THE PORTLIGHT

A newsletter for members and friends of Portland Avenue United Methodist Church

April 2024

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Children, Youth, & Family GARAGE SALE



April 26 & 27 Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Invite your friends and neighbors!

Set up begins April 24.

(See page 4 for further details.)

Our Mission

"To grow followers of Jesus who change the world."

Our Vision

"To be a safe harbor along life's journey."



Pastor's Message

Greetings Members and Friends of The Port,

Like me, I hope you had a memorable and blessed Holy Week. On Maundy Thursday, the Fellowship Hall had 29 people celebrating Jesus' last supper with the reading of scriptures, prayers, and awesome music. On Resurrection Sunday, the atmosphere at church was inspiring and amazing. Thanks be to God for the combined worship service of the Brazilian Church and The PORT. The Spirit of the Lord filled the place. We were thrilled by the hospitality.

Friends, there is so much anticipation leading up to Easter, which we celebrated well, but what happens after Easter? What about the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday after Easter, and all the days that follow? How long do we remember and hold onto the joy we felt on Easter? How long do we focus on and live the spirit of Jesus' resurrection in our day-to-day lives?

Unfortunately, a week or two after Easter will come and go, sometimes the very next day, we're busy with all sorts of things that occupy our time, our actions, and the thoughts in our hearts. We get occupied with family activities, projects at work, planting the garden, planning a vacation. The list goes on and on. In and of themselves, these activities are probably good and needed. But honestly, how much do we continue to remember and be inspired by the resurrection two, three, or six months after Easter?

Are you following Christ to the best of your ability? Loving your neighbor as yourself? Loving people the way Jesus loved his disciples? Honoring and Glorifying God? What would our lives be like if we constantly had the power and spirit of Jesus' resurrection in our hearts and minds?

Friends, after Easter, it's time to continue to follow Jesus. This is the key to what needs to happen after the resurrection. We need to embody the spirit of Christ in all that we think, say, and do. We need to follow and obey Jesus. We need to put his teachings into practice in our daily lives to the best of our abil-

ity. We need to live with a resurrection mindset.

Friends, may Jesus Christ tenderly come into our hearts and flood it with a love so powerful that we can't help but let go of the hurts, the doubts, the fears, the insecurities, or the pride.

From a more spiritual perspective, Jesus' resurrection is not a one-time event that happened centuries ago. It is a continuous, ongoing manifestation of the power of life over death, good over evil, and love over hate. In this sense, there is no "after" the resurrection, because it is always taking place. So maybe we need to change the question from "what do we do after the resurrection?" to "how can we participate in the ongoing resurrection of Christ in our lives and in the world?"

Jesus is alive!

"After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God."

(Acts 1:3 NIV)

Blessings,

Pastor Henry





Pastor Henry will be out of town attending the United Methodist Annual Conference in North Carolina from Tuesday, April 23 through Thursday, May 2.

On Sunday, 4/28, Lynn Livingston will share the message and Judy Richardson-Mahre will lead us in a hymn sing. Don't miss this day of praise and worship with our PORT family.

APRIL Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Welcomer/ Greeter	Heather Anderson	Lynn Livingston Leo Castro	Greg Jurek	Beth Cameron
Ushers	Trenton Olson Melinda Matton Kathy Soucy	Bruce Benson Wayne Anderson Sharon Beckler	Bruce Benson Myron & Ginny Karki	Scott Swenson Melinda Matton Jocelyn Medzagoh
Reader	John Hepola	Paul Richardson	Trenton Olson	Youth
Sound	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson- Mahre	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson- Mahre
Media	Tim Madsen	Barb Andrus	Tim Madsen	Nancy Hagerty
Livestream Tech	Tim Hagerty	Daisy Castro	Scott Swenson	Tim Hagerty
Closer	Don Anderson	Steve Knopp	Wayne Andersen	Wayne Andersen
Counters	Pam Rose Steve Soucy	Pam Rose Steve Soucy	Pam Rose Wayne Andersen	Pam Rose Wayne Andersen
Communion Stewards	Tracy & Dan Baker			



We need you! For media, sound, livestreaming and more. Let the office know or ask anyone you see serving!

Holiday Bazaar News

Holiday Bazaar Workshops Resume

Our Holiday Bazaar will be November 8 and 9, and it will be our 50th year! To fill our tables with ornaments and things to sell, our workshop groups will be meeting on Tuesday evenings, 6:30 - 8:30, and Thursday mornings, 9:30 - 11:30. Please come for some assembly-line crafting, fun and fellowship!

