

Mount Vernon First  
United Methodist Church

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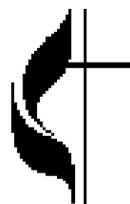


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# The Methodist Greeter

## JUNE 2017



“Our mission as a congregation is to strengthen our personal and group relationship with Christ and to reach out to all people through faith in action.”

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Summer events

**Sunday June 4th Pentecost Sunday—Worship at 8:30 am & 10:30 am**

**Sunday June 11th Summer Schedule Begins—one worship service at 9:30 a.m.**

**Graduate Sunday too—Join us to celebrate our graduates!**

**Monday July 17th Vacation Bible School 7/17 thru 7/21**

**Friday, July 21st– 6:30 p.m. VBS Family Fun Night at MVFUMC**

**Sunday, July 30th—Sunday, August 6th—Family Promise Week**

### Pastor's Corner

**Pastor Terry B. Hall**

#### BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH

##### June 4 Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 7:37-39

##### June 11

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

##### June 18

Genesis 18:1-15

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:8

##### June 25

Genesis 21:8-21

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-29

#### “One anothering” along “The Way”

When I left a successful private practice I had co-founded, my family, home and friends to start seminary in 1999, I had no real idea what I was doing or how much our lives would be changed. OK, I had an inkling that I was pulling the rug out from under all our previous plans and the routines of a life that was going well. But it was a deep-water plunge, thrilling in the same way that letting go of an airplane 3,000 feet above the ground was ... although in that situation, I could at least see where I was headed (down, at what was called ‘terminal velocity’) and the surrounding area with great clarity. Our view on this journey has been more akin to what I experienced on my lone ocean fishing expedition out of Westport, which started out in a safe harbor, then moved quickly into large, rolling waves that provided quick glimpses of the course before us as we crested each one, followed by the repeated view of a trough with yet another wave forming before us. We were told that we’d eventually get far enough from the shore that the wave movement would be almost unnoticeable because the depth of water below us would swallow up the evidence of a tide at work, which proved to be true but perhaps not as comforting as intended.

The one thing I believed I was doing was following God’s intentions for my life - for our lives, really, because I would not and could not have done any of this without Dennie, and this choice effectively demolished the life we had been building, or at least our understanding of it. Financial security, stability for our family, control over where and with whom we’d work and play, all this and more dissolved when I drove away to attend that first year of seminary alone. Our lives divided, connected by the tenuous threads of video and audio signals bounced off a satellite, translated into a code that could be pushed through the torturously slow path of phone lines and a dial-up internet connection. Eighteen years later, I would say the greatest cost of this mid-life change, greater even than Dennie’s loss of health insurance for all but a couple years, the financial penalty of lost wages and decreased retirement funding, has been the loss of close, lasting friendships.

During the two and a half decades of our work in various forms of mental health and Social Work, our co-workers and colleagues were a source of release, support and joy in our lives, especially Dennie’s. We got to know many of our clients/patients/customers in deep and intimate ways, and carried those details in deep inner vaults, closed off from the rest of our lives in ways that assured those folks they would not have to even acknowledge they knew us in public. In this career, there are still some opportunities for me to step into the deep places of the lives of folks who choose to allow me to be their pastor, but Dennie is generally excluded from that sort of relationship. While I have plenty of colleagues, we offer scant support to one another as we each focus on our ‘local franchise’ of a vast, hierarchical organization that seems

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You can find this edition of our newsletter on-line at [www.mvfumc.org](http://www.mvfumc.org)

(Pastor's Corner continued)

no better equipped than society in general to grapple with the compelling issues of relationship at the very heart of our work. We often avoid any real sharing, especially of struggles and uncertainties, always mindful that someone at the table may one day become our District Superintendent.

All of which keeps the important teachings I found in Wayne and Clay Jacobsen's book, **Authentic Relationships: Discover the Lost Art of One Anothering** in the forefront of my hopes, plans and prayers for our ministry together. Whatever else we do, I am convinced we are called and tasked to be focused on our relationships – with God, one another, strangers, even those we experience as enemies. It is the hard lesson of the Pharisees, who lost sight of both the GOD behind the rules and the people in under of them. It is why our faith story calls us, from beginning to end, to place GOD at the center of our lives, to make love our native language and the currency that drives our personal and collective economies. And it is the one thing Jesus taught us to do in every situation, through His words, His actions, and even His death. I will be talking more about this over the summer, and hope you will join the conversation!

