

## *Springtime Reflection at Menucha*



I walked into Menucha's Rose Garden Labyrinth on May Day with four things on my mind: Work, Ministry, Family, and Calling. You see, World Labyrinth Day, Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, I was to be examined by my governing body to determine if I was ready...ready to be "Certified Ready to Receive a Call." as they say. Basically that would mean my peers and mentors

would believe me ready for the role of Pastor.

As I walked inward on the path my feet have trod before, I gradually became more aware of the views outside the labyrinth. Views of spring time; a huge old Rhododendron blooming, deciduous trees finally leafed out, dark fir and spruce trees constantly green, climbing roses starting to leaf out and needing a trim, a peek-a-boo view through the trees to the Columbia River far below, then around to another turning where the only view was up a path through the trees into the infinite blue sky.

Before I knew it, my feet reached the center. I stood staring up that path to the sky, then my eyes were drawn upward to the trees, then the space between the trees where the earth's energy fields are easiest to see for those gifted with that sight. Then I gazed back down to the well-worn path laid down a generation ago leading away through the forest to the bluff.

"Wait," was all I received. I mulled over that for a time; thinking the four cardinal directions might correspond to the four issues I had wanted to raise/release. I didn't sense at that time which direction matched which issues; which might have been a different insight altogether if I'd followed the medicine wheel designations for North, East, South, and West...but all I received was, "Wait."

So I walked out letting the message sink in until once more I noticed the surroundings outside the labyrinth. When I completed my walk and stepped out of that sacred space into the ordinary space of work, I went back to the office and my day, with waiting in my step.

May peace be yours at this turning of the year.

Scott T. Crane, Program Director

Menucha Retreat & Conference Center

## About Scott T. Crane



Born and raised in Salem, Oregon, Scott attended Westminster Presbyterian Church for the first 30 years of his life. Ordained an Elder in 1989, he continued to be an active member of Westminster through graduation from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia in 2002. Graduating with both M.Div. and M.A.C.E. degrees, he first worked in Anchorage, Alaska as Director of Christian Education and Children's Ministries. Then he worked as the Summer Camp Chaplain (among other year-round program roles) at Camp Henry in Newaygo, Michigan. He joined the staff of Menucha Retreat & Conference Center as the Program Director in 2006, became a Certified Christian Educator in 2008 and a Certified Camp/Retreat Leader in 2010. On World Labyrinth Day, May 3, 2014, he became certified for ordination to the office of Teaching Elder. Scott is married to Dr. Katie Long, a pediatrician with Calcagno Pediatrics in Gresham. They have two children, Timothy (3) and Sarah (2), with a third on the way (due in October). They live in NE Portland.