



The Spire

A monthly newsletter published by Magnolia Presbyterian Church:
A welcoming community of caring Christians in service to God...
A well of faith and renewal.

June/July/August 2014

Volume 7, Issue 5

Pastor's Column:

Much to Celebrate!

Summer begins here at MPC with three special Sundays in a row.

Our worship service on June 1st will mark the conclusion of our Mariners group and their nearly seven decades as an integral part of our church's history and ministry. We will celebrate all who have been part of this wonderful organization and their service to MPC.

On June 8th, Pentecost Sunday, we will present Bibles to our fourth grade students, and install Elder Dave Bowman who is returning to Session to fill an unexpired term.

And on June 15th, we will celebrate the importance of music in the life of our church, as the choir wraps up another year of sharing their gifts with us. We will include many of your favorite songs in our order of worship that morning.

Be sure to join us as we kick off the summer in a spirit of celebration and thanksgiving.

Grace and peace to you,

Pastor Deb

Pentecost Sunday is June 8th

Pentecost, or "the feast of weeks," is a Jewish celebration of God's gift of the law to the people of Israel. The celebration occurs fifty days after Passover. In Acts 2, we are told that when the early disciples were celebrating Pentecost together the Holy Spirit came among them like the sound of a rushing wind, and tongues of fire rested on each of their heads. The disciples, filled with the Holy Spirit, began to speak in other languages so that Jews from many nations who had gathered in Jerusalem were able to understand them. The good news of Christ's birth, death, and resurrection was proclaimed to all, and many people were baptized that day. Along with Christmas and Easter, Pentecost is one of the great holy days of the church year.

Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the church. It is a holiday with its own color: red, to signify the tongues of fire that rested on the heads of the disciples when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. And it is a holiday with its own images: fire, wind, and the dove, each of which is symbolic of the Holy Spirit.

We invite you to wear something **RED** to worship on Pentecost Sunday, as we celebrate the gifts of God's Holy Spirit!

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The Mariners Vote to Close the Group

With heartfelt thanks and appreciation, a recognition event is planned for the June 1 worship service to honor the officers and long-time members of the church's Mariners' organization. We will recognize the Mariners for 69 years of continuous service to the church and for the group's many charitable and mission-related projects.

Kay Ramsay, the organization's retiring Skipper, explained that members of the Mariners met for their last and final meeting on May 2 and voted to disband their long-time organization. "Attendance peaked in the mid-1950s," she said, "with 146 members attending meetings on a regular basis. In recent years, however, attendance declined because members passed away or were no longer able to participate in meetings because of health concerns. A number of members have moved to residences away from Magnolia."

"Friendship among the Mariners is still very strong," Kay said, "but all good things sometimes come to an end, and our Mariners' group is one of them." She sends blessings to the other groups at the church that foster friendship and love among the congregation, along with wishes that they enjoy the same fellowship that the Mariners have maintained over the years.

Pastor Deb plans to thank the Mariners during the June 1 service for the significant contribution the members have made over the years to the life of the church. She will include special acknowledgment to the group's two recent and long-term Skippers: Kay Ramsay, who served four terms from 2011 to 2014, and Dorothy Fergusson, who served 10 terms from 2000 to 2010. Other current retiring officers are Eleanor Miner, First Mate; Les Deibert, Chaplain; Earl and Joyce Collins, Stewards; Chuck Wright, Purser, and Marion Wright, Log keeper.

Also invited to attend the June 1 service are a number of long-time members who continue to serve as an integral part of the congregation but have moved away from Magnolia or no longer are able to attend

services on a regular basis.

History of the Magnolia Presbyterian Church Mariners has been compiled by Les Deibert and will be available for members of the congregation to read at the celebratory coffee hour following the June 1 service. Personal copies of the 40-page history can be provided by sign-up at the coffee hour or upon request through the church office. A photo display of historical Mariner activities also is planned at the coffee hour.



Pictured: Recent Mariners' luncheon

Have a BLAST This Summer!

It is so hard to believe that we are coming to the end of our regular church school year. I look forward to wrapping things up with special traditions like presenting Bibles to our fourth graders, honoring our volunteer teachers, and gathering together after church for a picnic in the park. But even though we will wind things down in some respects that does not mean that our children's ministry here at MPC comes to a close. We strive to continue to make summertime as welcoming to our youngest members, as we do the rest of the year.

This summer we are going to try something a little different. As in past years, I will go half-time for July and August, so I will be at MPC leading Children's Time and teaching BLAST two Sundays a month. On the other two Sundays, we encourage families with children to use the more relaxed services of summer as a great opportunity to include their children in full worship time. We are going to launch our new Children's Bible Worship Library early this summer as a way to make this even more fun. An array of Children's Bibles will be available in the narthex. Children are welcome to take them into worship, in addition to our usual coloring activities. I look forward to seeing the children of our beloved church family this summer, whenever your summer plans bring you home to MPC!

