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April 2010 Newsletter

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Phase 2 of Construction Begins

By Rev. Craig Goodwin, Pastor

Phase 2 of our three phases of construction has begun and I want to make sure we all understand what's happening now and how it fits in the larger picture of the With Open Arms Capital Campaign.

We completed Phase 1 of construction this winter with the addition of the bathrooms off the Reception Hall, creation of a new library space, and building out new bathrooms in what had been storage for the Rummage Sale to replace the old children's bathrooms. Along with new carpet through much of the building we also renovated the Church Offices to make them safer, more accessible and to accommodate more staff in our office suite. That was all part of Phase 1 of construction and all of that was paid for in cash by the funds raised through the three year With Open Arms Capital Campaign that was initiated in the Fall of 2008 and will be completed in the Fall of 2011.

We are now entering Phase 2 of our construction which is focused on renovating the Entryway of the Church. The whole interior entryway along with a large patio area outside will be raised up to the same level as the Sanctuary, Reception Hall, and new bathrooms. Leading up to the new outside patio area will be an ADA ramp and two sets of stairs. The ramp and stairs and part of the patio will be equipped with radiant heat to melt ice and snow during the winter months. There will be two sets of doors instead of one to help conserve energy and keep our Greeters from freezing during the winter. The inside entryway floor surface will be the same terrazzo floor finish that we have in the Narthex and Sanctuary. The current plan is to have construction completed by the end of June before Vacation Bible School.

During Phase 2 construction the primary entrances to the Church on Sunday will be through the north doors of the Sanctuary Building. There will be a ramp at the northwest door. During the week the primary entrance for the office and classrooms will be the south entrance that goes up to the Chapel or down to the children's classrooms.

All of this Phase 2 work is being paid for in cash from a special dedicated donation of 2/3 of the project cost and part of the bequest left to the Church by Clyde and Elaine Clark. No With Open Arms Capital Campaign funds are being used to pay for this Phase 2 work.

After Phase 2 is completed we will finish up some incidental work from Phase 1 which includes new carpet in the classrooms and Reception Hall. This will be paid for out of With Open Arms Funds.

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 is working to facilitate the sale of two homes on Dale Rd. to raise capital to get started on the new building. The current plan is to wait until we have sufficient capital funds to proceed on the construction of the new building.

In the midst of our raising funds and construction let's keep ever before us our mission to be witnesses to God's good news in Christ. We are called to nurture children and youth, to invite people to know and follow Jesus, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)

Mark Your Calendar

● **Second Harvest Food Distribution, April 9**

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

● **Saturday, April 17, Camp White Work Party**

Meet us at 9 am at Camp White.

● **Saturday, April 17, Youth Auction**

Join us at the Millwood Masonic Lodge at 6 pm for the Auction and dinner.

● **Sunday, April 18, Membership Exploration Event**

We will meet in the Upper Conference Room after the 11 am service.

● **Connections Event, Sunday April 25, 4 pm**

This monthly event is dedicated to connecting with people who are new to the MCPC community.

● **May 7 & 8 MCPC Rummage Sale, Bake Sale and Luncheon**

Please call Becky Anderson at: 922-1218 if you want to volunteer or have items to donate.
Contact Barbara Wilson at: 924-1680, to sign up to make baked goods for the Bake Sale and Luncheon.

Youth News

By Brandon Comella

Jr. High ministry has been exploding with energy. We had fifty middle school students last week, and we are continuously getting new kids. Our new leaders are great and the spring is surely approaching fast on us.



Our Mexico mission trip is the thing that is on the forefront of our high school ministry right now. We have fifteen high schoolers going and four leaders. We go at the end of July and we have lots of fundraising to do. Our largest one is coming up on April 17 with the Dinner and Auction. We are vamping it up this year with lots of amazing items such as rounds of golf, hotel stays, many gift certificates, and a variety of sports tickets like Shock, Indians, Chiefs, Zags, and Seahawks. It is being catered by Longhorn BBQ, (doesn't mean all the food is BBQ, we have vegetarian and different lasagna's.) and is an adult only dinner and auction with a price of \$25 per ticket. I hope many of you can come support our high school students by buying a ticket.

We are working a lot with the schools and soon we will have a bus dropping off kids at The Crossing for Drop-In twice a week. We are also looking to have 2nd Harvest Foods donate healthy snacks for our Drop-In times as well. Some pretty great things are happening.

If you have any questions about the youth ministry or would like to get involved in any way, please feel free to call or email me at: 481-5720 or Brandon@millwoodpc.org.

