

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**New Labyrinth Opening in Beaverton**

Beaverton, OR 03/25/2010: Mission of the Atonement church in Beaverton will dedicate and celebrate the grand opening of their new labyrinth on May 2, 2010, at noon. All are welcome to join the festivities. A brief ceremony will include blessings by Bishop Kenneth Steiner of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland and Bishop Dave Brauer-Rieke of the Oregon Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). The ceremony will be followed by music, food, games, and labyrinth walking.

Mission of the Atonement is a community of Lutherans and Roman Catholics worshipping together. It is an inclusive, welcoming church.

The Mission of the Atonement labyrinth design is similar to the labyrinth of Chartres Cathedral in France and has been created by volunteers from the faith community. This outdoor labyrinth is open to all people as a non-denominational, cross-cultural gift for all who seek peace. Photos can be viewed at [www.motaspirit.org](http://www.motaspirit.org). Stop in the church office for a cup of tea while you're there. Office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10am to 3pm.

The labyrinth is an ancient pattern found in many cultures around the world. Labyrinth designs have been found on pottery, tablets, and tiles dating as far back as 4000 years. Native American, Celtic, Greek and other cultures have all used various labyrinth designs as part of their spiritual practice. In recent years there has been a world-wide renewal of interest in this ancient tool for meditation and prayer.

There are many words to describe a labyrinth: a path of prayer, a walking meditation, a crucible of change, a watering hole for the spirit and a mirror of the soul. The labyrinth is not a maze, There are no tricks to it and no dead ends. It has a single circuitous path that winds into the center and the person walking it uses the same path to return so the entrance then becomes the exit. The path is in full view, which allows one to be quiet and focus internally.

For more information, phone (503) 646-1433 or email [info@motaspirit.org](mailto:info@motaspirit.org). Come, share, enjoy, be at peace.

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