



The Network

Winnetka Covenant Church

1200 Hibbard Rd • Wilmette IL 60091 • 847.446.4300

July & August, 2014

July 7, 14, 21, 28
August 4, 11, 18, 25

Summer God Sightings Group

July 9 & 23,
August 6

Summer Night Live

July 13, August 10

Bike to Church

July 27, August 24

Worship on the Beach

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Stories That Hold Us

Last November on a Thursday evening 16 of us gathered together to reflect on biblical stories, and wonder which one we might identify as our own Church story at this moment in our life and ministry. We ended up with 8 of them! Safe to say we like stories, and that we felt that a number of them best represent our life and identity as a Church. Themes contained in the stories are faith, fear, storms and struggle, openness and invitations, God’s presence, growth, and fruit. Because there were a number of stories and themes, and not just one, it was suggested that a sermon series using these stories be developed and preached in the near future. So ...

Now, through July and August, on Sunday mornings, we will be reading these *Stories That Hold Us*, reflecting on them together, and worshiping God among them. Here they are! I hope you’ll read and reflect on them this summer:

- July 6 - Luke 14:12-24
The Parable of the Great Banquet
- July 13 - Matthew 14:22-33
Jesus and Peter Walking on the Water
- July 20 - Matthew 13:31-32
Parable of the Mustard Seeds
- July 27 - John 15:1-11
The Vine and the Branches
- August 3 - Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
The Parable of the Sower
- August 10 - Psalm 46
God Our Present Help in Trouble, Be Still and Know
- August 17 - Mark 4:35-41
Jesus Stills the Storm
- August 24 - Matthew 14:13-21
The Feeding of the 5,000

Looking forward to these worship gatherings!

Peter Hawkinson

Summer at Winnetka Covenant Church

We have listed and described all of the special summer events and meetings in the brochure which is inserted into this Network.

Please take it out, read through it, and then keep it near your calendar to help you keep track of what is going on at church and participate where and whenever you can.

Music Notes

The Psalmist writes, “I praise you Lord, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”

Hope you’re enjoying some summer recreation! Last week Vacation Bible School was a wonderful multi-generational experience discovering God’s story of grace through lessons, games, art and song! Coincidentally, I received an article via Facebook: “Why Children Fidget” highlighting the need for movement to facilitate learning and proper body & brain development. It notes more and more children are having attention problems these days: “It’s rare

to find children rolling down hills, climbing trees, and spinning in circles just for fun. . .parental fears, liability,...hectic schedules...children are not moving enough and it’s starting to become a problem.” (www.balancedandbarefoot.com/blog/the-real-reason-way-children-fidget). VBS sure gave all of us a rewarding experience of movement and music—something I’ve always found a natural fit. No wonder we are admonished to “Lift up holy hands”, etc.

May God bless your summer with a healthy dose of movement—and praise!!

Dawn

The Winnetka Covenant Church financial summary through May 2014:

As of the end of May 2014, we continue to be in a good financial position! Thank you for your continued response and support to our mission. Please keep it up during the summer months. Our financial summary is highlighted below.

» YTD Financials

- o General Fund Giving and Receipts through May 2014 - \$461,172
 - Receipts to date are 5% ABOVE planned budget.
- o Expenses are 2% above 2014 planned budget (mostly due to our cold and snowy winter).
- o General Fund cash & investment totals are 130% higher than 2013. Planned capital projects are funded.

Comparisons to Prior Year and Budget:

	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	%	2014 Bud.	%
General Fund Receipts	\$ 461,172	\$ 414,958	110%	\$ 437,660	105%
Expenses	\$ 458,718	\$ 475,299	96%	\$ 449,392	102%
Net Operating Income / (Loss)	\$ 2,454	(\$ 60,341)			

	<u>5/31/2014</u>	<u>5/31/2013</u>
General Fund Cash	\$(43,529)	\$(62,619)
Building Fund*	0	3,050
Exchange Fund	93,252	108,088
Depreciation Set Aside*	0	40,870
Memorial Funds*	(34,748)	103,604
Investment Funds*	319,663	65,542
Petty Cash	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>
Total	\$334,763	\$258,660

** Some cash funds, memorials and bequests consolidated into NCP DIA investment funds in order to maximize interest income.

» Capital Projects

- o Signage by the office door installed and front sign landscaping and lighting to come.
- o WCC playground – to be complete in June
- o Strom Glenview home is for sale

Preschool News

We have some REALLY exciting news!

New Website:

Please visit our NEW website! I urge you to check out www.WCCpreschool.com to learn more about our school!

