



Looking Over the Pulpit—Duayne Meyer

The question of when and how NCC will reopen is being asked with greater frequency. The short answer is we are preparing for people to be back in the building by July, recognizing there are any number of things that could affect this timeline. Precautions will be in place, including limiting the number of people and asking all who attend to wear a face covering. We will livestream worship services for those who want and need to stay close to home.

The long answer to when NCC will reopen is that we have never really been closed. We continue to meet virtually and to conduct worship, education and mission utilizing a number of technology platforms.

MISSION

NCC is supporting local missions and outreach organizations including A Just Harvest, Northfield Township Food Pantry, Family Promise and more. NCC provides assistance to area residents who are seeking help in the form of food and grocery store gift cards. Bill McKinley and the Mission Board meet regularly, and virtually.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Warren Wiggins, Minister of Congregational Care, is touching base with those staying close to home. Members of "Partners in Christ" send cards to those confined to their homes due to health concerns as well as those who are on the front lines, including medical personnel, first responders and essential workers.

EDUCATIONAL/SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

Ronda Bower has developed Zoom Sunday School for adults and children. Ronda and I provide staff support for small group ministries and fellowships. You can see Ronda on Facebook Live each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at 1pm. "Stories with Ronda" is a lovely, gentle time for families and those of all ages: <https://www.facebook.com/northfieldcommunitychurch/>

ADMINISTRATON AND FINANCE

Working with the Trustees, Lea Jones and Steve Ash support NCC's ministries, programs and missions through technology. When things normalize we will find much of our administrative capabilities will have shifted to cloud-based and user friendly technologies that members and friends will be able to access on a computer or phone app.

The Church Council and Trustees have asked that I remind you of NCC's online giving feature, located on the church website. Pledges and contributions may also be sent via USPS.

WORSHIP AND CHURCH LIFE

Each Wednesday and Sunday morning at 9:30am I livestream, via Facebook Live, "On the Preacher's Porch," a brief time of reflection and prayer. For those who are not on Facebook, recordings of these reflections can be accessed via NCC's website.

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JUNE
2020

*Celebrating
175 years*

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Looking Over the Pulpit (continued) - Duayne Meyer

NCC continues to record the traditional worship service and post it the website at 10am each Sunday. Thank you to Phyllis Scott, Eileen Baumgarten, Karen Jesse and Kim Scott for the beautiful music each week and to David DeHorn for being our “Worship Leader in Residence.” Thanks also to section leaders and instrumentalists who are sharing their gifts. Bill Jesse has made the technology work so that worship and other recorded events can be viewed via the church’s website. Thank you Bill.

As we said, NCC isn’t closed. God has given us the gifts, abilities and tools we need in our time to be the church in our world. It will surely be a high and holy day when we can be together in one place as those who are one in Christ. We will look forward to, and prepare for, that glad day.

Keep the faith,

Pastor Duayne Meyer

Ronda’s Remarks - Ronda Bower

“Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. Don’t be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus. From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise. Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.” - *Philippians 4:4-9*

It is so hard to hear or read the news of the struggles of people in our country and around the world, the number of people dying or very sick from COVID-19, the number of people without jobs, businesses not able to hold on, families separated from their loved ones, and on this morning’s news, people who have lost their homes and belongings from all the flooding around us. It is a struggle for me to fight being swallowed by the sadness and hardship all around. During “On the Preacher’s Porch” Duayne has shared how he has been keeping a gratitude journal. I have been following a simple practice, suggested by a friend, to spend some time each evening thinking about 1) where I have seen God this day, and 2) where I have seen joy this day. I hope and pray that you are finding ways and practices to help you in this strange and hard time we are in.

It has been easy for me to think of where I saw joy and God last week and through the weekend. I was blessed by working with families to put together the virtual Children’s Sunday worship on May 17. If you have not watched it, please make sure to go to NCC’s website and find the link. Thank you so much to: the Andrew family, Detlefsen family, Garard family, Gemp family, O’Neill family, Pagni family, Philips family, Samuel family, Scott family, Shanley family, Snyder family, Thakral-Johnson family, Townsend family, and Vakili family for sending in videos and photos for the service. Thank you also to Rob Orr, of Rob Orr Productions, for putting all the bits and pieces together into a wonderful and meaningful service.

