



From Pastor Zina Jacque

Choices! In this political season we have choices. And maybe among the most important is the choice to refuse to let our various positions along the political spectrum move us out of our central position as followers of God, made known to us in Christ. You and I, and all Christians, have a higher calling that cannot be reduced to political affiliations or the personal likes or dislikes of an individual candidate.

You and I must listen to *and beyond* the political rhetoric for values resonant with the life of Christ. We must *listen to and hear* the voice of Jesus calling us to pray for all people; especially our enemies (Luke 6:27ff). We must hear his appeal to work together for the good of the poor and the alienated (Matthew 25:45) and for the restoration of the earth. We must hold as a high mark Christ's enjoiner to be one in spirit and in unity with Christians around the world (John 17) as we work for the coming of the Kingdom; and that is what we must work for, the coming of God's Kingdom.

This is no small task, especially when "spin doctors" make millions turning us against one another and turning us inward, focusing us on issues that affect our personal lives while helping us ignore those issues that affect others around the globe.

But we have choices. And I would encourage each of us to focus on those things that call us together, that point us toward our higher selves and toward the life and work of the Savior.

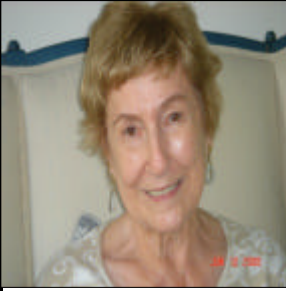
Each Sunday, as we gather in our sanctuary, we do exactly this as we pray the Lord's Prayer. Led by our children we say, "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven." In essence, when we speak these words in a humble attitude of prayer we are saying, *God, the things you decree, the way you would have us go, the hope you have for all of creation; these are the things that we seek – and we ask you to bring them into being – using us as your ambassadors – in this time, in this place, for all people on earth.*

When you and I pray, *thy kingdom come* we pray for the restoration of all that has been lost as humanity has turned away from the words of God – the work of God. When we pray, *thy kingdom come* we pray for the care of creation. We pray for a world where there is enough for everyone and those who are without are not shamed but provided with ways to participate and share in the bounty of creation. The Kingdom is marked by boundaries of justice and peace, righteousness and love. That's what we, as Christians, are called to work for each and every day.

You and I have choices in this political season and every day of our lives. I pray that we will each participate in our national right to vote. And in all of the days afterward not as Republicans, Libertarians, Democrats, Independents or members of the Green Party; but as men and women who seek to see God's Kingdom come we will work for this wondrous goal. Choices, thank God for free will and choices, now and always. As we move forward in this season, let us together pray, *Lord, help us listen and use our choices so that your Kingdom may indeed come, on earth as it is in heaven.*

Getting to Know Your CCB Council Members

A VISIT WITH GINNY NEWMAN - By Bonnie Stevens



When I asked Ginny Newman to tell me her favorite Bible verse, there was not a second's hesitation as she said, "Philippians 4: 4 - 7" and she went running for her wallet to extract a well-worn index card with the verses written for quick reference. "Rejoice in the Lord always....." You can see it in her face, you can hear it in her laughter, and when you get to know Ginny you realize that she does rejoice in the Lord always.

After enjoying a beautiful luncheon overlooking Lake Barrington and spending an afternoon in Ginny's memory-filled home, I only have a few scant notes from which to write about Ginny. It was hard getting down to business as we shared stories, asked each other questions, laughed and cried over sweet remembrances.

Ginny met her husband Pat at a church conference when she was 14 and he was 15. She describes her marriage as "one long honeymoon". Before Pat died, they had the fun of doing some adventure-filled travel to such places as China, the Amazon, Easter Island, Europe, Russia and Kenya.

"Did you know that the sky is thick with stars? You don't see them here, but riding in a canoe at night on the Amazon you can see them," Ginny's eyes shine with the memory. Pat asked the Amazon guide to take them to church on Sunday where, as Ginny describes it, "We were late and he marched us down to the front row. The men played instruments and the women sang. They wanted me to sing and Pat told me I must honor their request, so I stood up and sang the only song I knew I could sing with confidence, 'Jesus Loves Me'."

Although in their travels they have seen many areas of need and concern, they could not erase the memory of the A.I. C. Girls' School in Kenya. The school is a refuge for 650 Maasai Tribe girls and women. In spite of overcrowding, poor living conditions and a lack of supplies, the girls are eager and optimistic students. Pat and Ginny fell in love with these girls and immediately found ways to help. The Newman family continues to fund various projects and welcomes others to join in sharing our abundance with these young women.

As a school teacher for her career years, Ginny taught mostly 6th grade, was the first to teach a class for gifted students, and wrote a curriculum for young people about the heart and circulatory systems in anticipation that this education would keep them from smoking.

