

# The PresByte

Mililani Presbyterian Church Newsletter



VOLUME 39, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2009

You are invited to attend...

## Holy Week Services

At Mililani Presbyterian Church

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

#### April 5—Palm Sunday Worship

- 9:00am
- ✚ Children's Procession of Palms
  - ✚ Sing "Hosanna!" as Christ enters Jerusalem
  - ✚ Special music from the Adult Choir
  - ✚ One Great Hour of Sharing Offering



#### April 9—Maundy Thursday Communion worship

- 7:00pm
- ✚ Remember the night when Jesus...
    - Commanded us to "Love one another"
    - Washed the feet of his disciples
    - Said that he would be betrayed . . . and was
    - Shared a "Last Supper" with his followers
  - ✚ Join us as we remember and celebrate these things together in Jesus' name.



#### April 10—Good Friday Service

- 7:00pm
- ✚ At MPC with Christ Lutheran
  - ✚ Music from combined choirs
  - ✚ Message by the Rev. Dave Keiffer of CLC



#### April 12—Easter Sunrise Worship

- 6:00am
- ✚ Informal, outdoor celebration of Christ's resurrection
  - ✚ Enjoy the cool early morning dew and the sunrise with voices united in proclaiming "Christ Is Risen!"
  - ✚ Light Breakfast following



#### April 12—Easter Worship

- 9:00am
- ✚ Christ Is Risen Indeed! Our God is not dead, He is alive! Hallelujah!
  - ✚ Special music from the choir
- 10:30am
- ✚ Children's Program w/Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Craft



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Childcare will be available at all services except Sunrise Worship





**H**ave you ever played “Whack-a-Mole” at the State Fair or at some other carnival venue? You know the game. There are a series of holes out of which pops up a rubber mole that you try to hit on the head with some sort of mallet. When you hit one square on you get points but, even when you whack it down, it just keeps on coming back up for more!

Easter is like this for me!

Jesus was whacked down on the cross. The Roman coroner declared him to be as dead as dead can be and he was buried and left to turn to dust in a tomb. But, like a “Whack-a-Mole” or like a “Jack-In-the-Box,” he popped back up, alive again, three days later.

Easter proves to me that the resurrection life promised by Jesus is a life that will be indestructible and eternal. Because of this I live each day knowing that nothing can ever separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus my Lord! If, in this life, I am whacked down, I know that, in this life or the next, I will rise again!

I believe that this is not only true for me but also true for you! I want every follower of Jesus to have this same confidence that whatever sufferings you may encounter in this life will only be a temporary detour on your way back “up” to the abundant life with Christ!

I believe that the resurrection life is also offered to the followers of Jesus gathered together as the Church. The Church may be persecuted, its leaders crushed, its buildings destroyed and its members scattered but, like Jesus and myself, the Church shall rise to life again . . . even from ashes if need be.

Easter has turned me from a pessimist into an optimist. Along with the Apostle Paul I am able to declare that “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

“Easter has turned me from a pessimist into

I don’t want to be “whacked” on the head by a sinful world and I don’t want you to be “whacked” either. That is why we pray “and deliver us from evil” together every Sunday. But Easter has revealed that the so-called power of the world to take away my life is only an illusion of power. The real power . . . the only power that matters . . . the power that gives life . . . belongs to God.

Like the mole in the arcade game I will work hard at avoiding being “whacked” by the world. But, because of Easter, I will not lose faith when the day comes when I find that I have been “whacked” hard. After all, Jesus was a much better person than I am and he didn’t avoid taking the biggest hit of all.

Instead, when “whacked,” I will remember Easter. And, although I may suffer along with Jesus, I will soon rise to new life with him. Easter is not just bunnies and colored eggs. It is about life and death . . . and life again. Easter is a serious business. But, with Jesus, it is a serious business with a sly and knowing wink, a grin and, in the end, a burst of uproarious laughter that will echo across all eternity! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

I’ll see you in church,

## AN IDEA FOR HAPPY BIRTHDAY GIVING

When Marge Jackson turned 94 years old last month she came up with the idea of giving \$94 as a special “Thank Offering” to the church. What a great idea! It reminded me of what J.R.R. Tolkien wrote about Hobbits in the “Lord of the Rings.” Hobbits celebrate their birthdays by throwing a party and giving gifts to all their friends. This has two advantages over our American birthday celebrations. First, it gives the birthday-person the opportunity to express their gratitude to those who help make their life worth living. Second, it means that people are throwing parties and receiving gifts all year long instead of just once! As your Pastor I want to commend what Marge (and Tolkien) have proposed. The next time your birthday comes around why not give a “Thank You” gift to the One who makes your life worth living. And,



## Don't Miss HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY—April 19<sup>th</sup>

The Sunday following Easter we will be reviving an ancient Christian tradition as we celebrate the day with Joy and Good Humor! After all, Jesus has defeated death and sin and, as a bonus, God's perfect love has cast out fear! So why not enjoy the day with laughter, a smile and maybe even a guffaw or two! Bring a joke or (brief) story to share during worship. We promise that, whether we laugh or groan, we will still love you . . . just like Jesus! As Proverbs 17:22 puts it: “A cheerful disposition is good for your health; gloom and doom leave you bone-tired.”



