



MPC News

October 2011

Spiritual vs. Religious?

Last month, UCC pastor Lillian Daniel caused a bit of a stir with a caustic rebuttal of the oft-used phrase, "I'm spiritual but not religious" that she wrote for the Huffington Post. After one too many negative encounters on an airplane, Lillian Daniel slices into casual believers who pick through the life of faith as though it were a salad bar:

These people always find God in the sunsets. And in walks on the beach....

Like people who go to church don't see God in the sunset! ...How lucky we are to have these geniuses inform us that God is in nature. As if we don't hear that in the psalms, the creation stories and throughout our deep tradition.

I have to wonder if Lillian Daniels was on a flight to the Pacific Northwest when she had that last straw of a conversation.

I am grateful that shortly before I read Lillian Daniels' diatribe, I had just happened to re-read church historian Diana Butler Bass' take on the kind of dualistic thinking that separates spirituality from religion in the first place. In her book, *The Practicing Congregation*, Butler Bass argues that church leaders from St. Benedict to Bonhoeffer have refused to separate spirituality from regular congregational life. Butler Bass writes that the seeds of new growth for the mainline Protestant church might be planted where our spiritual practices and everyday congregational life meet.

Sociologist Robert Wuthnow describes spiritual practices as intentional activities that deepen our relationship to the sacred. Spiritual practices have been a part of the Christian tradition for individuals and communities of faith since the beginning.

It is good to be reminded that we don't have to choose between our spirituality and organized religion. Spiritual practices are a vital part of the faith we share.

Grace be with you!

Katie

Family News

Deaths

- ◆ Bernice West, Barbara Whitaker's mother, passed away on September 7.

New Addresses

- ◆ Ruth Battin, 12600 SE Freeman #54, Milwaukie, 97222

Thank You

- ◆ The Adams, Duncans, Hartsons, Richardsons and Thomsens for all of their hard work on the Labor Day Picnic.
- ◆ Nancy Killian for cleaning and organizing storage areas.

Want to show your gratitude? Email news@milwaukiepres.org to tell us who needs thanking.

Session

Administration

Dave DeVore (chair)
Verne Duncan
Ross Cottrell (Personnel)

Communications

Diana Bennett (chair)
Marilyn Zetterberg

Congregational Min.

Melissa Thomsen

Christian Education

Cherie Kennedy (chair)
Rusty Garrison (clerk)

Community Ministries

Claire Hobson

Stewardship

Kevin Bixby

Worship

Nancy Killian (chair)
Kelley Gutman

Deacons

2011

Betty Burdick
Betty Thompson
Marilyn Barnes
Madeline Davis
Jan Bunte

2012

Dave Adams
Jan Braman
Phyllis Zimmerman
Chris Didway
Ruth Young

2013

Nancy Seigneur
Marlene Graham (chair)
Winnie Thomas
Sarah Carver

Sunday Mornings

October 2nd—World Communion Sunday

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship with Communion – Dress up in clothing from around the world. Church school for all ages and brief Pageant parent meeting following worship.
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Adult Education “The Amazing Paul, Part II” with Sam Cole. We'll explore the end of the Apostle Paul's life and read some of his key scriptures.

October 9th

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship (Church school for all ages following worship)
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Adult Education: “Hello? Ho? What?” with Sam Cole. Read and discuss a series of "Religious Wake-Up Calls" from a wide range of scripture — Exodus, Psalms, Matthew, Galatians, and Philipians.

October 16th

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship (Church school for all ages following worship)
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Adult Education: “The Joys, Hopes and Politics of Caring About World Hunger,” with Kelley Gutman and Sam Cole. In tandem, Kelley and Sam will share insights after reading books about ending world hunger.

October 23rd

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship (Church school for all ages following worship)
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Adult Education: “Uncle Sam’s Oh-So-Original and Oh-So-Easy Bible Quiz.” Sam has invented his own style of Bible Quiz. And he feels brave enough to try it out with you. Just show up. Everybody wins.
- ◆ Noon New Member Class

October 30th—Reformation Day

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship (Church school for all ages following worship)
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Adult Education “Marcus Borg Digitally” with Sam. The group will listen to his thoughts on DVD, then explore OUR faith journeys.

Locations

- ◆ Pre-School - meeting in room next to the nursery; singing with Kevin 11:45-noon
 - ◆ K-5 - meeting upstairs; singing with Kevin 11:45 - noon
 - ◆ Middle School/High School - meeting downstairs
 - ◆ Adults - Schmidt Hall
-

Youth Activities

Sun 10/2	11:15 a.m.-Noon 4:30-6 p.m. 7-9pm	Youth Sunday School Middle School Youth Group High School Youth Group @ Moreland Pres
Sun 10/9	11:15 a.m.-Noon 4:30-6 p.m. 7-9 p.m.	Youth Sunday School Middle School Youth Group High School Youth Group @ Moreland Pres
Fri 10/14 – Sun 10/16		Middle School Fall Retreat (see below)
Sun. 10/16	7-9 p.m.	High School Youth Group @ Moreland Pres
Sat 10/22	9-11 a.m.	Charles Loftus-Cole Work Day @ Oregon Food Bank (High School Youth)-see next page
Sun 10/23	11:15-2:00 p.m.	Outdoor Sanctuary Service Project @ Milwaukie Pres. (Middle School Youth)
Sun 10/30	10:45-11:30 a.m. 4:30-6 p.m. 7-9 p.m.	Youth Sunday School Middle School Youth Group High School Halloween Outing!

