

MPC News

December 2011

God is with Us ♦ Hope is Restored

The British essayist Dr. Johnson wrote in 1750, “Hope is necessary in every condition.” Where do we find hope in the midst of this waiting season? What gives you hope? What do you hope for? Where do you wish you felt more hopeful in your life?

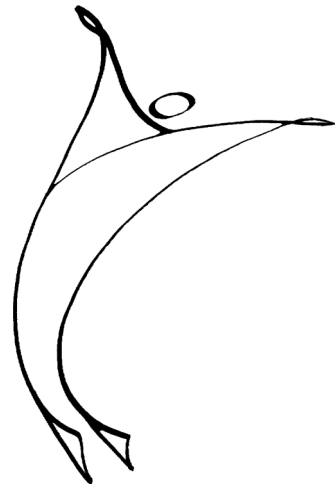
Our Advent theme this year is “God Is with Us ♦ Hope Is Restored.” Hope is like happiness – it comes and goes. Sometimes, it arrives like a gift. Sometimes, we have to dig deep to find it, and hold onto it with both hands so we don’t lose it.

We want to feel hopeful about the facts of life that are before us. We want to feel hopeful about the future. We know that there are signs of hope all around us, but there are times we need to open the eyes of our hearts a little wider to take them in.

This Advent season, let us watch for signs of hope in our daily lives. You might see them in newspapers or magazines, or you might experience them in relationships or simple everyday tasks. To help us visualize this spiritual practice, you are invited to bring signs of hope to church throughout the season of Advent. We will together make a collage of headlines, phrases, photographs and events. Before or after worship, glue images to the collage, or write a word or short phrase that describes the sign of hope you found. As the collage evolves, take a moment to meditate silently or talk with a partner about the joy created by the signs of hope all around us.

God Is with Us. Hope Is Restored!

Katie



Giving Update

July 1—Nov. 20, 2011	Actual	Annual Budget (session approved)
Income	80,467	218,867
Expenses*	<u>75,597</u>	<u>255,711</u>
Difference Surplus/ (Deficit)	<u>4,870</u>	<u>(36,844)</u>

* Does not include Nov. payroll expenses.



2012 Charitable Donations Reminder:

All contributions for 2011 tax year must be in the church office by 2 p.m. Dec. 30, or mailed in a letter **postmarked** Dec. 31. Giving statements will be available for pickup in the Narthex before Jan. 31. Don't file your taxes until you have your giving statement or the IRS (should you get audited) might disallow your contributions.

Session

Administration

Dave DeVore*
Verne Duncan
Ross Cottrell (Personnel)

Communications

Diana Bennett*
Marilyn Zetterberg

Congregational Min.

Melissa Thomsen*

Community Ministries

Claire Hobson*

Christian Education

Cherie Kennedy*
Rusty Garrison (clerk)

Stewardship

Kevin Bixby*

Worship

Nancy Killian*
Kelley Gutman

Deacons

2012

Dave Adams
Jan Braman
Phyllis Zimmerman
Chris Didway
Ruth Young

2013

Nancy Seigneur
Marlene Graham*
Sarah Carver

2014

Jan Bunte
Wayne Sabin
Sharon Wullbrandt

* chair

Sunday Mornings

Note about Sunday School: NO Sunday School classes will be held in December. On Dec. 4 and 11 there will be Intergenerational Fellowship following morning worship. Regular classes resume Jan. 8.

December 4

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship with Communion and Children's Pageant
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Intergenerational Advent Event #1: Treats, Reminiscing about Christmases Past, and Making Christmas Cards for MPC Christmas Boxes

December 11

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Intergenerational Advent Event #2: Treats, "Symbols of Christmas" and Folding Origami Cranes
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Youth Sunday School (downstairs)

December 18—Christmas Boxes

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship
- ◆ 11:15 a.m. Finish packing and delivering Christmas boxes

December 24—Christmas Eve

- ◆ 7 p.m. Family Worship
- ◆ 11 p.m. Candlelight Worship

December 25—Christmas Day

- ◆ 10 a.m. Worship

Coming to adult ed in January and February: classes that will draw from the works of Marcus Borg and Barbara Brown Taylor. Consider reading Taylor's book *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*.



Youth Activities

Sun., Dec. 4	11:15 a.m.-noon 4:30-6 p.m. 7-9 p.m.	Youth Sunday School (downstairs) Middle School Youth Group High School Youth Group
Fri., Dec. 9	5-9 p.m.	High School Youth Service Project: Serving at The Commons
Sun., Dec. 11	11:15 a.m.-noon 5-7 p.m.	Youth Sunday School Caroling Party
Sun., Dec. 18	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Christmas Boxes Service Project (here)
Dec. 19-Jan. 2		Winter Break-no youth activities

More information on December activities...

