



MILLWOOD PRESS

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

Mark Your Calendar

MEMBERSHIP EXPLORATION EVENT, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 4:30 PM

This event is for those interested in learning more about membership at MCPC. We will explore the two commitments of membership, to Christ and to the church. There is no obligation to join in attending. We will meet at the Goodwin house. Childcare and dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to the church office.

NAVIGATORS, NOVEMBER 21

The Navigators will hold their monthly meeting Friday, November 21, at 12 noon in the MCPC Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be potluck. Please bring your favorite dish and a little bit extra to share. We have invited Spokane County Injury Fall Prevention Program Volunteer, Tom Ulvin to come and speak to us about fall prevention.

ADVENT PARTY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Millwood's annual Advent Party will be held Sunday, November 30, from 4 - 7 pm. The Advent Party is held annually on the first Sunday of Advent. It includes many crafts for children and adults as well as singing Christmas carols and sharing in a bounty of snacks. Put the date on your calendar and spread the word to your friends. For information, call Diane Williams at 448-1309 or Marilyn McIntosh at 928-8328.

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3223 North Marguerite Rd
Spokane, WA 99212
www.millwoodpc.org

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Surely...!

By Rev. Craig Goodwin

Surely, it was a great celebration on November 2 at our unified worship service and the wonderful meal that followed. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to get us to that day. Thanks to Nancy Mahoney and Steve Wilder for co-chairing our capital campaign. Special thanks to Beth Aaron, Louise Couper, and Diane Williams for heading up the harvest meal. Thanks to all of you who have pledged so generously to our capital projects. We'll announce the results of the campaign this coming Sunday, November 16.

One of the fun parts of the morning for me was our responsive exercise in worship where we took the confident punch line of Psalm 23, "Surely...", and we shared together some of our own confident affirmations about our future mission and ministry. Many of you wrote down your "Surelys" and I want to share some of them with you.

Surely...

"...MCPC is and will be a life changing church for...the whole community, giving God the glory for who He is and what He does."

"...we will raise our children to love the Lord"

"...we will minister to all who come here with goodness and mercy."

"...the church will grow in membership and outreach to the community, especially the youth."

"...God will use our church as a catalyst for spreading His love and blessings. We can rely on the Lord to always be with us and keep us strong in fulfilling His plan and purpose for our lives."

"...we will help our community through hard times, financially and in any other way we are able."

"...we will live generously in times of plenty and have all we need in times of want."
"...Jesus will reign!"
"...God will work through us if we let Him."



"...we will bring more people to Jesus Christ."
"...more people will laugh and feel more loved through the fellowship of our members."
"...we will welcome new families into the church and the Holy Spirit will guide our actions."
"...we will use our resources and buildings to benefit those who are less fortunate."
"...God is helping me to have a much better path. I'm hoping this church will help in guidance as well."
"...the Spirit of God in Christ moves this church to great works and deeds and love...Christ is with us."
"...we will be thought of as shepherds to this community."
"...many young people will commit their lives to Christ."
"...God will help us as we go forward with our building plans and bless us...We only need to have faith that He is with us. Having been through many building plans the past 50 years, I know this is true!!
"...this church will prosper and grow and in time the new CE building will be built."

We've been studying the Psalms, and now, it seems, we've written one. This reminds me that the good news of God that we see revealed in the people of the Bible continues to unfold today among us...surely!

Financial Update

End of October Year to Date

Budgeted Pledges & Regular Gifts:	\$319,800
Actual Pledges & Regular Gifts:	\$326,657
Budgeted Total Income:	\$376,783
Actual Total Income:	\$392,106
Budgeted Expenses:	\$401,026
Actual Expenses:	\$409,573
Anticipated Net Profit/ (Loss)	(\$24,243)
Actual Net Profit/ (Loss)	(\$17,467)

We are around \$7,000 ahead of our anticipated pledges and regular gifts through October. Expenses are currently \$8,000 over budget but we expect expenses to fall into line with the budget by the end of the year. If giving remains strong through December we can expect to meet our budget goals.

We are beginning the process of budgeting for 2009. We encourage everyone who intends to turn in a pledge card for the Operating Budget in 2009 to get that into the office as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available in the church office and on the info table in the entryway of the church. You can also go to www.millwoodpc.org and click on the "Give" tab on the top right side of the page. You can fill out the pledge card online and it will go directly to the church office.

We continue to receive pledges for the With Open Arms Capital Campaign. We will announce the results on Sunday, November 16. If you want your pledge to be included in that amount make sure to get it into the office before Friday, November 14. Stay tuned for information on a congregational meeting in December where we will discuss our plans for moving forward with our building projects.

