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SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER  
A Quarterly Publication of Millwood Community Presbyterian Church

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## It Takes A Village 2.0

By Brandon Comella, Youth Pastor

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

#### SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS MAY 29 WITH ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, May 29, we will start our summer worship schedule with one worship service at 9:30 a.m., in the sanctuary. Nursery and Children's classes will also be offered.

#### ANNUAL MEETING: JUNE 19, AT 10:30 A.M., IN THE SANCTUARY

Please stay for a Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 19, where we will vote on the election of new officers.

#### ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK: JUNE 12 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

We will gather in the Community Center on June 12 following worship for an old-fashioned potluck. Bring your favorite breakfast or lunch foods to share. Drop off food before worship.

#### FOURTH OF JULY ALL-CHURCH PICNIC AT CAMP WHITE JULY 4, 2016!

The annual Fourth of July picnic will be held Monday, July 4, at Camp White. Come out anytime. We will eat at 1:00 p.m. Burgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Please bring a large side dish to share. For more information call the church office at: 924-2350

#### FAMILY CAMP JULY 29-31, 2016!

July 29-31, 2016, will be the weekend for Family Camp. Look for more information to come in weekly e-mails, and the bulletin. If you can help with an aspect of camp, please call 924-2350.

## Children's Ministry News

By Kim McGiveran



This summer starts with *Cave Quest VBS*, where kids learn to follow Jesus. Vacation Bible School is June

20–24 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. At *Cave Quest VBS*, children will deepen their faith by exploring who Jesus is – the light of the world. Kids will hear Bible stories and truths that will ground them in a rock-solid foundation of Jesus' love, love that takes them through life's dark times. Join us for this underground adventure where everything we do (crafts, songs, snack, games, science experiments, and Bible story) centers on Jesus love. The cost is \$15 per child (\$30 max per family) and includes a T-shirt and CD. You can register children at [www.millwoodpc.org](http://www.millwoodpc.org); registration pamphlets are also available at the church.

Adults and youth are invited to attend VBS as well. It takes a whole church family working together to put on a fun-filled VBS for our children and neighborhood. Here are some opportunities that you may be able to help with:

- **Craft Team:** Help kids make fun VBS crafts. Pre-VBS prep work is also available.
- **Crew Leaders:** Experience VBS with the kids as you take a group of five kids from station to station. Each age group has about four to five crew leaders in each group, so you're not alone!
- **Decorating Team:** Help make VBS décor! Many of the projects can be taken home to decorate. See Kim if you'd like to help make some Cave Quest décor.

- **Kitchen/Snack Team:** Be on the team that prepares yummy treats for our VBS kids.
- **Preschool Room:** Help Cindy Noble with the four-year-old preschoolers. They stay mostly in the Sunday school classrooms and hear the Bible story, do crafts, play games, and have fun.
- **Nursery Room:** For the parents of VBS leaders with children ages three and under, we provide nursery care. If you would be available to love and nurture our youngest kids, please let Kim know.

We also will have *Camp White* Day Camps in July for kids going into 1<sup>st</sup>–6<sup>th</sup>. Day Camp is a time to nurture our friendships with each other out at *Camp White* while playing outdoor games, singing camp songs, making fun crafts, going on nature walks, and swimming/playing at the beach each day after lunch. Day Camp costs \$35 per child and includes two snacks and lunch. Space is limited due to van space so sign your child soon at [www.millwoodpc.org](http://www.millwoodpc.org).

### Important dates to make note of:

July 11–14: Day Camp for 1st–3rd graders  
 July 18–21: Day Camp for 4th–6th graders  
 July 29–31: Family Camp at Camp White

## Cave Quest VBS

June 20-24  
 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
 \$15/child, max \$30/family  
 (Includes T-shirt and Music CD)  
 Ages 4 – upcoming Grade 6  
 (Toilet trained please)



(It Takes A Village 2.0, Continued from page 1)



What if that guiding, influential person formed a true, deep relationship with that kid and followed them up to continue mentoring them as part of the Drop-In program? Maybe that person volunteered at our middle school

youth group or just was invested in whatever activities that youth showed an interest. What if that mentor stayed connected through high school and was there through all the trials, broken relationships, joys, and accomplishments?

