

The PresByte

Mililani Presbyterian Church Newsletter



VOLUME 39, ISSUE 5

MAY 2009



MPC Stephen Ministry Presents:

The Annual

SPAGHETTI DINNER & TALENT SHOW

Sunday evening May 17, 5:00 p.m.

It's time once again to "let your hair down" and come out for a fun evening with family and friends. Please come and share your talents with us! Sign up on the church lanai beginning Sunday, May 3, right after church service. A scrumptious spaghetti dinner is yours to have that evening with donations of \$5.50 for adults and \$3.00 for children 6 – 10 yrs. Children under 6 eat for free.

Proceeds from this event help to provide continuing education for our Stephen Ministers and to offset costs of books and materials. Costs of workshops are covered as well. So, brush up on that singing, dancing, joke telling or whatever your specialty might be. We're all family at MPC and enjoy seeing you give God the glory with your talents. Scholarships are available.

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COMPASSION SUNDAY



May 17th

Each year MPC sets aside a Sunday to encourage members (like you) to Sponsor a Child with the Christian organization, Compassion International. The commitment is only \$32/month or about \$1/day (less than a cup of coffee)!

What is Compassion International?

Compassion International exists as a Christian child advocacy ministry that releases children from spiritual, economic, social and physical poverty and enables them to become responsible, fulfilled Christian adults. Founded by the Rev. Everett Swanson in 1952, Compassion began providing Korean War orphans with food, shelter, education and health care, as well as Christian training. Today, Compassion helps more than 1 million children in 24 countries.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Women's Retreat—p. 3*
- *Poem by Cecile Brink—p. 4*
- *Graduate Recognition Sunday—p. 4*
- *Armed Forces Sunday—p. 4*
- *MPC Planning Retreat—p. 5*
- *John Martin Retirement—p. 5*
- *Kids for World Vision—p.6*
- *MPC Staff in Jail—p. 8*



I recently received an email from Bob & Merla Marsh. Merla was a charter member of MPC back in 1971 and served as Clerk of Session in those early days. She later attended seminary and was ordained into Presbyterian ministry, serving for many years in Florida before retiring first to Hawaii and then to Colorado. Merla's email told how she had recently officiated at the baptism of their first great grandchild in Arizona. She also wanted to say how much she enjoyed reading the *PresByte* each month. She said that my article in the April issue had "connected" with her. "I feel," she said, "like the Whack-a-Mole you wrote about. It's been a tough year, but what a joy to celebrate Easter and proclaim 'He is Risen.'" In closing she added, "I love the idea of the HOLY HUMOR

SUNDAY and THE PURCHASE is a real belly laugh. God bless you and your ministry. Aloha and HE IS RISEN INDEED!!!" It's nice to hear that the *PresByte* is being read and enjoyed by MPCers both near and far!

Much of what I enjoy as your Pastor is the opportunity to meet and get to know the new folks who visit and become a part of our MPC family. Over the years I have also continued to keep in touch with many of those who have moved away, mostly through Christmas correspondence. Lately, however, I have become a part of Facebook on the internet. I signed up so that I could keep in closer touch with my three daughters on the mainland but I quickly made contact with a good number of *ex patriate* MPCers and have enjoyed sharing life with them for a few minutes each day.

Most all of my internet friendships began and were nurtured in a personal face-to-face relationship here in Mililani. If you want to invest in friendships that will last a lifetime, unbounded by time and space, being a part of the Body of Christ through baptism and personal confession of faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior is a good place to start! It is also a good idea to start nurturing those relationships now! The month of May is a good time to participate in some of the special events that have been planned to bring us closer together with one another and with the Lord. The *Women's Retreat* is one of these and the *Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show* is another. *Compassion Sunday* will offer you the privilege of expanding your "sphere of influence" through the sponsorship of a child in an economically poor corner of the world. We will also celebrate our high school and college graduates and honor those who serve (or who have served) in our armed forces. May is a good month. I should know . . . I was born in May!

I'll see you in church, where we will be forming friendships for eternity!

“INSPIRATIONS” FROM HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY



Suggestions for new church signs:

- ◆ The best vitamin for a Christian is B1
- ◆ Try our Sundays. They're better than Baskin-Robbins.
- ◆ This is a ch _ _ ch. What is missing?
- ◆ You are not too bad to come in. You are not too good to stay out.
- ◆ Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings.
- ◆ Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will always take you back.
- ◆ Where will you be sitting in eternity? Smoking or non-smoking?