Young Lives Update

By Shauna Edwards

Club on March 11, was so much fun! We had three fabulous hair stylists who were so talented and wonderful and cut hair for two and a half hours straight! We had 3 dads and 18 girls and lots of babies of all ages—even an 8 day old!!! 3 girls were brand new and a couple of the girls were returning to us after being gone for some time. The girls were just glowing after their haircuts and couldn't stop saying thank you! We had delicious lasagna dinner and the best chocolate and caramel bars for dessert! The night went fast with all the hair cutting and hanging out! We had games but most of the girls were happy just talking with one another!



April's meeting is up in the air, we might go swimming at the YMCA but the girls in the valley had mixed reviews about that idea, so I'm thinking we may have regular club with activities or maybe a bowling night which is what we did last April.

This month, I've included a list of needs that the girls have:

- Crib or pack-n-plays with bassinet
- Baby Swing
- Infant Car Seat
- Toddler Car Seat
- Infant Toys
- Floor Gym
- Bouncer
- Diaper Cream

Thank you for all that you do in loving these girls, helping with set up and take down, providing rides, food, childcare, ideas, and your time & prayers for this ministry! I always say that it wouldn't happen without you— and it truly wouldn't.

Camp Spalding Schedule

Summer camp at Camp Spalding is a blast! The zip line..new friends..water trampoline..boating, swimming..horses..art projects...the "blob"...candy shack & The Trading Post...hilarious skits...one-of-a-kind all camp games – your child will come home with great stories and lasting memories.

But even better, our summer program provides a chance to get away from the daily routine, to spend a week with an outstanding, fun staff of Christian role models, and experience the adventurous life God intends for us. Since 1957, thousands of young people have come to know Jesus Christ during summer camp experiences at Camp Spalding, and grow deeper into the life to which He calls us. For more information, or to register for the summer of 2010, check out our website at: www.campspalding.org.

Camp Spalding Schedule

- 101 "Mom / Dad & Me" K-2 & Parent June 18-19
- 102 Leadership Camp 10-12 June 20-26
- 103 Discovery I 2-4 June 23-26
- 104 Junior I 5-6 June 27-July 3
- 105 Sr. High I 9-12 July 4-10
- 106 Jr. High I 7-8 July 11-17
- 107 Clearwater Arts Camp 7-12 July 18-24
- 108 Junior II 5-6 July 25-July 31
- 109 Sr. High II 9-12 August 1-7
- 110 Jr. High II 7-8 August 8-14
- 111 Discovery II 2-4 August 15-18
- 112 Family Camp -- August 18-22
- 201 Pioneer Jr. High I 7-8 June 27-July 3
- 202 Pioneer Junior I 5-6 July 4-10
- 203 Pioneer Sr. High 9-12 July 11-17
- 204 Pioneer Discovery 2-4 July 18-21
- 205 Pioneer Junior II 5-6 July 25-31
- 206 Pioneer Jr. High II 7-8 August 1-7

Women Helping Women Luncheon May 10

The Mission Committee would like to make you aware of a luncheon featuring Liz Murray, a graduate student featured in the Lifetime movie "Homeless to Harvard." Liz will be the guest speaker for the Women Helping Women Fund's annual luncheon, May 10, 2010, at the Spokane Convention Center's Group Health Exhibit Hall.

Murray, who grew up in the Bronx to cocaine-addicted parents, is the first winner of Oprah Winfrey's Chutzpah Award. Her mother died of AIDS when Murray was 15, and soon she was homeless, camping out in New York City parks and eating from dumpsters. Nonetheless, Murray finished high school in two years.

Women Helping Women Fund serves Spokane women and children who face similar obstacles in life. It was founded in 1992 by six local women dedicated to making a difference for underserved populations in Spokane.

Since 1992, thanks to gifts of thousands of individual and corporate donors, more than 305 local agency programs have received grants from the Women Helping Women Fund totaling more than \$3.8 million.

Luncheon guests are asked to make a minimum donation of \$125. The money raised at the luncheon is donated directly to programs managed by Spokane County non-profit agencies. For more information or if you are interested in attending the luncheon, go to www.whwspokane.org or contact Lisa Diffley, WHWF Executive Coordinator at (509) 328-8285. Social time begins at 11:30; program from noon-1:30 pm.

Membership Exploration Event Coming April 18

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 in the Upper Conference Room after the 11 am service at around noon.

Camp White Work Party APRIL 17

The Camp White Committee has scheduled a work party for Saturday, April 17, at Camp White. We need to hand dig four large deep holes in order to update the water delivery system from the pump house to the kitchen.

If you are of sound body and can spend a morning digging, please join us. Bring a shovel, a bar (if you have one), gloves, warm clothes, and a sack lunch. There will be water and a coffee pot on at the camp. You can arrive at 9 am or anytime afterwards. Please call Ken Williams at: 448-1309, if you are able to help us.