"Now don't write this down," Ginny said over and over again as she shared stories from her teaching career, family stories, and those embarrassing things that happen to us all. In desperation to get information I asked about her favorites: Favorite Movies "Friendly Persuasion" and "Auntie Mame", Favorite Books "oh, biographies", Favorite Foods "salads, fruit, and of course a good steak".

About her sons, Chris and Ted, she once again regaled me with delightful stories always after saying "now don't write this down". What I could write down was "my children spoil me." She is extremely proud of her "boys" and their families.

Asked about her prayers she replied that she prays a lot, mostly prayers of gratitude. She asks us to pray for her girls at A.I.C. Girls' School and for the people along the Amazon who depend on that dirty water for everything.

Ginny serves on the Missions Committee where she will help make decisions about where our church should spend benevolence funds. She brings a wealth of knowledge on how a little money can help fulfill the needs of so many.

When asked "what would you like visitors to know about Community Church", she replied, "That we are a friendly family and we welcome all faiths."



The Christian Education Committee is truly excited to share with the congregation plans for the Fall Program.

We begin our full fledged fall 2009 **Sunday School** program on **Sunday, September 14th**. Sunday School age groups will be K-3, 4-5, 6-8, high school and adults. The Sunday School classes will meet from 9:30 - 10: 20.

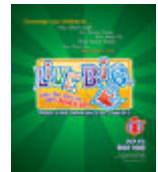
During our **Service of Worship**, as always, we will offer Children's Church for our K-5th grade students and Nursery for our youngest worshippers.

Sunday School Curriculum

Adults: This fall our adult Sunday School class will take on a list of topics that are often thought to be controversial. Using a book by the Rev. Adam Hamilton we will examine seven contemporary issues using both the Bible and Rev. Hamilton's videos. More information will be available next week.

High School: The 9th-12th grade class is designed to address contemporary topics that are determined by the group and Minister Ashley.

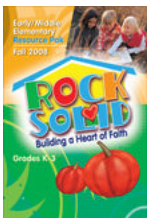
Middle and Elementary School: The curriculum for the K-8 children/youth classes is drawn from the United Methodist Curriculum **Live B.I.G** (Belief in God). Live B.I.G. is designed to help children ages 3-13 learn about the love of God through Jesus so they can live their "Belief in God." Through the program teachers and children will come to know and love God and Jesus so that they can answer the question, "How can I live B.I.G.?"



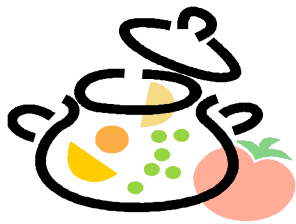
Adults: This fall the adult class will study the Brahms Requiem (no experience with the music or the texts is necessary) in preparation to hear it performed in November. Please see the Narthex counter for more information on the Adult class. The meeting time is 6:30 - 8:00.

Youth Group: Each Wednesday our youth group, KWRC, meets from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Minister Ashley leads KWRC with a focus on service, study, fellowship and fun.

Elementary:



Beginning in September, from 6:30 -8:00, on the **first and third Wednesdays** of each month, we will offer classes for K-3rd graders (Kids Klub) and 4th and 5th graders (Story Tellers Club). The Curriculum for both groups is drawn from the United Methodist curriculum, **Rock Solid**. At each age level the children will be invited to think about God and to deepen their own experience of faith. They will come to know Jesus as the Son of God and take his messages to heart. Using activities, crafts, stories, and games the children will learn central themes of the text and how to apply those themes through the development of their own story book. By the end of the term the students will have completed and illustrated their own stories of faith, hope, love and the power of God's presence.



Now We're Cooking – A Project Update!

Thank you for helping us cook up a new Kitchen at Community Church!

We owe a special thank you to all the members and friends of Community Church who have donated their time, effort, auction items, kitchen appliances and funds to help this project become a reality. More than 44 families have helped us with the money necessary to complete this renovation. That's nearly 85% of the families who worship regularly at Community Church! **But we're not finished yet.** There's still more to be done . . . Soon we'll be purchasing some necessities for our new kitchen: unbreakable dishware (so we can stop using all that plastic and Styrofoam!), an automatic coffee service and other pantry items to help make it a more eco-friendly, sanitary space for our members.

Women's fellowship news

The Women's Fellowship meetings will resume, following our summer hiatus, on Thursday, September 18 at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will be having some evening meetings this '08 - '09 year in order to allow attendance of ladies with a daytime work force schedule. Please bring a dish to pass, and hostesses Marge Boynton and Jayne Majzan will provide dessert and beverages.

Youth minister Ashley Prescott Barlow will provide the program for the group. This energetic, talented lady will speak about CCB's Christian Education curriculum for the children and youth of the church this new school year.

At this meeting, the new Yearbooks for the group will be distributed. Do attend the event and we will get this great Women's Fellowship off to a rousing start for the new year!

