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Millwood Community Presbyterian Church
3223 North Marguerite Rd
Spokane, WA 99212
www.millwoodpc.org

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June 2010 Newsletter

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Millwood Community Presbyterian Church, 3223 North Marguerite Rd, Spokane, WA 99212
www.millwoodpc.org mcpc@millwoodpc.org 509-924-2350

Consider the Lilies

By Rev. Craig Goodwin, Pastor

Last summer I started a project with my daughters to chronicle the wildflowers of our region by taking pictures and learning about the different varieties. It has created some challenges as I'm forced to traipse around in grassy meadows at the height of my seasonal allergies, but it has mostly been a real gift of spending time with the girls and spending time with God. I didn't initially think of it as a centering spiritual practice but it has turned out that way.

In the midst of deadlines and pressures of everyday life, I have found that if I can get out and take a short jaunt in the woods with my camera, the stress dissolves. I find that upon returning to the tasks of the day I am on a more firm footing having experienced the wonders of God's good creation.

I guess I shouldn't be surprised. Jesus is the one who said;

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these." Matthew 6:28-34

As Paul makes clear in the book of Romans, our experience of the Creation points us to a Creator but we need Jesus to unite us with God the Father, the Creator of all things. But in this journey of following God, paying attention to and caring for the creation is part of the curriculum of growing up into Christ. This is one of God's gifts of encouragement along the way as my experience with the wildflowers is reminding me.

John Calvin, one of the great theologians of the church put it this way;

"For He has raised everywhere, in all places and in all things, His ensigns and emblems, under blazons so clear and intelligible that no one can pretend ignorance in not knowing such a sovereign Lord...It is evident that all creatures, from those in the firmament to those which are in the center of the earth, are able to act as witnesses and messengers of His glory to all men...For the little birds that sing, sing of God; the beasts clamor for Him; the elements dread Him, the mountains echo Him, the mountains and flowing waters cast their glances at Him, and the grass and flowers laugh before Him."

I hope during these summer months when we have more opportunities to be out in the wilderness and on the lake that we'll take Jesus up on the invitation to consider the lilies of the field. In doing so, we will be refreshed and renewed in the wonder of God's grace and love.

And if you find a patch of rare wildflowers give me a call so I can come take some pictures. ☺

Mark Your Calendar

Second Harvest Food Distribution, June 11

Volunteers meet at 11am to prep for the noon to 2 pm distribution.

Summer Worship Schedule Begins June 13

Come worship with us at our unified service at 9:30 am.

Millwood Farmers' Market Wednesdays

3 pm to 7 pm in the church parking lot.

Vacation Bible School June 21-25

VBS will be from 9:30 am to 12 pm. It's not too late to register your Cadet! Registration forms are in the Sunday School classrooms and on the information table.

Annual Meeting June 27

After the 9:30 am service we hope you can stay for a few minutes to hear Pastor Craig update us on the life of our church.

Summer Youth Schedule

By Brandon Comella

Drop-In @ The Crossing Youth Center every Tuesday – Thursday 1–4 PM. Starting June 15th.

Jr High & Sr High Youth Group: Weekly Starting on June 16th; Both Jr High and Sr. High meet @ The Crossing at 5:30 pm. Most of the time we will head out to Camp White for youth group & swimming. The youth will be split up into age groups for the learning times on most occasions.

Vacation Bible School: We will be doing VBS for the younger kids out @ Camp White June 21st – 25th. If you can help, let Brandon know. This is a great way to work on your community service hours.

High School Mexico Mission Trip: July 24th – 30th in Northern Mexico.

Jr. High Summer Camp: Washington Family Ranch August 8th – 12th.

No Drop-In: July 27th, 28th, 29th & August 10th, 11th, 12th.

** We will have special occasion activities throughout the summer such as: swimming, biking, hiking, camping, and all-nighters.*

What is Drop-In?... Drop-In takes place at The Crossing Youth Center, 8919 E Euclid (across the parking lot from Millwood PC). Drop-In is a safe place for any Middle or High School students to come and hang out. There will always be adult supervision, and the youth are allowed to come and go as they please. We sell Italian Soda's for \$1 throughout the summer, and have a variety of board games, video games, and movies, along with a pool table and foosball table. ** On Wednesday's the leaders need a break for dinner so that is why the youth cannot stay from Drop-In all the way until youth group that evening.*

For questions or if you want to be involved in the irregular activities, feel free contact Brandon at: 924-2350 or Brandon@millwoodpc.org.

Young Lives Update

By Shauna Edwards

We had a great time at club May 13! The girls trickled in and we had dinner that was so so yummy!

