



# The Network

**Winnetka Covenant Church**

1200 Hibbard Rd • Wilmette IL 60091 • 847.446.4300

July/August, 2013

July 28,  
August 25,  
Beach Service,  
8 a.m.

July 21,  
August 11,  
Bike to Church

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## Seniors Trip Reflections

Winnetka Covenant Church has a history of inviting graduating seniors to participate in an annual “Seniors Trip.” Destinations have varied over the years, and this spring the students made the trek to Wisconsin for a camping and biking weekend along the Elroy-Sparta bike trail. This 32-mile trail was formerly the mainline of the Chicago and North Western Railway. Other high schoolers can look forward to this future opportunity during an important time of transition. We enjoyed time away on this “rail to trail” adventure and Ben Reeber offers a reflection on his experience.

Earlier this month a group of four graduating high school seniors, led by Pastor Christy and John Lindahl, went on the annual seniors’ trip. Our weekend in Wisconsin started with a challenge. We were selected to participate in Sparta’s annual Butterfest Milking contest. In the heart of Wisconsin’s dairyland, this is no trivial competition. Cows are simply a way of life in Wisconsin. Just as cornfields dominate the horizon in central Illinois, one cannot traverse Wisconsin without seeing a smattering of cows in each green pasture along the rolling hills. Our team of four, named the Church of Winnetka (C.O.W.) Milk Brigade, combined to have the milking experience that a dairy farmer might accumulate before eating his breakfast. But unfazed by inexperience, we proudly milked against the pros, gathering a surprising team total of .7 pounds of milk in four minutes. Way to go team!



Leaving Butterfest with no butter to be accounted for, we got bikes and set out on the trail. At first, biking seemed like a struggle, tiring us out at a rate which exceeded our expectations for our own physical endurance. After a long ten miles, we came across a mystical scene of fog and shadows, and a giant wood and stone doorframe that seemed to appear out of the Lord of the Rings.

Standing at the entrance to the first of 3 railroad tunnels carved out of the Wisconsin rock, we disappeared into the darkness of the tunnel for a lengthy three quarters of a mile. On the other side of the tunnel we discovered that our first leg of the journey had been so tough because we had been going slightly uphill, and we coasted the final miles of our first day into Norwalk.



After setting up camp in Norwalk, we delved into Parker Palmer’s book, *Let Your Life Speak*. Practically in the middle of nowhere, we were free from the distractions that surround our lives at home. From the pulling of school, work, friends, and the media, time spent at home is rarely spent in isolation from influences relentlessly tugging at our lives. Away from the usual stresses that are around at home, we were able to reflect on Parker Palmer’s (or Parky as he came to be called) words about how outside pressures can distort our idea of God’s vision for our lives, and how we mistakenly value the worth of our lives on what we want to be, rather than who we are. With the words of Parky and plenty of hot dogs, we survived downpours of rain on our final night before hitting the trail and heading back to Winnetka.  
*Ben Reeber, Class of 2013*

# WCC Playground and Greenspace

## More than just a swing set!



**Be a part of creating this beautiful new asset to our church and help us accomplish our goal: The total cost of the project is \$70,000**

This includes up-to-date playground equipment, large lawn area, picnic tables, shed, playhouse, bike path, and many other landscaping features to enhance the space.

We are currently accepting donations and pledges, to be fulfilled over 3 years. Thanks to previous fundraising efforts, generous gifts, and pledges from many individuals and families, we are already halfway there!

### **Groups who would benefit from the new Playground and Greenspace**

Rotation Sunday School  
 2's & 3's Sunday School  
 Vacation Bible School/Summer Night Live  
 Preschool  
 Creative Kids Corner (Cooking Classes and Summer Camp)  
 Wednesday Night Activities  
 Playgroup  
 "Screen Break" Activities  
 Family Promise  
 Confirmation  
 General use by all ages after church, during meetings and special events.

### **Current status of the project**

Start watching the space for exciting new changes over the next couple of months. Phase One is underway with the creation of construction drawings for the riding path and then we can begin receiving bids for the completion of that portion of the project. With continued fundraising and the support of the congregation and church leadership, we are hoping to have the project fully completed before the winter!

### **Committee members:**

Greta Bailey, Jeanne Couleur, Kira Johnson, Linnea Johnson, Linda Kusel, and Jane Westerfield

## Music Notes

Just back from the Cantabile choral workshop in beautiful Alexandria, MN. Don't know how they always manage to have perfect weather when I go there! The music and fellowship were so inspirational. Thankfully, I can't get the tunes out of my head! You'll get to hear some this Fall. :)



Meanwhile, music for summer Sundays still has many openings for all you musical folks ...

