

The logo for M.C.C. newsletter is a black, multi-pointed star shape with a white outline. Inside the star, the text "M.C.C." is written in a large, bold, yellow-green sans-serif font. Below it, the word "newsletter" is written in a white, cursive script font. Two horizontal white lines are positioned above and below the "M.C.C." text.

M.C.C. newsletter

APRIL 2024

Pastor's Page ~

It has been said for ages, "April showers bring May flowers." I'm sure there is some truth to that statement as we enter into spring and we see that thought blanketed with a layer of snow.

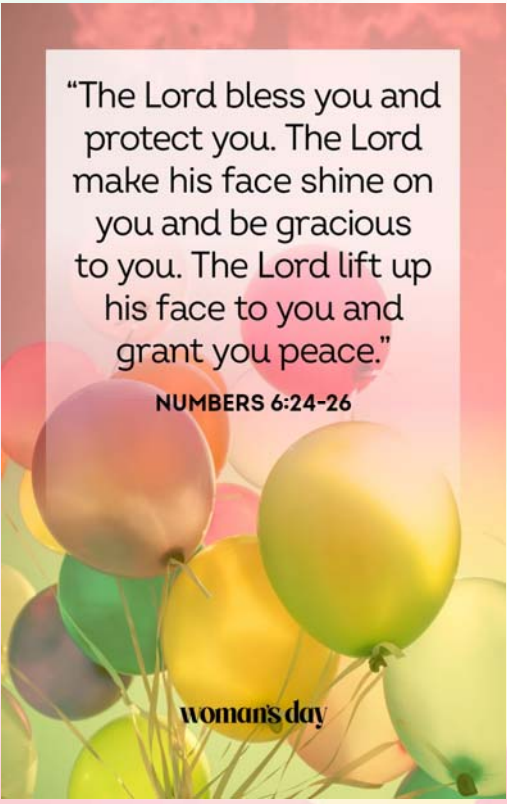
This season of new life and new beginnings I am praying for us as a body to be willing to go where we have never gone in Him before. I pray that we begin to pray like we never have before, and that we have a level of waiting expectation like never before. That our ears are open to Him and closed to the doubters and nay sayers. The colors come back on the trees and shrubs, a sign of new life all around us. As we see and picture these things this season, I pray that we see signs of new life in us and our spiritual walk with Him.

The winter is over and times of refreshing and new life in Him are coming. We ought to be waiting with anticipation and expectation for the new that He is bringing. Far too often we find it hard to focus or anticipate the new because the winter was difficult. We got our hopes up once before that it was over and ending, only to have our hopes covered with a blanket of snow. I pray that our eyes catch the vision that He is casting for us for this season. And that the words we speak would be life giving and full of inspiration and hope of all that He is doing and will do in us.

Pastor David Brown

April Birthdays

- April 8th - Barb Brooks

A cluster of colorful balloons in shades of pink, yellow, green, and purple, tied together with a string. The balloons are set against a soft, light-colored background.

"The Lord bless you and protect you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his face to you and grant you peace."

NUMBERS 6:24-26

woman's day



Pot Luck

Sunday,
April 7th

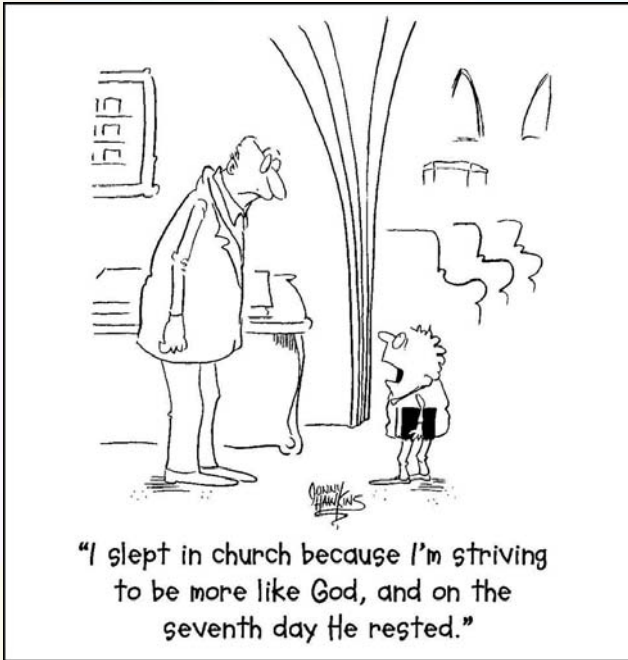


PRAISE & WORSHIP

Sunday, April 14th
at 6:00pm

"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it"

Psalms 118:24

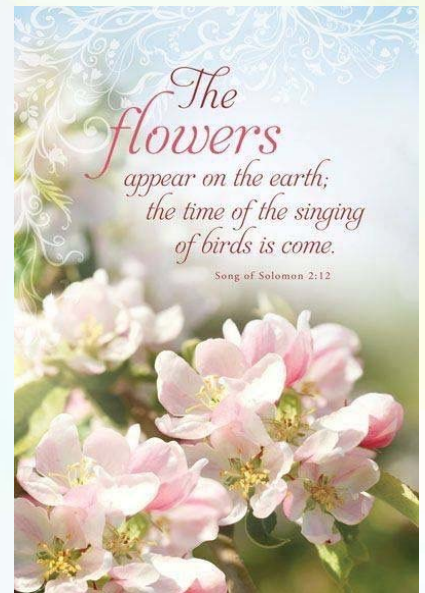


"I slept in church because I'm striving to be more like God, and on the seventh day He rested."



