



November 18, 2012

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

10:45 a.m.

Please enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship in silence.

Time with Children

*Hymn 641

“Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty

PLEADING SAVIOR

(Children through fifth grade are dismissed for classes).

Proclamation

Welcoming the Stranger

Priscilla Pope-Levison

RESPONSE

Choral Anthem

“Sing Out Your Joy to God” from Joshua

Handel/Hopson

Prayers of the Church

The Lord’s Prayer (sins)

An Invitation to Give

* Hymn 657

“Thanks to God for My Redeemer”

TACK O GUD

*Giving of Tithes, Offerings, Prayers and Pledges for the Year to Come

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

*Choral Response

GOING FORTH

*Charge

*Sung Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you,

the Lord make his face to shine upon you

and be gracious, gracious, gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,

and give you, give you, give you peace.

*Tolling

*Postlude

Following the Postlude and during the coffee hour, a Stephen Minister will be available near the stained glass windows for anyone interested in individual prayer.

**Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome! We pray that you will experience anew the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ as we worship together.

Today it is our joy to welcome as our teacher and preacher Dr. Jack Levison and Rev. Priscilla Pope-Levison. Both served formerly as professors at North Park University, and presently they teach together at Seattle Pacific University. Jack is professor of New Testament and has recently authored the book *“Fresh Air: The Holy Spirit for an Inspired Life.”* Priscilla is professor of Theology and Assistant Director of Women’s Studies; her most recent book is *“Turn the Pulpit Loose: Two Centuries of American Women Evangelists.”* They live together in Shoreline, Washington, with their two teenage children Chloe and Jeremy. Welcome!

Our thanks to Gladys Johnson and Elizabeth Johnson, sanctuary greeters, Mer Crow, Ted Garrison, Hal Jenkins, Dwight Samuelson, Sue Samuelson, ushers; Val Hausman, Scripture Reader; Tom and Jeanette Zobus and Bernie and Joyce Shelton, coffee hosts; Nancy Magill (piano); and the Handbell Choir, directed by Linda Johnson.

WINNETKA COVENANT CHURCH

November 18, 2012

TODAY IN OUR CHURCH—STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

If you are visiting today, welcome! Please join us in the narthex immediately following the worship service for coffee and conversation. All are welcome.

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship and Holy Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. For adults, 1) *The Story* in Room 203 and 2) *Sharing Our Faith Stories* in the Upper Room. Speaker: Jack Levison, *“The Holy Spirit for the Long Haul”*. His book, *“Fresh Air: the Holy Spirit for an Inspired Life”*, will be available to purchase.
- 10:45 a.m. Worship—Rev. Priscilla Pope Levison will be preaching
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation
- 6:00 p.m. Spritz Cookie Baking (see Notices)
- 5:20 p.m. High League - North Side Youth Collision: Eight local Covenant churches connecting for a night of service.

MONDAY—NOVEMBER 19

3:30 p.m. Junior High Merge

TUESDAY—NOVEMBER 20

Women's Bible Study will NOT be meeting this week.

9:45 a.m. Playgroup will meet at church. Contact: Kira Johnson

10:00 a.m. Staff meeting

2:15 p.m. Covenant Village Fellowship

7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

7:00 p.m. **Winnetka Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Service** at Winnetka Presbyterian Church (Willow & Hibbard). Let us express, in all the fullness of our community, gratitude for life, unity, and harvest together, in a blended offering of Jewish, ecumenical Christian, Muslim, and Bahai voices, scriptures, prayers, and music! The service will also include a reflection by Jill Brickman, Northfield Township Supervisor. Bring canned goods to the service, and the collected food will be donated to the Northfield Food Pantry. Child care will be provided during the service. For more information, contact Rev. Kathy Dale McNair at kdmcnair@comcast.net.

WEDNESDAY—NOVEMBER 21

There are no regular Wednesday Night activities

THURSDAY—NOVEMBER 22

Thanksgiving Day. The church office will be closed

8:00 a.m. Turkey Bowl, a tradition of flag football for all ages. Come at 8 a.m. for team selection and warm-up; games begin at 8:30. Location: Avoca Park, located behind Marie Murphy School. All are welcome.

FRIDAY—NOVEMBER 23

The church office will be closed.

