



Looking Over the Pulpit—Duayne Meyer

FEBRUARY
2021

*Celebrating
175 years*

Yesterday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, was also the day of NCC's Zoom congregational budget meeting which 60+ people attended. Tomorrow, a new President of the United States will be sworn in to office under the watchful eyes of 25,000 military troops and heaven knows how many more state, local and federal law enforcement agents. It's mind boggling, even disorienting. Moreover, we have witnessed something I'm not sure I could have imagined: the storming of the halls of congress. This in the midst of a global pandemic, political rancor, increasing economic disparity, natural disasters and a growing awareness of how pervasive and destructive is racial inequality in our country.

I know it's tempting to stop reading at this point (if you actually started reading), but my purpose is not to point out how troubled and troubling is our world, but how, more than ever, the gospel needs to be proclaimed – by word and deed – to the world; how, as people of faith, we must find our footing in the grace and truth of that gospel as we aim to be (must be!) the beloved community of the church. More and more the sort of community the church is and represents stands out in our divided, acrimonious culture. We surely must seem more and more peculiar to the way of life that so many have come to know as their only way of living in the world.

NCC's budget meeting went fine. The good work done by our lay and staff leaders bore fruit and you chose to not only vote in favor but also to put your hard earned money where your mouths are. I'm not sure exactly why, but even after all these years in the church I still find this (putting together, presenting, discussing and approving a church budget) a little remarkable and I surely don't take for granted what is entrusted to us as leaders, or to me as your pastor. Since we aim to be about sacred work, the gifts given also become holy instruments, are to represent the very best of us as Christians and as a church.

After the meeting, many of us stayed around a little longer. Old friends chatted awhile. Some small children waved at grandparents and neighbors they could see on their screens. One family put their one-year-old in the tub; the child's first congregational meeting. We got to witness a few moments of his delight as he splashed playfully in the water; it was a sort of baptism for us all, a baptism of joy and community, of remembering who are as the church, and who we need to be for these children, for our world and for ourselves. I must admit, for all its shortcomings, I've always been pretty high on the church. I still hold that – when we are at our most faithful best – the church is among the world's best hopes.

(continued) →

Inside this issue:

<i>Mission Connections</i>	2
<i>Ronda's Remarks</i>	3
<i>175/75th Anniversary</i>	4
<i>The Church Family</i>	5
<i>Office Notes</i>	5

Looking Over the Pulpit (continued) - Duayne Meyer

We ended the meeting with this prayer:

Gracious God, we lift up with thanksgiving the memory and ministry of Martin Luther King. Grant us, we pray, the temerity to continue the work of equality, justice, and dignity for people of color, and all people, in our nation.

We pray for those in authority, and for our nation's citizens, that we may know and believe all people are created in your image and uphold the dignity of all persons.

We thank you for generous, faithful people who join you to make NCC thrive. Though we are apart, unite us in blessing, in power and with the conviction that the Holy Spirit's work in us – in your church – will not be thwarted by a pandemic, by political intrigue or even by the buffeting winds of an increasingly cynical society. Steel our nerve, strengthen our resolve and deepen our faith that we might be the church Christ calls us to be, and the world so desperately needs us to be. In Jesus' strong name we pray. Amen.

– Pastor Duayne

Mission Connections “Let us not grow weary of doing good”



Your Board of Missions has started its deliberations for allocation of the 2021 portion of the **St Peter Legacy in Mission Fund**. \$80,000 will be awarded to agencies and efforts deemed worthy by May. If you have recommendations please contact the organization and make them aware or contact a member of the Board of Missions. Maximum grants are \$15,000. Amounts over \$5000 require a grant application and supporting documents. The application can be downloaded from the Mission section of the NCC website. Members are: Wally Cornet, Barbara Balch, Milt Lemke, Cecelia Eytalis, Linda Eberlein, Phil Reinemann, Bill McKinley

Thanks to all who have already donated to Family Promise! The mission continues...



Family Promise is an organization NCC has worked with and donated to for years. But it has never been as important as it is this year. If you aren't familiar with Family Promise, it connects our congregation with families in need of shelter while they find work and permanent homes. This year, because of the pandemic many former Family Promise families are again found in a difficult position and struggling to keep food on

the tables for their families. Families are feeling a strain on their food budgets as school children are home more and having more meals at home.

NCC has the opportunity to help Family Promise families by providing snack bags for e-learners on an ongoing basis: Please put 2-3 items like granola bars, small bags of trail mix, chips, pretzels, or crackers, fruit cups, etc. in a lunch bag with a small bottle of water or a drink box. You could add a note or have children draw a picture to let the children know someone is thinking of them. Drop your snack bags off at NCC starting January 5, 2021, Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 3pm and Sunday from 9-11am. Leeann Starr will collect and deliver to Family Promise. We will continue this donation through the new year

Family Promise also welcomes the donation of \$25 or \$50 Jewel gift cards. Jewel is the grocery store closest to the Family Promise Day Center. Gift cards can be dropped off or mailed to NCC. Please designate for Family Promise.

