



GOOD NEWS! May, 2023

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Easter Egg Hunt

April 1, 2023



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MWBC News and Upcoming Events

Day Care Teacher Appreciation — Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8-12, 2023, and we would like to show the day care staff (currently we have 14) how much we appreciate all the hard work they do. Day Care Director Holly McIntosh is planning some little things to make the week special, including providing some of their favorite drinks (various Coke products) and having a special snack cart for them. If you would like to help, you can donate snacks such as chips or cookies, Kroger gift cards, Starbucks gift cards, cash, or simply send a card letting them know they are appreciated. There is a table in the lobby at church where you may leave your donations. Please feel free to contact Holly if you have any questions. Thank you for helping make the day care staff feel special and a part of the church family.

Church Grounds Clean-Up — We need volunteers to help with our annual spring cleaning of the church grounds! Please join us on May 6 from 9 a.m. until noon. Coffee or juice and doughnuts will be provided. The rain date is May 13.

Delores A. Kuster Scholarship — Applications are available at the Welcome Center for Delores A. Kuster Scholarships. Active members/attendees of MWBC who are pursuing post-secondary training are eligible to apply for these scholarships. We ask that you submit your application no later than May 15. You must reapply each year.

Baby Bottle Campaign — The mission board will be handing out baby bottles on Mother's Day to be filled with cash or coins to support A Caring Place, and will collect them on Father's Day. A Caring Place is a local organization that supports pregnant women, families, and children in need through no-cost services, parenting classes, and much-needed items such as car seats, formula, diapers, etc. Thank you for your support!



Save the Date for a Stellar VBS! Vacation Bible School 2023 will be held June 12-16, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. We welcome kids in grades pre-K through sixth as we explore God's created universe through music, drama, stories, and crafts. *Group Publishing's Stellar VBS rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun!*

Attention Graduates! If you are a member of MWBC who is graduating this year from high school or post-high school training, please let Karen Bartmess or Barb Cagle know as soon as possible so that we may recognize you in an upcoming worship service.

In Gratitude — Thank you, church family, for your outpouring of love and support in my life. Your recognition and encouragement of God's call are so life giving! Thank you for such a wonderful licensing service and such a special frame to remember it by! ~ Fred Anderson



*If you'd like to submit an article for the newsletter,
please do so by the 15th of each month.*

Music

Pentecost is celebrated on May 28 this year, the same weekend as Memorial Day. It is a remembrance and celebration of the Holy Spirit coming upon the followers of Christ fifty days following His resurrection. He ascended forty days after His resurrection, and the Holy Spirit was given ten days after that glorious event. The disciples were in a room in Jerusalem, perhaps in the same room as the Last Supper was held, when tongues of flame came down from Heaven and they began speaking in different languages or tongues as the Holy Spirit came upon them. Pentecost was actually a Jewish celebration known as Pentecost or Shavuot, one of three Biblical pilgrimage festivals. Known also as the Feast of Weeks, it celebrates the wheat harvest, fifty days after Passover. It was an event ordered by God in Exodus 34:22: "You shall observe the festival of weeks, the first fruits of wheat harvest and the ingathering at the turn of the year." The disciples were then following a commandment by God.

The hymn "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart," written by George Croly, is an excellent hymn for Pentecost Sunday and all times of the year. Each verse can serve as a guide for our Christian walk as we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Rev. Croly was a minister in the Anglican Church in England. He was described by associates as "fundamentalist in theology," preached in a forceful and magnetic style, and drew many people to his church, St. Steven's, in a blighted area of London. He published a collection of hymns in 1854 under the title, *Psalms and Hymns for Public Worship*. This hymn, originally called "Holiness Desired," is the only remaining piece from that collection. When we sing this hymn, reflect on the words and decide how you can apply them to everyday living as you learn to listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Rev. Jim Cagle,
Minister of Music



Missions

A Message from Benjamin Chan, Area Director for East and South Asia, ABC-USA's International Ministries

On Earth as It Is in Heaven Today

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'" Matthew 6:9-13

The COVID pandemic revealed, and I believe it is God's wake-up call, that we live in the end days Jesus described in Matthew 24:7-14. Human society finds ourselves falling into a chaotic world of nation against nation and kingdom against kingdom, widespread natural and human disaster, people betraying and hating one another, and false prophets rising in political and religious arenas. Christians around the world are struggling with political and spiritual corruption from within, and persecution from without.