*Pastor Terry*

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
April, 2017**

	Income	Expense
Regular Account	\$18,087.56	\$25,986.05
Special Account	\$ 1,970.00	\$ 3,364.37
Memorial Account	\$ 720.00	-0-

As you can see we spent more than we took in during the month of April, but included in our expenses is \$6,000.00 towards our annual insurance premium. We were able to pay all of our bills and apportionments for April as well. Summer is a time of lower giving traditionally... let's not let that be true for this summer! Thank you so much for your continued support of the ministries of this church!

**Summer Worship Schedule Begins June 11th**

Our summer worship schedule of only one worship service at 9:30 a.m. and no Sunday School begins Sunday, June 11th and will continue until September 10th.



**Vacation Bible School – July 17-21, 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
“Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God!”**

We are once again joining forces with our friends from the Mount Vernon Presbyterian church to offer a week of Vacation Bible School to the children of our community. If you know of a young person that may like to attend, please pick up a registration form in the Narthex or download a copy at [www.mvfumc.org](http://www.mvfumc.org).

We are also looking for volunteers to help lead groups of children from station to station. If you are interested, please contact Lori Flores at [lori@mvfumc.org](mailto:lori@mvfumc.org) or 424-3628. Thank you!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OWEN SMITH**

The Mount Vernon Methodist Church Music Fund has been growing over the years, thanks to memorial gifts and other monetary gifts designated for this purpose. This fund is used for music expenses, such as repairs to the pianos or organ, payment to musicians from outside the church who share their talents with us during worship services, and music scholarships for young people in our church who are taking private music lessons.

Owen Smith, who is a skilled percussion student, has applied for a music scholarship for this calendar year. Owen is the son of Miriam Smith and the grandson of Floyd and Carolyn Gregg. We are pleased to announce that Owen has been offered a music scholarship for this year. Owen is happy to share his musical talent during worship services when asked to participate. Congratulations to you, Owen, and keep up the good work!

The music scholarship funds were originally made available due to generous memorial gifts in memory of Jane Brazas, Bill Collins, Ruth Mischke, and Harold Fisher. Contributions to this fund are most welcome at any time, and memorials may be designated for this purpose.

Music scholarships may be used for students taking private lessons in instrumental music, voice, dance, or for music camps. For those wishing to apply for a scholarship, there are certain guidelines that must be followed, and that information is available in the church office.

**New Book on UMW Library Shelves**

One of the new 2017 Reading Program books is “Living into Hope: a call to spiritual action for such a time as this” by Joan Brown Campbell. “Drawing on her amazing life experiences, the Rev. Dr. Campbell speaks out on the pressing issues that face us today: love, justice, reconciliation, forgiveness, and community. Proposing that “who is my neighbor?” may be the most crucial question in a world where so many are hurting, she calls us to live life fully...not carefully or cautiously, but wholly engaged with world and with the messiness of humanity. Larger than average print”. [from UMW Catalog]

Naomi Foote

**33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Children’s Art Festival**



Volunteers are needed for 2 and 2-1/2 hour shifts in the MVFUMC booth at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Children’s Art Festival at Hillcrest Park on July 15, 2017. This community event is totally free, geared towards families and children of all ages and typically hosts approximately 400+ young participants. Come and join the fun helping children with arts and crafts projects. All supplies for our booth will be provided by Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation. This will be a great event to wear our new T-shirts and to show the people in our community the love of Christ by our faith in action. NOTE: those volunteering in the booth between 11:30 – 1:30 will receive pizza and pop/water. The hours need are: 9:30 a.m. to noon (includes booth set up), noon to 2:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. ( includes booth takedown and clean up). There must be 2 volunteers in the booth at all times between these hours If you are willing to help out, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Please contact Kay Martin if you have any questions ([kay@mvfumc.org](mailto:kay@mvfumc.org) or 360-770-1701)

## Faith in Action

### Sleeping Mat Team

Sleeping Mat workers are taking a much earned break for June and July. We will continue to accept plastic grocery bags and will resume making sleeping mats for the homeless in August. Thank you for all your help and support on this ministry.