We had 18 girls a handful of dads and some new faces we've never seen before! The girls kept talking about the mashed potatoes and chicken and how good it was! After dinner, we had the opportunity to hear from Kari Kelli who has an amazing story of hope and redemption for the girls! She was churched as a child but didn't buy it so she started drugs and alcohol at 10 and was a teen mom at the age of 17 and went on to deal drugs, have 5 more kids, and then after hitting rock bottom, found hope in Christ that she never thought she could know! Her story was very powerful and she tells it with such grace and in a real way! The girls were really excited to win prizes and they loved their picture frames! At the end of the night they got goody bags and shopped for clothes and diapers! It was a super fun night!



I just wanted to thank everyone who was a part of putting the night together from pre club to the end! We had beautiful tables, amazing food, tons of help in childcare, great servers and kitchen help, frames with special words to each girl, and goody bags and prizes thanks to generous donations... at the end of the night the clean up was great and girls were taken home!

Thank you for everything! I say this often but this ministry wouldn't happen without all of you and everything you give!

Catch the Spirit!

By Diane Williams

Hey! Hey! Ho! Ho! It's Family Camp and you should go!

Family Camp 2010 is a wonderful fun filled weekend away from the routine. It will be held July 23, 24 and 25. We will gather at our own beautiful Camp White located on the Spokane River in Post Falls. Camp begins on Friday night with supper and ends Sunday afternoon with a home made ice cream feast. In between there is always lots of fun, good food, music, games and fellowship. We always have a speaker who presents a special program throughout the weekend. So bring the grandkids, Aunt Sarah and your special friend from down the street.

This is the camping highlight of the summer! Camp White has RV sites with full hook-ups (a few with just water and elec.), tent sites and two bunk houses. Plan now to come to Family Camp and make your reservations soon!

Costs:

Family \$95 (mother, father, children)

Adult \$30

Child \$20 (6- 12)

After July 4:

Family \$110

Adult \$35

Child \$25

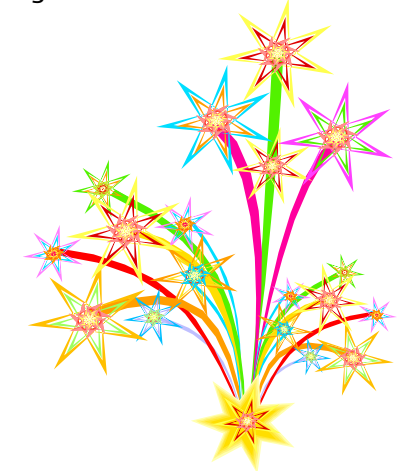
Men's Golf Outing

JUNE 17

The Men of Millwood are invited for an afternoon of golf at Esmerelda Golf Course on June 17, at 1pm. If you are interested in joining please call the Church Office at: 924-2350 to let us know how many tee times to reserve.

Camp White All Church Potluck/Picnic July 4

You are invited to a family-style potluck/ picnic at Camp White July 4th at 1pm. Bring your family and friends and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship at our beautiful camp grounds. Please bring your own table service and a hot dish, salad and dessert to share that will serve your own family and guests as well as ten more people. Don't forget some lawn chairs and a softball mitt for a softball game, your swim suit and towel, and coats and blankets if you plan to stay for the evening fireworks. There will be hiking on our hiking trail and a playground for the children as well as swimming, (weather permitting,) and games to play. We hope you will join us and help celebrate the 4th of July. We've ordered good weather so all we need is YOU!



Directions to Camp White

Directions from Spokane:

Take Interstate 90 to Post Falls, ID

Exit at Spokane Street (exit 5)

Proceed south on Spokane Street

Turn left (east) on 3rd Street

Turn right (south) on Greensferry Road

Follow Greensferry Road which veers right

Greensferry Road becomes Rodkey Drive

Follow Rodkey Drive to the camp entrance

If you have questions, call the church office at 924-2350. See you there!

Children's Ministry

By Kim McGiveran

Summer is getting into full swing as June arrives. We begin the summer kickoff with Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School June 21–25th from 9:30 am – 12 pm for children age 4–6th grade. If you haven't registered yet, you can register online at www.millwoodpc.org or pick up a registration brochure in the Sunday school classrooms or in the Church Office. This year we will be soaring into outer space and discovering more about God's awesome creations. We are planning on holding a VBS Celebration Sunday event the Sunday following VBS on June 27th. All children and families who participated in VBS will be invited to worship with us. The children from VBS will lead the worship time in singing some of the VBS songs, sharing with the congregation about favorite VBS moments and what they learned, and watching a video presentation with pictures taken throughout the VBS week.

