



**MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Growing Followers Of Christ Since 1902*

# The Grapevine

*I am the vine; You are the branches.  
John 15:5*

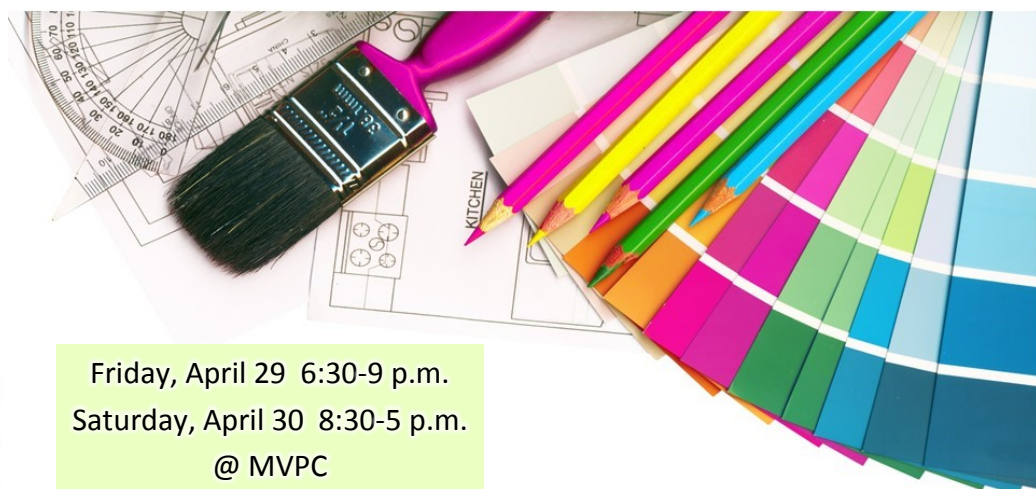
Year 114, Issue 4  
April 2016

## LIFE IN THE ZONE

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

Led by Brita Hammit of Pink Shoes Ministries in Prescott, Arizona. Brita is an inspirational friend of Loretta Vander Pol and Arlene Andersen, both of whom have attended Brita's workshops and retreats in Arizona.

This is an opportunity to find renewal in your journey with God, strengthen your relationships with other women and—well—just pray about it!



Friday, April 29 6:30-9 p.m.  
Saturday, April 30 8:30-5 p.m.  
@ MVPC

Construction. Renovation. Remodeling. In Christ.

If you have any questions, please contact Loretta Vander Pol: 360-336-3759 or Molly Howard: 360-424-4348 or contact the church office: 360-424-7675

The cost of the 2 day retreat is \$40, including meals. Scholarships are available, and childcare is available!

## NIGHT AT THE NURSERY

*benefitting Family Promise of Skagit Valley*

In less than a year's time, Family Promise of Skagit has helped 10 families move into permanent or transitional housing thanks to the help of Mount Vernon Presbyterian and other local congregations.

Family Promise holds only 2 major fundraising events a year to support these efforts. The second annual Night at the Nursery fundraiser will take place on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-8 P.M. at Skagit Valley Gardens. This is a private event just for friends of Family Promise. Each ticket holder receives 30% off of their first item and Skagit Valley Gardens will generously donate 20% of the night's sales to Family Promise. Please plan on joining others in our community as we help those who are homeless. Tickets are just \$20 and include appetizers and beverages. A cash bar is also available.

See Meredith Kostek for tickets.

## MVPC's Family Promise Week is April 10-17

There are many ways to help out!

