

Unprecedented November Gratitude God the things that are God's." Matthew 22:21

Writing a pastors article in mid-October for a November church newsletter also Can we be thankful that, despite its the bounty of Godos blessings, with an provides a context for reflecting on the flaws, we live in a nation that has unprecedented sense of gratitude for transition from October to November, demonstrated great moments of wel- the days and years ahead! And this October, unlike previous Octo- come and inclusion, where people can bers. I would venture to say that most of express differences of opinions and faith you have already voted (or at least I perspectives and still hold one another Gratefully Yours in Christ, hope you have) in our national and local as proud Americans? Can we be grate- Pastor Mitchell elections.

As this newsletter is distributed near the end of October, some of you may be In a month that begins with All Saints reading this in early November. It is pos- Day (Nov. 1) celebrating and honoring sible (likely?) that the results of the all the saints (believers), both living and American Presidential election will have those gone before us, we can carry a already been announced. And whichev- posture of unprecedented gratitude for er candidate has been declared the win- the lives of all the faithful who have ner, I pray for their health, strength, and shaped who we are and who we are wisdom for the long road ahead. As becoming. In a month in which our local much as we have been bracing our- churches invite us to reflect on Jesusg selves to the outcome of this Presiden- declaration to % give to God the things tial election, dreading the possibility of that are Godos+on Stewardship Sunday violent clashes between groups oppos- (Nov. 8), when we in faith commit fiing the results, for now we can hopeful- nances to our local church budgets for ly, at least for ourselves, take a posture the coming year, we can carry a posture that will carry us through in whatever of unprecedented gratitude towards the happens. I am suggesting that we carry many blessings with which God has ourselves with an unprecedented level sustained us and our families. In a of gratitude.

with the insincere flattery of two oppos- appreciation for Godos sustenance ing groups (Pharisees and Herodians) through unprecedented paucity, survivasking him to settle an argument with ing and thriving through the harshness regard to the relationship between civic of winter in a new land, we too, can car-

whether it was lawful to pay taxes to the who have survived and thrived during "Give therefore to the emperor the emperor or not, his ingenious response this season of pandemic as well as things that are the emperor's, and to was to show that their coins bore the praise God for all who have worked so image of the emperor and then declared hard trying to keep us fed, safe and Give to the emperor what is the emper- healthy. oros, and to God what is Godos+.

> ful for the fair share of taxes we contribute for the betterment of everyone?

month that ends with Thanksgiving (Nov. 26) remembering the gratitude of When Jesus found himself confronted our Congregational Pilgrim forebearersg responsibility and religious purity, i.e., ry unprecedented gratitude for many

Let us all feast, wherever we may be, on

Worship at MPCC

November 1 Facebook Livestream Virtual Holy Communion Matthew 23:1-12

November 8 Facebook Livestream Matthew 25:1-13

November 15 Facebook Livestream Matthew 25:14-30

November 22 Facebook Livestream Matthew 25:31-46

November 29 Facebook Livestream Mark 13:24-37



November 2020

News from our Boards

A Message from our Moderator...

Carolvn Barragan

For the last couple of months I have been meeting families were allowed on the path and we used a small group of our Council members in Mori Hall contactless methods to give bags of candy to the for our monthly meeting. As I passed the bulletin children. Thank you to all who helped decorate and board in the hallway I was remembering how I bring some form of Halloween spirit during this would invariably see one of our church members time, especially to our friends at MHS Interact for leafing through the minutes and reports posted on always lending a hand and to our Youth group. the wall.

Our 2020 Budget is printed in our Annual Report requesting the Sunday school families to participate and you might have noticed that Bazaar was budg- in some capacity so it should be just as fun as it eted to bring in \$16,000 this year. That weighed usually is. heavily on my mind as the months of the pandemic dragged on and the cancellation of the Bazaar was inevitable. Since you cannot peruse the Financial A Message from Our Treasurer... Statements posted on the wall, you might not know Terry Hino this, but as of September, our first two drive-thru plate lunches have raised over \$7,300! This is quite The Trustee Board would like to thank you for your an accomplishment by our Bazaar Chair Lynne H. financial support, we continue to be in the surplus. and those of you who have helped cook, pack, and deliver mealsLplanned menusLmade donations of food and your timeLand all of you who purchased and even those of you who missed out because orders got full (that was me). Aside from the Bazaar itself, this initiative has been one of the most humbling experiences of so many people working to- Building Fund as of 9/30/20 is \$309,782.85 gether, that I have had here at MPCC. Thank you to all of you!