Young Lives

By Bronwyn Worthington

Young*Lives*, a program connected with Young Life, will begin November 12 in The Crossing. The ministry aims to reach out to teen moms by helping them grow in their faith while developing parenting skills. On the second Wednesday of each month the teen moms will meet at The Crossing to enjoy dinner and a short program which includes a fun activity and a Biblical message. During this time their children will be cared for in the church by volunteers.

Shauna Edwards, a West Valley Resident, will be leading the ministry. Shauna assisted as a Young Life leader while attending Whitworth College. This experience led her to begin asking questions about how to support teen moms.

While living in Billings, Montana, Shauna became involved with a Young*Lives* group. Over the course of time the leader of the group began suggesting that Shauna might consider leading a Young*Lives* group on her own.

Shauna and her husband have lived in West Valley for over a year now. A new mother herself, Shauna feels God has led her to a place where she can give of her time and talents through the Young*Lives* ministry.

Please pray for Shauna and her assistants as they work to:

- Locate teen moms in need of this ministry
- Match mentors with teen moms
- Plan and prepare meals, activities, and discussion topics
- Provide quality childcare for each Young*Lives* meeting

If you have questions or ways you would like to help, Shauna can be reached by e-mail at spokaneyounglives@yahoo.com

(Bronwyn is a member of the MCPC Session and serves on the MCPC Mission Committee.)

Youth News

By Brandon Comella

I have been very pleased with the number of kids hanging out at Drop-In lately. I believe this is happening more because we are heading into the colder, winter months. The Crossing has also been used for many other venues as well. It is exciting that the word about The Crossing is getting out to a lot of the youth and the community in general.

This last month has been a transition month because both Ian Cooley, our church/young life partner, as well as Tom Davis, our young life area director, both decided to follow different callings on October 1st. I feel this transition has been good and has allowed for my leaders and myself to step up in ministry in both Jr. High and Sr. High youth groups.

If you remember a newsletter from a few months back, I wrote the cover page and the title said; "It takes a village to raise a child." In that writing, I mentioned that I am working on helping the youth of this community get to be more involved with the church and the church members. I also know that sometimes it is hard to know what's going on with the youth programs without seeing things first hand. Because of this, I would like to invite any members of the church to have to option of attending a Wyldlife (Jr. High) program night, which are Tuesdays from 6:45-8:15 pm. If you are interested in this, please either talk to me at church, or email me to let me know. Many of you may think that the youth might not enjoy having adults there, but trust me; they won't mind it, especially if you want to bring a treat like cookies or brownies. =>

Christian Education

By Kim McGiveran

Children's Ministry Leaders and Volunteers participated in a teacher-training meeting last month. Leaders received information on class management and teaching strategies. If any leaders/volunteers were unable to come to this meeting, please see Kim to pick up your packet.

Planning is underway for our "Piece of Christmas" children's program. We have begun to practice our songs and will be assigning speaking parts soon. Practices will be held during the 9:30 am Church School classes. Regular Church School classes will be held at 11:00 am for parents who would like their children to be receiving curriculum classes. If anyone would like to assist Kim and the CE committee with the Christmas Program, please let Kim know!

Thank you to parents for being flexible with the scheduling/room changes within Church School. Some changes include the kids participating in music and worship in the Fellowship Hall before going to their classes. Adventure Kids (9:30 1st-5th grade class) has been enjoying their new location in the CE Building. The Fellowship Hall is now open and being monitored from 10:30 - 11:00 with table games, activities, and snack. We invite kids to join us for fun and fellowship in-between classes and services. If anyone has board games that you would like to donate to the church, please see Kim.

Last month all Church School classes focused on learning about stewardship. Some of their work is displayed on the CE bulletin board in the Reception Hall. The Lighthouse class created a "With Open Arms" book and posters to showcase their great ideas for using the future CE Building.

(Mission News continued from page 3)

There will be a \$300.00 scholarship next year for a member of MCPC for his/her continuing education.

Interfaith Hospitality Week is November 9 through 16. If you can help drive the van, serve a meal, supply food (breakfast and lunch food is needed as well as the preparing of the evening meal), be an overnight host at the church, or help in any other way, please contact the church office. There is a need for a setup coordinator on Sunday November 9 to oversee room setup. Also, if you can help with setup after church on the 9, please plan on spending an hour or so in that way. In August 3 families were housed at Millwood for the week. By now we have the routine down pretty well. This is a very special service to local families who just need a place to stay until they get back on their. Let us each remember Peter's advice "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling" 2 Peter 4:9. Let's all do our best to help these members of our community during very tough times.

