



# The Courier

Semi-monthly Newsletter

March 30, 2007

Melrose  
Highlands  
Congregational  
Church

[www.mhcc-ucc.org](http://www.mhcc-ucc.org)



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN IS OFF AND RUNNING!

### ANNUAL GIVING INVITATION COINCIDES

Each year our annual gifts help to provide critical operating funds to the church. These gifts support staff salaries, youth programs, building maintenance and more. Without these critical resources, the mission and outreach of our church would be severely limited.

In addition to our annual giving, every decade or so, it becomes necessary to raise additional funds to support projects far beyond the church's operating budget.

Because we are enacting this as a Comprehensive Campaign (combining our Annual giving with this Capital Campaign effort), your annual support will be invited as well.

In these next few weeks you will be hearing more about the Campaign, be invited to support it with a pledge and your prayers and celebrate our commitment on Sunday April 29.

## Easter makes more sense if you've taken the journey through Holy Week!

### HOLY WEEK INFORMATION



#### April 1 (*note change of time*)

∞ Palm Sunday ∞

8:30 a.m. breakfast & Palm Parade beginning at First Baptist Church, 561 Main Street  
10:30 a.m. worship at MHCC  
"Voices from the Crowd"

**April 5 - Maundy Thursday**  
Supper & Service  
at 6:00 p.m.

**April 6 - Good Friday**  
Noon – 7:00 p.m. Labyrinth  
open for walking  
7:30 p.m. Worship service  
"The Crux of the Matter"

**April 8 - Easter!**  
Sunrise service at 6:00 a.m.  
at Mt. Hood  
"Hole in One"  
John 20: 1 - 18  
*Children of Note*

### NEXT COURIER DEADLINE

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at noon.

## A Note of Thanks!

To all who worked, solicited, set-up, followed up, showed up and made our Annual Auction a huge success!

## Church School Heifer Project



Thank You!

Many thanks to all who participated in our second Church School Cookbook and Tasting Party fundraiser.

With the combined efforts of the chefs, servers, and tasters we raised \$800 for Heifer International!!!

If you have not received your cookbook please see Bonnie or Mary Ann.

## BAPTISMS

We welcome these children and share in their family's joy!



Gabriel Ian and Zachary Raymond Wood Hunnicutt sons of Adrienne Wood and Jeff Hunnicutt.

Grandparents are Barbara and Dennis Wood and Liz and Gary Hunnicutt.



**George Maidrand** – doing rehabilitation at Bear Hill Nursing Center

**Diane Bucknill** – recovering from surgery

**Carol Trout** – as numerous members of her family struggling with health issues

**Holly Ardito** – safe travel to Vietnam as she receives her newly adopted daughter.



The Capital Campaign Kick-off on Sunday,

March 18 was begun with personal words. Charlotte Swan spoke from the heart about the life given to her through this church community.

During the kick-off lunch Paul Lind addressed finding a spiritual home here when he wasn't even looking for one.

Janille Hartung expressed her vision and longing for a place to share her gift of song by creating a group for youth her age to express their praise of God through music.

Hearing such witness reminds me of the practice of testimony in the church. In some traditions testimony is evoked on the spot as in an altar call. In our tradition testimony in worship is a little less spontaneous but just as genuine.

As much as I look forward to those times of testimony in worship, I am just as thrilled to hear instances when you have given testimony to me or to each other that this church community is an important part of your life.

Recently I have heard testimony to the generosity of the MHCC community from a member embarking on a new life adventure. I've heard testimony to feeling held and embraced in prayer through a rough time. I've heard testimony and gratitude for a message about second chances.

Testimony is a powerful way to build community. I pray we all continue to create cause for testimony to the grace, peace and love expressed through MHCC!

-- Rev. Wendy Vander Hart

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**WEB SITE:** [www.mhcc-ucc.org](http://www.mhcc-ucc.org)



**Patriot's Day,  
April 16  
Church Office  
Closed**

**Spring Rummage Sale  
April 27 & 28**

