

Window

An Oasis of Grace in the Heart of the Community

northfield
community church



Looking Over the Pulpit— Duayne Meyer

SEPTEMBER
2020

*Celebrating
175 years*

... With so much going on it's hard to know where to begin. Therefore, I will start with what first comes to mind, that is the pandemic and all those who are helping, healing and working in such difficult circumstances. Let us offer our gratitude and also our support in whatever ways we can.

... the police-involved shooting in Kenosha has reignited protests over the treatment of black Americans by law enforcement officers and again has given cover to miscreants and opportunists who vandalize, steal and foment chaos. We mustn't let criminals turn our attention from systemic racism and bias. I'm also wondering how we have as a society made it possible for a teenage civilian to walk the streets during a protest with an assault rifle in hand? From what we know, he wasn't protecting himself or his property against the threat of harm; the basis of our second amendment rights. Like some mind-numbing, desensitizing, god-awful video game, a seventeen year was patrolling the streets, looking for/inviting the trouble he found. Lives tragically wasted and lives senselessly ruined. We seem to be collectively as moths to a flame. And while we're at it, someone explain to me again why the notion (read "doctrine") of sin is no longer applicable in our modern, enlightened, diagnostic society.

... With the end of the two major parties' conventions we formally embark upon the cacophonous, interminable bombardment of political ads invading like a virus every media outlet. Anything resembling facts and truthfulness will be so obfuscated that we will want to throw our hands up and tune it all out which the cynic in me thinks is the underlying intent. Most of us will be glad for spending \$15.99 each month for Netflix and for having things to do in the garden. I wish I had some pithy piece of advice or some comforting antidote. What I can share with you is the strength and hope that comes from being buoyed up by faith as well as the faithfulness of fellow Christians who keep plugging away at righteousness, and who keep working for justice regardless of pundits, politics and throwing shade. As people of faith we uphold the Truth we know in the person of Jesus Christ who is also the way and the life for us. All truth is subsumed by the One who is the Truth. We live in two kingdoms, but we neither bend our knee before nor have our hope in, politics. To be a person of faith has always included a fair bit of resistance and calling out baloney for what it is. It also means to keep chipping away as best as we can and to be a source of help, hope and healing when and where we can.

... Speaking of being buoyed up as a community of faithfulness... NCC has been holding in-person worship in the Memorial Garden for the past few Sundays. On September 20th, we will move the traditional service inside to the sanctuary at 10:30am. We will continue to livestream both the 9:30am and 10:30am services for the foreseeable future. Much of NCC's programming will continue via Zoom through the fall. Through pandemics and politics, we continue to bear in word and deed the truth and the grace of the gospel.

Let us keep at it, keep being the church, keep the faith. - Duayne

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Ronda's Remarks - Ronda Bower

"Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."
- 1 John 4:11-12

JUMP INTO THE NEW PROGRAM YEAR!

Life for family and educational ministries at NCC has been interesting since March, but NCC continues to offer the congregation ways to keep connected to God and each other through Zoom meetings and written lessons. Thank you to all who have supported me with kind words, encouragement, and prayers.

Hope and peace in Christ, -Ronda

MESSY CHURCH—NCC's Messy Church will begin its 5th year at NCC, despite Covid, on **Sunday, Sept. 13!** Though it takes on a slightly different look, at least through the rest of 2020, Messy Church is a once a month "extended family" time of exploring and worshipping God together in fun and meaningful ways. NCC's Messy Church theme for this year: **"Exploring Jesus' Parables"**. Messy Church takes place the second Sunday of the month, September through June (excluding May) at 4:30 p.m. You can join September's Messy Church for a 45 minute Zoom experience or choose to do your own Messy Church at home. All are welcome! (Watch for info in the next Window for October's Messy Church Trunk or Treat with a Twist!)

Also on **Sat., Sept 12, and Sun., Sept 13**, there will be a **Chalk Prayer Path** in the church parking lot for families (and those who are young at heart!) to come and creatively enjoy prayer. Bring your own sidewalk chalk or pick up a bag of chalk at church (taking the bag home after you use it- do not put it back) and add your prayers to the Chalk Prayer Path. Please mask and social distance from anyone else taking part. Part of the parking lot will be blocked for the Prayer Path, but please watch for moving cars. Let's see how big our Chalk Prayer Path can get!

