



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Growing Followers Of Christ Since 1902

The Grapevine

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

Year 116, Issue 6
June 2018

1511 East Broadway Street . Mt Vernon, WA . 360 424-7675 . www.MountVernonPres.org
mvpc@MountVernon Pres.org

Every year toward the end of the school year, we celebrate Appreciation Sunday here at MVPC. As I write this, it was last Sunday. It's a time we set aside to recognize and appreciate all of the people who make all of the ministries of the church flourish throughout the year.

For what it is, it's a wonderful celebration. At the congregational meeting after worship, we presented the Annual Ministry report (If you'd like a copy, feel free to contact the office), we gave a plethora of volunteers a chance to self-identify and be recognized for their contributions to the life and ministry of the church, we said "Thank you and job-well-done" to the outgoing Elders and Deacons and we said "Thanks and welcome" to the incoming Elders and Deacons... and before we closed the congregational meeting by saying thanks to God for the continued faithfulness to MVPC, I let you know that we were going to be shifting our appreciation program a little bit. You see, this year as we were planning Appreciation Sunday, we realized that a once-a-year celebration isn't enough.

Paul, in his letter to the Colossians says so... "Since you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, **abounding in thanksgiving.**" (ch.2 v. 6-7 *emphasis added*)

There are a multitude of reasons to be grateful and nearly unending possibilities to express appreciation. My leadership consultant once told me that there are not many things which will make a church more welcoming than a culture of appreciation. He talked about how important it is to a sense of community to "catch people succeeding" and reinforce them in that success. And we, the leadership of MVPC, want to infuse the culture of our church with that kind of sentiment!

We want to make it easy for you to appreciate people for who they are and what they do for the church and we want to make it a regular part of our life together. So starting now, as part of our appreciation program at the church, there will be "Thank You" notes available in the church office... if you would like to express your personal appreciation in writing, to anyone for anything, we're happy to provide the letter and the stamp. If you would like to express your appreciation publicly to someone or some group of the church, send an email to Barbara in the office letting her know who you'd like to appreciate and why (it doesn't have to be long and involved) and she'll put it into the "Appreciation Corner" of the next

Cont. next page

Thank you for your service

To all veterans and their families:

Thank you for your service and sacrifices made on the behalf
of all of us.



monthly Grapevine. And if you'd like to express your appreciation in person, that would be wonderful too! There are as many ways to express appreciation as there are people and I'll offer one method on the next page.

I continue to be grateful for this congregation and to God for bringing me and my family here. I appreciate you and pray many blessings for this season!

Pastor Dan

Catch People Succeeding

1. Do it... and do it soon... immediate feedback is really uplifting and helpful for people
2. Tell someone what they did right - be specific.
3. Tell the person how you feel about what they did.
4. Tell them how it helps the church and/or community
5. Let them feel how good you feel
6. Encourage them to do more of the same (or similar)

The short version (Fill in the blanks: I noticed _____
I appreciate _____
It matters _____

MVPC office email

Currently the email mvpc@MountVernonPres.org is not receiving your emails BUT office.mvpc@gmail.com is working.

The Library Nook

The Cage, by Ruth Sender, tells the story of the Holocaust through the eyes of a teenage daughter in a Jewish family. Set in Poland in 1945, The Cage is a small historical novel with an important message that our youth need to hear. It depicts love of heritage, home, country, and values within a time of fear and brutality. Encourage a youth to read it and pass it along. Find it on the novels shelf in our church library.



Tea @ 2

A support ministry for caregivers of people with dementia
Thursday June 28th
In the Fireside Room
Enjoy tea and conversation and song with other caregivers.

Grow and Serve Brochures are available in the Narthex and the church office, or if you prefer to fill it out electronically you can [click here](https://goo.gl/forms/6hjqEN9io3xdaB6Y2). (or copy and paste <https://goo.gl/forms/6hjqEN9io3xdaB6Y2> into your browser.)

Grow and Serve Brochure

After prayerful thought, be sure and turn in your brochure to the basket in the narthex on Sunday or in the office the rest of the week. More brochures are available if you need one.



Meet Elder Bill DeHon

My wife, Jan, and I have a son (Chip) and a daughter (Karen), two grandsons and three greatgrandsons. I retired 29 years ago from teaching at Mount Vernon H.S. and Skagit Valley College. My faith has been an evolution starting when my mother introduced me to the Advent Christian Church at the age of 4. My retirement is fully filled with Habitat for Humanity projects and emergency response, as field coordinator for Critical Incident Stress management team of Skagit County. Every minute is special when it is spent with the great grandsons who live 3 miles away.