## Sunday April 26 is “Preschool Sunday”



Expect to see a few more keiki at worship on April 26. Our preschool families will be invited to attend and their children will have the opportunity to share a song or two with us during worship. We will also have the chance to say “Thank You” to some of our preschool staff and our Director, Donna Moorfield. When it comes to children we can never have “too much of a good thing!” Amen? Amen!



## STEPHEN MINISTRY NEWS

We are so blessed to have new Stephen Ministry Trainees, Hugh Lee, Dottie Lee and Heidi Takahata. Our class topics are listed in the bulletin each week. Please keep all of the Stephen Ministry Team in your prayers as we strive to give the very best of training for these exceptional folks. Your prayers will assure good outcomes for their care giving once they have completed their initial 50 hours of training, which goes through May. Commissioning is slated for Sunday, May 31.

Financial Update. Through February, here's how we stand:

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Weekly offerings	\$35,320	\$32,405
Preschool Income	\$107,874	\$112,905
Other Income	\$3,000	\$3,667
Interest	\$0	\$19
Total Income	\$146,194	\$149,196
Total Expenses	\$144,159	\$144,530
Net Income	\$2,035	\$4,666



It's good news that we have twice the net income predicted. Much of it is due to earlier than programmed fees for the pre-school, so we should all note that offerings are running behind projections and make sure that we are keeping up. (For you Revelations fans, don't worry; the last 3 digits in the net income figure are due to rounding.)



**THE PURCHASE**

A farmer had been taken several times by a local car dealer - One day, the car dealer informed the farmer that he was coming over to purchase a cow. The farmer priced his unit as follows:

Basic Cow	499.95
Shipping and Handling	35.75
Extra Stomach	79.25
Two Tone Exterior	142.10
Produce Storage Compartment	128.50
Heavy Duty Straw Chopper	189.60
Four Spigot Drain System	119.20
Automatic Fly Swatter	88.50
Genuine Cowhide Upholstery	179.90
Deluxe Dual Horns	59.25
4X4 Traction Drive Assembly	884.10
Pre Delivery Wash and Comb	<u>69.80</u>
Farmer's Suggested List Price	2,843.30
Tax and Ear Tags	<u>418.00</u>
<b>TOTAL PRICE</b>	<b>3,261.30</b>

Ladies! You're invited to the Annual

## MPC Women's Retreat



Ko Olina Lagoon 4  
Saturday, May 9, 2009  
Social Hour at 9 a.m.  
Program at 10 a.m.



Join your sisters in Christ for a morning of reflection, refreshment and relaxation! This is a free event and each person will bring a light luncheon item to share. Don't forget to bring along the special women in your life. Everyone is welcome!

*Sign-ups will be on the lanai beginning Easter Sunday, April 12.*



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2009

*PLANNING HAS BEGUN!*



*The time has come to start the fun! This year's MPC Vacation Bible School theme is:*

### Crocodile Dock-Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light!

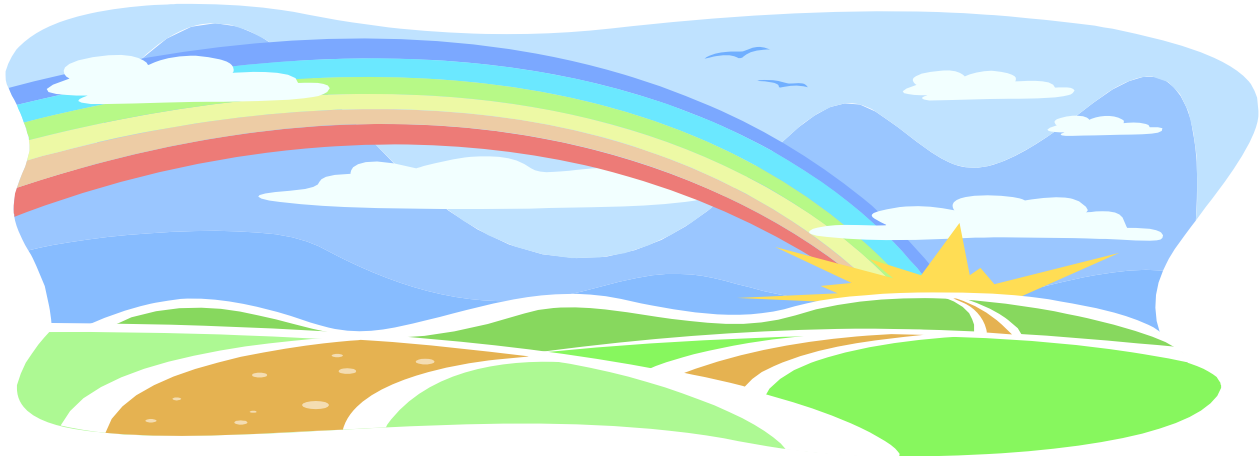
*Several folks have already signed on to help with this year's event but we need lots more! The event will be held during the week of **June 29, 30, July 1, 2 & 3**. We will meet each evening for dinner on the lanai at 5:30pm and then the fun begins! The event will finish with singing & fun in the sanctuary at about 8:30pm.*