Come when you can, no commitment required!

Wanted: Empty Keurig "K" Cups

The morning Bazaar group has some craft projects they would like to make using empty Keurig "K" cups. If you can help, please drop off your clean cups in the bazaar room.

Thanks in advance! ~ Holiday Bazaar Team



Congregational Care

Happy Birthday to our April Friends!

If you have a birthday during the month of April but your name isn't on our list, PLEASE LET US KNOW, so we can update our records for next year.

06 - Pam Rose18 - Bob Haugen08 - Scott Cameron20 - Kasey Swenson15 - Jarek Haugen25 - Amelia Liu16 - Kate Hagerty26 - Pat Ekstrom

18 - Mike Cameron



Address Updates

Fran Carpenter

659 Kensington Ave Severna Park, MD 21146

Trenton Olson - change apartment number to: Apt. A

Garage Sale - Continued from cover

We are still accepting donations in good condition. Items can be dropped off during church office hours or as arranged with one of the coordinators (below).

Please contact us regarding furniture/larger item donations. These will only be accepted on Thursday, April 25th. Furniture and large items will need to be picked up by YOU on Saturday at 12 if they don't sell. Again, It will be the donator's responsibility to remove these items immediately..

Many hands are needed to help make this year's sale another success. Our greatest need for help is cleaning up on Saturday and helping with donations. Volunteers are also needed for set-up and pricing before the sale. If you are available to work during the sale days, the greatest need is Friday from 9 am to 12 pm and Saturday at the beginning and end of sale (8 to 9 am and 11-12).

Please contact one of the following if you can help or have questions!

Becky Rice 651-592-7752 or rebarice24@gmail.com
Janene Haugen 612-940-4408 or janenehaugen@charter.net
Beth Cameron 612-558-4974 or beth.cameron@hines.com
Traci Darnell 651-335-8031 or terstad 11@yahoo.com



Mission Outreach

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

Please join us Sunday April 14th for Native American Ministries Sunday where we will participate in The United Methodist Church's Special Offering. This day recognizes and supports the contributions of Native Americans to the church and society. Part of the funds collected allows us to collaborate with existing native ministries, create programs and support seminary scholarships for United Methodist Native Americans. Fifty percent of the offering remains in our annual conference to develop local ministries. To learn more about this special offering, please visit:

https://www.umc.org/en/content/native-american-ministries-sunday-faq

MISSION OUTREACH NEEDS YOU!

Interested in what Mission Outreach does? Please come to the informational meeting on Sunday, April 28th after the service in the Bazaar Room to learn what we do and where you can help. Maybe there is a project that would be of interest to you. Have a Mission Outreach idea, bring it to the meeting! Many hands make light work and it's rewarding to know we're doing something for our community! We look forward to seing you there!

Nancy Hagerty and Pam Rose, Missions Co-Chairs



Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday 2024 at The PORT

We had a very special Holy Week this year at The PORT. On Maundy Thursday we were joined by Pastor Eric Pone and members from Hillcrest UMC, and Pastor Helcio Duarte and his wife, Elizangela, from the Brazilian Church of Hope. Holy Communion was observed as we imagined how the Last Supper may have been, breaking bread among friends while enjoying scripture, music and prayer.









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On **Easter Sunday** we joined with the Brazilian Church of Hope for a beautiful service conducted in English and Portuguese. The scriptures, prayers and messages were translated in both languages, and the musicians from the two churches combined their voices and instruments to lead the congregation in uplifting songs of praise and celebration. The Sanctuary was filled with 176 Christians and the joy and love was palpable. The Easter Garden and Communion Table were full of colorful flowers and decorations that greatly added to the special occasion.

Before the worship service members and youth from The PORT served a delicious breakfast and following the service the Brazilian Church members served a wonderful traditional lunch. Abundant hospitality was enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who had a role in this very special day.













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	6:30pm Evening Bazaar Wkshp Resumes				3:00pm Confirmation
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28 29	30				
9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship/ Sunday School					

Portland Avenue United Methodist Church 8000 Portland Ave S, Bloomington, MN 55420





ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL PLEASE EXPEDITE

Join us for in-person and livestreaming worship on Sundays at 10:00am with Sunday School during worship.

Staff

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