



Monthly newsletter of Magnolia Presbyterian Church - April 2019

Pastor's Column: New Life

As we prepare to celebrate Easter and the good news of Christ's resurrection from the dead, it strikes me that beautiful reminders of God's gift of new life have been springing up all around the church:

- an annual report full of colorful photos and lively reminders of God's work in & through this congregation in the past year
- the happy sounds of children playing downstairs in the Boys & Girls Club preschool midweek
- church spaces, like our upstairs nursery and the Mt. Rainier Room on the main floor, repainted and refreshed
- an upstairs room newly ready to be rented as nonprofit office space (let us know if you can recommend a group that might be interested)
- brand new Easter signs, banner, and ads designed by Communications Consultant Kris Clark to welcome our neighbors to the celebration
- church officers looking ahead to our 75th anniversary in 2020 with great joy and optimism about our future together
- new excitement around congregational conversations during coffee hour, as we ask a question of the month to gather your input.

Our first question: What word best captures the spirit of this congregation?

Photos on the following page show some of your answers and the fun we had with the assignment.

Spring has sprung, and it promises to be a beautiful Easter season!

May God offer signs of new life to each of you as together we welcome the season of resurrection.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Deb

CALENDAR

Apr 4th

Afternoon Bible Study

Apr 6th

Open House at
Muslim Association of
Puget Sound

Apr 14th

Palm Sunday

Apr 14th

New Member Welcome

Apr 18th

Supper & Evening
Worship

Apr 21st

Easter Sunday

Apr 22nd

Evening Bible Study



Coffee Hour Question:
What word best captures the
spirit of this congregation?



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 14th

10:30 am Worship will include a Palm Parade around the sanctuary, led by our children

Supper & Evening Worship, Thursday April 18th

NEW THIS YEAR:

We will gather in the Mt. Rainier room (main floor) for a simple soup and bread supper at 6 pm before moving across the hall to the sanctuary at 7 pm for a “Journey through Holy Week” created by Children’s Director Liina-Ly Roos.

Designed to be fully intergenerational, this special service will walk us through the final days of Jesus’ life. In addition to other stops along the way, we will gather around the communion table to celebrate his Last Supper with his disciples, and we will gather at the foot of the cross to sing hymns in candlelight as we remember his death.

Please join us for what promises to be a meaningful and memorable way to acknowledge the rest of the Holy Week story.

Easter Sunday, April 21st

9 am Breakfast

10 am Egg Hunt

10:30 am “Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!”

Join us for a festive worship service, complete with Alleluia wands, as we celebrate the Resurrection



*Palm Sunday
2018*





Celebrate Easter with Us!

9 am Breakfast **10 am Egg Hunt** **10:30 am Worship**



All are welcome!



One Great Hour of Sharing

This special denominational offering supports important global ministries such as Presbyterian Disaster Relief and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. To learn more, watch your bulletin inserts on Sunday mornings, or go to <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs>. On Palm Sunday we will collect both your checks and the coins you and the children have gathered in your "fish banks" throughout the Lenten season.



Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary

If you wish to purchase one or more lilies to help decorate our sanctuary for Easter, please send a check for \$10, with "Easter Lilies" in the memo line, to the church office by Palm Sunday, April 14th. Please let us know if your gift of a lily is in memory or honor of someone, so we can list your dedication in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

New Member Welcome on Palm Sunday, April 14th

If you have been worshipping with us regularly, we are glad to have you with us, and we invite you to consider joining the family! New members will be welcomed to the church on Palm Sunday, April 14th. If you would like to be received into membership at that time, or if you're simply curious about what it means to be a member of the church, please speak with Pastor Deb Sunoo.



Aneelah Afzali visits MPC

We were delighted to welcome guest speaker Aneelah Afzali, Executive Director of the Muslim American Empowerment Network, on Sunday, March 17th. Aneelah talked with our kids during the children's message, shared an interfaith sermon dialogue with Pastor Deb Sunoo, and led us in a fascinating question and answer session over lunch.



April 6th Open House at Muslim Association of Puget Sound

Now that many of you have heard Aneelah Afzali speak, you may be interested in learning more about our Muslim neighbors. The next Open House at MAPS (the Muslim Association of Puget Sound, which is Aneelah's home congregation) provides the perfect opportunity! The April 6th event runs from 12 – 3 pm in Redmond and includes a mosque tour, a meal, an opportunity to observe or participate in prayers, and a panel presentation on Women in Islam. Pastor Deb would be happy to organize carpools from the church; please let her know if you are planning to join us.