Also, while you're enjoying all your varied summertime activities, be thinking about what you might do for a church Talent Night in October. Sky's the limit for all ages and kinds of acts.

*Keep a song in your heart,  
Dawn*

## Summer Opportunities at WCC

### Beach services at Gillson Park

For a special summer experience, join us at the beach at Gillson Park, Wilmette, for early morning (8:00 a.m.) beach services on Sundays, July 28, and August 25.

The service in August will include an opportunity for baptism in the lake. Please talk to one of the pastors if you are interested.

### Bike to Church Days

**July 21 and August 11**

Once a month this summer, you are invited to bike to church, and then stick around after the worship service for a biking excursion. Each Sunday afternoon we'll have a destination, which will include a lunch stop. The destination will take into consideration the skill levels of those present and there will also be opportunities to extend the ride for those avid cyclists among us. Embrace "dressing down" on these mornings and spend some time outside together! This is open to many skill levels - jr. high and high school students, biking enthusiasts and experts!

Contact Pastor Christy with any questions.

### Winnetka Covenant Softball Season is here!

Winnetka Covenant softball team is looking for players and fans. WCC participates in the Chicago Northside Covenant Church softball league and our season has begun. All of the games are played at Winnemac Park in Chicago, just behind Amundsen High School, at Foster and Damen Avenues. There is plenty of off-street parking in the school parking lot. Games are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The teams are coed, so we welcome both male and female players. If you are interested in playing, please contact Jonathan Fogel. It's not too late to join the team.

Not interested in playing? We can always use fans to come and cheer on the team!

Tuesday, June 25: versus Christ for Life

Thursday, June 27: versus Ravenswood Covenant Damens

Thursday, July 11: versus Edgebrook Covenant

Tuesday, July 16: versus Iglesia del Pacto Evangelico Belen

Thursday, July 18: versus Edgebrook Covenant

Tuesday, July 23: versus Immunity

Tuesday, July 30: versus Christ for Life

## The Winnetka Covenant Church Financial Summary through May, 2013:

As of the end of May 2013, we are still below targeted giving and less than the same time last year (May 2012). With summer here, please remember to continue your generous giving through the summer months. You may be on vacation, but our mission continues.

### » YTD Financials

- General Fund Giving and Receipts through May 2013 - \$414,658
  - § Receipts to date are 13% below planned budget.
- Expenses are slightly less than with the 2013 planned budget.
- Operating funds and cash are still relatively healthy.

### Comparisons to Prior Year and Budget:

	2013 Actual	2012 Actual	%	2013 Budget	%
General Fund Receipts	\$ 336,310	\$ 353,800	95%	\$381,010	88%
Expenses	\$ 383,416	\$ 359,772	107%	\$390,973	98%
Net Operating Income / (Loss)	(\$ 47,106)	(\$5,972)			

	<u>5/31/2013</u>
General Fund Cash	\$(62,919)
Building Fund	3,050
Exchange Fund	108,388
Depreciation Set Aside	40,870
Memorial Fund	103,604
Petty Cash	<u>125</u>
Total	\$193,117

### » Capital Projects

- o WCC sign committee is completing the final design and project cost estimates.
- o The amended WCC-Hawkinson shared equity agreement amendment change was signed. The payment to fulfill this agreement was made to the Hawkinsons.
- o WCC playground committee is moving forward with phase 1 (final drawings, costs, and permits).

### » WCC 2012 Disbursements Review - Thank you Ted Garrison!

- o Ted Garrison has completed the review of 2012 disbursements. Again, many thanks to Ted for his diligent and detailed assesment of our WCC financial transactions (checks and bank withdrawals). We are happy to communicate the once again, Ted has deemed everything appropriate. With a special note to both Scott Hall and Nancy Sharp for the very "wonderful, professional" jobs they did "handling a staggering amount of detail with great accuracy!"
- o We thank Ted for this invaluable service to WCC. His talents and expertise are a treasure to our church.

The WCC Board of Trustees monthly financial reports and meeting minutes can be provided by the church office. Please contact Roger Schmitt, WCC Treasurer or Kelly Quackenbush, Financial Secretary with any questions.

# Mission News

## Summer Mission Trip

Please pray for our Summer 2013 Mission Team as they travel, from July 13-20, to Jonesville, Virginia to the Covenant Mountain Mission Bible Camp. While there they will complete work projects to enhance the camp's facilities.