SUMMARY OF SESSION ACTIONS From the clerk

- ◆ Session received the following people into membership of MVPC:

Bill Bowser	Dale Irvine
Connie Bowser	Ruth Dunn
Chris Hoke	Martin Dunn
Pat Schlecht	Linda Rabinstein
- ◆ Increased the hours of our Director of Children and Family Ministries from 16 to 20 retroactive to Jan 1.
- ◆ Ministry Fair: Did not get as good a response as would have liked from Ministry Fair. Talked about putting out survey electronically, i.e., social media, grapevine, etc., for people to express their intention about growing and serving.
- ◆ Session is working hard on addressing all issues regarding the building, making sure ministry is happening, and leading the church into Christ-like actions.



MVPC Calendar is on the website! New and Improved!

If you are getting the newsletter online link to the website here:

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

If you would like a printed version stop by the church office.

You Are Invited...



...to join in our youth & family ministries this summer!



The youth-oriented book club will meet 5 times over the summer. Adults are more than welcome to join in!



We will host 5 movie nights this summer, with movies appropriate for middle school through adults. Pop in for some popcorn and a flick!



Our 8 middle schoolers attending camp this summer will share their experiences at the Campers' Lunch after worship on Sunday, July 29.



Confirmation classes will kick off in the fall! If you would like to be involved in planning or teaching, now's your chance.

See the Youth & Family Ministries page or see Jodie Kercheval for more information!



Farms-to-Families Produce Box Program

Viva Farms, a non-profit operating here in Skagit & King Counties, working to preserve sustainable farming, and create a strong and just local food system empowers aspiring and limited-resource farmers by providing bilingual training in holistic and organic farming practices and access to land, infrastructure, equipment, marketing and capital. This year is the beginning of a weekly produce box program which is half-price for all SNAP recipients.

Produce boxes are delivered weekly and include a wide variety of locally-grown, healthy organic vegetables and berries. Customers do not choose what is in their box each week, but it is always full of delicious items! Recipes and cooking tips are included to help customers use products with which they are not familiar.

First boxes will be delivered on Wednesday, June 13th and continue each week until the end of December. Each week, the box contains enough produce to feed about 1-2 adults (small box) or 3-4 adults (large box) for one week depending on fresh produce consumption. Weight varies by product but always contains 8-10 different varieties of produce.

Full price cost is: \$20/small box and \$35/large box and SNAP recipients receive a discount. To sign up go to <https://vivafarms.csaware.com/store/> or call Katherine at 360-969-7191 ext4.

You may also call the church office for details or contact information.



Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal People's choice

https://servicetoamericamedals.org/honorees/view_profile.php?profile=496

The voting button is on the top bar towards the right of screen.

We have a chance to vote for Andy Neal, son of David and Ruth Neal, for this prestigious award given to an exceptional federal worker who is breaking down barriers, overcoming huge challenges and getting results. He is one of 2018 finalists for management excellence who persuaded private reinsurers for the first time to assume some flood damage liability, saving the National Flood Insurance Program \$1 billion in claims in 2017.

Neal had to create a new initiative, get buy-in from his agency and other government entities, including the Department of the Treasury and the Office of Management and Budget, and provide private insurers with data on the risks of current and past policyholders while protecting their sensitive financial personally identifiable information.

Nicholas A. Shufro, an assistant administrator at FEMA's Federal Insurance & Mitigation Administration, said Neal is a great motivator and encourages his team members to share their perspectives. "His collaborative leadership drives innovation, and every individual is empowered to come forward with their best thinking and individual strengths."

June 2018 Children and Family Ministries

MVPC Children, Youth, and Family Summer Kick Off Campfire

Wednesday, June 20th at 6 pm at Miss Jodie's Home

Celebrate the beginning of summer with food, fellowship, swimming, games, s'mores, and songs around the campfire. Families and friends are welcome. Please RSVP with Jodie or Rebecca to get directions. Plus, hot dogs and s'mores will be provided. Please bring an appetizer or side dish to share (chips, fruit salad, salad, veggies, etc.). Miss Jodie has a pool so please bring your swimsuits and towels (parents please plan to supervise your kids if they want to swim). See you there!



Summer Sunday School

The kids in Kindergarten to 5th grade will be exploring what it means to Love God (in June), Love Ourselves (in July), and Love Others (in August) in addition to summer games and fun. Kids begin in worship and are invited to class during the worship service. Parents, please pick them up from the MVPC playground after worship!