SATURDAY—NOVEMBER 24

8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship

2:00 p.m. Volleyball in fellowship hall with the Chinese students. All are welcome. Contact: Pauline Wang.

SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 25

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship and Holy Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. For Senior High, a book group will meet in Pastor Christy's office. For adults, 1) *The Story* in Room 203 and 2) *"Sharing Our Faith Stories"* in the Upper Room.
- 10:45 a.m. Worship
- 7:00 p.m. High League

ADVANCE CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 28, 5:30-8:00 p.m. **Advent Activities for All Ages.** Join us for a special Wednesday night for all ages focused on starting the Advent season. We'll have dinner together, have a brief time of singing and sharing about Advent, and make Advent/Christmas crafts to take home. Some crafts will be free, others may be made for a small fee to cover the cost of supplies. Join us for this special night! Sign up at church or online beginning next week.

Thursday, November 29, 12 noon. **Quilters and Women's Sharing Group Christmas luncheon** at Graziano's, 5960 W. Touhy, Niles. Reservations are \$20.50. See Esther Johnson on or before Sunday, November 25. All women are welcome to join us for an Italian feast! This gathering will take the place of the regular November and December meetings.

Saturday, December 1, 9:00 a.m. **Lucia Breakfast, Program and Boutique.**

- ◆ **Breakfast:** Reservations currently are full. For questions or to be put on a waiting list, contact Kathy Messina, 847 724 4828. Tickets are \$15/adults and \$7.50/children.
- ◆ **Program:** Children through high school and some adults participate in the story of Santa Lucia (celebrated in Sweden as the beginning of the Advent season). All are welcome (men and women) to attend the program, which immediately follows the breakfast, and it is free.
- ◆ **Boutique:** Deli items, baked goods, and other unique items sold by friends in our church available to purchase following the Program. If you would like to have a table to sell items, contact Jane Rivi.
- ◆ There is **opportunity to bake** for the breakfast and for the sale. Tonight at 6 p.m. we will bake Spritz cookies in the church kitchen. Recipes are available in the narthex; bring your prepared dough and/or yourself. You may also bake at home and bring the labeled cookies to church by Thursday, November 29. Clean cookie tins are available in the church kitchen for your use. Questions, contact Robin Magnusson. Also, if you would like to bake something and donate it to our baked goods sale, please drop it off at church by Thursday, November 29. Your help is much appreciated!

- ◆ **High School Girls:** Rehearsals for the Lucia Program will be held on Sundays in the choir room immediately following the 10:45 service. Questions, contact Kris Heintzelman.
- ◆ **Lucia Raffle Donations needed.** We need items for the Lucia Breakfast raffle, which can raise substantial money for Winnetka Covenant Women and is a fun element of the Lucia Breakfast. Suggested donations: gift cards, housewares, toys, stationery, jewelry, sweets, etc. Please contact Julie Bender if you have an item to donate, or if you have any questions). Please note all donations are needed by November 25.
- ◆ We are looking for 6 people to **help set the tables on Friday, November 30, 9-11 a.m.** for the Lucia Breakfast. If you are able to give of your time in this way please contact Jennifer Anderson.

Sunday, December 2, 11:45 a.m. Brief Congregational meeting to vote on new members.

Saturday, December 8, 8:30-noon. ***Advent Unplugged: Preparing for the Holidays in a New Way***, an Advent Mini-Retreat in the Upper Room, facilitated by Doug Wysocky-Johnson, Executive Director of Lumunos. All are welcome. Cost: \$15. Complimentary childcare provided—please sign up if needed. Register on the church website (www.winnetkacovenant.org) or call the church office.

Sunday, December 9, 5:00 p.m. **Children's Sunday School program.** Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.. Contact Dawn Pegis with questions.

Sunday, December 16, 5:00 p.m. **Choir Christmas Concert**

NOTICES

Larger print copies of the morning hymns are available on the table in the back of the church near the sound booth. Children's bulletins are also available in the narthex. Please help yourself as needed.

Updated church directories are available to pick up in the narthex after the worship service.

The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. In case of emergency, contact Pastor Nelson.

The **handbell choir** has immediate openings for full time and part time ringers. We rehearse Wednesday evenings at 6:00 in the choir room. Please consider joining us!

