

RELIGION

Metro East Portland Interfaith Hospitality Network

Well-known pianist Michael Allen Harrison will present a benefit concert on September 24, 8:00 p.m. at Rose City Park United Methodist Church.

The concert is a benefit for the Metro East Portland Interfaith Hospitality Network (MEPHN), a community group composed of congregations from various spiritual traditions and other service organizations that respond to the needs of homeless families in the Metro East Portland area by providing temporary shelter and support as they look for housing and employment. About five times a year for one week periods church congregations provide overnight lodging, meals, and hospitality from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. During the day, a local day center is used to provide shower facilities, care for pre-school children, and provide guests with a mailing address and home base from which to conduct their housing search. 70% of all families who work with MEPHN eventually find housing and/or better employment opportunities. Tickets will be available at the office of each involved party and advanced purchases are required, as seating is limited. Cost

is \$10. Rose City Park United Methodist Church is located at 5830 N.E. Alameda. The building is handicapped accessible by elevator and located on Tri-Met bus lines #71. Please call the church office, 281-1229 for more information, or Betty Doss, 281-9030.

Host Churches

- Ascension Catholic Church • Faith United Methodist Church • Gethsemane Lutheran Church • Our Savior Lutheran Church • Parkrose Community United Church of Christ • Pleasant Home United Methodist Church • Resurrection Lutheran Church • Rose City Park United Church of Christ • Waverly Heights United Church of Christ • Wheatridge Foundation • Zion United Church of Christ

Preparing For the New Millennium



The Mighty Clouds of Joy are preparing for the new millennium in the studio with producer, Fred Hammond. It Was You, their first CGI/Platinum entertainment album is scheduled for an October release. (From left to right: Michael McCowin, Ron Staples, and Richard Wallace of the Mighty Clouds of Joy; Fred Hammond; Joe Ligon, and Michael Cook of Mighty Clouds of Joy)

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Westside Singer's Concert

On Sunday, September 12, at 3:00 p.m., Rose City United Methodist Church will present the Westside Singer in concert. This concert is the first of twelve concerts and marks the beginning of the 15th concert season at the church. The Westside Singers, a mixed vocal ensemble with instrumental trio backup, have been entertaining audiences for over 50 years. Their repertoire focuses on jazz and swing while including show tunes and contemporary music. Their concert will include familiar swing and jazz hits from the 20s through the 90s - from Irving Berlin's "Puttin' on the Ritz" to Billy Joel's "River of Dreams." Rose City Park United Methodist Church is located at 5830 N.E. Alameda. Admission to the concert is a free will offering taken at intermission with net proceeds to benefit two local agencies, FISH and Loaves & Fishes. Free childcare is available. The church is located on Tri-Met bus line #12 and #71 and is handicapped accessible by an elevator located at the Alameda entrance. Please call Patricia Holman, Concert Coordinator, 288-0353, should you require any additional information. Season brochures are available by calling the coordinator or the church office at 281-1229.

Mentors School Mothers in Basics of Parenting

As kids head back to school this fall, some mothers will need extra help outside the classroom to learn the basics of parenting. For a woman who has had little opportunity to learn parenting skills from her own parents and has experienced addiction, domestic violence, poverty or homelessness, a personal guide to help her catch up on the basics of leading a family is invaluable. Volunteer mentors at Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Parent Mentor Program help mothers learn parenting attitudes and skills they missed when they were growing up.

Now beginning its third year, the program has provided mentors to about 80 women with responsibility for about 160 children. Mentors help mothers develop control over their own lives and the lives of their children through visits, walks, heart-to-heart talks and other activities. A mentor designs activities to fit the individual parent's needs. The mentor might show the mother how to organize a cupboard or a

calendar for example, find career clothes in resale shops, take kids to the Children's Museum, or surf the Internet.

The deeper value of mentoring, though, lies in the relational skills a mother develops. "How can a mother give her children affection and affirmation she has never experienced herself?" asks Program Director Sylvia Hart-Landsberg. "A relationship with a mentor increases the probability that a woman can learn to nurture herself and her children."

The Parent Mentor Program assigns most mentors to current or former clients of the Letty Owings Center, a residential drug and alcohol treatment facility for pregnant and/or parenting women. After completing treatment, the typical client sets up a new household independent from family members who might not help her promote a safe environment for her children. During this transition the mother appreciates a friend to help her practice new behaviors and express her feelings.

The "basics" of parenting are

not limited to parenting skills. A family also needs basic opportunities and services including affordable housing, follow-up counseling after treatment for addiction and high quality adult education and childcare. Mentors often express dismay that the inadequacy of such services for poor mothers saps their energy for raising children. By supporting a mother's efforts to maneuver on this tough road, a mentor helps her strengthen her position as a parent and under-

stand her power to affect the world around her.

The Parent Mentor Program is part of the EMO community ministries dedicated to meeting basic human needs. EMO is an association of 15 Christian denominations including Protestant, Orthodox and Roman Catholic religious bodies that work together to respond as a people of faith to the needs of Oregonians. For more information about the Parent Mentor Program, contact Sylvia Hart-Landsberg at (503) 231-3571.

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Thank you.

OBITUARY

Emily Jean Harris was born in Kansas City Missouri on January 20, 1931 to Mr. Mrs. John Lee



Davis. She passed away on July 13, 1999 in Portland, Oregon. She was preceded in death by her parents. Emily moved to Portland, Oregon as a child in 1944. She attended grade school in Vandport City. She attended high school at Girls Polytechnic in Portland, Oregon. She married William Harris Jr. in Stevenson, Washington on April 1, 1957. Unto that union three children were born. In 1971 she began 24 years of employment with Multnomah County Department and retired in 1995. She devoted her life to helping people; her children and grandchildren. She gave her "all" to benefit others. As a result her influence will last throughout our lives and will

long be remembered by those she loved. She joined Saint Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church where Mother Alcona is Priest. She was devoted to her church and performed many services including preparing lunches on Saturday. She also volunteered at Buckman and King Elementary Schools. She leaves to cherish her love and warmth two sisters, Merl "Jean" Stewart and Maxine Paden; three children, William "Billy" Harris III, Stephanie Harris and Bruce Harris. Seven grandchildren;

Tina Harris, Mashawn Lincoln, Angela Moore, Emily M. Harris, Morieo Harris, Jacqueline Harris and Sarah Harris; one great grandson Chico S. Bailey Jr. She also leaves to mourn a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Emily is now "RETIRED!"

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