### New Church Logo T-shirts



A group of people gathered to develop a church logo that would visually identify our church and our mission to non-churched people. This logo, based on a sketch by Barbara Jackson, is the result. The members of our Have A Heart Run/Walk team wore white T-shirts with this logo on the back.

We are taking orders for these T-shirts. The minimum order is 25 and the T-shirts are \$15 for men's, women's, and youth sizes S-XL. XXL and XXXL sizes are \$17. These shirts are a 50/50 cotton/polyester blend. They are an excellent way to show family, friends, and the community who we are and **Whose** we are. We hope folks will wear them while doing volunteer work in the community, walking outdoors, working out at the Y, meeting friends for coffee, and for

all the other things you do. If you would like to order a shirt, please fill in your name and size on the order sheet in the narthex or call the office.

### Jamaa Letu (Hope for the Children of Africa)

Local United Methodist churches of the Pacific Northwest Conference are invited to support the orphanage of Jamaa Letu in Lubumbashi, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Money collected in these jars will be combined into one offering at the Annual Conference which starts June 14, 2017.

This money will support the operating expenses such as food, clothing, school fees, utilities and salaries for the staff.

### Congregational Care Team Training

Trainings for the Congregational Care Team Ministry will be held on the following Mondays at 1:00 p.m. in the Church conference room:

**June 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>, July 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>**. If you are not able to attend one or more of these sessions, please let Kay Martin or Mary Downing know and we will either set you up for online training or provide a time for one-on-one training that is convenient for you.

Also, if you missed the informational meeting on May 23rd, please feel free to join us on June 5th.

## UMW Annual Picnic Potluck June 12<sup>th</sup> at Noon

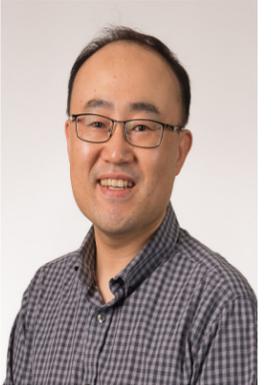
Please join the UMW at the church in the Rees Room for their annual Picnic Potluck. This event is open to all women of the church and we encourage you to attend this event. Bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share. Table service and beverages will be provided. Hope to see you there!

### Meet Our New Director of Music Ministry, Jung Jang

I am very excited to join you as your new Director of Music Ministry. I come to you with over twenty years of experience working with church, community and university's music programs. I am a Doctor of Musical Arts candidate in Voice Performance at University of Washington and hold a Master of Music in Voice Pedagogy and Performance from Westminster Choir College, a Master of Professional Studies in Ministry from New York Theological Seminary and a Bachelor of Music in Church Music from Presbyterian University.

My wife SeoYoung works as a social worker at Snohomish County and our daughter Sarah (5 years old) attends pre-kindergarten. My family and I look forward to getting to know you and we are eager to become a part of the faith community at Mount Vernon First United Methodist Church.

Blessings,  
Jung Jang



### Congratulations Graduates!

We will be celebrating our graduates during the 9:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> and we hope that you will join us for that celebration. We also asked our church family if there were any other graduates in their families and here is that list. Congratulations to all of the graduates and their families!!

Grade School Graduates:

**Isabel Neblett** will be graduating from 5th grade and moving up to middle school at LaVenture School in the Fall.

8th Grade Graduates:

**Hannah Perez** will be graduating from LaVenture Middle School and heading to Mount Vernon High School in the Fall.

**Z Morris** will be graduating from Allen Elementary and heading to Burlington-Edison High School in the Fall.

**Ryan Blokker**, grandson of Ron and Sue Erickson will be graduating from the 8th grade.

High School Graduates:

**Emily Eastman** will be graduating from Sedro-Woolley High School this month

**Alexis Blokker**, granddaughter of Ron and Sue Erickson is graduating from High School.

College Graduates:

**Evan Replier** graduated from Gonzaga University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Evan also has a job in his field already! Congrats Evan! Proud family... Frank, Beth & Matthew.