MPC Women's Retreat



Saturday, May 9th

Join your sisters in Christ for a morning of reflection, refreshment and relaxation! This is a free event.

Bring a light luncheon item to share and any special women in your life. Meet at Ho Olina Lagoon 4 at 9

STEPHEN MINISTRY NEWS



Our Stephen Ministry Trainees, Hugh Lee, Dottie Lee and Heidi Takahata have been working hard for many weeks to develop the skills they will need to successfully participate in this essential care-giving ministry. Thank you to the awesome trainers and to all of you for your support and prayers. Commissioning is slated for Sunday, June 14, during morning worship.

“Lovely, wonderful Jesus”

Lovely, lovely all the wonders of Jesus
 Wondering, wondering with all the love of Jesus.
 How can he be so caring, our glorious Jesus?
 We have only to love him and obey him, and he always forgives us;
 Our wonderful, caring, loving, forgiving, and glorious Jesus.
 Jesus, Jesus, how we glorify his name.
 How we glorify his name.

—Cecile Brink



Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 24



During worship on Sunday, May 24, we will be recognizing our MPC high school and college graduates. Among the high school seniors we have the names of Zachary Ayers, Phoebe Fry, Torri Ishihara, Joel Libed, Jonathan Sallot and Josh Wright. Lori Wright will be graduating from Phoenix University with a Master’s degree in Education. *If you have other names to suggest please contact the church office or Pastor Jim.* As in the past, each graduate will receive an NIV Study Bible as a gift from the congregation; a gift paid for by a former MPCer whose life was changed by God’s Word and who enjoys sharing that Good News in this way each year.

Armed Forces Sunday, May 17

We don’t plan on having a parade or anything but we do want to say “Thank you” to those who serve or who have served in one of the uniforms of our U.S. military (including, of course, the Coast Guard and Merchant Marine). We appreciate the sacrifice that you and your families have made on our behalf and we thank God for all honorable service rendered on behalf of the defense of our nation and for peace. Feel free to wear your uniform (whether it still fits or not) and we’ll save a slice of cake for you.



MPC Planning Retreat Saturday, May 23



Each Spring the MPC Session and Deacons are joined by other interested church members in prayerfully re-imagining and planning the direction of our ministry and programs for the next 18 months. If you are an “interested” member or friend of MPC consider yourself to be invited. The retreat begins at 8:00 am with a light breakfast and then will swing into gear with worship at 8:30 am. The retreat will end at 1:00 pm. Let Pastor Jim or Barry Nupen know if you might like to attend.

Barry Nupen know if you might like to attend.

John Martin Retirement



After 52 years of work with the Civil Service (plus a few extra with a private contractor) our own John Martin has decided to retire. His retirement ceremony took place on May 1st at the Hickam AFB Officers Club. Many MPC friends joined his many other friends and co-workers in honoring him . . . not only for what he has done over the years, but for who

he has been! John, we join in honoring you for your life and labor. You have been faithful in service to our country, of course, but even more, you have been faithful in your service to our Lord! “*E pili mau na pomaika'i me 'oe*” (“May you always have the best”) and, of course, “*Aloha.*”



YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES for May 2009

5/3 YOUTH GROUP @ 1PM AT LORI'S HOME (leadership 12:30pm)
Bring your Bibles and friends welcome! Don't forget permission form!

5/22 SENIOR GRADUATION DINNER @ BUCA DI BEPPO @ 5PM
All youth are invited to join us in celebrating the graduation of our high school seniors. The seniors eat for free, everyone else bring enough money for your self. Permission forms needed.

5/24 YOUTH GROUP @ 1PM AT LORI'S HOME (leadership 12:30pm)
Bring your Bibles and friends welcome! Don't forget permission form!



HOW OUR MPC KIDS SUPPORT

WORLD VISION

Did you know that while everyone is in the Worship center on Sunday mornings we have a handful of kids learning about how to worship in room 1? These children are ages 4 years-old up through the third grade. They do praise singing, the Lord’s Prayer, recite the Apostles Creed and learn a Bible story.

But one other very important aspect of worship that they learn about is tithing. Each Sunday the children are asked to drop their tithe in the basket. They talk about where the money goes (answer: The World Vision Program); who the money benefits (answer: our three World Vision brothers & sister); and what the money does (answer: buys school supplies, medicines and food).

Another wonderful aspect to learning about how their tithe works is our children exchange letters, pictures and cards with these World Vision kids. They have built a relationship and hear back about how they are doing and what they are doing.