Yet the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 and International Ministries' vision of "on earth as it is in heaven" remind us how to overcome discouragement and confusion, and stay focused on God's kingdom.

Matthew 6:9-10 echoes Exodus 20:3 and reminds us that we shall have no other gods before the Creator and Liberator of humankind. Yes, we reject any absolute claim of political and religious power which promotes division, hate, and violence. We choose Jesus' way to restore trust and caring relations, which enhances peace, reconciliation, and justice.

In mission practice, Matthew 6:11-13 reminds us of the valuable heritage of American Baptists, promoting holistic gospel and mission via the contextual and concrete ministries of global servants and volunteers, and the cooperation and synergy with and among international partners.

While living in the apocalyptic time, we together join God in building the kingdom which is everlasting.

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A Family in Ministry

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Our Staff and Leaders

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Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Jim Cagle
Minister of Music

Jih-Ting Chen
Accompanist

Darby Atchison
Barb Wagner
Administrative Assistants

Todd Racer
Praise Band Leader

Tim Rechel
Tower Bells

Holly McIntosh
Day Care Director

Tammy Caldwell
Asst. Day Care Director

Luke Tietmeyer
Maintenance

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. (2 Corinthians 4:7)

The vision of Mt. Washington Baptist Church is to be an eternal family. We seek to live as strong families who are fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. We are passionate about helping people find their place in God's family. Our hope is to bless families for generations through worship that is a sacrifice of praise, deep relationships, spiritual transformation, and meaningful ministry.

Mary, Clara, and Caroline

My two grandmas have always been my heroes. I loved visiting them, staying overnight, getting letters and cards in the mail. Neither lived close, but both were visited regularly. Until my mom died last fall, and I was trying to put words together to say at her funeral, I hadn't given much thought to my mom being my hero as well.

I revere my grandmas for what they did. What they made of their lives, how they raised their kids in difficult times. I knew them for the food they cooked, for the activities we did as a family, for the distinctions they achieved through their work, for the crocheted, sewn, and painted items they made.

But mom, I revere her for who she was. Always there. Knew me inside and out. Didn't make me eat liver. Did make my favorite cake for each birthday. As the youngest, I went a lot of places with mom. I tagged along to the grocery, on errands, and the occasional garage sale. Probably easier to take me along than convince my older siblings to watch me. But I was happy to hang out with mom.

In the first grade I had a severe reaction to a shot at the doctor's office. I don't remember what I had that needed the doctor's attention, but I know sulfa made me break out in an immediate and brilliant rash that got me a one-week stay in the hospital. In the last year, looking through some old letters as I helped clean out the family home, we found one in which mom told grandma that she had not been feeling too well. She said, "I was so worried about Karen that I guess I just didn't take time to go to the doctor about my sinus infection."

I wouldn't say she worried all the time. Just when necessary, I suppose. She rejoiced with all of us four kids when we were happy and successful. Probably cried (when we weren't looking) when we were sad or unsuccessful. Became my friend as well as my mother as I reached adulthood. Rest In Peace, mom. Your legacy of love lives on in me.

All three of these strong, vibrant women have passed on. What women in your life are you thankful for? This is a good month to tell them how much they mean to you. And if they have passed away already, you can thank God for them.

Blessings to you, in the interim,
Pastor Karen Johnson

Messages for May

May 7, 2023
"Jesus Is King"
Matthew 28:16-20
(Rev. Jim Cagle)

May 14, 2023
Mother's Day
"Flowers and Floods"
Luke 2:41-52

May 21, 2023
"Zaccheus, Come on Down!"
Luke 19:1-9

May 28, 2023
Pentecost Sunday/ Memorial Day
"Holy Spirit Directs"
Acts 8:26-39