*Ms Kathryn needs to get her team in place. If you would like to help and join the fun, please see her after church or sign-up on the lanai. The positions available are for station leaders and aides in the following areas: Swamp Stomp Music; Crawfish Crafts; Gator Games; Dockside Drive-in; Bible Bayou Adventures; Snack Shack (kitchen coordinator, set-up & clean-up) & Rocky's Preschool Playhouse.*

*Also a note for the teens, we always can use crew leaders also know this year as Bayou Buddies! We need about 20 so if you have a friend who likes to have fun bring them a registration form. If you want more information or have questions please see Ms.....*

# Deacons' Rainbow Pizza Party!

Sunday, April 26, 2009



Come and join the fun right after Sunday school on April 26 on the church lanai. It's our annual "Deacons' Rainbow Pizza Party," hosted by MPC deacons for their district members and friends.

**Pizza - - Free!**

**Drinks - - Free!      Games - - Free!**

**Salad & Dessert - - Free**

**Fellowship with MPC Friends - - Priceless!**

Meet, compete, eat, and celebrate with your MPC district neighbors. This will be a chance to meet our new members and your deacon. And the best part ....it's FREE!

Sign-ups begin April 5 on the church lanai



# Mililani Presbyterian Church

Pastor James A. Tweedie

## Officers of MPC

### Session

Kerry Ishihara	Clerk of Session
<b>ELDERS</b>	<b>MINISTRY TEAM</b>
Barry Nupen	Christian Education
Margie Esteron	Christian Education
Traci Haly	Congregational Life
Michelle Emerson	Congregational Life
Geoff Horvath	Evangelism
Rich Gordon	Evangelism
Charlie Cabral	Finance & Facilities
Hugh Lee	Finance & Facilities
Darrell Ching	Missions
Jo Gardiner	Missions
Tony Ambrosecchio	Worship
Doug Wright	Worship

### Board of Deacons

Heidi Takahata	Moderator
Mike Johnson	Assistant Moderator
Stephanie Ching	District Coordinator

### DISTRICTS

Betty Harrell	Green
Kari Nupen	Red
Rick Esteron	Orange
Dottie Lee	Yellow
Bill Horton	Pink
Mary Ross Winsley	Blue

*PARENTS & YOUTH-please note:*

## ***Youth Group Activities for ~APRIL~2009:***



### ***4/5 YOUTH GROUP @ 1PM AT LORI'S HOME***

*Leadership will meet at 12:30pm. Bring your Bibles and Don't forget permission form! And as always, Friends are Welcome!*

### ***4/19 YOUTH GROUP @ 1PM AT LORI'S HOME (leadership 12:30pm)***

*(Same as above)*

### ***4/24 FAMILY MOVIE & SWIM NIGHT AT THE WRIGHT HOME @6PM***

*Bring a beach chair, your suit & towel and enjoy an open air night at the movies. This is a **fun**-fundraiser for youth mission. There will be drinks, hot dogs, popcorn and candy on sale for \$1 each. Cost for the movie is \$1 per person (4 & under free!).*

# The MPC Personals Page:

What's going on in our church family?



## *Happy Anniversaries*

### April

- 10 Pete & Patti Jenks
- 12 Doug & Lori Wright
- 13 Rich & Cecile Brink
- 16 Henry & Rebecca Nishimura



## **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

### April

- 1 Jake Pasternak
- 7 Susannah Prinsloo
- 8 Marsha Graham
- 11 Michelle Wilson
- 11 Leona Bisco
- 12 Dan Uchiyama
- 14 Naomi Morikubo
- 16 Olivia Sakaguchi
- 16 Bill Jones
- 17 Shannon Fiorenzo
- 23 Justin Chun
- 25 Domingo Sosa
- 26 Pat Pasion
- 26 Nolan Acosta
- 28 Rachel Storch
- 29 Stacy Shishido
- 29 Karen Hazard

## April Calendar

**Mililani Presbyterian Church**

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**MISSION**

*To glorify God, to know and serve Jesus Christ, and to live and share His good news.*

**We're on the web!**

**[www.mpc-hi.org](http://www.mpc-hi.org)**

**Vision**

*We are a place of welcome for all, having a particular passion for the needs of children, youth and their families. Building on who we are, God is calling us to be:*

*A church that reaches out as well as welcomes in with the Good News of God's saving love in Jesus Christ;*

*A church where every child and adult is committed to Christ, assimilated and integrated into the body of Christ, equipped for the body of Christ, and inviting others to become a part of the body of Christ;*

*A church that experiences growth in membership, facilities, and staff.*

**Mililani Presbyterian Church**

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