The Council has made the decision that we will Bob Miwa make plans to bring a tailored version of in-person worship for a limited number of individuals at the 9/12/20 Roger N., Ryan Y., Pastor Mitchell and beginning of the new year. To help us make in- Nitaya Y., Steven W. mowed and weed whacked formed decisions, included in this monthos Good the lawn front and back yard. We trimmed the News is a survey that we ask all of our church fami- three trees in the front yard. We cleaned the front, lies to complete and return to the church office by lanai and back yard. November 13th.

Until next time, be well my friends!

Christian Education Board

Steven Woo, Secretary

We just had our very first Halloween social distance path on October 24th. It was only from 4-6 PM, but 10/7/20 Nitaya and I mowed, edged, cleaned the we had such a strong response from our Facebook front yard. Nitaya cleaned and watered the lanai post that we had to take it down from preventing and the back yard. I watered the front yard. too many people from coming and violating social

distancing guidelines! In providing the safest and fun experience we could, everyone was required to wear a mask, a limited number of volunteers and Looking ahead to Christmas, we are planning to have our annual Christmas pageant. We plan on

	September	Year to Date
Total Income:	\$24,682.34	\$183,697.02
Total Expense:	\$21,508.06	\$178,972.18
Surplus:	\$3,174.28	\$4,724.84

Men's Group

9/16/20 Nitaya cleaned the front, lanai and back yard. She watered the front and back yard. Terry H., Christine C., Pastor Mitchell and Nitaya Y. folded and labeled the Good News.

9/30/20 Nitaya cleaned and watered the front, lanai and back vard.



News from our Boards

November 2020

Diaconate Board

Annie Yamasaki, Chariperson

Dear Church Family,

Sorry I have not written in a long time. Hope everyone is well. A lot has changed since the last time I reported any Diaconate news.

There are a few things that have come up that I would like bring to your attention.

First, I believe the biggest question looming on everyones mind is when the church can reopen and we can attend church again. We all know it will be a while for things to go back to normal but that does not mean we cannot try to at least do a safe partial reopening, especially for those who do not have virtual access or simply just want to get out a bit.

Pastor Mitchell is considering doing an extra modified outdoor service at 9:00 AM if there are enough folks who would like to attend. The reason for a separate service is due to the difficulty of doing the Facebook streaming and taking certain musical instruments outdoors. The early service will most likely resemble the picnic services we used to have at the park, which featured guitar music.

survey form that will be sent out with the Good mation obtained from our website. To protect News. Forms filled out and returned will help your privacy and safety, our newsletter and webgauge whether it will be worthwhile to hold the site will be restricting the printing of church memextra services.

Second, Lynne H has done an amazing job at ly be available for current and immediate previorganizing luncheon fundraisers to make up for ous months to prevent harvesting of church the lost income from the annual bazaar. The member information by scammers. next fundraiser will take place on Saturday December 12, 2020. It will be a holiday themed Therefore, if you need contact information for meal, menu that is still to be determined but mavbe a turkey lunch with all the trimmings. Sugges- newsletter or worship broadcast, please use your tions are welcome.

Third, the Diaconate board felt now more than ever we need to reach and comfort others and decided to continue the tradition of gifting poinsettias to church families who have been ill

themselves or whose family suffered an illness or loss. Please contact the church office if yourd like to add a name to receive or wish to donate a plant. We plan to have them ready by Dec 12, the date of the next lunch fundraiser so they can be picked up or delivered on the same day.

Fourth, the annual Neighbors In Need collection envelopes did not arrive from the UCC office this season. We know the need is greater than ever and so we encourage all to send in a check designated for that fund.

Fifth, this board is happy to report a few folks have expressed interest in joining our MPCC church family. Look for announcements to come. I am confident we know how to show our welcome even from a distance!

In closing, I feel so blessed to be part of this church family and want to express my gratitude to all who are making it possible to worship at this difficult time.

Blessings to all and stay safe and healthy!

For your Safety and Privacy...

Our church office recently encountered a scam The church council has created a reopening attempt on the church staff likely using inforber last names and telephone numbers. Also, issues of the online Good News newsletter will on-

> church members or leaders mentioned in the MPCC Directory or call the church office where we will only release information to persons known to us. We apologize for the inconvenience, but we want all of us to be safe from scam predators. Thank you for your understanding.