Saturday was also a joy-filled day as I delivered gift bags of balloons, bubbles, homemade playdoh, friendship bracelets, and other fun stuff to Sunday school and confirmation children and teens, and their siblings. I had the fun of leaving the gift bags by the front door, ringing the doorbell, and running to a safe distance to be able to wave to the families. It was a joy to be able to at least smile and wave to these precious families even from afar. I hope the gift bags were a reminder to these children and teens of how much their church loves them. *(continued on the next page)* →

Ronda's Remarks (continued) - Ronda Bower

NCC will be continuing these Christian Education Events in the hope that they are helping to keep you connected to both God and your community of faith:

Families, children, and teens:

- ◆ At home family Sunday School lessons on Sundays, and faith family activities on Wednesdays.
- ◆ Children: Zoom Sunday School Sunday morning at 10:45 a.m.
- ◆ Teens Zoom Night for teens, 7th – 12th grade, Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ “Stories with Ronda” on Facebook Live Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. (If you are not on Facebook you can find links to watch past stories on NCC’s website.)

Adults:

- ◆ Sunday Seminar is doing a study on the Jim Wallis book *Christ in Crisis* by Zoom on Sunday mornings at 11:30
- ◆ Women’s Bible Study is meeting by Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 10:00, discussing the 4 scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary.
- ◆ Relevant Bible Study is meeting by Zoom on Saturday mornings at 9:00 to discuss the book of Acts.

If you would like more information about any of these activities or links to the Zoom gatherings, or if you are interested in being part a Bible study or special interest small group, please email me, or call the church office and leave a message.



Messy Church Sunday, June 14th-
watch for info for June’s virtual Messy Church

Northfield Community Church would like to honor this year’s graduates. If you have an immediate family member who is graduating from 8th grade, high school, college, tech school, or graduate school will you please contact the church with the graduate’s name, the school from which they are graduating, and, if they are continuing their education, where they will be attending. You can call the church office with the information, or email Lea Jones, ljones@northfielducc.org, or myself, rbower@northfielducc.org. Thank you.



– Peace, hope, and renewed strength in our loving God, Ronda Bower



“I Have the Courage” from Children’s Sunday Worship, May 17th

175/75 Anniversary Celebration –Gary Eberlein

There's something about a pipe organ . . .

The origins of the pipe organ can be traced back to the Greeks in the 3rd century BC, but its use in churches appears around 900 CE and was used for ceremonial purposes. By the 1400s instruments were firmly established in cathedrals and monastic churches throughout Europe. The “modern” organ as we know it today with all its stops and effects appeared c.1515 in Germany.

The history of the pipe organ at St. Peter church in Northbrook can be traced back to Mr. Schermer (Shermer), you know – Shermerville, Shermer Road- as he donated the first pipe organ in 1875 when the “new” church on Shermer Road was expanded. Twenty-two years later in 1897 a new pipe organ replaced the original.

The air for these early instruments was supplied by bellows, pumped by hand, in the basement below the pipes in the sanctuary above. As luck would have it the man in the basement pumping the bellows married the then organ student playing in the church above. A marriage made in . . . hmmm.

In 1925, when the church property finally got electric service, the old pump organ was replaced, thanks to donations from some of the members, with a new modern instrument complete with an electric-motor-driven fan to supply air to the pipes. This organ served the church until it was retired in 1960, replaced with a “fancy” new eight-rank Moller from Hagerstown, Maryland. Again, funding came from generous donations many given in memory of loved ones in the congregation. And then came the fire, destroying the historic church and the less-than-a-year-old pipe organ along with it.

After the fire in February 1961, in the new building on Willow Road, in 1964, an electronic organ supplied by a new startup, the Saville Organ Company, was installed as a demonstration instrument for prospective customers. Not a pipe organ! It was designed to mimic the sound of a pipe organ and actually did a pretty good job, but it wasn't a true pipe organ. So, in 1978, remember that marriage, the then young lady organist Edna Rugen, (who married Louis Borhardt, the pumper) donated funds to purchase a new, true, pipe organ. Edna Borhardt and Dr. William Schnell, whose family goes back four generations at St. Peter, played the dedication of the new eleven rank Moller on January 21, 1979.

The story continues with the sale of the church in 2011. After a year of sharing the building with the new congregation, St. Peter joined here at NCC and the new folks on Willow Road had no use for the organ (not part of their tradition). With the threat of tossing it in the trash and with the help and cooperation of friends and staff at NCC the instrument was “rescued” and installed in the chapel to replace another small electronic organ. Parallels continue. The rededication was played by James Smith, NCC music director, Eileen Baumgarten, St. Peter organist, and Dr. Schnell. Welcome back again, Bill, and thank you.