The team consists of:

Christy Bouris  
Ruth Johnson  
Kitti Steiner

Lowell Drotts  
Tom Johnson  
Joan Wallgren

Andrea Johnson  
Andy Meyer  
John Wallgren

Dave Johnson  
Phyllis Morris

## Local Missions

### A Just Harvest: 30th Anniversary Community Celebration

Save the date for:

A Just Harvest's 30th Anniversary Community Celebration  
Saturday, July 20 from 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Willye B. White Field House and Park  
1610 W. Howard St., Chicago

Stop by for food, music, family-friendly games, and activities for adults and children of every age to celebrate the work we've done to alleviate hunger with you and the community we serve. Plan to attend regardless of the weather - there will be indoor and outdoor activities. This celebration is free, so bring a friend! This will be our meal service for the day, so it's a great change for you to share a meal and talk with some of our patrons outside of the busy meal service.

#### Do you have communications experience that you'd like to share with A Just Harvest?

We're seeking graphic designers, marketing and communication specialists, photographers, videographers, social media experts, writers, and website designers to join our new Communications Advisory Group. The group's purpose is to help A Just Harvest expand its capacity to effectively and compellingly communicate with our stakeholders by assisting in the planning of communications strategies, by contributing professional talents, and by raising money to support the organization's work. Contact Kristi Stanford, Director of Communications, at [Kristy@ajustharvest.org](mailto:Kristy@ajustharvest.org) for more information.

## Chicago Food Depository

**July 13** is our next opportunity to serve at the Chicago Food Depository. Meet at church at 1:30 to travel together to the Food Depository. The work we do there will benefit the North Park Friendship Center Food Pantry. This is open to anyone age 13 and older. Closed-toe shoes and long pants are required. You may sign up next to the kitchen or through the website.

## Local Social Services

Each month we are highlighting congregation members who work for local social service organizations or programs that are connected to our congregation. Please keep these people in mind as you go about your daily lives and possibly meet people who might need these services. If you work for such an organization and would like to be featured, please contact [wccjoanwallgren@gmail.com](mailto:wccjoanwallgren@gmail.com).

**Eric Fenton, relative of Deb Peterson**, is involved with a ministry called ADVANCE, a program from Ignite Progress providing North Shore students with the opportunity to combine ACT test prep with character and leadership development. As part of its mission to prepare high school students for ACT testing, Ignite Progress is also committed to restoring under-resourced communities through access to affordable academic resources. Students who participate will first do their own ACT preparation and then will train to become a student academic coach (SAC), to tutor students who would otherwise not be able to afford extra test preparation. Details about the program are posted on the bulletin board across from the church office or you can visit [info@igniteprogress.com](mailto:info@igniteprogress.com).

### WCC Community Kitchen Preparation Days

Wednesday, July 3 - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 18 - 1:30 p.m.

Thursdays, August 1 & 15 - 1:30 p.m.

WCC Community Kitchen Serving Days

Thursdays, July 18 & August 15 - 4:15 p.m.

## Women's Ministries Notes

Following are ongoing groups for the women of the church. They all welcome new participants at any time.

### *Quilters, Knitters, etc. -*

Meet on the **second Thursday of each month** for fellowship and service. Watch the weekly bulletins for details and location of the meeting.

### *Sharing Group -*

We cordially invite all WCC women to join us on the **fourth Thursday of each month at 12:00 noon** for lunch and fellowship. We will meet on **July 25th and August 22nd** at Baker's Square. You'll enjoy the fellowship! Call Marian Eckhardt with questions.

### *Stitch and Study -*

Stitch and Study, combining Bible Study, prayer, conversation, and craft/needlework projects, is now meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at the home of Marilyn Nelson at 7 p.m. We are using the texts for the coming Sunday as a resource for the study. New participants are always welcome to come for the study and conversation, with or without a project. Our meetings for the remainder of the summer will be on

**July 16th and August 20th.**

### *Tuesday & Thursday Bible Studies -*

The Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon Bible Studies have concluded for the summer. They will both resume following Labor Day.

## Youth News & Dates

### Jr. High July and August:

1. **A Just Harvest** - July 18th and August 15th. Meet at WCC at 4:15. Return by 7:30pm. Sign ups on the bulletin board.
2. **Bike to Church Days** - Sunday, July 21st and August 11th. Bike to church, and then we'll have an excursion after worship - bring some money for lunch!
3. **A Summer Day in Chicago** - We'll head into the city for some Chicago hot dogs and a game of Chicago-style softball! Bring money for lunch, and a glove and a friend! Departure after worship. Pick up back at church TBA.
4. **Six Flags** - Thursday, August 8th. RSVP to Christy by July 30th! Students should bring \$ for admission and food. More information to come.

