



Looking Over the Pulpit—Duayne Meyer

I want to offer word of thanks for the emails, texts, cards, videos and good wishes sent in recognition of our twenty years of ministry at NCC and the 35th anniversary of my ordination. Those who watched “On the Preacher’s Porch” on June 21st heard me say this is a shared accomplishment that belongs not only to the pastor but also to the pastor’s family and to the parish. I am beyond blessed to have Beth and our family as partners in the journey of life and ministry. A long tenure in ministry is also a testimony to a congregation’s good nature and forbearance. While I am not one to spend much time hearkening back to the past, an occasion like this invites us to pause, to take stock and to be grateful for ways the Holy Spirit has been present. Much has happened in twenty years, and more is happening all the time! We trust the Holy Spirit will energize us for even greater witness in Christ’s name. Thank you dear church and thank you to the gifted staff and servant volunteers for your gracious and faithful discipleship.

With the help of technology, NCC continues to connect, worship, fellowship and learn. On March 25th church life moved online, at least mostly. Steve Ash, Lea Jones, Eileen Baumgarten, Phyllis Scott and Ronda Bower continue to carry out their duties with enthusiasm, skill and faithfulness. Ronda has adult bible study three times a week and Sunday School for children once a week. There was even a June Virtual Messy Church! We were able to enjoy “Stories with Ronda” twice a week until the weather warmed up enough that children could get outside more regularly. NCC continues to have board and committee meetings via Zoom as well.

Our Men’s small group meets weekly via video conferencing. There have been fourteen Sunday worship services recorded and uploaded to the church website. Thank you Rob Orr and Bill Jesse for “making the magic happen.” Beth and I have welcomed friends from near and far “On the Preacher’s Porch” twenty-six times since the beginning of the lockdown in March, for a total of forty live or virtual engagements with friends and members. Facebook Live, Zoom and other technologies have been helpful in our endeavors to stay as connected as possible in these strange and uncertain times. These mediums have been helpful, but not altogether satisfying.

The question constantly before us continues to be when NCC will re-open in some way. The Moderators and staff have been in regular, thoughtful discussion regarding the best time, way and place to resume worship and gatherings. As I write this, Cook County is moving to Phase 4 in just a couple days. Provided it is the sensible thing to do, and there are no spikes in diagnosed cases of the virus in our area, NCC will very likely resume worship in the next few weeks even as we continue to livestream and upload the services. As our worship leaders have said each week in worship, “We are learning as we go. Please be patient.”

As others have said, the church isn’t closed; far from it. We are adapting and learning to be the church in new ways in order to bear the gospel in faithful ways.

I look forward to seeing you in person in the not-too-distant future.

Until then, may God be with you, bless and keep you.

- Duayne

JULY
2020

Celebrating
175 years

Inside this issue:

Ronda’s
Remarks 2

Phrases from
Phyllis 3

175/75th
Anniversary 4

What’s
Happening 4

Mission
Connections 5

Office Notes 5

Ronda's Remarks - Ronda Bower

"For I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope." - Jeremiah 29:11

Northfield Community Church is so very proud of our 2020 graduates! Congratulations and well done to all of you. Our prayers are with you as you go forward in the next part of your life's exciting journey.

8th Grade Grads:

Tony Arcangeletti off to Glenbrook North High School

Erin Detlefsen off to Loyola High School

Evie Detlefsen off to New Trier High School



High School Grads:

Thomas Robert Aaron graduated from Highland Park High School. Thomas will continue his education and job training at NSED's Transition to Adulthood program in Deerfield IL.

Eden Allen – graduated from New Trier High School and is continuing her education at Pace University, New York

Kelly Jordan graduated from Glenbrook North High School and is continuing her education her at Clemson University, South Carolina.

Lila Prochotsky graduated from Vernon Hills High School and is continuing her education at Illinois State University, majoring in Bilingual Elementary Education.

Abbey Sawtell graduated from New Trier High School and is continuing her education at Drake University, Iowa.

Drew Sullivan graduated from New Trier High School and is continuing his education at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.

College and Grad School Grads:

Stephanie Rogers completed her Master of Science Degree in Written Communication from National Louis University.

Peyton South graduated from Kansas State University.

Grandchildren of NCCers

Jimmy Bellman, grandson of Gary and Linda Eberlein, graduated from Glenbrook North High School.