What's Happening

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to The family of **Sandy Heppner**. Sandy passed away on May 3rd.

Congratulations to **Christopher and Lee (Kaplan) Curry** on the birth of **Christopher Patrick Curry, Jr.** born on May 3, 2020 in Vero Beach, Florida. Congratulations to grandparents **Alan and Loretta Kaplan**.

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.

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



Mission Connections

We're on a Mission from God.

The **Board of Missions** is to has been reviewing and responding to requests from our mission partners for emergency funding during this pandemic.

One of the effects of the coronavirus is that many of the marginalized working poor have their work hours reduced to the economic impact on service industries. NCC is asking you to consider donating to the **Northfield Township Food Pantry**. For families, school closings means greater financial hardship and food insecurity for children and adults. Let us seek – and work for – the common good of neighbors in need. You may donate via mail: Northfield Township Food Pantry, 2550 Waukegan Rd Ste 100, Glenview, IL 60025-1777.

Please note that **A Just Harvest** is not hosting any volunteers until further notice. NCC will continue to provide the food for serving on the first Friday of the month, but the AJH staff will prepare and provide carryout service to its clients. To make a donation so that they can continue to feed our community please visit www.ajustharvest.org.

Reaching out to those who need assistance—We continue to help those in need during this time through donations of food as well as Jewel gift cards. We are also providing financial assistance to members and friends of the church who have been hardest hit. We will continue to do this as long as we have the resources. **If you would like to contribute** to this ministry, please send a check or donate on line and note that the donations is for “assistance”.

“Let us not grow weary of doing good”

Office Notes

OFFICE/BUILDING ACCESS

The church staff continues working from home and, perhaps, intermittently from the office as we schedule different times to come in order to avoid contact. If you need to get into the building, please Pastor Duayne at 847.361.6088.

A big thanks goes out to all the members and friends of NCC who continue to help us with a more **virtual way of being church!** This was not a simple shift and we are still learning. Please see Duayne’s Looking Over the Pulpit article for more details.

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.

- The **Upper Room** devotion booklets for May/June are available. Please call or email the office if you would like us to mail one to you.
- The **ANNUAL MEETING** has been postponed and is expected be held in September. In the mean time, the terms of the officers have been extended to September.
- **THANK YOU** to everyone who continues to send in their donations or donate on line! We really appreciate it!
- The deadline for the next **NCC Window** is Monday, June 22nd.



Subscribe to the United Church of Christ **Daily Devotions**:

https://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional

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

First Class

NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

June Events

- June 9th** Board of Christian Ed.
June 14th Messy Church
June 16th Board of Trustees
June 22nd Church Council
- Sundays**
9:30 a.m. On the Preacher's Porch
10:00 a.m. Virtual Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar
7:00 p.m. Teen Night Zoom
- Tuesdays & Thursdays**
1:00 p.m. Stories with Ronda
- Wednesdays**
9:30 a.m. On the Preacher's Porch

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

June 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please check the NCC website for the most current Calendar information: www.NorthfieldUCC.org	1	2 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z) 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	3 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F)	4 10:00 am A Just Harvest 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	5	6 9:00 am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
7 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F) 10:00 am Traditional Worship (W) 10:45 am Sunday School (Z) 11:30 am Sunday Seminar (Z) 7:00 pm Teen Night Zoom (Z)	8	9 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z) 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	10 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F)	11 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	12	13 9:00 am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
14 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F) 10:00 am Traditional Worship (W) 10:45 am Sunday School (Z) 11:30 am Sunday Seminar (Z) 7:00 pm Teen Night Zoom (Z)	15	16 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z) 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F) 7:00 PM Board of Trustees (Z)	17 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F)	18 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	19	20 9:00 am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
21 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F) 10:00 am Traditional Worship (W) 10:45 am Sunday School (Z) 11:30 am Sunday Seminar (Z) 7:00 pm Teen Night Zoom (Z)	22 7:00 pm Church Council (Z) Window Deadline	23 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z) 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	24 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F)	25 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	26	27 9:00 am Relevant Bible Study (Z)
28 9:30 am On the Preacher's Porch (F) 10:00 am Traditional Worship (W) 10:45 am Sunday School (Z) 11:30 am Sunday Seminar (Z) 7:00 pm Teen Night Zoom (Z)	29	30 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z) 1:00 pm Stories with Ronda (F)	Virtual Event Key F – Facebook live W – Link on the website: www.northfielducc.org Z – Zoom meeting, ask staff for an invitation			