News from our Boards

November 2020

Special Offerings and Gifts

A., Ernie	In Memory of Elaine A. &	R., Bien & mac	In Memory of Noby U.
	Noby U.	S., Grace	In Memory of Noby U.
C., Chris	Chair Yoga	S., Ken & Rosalie	In Memory of June M.
H., Barbara	Summer Ex	S., Lynn	In Memory of Spencer S.
H., Terry & Suzy	In Memory of June M.	T., Jean	In Memory of Noby U.
K., Elizabeth	In Memory of Noby U.	U., Noby	Graveside Service Thanks
K., Edward	In Memory of Noby U.	W., Mari	In Memory of Noby U.,
K., Jean	In Memory of Helen M.,		Rev. Mike O., Kevin H.,
	Derek A., & Rev. Mike O.		Benjamin H. & Youth
K., Christine	Family Fund & In Memory of		Missions/Summer Ex
	Noby U. & Eddie H.		Chair Yoga
M., Jane	Youth Mission Fund	Y., Lorran	In Memory of Rev. Mike O.
M., Minnie	Easter & In Memory of		& Sam Y.
	Helen M.	Y., Ron & Annie	In Memory of Noby U.
M., Irene	In Memory of Noby U.	Y., Kiku	In Memory of Derek A. &
M., Douglas & Ruth	In Memory of Eileen E.		Eddie H.
O., Michio & Helen	In Memory of Rev. Mike O.	Y., Beverly	Youth Mission Fund
	& Noby U.	Y., Evelyn	In Memory of Rev. Mike O.
P., Dean & Karen	In Memory of June M.		& Benjamin H.
<u> </u>			

MPCC's Stewardship Drive Begins

All who contribute to MPCC on a regular basis and all who make an annual pledge, and anyone who requests, will receive a stewardship packet that contains a pledge card with instructions, letters from the Pastor and Board of Trustees, a proposed budget for 2021 and a return confidential envelope.

The pledge card is for your estimate of giving for the 2021 year. This will help the Board of Trustees determine if they will be able to meet the budgetary demands of your church. Please return the pledge card by December 13 or bring it to church that day for the dedication during worship services.

If you have not received stewardship materials in the past 2 year, please contact Trustees chair, Mitchell S., to place your name on the list. This is important for those who wish to receive receipts at the end of the year for tax purposes. Offering envelopes will be distributed by the end of the year. Please take time to use the offering envelopes throughout the 2021 year as they are a more accurate means of recording your offerings.

(Please note, if the church remains closed due to the Corona-Virus pandemic, other directions will be suggested.)

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With Our Church Family

Prayers of the People

With Deepest Sympathy to the family/ies of:

- Noby U., long-time MPCC member, passed away on September 15. She was the mother of Dennis U., Eileen M. and Lori K, grandmother of five, and great-grandmother of five. A private service was held on September 25.
- Margaret S. age 91, grandmother of Heather, friend of Michi T.
- Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, died on September 18, the second woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court and served with distinction for 27 year from 1993 until her death.
- June M. passed away on September 22. She was the mother of Karen P. No service will be held but donations may be made to the American Cancer Society in June's memory.
- Marjorie S. and Myrtle A., long-time dear friends of Jane K. and Lynne H. and her family, passed away, leaving fond memories of times spent together.
- Mary Lou M. passed away, She was the aunt of Frank M.'s son, Mark M.
- Eddie H., MPCC member, passed away on October 6. He was the husband of Irene and the brother of June F. Until a safe gathering can be held, Irene requests no koden or flowers.
- Rex Matsunaga, Pastor Mitchell's highschool classmate, who died of Covid-19. He leaves his wife, teenaged daughter and co-workers at the restaurant that he owned.
- Pastor Romy D.G. and the church members of the Jesus Reigns Victoriously Church, MPCC's sister church near Manila in the Philippines, on the sudden passing of Pastor Romy's brother, Wawi D.G. of a brain aneurysm. on Sunday, Oct. 18. Wawi served as one of the drivers of MPCC's mission team to the JRV Church in the summer of 2019.

