Thank You

Thank you, everyone, for your kind prayers, thoughts, and actions as Jack is on his journey to meet his maker. He loved his church family. —Barb Roberts

Tim & the people of Montavilla UMC: Thank you for the warm welcome at the Threshold event. Each one who prepared, greeted, served, was a blessing. And your anthem was a special gift. God bless you! — Bishop Elaine Stanovsky

montavilla



united **methodist** church



A Reconciling Congregation

232 SE 80th Avenue
Portland, OR 97215

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

December 2016

growing closer to God



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Church Staff

Pastor, Rev. Timothy Winslea
Office Manager, Audrey Voon
Director of Music, Barton Rippe
Youth Music Coordinator, Audrey Voon
Sunday School Coordinator, Sharon Nellist
Youth Group (grades 6-12), Jennifer Greenley
Sunday School (grades 2-5), Cassidy Cortez
Sunday School (grades PreK-1), Sharon Nellist
Nursery Care, JoAnna Taylor

Outreach Editor, Kate Shirley

Office Hours

Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 10AM - 3PM
Pastor available other hours by appointment