New Playground:

We're making progress! The new equipment is installed.

Fundraising:

If you shop on Amazon, you can earn money for our school. Access Amazon through Fundico and shop away. WCCP will get 3% of all sales. You can also access the link at the bottom of the WCCP Mission web page (<http://.wccpreschool.com/our-mission.html>).

Volunteer Opportunities:

Wilmette Summerfest, Saturday, July 12th

Come help us play with families while promoting WCC Preschool's awesome programs! Please contact Linnea Johnson at linneajohnson1@yahoo.com for details.

*Mary Sue Reese, Director, WCCP
wccpdirector@gmail.com*

Mailbox

Dear WCC Friends,

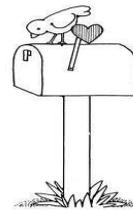
Thank you for your part in providing an opportunity for me to serve in the Congo. These last 3 years have been a whirlwind and I am so grateful for the support and encouragement I have received every step of the way. My eyes have been opened, my heart broken, my cultural understanding sharpened and friendships formed and strengthened. It wasn't easy, but it was good. I think most of us can say that about some of the most important and challenging times in our lives. You have all walked with me on the journey and your prayers carried me through whether you realized it or not. May you be blessed for your generous hearts. I will commit to praying for all of us, that God continues to transform our hearts and minds as we engage with this complex and beautiful work of sustainable community development.

Nzambe apambola bino, Merci mingi!
God bless you, many thanks!
Christine Buettgen

Dear members of Winnetka Covenant Church,

My husband and I would like to thank you for the beautiful wedding shower you gave Erin and Matthew recently. It is a great tradition that your church practices. I would also like to thank you for welcoming our son into your community and making him feel so at home. I felt like I shared the shower with women I've been friends with all my life. Thank you ever so much.

Love, Pat and Jerry Lewitke



Dear friends at WCC,

We are so grateful for the many ways you showed your love and care for Florence over the years. She not only loved her church but felt loved by you as well. Thank you for the many cards, visits, prayers, plants and amazing kindness. We greatly appreciated the ways Pastors Peter, Art and Andrea made her memorial service meaningful to us. The reception following the service was wonderful and so helpful to our family. Many blessings as you continue to care for and support your extended church family.

Love, Bill & Marti Anderson and family

Dear friends at Winnetka Covenant Church,

Thank you so very much for the cards, flowers, visits, and dinners shared with my family. You all made the process of recuperation so much better. I feel blessed to be a part of such a loving community! And many thanks too, to Pete and Andrea for their prayers & visits in the hospital.

With love & appreciation,
René

Dear Winnetka Family,

Mary Beth, James, and I wish to thank you for the generous gift to World Missions, this in memory of Cully.

We have yet to decide where it is most needed. We are humbled by this gift.

Sincerely,
Vivian, Mary Beth & James

Upcoming Events

A Just Harvest Community Kitchen

Join the fun kitchen crew in our church kitchen as they prepare the food for the Just Harvest Community Kitchen - **July 3,**

July 17, August 7 and August 21, from 1:00-3:00. On July 17 and August 21 we not only prepare the food but also send a crew to the kitchen in East Rogers Park to serve the food.

Contact Pastor Andrea if you are able to help with the serving.

Contact people for the food prep: John Anderson on July 3 and August 21; Ted Garrison on July 17 and August 7.

Camping Trip - August 1-3

Do you like to go camping? Let's spend some time together

in the woods! We have a group campsite reserved in Kettle Moraine State Forest (only an hour and a half away!) for August 1-3 and we'd love to have you join us. If you don't own a tent, we can locate one for you to borrow. If you have an interest or any questions, please contact Linnea Johnson.

You can go to the church website to sign up (www.winnetkacovenant.org).

Open to anyone and everyone! Get it on your calendar now before your summer fills up.

Bridal Shower: All ladies of the church are invited when we give bridal showers for our young adults. This is a wonderful way for our church to show our love and support as couples embark on an exciting new chapter of their lives. There will be a shower on September 4 for **Jess Carley and Jon Fogel**. Watch your bulletin for details.

**We want to extend a special invitation to our wedding ceremony on August 16th at 2 p.m.
The ceremony will be at Winnetka Covenant Church with refreshments immediately following in the narthex.
If you are able, please come and join us as we celebrate.
Andy & Christy**

Winnetka Covenant Church Network

1200 Hibbard Road
Wilmette, Illinois, 60091

847-446-4300
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.