2011-2012 is the Year of Service! We have an amazing opportunity to raise money for our 2012 Mission Trips (High School Caravan Trip and Middle School City Camp). Our youth will be working hard serving our church and community and will be taking pledges for the number of hours of service they work during the school year. Pledges (from family, friends, neighbors, church members, etc) will go directly to fund their participation on the 2012 Mission trips. Take the time to support our youth!

- ◆ **Middle School Fall Retreat (Middle School Mania)** – 10/14 to 10/16 – *B’Nai B’rith Camp in Lincoln City, OR* This is a fantastic retreat and I’m really excited for about the new location! Come have a blast. Register by Thurs., 9/22 (\$50) or Thurs., 9/29 (\$75). Check the Milwaukie youth page or ask Josh for forms to register. This event is open to all Middle Schoolers, 6th to 8th grade.
- ◆ **Outdoor Sanctuary Service Project** Sun., 10/23, 11:15 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at *Milwaukie Presbyterian Church* – We have the privilege to continue our work helping restore the awesome nature space that sits behind our church. We will be helping clear weeds, lay bark dust for trails, or maybe even help clear an area for an outdoor worship space. This event is open to all Middle Schoolers, 6th to 8th grade.

— *Joshua Dunham, Youth Director*

New church directories are in the Narthex starting October 2.

New Member Class, October 23 Are you interested in formally becoming a member of Milwaukie Presbyterian Church? Meet in Katie's office at noon. Contact Katie with questions, pastor@milwaukiepres.org.

Flowers in Worship - We are so blessed by the gifts of Marilyn Zetterberg and Adele McMurry, who brighten our Sanctuary with fresh blooms. If you would like to honor a loved one or special occasion with flowers for the Sanctuary, sign up in the Narthex.

Outdoor Creation Walk - Is your spirit fed in the great outdoors? Join Lynn McFarland of the Franciscan Spiritual Center to meander through MPC's wetlands to contemplate how God touches our lives through nature. We will use a small guidebook with scripture passages. Sat. Oct. 8, 9-12 p.m. Cost: \$20 per person (register with the Franciscan Center, 503.794.8542) Scholarships available.

Annual Charles Loftus Cole Memorial Work Party - This year's work celebration is Saturday, October 22, 9-11 a.m. at the Oregon Food Bank on 33rd Drive. Join us. For questions and to get on the roster please contact Jane Loftus, 503.698.2053, or janeloftus@comcast.net, or Sam Cole, 503.423.7111, or samcole@comcast.net.

An invitation to learn/visit/walk while enjoying Milwaukie Your Adult Ministry task force heard of an event very near to our church that could be a fun opportunity to be together in an informal setting. Milwaukie has had an ongoing "First Friday" street activity featuring art, entertainment, and socializing. The next first Friday will be October 7, 4-8 p.m. If you want to get in on this activity, meet in the west parking lot of the church, either at 4:00 or 6:00 p.m. If a ride were needed, Kim Adams has volunteered a van. There is NO charge. See you there!

One more bit from Adult Ministry Have you noticed the bulletin board in the Narthex, labeled Adult Ministry? It will keep you informed of activities, opportunities and tasks that need doing for any of our commissions that are overworked at some time during the year. Many hands make light work, as the old saying goes. You just may be the right fit for some small task. Grab a buddy, or volunteer alone, but join the team that makes this place a real dynamic community of believers. Mary Kulm promises to match up volunteers with commission chairs, so keep her phone warmed up, 503.654.1042 or email her at kulmmmary@gmail.com She's waiting.

Milwaukie Presbyterian Church

2416 SE Lake Rd.
Milwaukie OR 97222-7731

www.milwaukiepres.org

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage PAID
Gladstone OR
Permit No. 41

Occupant or

503.654.7782, (fax) 503.653.5444
office@milwaukiepres.org
Office Hours
Tu.-Th. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Fri., 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Closed Mon.

Church Staff:

- ◆ The Rev. Katie Pate, Pastor
pastor@milwaukiepres.org
- ◆ The Rev. Kristen Hamilton-Sutherland, Pastoral Visitor
hamland123@frontier.com
- ◆ Sam Cole, Christian Ed. Director
ce@milwaukiepres.org
- ◆ Joshua Dunham, Youth Director
youth@milwaukiepres.org
- ◆ Kevin Lambert, Music Director
music@milwaukiepres.org
- ◆ Ann Waterman, Office Coordinator/
Bookkeeper ◆ Marilyn Barnes, Office
Assistant/Custodian ◆ Apsara Long &
Sopheap Yin, Nursery Attendants

I signed up for the email newsletter. Why am I still getting it in the mail? Our bulk mail permit expires in December. By then, we are hoping that a majority of folks on our mailing list will receive the newsletter by email or pick up a paper copy in the Narthex to bring down the cost of the postage. For now, we have to keep a certain number of people on our mailing list to send any newsletters by bulk mail. Please be patient with us in this transition time.

Newsletter Changes - Notice anything different?

The paper size has changed as we seek to be better stewards of our natural and financial resources. Brief articles may be submitted in person or by email to news@milwaukiepres.org. Next newsletter deadline: September 15.

New look to the Church Website

www.milwaukiepres.org.