SUNDAY SCHOOL—The new Sunday School year with the theme "Exciting Stories of Faith" begins on Sunday, Sept. 27, and NCC will continue to use the Rotation model, exploring the Bible stories for 3 weeks using science, art, drama, music, games, or video. Children can join in the Live Sunday School on Zoom Sunday mornings at 10:45 (the Zoom link emailed out Saturday morning), and the lessons will also be emailed home Sunday morning for families who would like to do the lesson as a family at home. Unit (3 week on one Bible story with different activities) materials for the activities for Sunday School Live or At Home will be available for pick up at church or delivered to homes. If you are not receiving the Sunday school zoom links or at home lessons, and would like to, please contact rbower@northfielducc.org to add your name to the email blast list. **A preschool 25 minute Zoom Live Sunday School will be beginning soon!**

Bibles to 2nd Graders – NCC's Board of Christian Education will be giving the gift of a Bible to NCC's second graders. If you have a child who entered 2nd grade, please contact rbower@northfielducc.org.

PANDEMIC PEN & PRAYER PALS! Keeping church family connections through the pandemic is so important. We are recruiting Pandemic Pen and Prayer Pals instead of Sunday School teachers this fall. The idea is to assign an adult (or couple) to one Sunday School family and you would check in with the family however you choose every couple of weeks with how things are going and maybe even talk about the 3-week unit Sunday School Bible story. What a fun way to stay connected! If you would be willing to be a Pen Pal through December, please let me know ASAP. Thank you so much!

ADULTS—Adult classes and small groups are continuing to meet through Zoom. If you would like more information about any of the adult classes, or are interested in helping to start a small group centering on an interest or hobby you enjoy, please contact Ronda Bower in the office.

POTLUCK STUDY—Join **Mary Lou Mellon** (via Zoom) as she shares her photos of **The Pantanal in the heart of Brazil**. Please see the calendar insert for more details.

175/75 Anniversary Celebration –Gary Eberlein

Honoring Families in the Early Church

Family names from the early St. Peter church can be found by searching the list of street names on a printed map of Northbrook (yes, somewhere there must be a company still printing maps on paper). I found eight streets and roads named after early settlers who were church members, and a few are still around today. Have you ever driven on Shermer Road or how about Pflingsten Road? or Landwehr Road or Huehl Road. Holste Road, Dehne Road and Lorenz Drive may be a bit harder to find but they are part of the village. How about one that is familiar to Northfield folks, Voltz road that seems to connect our villages.

Who were these folks? In the early days of our history, Northfield Township, first surveyed in 1836 and opened for settlement, was mostly farms owned by settlers who bought land for, in some cases, as little as \$1.25 an acre. Land was surveyed using the township-range system and much was divided into 40 acre plots. If you had the money you could buy a good amount of land for not a lot of cash, even by mid 1800's standards. Many early farmers purchased two adjacent parcels, one cleared to farm and one wooded for building homes, barns and other needed structures and heating their homes. To access the farms, roads were laid out, many along survey lines adjacent to family farms therefore leading to roads with family names; Pflingsten, Landwehr, Holste, Dehne, Huehl, all members of the early St. Peter Church.

Of special mention here is the Frederick Schermer (Shermer) family who, after purchasing land and farming on the west side of Northfield Township, sold the farm in 1874 and bought forty acres along the railroad near the center of Northfield Township in what was to become the village of Shermerville (later Northbrook in 1923). Understanding the need for rail transportation for farmers to sell their milk, produce and livestock in the Chicago market, he deeded enough land for a station, (Shermer Station) and thus the name for the village which incorporated in 1901. Frederick was a prominent member of St. Peter church, raising his family, donating the first pipe organ, and serving the growing congregation in many ways. Visit the St. Peter Cemetery and you will find close to the road (Shermer Road) a tall monument and the graves of his entire family.

Some of those early farm families mentioned above went on to develop and own businesses; Dehne, Landwehr, Lorenz, and descendants of others eventually sold their farms to developers as Northbrook expanded. Above all, it has been their descendants' faith, dedication to their church, perseverance through good times and bad, that has carried through the generations and led to where we are today.



Mid 1800's transportation through Northfield Township.

The Church Family

Sacrament of Baptism - We celebrate the baptism of Jonah Harris Hayes on July 29th. His parents are Matt and Sarah Hayes, grandparents are Duayne and Beth Meyer, siblings Henry and Grace.



Mission Connections

An Important Message for NCC, Re: The 2020 Glenbrook CROP Hunger Walk

Yes, a "Walk" will happen, but it will be very different than NCC's previous 15 events!