Prayers of healing, comfort and blessing for:

- Albert K., who was hospitalized for a high fever last month, is recuperating at home. He and his wife Jean attended the drive-by communion event on World Communion Sunday.
- Tak M., Karen P.'s father, who was diagnosed with cancer.
- Russell T., who worked long shifts battling the El Dorado fire in Yucaipa, but finally returned home. Sister Tricia T. asks for continued prayers for all the fire fighters and first responders.
- Benito and Bennett, brother-in-law and daughter-in-law of Ida G., who request continued prayers for their health.
- Grace H., Art H.'s cousin's daughter, who had surgery for a brain aneurysm.
- Cynthia C., Maggie M.'s sister, who was hospitalized but is at home now and is in need of more tests. She is grateful for Maggie's constant care of her throughout her illness. (More under "Thanksgiving")
- the following requests by the Low family: Sandra's mother, Jean F., and sister, Susan M., health issuesLAlly and Sandra, skin ailmentsLChris' brother
- Jeff, bitten by a large dog and needed a tetanus shotLJeff's stepdaughter Angel, a health care worker, tested positive for Covid-19L Chris's uncle and family, Ted, Angie and Jasperine L, rear-ended in a hit-and-run accident on the freeway but appear to be okayLfor all families dealing with online schooling and its many challenges.
- the thousands of people who have been infected with the corona virus, including President Trump, his wife and son, and national leaders, as well as the many health care workers who are in daily contact with infected patients in the hospitals.
- the people in Louisiana, who were severely impacted by Hurricane Delta.
- Leila O. and her children, Lani, Ben, Joshua and Annie as they remember their husband and dad, Rev. Mike O. A Celebration of Life service was held at the Evergreen Baptist Church SGV on Saturday, October 17.
- Doris H., Chico I.'s niece, who will start 12 rounds of chemotherapy.
- Thailand, Nitaya Y,'s homeland, which is a nation in transition. Prayers for the masses of peaceful protesters.

Thanksgiving by:

- Jean K., for the continued prayers for her husband Albert.
- Irene H., for the years of friendship that her husband Eddie enjoyed at the church.
- Tricia T., for the safe return of her brother Russell from fire-fighting in Yucaipa.
- Cynthia and John C, for the prayers needed and still needed by the church for Cynthia, as she deals with her illness. They donated a beautiful bird-of paradise floral arrangement for the Oct. 18 worship service in deep appreciation and gratitude
- Lily S., daughter of Vance S. and granddaughter of Elinor and Mitch S., who sent from Seattle, WA a handmade card of thanksgiving which declared "Love Being a Christian!"

1	Mitchel Y.
4	Nitaya Y.
5	Cory M.
7	Alicia L.
8	Tricia T.
9	Mits M.
13	Spencer A.
15	Ame K.
16	Asamiko K.
16	Ton K.
16	Bob M.
16	Wesley O.
18	Melody K.
19	Lani D.
21	Lauryn T.
24	Kristin F.
27	Mariko W.

November Birthday

Celebrations

28

30

GOODNEW



Join a Group

November 2020

Lend a Hand

Save Used Stamps

Used Stamps Project continues! Please help us by continuing to save your used stamps. Our contributions help Japan overseas. The partnership provides health care and assistance to people by selling the used stamps to collectors.

Collect used stamps and bring them to church. Please leave at least 1/8-1/4+around the stamp and if it is multiple stamps cut it together. For more information call Evelyn Yoshimi.



Plate Lunch Fundraisers!

Next Drive thru Plate Lunch fundraiser will be on December 12, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will be a %Holiday Menu+of turkey and/or ham with traditional side dishes. As before, the suggested donation is \$10 per plate but we graciously receive whatever is offered. Please contact Lynne H. if you have ideas and/or would like to help. The pre-order deadline Friday, December 4 or until we have reached the maximum number our at-home cooks can make. (We stop taking pre-orders at 220 plates.)





The following Plate Lunch fundraiser will be Chinese Plate (for Chinese New Year) Febru-

pictured)

ary 13, 2021. Pre-order deadline will be Friday, (actual plate will not be exactly as February 5.

Virtual Coffee Hour

Every Sunday at 11:15 am via Zoom

Meeting ID: 820 1599 7091

Password: mpcc

Or

call 1(669) 900-9128

Meeting ID: 820 1599 7091 #

Password: 418862 #

Eagle Scout Recycling

Trent Hata of Boy Scout Troop 286 is collecting recyclable bottles and cans to fund • his Eagle Scout project to beautify the lanai at our church campus. Please support his efforts by bringing your recycling to MPCC and leave your bagged cans and bottles on the lanai. Contact the church office when stopping by the campus.

Campus is open from 10am-4pm Mon to Fri

1st & 3rd Saturdays 8am-10am





Fellowship & Outreach

Wanted: Winter Ex Staff

Do you have a high school or college son, daughter, niece, nephew, or neighbor who is free Dec. 28-29 and willing to have a blast teaching and working with our Winter Ex kids? For anyone interested in serving on staff this winter, please contact Ms. BJ asap for an application. Deadline to apply is Dec. 20th and a staff meeting will be held on Dec. 22nd via Zoom.