Finley Hutten, grandson of Jim and Helen Hutten, graduated from Indian Hill Middle School, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Nicole Hutten, granddaughter of Jim and Helen Hutten, graduated from Hinsdale Central High School.

Avery King, granddaughter of Suzanne Schneider, graduated from Stevenson High School and is continuing her education at the University of Wisconsin.

Michael Marrella, grandson of Barbara Marrella, graduated from Lincoln Way East High School. (When Michael was 3 weeks old, he was baby Jesus in the Christmas pageant at St. Peter, 2001).

Molly Warner, granddaughter of Jim and Liz Warner, graduated from St Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart in Chicago and is continuing her education at the University of Colorado. *(continued on the next page)* →



Love of
Neighbor
Children
Creation

Ronda's Remarks (continued) - Ronda Bower

I remember, about the middle of March, how stressed I felt at trying to figure out Zoom meetings for small group, Bible studies, Sunday school, and teen nights, as well as recording children's time for worship without children surrounding me, and reading stories on Facebook Live. It is still not easy, and it isn't sharing the hugs, smiles, and physically closeness I love, but I do admit that seeing faces of children, teens, and adults, even as little squares, on my computer, reading messages from people during Duayne's On the Preacher's Porch, watching the recorded worship in the sanctuary, and hearing music from the Praise Band, organ, and other special music brings me great joy and comfort. I feel very blessed at being part of Northfield Community Church. I hope you are finding ways to connect to your faith community. If you would like help in connecting with any of the things NCC is doing during this coronavirus time or getting a DVD of worship because you do not have internet, please contact any of the church staff and we will be glad to help.

Children and family ministry will continue through July with the opportunities that are in place now: Sunday School Live on Zoom on Sunday mornings at 10:45, a written at home family Sunday school lesson sent out on Sunday morning, and a family faith idea sent out on Wednesday. June's Messy Church was a virtual at home Messy Church and is still available on NCC website. I still have craft materials if you would like to have them to complete the Messy Church craft stations.

Teens, for the summer, are moving to meeting the last Sunday of the month. June's teen night will be a social distancing cookout outside at church.

Adult faith formation opportunities continue with Sunday Seminar, Sunday mornings at 11:30 on Zoom, discussion the Jim Wallis book *Christ in Crisis*. Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study is studying the Revised Common Lectionary scripture for the upcoming Sunday. Many of the women meet by Zoom on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m., and scriptures and thoughts are emailed out to everyone even if not meeting on Zoom. Relevant Bible Study is meeting at 9:00 on Saturday mornings, studying the book of Acts. There are also a few small group studies meeting.

If you are interested in connecting and growing with any of these Christian Education opportunities, and would like more info or the Zoom links so you can join, please contact me. If you would like some help getting some people from church together with a small group Bible study or special interest, let me know and I can assist you in getting that going.

Stay strong, stay safe, and stay connected. -Ronda

Phrases from Phyllis –Phyllis Scott

I'd like to share from the wonderful hymn...

"My life flows on in endless song above earth's proclamation.

I hear the sweet, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing;

It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart; a fountain ever springing!

All things are mine since I am His. How can I keep from singing!

Thank you to our section leaders, Leanne, Karen, Michael, Austin and also to Kim and Sarah who bless us with music each week. Keep singing everyone (whistling & humming work too!). Keep the faith...

May God Bless,

Phyllis

175/75 Anniversary Celebration –Gary Eberlein

Growing, Changing, Serving . . .

The humble 1845 one-room church building on what is now Dundee Road was abandoned when the congregation re-located to a much needed, much larger, more traditional high-steepled, white frame church in the center of Northfield Township. This new 1863 church building on Shermer Road was expanded in 1875 when transepts were added to form the shape of the cross. This provided balcony seating on both sides for the congregation, seating for a choir and new space for a pipe organ. In 1903 the original parsonage was replaced with a large brick home, modern for the time and more inviting and comfortable for pastors and their families. Then in 1912 the entire church building was raised, and a basement constructed beneath, providing much needed meeting and storage space.