Monthly Connection Event

APRIL 25

Are you new to our community, or maybe have been around for awhile but haven't gotten connected yet? Join us April 25, for a Connection Event. It's a casual time to meet with some of the pastors, staff and members of the church. We'll meet at 4 pm today at the home of Pastors Craig and Nancy Goodwin. Their address is: 5315 N Vista Ct., Spokane, WA 99212. Contact Pastor Craig at: 280-3081 with questions or to R.S.V.P. Kids are welcome.

Navigators

APRIL 16

Meet us April 16, at 12 pm, in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck and fellowship. The Navigators usually meet the third Friday of every month.

Men's Weekly Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets Tuesdays from 7- 8 am in the Handcrafter Room. We study books of the Bible from beginning to end, reading and reflecting together on the text. We also eat lots of different kinds of breakfast treats, drink coffee and close every meeting with prayer.

Finance Update

Operating Fund 2010 (through March)

Total Income: \$ 112,856

Total Expense: \$ 112,674

Entryway Fund Balance:

\$ 287,595

With Open Arms Fund Balance:

\$ 108,609

Deacon Food Bank

Thank you to all of the friends and members of Millwood for your generous support of the Deacon Food Bank, even in these trying times. Each time the Deacon Food Bank shelves have started to look sparse, donations have come flooding in the very next day to sustain this ministry.

The Deacon Food Bank Commodities for April are: peanut butter, jams, jellies and juices. Thank you again for continuing to provide for and maintain the Deacon Food Bank for your Church and community.

Children's Ministry

By Kim McGiveran

The 11 am Lighthouse class concluded their unit on Esther by having a Purim Celebration. They learned of God's saving power and how He used Esther, a willing and faithful follower, to save His people. Jews today continue to hold a Purim Celebration to celebrate the story of Esther. At each celebration they hear the Esther story, make gifts for the poor, cook foods for each other, and have fun playing games. At our Purim Celebration, we heard a rabbi (Mark Esvelt) tell us the Esther story from the Megillah scroll. Then the children created cards to welcome the families of Interfaith Hospitality. They made Haman Pocket Cookies and shared their treats with others. We will begin our next unit titled "Paul: Believers, You've Got Mail" after Easter.

In our other Sunday School classes, we have been following the life and teachings of Jesus leading up to the cross. We have been adding additional Easter crafts and activities such as reading the Jellybean Prayer Book (which tells the Easter story through symbols of different colored jellybeans) and playing hide-and-seek with Resurrection Eggs. On Easter Sunday at 10:30 am, the children will have an Easter Egg Hunt between services. Groups of children will be broken down by age group and each group will have their own area to hunt for eggs. Sunday School classes will have fun Easter crafts and games to play that morning.

On Sunday, Mar. 21, Pastor Craig presented 9 children with Bibles. These children, mostly 3rd grade students, had attended Bible Basics class for 3 weeks after church. They shared with the church congregation a little of what they had learned in their class. Bible Basics is held each year in March for children in 3rd grade.

Rummage Sale May 7 & 8

The Rummage Sale is May 7 and 8. We are so blessed by all of the donations that have been coming in. Our storage spaces are almost full! As you are aware, we are under construction here at MCPC so our space is becoming limited. Because of the limitation of storage space this year, we ask if you can to please bring your donations beginning May 3. In the event that you are not able to hold those donations that long. Please call the Church Office and the Rummage Sale Committee will contact you and see if we can squeeze it in somewhere.



To help us make the most of our storage areas, please box up your items instead of bagging them. This will allow us to stack and be able to receive more donations. We will be glad to come pick up your items if you are unable to get them to the Church yourself. Please call the Church Office so that we can coordinate a pick up date.

Set up for the sale begins May 2, Sunday afternoon at 3 pm. There are many ways to help prepare for the Rummage Sale during the week before from pricing to staging items and baking yummy treats for the Bake Sale and Luncheon. Please call Becky Anderson at: 922-1218 if you want to volunteer. Thank you!

Bake Sale & Luncheon - May 7&8

Homemade pies are needed for the luncheon, as well as goodies for the Bake Sale. If you can make some baked goods, please call Barbara Wilson at: 924-1680 to sign up.

Millwood Food Bank

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

We'll be doing our monthly food distribution Friday, April 9, between noon and 2 pm, in the church parking lot. There will be free produce and perishable products for low income families and those in need of food assistance. 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. Don't forget to tell friends and neighbors you know who may be in need.

For more information or to volunteer, please call: Drew Meuer, 2nd Harvest Representative at: 252-6260 or the Church Office at: 924-2350.

You can find out more at www.millwoodfoodbank.org.

Presbyterian Women

Join the Women of Millwood in the Fellowship Hall the first Thursday of each month, September through May, at 10 am, for an overview of that month's study. For more information or to join one of the Bible Study circles, please call Sylvia Barney at: 891-1045.

Thank You!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, God does answer prayer!! My grandson, Major Martin Peek, has safely returned from his third tour of duty in the Mid East. Thanks for all of your prayers and concerns on his behalf. God bless each of you, Frances Peek.