Lori Sawyer
Children's Director



June 23-26 is Vacation Bible School

Are you ready for the neighborhood Ecumenical Vacation Bible School program starting Monday June 23rd? The fun begins at 9 am for kids' from preschool to sixth grade at Magnolia Lutheran Church, 2414 – 31st Avenue West. Each day kids will join in singing, playing, creating, and learning about Jesus and the Good News he brings to each of us. Small groups will gather with others their own age to talk about the day's lesson before Bible School ends at noon.

To register your children for Vacation Bible School please go to: www.magnolialutheranchurch.com/vbs

Teen volunteers are invited to help make the Vacation Bible School a success by assisting in the program. Go to www.magnolialutheranchurch.com/vbs/vbs-teen-volunteer

After you register your children, an email will be sent to you with a Sign-up Genius link. Please sign up to volunteer for at least two days. Thank you for helping us to make it another great year for VBS!



Interested in Church Membership?

Interested in Church Membership? If you have been worshipping with us regularly and would be interested in becoming a member of our congregation, please let Pastor Deb know. She would be happy to find a time for conversation with you to include an orientation to this church and to our denomination, the meaning of church membership, and the steps we would take to welcome you to membership here at Magnolia Presbyterian Church. We are glad you are here!

Supper Club June 14th

Brom and Anné Wikstrom will host the Saturday, June 14th Supper Club at their home -- 2715 W. Lynn Place (top of the hill at McGraw). Feel free to drive up to the house to drop off food and then park down on 28th or other nearby streets.

This is an evening away from the kids, but please do bring a dish to share join us. R.S.V.P. by phone 206-683-7844 or e-mail miele4444@comcast.com but don't let that stop you from showing up at the last minute. We will take a break from Supper Club over the summer, but will return in September.

Morning Women's Bible Study

Thursday, June 5th the Morning Women's Bible Study will conclude their study of the Old Testament book of Ruth. The group starts at 10 AM upstairs in the Mt. Baker Room. All are welcome.

All Church Picnic Set for September 14th

Mark your calendar for an end of the summer All Church Picnic at Magnolia Park, 1461 Magnolia Blvd West on Sunday, September 14th. We've booked the whole park with lots of parking, play space, picnic shelters, BBQ grills and tables, so bring the whole family after worship and enjoy a potluck BBQ and picnic. More information to come.

Ruth Sceva Memorial Service

The family of Ruth Sceva has set Saturday, July 12th, for her memorial service. The celebration of Ruth's life will begin at 1 PM in the MPC sanctuary. Read about the life of this long-time member of our church in the May edition of the Spire.

Nightwatch Needs Volunteers

Every second Wednesday of the month a group of folks from MPC meet at our church at 7:30 PM to drive together as a team to volunteer for Operation Nightwatch. This is an organization downtown that serves a meal to often several hundred homeless people every night. We volunteer to serve the meal and even prepare it for them first. This is a great opportunity to share fellowship with your church family while serving needy folks in the downtown area. On May 14th a group of six of us served approximately 100 people between 9 and 10 PM. These people really appreciate and enjoy the hot meal we serve them. If you would like to help with Operation Nightwatch, please contact Cheri Yonich (cyonich@msn.com), Dave Bowman (David.Bowman@centurylink.com) or Jerry Leighton (yacht_1@hotmail.com). **Consider joining us on June 11th to participate in this wonderful mission opportunity.**



Jericho Matthews Baptized May 18

Jericho Cincinnatus Matthews, son of Jane and Jarrad Matthews, was baptized on May 18th with many family members at worship for the celebration. They included Godparents Uncle James Matthews from Texas and Aunt June Chee from Hawaii, Jericho's Grandma Cindy and Grandpa Jim Matthews from Texas, Uncle Jason and Aunt Shea Matthews with cousin Reise and Aunt Jean Chee from Portland.

A first birthday lunch of BBQ, sweet tea, and plenty of cake followed in Fellowship Hall.

Photo captions: **Above** Jarrad, Jane, and Jericho Matthews stand in front of MPC. **Right** Godparents James Matthews and June Chee with newly baptized Jericho and his parents. **Below** Jericho is having fun playing in the baptismal water.



Outdoor Ecumenical Worship August 31st

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Sunday, August 31st (Labor Day weekend) for an Outdoor Ecumenical Worship Service on the front lawn of the United Church of Christ, 3555 West McGraw. The service begins at **10 AM**. We will not hold a regular service here at MPC that day.

Members of the Methodist, Episcopalian, United Church of Christ, Lutheran, and Presbyterian congregations of Magnolia will come together for this special service and coffee hour. An offering will be collected for Mary's Place, and we will enjoy music by the Mary's Place Choir. Those who attended our ecumenical service last summer know what a wonderful opportunity this will be to build further connections with brothers and sisters in Christ here in our neighborhood.