The Christian Education team has provided special giving envelopes in the past. If you see your child come home with these envelopes, you will now understand what the children are trying to do. They are being encouraged at Children’s church every week to share a little bit of what they have. If they earn an allowance, they might consider sharing a part of it. They might ask to do special chores or tasks around the house to earn a bit. We do not ask them to give it all as the idea is to teach our children to share some of what we have with others.

So please consider helping your child learn by helping him or her set aside a few coins or a dollar to tithe at church each Sunday. It will benefit the World Vision ministry as well as teach our keiki the value of tithing. A WIN-WIN situation!!



(continued from front page).....

Sunday, May 17, will include a challenge for every MPC household to sponsor a child with Compassion International. Fellowship time after worship will feature profiles of

RIVER OF LIFE MISSION

Twenty-one MPC members participated in our March 25th visit to River of Life Mission and served 258 meals. Our next visit is scheduled for May 27, 2009. We invite you all to be part of this heartwarming outreach to those in need. Donations of men's clothing, bedding, and toiletries will be gladly accepted. They no longer need toys. Below is a photo of our happy group of MPC volunteers from earlier this year.

The sign-up board will be on the lanai after worship service starting on May 17th. Please sign up for cooking, serving, or donating ingredients/supplies needed for the meal. Anyone with questions or transportation needs, please contact Darrell Ching at 623-7977 or Jo Gardiner at 988-2777. We will meet in the church parking



MPC STAFF SENT TO THE SLAMMER



Pastor Jim, Kathryn Tingley and Donna Moorefield spent time in jail recently . . . but for a good cause! They were part of the Muscular Dystrophy Association fundraising “Lock-Up” that took place at the Waipio Gentry Outback Steakhouse. After pledging their support they were released on their own recognizance (whatever that means).

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2009



Mark your calendars for:

JUNE 29th to JULY 3rd

5:30 to 8:30pm

Things to remember:

- ◆ *Children's registration begins first week of June*
- ◆ *Volunteer sign-ups on lanai (still in need!)*
- ◆ *Look for wish-list on lanai soon.*

Mililani Presbyterian Church

Pastor James A. Tweedie

Officers of MPC

Session

Kerry Ishihara	Clerk of Session
ELDERS	MINISTRY TEAM
Barry Nupen	Christian Education
Margie Esteron	Christian Education
Traci Haly	Congregational Life
Michelle Emerson	Congregational Life
Geoff Horvath	Evangelism
	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

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY!

Nelson & DeAnn Acosta

95-1032 Kahakuhi St.
Mililani, HI 96789
ph: 626-4503

Pink District

children: Nolan, 7 yrs
Landon, 3 yrs

Steve & Patricia Riley

94-1049 Lahe St.
Mililani, HI 96789
ph: 778-5600

Yellow District

children: Jack, 7 yrs
Luke, 3 yrs

Brian & Jamie Carlson

94-445 Holaniku St.
Mililani, HI 96789
ph: 625-6408

Orange District

children: Lilliana, 2 yrs
and a Special Welcome
to NOAH CARLSON,
born April 7



The MPC Personals Page:

What's going on in our church family?



Happy Anniversaries




May

- 10 Robert & Kyong Iwasaki
- 10 Dan & Wendy Uchiyama
- 24 Mike & Val Johnson
- 28 Tom & Mary Holland
- 29 Timothy & Hannah Lee
- 30 Joe & Holly Johnson
- 30 Jon & Mary Ross Winsley

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

May

- 3 Kerry Ishihara
- 3 Reyn Libed
- 4 Sue Higa
- 6 Kailee Morikubo
- 8 Ed Kido
- 9 Traci Haly
- 11 Matthew Ambrosecchio
- 12 Davis Holland
- 13 Lori Wright
- 13 Conrad Spence
- 14 Laura Park
- 14 Bradley Sakaguchi
- 14 Drew Haly
- 15 James Horton
- 18 Barbara Martin
- 19 Hannah Lee
- 20 Henry Nishimura
- 21 Torri Ishihara
- 22 Paul Dale
- 23 James Tweedie
- 24 Thelma Burge
- 25 Kaleo Humber
- 26 Max Marciel
- 26 Connor Chilson
- 27 J.J. Johnson
- 28 Ky Keto
- 28 Kathryn Tingley
- 29 Eleanor Honda
- 30 Heidi Takahata
- 30 Janice Marchant



Out of the mouths of babes:
"God created two people instead of one or three,"
 Alexis informed her mother,
"because they lived in the Garden of Even."

May 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.



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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