June 3rd *Summer Sunday School Kick Off* - Jesus, Our Shepherd

June 10th *Graduation Sunday* - God's Gift of Forgiveness

June 17th *Father's Day* - How God Talks to Us

June 24th *The Talent Trap*

Family Night Picnic's in the Park ~ Everyone Welcome!

Everyone is invited to bring a picnic to Kiwanis Park (500 S 18th Street) from 6 to 7 pm on June 27th, July 11th, July 25th, August 8th, and August 22nd for summer fellowship and fun. There's a spray park so be sure to wear water shoes and bring a towel. Let our Children and Family Ministries Director, Rebecca Holland, know if you want to be on the email list or if you plan to come so we have enough dessert!

Summer Nursery

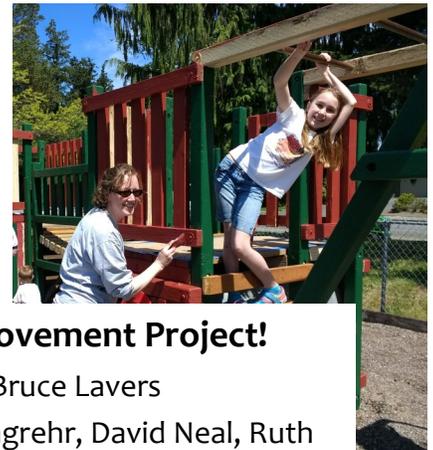
The MVPC nursery will be open Sundays from 9 am to Noon to provide a welcoming place for kids to play while families attend classes or the worship service in June, July, and August. During the 9 am to 10:15 am time, kids can watch Veggie Tale cartoons or enjoy unstructured play. During the 10:30 am Worship Service the kids will have an opportunity to play on the playground, play in the nursery, do a craft, and enjoy a snack together. It's a great first experience of the faith community.

Questions? Contact Rebecca Holland, Director of Children and Family Ministries.

Church Office 360.424.7675 - Rebecca@MountVernonPres.org

Register or Volunteer for Vacation Bible School!

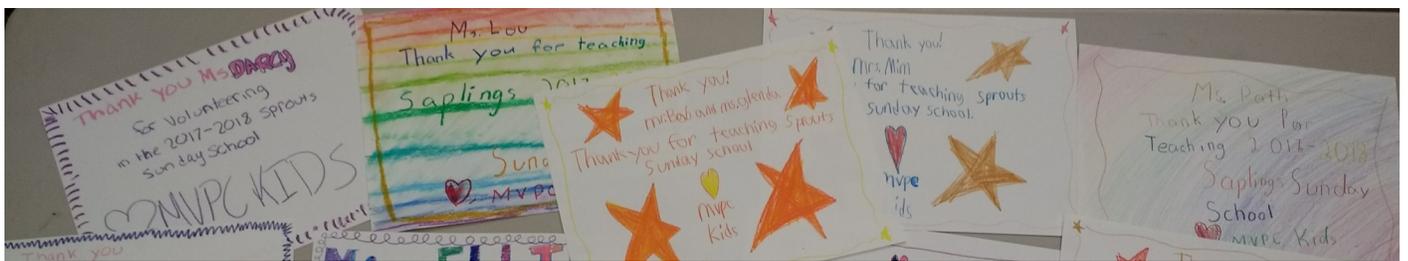
July 16th-20th, 9 am to Noon for Crafts, Science, Music, Stories, Games, and More!



Thank you for helping with the MVPC Playgroup Improvement Project!

A huge thank you to our amazing Project Coordinator: Bruce Lavers

And our wonderful Volunteers: Bob Higbee, Steve Hansen, Ted Langrehr, David Neal, Ruth Neal, Patti Allen, Kitty Willis, Laurie Parker, Lou Cheney, Kurt Swanson, and the Holland Family



Thank you to all the 2017-2018 Children's Ministry Sunday School Volunteers

Saplings (3rd to 5th): Lou Cheney, Patti Allen, and Margo Wortham

Sprouts (K to 2nd): Laurie Parker, Mim Ambrose, Glenda Mitchell, Bob Mitchell, and Darcy Olsen

Seeds (Pre): Pat Skelton, Ruth Neal, David Neal, Amanda Scoby, Kurtis Scoby, & Arlene Anderson



Youth & Family Ministries

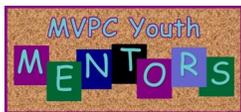
June 2018



Youth Group, Seekers & Explorers

Seekers/Explorers: Seekers (middle school) and Explorers (high school) will have their final classes of the program year on Sunday, June 10 during worship, and then break for the summer. Thank you to our teachers, Colleen Higbee, Gary Jones, and David Reamer for their dedication to our youth and their willingness and ability to share God's message.