Ronda's Remarks - Ronda Bower

“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.” - Micah:6:8

This year Wednesday, Feb. 17, is **Ash Wednesday**. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent in the Christian church. Lent, the period of 40 days that precedes the celebration of Easter, has its origin in the early days of the Church, and has become an opportunity for Christians to recall and renew the commitment of their baptism.



During Lent, Christians focus on strengthening their relationship with God. Some people give up something for Lent. They deprive ourselves of some small pleasure or indulgence and offer that sacrifice up to God, or “give up” a bad habit such as smoking as a way of positively turning their life back toward what God wants for us. Others take up something that will strengthen their faith and relationship with God, like more time in prayer or scripture or more time in service to others.

—Ronda

NCC's Board of Christian Education would like to like to challenge the whole congregation to take up something this Lenten season – **KINDNESS!**

Watch the mail for your

LENTEN BE KIND ADVENTURE kit:

a fun activity for the whole congregation,

for all ages 1-100, whether you are a family unit of 1 or 10,

focusing on ways to be kind to others, look for kindness, and be kind to yourself,

and a way to keep track and share with others the kindness you experience.

Coming to your house soon! Join the fun and lift up kindness this Lenten season!



FEBRUARY'S MESSY CHURCH FAMILY GAME NIGHT – Sunday, Feb. 14, 4:30, on Zoom. Everyone, all ages, invited to join the fun of Tenzi, Bingo, Headbanz, and a crazy Scavenger Hunt that participants create. Contact me by email or text by Saturday morning, Feb. 13, to receive the Messy Church Zoom link, games materials, and a special Valentine treat delivered to your home.

NCC and Messy Church families are invited to join in a **Lenten Lego Challenge** coming to your email boxes soon!

JOIN IN AN ADULT STUDY OR SUNDAY SCHOOL ON ZOOM:

Adults: Sunday Seminar Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Women's Bible Study Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.,

Relevant Bible Study Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.

Children: Preschool and Parent Sunday School Sunday at 10:15 a.m.,

Sunday School Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

175/75 Anniversary Celebration –Gary Eberlein

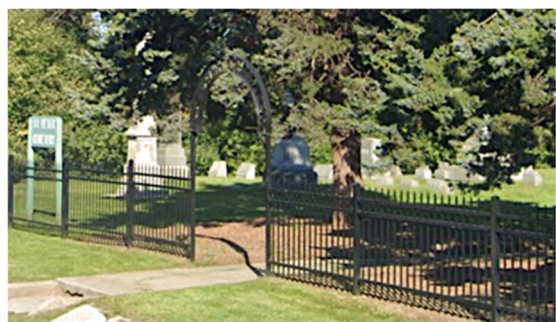
175/75 Anniversary - Cemetery or Graveyard?

St. Peter Church, in both the 1845 location on Dundee Road and the 1863 “new” location on Shermer Road had a cemetery . . . or a graveyard, hmmm which was it? A conversation with Charlie Shabica brought to my attention there is a difference--sort of. On the land donated for a church along Dundee Road, two structures were constructed, one a small frame building served as the church and the other a home for a pastor. The land surrounding the buildings was the churchyard. We assume that at an early point part of the churchyard was consecrated for burials and thus became the graveyard. With the relocation of the congregation to Shermer Road, and both structures removed, by definition the property no longer attached to a church became a stand-alone cemetery.



We can apply the same reasoning to the new 1863 church on Shermer Road. Part of the churchyard surrounding the church building and parsonage would be consecrated for burials, and become the graveyard. Around c.1890, realizing that more space would be needed for burials, additional land was obtained. Since this land was adjacent to but not part of the original graveyard, the new space was designated as a cemetery, now known as the “New Cemetery”. It didn’t take long for the old graveyard and the new cemetery to be combined and known as St. Peter Cemetery. Now that it is no longer part of any church it is, by definition, truly a cemetery.

Cemeteries contain a wealth of information for genealogy researchers and history buffs and these are no exception. From the early history of the church and well into twentieth century both Glenview and Northbrook were small farming communities and the Church served both as the center for religious and social life. A few family names in the original Northfield Union Cemetery have street names in the area: Clavey, Huehl, Landwehr, Lorenz, Pfingsten, Schermer (Shermer), and Walter. St. Peter has a similar number of names along with six Civil War Vets and numerous WWI and WWII at rest. Many familiar family names from both communities are found on the monuments and head stones in the St. Peter Cemetery. Checking the records, I found the one family with the most burials is Rugen, twenty-nine, from Glenview. Following close behind, however, are Werhane with twenty-seven and Eberlein (the farm was between the towns near Shermer and West Lake, but moved into Shermerville in 1920) with twenty-four, all from Northbrook.