**Brittney Blokker**, granddaughter of Ron and Sue Erickson, will be graduating from college with a BA in Engineering.



# JUNE

## BIRTHDAYS

- 6/2 Lynnette Gerhard
- 6/3 Harlan Mayer
- 6/4 Owen Drayer  
Maddie Hodges  
Dan Wall
- 6/5 Bev Collins  
Miriam Smith
- 6/7 Linda Cook  
Cindy Grillot
- 6/8 Melissa Nystrom
- 6/11 Manny Saenz  
Betsey Thompson
- 6/13 Jane Olson
- 6/14 Todd Ladwig
- 6/15 Nancy McKeown
- 6/16 Naomi Foote
- 6/17 Carrie Miller  
Hannah Perez  
Mikaela Thomas
- 6/19 Mike Minor
- 6/23 Rand O'Donnell  
Linda Steiner
- 6/27 Debbie Grant  
Patricia O'Donnell
- 6/29 Denise Breznau  
Bill Perez
- 6/30 Arvita Bonner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 8:30 am Men's Morning Ministry 4:00 pm Girl Scout Troop #44345	<b>2</b> 6:00 pm Women's AA meeeting	<b>3</b>
<b>4 Pentecost Sunday</b> 8:30 am Early Worship 9:00 am Hispanic Minis- try 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:40 am Coffee Hour	<b>5</b> 5:30 pm Overeaters Anon- ymous	<b>6</b> 1:30 pm Bell Trio Rehearsal 6:00 pm NAMI Board Meeting	<b>7</b> 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Finance Meeting	<b>8</b> 8:30 am Men's Morning Ministry 6:30 pm Girl Scout Troop #44129	<b>9</b> 6:00 pm Women's AA meeeting	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Graduate Sunday!</b> <b>Summer Schedule Be- gins</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:40 am Coffee Hour 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Youth Group	<b>12</b> 1:00 pm Hugo's Accordion Band 5:30 pm Overeaters Anon- ymous	<b>13 Sue vacation</b> 1:00 pm Sleeping Mat Workshop 1:30 pm Bell Trio Rehearsal 6:30 pm NAMI Education	<b>14 Annual Conference</b> <b>Terry and Kay gone</b> <b>Sue vacation</b>	<b>15 Annual Conference</b> <b>Terry and Kay gone</b> <b>Sue vacation</b> 8:30 am Men's Morning Ministry 10:00 am Quilters 2:30 pm Trustees Meeting	<b>16 Annual Conference</b> <b>Terry and Kay gone</b> <b>Sue vacation</b> 6:00 pm Women's AA meeeting	<b>17 Annual Conference</b> <b>Terry and Kay gone</b> <b>Sue vacation</b> 10:00 am AA Women's Spiritual Garden
<b>18 Happy Father's Day!</b> <b>Sue vacation</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:40 am Coffee Hour	<b>19 Sue vacation</b> 5:30 pm Overeaters Anon- ymous	<b>20</b> 1:30 pm Bell Trio Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 12:00 pm UMW Picnic 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	<b>22</b> 8:30 am Men's Morning Ministry	<b>23</b> 6:00 pm Women's AA meeeting	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:40 am Coffee Hour	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Newsletter Mail- ing Day 1:00 pm Hugo's Accordion Band 5:30 pm Overeaters Anon- ymous	<b>27</b> 1:00 pm Sleeping Mat Workshop 1:30 pm Bell Trio Rehearsal 6:30 pm NAMI Support Group	<b>28</b> 10:00 am Worship Support Team 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	<b>29</b> 8:30 am Men's Morning Ministry	<b>30</b> 6:00 pm Women's AA meeeting	

## ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 6/1 Andrew and Nicole Latulippe
- 6/5 Brandon and Alice Hansen
- 6/7 Ben and June Dunlap
- 6/12 Floyd and Carolyn Gregg
- 6/14 Yank and Janeie Belisle
- 6/15 Karl and Becky Stout  
Frank and Beth Replier
- 6/17 Dennis and Vicki Cooley
- 6/21 Gary and Anne Thompson
- 6/26 Roger and Mary Ann Mercer
- 6/28 Al and Linda Steiner

