

*Blessed by the Grace of God, following Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit, we:
Celebrate with joy and gratitude God's abundant love,
Learn and grow as disciples of Christ,
Care for each other and our neighbors,
Serve God's people with compassion, sharing the Good News.*

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS – SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2010

FOR GOD'S SAKE, LET'S TALK

Many thanks to all who have participated in one of these family meetings! Please note that the series will soon be winding up. If you have not yet attended a meeting, you are invited to come **today** at noon to the Choir Room or **tomorrow, Monday, August 30** at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Level. The last scheduled meeting will be **Wednesday, September 8**. *Child care will be available by reservation for the September 8 meeting by calling or e-mailing the church office (231.2650 or theoffice@mwpc-church.org)*

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY CLASSES:

Come meet your teaching team members, receive curriculum, teaching tips, and plan the schedule for the year - Tuesday, **August 31** at 7:00 p.m.

MARINERS SUMMER PICNIC

The Mariners annual covered dish picnic will be held Sunday, **September 12**, 4:30 p.m. at the home of Joyce & Vern Stephens. New members are welcome. Driving directions will be made available via email or US mail by Wednesday, **September 1**. RSVP Joyce & Vern.

HAVE YOU BEEN LOOKING AROUND?

Now meeting to fill the slate of officers (elders and deacons) for the Class of 2014, the Representative Nominating Committee asks that you look around at those MWPC members you interact with at ministry team meetings, small group gatherings, social situations. Think seriously about what leadership gifts and skills those around you might have which would serve them well as representatives of our congregation! Contact any member of the committee: Bill Ryan, chair; Anna Bonham-White, David Hartman, Jim Huizenga, Joe Jaap, Su Randall, Cathy Siebert, Carol Legg, Les Reichard or Sandy Jones-Croxton. Your suggested names may also be emailed to the church office (theoffice@mwpc-church.org).

HAVE WE HEARD FROM YOU YET?

In our on-going effort to learn of the needs, desires and gifts of our MWPC church family, we have made available to *every member* a B.I.G. (Blessings, Interests and Gifts) survey. However, we have not yet heard from *every member* and the time has come to bring this project to a close. Tomorrow, Monday, **August 30** is the deadline for providing your information to the office via www.surveymonkey.com/s/MWPCBIG. Copies of the survey are also available on the credenza. Please make sure we've heard from *you!*

FROM SERVE MINISTRY:

- ★ **The Pantry Shelf** - Many thanks go to those who donated toward the \$1050 to SEM Food Pantry from the Golf Scramble! SEM Food Pantry distributes approximately **24 food and non-food items** to every family who qualifies for its services, which translates to **3,000** or so items every two weeks. For the four-month period April through July, MWPC collected **1,513 items** from the Pantry Shelf for SEM Food Pantry. While our church can't feed everyone who comes to SEM, we have helped immensely. Keep up the good work!
- ★ **Hunger Fund** - Hunger Fund receipts are split between the SEM Food Pantry and the Batavia YWCA Emergency Food Program. You can donate to the Hunger Fund using the yellow-tan pew envelopes.
- ★ **Toothpaste** - The mystery item for the remainder of August is *toothpaste*. Please place your donations on the Pantry Shelf. In September, the mystery item will be *pancake mix and/or syrup*.

A MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

Volunteers are needed for the twice a month MWPC mission of serving dinner at the Drop Inn Center. The meal is already prepared by the Drop Inn Center; our task is to serve the dinner to the clients. Sign-ups for this mission seem to have dwindled significantly over the past several months. Three or four volunteers are being sought for each date to meet at the church at 5:15 p.m. to carpool down to the Center. A recent change by the Drop Inn Center reflects the meal served now at 6:00 p.m., completed by 7:00 p.m.; volunteers return to the church early evening. We serve the 2nd Thursday and 3rd Tuesday each month. There are sign-up sheets in the Mission Center for upcoming visits. Experienced captains lead each team, but recent moves, job changes and other life changes have reduced the number of available captains; new captains are being sought – the commitment is once every three months. Any one who has participated in this mission could greatly help by taking on this role. Please contact Jim Dockendorff if you are interested or wish to have more information. A big thanks to the Presbyterian Women for their support of this mission through their regular generous donation of much needed food items for the center.