Youth Group: Our Youth Group continues to meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month, noon—1:30. At Youth Group, we share a meal, have some fun, and connect with God through scripture and creative reflective activities. Our next meetings are June 10 & 24, and will continue through the summer.



Youth Mentors, please check out the YFM Summer Schedule for ideas on easy ways to connect with your youth this summer!

Also, we are looking for an additional mentor to connect with a young man in middle school that has recently joined our youth group. **If you are interested in mentoring our new student, please talk to Jodie.**

Confirmation Planning



The initial meeting of the Confirmation Team is Tuesday, June 24 at 11:00am. We will review curriculum choices, set schedules and share ideas about how to make our confirmation process valuable and meaningful for the youth who participate.

All who are interested in helping to define MVPC's confirmation program or being part of the teaching team, please contact Jodie.

Summer Youth Book Club

All are welcome to join in our youth Book Club this summer! Look for the book list on our website toward the end of this month, and see the YFM Summer Schedule for Book Club dates!



Dear Future Tall Timber Campers,

Last month I had the opportunity to visit Tall Timber, look at the grounds, and talk with the program director about what to expect at camp and guess what? I'm so excited for you all to go! The camp is located in a valley completely surrounded by peaks. The cabins are clean and well set up, and the lodge is beautiful. Every morning you'll start with worship in the A-Frame, and then sign up for your choice of activities for the day. The ropes courses are amazing. There are hiking trails, archery enclaves, a craft cabin and a mud pit (I want pictures of anyone who gets pulled in!). You'll end the evenings at the campfire and in small group time. Enjoy yourselves, don't get in to too much trouble, and come back to us ready to share your pictures and stories at the July 29 Campers' Lunch! Love, Jodie





Help Direct Our Youth Ministries

All are welcome to join the Youth & Family Ministries Discernment Team, which guides our youth and family ministries programs and activities.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, July 29, at Noon in the Fireside Room, where we will discuss the 2018/19 program year.



Youth & Family Ministries Expected Summer Schedule

Week of	Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Other
June 17			6pm: Summer Kick-off BBQ/Potluck/Campfire at Jodie's	
June 24		11am: Confirmation Team Meeting		
July 1				
July 8	 1:30: Campers' Lunch Planning Meeting			
July 15				Tall Timber Camp July 15-20.
July 22		 7pm: Campers' Lunch Planning Meeting		
July 29	CYF Worship Sunday, 12pm: Campers' Lunch	 12pm: Discernment Team Meeting, YFM		
August 5				
August 12	BBQ at the Hall's, tbd			
August 19				Saturday, August 25: Youth Retreat & Campfire at Jodie's, 11am-11pm.
August 26				



Book Club, 10-11am.



Movie Night, 7:30-10:30pm.



Youth Group 12:-1:30pm

Questions? Please contact Jodie Kercheval, Director of Youth & Family Ministries.

360-424-7675 or Jodie@MountVernonPres.org



Prayer

Would You like to join our prayer group?

We have a small but dedicated group that meets to pray every Tuesday morning from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Library. You are always welcome to come pray with us. There is no right or wrong way to pray, so don't feel intimidated. You don't have to come every week—come when your schedule permits.

Would you like prayers, for you or someone you know?

Email prayers.mvpc@gmail.com and you will be prayed for during this time as well as throughout the week. You can also write your prayer request on the Friendship Register on Sunday mornings and they will be forwarded to the Prayer Team.

Talk to Pat Papadopoulos if you have any questions about the Prayer Team, or just about praying in general.

Prayer practices during summer 2018

For the summer, beginning June 12, the schedule for contemplative prayer is changing. Centering Prayer, a form of contemplative prayer, will be held on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 in Dan's office. Intercessory prayer will continue through the summer on Tuesday mornings at 10:00. Everyone is welcome to join in.

We plan to start up our Thursday evening contemplative prayer times again in the fall. If anyone would like to gather at another time to pray and listen for God's "nudge" or spend time in His peace, please contact Pat Papadopoulos or Rebecca Holland and we can arrange it.



MVPC Knitting/Crafts

Bring your craft project and enjoy fellowship with other MVPC knitters, crocheters, and more on the 4th Tuesday of every month from Noon to 1 pm in the Great Room. Questions? Talk with Patti Allen.