Kids' Rotation Sunday School, through-December 16 - The Covenant: Messengers of the New Covenant. In November and December, Sunday school will be slightly different than our usual rotations because the kids will be practicing for the Children's Christmas program. They will practice from 9:30-10:10 a.m. in the choir room. Then age 4 through grade 5 will be combined for 20 minutes of class time in room 204 (10:10-10:30) for this special workshop, following their Christmas program practice. In the workshop, kids will hear the Christmas story, ponder the future life of Jesus Christ, hear the song, "Mary, Did You Know?" and create a slide show for each of the scenes in the song.

The Story: A journey together into the story of God's love, continues Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m., and Sundays, 9:30 a.m. *The Story* is scripture condensed into 31 accessible chapters, allowing the stories, poems and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. Materials will be provided. All are welcome.

On Sunday, October 28, before the Harvest Dinner, we had an informal Q&A session via telephone with **Christine Buettgen**, who is serving as a Covenant Missionary in the Democratic Republic of Congo. If you are interested, there are printed copies of the questions and answers in the narthex by the Missions Display. To keep up with Christine and her work in DRC, please visit her blog: www.christinemerle.blogspot.com.

"When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand." *Henri Nouwen*

Stephen Ministry of Winnetka Covenant Church.

Please contact one of our pastors or a Stephen Ministry leader if you would like more information.

Texts for next week: 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those in need

Sue Abram

Charlotte and Owen Anderson (sister and brother-in-law of John Couleur)

Elsie Anderson

Family of Roman Bussetti (nephew of Kitti Steiner)

Richard Carlson (nephew of Jean Larsen)

Kristen Dahl (daughter of Eleanor and Peter Milbratz)

Ray Dahlberg (brother of Marj Hanson)

Carolyn Donnan (sister of Carl Balsam)

Marilyn Drotts

JoAnna Haak (daughter of Cleo Constantin)

Connie Jackson (sister of Marti Crow)

Frank Kassen

Marlene Larson (friend of Mary Nilsen)

David Lopata (friend of Dave and Maria Moreno)

Bruce Peterson (brother of Barb Blackburn)

Dwight Peterson (brother of Bonnie Hawkinson and Kurt Peterson)

Jonathan Schwartz (brother of Mike Schwartz)

Wendy Woehler (niece of Lee Borre)

Kathleen Hanson Zavatsky (sister of Cindy Buettgen, John Hanson and Pamela Hanson)

Stephen Ministers and those for whom they care

Our nation and leaders

Those actively serving in the military or in Afghanistan:

Chris Haak (grandson of Cleo Constantin)

Ryan Hengell (nephew of Phil and Barbara Kazanjian)

Chris Hillman (friend of Bill & Sue Kelly)

Bill Kelly

Roger Vanoer

Those we support who are serving on the mission field:

Kara Bladel (Alaska)

Christine Buettgen (Democratic Republic of Congo)

Don and Lillian Dwight (Taiwan)

Brittany Girle (Juarez, Mexico)

Pamela Hanson (Honduras, on home assignment)

Julio and Katie Isaza (Colombia)

Peter and Anna Kim (China)

Jamie and Erica Rose (Alaska)

Gary and Mary Lou Sander (Colombia)

James and Rachel Ventress (Alaska)

WINNETKA COVENANT CHURCH

1200 Hibbard Road, Wilmette, Illinois 60091

Church Office: (847) 446-4300 Message Line: (847) 501-4158

www.winnetkacovenant.org

Ministers to the Congregation

Peter Hawkinson, Pastor

Andrea Johnson, Pastor of Discipleship and Outreach

Christy Bouris, Youth Pastor

Arthur A.R. Nelson, Parish Associate

Dawn Pegis, Director of Music

Dominic German, Music Intern

Joshua Smith, Organist

The Stephen Ministers

Our mission is to be a Christian community and to proclaim the gospel, worshiping together in love, nurturing people in the faith, serving others as Christian disciples, and building a world of justice and hope in the name of Christ.

At Winnetka Covenant Church:

We hold grace as our highest value.

We practice honest, open, direct communication.

We speak the truth in love and listen in love.

We believe the best about each other, valuing others above ourselves, as Christ does.

We allow room for mistakes, acknowledging that mistakes are part of the growth process.