Mission with Madison

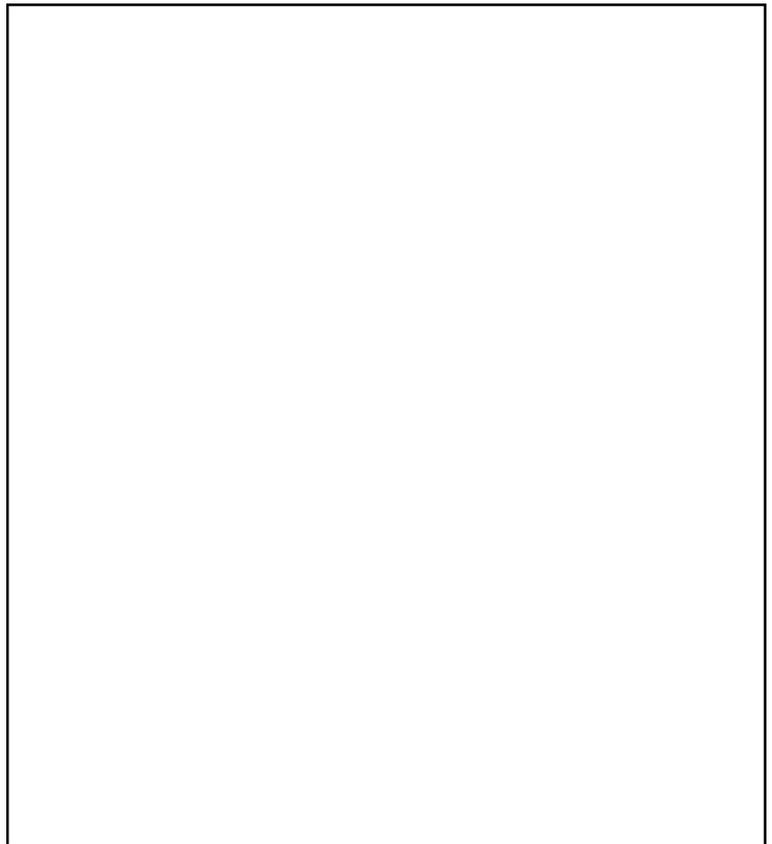
July 19-26, 2014

This summer we'll be heading to the city of Madison, Wisconsin for a week! During this week, our high schoolers will join together with the communities of Arbor Covenant Church and Fountain of Life Covenant Church to host a VBS for the children of the Madison churches along with children from the greater community. VBS will happen every evening and start with dinner together. Our mornings will be spent getting to know the city of Madison by plugging in and learning from various organizations and ministries. One morning we'll meet with Gloria from the Allied Wellness Center (Allied is a neighborhood in Madison) which is an organization that provides diverse health programs and interventions essential to residents living in the neighborhood. Another morning we'll visit the Farley Center for Peace, Justice, and Sustainability - a farm just outside the city, where we'll be sure to get our hands dirty! Together, we have already begun having conversations to prepare for this week away in

JUNIOR HIGH SUMMER EVENTS

A Just Harvest—July 17 & August 21
Bike to Church Days, July 13 & August 10
Six Flags—Wednesday, July 16
Jr. High Campfire Night. Date TBA

*For more information on these events,
please contact Pastor Christy.*



Madison and I have a hope that this would be the beginning of a longer term relationship. This mission trip holds a variety of experiences and opportunities for students - we'll be reaching out and working alongside the people of Madison, we'll get our hands dirty, and we'll have time to reflect and learn together. Conversations on race and racial reconciliation will be a central part of these conversations as we hear more about the experiences of people - including fellow Covenanters - within Madison.

Please pray for our students, Arbor Covenant Church, Fountain of Life Covenant Church, and the ministry that we'll be doing together. The students who will be participating are: **Grace Brunzell, Olivia Engling, Jimmie Hall, Sarah Hawkinson, Kari Hogle, Anni Magnusson, Haydon Peterson, Allie Rivi, Ethan Schmitt, Ellen Stenstrom, Ben Wiberg, and Samantha Yang.** **Christy Bouris and John Lindahl** will be the adults accompanying the students.

Looking forward to sharing with you upon our return!

Pastor Christy.

SENIOR HIGH SUMMER EVENTS

Summer Book Club
A Just Harvest—July 17 & August 21
Bike to Church Days—July 13 & August 10
Six Flags—Wednesday, July 16
Breakfast at The Pancake House—Tuesday, July 29
Coffee: Summer edition. June 25, July 9, August 6
Sr. High Campfire Night. Date TBA