I will tell you what will happen, because I have seen it! That student will have the highest probability to succeed, in their relational life, spiritual life, and their emotional life, because someone was willing to care genuinely for them in the midst of ANYTHING that was going on! That's our emerging vision for ministry to children and youth, lives transformed through mentoring relationships over a long haul. I hope you'll consider being a small or large part of that vision in the coming years.

The Bob Sheppard Youth Fund was launched this year precisely for that reason. Bob Sheppard passed away October of 2013, but his spirit within this church and community is still present. Bob was always asking about the work I was doing with the kids. He asked about how he and his wife, Carolyn, could help in any way because, at one time, he was one of those kids who could have gone down either path of life. It was a neighbor and mentor of Bob's named Mr. Grey that invested in him. Mr. Grey cared for Bob right where he was, in the midst of everything he had going on in life. Mr. Grey was committed and consistent, and he wasn't just there while Bob succeeded in life. He was there no matter what was going on. That is the goal of our youth

ministry because that is what Christ did, and what he teaches us to practice. Through weekly programs, retreats, camps, and mission trips that we take these kids on, we are mentoring them, loving them, and modeling Christ to them every day in our actions.

The Sheppard Youth Fund will provide more avenues for kids who can't afford to go on the trips or to camp, to provide an opportunity to form a relationship not only with a mentor similar to Mr. Grey, but ultimately with Christ!

On April 24, we had a *Mentor Sunday* where I highlighted some very specific examples of how life-changing mentors can be in the life of these kids. If you weren't able to make it that Sunday, feel free to go to our church website under Worship, Sermon Audio to listen to it. If you want to give to this Fund, make checks out to the church with "Sheppard Youth Fund" on the memo line. If you would like to be a part of volunteering with or mentoring through the Drop-in, STAR Club, or Big Brothers & Big Sisters, please contact me at: [brandon@millwoodpc.org](mailto:brandon@millwoodpc.org).

Thanks for the opportunity to serve this church and community. I look forward to these coming years as God continues to lead us in ministry to children and youth.

## Hire a Kid To Help Them Get To Camp

This summer, we have planned some awesome summer camping trips for youth. To teach responsibility, they have to earn a portion of the cost themselves. For that reason, many of the kids are available to work in yards to earn the money. If you would be paying someone to clean your yard anyway this summer, please consider calling Brandon at 481-5720, and scheduling one of our youth.

## Kyrgyzstan Missions Update

By Maria Naccarato

I am excited to share with you a few of the things the Father is doing in our ministry and some ways you can be praying!

Last month we were visited by a group of Norwegian students on their spring break outreach trip. They were a joy to host and because of their involvement and interactions with our students a few more of our non-believing friends learned that we are Christians and a few of those even came to church with us. Please PRAY especially for these non-Christian students, for their hearts to be open to accepting the Good News.

May fifth, we took eight students to the city of Naryn. Naryn is isolated by some very formidable mountains. Our goal is to plant a new chapter in the city and to begin establishing relationships with the local churches and the youth in that city. Please PRAY for hearts to be transformed!

Here are ways YOU can be INVOLVED!

We are seeking support for the Naryn trip. We have asked each student to pay for their travel expenses. We will stay in the church where we will be serving and so what we are asking is money for food and for our outreach projects. Altogether, minus travel, the trip to cost around \$400. If you feel led to give to this unique project, a little bit goes a long way here, and we will be so thankful for your support! Every summer we take students to camp where they participate in Bible studies and seminars which uncover the person of Jesus and his absolute love for them (and we have some fun in the lake). This year we have taken a leap of faith and decided to have camp at a bigger venue which means we need to come up with a bit more money. Every year we see students come to the



Father through this camp; if you want to be part of this ministry, please shoot me an email, and I can explain the process.