### Sr. High July and August:

1. **A Just Harvest** - July 18th and August 15th. Meet at WCC at 4:15. Return by 7:30pm. Sign ups on the bulletin board.
2. **Bike to Church Days** - Sunday, July 21st and August 11th. Bike to church, and then we'll have an excursion after worship - bring some money for lunch!
3. **Breakfast at The Pancake House** - Tuesday, July 30th. Meet at the Wilmette restaurant on Green Bay Road at 9:30am! Bring money for breakfast.
4. **Six Flags** - Thursday, August 8th. RSVP to Christy by July 30th! Students should bring \$ for admission and food. More information to come.
5. **Beach Day with North Side Youth Collision** - Monday, August 12th with NSYC. Meet at WCC at 11:30am. Pick up back at church at 3:30pm.

### Attention parents and students - Mark your calendars now:

**\*\* Jr. High Youth Group Kick-off:** Wednesday, September 4th, 6:00-7:45pm

**\*\* High League Kick-off:** Sunday, September 8th, 7-9pm

## Sankofa Journey

Sankofa (A Journey Toward Racial Righteousness) is offered periodically through the Department of Compassion, Mercy and Justice of the Evangelical Covenant Church. The next journey is scheduled for August 1-4, 2013. For more information, please go to the Covenant Church website, [www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org). On that site you can view a video of the Sankofa Journey and access registration materials. Recently, Dave and Maria Moreno went on a Sankofa Journey so ask them about their experience.

## Mailbox

Dear Winnetka Family,,

*Thank you so much. Your gift was more than I could ask for. It's hard to express the gratitude I feel in a letter. Winnetka church is home for me and my family. God bless.*

*Love, Patricia Mubirigi*

Dear Friends,

*Thank you so much for your prayers, best wishes, and offers to help after my recent wrist fracture and subsequent surgery. My rehab has now begun and I am seeing steady improvement.*

*I greatly appreciate all your thoughtfulness and kindness.*

*Thanks again, LoAnn Peterson*



*(from Pat Hanko, mother of Ciara Rose Hanko, who has been on our prayer list - friend of Tom Nelson)*

*Good morning. They have found a match for Ciara and they have agreed to be a donor. Will happen sometime the first part of August. Will require a 30-day hospital stay but we are so happy. Keep the prayers coming. Thank you so much!*

## Family News

Congratulations and best wishes to:

- **Scott and Greta Bailey**, on the birth of **Renee Joanne Bailey** on June 3. Renee was 8 lb., 20-1/2 in. long. She joins her twin sisters, Addison and Caroline at home. John and Joan Wallgren are her grandparents and Ray and Fran Wallgren are her great-grandparents.
- **Matthew and Beth Braun**, on the birth of **Elsa Grace**, also on June 3. Elsa was 9 lb., 15 oz. and 20 in. long. Malin is her big sister, Bob and Jan Braun are her grandparents and Marion Drimalla is her great-grandmother.
- **Marian Eckhardt**, on the arrival of her 5th great-grandchild. Eden Reneé was born on June 4 in San Francisco to Rob and Erika Von Harken.
- **Lindsay Macfarland** and **Kent Salsbery**, who were married June 8.
- **Tristin Handley** and **Doug Johnson**, who were married on June 15.
- **Claire Nelson**, who graduated from North Park University with a B.S. in Biology.

## WCC/Covenant Village of Northbrook Calendar

You may have noticed a stack of beautiful two-sided calendars, featuring photos of Winnetka Covenant Church. These are a gift from Covenant Village of Northbrook, which plans to do one for each of the area churches. They have been given to the church for anybody to use so please feel free to take one for yourself and for anyone else who might appreciate one.

## Electronic/E-Mail Version of the Network

If you would prefer to receive your monthly Network by e-mail, please contact [wccjoanwallgren@gmail.com](mailto:wccjoanwallgren@gmail.com) to be put on that list. The Network is also posted each month on the web site, although some personal information is removed from the website version.

## **Winnetka Covenant Church Network**

1200 Hibbard Road  
Wilmette, Illinois, 60091

847-446-4300

[www.winnetkacovenant.org](http://www.winnetkacovenant.org)

### **Our Mission**

To be a Christian community and to proclaim  
the gospel, Worshiping together in love,  
Nurturing people in faith,  
serving others as Christian disciples,  
And building a world of justice and hope  
in the name of Christ.

### **Guidelines for Loving Relationships**

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.