### SETUP AND TEAR-DOWN

Laurie Parker—lparker.81@hotmail.com

### PROVIDE MEALS

Jodie Kercheval—  
jodiekercheval@gmail.com

### STAY OVERNIGHT

Gary Jones—  
gjones@jonesandsmith.com

*Training will be provided, so first time volunteers are encouraged!*

## A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE MARCH 15, 2016, STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION

- \* The meeting convened at 5:00pm in the Great Room with fellowship and dinner.
- \* Following dinner members offered prayers concerning personal needs and needs of the church.
- \* Representatives of Barron Heating presented their proposal for a new heating system and responded to several questions from Session members.
- \* Deacon Ruth Neal updated the Session on activities and initiatives undertaken by the Deacons. She reported that several went to Skagit Valley Hospital for initial orientation regarding the visitation of patients. She indicated the Deacons are committed to caring for the congregation and helping visitors and new people become acquainted with the church.
- \* The Session approved the proposal by Barron Heating for the new heating system.
- \* Pastor Holland and Elder Clure discussed the curriculum for the upcoming new members class.
- \* The Session reviewed and affirmed the plan for the Pastor's upcoming Sabbatical in the summer of 2017.

Tom Howard  
Clerk of Session

### MVPC Deacons

Jim Byron	Pete Papadopoulos
Laurel Coalwell	Sumiko Shinozaki
Ward Ernst	Rita Vander Stoep
Ted Langrehr	Dave Wilson
Ruth Neal	

*Pete Papadopoulos, Moderator*

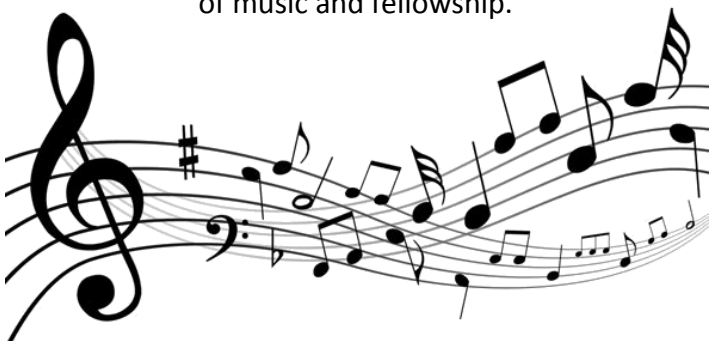
### MVPC Elders

Patti Allen	Bob Mitchell
Brad Clure	David Neal
Molly Howard	Pat Papadopoulos
Gary Jones	George Ridgeway
Jodie Kercheval	Margo Wortham
Anne Long	Bob Wygal

*Rev. Dan Holland, Moderator*

## M. A. L. T. EVENT

Want an enjoyable and relaxing Sunday afternoon? Come join M.A.L.T (Music and Live Theater) on Sunday afternoon, May 1, @ 2:00 P.M. for the Skagit Valley Chorale concert, "Celebrating in Song". Tickets will be on sale in the Narthex April 10 and 17. Cost is \$14.00 with a no host dinner after the concert scheduled for Carino's restaurant. Come join the group for a great afternoon of music and fellowship.



## Membership Orientation Course



### April 17 through May 1 after church

For anyone who may be interested in joining the church, and also for people who have been around for a while and would like a refresher and the opportunity to get to know more people. Please let Pastor Dan or the church office know that you are interested: 424-7675 or [mvpc@MountVernonPres.org](mailto:mvpc@MountVernonPres.org)

## Men's Breakfast

All men are invited to join us on the 4th Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in Good Shepherd Hall for a delicious home-cooked breakfast and great conversation.

If you have any questions about Men's Breakfast, please speak to Bob Wygal.

*Childcare Is Provided!*

## SENIOR SHEPHERDS

Anyone over 50 is invited to come.

Bring a friend, neighbor, or relative and enjoy a delicious meal and program.

Our speaker this time will be Kimberly Burden, Development Director for Safe Harbor Free Clinic. What is that??? Come and find out!! Great meal and great fellowship.

Please sign the 'reservation sheet' (by the fellowship coffee pot) so adequate food can be prepared.

## Women's Fellowship

**April 2**

The good fellowship, coffee, tasty refreshments, and warm fireplace go along with the spiritual lift.

*Come and see!*

All are welcome April 2 @ 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

*Nursery care is available in the church nursery so both Moms and Dads can both enjoy their separate gatherings.*

Want to keep up with what's going on at MVPC? Check out the calendar that's posted on our website!