In July we will be holding our summer Day Camp programs out at Camp White in Post Falls. Brochures and registrations are available in Sunday school classrooms. Dates for Day Camp are July 5–8 for upcoming 4th–6th grades, and July 19–22 for upcoming 1st–3rd grades. We leave the Church at 9 am and return at 2:30 p.m. Day Camp is a wonderful experience for your child to develop friendships with other MCPC children, as well as to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. At Day Camp we enjoy the beautiful outdoors at our private church campground as we go on hikes, play recreational games, swim and play on the beach, sing worship songs, make crafts, and learn more about God's love for them. Cost is \$30 and includes food and transportation. If you would like to join us and help out during Day Camp, please let Kim know.

Don't forget that we will be switching to one service at 9:30 am every Sunday starting June 13. We will have nursery care (6 weeks – 36 months) available and Summer Sunday School for children 3 years

– 3rd grade; 4th grade and up: encouraged to stay in the service.

In looking ahead to next fall, we are happy to announce that our Sunday school classrooms have been growing in attendance numbers. Most weeks we average 20 children in the classroom. In order to be able to better teach and serve our children, we would like to be able to offer two elementary classes at the 9:30 am service (separating upper and lower elementary grades). Please be in prayer about this area of opportunity and need within our church. All Sunday school class preparation is done for the teachers – we just need more willing servants to teach and assist our children. Please let Kim know if this is an area that you would be willing to serve on once a month.

Children's Ministry wishes to thank Memorials Committee and Handcrafters for supporting several children with scholarships to Camp Spalding. We hope that all those who will be going to Camp Spalding this summer will have a great time worshiping God and learning about His Word. Have a great summer everyone!

Congratulations Graduates

EAST VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Kyle Dunwoody

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

Kaitlyn Beres

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Becca Noble, B.S. in Sociology

Eastern Washington University

Liz Oyama, B.A. in Music

Missions

By Bronwyn Worthington

Crop Hunger Walk continues to be one of my family's favorite annual events. On April 25th, we counted up our donations and brought them to the registration area at Gonzaga University. Thankfully we arrived in time to watch the Scottish dancers and hear the community speakers. This year we heard from the directors of Interfaith Hospitality, Meals on Wheels, and Second Harvest. Afterwards Mayor Mary Verner spoke, praising our efforts for fighting hunger.

Several Spokane churches, including MCPC, were awarded for their outstanding participation in Crop Walk. A short prayer proceeded and we were set free to the beat of the bagpipes, beginning our reflective walk to Riverfront Park. As my family took the beautiful stroll to the park and loop back to Gonzaga, we sensed a common bond in our efforts to love our neighbors as ourselves. The fellowship which results through participating in missions in an active way refreshes my faith. I know I'll be walking in Crop Walk again next year! Many thanks to Sylvia Barney for her leadership in this globally-minded, community mission event. A big thank you also to everyone who supported Crop Walk 2010!

Katie Matthews, a member of MCPC, will be traveling to Bangalore, India to work in a special needs school this summer. Katie will be on a mission trip sponsored by University Presbyterian Church (UPC) of Seattle. It is through a program called World Deputation, offered by University Presbyterian. University Ministries and UPC have been sending students on summer missions for 58 years. To date, over 1,000 students have participated in the World Deputation program, serving in over 40 foreign countries and 20 states in the U.S. These teams of students venture all over the world for cross-cultural experiences with the

purpose of spreading the gospel and stretching their understanding of the world. Katie will be working at the Asha Kiran Special Needs School. You can get more information about the school at their website: ashakiran.net. There will also be a blog you can follow at UPC's website: www.upc.org. She leaves June 14. Please keep her in your prayers as she prepares for the journey.

Interfaith Volunteers

Thank You!

Ever wonder what happens to the people we care for during Interfaith Hospitality week, or if that hot meal and friendly conversation makes a difference? Here is correspondence from just one household that Interfaith has helped:

"To the people that made this possible.....for lending a hand to the people that need it. Here is a thank you card to let you know that we appreciate what you do. My family now has a place we call home and we are doing a lot better. We met so many people with good hearts, that makes us forget how we ended up homeless. The friends and support of Interfaith Hospitality helped us to the max, especially all the volunteers and helpers and everyone that gave a little or a lot. Thank you all! I just can't thank you enough!

God Bless You! Gonzalez–Meza Family"

If you would like to be involved in helping the homeless in the Spokane area, the next opportunity that we as a church get to help is June 27 through July 4. What a wonderful way to serve the Lord and serve others. Please consider ways in which you can serve. Van drivers, dinner hosts, and cooks are always needed. Please contact Anne Krueger at: annemkrueger@comcast.net OR 928–1069. You can also contact the Church Office.