Boys & Girls Club Preschool Registration Opens April 1st

What a wonderful preschool program the Boys and Girls Club offers here in

our church building! Know anyone who is looking for a preschool for their child? Feel free to refer them directly to Jennifer Allman, Preschool Director, at 206-283-0761.

The Boys & Girls Club preschool offers an inclusive environment for children to gain self-confidence while learning through hands-on experiences and play. Inspired by Creative Curriculum, they focus on social development as well as kindergarten readiness. By developing the whole child through Social/Emotional, Physical, Cognitive, and Language skills, they are building a foundation that prepares children for kindergarten and their educational career ahead.

Program Details:

Registering Now for the 2019-2020 school year (Must be age 3 prior to September 1, 2019) Please visit www.positiveplace.org/lawton to register or call 206-283-0761 for more information.

Half Day Program: 8:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Full Day Program: 8:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m

Summer Camps through the Boys & Girls Club



Also open for registration is Summer Camp 2019 at Lawton Boys and Girls Club, located in Lawton Elementary, serving children in grades K-5. Campers will enjoy 3 field trips per week, daily activities, and plenty of summer fun at the club! Camp runs July 1 through August 23, 2019 and costs \$240.00 per week. Go to www.positiveplace.org/lawton to register and learn more about our school age summer camp program.



Children's Plans for Holy Week & Easter

On Palm Sunday, April 14th, the children are invited to bring back the "fish banks" in which they have been collecting money for our One Great Hour of Sharing offering throughout Lent. We look forward to leading the Palm Parade around our sanctuary that morning and to singing a couple songs that they have practiced this winter.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt for the kids is planned for Easter Sunday, April 21st following breakfast, and we know how much they enjoy waving their Alleluia wands during our 10:30 am Easter worship service too.



NEW THIS YEAR:

Our Holy Week evening service (7 pm Thursday, April 18th) will be far more interactive for the children and will be preceded by a simple supper at 6 pm which we hope will make it easier for families to attend together.

We are having fun planning these special events for the kids and I hope that many of them will be able to participate in several engaging ways during Holy Week this year!

- Liina-Ly Roos, Children's Ministry Director

Youth Class Studying Parables of Jesus

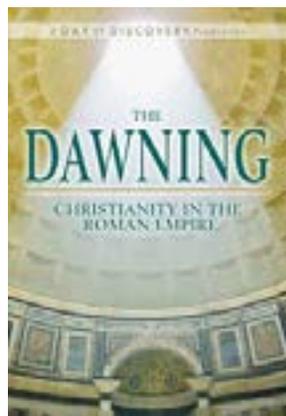
Our study of Jesus' Parables continues in the Youth Class. We have also enjoyed remaining with the adult congregation this past month to hear guest speakers Aneelah Afzali and Rev. Rick Reynolds in worship, and we're looking forward to celebrating Palm Sunday and Easter.

- Rev. Justin Beatty, Youth Pastor



Travel-sized Toiletries for Operation Nightwatch

The Deacons are collecting travel sized toiletries for Operation Nightwatch to distribute to their homeless clients. Some items that are most needed include deodorant, lotion, shaving cream, lip balm, hand sanitizer, multi-vitamins, cough drops, pain reliever, Kleenex, tooth brushes, tooth paste, dental floss, and bulk drink mix. Please bring your donations to the Red Barrel by April 7th. Thank you for caring.



Afternoon Study meets April 4th

Our afternoon Bible Study continues the video series "The Dawning: Christianity in the Roman Empire" at 1:30 pm on Thursday April 4th. Join us as we learn about the foundations of the Christian faith in Roman times. Questions? E-mail Janet Friedrich philipf@comcast.net

April 22nd Evening Bible Study

As we continue working our way through the New Testament Letter to the Romans, Lesson 8 ("Called by God") will be the subject of our April Evening Bible Study. The group will meet at 7 pm on April 22nd for Tea & Treats followed by the Bible Study lead by Ruth Trail. Please join us in the Mt. Rainier Room for this discussion.