Serving at the Commons (formerly Glisan Street shelter), Fri., Dec. 9, 5-9 p.m., Moreland Presbyterian kitchen/The Commons. Come and help make and serve a meal to homeless men who are staying at the Commons (the new space for the former Glisan Street shelter). This is a great experience and good chance to give back to our community. Parent volunteers are needed to help the youth cook and serve food.

Caroling Party, Sun., Dec. 11, 5-7 p.m. Meet at Milwaukie Presbyterian. We have an exciting opportunity once again this year to lead an all-church caroling party. We will be caroling the neighborhood, singing to our home bound members, and bringing good news of the holiday as we sing your favorite Christmas Carols!

Christmas Boxes, Sun., Dec. 18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Milwaukie Presbyterian. Come help put together and deliver boxes filled with a holiday dinner, presents, and food for the holiday break for families who have fallen on hard times. This is an amazing service project and I hope you all can be there!

(Youth Activities, cont.)

Coming in January...

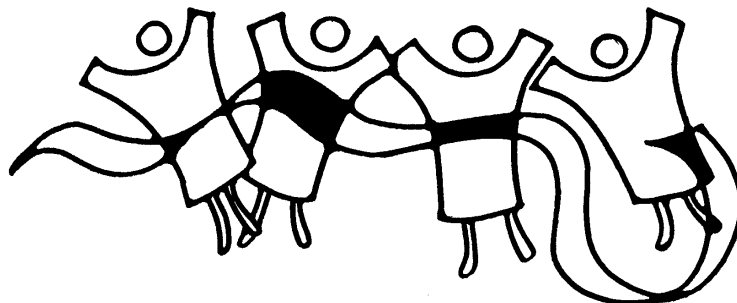
Youth & Family Dinner, Sun., Jan. 8, 6-7 p.m., Milwaukie Presbyterian Schmidt Hall.

Kick off 2012 with fun! Come enjoy a pizza dinner with your family and hear about the great things we did in 2011 and what the plan is for the 2012 youth program. This will be a time to get to know more about what's happening in the youth program and give out vital information for the coming year. All youth and their entire families are invited.

High School Winter Retreat, Fri., Jan. 13-Sun., Jan. 15, Son Lodge in Welches, OR. Our High School Youth will take a break MLK weekend to do some sledding/skiing up on Mt. Hood and enjoy the wilderness that God has blessed us with. We'll be partnering with Moreland Pres, Hillsboro Pres, Multnomah Pres, and Oak Hills Reformed on this retreat so it will be a great chance for our youth to meet some other awesome youth. Look to your inboxes for more information on this retreat coming soon. This is also a mandatory event for anyone who is planning to attend the 2012 Caravan Trip to Memphis.

Confirmation Class starts Jan. 15 at Milwaukie Presbyterian, 6-7 p.m. I am really excited to announce that we will be starting another confirmation class this year. Confirmation, what is that? Confirmation, why is important? Well, if you are asking these questions then you should think about coming to the first class. Or if you missed the class last year, you should think about coming again this year! And we are again partnering with our friends at Moreland Presbyterian for this class. Class is open to all 8th graders and older.