<http://www.mountvernonpres.org/calendar/>

# April

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

2-Sumiko Shinozaki

6-Rebekah Weston

Bev Wilson

6-John & Leslie Braun

7-Bill DeHon

9-Benjamin Holland

10-Rogan Milnor

19-Jan DeHon

20-Meredith Kostek

22-Shary DeMarcey

Ruth Neal

23-Leslie Braun

23-Wayne & Chris Yerigan

24-Sandy Ball

27-Mary Poppe

30-George Ridgeway

30-Virgil & Debbie Parker



Are we missing your special date?

Please contact Michelle in the church office at

[Michelle@MountVernonPres.org](mailto:Michelle@MountVernonPres.org) or

424-7675 so we can celebrate with you!

## Want to get more involved at MVPC?

There are several ways to get involved in ministry at MVPC and newcomers are always welcome.

*Contact people are listed below.*

**Mission Ministry Team:** Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at noon at MVPC.

*Questions? Talk to Gary Jones.*

**Worship Ministry Team:** The worship team meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at MVPC. *Questions? Talk to David Neal.*

**Prayer Team:** The Prayer Team meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the MVPC Library.

*Questions? Talk to Pat Papadopoulos.*

**Check out the bulletin board near Good Shepherd Hall for other ways to get involved in worship and fellowship at MVPC.**

***Listen for the Spirit ... Blessings abound.***





## @ Where The Heart Is

This past month we welcomed a couple of young volunteers to Care Pals. Elivia and Evelyn joined us along with their Mom, Stephanie. They made shamrocks for Saint Patrick's Day and when it was time to leave they gave everyone a hug.

It certainly made for a special day.

Thank you to Jodie Kercheval, Kitty Willis and Pat Skelton for their donation of crafting materials. We have been using them already and they are greatly appreciated.

*Thank you so much.*



## NEPAL UPDATE FROM SOME OF OUR MISSIONARIES

A huge praise – The blockade with India finally came to an end in mid-February! Not all the issues have been resolved, but supplies have been coming slowly into the country over the past few weeks. However, in Kathmandu and Pokhara, there is still very little difference for “ordinary” people. Supplies of cooking gas, petrol for vehicles, diesel fuel, and medicines are still hard to come by. The black market (which was really the only thing that gained by the blockade) is still holding on to things in hopes of making more money. Thanks for your prayers that this stronghold can be broken and people can once again get the supplies needed to live!

It's now been almost a year since the earthquakes in Nepal – and still the government hasn't started distributing money for people to rebuild their homes. Some have given up and left their villages to go elsewhere. Others have used their own savings or other money to build again – but in doing that, they are probably going to lose out on government money. As the monsoon once again draws near, it is very distressing to know that this hasn't been sorted out. More prayers needed, please.

Another reason for thankfulness here is that the United Mission to Nepal property issue (which was waiting in the supreme court for many months) was finally heard by the judges who ruled in favor of UMN! This means that hopefully the ownership of the property where UMN has been located for over 61 years in the Kathmandu Valley can be finally resolved, and the property can remain in UMN hands rather than become government property. There are still lots of hoops to jump through, but this was a major reason to celebrate!



Finally, the new water tank (and on top, the re-built tennis court) is now finished! When full, this will hold about a million liters of water – it's the biggest tank in Nepal! Now we just need the rains to fill all these tanks!

<— Tennis Court on top of water tank



# Easter Egg Hunt





# Summer 2016

Please let Rebecca know if you would like to be a part of the **Summer 2016 Sunday School Team**. Our Summer Sunday School runs June, July, and August and is the time we combine all the classrooms together for fun, fellowship, and faith activities. We are hoping to pull the team together before selecting the curriculum so that they can help in the selection!

We are also pulling together our **Summer Camp Teams**! Please let Rebecca know if you are interested in volunteering with **Art and Music Camp** (June 20th to 24th in the Evenings) or **Vacation Bible School** (July 18th to 22nd in the Mornings). We need station leaders, group leaders, and behind the scenes support - *there's something for everyone!* Plus, it's fun!