Your Mission Committee is very active and is always searching for new members. We undertake the job of placing your money in important services within your community and world very seriously. If you wish to become a part of this committee, please contact any member to find out more about what we do. We always welcome new members and want to serve you and God with our mission funds. Members of the Mission Committee are Sylvia Barney, Maureen Schneider, Bronwyn Worthington, Jewel Haskins, Betty Allen, Caroline Sheppard, Ina Grunwald and Dorothy Jones. We usually meet on the third Monday of each month in the lower conference room at 1pm.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

The Deacon Outreach Committee is beginning its holiday preparations for gathering food items.

Last year, because of your generosity, we prepared about 44 Thanksgiving baskets. We anticipate the need will be close to the same this year. If you are in need or know of a family in need please send the name, number of family members, and their address to the church office by Sunday, November 16 so that we may shop appropriately.

Please help us to help others in need by donating holiday food items to our pantry as the holiday shopping/sales days approach. Please stock up on canned goods such as sweet potatoes, cranberries, evaporated milk, pumpkin pie mix, vegetables, packaged stuffing mix, olives, and pre-formed graham or vanilla wafer pie shells. Also watch for those frozen turkey bargains. We will need about 40 turkeys that we can store in our church freezers.

Please take your items to the church before Sunday, November 16, and place them in the bins that are located in the Entryway, or please take the items to the church office. We will be assembling the Thanksgiving baskets Saturday, November 22.

God bless you and thank you again for helping to make the holidays a happier time for those in need.

Deacon Food Bank

The Food Bank assists those in need in our church and in our community. This ministry is available every time the doors are open here at MCPC. Because of your donations, we have been able to help feed many over the years from the shut in to the new born. We have helped two families so far this month. The commodities for November are stuffing and canned yams. Thank you again for giving to the Deacon Food Bank.

Library Talk turns Health Insurance Talk

By Velma Churchill

The MCPC Library is usually the topic of this column; however, the fact that this Librarian "wears different hats"; today's topic is health insurance.

Don Cain and Velma Churchill, church members, are SHIBA volunteers (Statewide Health Insurance Benefit Advisors). These two are willing to help you unscramble and answer your health insurance, Medicare and prescription (RX) Part D questions.

It is now Open Enrollment for many of you on employee plans, retiree plans, Advantage plans or Medicare Part D Rx. This is the time to make changes. (Many independent health insurances are available year round.) Perhaps you have questions about your current health insurance policy and are considering a change. Maybe a new Rx has you concerned that it will not be covered in 2009.

Both Don and Velma have been trained and have several years of working in these areas. SHIBA is a free service, under the authority of the Washington State Office of Insurance Commissioner. SHIBA does not sell anything, we help you sort out the issues and provide you with pertinent information.

The local phone number for SHIBA is 458-2509; for the statewide 24-hour hotline, dial 1-800-562-6900. Check the church membership directory for Don or Velma's home phone numbers.

Advent Party 2008!

Millwood's annual Advent Party will be held Sunday, November 30, from 4 - 7 pm. It's a great time of fun and fellowship where we make several types of Christmas crafts to take home and an Advent Calendar to count down the days until Christmas. It's for all ages. There's something for everyone! After crafts we gather around the stage and sing Christmas songs and hear a special Christmas story geared to the younger set. There is no charge for the afternoon but we ask each family to bring a plate of snacks to share. We will provide punch and coffee. Put the date on your calendar and don't miss this special day.

As always, it takes many people for the Advent Party to be successful. Many of you have participated before and I hope you will consider it again. If you haven't participated maybe you can volunteer this year. We need people willing to help children with easy crafts in each booth; we need helpers in the kitchen before and during; and we need help with set-up and clean-up. We also need four people to make 3 dozen sugar cookies cut into Christmas shapes but undecorated. "Many hands make light work." To volunteer to help, please call Diane Williams at: 448-1309.

West Valley Band Needs

The 5th grade band is now being taught at West Valley High School. There are around 70 kids in the band and because most of these kids come from a low income family a lot of them don't have instruments or music books. The band directors are asking that if anyone has an Essential Elements 2000 book or an instrument (flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone), that they are willing to donate, please email Jim Loucks at jim.loucks@wvsd.com or Kyle Bosch at kyle.bosch@wvsd.com. Your donation will be appreciated.