Northfield Township and the communities of Glenview and Northbrook were growing steadily in the early 1920's. Businesses, schools and churches were expanding. However, Park Districts, as we know them today, had not yet been formed. Recognizing the need for recreational facilities, St. Peter Evangelical Neighborhood Church, as it was known then, constructed a "Community House" in 1925 consisting of four bowling lanes, a gymnasium, a stage and a complete kitchen. In addition, were classrooms for Sunday School, a library and an office for the pastor.

The decades of the 1930's – 1950's was growth not in terms of physical facilities, but in membership and service to the community. Men's and women's bowling leagues were formed drawing from neighboring communities along with women's and men's basketball teams. Theatrical performances were presented, orchestra and band concerts preformed, and the kitchen and gym used for serving special occasions. In the 1930's the Sunday School was reorganized into departments and grades, bus service was provided in both towns and school attendance reached 125 on Sundays with a staff of about twenty (23 named in 1955). *The church has been distinctly and seriously engaged in teaching the will of God. We put the emphasis on the teaching function because it is the secret of growth. A Christian can no more grow without the Lord than a man can grow without food.* (1930 St. Peter Church Souvenir Booklet)

It took three-and-a-half years after the 1961 fire for the congregation to rise from the ashes, so-to-speak, and dedicate a new building on Willow Road just east of Pfingsten Road. This great challenge brought the congregation together, stronger than ever with a new pastor to continue the work of the Lord, now able to serve the communities with enough space for an expanded Sunday school, a private academy, later the Northbrook Community Preschool, and a scout troop could meet and hold events. The choir now had a rehearsal room and music library and the fellowship hall provided space for bazaars, community dinners and large singing groups to rehearse (The Melodeers Women's Chorus and the New Tradition Men's Chorus). There was dedicated space for the quilters, a meeting space for the youth fellowship, a ball field for inter-church youth league softball, a community garden (21 plots available to any interested gardener) and in 2009 an outdoor labyrinth open to the public.

What's Happening

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to

The family of **RG Heydt**. RG passed away on June 18th. Please keep his family in your prayers.

The family of **June Dettman**. June passed away on June 14th. Please keep her family in your prayers.

We celebrate the birth of **Caleb James Elmore**. Caleb was born on June 22nd to Tim & Jennifer Elmore, his grandmother is Margo Elmore.

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, 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.

Mission Connections

We're on a Mission from God.



St. Peter Scholarship Program at Northfield Community Church

The St. Peter Legacy Fund will be providing scholarship money for all NCC students enrolling in or currently attending a college or university. Applications, guidelines and additional information is available at the NCC office. Please contact Lea Jones. Please direct questions to Barbara Balch at 847-398-3816 or BrbBalch@aol.com. Applications and associated documentation must be submitted no later than July 10, 2020 to be considered for the Fall semester.

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.

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 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 July/August 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!



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

July/ August Events

July 21th Board of Trustees
July 26th Teen Night Zoom
Aug 13th Mission Board
Aug 18th Board of Trustees
Aug 24th Church Council
Aug 30th Teen Night Zoom

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


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

July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Please check the NCC Website for the most current calendar information: www.NorthfieldUCC.org</p>	<p>Virtual Event Key F – Facebook live W – Link on the website: www.northfielducc.org Z – Zoom meeting, ask staff for an invitation</p>		1	2 2:00 pm A Just Harvest	3 Office Closed	4  INDEPENDENCE <i>Day</i>
5 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)	6	7 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z)	8	9	10	11 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
12 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)	13	14 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z)	15	16	17	18 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
19 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)	20	21 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z) 7:00 pm Board of Trustees (Z)	22	23	24	25 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
26 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)	27	28 10:00 am Women's Bible Study(Z)	29	30	31	



Northfield Community Church

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please check the NCC website for the most current Calendar information: www.NorthfieldUCC.org						1 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
2 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)	3	4 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (Z)	5	6	7 4:00 PM A Just Harvest	8 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
9 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)	10	11 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (Z)	12	13 7:00 PM Mission Board (Z)	14	15 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
16 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)	17 Window Deadline	18 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (Z) 7:00 PM Board of Trustees (Z)	19	20	21	22 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
23 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)	24 7:00 PM Church Council (Z)	25 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (Z)	26	27	28	29 9:00 am. Relevant Bible Study(Z)
30 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)	31	Virtual Event Key F – Facebook live W – Link on the website: www.northfielducc.org Z – Zoom meeting, ask staff for an invitation				