The Story. Last February the GB CROP Planning Committee designated Sunday, October 18, 2020 as CROP Hunger Walk Sunday. Host: St. David's Episcopal Church. Glenview. Subsequently in March the Covid-19 pandemic began its spread across the Country. Then in June, Church World Service (CWS), parent organization of CROP Hunger Walks, after reviewing their Spring Walk experiences (where some Walks happened, others cancelled, while still others postponed), determined the anticipated proceeds from these Walks fell short with an \$800,000 loss. Think about the serious impact globally and locally on people in need.

CWS decided the prudent action would be to recommend all remaining Walks (of the 800+ total annual Walks) should go forward as "Virtual Walks". This means that large mass gatherings of all the various Teams participating in each of the remaining 2020 Walks throughout the country would not take place. What replaces the traditional Walks for now will be intense online fund raising. More info will follow about the online effort.

Locally our GB CROP Planning group is now committed to inviting all of our regular participating congregations as well as trying to recruit additional Northfield Township churches to join the Glenbrook CROP Hunger Walk.

Please help us on this campaign by referring to us the names of family, friends, neighbors or coworkers that you know are members of any neighboring congregations in our township. As for us, last week NCC's Board of Missions approved this new type of CROP Hunger Walk campaign for Team NCC's participation and will continue its ongoing support for this effort.

Next Up. The first NCC group to receive detailed info via email will be members of a newly compiled list of Team NCC Walkers from our last 10 years. Really! So if you are one of the many current and former Walkers (no matter where you now live), please don't be surprised to get this forthcoming email, and please know that you could be one of the valued online Walkers to help during these 2020 hardest of times.

For the rest of the NCC Congregants more information will follow by email, Sunday Bulletins and announcements in September. **Thank you NCC for always being a most caring congregation!**

We're on a Mission from God.



From your Mission Board: Each year the Mission Board has the joyful task of giving away 10% of what NCC receives in pledges. They are currently in the process of this annual review, so if you have any agencies that you would like to recommend, please contact a Mission Board member.

What's Happening: Annual Meeting September 17th

The Northfield Community Church Annual Meeting has been set for September 17th at 7:00 p.m. This year's annual meeting will be via Zoom. We will send out a Zoom link to the meeting via email. Please contact the office **prior to the meeting day** if you would like some technical assistance or practice using Zoom.

NCC's Response to Covid-19

Measures NCC has taken to help ensure the safety and well-being of those who attend in-person gatherings

- Per state mandate, inside NCC's facilities, members and friends are asked to wear a facial covering
- Signage has been placed in entryways indicating social distancing practices
- Partitions for safe distancing in the sanctuary and chapel have been created.
- A touchless door entry sensor has been installed at the southwest entrance
- Disposable masks and hand wipes are available at all entryways
- Hand sanitizing stations have been placed at entryways
- Touchless soap dispensers have been installed in the washrooms and kitchen
- Touchless thermometers are available as needed.
- Beginning in September, "fogging" of the facilities will take place before and after gatherings to eliminate viruses from surface areas.
- Ionization generators have been installed on the HVAC systems to eliminate airborne pathogens.

If you would like to make a donation to help with these Covid-related expenses, you may do so through the website or by sending a check made out to NCC with "Covid-19 expense" in the memo section.

Our prayers are offered for Viva Black, Kristie Bobart (sister of Glen), Loyal Carlson Jr, David A. Cyr, Jan Deetjen, Flory Dy, Linda Eberlein; Steven Evenstad, Marge Fairhead, Jamie Garard, Bill Jesse, Julie Jewell, Mitzi Smith, and those shut-in or staying close to home: Bob Fricke, Lois Katarski, Judi & Ray Kennedy, Carolyn Stockwell; and those in assisted living: Mike Parker.

Office Notes

The church staff continues working from home and, intermittently from the office. Generally we have someone in the office on Mondays—Fridays between 9am and 3pm. If you need to get into the building, please call ahead to be sure that someone can let you in.

A Special Thank You to **Susan Edgar** for helping to assemble the Window Newsletter.

Many Thanks to **Tracey Buchman** for the beautiful flower arrangements at the entry doors and in the memorial garden and for the upkeep of the memorial garden. **If you'd like to help Tracey** with watering the flower pots or weeding the garden, please contact the office or contact Tracey directly.

Please do stop by the gardens, especially the Memorial Garden. They're beautiful this time of year and bring a welcome respite from the chaos of these times.

Please watch the website and your email inbox for updates regarding church news and events. Please contact the office if you want to add or delete an email address on our email blast distribution list, ljones@northfielducc.org. If you do not have access to the internet and want updates via mail, please leave a message at the church office, 847-446-3070.

THANK YOU to everyone who continues to send in their donations or donate on line! We really appreciate it!

NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH
400 WAGNER ROAD
NORTHFIELD, IL 60093
Address Correction Requested

First Class

NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

September Events

- Sep 10th** Mission Board
Sep 12th & 13th Chalk Prayer Path
Sep 13th Virtual Messy Church
Sep 17th **Annual Meeting**
Sep 20th Sunday School Kick-off
Sep 22nd Trustees
Sep 27th Potluck Study
Sep 28th Church Council

The Church Staff

All of the members of NCC Ministers

Steve Ash	Business Manager
Eileen Baumgarten	Interim Organist
Ronda Bower	Family & Educational Ministry
Thom Bower	Associate Pastor
Lea Jones	Office Administrator
Duayne R. Meyer	Senior Pastor
Don Minnick	Pastor Emeritus
Phyllis Scott	Interim Choir Director
Warren Wiggins	Minister of Visitation



Northfield Community Church

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please check the NCC website for the most current Calendar information: www.NorthfieldUCC.org		1 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Z)	2	3 1:30 pm A Just Harvest	4	5 9:00am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
6 9:30 am Worship and Praise (F) 10:30 am Traditional Worship (F)	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Z)	9	10 7:00pm Mission Board(Z)	11	12 All Day: Chalk Prayer Path 9:00am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
13 All Day: Chalk Prayer Path 9:30 am Worship and Praise (F) 10:30 am Traditional Worship (F) 10:45 am Sunday School (Z) 4:30 pm Messy Church (Z)	14	15 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Z)	16	17 7:00pm Congregational Meeting (Z)	18	19 9:00am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
20 9:30 am Worship and Praise (F) 10:30 am Traditional Worship (W) Livestreamed and in the Sanctuary 10:45 am Sunday School Kick-off (Z)	21 Window Newsletter Deadline	22 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Z) 7:00 pm Board of Trustees (Z)	23	24	25	26 9:00am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
27 9:30 am Worship and Praise (F) 10:30 am Traditional Worship (W) Livestreamed and in the Sanctuary 10:45 am Sunday School (Z) 4:00 pm "Potluck" Study (Z)	28 7:00 pm Church Council (Z)	29 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Z)	30	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Virtual Event Key F – Facebook live W – Link on the website: www.northfielducc.org Z – Zoom event, ask staff for an invitation</p> </div>		



September Activities at NCC



CHALK PRAYER PATH

Saturday & Sunday, September 12th & 13th

In the church parking lot for families (and those who are young at heart!) to come and creatively enjoy prayer. Bring your own sidewalk chalk or pick up a bag of chalk at church (taking the bag home after you use it- do not put it back) and add your prayers to the Chalk Prayer Path. Please mask and social distance from anyone else taking part. Part of the parking lot will be blocked for the Prayer Path, but please watch for moving cars. Let's see how big our Chalk Prayer Path can get!



VIRTUAL MESSY CHURCH –

“THE PARABLE OF THE BRIDESMAIDS”

Sunday September 13th - 4:30 – 5:15 P.M.

Everyone is invited to join Messy Church on Zoom for a fun telling of the parable, two activities, and a closing celebration worship. You will need to register by emailing Ronda Bower, rbower@northfielducc.org, to receive the Zoom link. (No cost) Messy Church materials will be available for pick up at NCC Sat., Sept 12 and Sun., Sept 13 from noon to 2:00 p.m. in the parking lot, or if needed, materials can be brought to your home. If you would like to do Messy Church at home instead of Zoom, just email and ask for the at home pack and you will receive the activity materials and extra materials for your own parable telling and celebration worship.

DON'T MISS THE SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF

Sunday, September 20th- 10:45-11:45 a.m. on Zoom!

Explore God's wonder with Tricky Tim's Virtual Magic Show!

Join in the laughter and fun as we kick-off NCC's new Sunday school year!

NCC and Messy Church families can register for this event (no cost) by emailing Ronda at rbower@northfielducc.org to get the Zoom link.

THIS PROGRAM YEAR'S FIRST POTLUCK STUDY, WITHOUT THE POTLUCK!

Sunday September 27th - 4:00-5:00 P.M. via Zoom

Join **Mary Lou Mellon** on Zoom as she shares her wonderfully photography of spectacular birds and mammals from her trip to the world's greatest wetlands: *The Pantanal, in the Heart of Brazil*.

View incredible tropical parrots, toucans, and even jaguars up close and personal! You will hear

Mary Lou's stories and have a time to ask questions of her trip and the animals she saw. Please register for this program by emailing rbower@northfielducc.org to receive the Zoom link. (No cost)