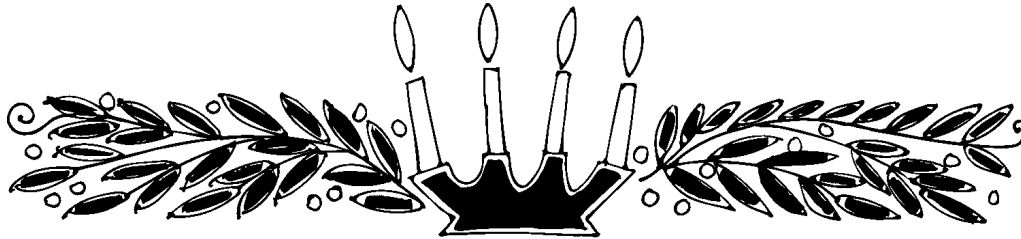
— Joshua Dunham, Youth Director



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday



Office h
 Tues.-Thurs.
 Fri. 8 a.m.-2
 Closed Mon

<p>4 10 a.m. <i>Worship with Communion and Children's Christmas Pageant</i> 11:15 a.m. <i>Intergenerational Event</i> 12:15 p.m. <i>Admin. meets</i></p> <p>4:30—6 p.m. <i>Middle School Youth</i> 7-9 <i>High School Youth</i></p>	<p>5 <i>Office Closed</i></p> <p>5:30 p.m. <i>Young Life</i> 6:30 pm. <i>Scouts</i></p>	<p>6 7:30 a.m. <i>Men's Grp @ Libbie's</i></p> <p>4-8 p.m. <i>Tutoring</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 p 7:30 p</p>
<p>11 10 a.m. <i>Worship</i> 11:15 a.m. <i>Intergenerational event</i></p> <p>5-7 p.m. <i>Caroling</i></p>	<p>12 <i>Office closed</i></p> <p>5:30 p.m. <i>Young Life</i> <i>(final meeting until Feb. 6)</i> 6:30 pm. <i>Scouts</i></p>	<p>13 7:30 a.m. <i>Men's Grp @ Libbie's</i> 10 a.m. <i>Bible Study</i></p> <p>4-8 p.m. <i>Tutoring</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30 p 7:30 p</p>
<p>18 <i>(Youth: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Christmas Boxes service project)</i> 10 a.m. <i>Worship</i> 11:15 <i>deliver Christmas boxes</i></p>	<p>19 <i>Office closed</i></p>	<p>20 7:30 a.m. <i>Men's Grp @ Libbie's</i></p> <p>7 p.m. <i>Scout Parent Grp</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 p 7:30 p</p>
<p>25 Christmas Day 10 a.m. Worship</p>	<p>26 <i>Office closed</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">← Office Closed →</p>	<p>27 7:30 a.m. <i>Men's Grp @ Libbie's</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 p</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Hours:</i> M-F: 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sat.-2 p.m. Mondays</p>	<p>1</p> <p>11 staff meets</p> <p>6-8 p.m. CWS (downstairs) 7 p.m. Deacons, CE, Comm. Ministries meet</p>	<p>2</p> <p>(Preschool setting up for Sat. fundraiser) 7-10 p.m. AA (downstairs)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7 a.m.-12 p.m. Preschool fundraiser breakfast (downstairs)</p>
<p>10:30 p.m. CWS (FS) 11:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p> <p>11 staff meets</p> <p>6-8 p.m. CWS (downstairs) 7 p.m. Session</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5-9 p.m. Youth to serve at The Commons 7-10 p.m. AA (downstairs)</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>4</p> <p>10:30 p.m. CWS 11:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>15</p> <p>11 staff meets</p> <p>Newsletter deadline</p> <p>6-8 p.m. CWS (downstairs)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7-10 p.m. AA (downstairs)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9 a.m.-3 p.m. Christmas boxes prep in Schmidt Hall</p>
<p>1</p> <p>10:30 p.m. CWS 11:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>22</p> <p>11 staff meets</p> <p>6-8 p.m. CWS (downstairs)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7-10 p.m. AA (downstairs)</p>	<p>24-Christmas Eve</p> <p>7 p.m. Family Worship 11 p.m. Candlelight Worship</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:30 p.m. CWS</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6-8 p.m. CWS (downstairs)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7-10 p.m. AA (downstairs)</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve</p> <p>(The office will be closed through Tues., Jan. 3rd.)</p>

VOLUNTEERS needed



The Annual Christmas Boxes Project—Plans are under way for this year's Christmas Boxes giving. Our goal is to provide for 35 families in the Milwaukie area. They will each receive boxes full of nutritious food, Christmas dinner, and gifts. You can help us reach that goal by donating food, gifts and cash. If you know of a family in need please let us know so we can include them in our giving.

If you would like to adopt a family to purchase gifts for please choose a family tag from the tree in the Narthex. You may partner up with other church members, extended family, friends or folks from your office to adopt a family. If you would like us to gather sizes and wish lists from the family please call Kelley, 503.944.9811.

We still need volunteers for our Dec. 17th work day. We meet at the church at 9 a.m. and spend the morning setting up tables and sorting food. Then we break for lunch and a shopping list is developed including perishable foods and any other foods needed to round out the boxes. In the afternoon we head to the store for a major shopping trip. Back at the church we unload and finish preparations for the next day.

This year we will be loading the boxes on Sun., Dec. 17, at 9 a.m., so plan to come early for church and help us fill the boxes. Then, following the church service, the boxes will be available for check out to deliver to families. A sign up sheet for the work party will be posted in the Narthex. If you would like to help out please let Kelley Gutman at 503.944.9811.

CE is Hosting Special Advent Events! Advent is a time to open our hearts with compassion. It is a time to create peace by opening ourselves to hope. This year, you are all invited to participate in two intergenerational events on Dec. 4 and 11, following morning worship. Please, pause during the busyness of the season, take time to join your church family and reach out to others.