Our Vision Statement

Encounter *The Hope*
of the living God through Jesus Christ

Engage *One Another*
in authentic friendship

Embrace *The World*
with the heart and hands of Jesus

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.

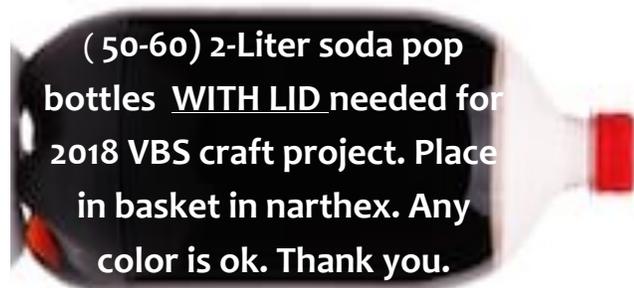
If you have any questions about Men's Breakfast, please speak to Bob Wygal. May will continue with a speaker from a non-profit organization.

HEARING THE WORSHIP SERVICE



Are you having troubles hearing during service? If so, come to the sound desk before service!

We have hearing devices available that can work with your T-Coil hearing aids or independently of any other hearing assist devices.



(50-60) 2-Liter soda pop bottles **WITH LID** needed for 2018 VBS craft project. Place in basket in narthex. Any color is ok. Thank you.

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

June

3 -Ted & Meredith Kostek

5 -Betty Washer

7 -Jan Eerkes

7 -Bill & Jan DeHon

9 -Mabel Long

9 -Don & Margo Wortham

10-Ron Vander Stoep

11-Lynn Grobschmidt

Bob Rauch

Don Riedel

11-Bob & Colleen Higbee

David & Ruth Neal

12-Bavon Olwete

Jett Weston

13 -Ernie Eerkes

18 -Bob Higbee

20-Bob & Glenda Mitchell

23 -Aaron Daut

24 - Dick Johnson

Virgil Parker

Carolyn Wortham

25 -Linda Walser

26-Colleen Higbee

Tom Long

Gordon Mau & Dee Jobe

28 -Iva Rauch

29 -Jim & Jean Byron



Women's Fellowship Meets the 4th Saturday of the Month May 26th 9:00 am In the Fireside Room

Are we missing your special date?

mvpc@mountvernonpres.org

Or

Office.mvpc@gmail.com

Please contact the church office at

or call or text 360-424-7675

so we can celebrate with you!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS @ MVPC:

Centering Prayer:	Tuesdays at 9 am in Pastor Dan's office
Intercessory Prayer Group:	Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Library
Contemplative Prayer:	2nd and 4th Thursdays 6-8 pm in the Great Room
Small Groups:	Call the church to get connected to a small group!
Family Night:	Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at MVPC
Friendship House:	First Thursday and second Tuesday @ Friendship House
Creative Kids:	Sundays, 9:30 to 10:15 am
Youth Group:	2nd & 4th Sundays, Noon-1:30 in the Great Room
Chancel Choir:	Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m.
Glorify!:	Wednesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Tea @ 2:	Last Thurs at 2 p.m. in Fireside Rm
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.
Deacons Meeting:	1st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Worship Team Meeting:	1st Wednesday at noon
Finance Committee:	2nd Tuesday at 5 p.m.
Mission Team Meeting:	4th Sunday at 12:30
Personnel Committee:	3rd Tuesday at 4:15 p.m.
Session Meeting:	3rd Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

THE SUNDAY SCHEDULE AT MVPC ...

9:00 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR

The Bible Class

An in-depth exploration of the Bible through discussion-based study for adults in the Conference Room.

Creative Kids 9:30 to 10:15 am

Kids of all ages express their faith creatively in the Sapling Room.

10:30 WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

SEEDS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschoolers are introduced to Bible Stories in the Nursery.

SPROUTS SUNDAY SCHOOL

K to 2nd graders journey through the Bible. Begin in Worship.

SAPLINGS SUNDAY SCHOOL

3rd to 5th graders study the New Testament. Begin in Worship.

SEEKERS (2ND & 4TH SUN)

Middle School Youth seek meaning in Paul's letters. Begin in Worship.

EXPLORERS (2ND & 4TH SUN)

High School Youth explore the Gospels. Begin in Worship.

11:45 FELLOWSHIP TIME: Please stay to enjoy treats and good conversation!

***Nursery Care Available 9 am to Noon.**