Grief Support Group

Tuesday's @ Noon
in the Library



The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come.

Song of Solomon 2:12



GROW DEEPER IN THE WORD!

JOIN US FOR ONE OF OUR MANY BIBLE STUDIES EACH WEEK --

Sunday's at 9:00am

Wednesday's at 3:30pm

Ladies -

Wednesday's at 2:30pm

***EACH IS AN INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Trivia Night

Sunday, April 21st
5:00pm - 7:00pm

Do April Showers Really Bring May Flowers?

We've all heard the saying "April showers bring May flowers." It turns out that there's far more to the phrase than just a correlation between rain and plant life. For starters, "April showers bring May flowers" is actually just one small part of a longer phrase. The full sentence actually reads, "[March winds and April showers bring May flowers and June bugs.](#)" This saying dates back to 1886.

Scientists note there's one factor that's much more important than rainfall in determining when a particular flower will bloom: temperature. When the average temperature begins to approach spring-like weather, flowers will begin to bloom, regardless of exactly how much rain they received in April or the month before they began to bloom.

In some areas, a "false spring" may result in great harm to flowers and fruit crops. Early warm spells may trigger flowers to begin to bloom. If those warm spells are short-lived and are followed by a hard frost, flowers and fruit trees may die and not bloom again until the following year.

NEWS ABOUT GOD'S CHURCH AND PEOPLE.....APRIL 2024

It's spring! After a few days of warm weather we have been teased into thinking that it will be warm, sunny and no wind from now until fall. Well, that would be thrilling but this is Central Oregon. I'm still hoping the snow might be gone for a while and that we may start to enjoy the outdoors once again.

The Women's Ministry visited Pregnancy Resource recently, touring the building and learning how they help girls/women become moms, with the spotlight on God and Christian education. We were impressed with what they provide and very thankful that they are in our community. Stay tuned for more information to learn what we can do to support them.

A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT DIANNE KAY SWETNAM GIBBONS.....

Dianne was born into a musical family consisting of an older brother, a Father who was not a Christian and a Mother who was a strong Christian. They lived in Portland where Dianne spent her whole life, same house, same school and same church, until she went to college. She credits her mother's love of our Savior for raising her children in a Christian home that was stable and loving.

Dianne was educated in Seventh Day Adventist schools from 1st grade through college in Walla Walla, Washington. She doesn't remember when she first became a believer because she always felt Jesus was part of her life. She was baptized when she was 12 years old.

Music has always been a large part of her life. Her mother played the piano in church, she also played the organ and accordion. Her father played the organ and harmonica. Many times her brother, mom and Dianne sang together. Of course, we know of her talent playing piano and organ which she has been doing for the past 6 years at MCC. She said she didn't always like practicing when she was a child so her wise mother gave her a choice---practice or help with the cooking chores! She claims she was never a passionate cook so we have all benefited from her practicing.

She met her future husband, Ed, while in college, where they both had parts in a play. Their first date was the night before Dianne graduated in 1967. They married one year later, almost 56 years ago. She still describes Ed as a gem! They have 3 children and all three are musical.

Ed and Dianne were both teachers. Dianne taught 25 years, all but 2 years in Adventist schools, nineteen of those years were here in Madras at the Madras Christian School. Ed taught grades 5-8 and Dianne taught the younger children. She remembers days in the classroom when little miracles happened and is thankful to God for those special times.

Dianne is involved in many activities and hobbies that keep her busy. She is a bell ringer at the Methodist Church, a very lovely activity. She quilts, paints, and is intrigued with 3-D art and anything "crafty". Since retirement in 2010 she has gone on unforgettable mission trips, once to Africa and twice to India, where the Maranatha team built schools. It was not easy getting to these countries, sometimes over 20 hours of flying, but she was filled with joy to be a part of these trips. Dianne led Vacation Bible schools for over 200 eager children at a time...such an amazing experience! She says the children were so adorable and creative and the Indians were so gracious in caring for the team. In that remote hill country they made hot water available the hard way. Every morning a kind young man built a fire and heated water in a huge pot so their "guests" could bathe in comfort.

Now, prison ministries has become a rewarding challenge for her at the Deer Ridge Correctional Institution just outside Madras.

We are blessed with her music and her love of God. She is known for "doing the right thing naturally" and to reflect Jesus in her daily life. She is known for her love and kindness.

Please enjoy spring. May God richly bless you!.....Lynda Funk



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"Loving God and Loving People...That's what we do here at M.C.C."

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