The Annual Barrington Area CROP WALK will be held on Sunday, October 19, 2008. This yearly event raises money to fight hunger world-wide as well as in our local communities. Globally, Church World Service supports a broad range of poverty fighting projects in some 80 countries. They include the digging of wells in villages in Africa and the building of cisterns in Palestine to improve local access to water; programs in several Latin America countries to help children living in extreme poverty who are vulnerable to violence and sexual exploitation; income producing programs for impoverished Roma families, in Serbia; and community development projects with poor women in rural Bangladesh

Please help Barrington-area churches and organizations raise funds to support the ministries of Church World Service and local food assistance programs. Watch for details in your church bulletins.



Birthdays and Anniversaries in September!

September 4th Ginny Newman Birthday September 24th Sandy Lindberg
September 5th Beth Goldstein Birthday September 25th Irene Stevens Birthday
September 9th Tom & Cindy Alton Birthday September 26th Jay & Leslie Eiring Anniversary
September 22nd Margaret Akerstrom Birthday



Autumn

Charlotte L. Riser

When the trees their summer splendor
Change to raiment red and gold,
When the summer moon turns mellow,
And the nights are getting cold;
When the squirrels hide their acorns,
And the woodchucks disappear;
Then we know that it is autumn,
Loveliest season of the year.



With the rise of food prices it is more important than ever to keep our food donations coming in for those less fortunate. Many times we will have people come in off the street who are looking for help and are grateful for the opportunity to select items from our collection boxes. We receive notes of thanks from our recipients at the food pantry also for our congregation's consistent generosity. Your gifts of food are appreciated by many.



ALTAR FLOWERS



Flowers are a wonderful way to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or to give in memory of a deceased loved one. It beautifies our church during Sunday Worship Service and then is enjoyed afterwards by the donor. If you would like to donate flowers on a particular Sunday please sign up on the list located in the Narthex. Cost is 25.00 per order.

Join us on September 10, at 6:00 p.m. for our monthly potluck supper. It's easy and fun! Just bring a dish to pass along with your own dishware and utensils. Family and friends are welcome. Bring an appetite for food and fellowship.



The Newsletter Deadline for the October Newsletter is October 16th. Please email, fax or drop off your handwritten articles at the church office. If you you need additional time, please call so we can save space.

Prayers and Personals



Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

We come together as a church family praying for all of God's creation, praying for one another, praying for our enemies and those who are in need of God's love, reconciliation and peace. We ask for God's guidance and the presence of the Holy Spirit in each of these situations. We pray especially for:

- ✂ Those within our congregation who have quietly asked for prayer and God's guidance on a myriad of issues.
- ✂ **Minister Ashley P. Barlow** who is such a gift to our church and who is entering her third year of seminary.
- ✂ Our ability as a church to be a source of light, strength, hope and love to all whom we encounter.
- ✂ **Andre**, and all of those who are in transitions in their careers, lives and hopes.
- ✂ Those affected by war, poverty, discrimination, hatred, fear, sorrow, illness, or grief.
- ✂ For our leaders, especially our President and those who guide this nation and the nations of the world.
- ✂ We pray for those whose lives are touched by the rampant violence that seems to inhabit our streets. We pray even for those who are the perpetrators of these acts, for even they are beloved by God.
- ✂ All prayers spoken and unspoken, that God might hear and respond.
- ✂ The beginning of the school year and all of the wonderful and challenging experiences that lie ahead to shape, form and encourage our students (and their teachers). We pray especially for **Kevin Overby**, who will begin his first year of college and for the students of Hough Street School who are our closet neighbors.
- ✂ We pray for the family of **Ralph Riddell**.
- ✂ We continue to hold **Fred Foersterling** and his family in prayer.
- ✂ Pray also for Edward **D'Agostin** who recently suffered a heart attack.

O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon God's name and make known his deeds among the people.

Psalms 105:1

And we give thanks to God for the great deeds that are being done in our very midst. We lift up thanks and offer praise for:

- ✂ **Sarah Palmer** who was baptized in the month of July.
- ✂ All **Grandparents** and those who serve in that role as we celebrate Grandparents Day, Sunday September 7th. You are "TEA-RIFFIC".
- ✂ The **blessings that God** has placed in the lives of our members, blessings that are spoken of on Sunday and whispered in my ear all week long.
- ✂ The gift of music that our **choir and guest choirs** brought to us all summer. We give God thanks and praise especially for our own **Bill Akerstom** who does what he does out of love and for the glory of God.
- ✂ The warmth of relatively low humidity of our summer season and for these last glorious days of the season.
- ✂ For our new Council members: **Ted Newman, Brenda Overby and Michael Campe** and for those who have left their mark on the Council as they have gone on to new work in the church: **Bob Reekie, Jeff Andruss, and Jay Eiring**.

CALENDAR PAGE

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