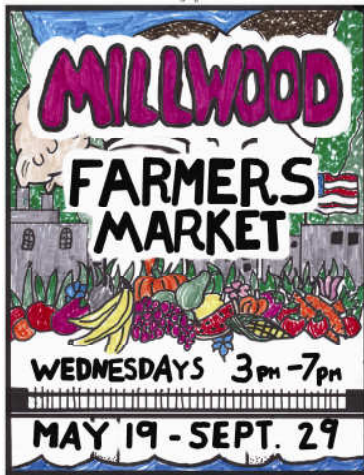
Millwood Farmers' Market

POSTER CONTEST WINNERS 2010

Elementary Age:
 Winner: Josie Engeland,
 4th Grade Pasadena
 Park Elementary



Honorable Mention:
 Gage Taylor,
 2nd Grade Seth
 Woodard Elementary



Posters not shown:
 Honorable Mention: Evelyn Vanstralen,
 3rd Grade, Pasadena Park Elementary

Junior High, High School Age:
 Winner: Abby Swanson,
 7th Grade Centennial Middle School

Thank you to everyone who participated. The Millwood Farmers' Market is open every Wednesday from 3-7 pm, May 19 - September 29.

Annual Meeting

JUNE 27

The Annual Meeting is in the sanctuary after our 9:30 am service. We will vote on our slate of new officers and hear a brief report from Pastor Craig.

Deacon Food Bank

The Deacon Food Bank is here and available to minister in a tangible way to the church body as well as to friends and neighbors of MCPC every time the doors are open.

The Deacon Food Bank keeps an inventory of non-perishable items for those who have a food emergency or are in need. Canned and boxed foods have a longer shelf life and are still nourishing for those who are hungry and enables us here at MCPC to respond immediately to the needs of those seeking help as requests are presented to us. Commodities for June are: canned and packaged meats.

Thank you for helping MCPC to "seek the welfare of the city God has sent us to, for in its welfare we will find our own welfare." ([Jeremiah 29](#))

Deacons and Elders Joint Dinner Meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for the Joint Dinner Meeting of Deacons and Elders. Dinner will be at 6 pm, with meetings to follow. Elders, please bring a main dish or meat to share. Deacons, please bring a salad or dessert to share.

Pancake Breakfast

JUNE 13

Everyone is welcome to join us June 13, at 10:30 am, in the Fellowship Hall for a Pancake Breakfast. The cost is \$6 per person; children 5 years and under eat free. The money raised will help support the Youth Mexico Mission Trip 2010. Tickets will be available before and after church June 6 and also at the door June 13.

Millwood Food Bank

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Our monthly food distribution will be Friday, June 11, between noon and 2 pm, in the church parking lot. Free produce and perishable products are available for low income individuals and families in need. No appointment or documentation is necessary to participate. You must be present in order to receive food. We will be distributing food rain or shine! Please bring a box to take your food items home in.

For more information or to volunteer, please call: the Church Office at: 924-2350. You can find out more at www.millwoodfoodbank.org.

Dale House for Sale

Phase 3 of construction is the replacement of the Christian Education Building with a new multi-purpose building. Along with continuing to collect donations from the Capital Campaign the Session has approved the sale of 3203 N. Dale Rd. to raise capital to get started on the new building.

The Dale House is now ready to be sold. It is a one bedroom, one bath bungalow style home that has been freshly painted inside and out with new vinyl in the kitchen and bath on a corner lot. It's priced to sell at \$99,900.00. For more information on the house or if you are interested in purchasing it, please contact Herb McIntosh at: 991-1855.

Summer Worship Rhythm

UNIFIED WORSHIP STARTS JUNE 13

During the summer, we come together as a worshiping community for one unified service at 9:30 am. Our two worship services with two unique styles of music and liturgy are an important part of our annual worship rhythm. They allow us to welcome more people through worship and give us a chance to worship in a way that best speaks to us. Just as important for us is our chance to come together during the summer and have one unified service. It helps bind us together as one community and church. For those of us that have a strong preference for one style over another it stretches us and helps us learn and appreciate different ways of engaging the Spirit of God in worship.

We are sharing the schedule of music leadership below. We are doing this not so that you can skip the weeks that aren't your style, but rather to help us prepare for worship. May God lead us this summer in our worship and our experience of unity at MCPC.

Summer Unified Worship Service Music Schedule

June 13	Organ/Worship Team
June 20	Worship Team
June 27	Organ
July 4	Worship Team
July 11	Organ
July 18	Organ
July 25	Organ
August 1	Worship Team
August 8	Organ
August 15	Organ
August 22	Worship Team
August 29	Worship Team
September 5	Worship Team