There will be simple refreshments, a few conversation questions, suggested activities, and a story.

Sing for the Season! The Chancel Choir invites you to join them for music and fellowship in rehearsals between Nov. 30 and Christmas Eve. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. and Sundays, 9 a.m., except Dec. 4 (Christmas Pageant day). Services to sing at are Dec. 11, 18 and Christmas Eve (11 p.m. service only).

THANK YOU

Beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

- Philippians 4:8

- ◆ October and November Coffee Bar Volunteers: Kim Adams, Barbara Dale, Chris Hartson, Claire Hobson and Cathy Waterman.
- ◆ Bill Geister, for fixing our refrigerators
- ◆ Rusty Garrison, for repairing the drywall near the church school classrooms
- ◆ Ted Zetterberg and Tom Mott, for working on the grounds
- ◆ The PSU Women's Chorus, for singing in worship on November 6
- ◆ Ann Waterman, for working on our newsletter
- ◆ Kevin Lambert and Julie Bauder, for stepping in to accompany worship
- ◆ Marilyn Zetterberg, for arranging beautiful flowers for the sanctuary
- ◆ Joshua Dunham, for bringing us up to date with the weekly email news, Twitter feed and Facebook page.

If you would like to share your gratitude for someone in the congregation, email your thanks to news@milwaukiepres.org.

Other Announcements

New church directories are in the Narthex (coffee bar area) with names on each.

Help us be good stewards of our budget dollars by picking yours up the next time you're at church.

2012 Chinook Books on Sale Now as a youth fundraiser for the 2012 Mission Trips.

Regular Chinook Books are \$20 or the new "digital" version is only \$10 (for smart phones). Help our youth reach their mission goals. It's win-win!

Quilt Raffle Drawing date changed. Thank you, if you have already purchased raffle tickets for the beautiful king size quilt of fall colors that was donated to our church. There are still plenty of tickets left, so we have extended the drawing deadline to December 18th. If not for yourself, buy a ticket for others. It would make a great Christmas present. Call Kevin Bixby, 503.270.7414, if you wish to purchase tickets but can't get to the church. They're just \$5 each.

Looking for something you lost? Lost & Found items are on the counter at the base of the main stairs. Items unclaimed after a few weeks or a month are given away to the Salvation Army or recycled or thrown away as suits each item. Please check and retrieve any items that may be yours. Thanks from your custodian, Marilyn.

From Mary, Helen and Diane Babbitt with love: Dear Church Family, thank you so much for your many cards, hugs, prayers and being such a caring community. Your support has meant a great deal to us. We also thank those who helped us have a wonderful celebration of Art's life. The MPC and Francis Street choirs and their directors, our own Kevin Lambert and Tracey Edson. Members of Lutheran Choral Association and Organist Karl Jurisons. Molly Beiningen for being a wonderful music resource as well as finding kazoos. Danny Arrayan, our nephew, who played his trumpet so wonderfully. Katie, who nurtured us throughout the year during Art's hospitalizations. We truly felt your surrounding spirit and will forever be grateful."

Office Hours: the church office will be closed Tues., Dec. 27, and Tues., Jan. 3.

Three Newsletter Choices – What's your choice?

- ◆ We need to hear from you! **Please return this form to ensure that you continue to receive the newsletter.** Check a box below to choose a format.
- ◆ Opting to pick up your newsletter at church or receive it by email will help reduce our operating costs and environmental impact.
- ◆ So far, 58 of 225 households have opted to receive the newsletter by email. This is good news! This also means that we will no longer qualify for a bulk mail permit.
- ◆ Mailing to fewer than 114 addresses will make it cost effective to send newsletters by first class mail.

Email Distribution

To reduce operating costs, we'd like to distribute the newsletter by email. If this method works for you, please clearly print your name and email address below.

Name _____

Email address _____

Pick up Newsletter at Church

Copies of the newsletter will be available for pick up on Sundays. If you plan to pick up a copy of the newsletter at church, please clearly print your name below.

Name _____

Receive Newsletter by U.S. Mail

If you don't have access to email, can't get to church to pick it up, or prefer receiving a paper copy of the newsletter in the mail, please clearly print your name and address below if your address is different from what is on the label on the other side of this page.

Name _____

Address _____

Please mail this form to the church or drop it in the offering plate. Questions? Contact the church office, 503.654.7782, or office@milwaukiepres.org.

Milwaukie Presbyterian Church

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www.milwaukiepres.org

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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



**Sunday,
December 4,
10 a.m.**

Invite family and friends!