This year is my last in Kyrgyzstan. I plan on moving back to the states at the end of the summer. As you can imagine, I have some strongly mixed emotions surrounding my impending departure from Kyrgyzstan. I have worked hard to make this my home, to build relationships, learn the language and have invested myself in the community here. Leaving will be difficult. The question you may then ask is, 'why are you leaving?' The simple answer is that I think it is time. The city where I work will have two awesome staff who will continue the ministry after I leave. While I, of course, could be useful here, they don't need me, and I have always been of the mindset that whenever possible, locals should minister to their people. I am not closing the door to serving through missions forever, but for now, my time has come to a close.

I am so thankful for each one of you. I am grateful for your prayers and your financial support. I was looking through my accounts recently and I was struck with the thought that during my time living in Kg, I have never had a deficit in my accounts! I have never come up short or had to say no to a project because I lacked the money. I never had to stress or worry about where my support would come from (perhaps the Father knew I had enough stress already). THANK YOU. Your faithfulness astounds me. Please continue to pray for me during this transition time.

## Camp White Is Accepting Reservations!

By Donna Snodgrass

Spring has sprung, and Camp White is a beautiful place to welcome in the warmer weather. As a church member, you can plan a day trip, schedule a birthday party, an overnight stay, or come and have a picnic under the pavilion. The camp has a full sized kitchen with an attached lodge. Our lodge is a perfect place for meetings, dining and even has a fireplace to warm yourself by during colder fall evening times. There are two bunkhouses that each sleep 20 and include a bathroom and shower. We offer a family cabin with a queen sized bed and bunk beds that also includes a private bathroom and shower. Our bathhouse restrooms are wheelchair user accessible and are available to all campers and a beach bathroom as well. There are RV sites, tent areas, nature trails, a playground, volleyball court, and a baseball/basketball area. Camp White offers a safe environment for the kids and adults! To schedule a day or night(s) at camp contact Christy in the church office at 509-924-2350, and pick up a key for the front gate. Enjoy God's country at scenic Camp White in Post Falls, Idaho!



## Fourth of July Picnic!

July 4

Millwood will have its Annual Fourth of July Picnic at Camp White, on Monday, July 4- at 1:00 p.m. There will be lots of good food, games, sports and relaxation. We've ordered good weather so all we need is YOU! Hot dogs and burgers will be provided as well as iced tea and punch. We ask each family to bring a hot dish, salad or dessert to share. The docks are a great place to do fireworks and there are usually several people who do so after dark if you wish to stay. If you have questions, please call the church at 924-2350.

## Family Camp is Coming!

July 29-31

Millwood's Annual Family Camp will be the weekend of July 29 through July 31, at Camp White on the Spokane River in Post Falls. It's two and a half days of fun in the sun, making new friends, great food and lots of leisure time.

Registration opens May 16. Early registration helps us with the count and is discounted. You don't want to miss this great weekend in the life of our church. Invite family and friends! Register soon! For more information call the church at 924-2350, or check out our website at [www.millwoodpc.org](http://www.millwoodpc.org).

## Summer Worship Schedule

May 29

Sunday, May 29, we will start our summer Worship Schedule with one worship service at 9:30 a.m. During the summer, we have a rhythm of mixing up our worship styles, some weeks singing hymns with the organ, other weeks, with the worship band and with more contemporary arrangements. It serves as a good season in our life together to emphasize our unity as one body, even as we worship in different ways. Nursery care (6 weeks – 36 months) will be available and Sunday School for children 3 years – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up are encouraged to stay in the service and worship with the adults.

## Baccalaureate Sunday

June 5

Baccalaureate Sunday will be celebrated at the 9:30 a.m. service June 5. We will have the traditional processional and recessional and a nice reception after the service. If you have a graduate from high school or higher education program, please call or e-mail Christy (924-2350 or [christy@millwoodpc.org](mailto:christy@millwoodpc.org)) with the name of your student, the name of the school and degree. We hope you and your family will come and help celebrate this milestone with our students.

## Millwood Mobile Food Bank

June 10 – July 8 – August 12

We'll have our monthly food distributions this summer on Friday, June 10, July 8, and August 12, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be free food for those who need it. We will be there rain or shine! Please bring a box or bags to take home your food. If you can volunteer a few hours, please call 924-2350. Volunteers, please arrive at 10:00 a.m. Thank you for easing hunger in Millwood!