Address/E-mail/ Phone Changes

The following changes were reported by a church member, friend of MCPC or the U.S. Post Office :

Gladys Barta
1201 N Evergreen Rd Apt 2015
Spokane Valley, WA 99216

Sharon Bisset
1404 N Boeing Rd
Spokane Valley, WA 99206

Michael Bosworth
3905 E Zeus Rd
Mead, WA 99021

Doris Jansen
1304 N Mamer Rd Apt A104
Spokane, WA 99216

Kristen & Steve Meier
15615 E 4th Ave Apt 22
Veradale, WA 99037

Monte Nesbitt
P O Box 1540
Spokane Valley, WA 99037

Michelle Spry
14604 E 6th Ave
Spokane, WA 99216

Mary & Thomas Stark
P O Box 411
Nordman, ID 83848

Temporarily Away:

Joyce Buntain
Jeannette Caldwell
Ted Clark
Arlene & Frank Koth
Bill & Carol Kingsley
Andrew & Katy Rausch
Carol & Jerry Wagner

Naomi Circle Meeting November 19

Naomi Circle will meet at 10:30 am, Wednesday, November 19, at the home of Helen Runsvold, 315 S Calvin Lane. Co-hostess will be Verda Coryell. Lesson 3 will be led by Lois Noble.

Web Page Update

The church web page has received a face lift. Go to www.millwoodpc.org to check it out. The new site includes an all-church calendar under the "About Us" tab. If you have any ideas on how we can more fully utilize this tool in our ministry or if you are interested in being on the web team, please let us know.



LIBERTY PARK CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

PRESENTS

DINNER BY CANDLELIGHT

Featuring Whitworth University Choir

Friday, December 12, 2008 at 6:00 pm

Join us at First Presbyterian Church Spokane.

Call now to reserve your places.

*For dinner tickets,
call Marianne Frase at 466-2555*

*For concert tickets,
call Dick Barney at 467-9397*

*For general information,
call Nancy Goodwin
924-7328.*

Mission News

The September **Baby Food Drive** was very successful. We sent 80 jars of baby food, 11 boxes of baby cereal and 2 containers of infant formula to the Walt Shields Infant Needs Center for Spokane Valley. The Mission Community Outreach Center report for September showed that 254 infants were served during the month. We supplied the needs for approximately 4 days during the month of September. Thank you everyone for your support of the little ones in our community. The next baby food month will be January. If every family brought one jar of baby food that month we would nearly feed all the babies that are served by the center for one month. The need is for baby formula of all kinds, baby food jars 1 and 2, and baby cereal. They also supply Folic Acid to expectant mothers through the March of Dimes.

The **October Peacemaking Offering** total received was \$540.00. These moneys will be used for peacemaking efforts throughout the world; with 25% of everything we received remaining with our church for use where we see a need. This year we voted to use our portion to support the **Young Lives** teen mom mentoring program.

After a very successful season, the **Farmers' Market** is over for now, or is it? The vendors were so happy about it that they have requested to continue at an indoor location. The market will continue every Wednesday from 12 to 4 pm at The Crossing starting November 19. Please come by to visit, buy a squash or pumpkin or maybe a loaf of that wonderful bread, and all the other things that will continue well into the fall and winter season. Then we'll just be able to continue in the spring in the parking lot when the weather warms up.

Homework Partners began its first session for the 2008/2009 school year in October. This session will end December 11. The second session will be in February/March ending at spring break and the third in April/May, ending May 15. Help is still

needed to coach children with reading and studies. Contact the church office to become involved.

Operation Christmas Child is underway. Can you fill a shoebox for a child? Watch the table in the narthex for suggestions and be sure to pick up your label at the Operation Christmas Child table. Last year we sent 40+ boxes. Can we beat our own record of 55 boxes this year? We will once again accept cash to help in the mailing for those who cannot afford the \$7.00 on top of the items that are needed to fill a box. Collection week is November 17 to 23. That is the week we must take all our boxes to the local pickup depot. That means the absolute last Sunday to collect boxes is November 23. Hurry to get your boxes ready. It is suggested that the box be a plastic shoebox that the child can use afterwards for his/her treasures. They can be purchased at most Dollar Stores. However, you can still use any shoebox for you gift. This year many items were collected at VBS that will be included in our gifts and all of those boxes will need shipping funds. If you can't prepare a box, please pray for those that are doing so and for the children who will receive the gift box and the word of God through the book that is included in each box. Last year we had representation at the packing depot in Denver by the Naccaratos. If you haven't heard their story, please visit with them for a chance to know what it is like to be in the midst of the excited crowd preparing these wonderful gift boxes for shipping overseas. Remember Jesus' command, "For as much as you do it unto the least of these, my brethren, you do it unto me," Matt 25:40.

Stop by the **Treat of the Month** table November 9 for some more cookies and to see our new picture of Hang and his family. (It's supposed to be a secret, but the November cookie is Heart Hunters Orange Delights.) There's also a new letter from Hang. If cookie sales continue to do as well as they have been, we should be able to adopt another child sometime next year. A \$2.00 bag of cookies helps us to support Hang's education.

(continued on page 4)