Project Linus Quilt Group

APRIL 17

The Project Linus Quilt Group will be getting together to sew quilt tops to be donated to ill or traumatized children on Saturday, April 17, from 9 am to 3 pm, in the Reception Hall. Please join us for the day or a few hours as we sew for a good cause -- and have fun fellowship at the same time. If coming, please bring basic sewing supplies (sewing machine, thread, pin, and scissors) and a dish to share as we will be having a potluck lunch. Please call Laura Miler at: 710-2953 with any questions you may have.

Women's Eat & Greet

APRIL 16, 6 PM

Join us at The Crossing Youth Center, April 16, at 6 pm for Women's Eat & Greet. This is a great time of food and fellowship also a great opportunity to get to know each other beyond Sunday mornings. Please bring a main dish or salad to share. Dessert will be provided. Hope you can come!!! Please call Cindy Ames at: 892-4051 to R.S.V.P.

Creative Connections

APRIL 16, 7 PM

Do you have an unfinished project you need to work on? This is for YOU! Creative Connections will be meeting April 16, at 7 pm, at The Crossing Youth Center for fun, laughter AND finishing those craft projects you just never can find time for. Stay for an hour or stay all evening. Come and bring a friend. It's a great opportunity to get better acquainted and get those projects finished. Join us! For more information call Diane Williams at: 448-1309.

Missions Monthly Update

By Bronwyn Worthington

On March 12, nine members from Millwood Presbyterian attended Transition's Gate Safe at Home event where we were able to listen to Dave Dravecky share about his journey through losing his baseball career to cancer. Dave shared that while we are often preoccupied with how God will intervene in our small story, God is often working out the details of our lives to fit into His grand story. Paula Oprea shared how God is taking the common thread of her and Nancy's vision having a "heart for serving those who are underserved," through allowing them to open the new counseling center that will open this April. Thanks to all who made the effort to come to this memorable occasion! Your support makes a huge difference.

It's not too late to sign up for Crop Walk on April 25th. This family-friendly event supports our neighbors in need in third-world countries as well as our communities. See Sylvia Barney for details.

It's spring! If you're like me, you'd like to plant your garden but find a hundred excuses not too...Why not join with the new Pumpkin Patch Community Garden in Millwood? While you're growing plants you may just sprout some new friends as well! The first work day is April 10, at 9 am. See Pastor Craig or Dan Hansen for more information.

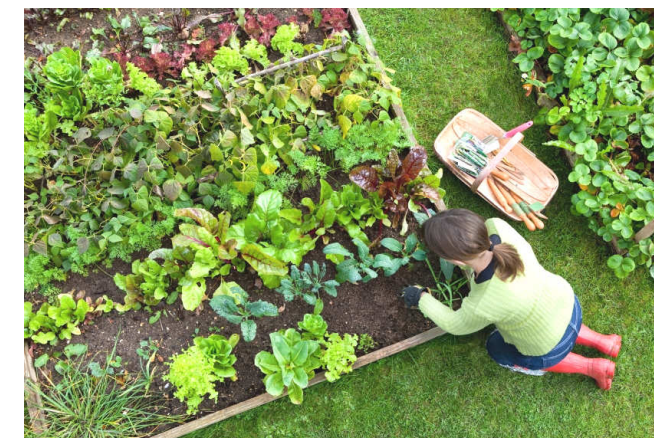
Thanks to all who helped with Interfaith Hospitality. Meals, drivers, and overnight hosts are essential to our ability to love our neighbors in this unique way. Thank you for your hearts to serve! Our Next opportunity will be June 20-27.

There are still a few openings for host families to take in teenage Japanese students this summer from July 24-August 13. If three weeks seems a little long, check with me about hosting a 9-11 year old Chinese student for two weeks from July 18-August 2.

If you would like to be a host or need more information, please call Bronwyn at 928-0176 or e-mail bronwor@gmail.com

Treat of the Month continues to thrive. Stay in touch for upcoming news of a new scholarship recipient! Many thanks for your support of this valuable ministry. The Treat of the Month Ministry is receiving applications now for the 2010-2011 school year. To be eligible, you must be a United States Citizen and either a member of MCPC or an active participant in the Millwood Community. A 2.5 GPA or better is needed to qualify and you will or have successfully completed High School and be entering years 1 or 2 of Post High School education. For more information and to apply, please call Carolyn Sheppard at: 928-2355.

While we have many worthwhile missions at MCPC, we're always open to hearing about others you are involved with. Feel free to contact our mission committee and share about your experience with missions. Together we can make our church a place to belong and grow strong!



Come join in with the new Pumpkin Patch Community Garden in Millwood! Go to www.pumpkinpatchgarden.com to get the scoop and see how to get involved.