Two “Cemetery Walks” sponsored by the Northbrook and Glenview Historical Societies have taken place on the St. Peter Cemetery. During these events open to the public, costumed members from both Glenview and Northbrook portrayed historically prominent persons and shared their family history stories from the perspective of when they lived and how important church life was for their families. The scripts for the actors were written by Judy Hughes, President of the Northbrook Historical Society, and Rev. Wiggins and I have both participated.

Both are now managed by the Village of Northbrook are always open and accessible. Bud Smith, Jim Goettsche and I have served on the Cemetery Board and have good print records along with the Northbrook and Glenview Historical Societies and The Village. As the weather breaks this spring and you’re looking for some fresh air, take a walk through some local history.

The Church Family

Our condolences go out to:

The family of **Doug Shreffler**. Doug passed away on December 24th. Please keep his family in your prayers.

The family of **Allan Howard**. Allan passed away peacefully on January 5th while taking an afternoon nap. Please keep family, especially his widow Alice, in your prayers. A Celebration of Life will occur on a later date.

The family of **John Henry Heath**. John Henry passed away on January 7th. Services have been held.

Karen Pedersen on the loss of her brother, **Chip Richards**.

Our prayers are offered for those who are hospitalized or recovering from illness: Kristie Bobart (sister of Glen), Hallie Burhoe, David Cyr, Jan Deetjen, Flory Dy, Steven Evenstad, Bill Jesse, Julie Jewell, Lucy Landon, Bill Lustig, Betty Oswald, and Fin Samuel. We lift up in prayer those staying close to home: Lois Katarski, Judi & Ray Kennedy, and Carolyn Stockwell, as well as those in assisted living: Siria Behrens, Marge Fairhead, Jay Lorenz, Mike Parker and Pegeen Soare.

Office Notes

Thanks to all who Zoomed in for our **Congregational Budget Meeting** on January 18th. The budget was approved at that meeting. It was great to see everyone!

If you are tech savvy and would like to help out with **livestreaming on Sunday mornings**, please contact Lea Jones in the office: ljones@northfielducc.org. The time commitment is approximately 3 hours (or 1 1/2 hours for each service) on Sunday. We have already setup the “shots”, so no real time camera work is involved. The livestreaming tech moves the stream from shot to shot, depending on what is happening in the service. After some training, we will work out a schedule with the techs, assigning them to particular Sundays.

We continue to order **flowers for the sanctuary** worship services. If you would like to help defray the cost of these flowers, you may make an online donation, drop off or mail in a check with “Flowers” in the memo/notes. The cost per week is \$40. Please contact the office for more details.

Would you like to **borrow a Hymnal**? We send out the bulletins via email so that folks can join in the livestreamed worship services, why not have a hymnal, too? If you’d like a hymnal so that you can sing along at home please let us know and we can set them out at the west entrance for you to pick up during office hours.

Thank you to **Judy Hertelendy** for posting the offerings.

Thank you to **Susan Edgar** for assembling this Window newsletter.

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

Please note that the **church office hours** are as follows:

Mondays: noon—3:00pm

Tues.-Fri.: 10:00am—3:00pm

The submission deadline for the **March Window** is **Thursday, February 18th**.

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

First Class

NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

February Events

Feb 10th Anniversary Committee
Feb 11th Mission Board
Feb 14th Messy Church
Feb 16th Board of Trustees
Feb 17th Ash Wednesday
Feb 18th Partners In Christ
Feb 22nd 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

February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Please check the NCC website for the most current Calendar information: www.NorthfieldUCC.org</p>	1	2 10:00 am Women's Bible Study Z 7:00 pm Board of Christian Ed Z	3	4 1:00 pm A Just Harvest Delivery	5	6 9:00 am Virtual Relevant Bible Study Z
7 9:30 am Worship and Praise FW 10:30 am Traditional Worship FW	8	9 10:00 am Women's Bible Study Z	10 2:00 pm Anniversary Committee Z	11 7:00 pm Mission Board Z	12	13 9:00 am Virtual Relevant Bible Study Z
14 9:00 am Sunday Seminar Z 9:30 am Worship and Praise FW 10:15 am Pre-school Sunday School Z 10:30 am Traditional Worship FW 10:45 am Virtual Sunday School Z 4:30 pm Messy Church Z	 15	16 10:00 am Women's Bible Study Z 7:00 pm Board of Trustees	17  AshWednesday	18 10:00 pm Partners In Christ Z	19	20 9:00 am Virtual Relevant Bible Study Z
21 9:00 am Sunday Seminar Z 9:30 am Worship and Praise FW 10:15 am Pre-school Sunday School Z 10:30 am Traditional Worship FW 10:45 am Virtual Sunday School Z	22 7:00 pm Church Council Z	23 10:00 am Women's Bible Study Z	24	25	26	27 9:00 am Virtual Relevant Bible Study Z
28 9:00 am Sunday Seminar Z 9:30 am Worship and Praise FW 10:15 am Pre-school Sunday School Z 10:30 am Traditional Worship FW 10:45 am Virtual Sunday School Z	<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>					