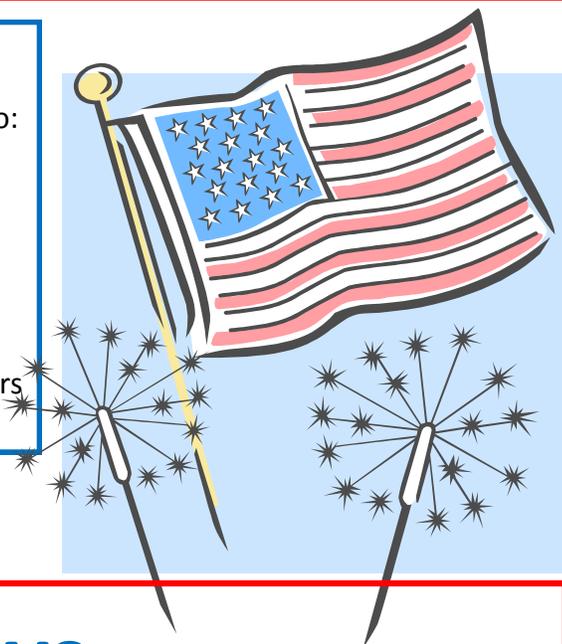
Summer 2014

New Church Office Hours

The Office Administrator hours for May to July 2014 will change to:

Mondays: 8:00am-12:00pm
Tuesdays: 8:00am-12:00pm
Wednesdays: 8:00am-2:00pm
Thursdays: 8:00am-12:00pm
Fridays: closed

The office is always closed Saturday & Sunday. Normal office hours will resume on July 1st. (Pastor Deb's hours remain the same.)



Summer MPC Birthdays

June 7th
Mardell Smith

June 9th
Gwendolyn Madill
William Tyler

June 11th
Sue Matlock

June 15th
Jeanette Sanchez
Mary Ann Fergusson

June 17th
Brea Kelly
Katy Fleeton

June 21st
Les Deibert

June 24th
Cecile Horman

June 25th
Marie Bailey

June 26th
Sally Cummings

July 3rd
Cindy Bain

July 5th
Jane Haugen

July 6th
Lily Whipple

July 8th
Barbara Kivi

July 9th
Bennett Hasandras

July 12th
Rob Leet, Jr.

July 14th
Sean Coleman

July 19th
Dahlia Mak

July 21st
Tina Leighton

July 22nd
Freda Clark

July 23rd
Eleanor Davison
Jerry Leighton

July 27th
Archer Fleeton
Loraine Park

July 29th
Robert Mak

August 1st
David Lang
Linda Keylon

August 3rd
Nancy McPhaden

August 4th
Joy Selby
Owen Cooper

August 9th
Joshua Youngkin, Jr.

August 10th
Ramona Hunter

August 11th
Valerie Cooper

August 12th
Anne Wikstrom
Don Strong
Katie Coleman

August 14th
Mac Bily

August 15th
Nick Bailey

August 16th
Millicent Hasandras

August 18th
Flo Lentz
Melissa Bathum

August 21st
Aaron Kang-Crosby
Campbell Fleeton

August 27th
John Obourn

August 28th
Sharlene Bathum

August 31st
Sandra Gorohoff

Final Reminders

Mariners Celebration

Sunday, June 1st

MPC Session Meeting:

Tuesday, June 3rd *and*
Tuesday, August 19th at 7pm
in the Mt. Baker Room.

Supper Club:

Saturday, June 14th at
6:30pm at the Wikstrom
home.

Operation NightWatch:

Wednesday, June 11th *and*
Wednesday, July 9th *and*
Wednesday, August 13th
at 7:30pm.

Morning Women's Bible

Study: Thursday, June 5th at
10am in the Mt. Baker Room.

Ecumenical Worship Service

Sunday, August 31st at 10am
Front lawn at United Church
of Christ.

Women's Walk & Coffee Group:

Saturday, June 7th at 9am.

Men's Coffee Group:

Tuesdays at 9:30 am in the
Mt. Rainier Room.

AA Meetings:

Two AA groups are now
meeting at MPC—Tuesdays at
8:00pm and Wednesdays at
6:45pm in the Mt. Rainier
Room. All are welcome to
attend.

Prayers, cards, and calls to
those who cannot be with us
regularly in worship are
always appreciated:

- Carol Boitano
- Marie Barnes
- Vada May Corkery
- Eleanor Davison
- Ray & Dorothy Fergusson
- Evelyn Freeman
- Katherine Hoagland
- Cecile Horman
- Molly Langdale
- Nancy McPhaden
- Ruth Weitkamp

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Find us on Facebook! 

We welcome you to join us any Sunday!

9:15 am	Choir Practice
10:30 am	Worship Service
11:30 am	Coffee Hour