## Annual Meeting

June 19

The Annual Meeting is in the Sanctuary after our 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday, June 19. We will vote on our slate of new officers and hear a brief report from Pastor Craig about the life of our church. We encourage all MCPC Members who are able to be in attendance for this meeting.

## Pumpkin Patch Community Garden

The Pumpkin Patch Community Garden is ready for a new growing season. Members and friends of the church work to run the garden on the corner of Maringo and Argonne Rd. to allow individuals to rent out a garden box for the summer and to work together to grow food for *Second Harvest Food Bank*. To learn more about the garden or to participate, please contact Teresa Sadler at [pumpkinpatchgarden@gmail.com](mailto:pumpkinpatchgarden@gmail.com).

## Sign Up To Be A Greeter

Being a Greeter can be very rewarding. We are currently signing up smiling faces who can greet people on one Sunday for the summer services. Greeters arrive for the service they signed up for 20 minutes before it begins. If you can greet people one Sunday this summer, call Gene Kicha at 926-4872 or the church office at 924-2350. You are an important part of welcoming everyone to the Millwood experience, thank you to everyone who has been a greeter!

## Usher Team Opportunities

Join the Usher Team this summer to help people with bulletins and locating a seat during the 9:30 a.m. service. We are in need of friendly and helpful people on Sunday mornings; we'd love for you to be a part of the team for a Sunday. Call the church office at 924-2350, to sign up for a Sunday.

## Can You Say Zumbador?

By Kate Vanskike

Go ahead – it's fun. "ZOOM–bah–door!" Very soon, Millwood Community Presbyterian Church will be calling Zumbador residents friends and fellow travelers on our journey. Starting this year, we are sponsoring the village that is nestled in the countryside of the Dominican Republic, 50 miles from the capital of Santo Domingo. It is home to about 600 people, who rely mostly on farming to provide for their families. Our sponsorship of Zumbador is through *Plant With Purpose* (a Christian organization) which works there to help reverse the damage of deforestation by replanting trees and fostering a community nursery.

*Plant With Purpose* is taking delegates from three other congregations to the Dominican Republic in August, and this will be Millwood's first opportunity to meet our new friends in Zumbador. We hope to have two to four representatives from our congregation go and meet the community and bring home photos and stories of people we can get to know.

The trip is August 7–13 but applications and a \$100 deposit (per person) are due June 2, with airfare needing to be purchased by June 10, and the remaining balance due August 2. The total cost is about \$1,700 per person. If you're interested in going, please contact me as soon as possible.

The Session budgeted for the cost of supporting the staff of *Plant With Purpose* in Zumbador, but the cost of sending delegates is on the shoulders of our travelers. Would you be willing to help offset those expenses? Just designate your gift to the Mission Fund.

Please join us in praying for Zumbador, for *Plant With Purpose*, and for those who will represent our congregation there in August!

## Financial Update

The Session of MCPC is really encouraged by the generous financial support of members and friends of MCPC. Through April of this year, giving is on track with the budget we set to support the church's operations.

To give you an example of the cost of the church's operations, we pay \$38,000 every year for fuel and utilities. (And you thought your heating bill was big for the winter months.) But we're not just paying for electricity and gas, we're investing in all the people that worship in our sanctuary, attend a class or recovery group, or connect with a mentor. Our church campus has never been busier, which means this investment is really making a difference in people's lives.

Thank you for generously investing in people's lives at Millwood Presbyterian.

## Rummage Sale Update:

Thanks for everyone who participated in running this year's Rummage Sale. We raised \$12,600 to support youth camping, missions, and other important causes.

## Per Capita 2016 To-Date

Thank you to everyone who has given toward the Per Capita; thus far, we have received \$3,072.00. The Per Capita for our church this year is \$34.00 per member based on a membership of 500; for a total of \$17,000.00. If you would like to give, you can use an envelope from the pew and indicate "Per Capita" on the memo field. If you have questions please call Lesa or Christy at: 924-2350.