Saturday, November 21st

Join us for a beautiful morning walk virtually! But rst, come by church to pick up your t-shirt and cookies from 8:30am to 10am. You can either walk our usual route in our church neighborhood or walk around your neighborhood. Send us a picture or video of your walk.

Early registrants from Feb. will receive t-shirt and cookies.

T-shirts for \$10 & Bag of cookies \$5 (limited supplies)

For more info contact BJ Woo mpccucc@gmail.com or call the church o

*Funds will go towards Summer Exploration 2021

Christmas Caroling 2020

At the end of a tumultuous year, you need some Christmas cheer. Because social distancing protocols discourage group singing, the Montebello Plymouth music department plans to send out & aroling Teams+based on contained family units: for example, Mitsueda-Katayama Family, Young Family, Reyes-Woo Family, etc. Therefore, our visitation homes wond be receiving the whole choir, but rather a singing family of 3-5 people. We will wear masks while you stay inside your house. This means that this year, we can likely visit more homes as well as homes farther away.

Would you like a Family Choir unit to sing Christmas Carol in front of your home on Saturday, December 19th or Sunday, December 20th? Call or email the church office to let us know youqe interested, to set up a visit or to suggest a person or family that could use some Christmas caroling cheer. Merry Christmas!









November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Virtual Holy Communion CE Meeting	2 *Virtual Dance Class	3 *Virtual Bible Study	4 *Virtual Chair Yoga	5	6	7
8	9 *Virtual Dance Class	10 *Virtual Bible Study	11 *Virtual Chair Yoga	12	13	14
15 Council Meeting	16 *Virtual Dance Class	17 *Virtual Bible Study	18 *Virtual Chair Yoga	19	20	21 Virtual Cookie Walk
22 Goodnews Due	23 *Virtual Dance Class	24 *Virtual Bible Study	25 *Virtual Chair Yoga Goodnews Mailing	26 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29 First Sunday of Advent Budget Hearing Posting of Slate of Officers	30 *Virtual Dance Class				with an asterisk (*) are priv contact the church office fo	
Coming in December 2020:	13 13 20 20 27 28-29	Eleci on of Offi Pledge Dedicai Youth-led Wor Christmas Carc Annual Report Virtual Winter	rship bling s Due		See our updated c hı p://Montel	

Join us for our Virtual Worship Service on Sundays at 10 a.m. :

Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/mpccucc) or Subscribe to our Youtube page to watch our latest videos (www.youtube.com/mpccucc)

*Contact our Church Office for more info (323) 721-5568 mpccucc@gmail.com

Listen in to our Live Worship Service

- 1. Call: 1(669)900-9128
- 2. After the prompt, type in the meeting ID: 9474557406#
- 3. A second prompt will ask you to type in your participant ID or push #
- 4. Push #
- 5. You should be connected and will hear the audio on your phone

Christmas Wreath Fundraiser 2020

22ö Noble Fir Wreath



22ö Mixed Evergreen Wreath



\$25 each

\$28 each

Qty

Total

Qty _____ Total 10øWestern Cedar Garland (photo shows 2 garlands)



\$25	each	

Qty ____ Total

12ö dia. Centerpiece (Noble fir, pine, and juniper) \$18 each



Qty	
Total	

28ö Mixed Evergreen Wreath



Items will be available for pick up at MPCC the week after Thanksgiving. You will be notified as soon as they arrive!

All proceeds will go towards the youth missions of the church. Thank you for your generosity! Deadline November 5th, 2020

\$35 e	each
Qty	

Total ____

Please make checks payable to MPCC Youth Mission Fund
Name:
Tel. No.:
Email Address:
Number of items:
Amount Enclosed:
OFFICE USE ONLY
RCVD DATE PAID CHECK #

The Good News is the monthly newsletter of **Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church A United Church of Christ**

Sr. Pastor - Mitchell Young

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Return Service Requested

Church Contacts

Pastor - Mitchell Y. Moderator – Carolyn B. Vice Moderator - Justin I. Clerk - Ron T. Treasurer – Terry H. Historian – (unfilled) Members-at-large - Alice H., Evelyn Y. Music Director - Eileen M. Youth Min. Dir. – BJ W. Good News Editor - BJ W.

Please submit Good News articles by Sunday, November 22, 2020, @8pm via email to <u>mpccucc@gmail.com</u>

website: montebelloucc.org e-mail: mpccucc@gmail.com Office Hours: M-TH: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, F: 10:00am - 1:00 pm



Join us for Sunday Worship Services at 10am Via Facebook Live