# Easter FUN



# MVPC Children, Youth, & Family ~ April 2016

## SUNDAYS

### **Sunday School during 10:30 am Worship**

	Seeds (Pre)/Sprouts (K to 3rd)	Saplings (4th to 8th Grade)
April 3rd	The Ascension (p. 318)	Lesson 26: Prophets
April 10th	Isaiah (p. 144)	Lesson 27: Amos
April 17th	Daniel (p. 152)	Lesson 28: Isaiah and Hezekiah
April 24th	Jonah (p. 160)	Lesson 29: Jeremiah

*Sprouts (K to 3rd) and Saplings (4th to 8th) begin in worship and then head to their classes, while Seeds (Preschoolers) begin and meet in the Seeds side of the nursery. Seeds and Sprouts are journeying through the Jesus Storybook Bible while the Saplings are exploring the Old Testament as part of a 3 year rotation of New Testament, Old Testament, and Church History to prepare them for Middle School Confirmation Class.*

### **Nursery during 9 am Adult Ed and 10:30 am Worship**

Birth to Preschoolers play in the church nursery while their parents attend 9 am Adult Ed and the 10:30 am Worship Service. Everyone in the nursery is invited to join the Seeds Sunday School story, activity, and snack happening in the Seeds side of the Nursery during Worship.

## FAMILY NIGHT SPRING SESSION

Everyone is invited to attend Family Night on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm in the Saplings and Great Room for an organized potluck dinner, a family friendly faith activity, and fellowship time. Talk with Rebecca if you'd like to be on the email reminder list. During our Spring Session (4/13-5/18), we will explore Serving Others through Mission and Service.

## YOUTH GROUP

1st Thursday from 4:45 to 6:45 pm - Service Project (must RSVP with Rebecca)  
3rd Sunday from Noon to 1:30 pm - Youth Group (pizza, faith, and fellowship)

### **Save the Date for the Summer 2016 Camps**

Art and Music Camp for 1st to 8th Grade ~ June 20th to 24th in the Evenings  
Vacation Bible School for Preschool to 6th Grade ~ July 18th to 22nd in the Morning  
*Please talk with Rebecca if you are interested in being a part of the volunteer teams!*

“Like Us” on [facebook.com/MVPCChildrenYouthandFamilyMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/MVPCChildrenYouthandFamilyMinistry)

Questions? Contact Rebecca Holland, MVPC Children, Youth, and Family Director

## **REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS @ MVPC:**

**Prayer Group:** Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library  
**Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Fireside Room  
**Small Groups:** Call the church to get connected to a small group!  
**Family Night:** Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at MVPC  
**Chancel Choir:** Wednesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
**Glorify!:** Wednesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
**Senior Shepherds:** Third Tuesday of the month at noon. *Join us!*  
**Women's Fellowship:** Fourth Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.  
**Men's Breakfast:** Fourth Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.  
*Childcare provided on the 4th Saturday so Moms and Dads can attend!*

## **THE SUNDAY SCHEDULE AT MVPC ...**

### **9:00 ADULT EDUCATION HOUR**

#### **ADULT CLASSES:**

##### **The Bible Class**

Join teacher Bob Rauch for an in-depth exploration of the Bible. This class is a discussion-based study and meets in the Conference Room. No prior Bible experience required.

#### **KIDS PROGRAMS:**

Nursery Fun for birth-preschool age in the Church Nursery

### **10:30 WORSHIP AND CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Nursery Care available for infants through toddler in the Nursery

Seeds Sunday School for preschool age kids in the Seeds Room

Sprouts Sunday School for kindergarten-3rd Grade in the Sprouts Room (begin in worship)

Saplings Sunday School for 4th-8th Grade in the Saplings Room (begin in worship)

**11:45 Fellowship Time:** Please stay to enjoy treats and good conversation!