Winnetka Covenant Church
1200 Hibbard Rd • Wilmette IL 60091 • 847.446.4300

The Network

June, 2016

June 5

All-Church Picnic

June 15

Music on the Steps

June 20-23

VBS

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Psalm 90

You turn us back to dust …
A thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past …
The days of our life are seventy years, perhaps eighty if we are strong …
From everlasting to everlasting you are God …

Time seems to pass more quickly all the time. Life's middle years carry lots of moments on lots of days when self reflection leads me to ask, "Where did the time go?" One of those moments came recently, on a sweaty Sunday evening as I watched my daughter Sarah graduate from high school, while remembering the day she was born and her toddler laugh and smile, the first time she went to camp and the day she was confirmed. Where has the time gone?

The first time I thought about the fleeting nature of human existence was at my grandfather's funeral now 32 years ago, when Psalm 90 was read, and I was having my first real experience with the death of a loved one. It's a haunting reflection holding both the fleeting nature of life and the endless nature of God Almighty. It is said to have been written by Moses.

And this is the teaching of scripture, first this great undeniable truth that all of us are on a journey toward death, and on the way the aging process that serves as a daily reminder. But second, more important, and most powerful is this, how our time is swallowed up into God's time, that our life, and death, and life after death are all gifts from God, every day moving toward an unending glorious future! Both are most certainly true. We are moving toward death, and yet through death we shall most surely live. Contemplating these realities of time, Moses prays to God: *"So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a wise heart."*

Living with faith in the One who has conquered death, and who holds all time, we can face the frailty of our human days with hope, not in denial of our mortality, but trusting in the God who resurrected Jesus. We can sing the old Swedish hymn about time and find comfort:

Help me then in every tribulation so to trust your promises, O Lord,
that I lose not faith's sweet consolation offered me within your holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting, e'er to take, as from a father's hand,
one by one, the days, the moments fleeting, till I reach the promised land.

Peter Hawkinson

Vacation Bible School

Spend a While on the Nile!

This summer we're taking a journey back to ancient Egypt … without leaving our community! Find out what happened to Joseph as he went from Pharaoh's prison to the palace.

VBS Camp 2016 for children age 3 - entering grade 4

Register in the narthex or online at www.winnetkacovenant.org

Cost: $20 for one child; $35 for two children; max $40 per family

June 20 – 23, 4:15 – 6:15, followed by supper for the family

Hosted by Winnetka Covenant Church, 1200 Hibbard Road, Wilmette, IL

Participating churches: Community Church of Wilmette, First Presbyterian Church, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, St. John's Lutheran Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, Winnetka Covenant Church

Visit the Egypt VBS Job Fair in the narthex to find out where you can volunteer.

New Summer Worship Schedule

During our upcoming summer season, we will offer two Sunday worship opportunities – 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
This schedule will begin on June 12 and continue through September 4.
Some of the 8:00 services will be held at Gillson Park Beach, with the others meeting here at church.

The summer schedule is as follows:
June 5: one service at 10:00 a.m., followed by the all-church picnic (bike to church day)
June 12: 8 a.m. service at the beach, 10 a.m. service in our sanctuary
June 19: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC
June 26: 8 a.m. service at the beach, 10 a.m. service in our sanctuary
July 3: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC
July 10: 8 a.m. service at the beach, 10 a.m. service in our sanctuary
July 17: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC (bike to church day)
July 24: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC
July 31: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC
August 7: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC (bike to church day)
August 14: 8 a.m. service at the beach, 10 a.m. service in our sanctuary
August 21: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC
August 28: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC
September 4: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services at WCC

Come and worship God this summer!

Music Notes

"I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord'"
"Sing joyfully to the Lord with your whole heart!"

Choirs wrap up another season of singing on June 5. Many thanks to ALL those who generously participated in making our musical praise possible again this year!

Music4Kids sing *Jesus and the Twelve.*

Adults Choir sings *Witness,* a lively spiritual describing well-known Biblical characters in such catchy phrases as:

"Nicodemus was a man who desired to know how a man can be born when he is old.
Christ told Nicodemus, as a friend, 'Man, you must be born again!' "

The remainder of the summer we rely on volunteers for Special music selections. Micah Bowe will play his clarinet solo June 12. Julie Bromley sings 26th.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU CAN VOLUNTEER or have visiting family who have musical gifts.

As you see below, we have the joy to host 2 summer OUTDOOR concerts. If weather permits we can enjoy picnic on the lawn Ravinia style. BRING YOUR NEIGHBORS and FRIENDS!

Picnic begins at 6:00 - concert at 7:00

June 15 - Prairie Brass Band

July 13 - Lonesome Theologians

Rejoicing in our Savior,
Dawn

PRAIRIE BRASS BAND

Music on the Steps
Wednesday, June 15, rain or shine

The Prairie Brass Band, conducted by Mary Gingrich, will be giving a concert of Hymns, Marches, and Fanfares from the front steps of the church. Bring a picnic supper and blankets or chairs for a Ravinia-style event. **Picnic begins at 6:00, music will begin at 7:00**. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring friends and relatives and children are most welcome.

All-Church Picnic
Sunday, June 5, following the 10:00 worship service

All are invited to stay after worship on June 5 for our annual all-church picnic.
Picnic will be on the lawns of the church.
Food is provided, bring blankets/chairs to sit on.
Fun this year will include a bounce castle!!

Trustee Notes

The Winnetka Covenant Church financial summary through April 2016:
As of April 30, our financial summer is highlighted below.

- YTD Financials
  - General Fund Giving through April 30 - $324,565 (3% higher than 2015)
  - Total receipts to date are 1% over planned budget; Expenses are 3% below 2016 planned budget; Operating funds and cash are as planned.

  Comparisons to Prior Year and Budget:

	2016 Actual	2015 Actual	%	2016 Budget	%
General Fund Receipts	$351,652	$343,744	102%	$348,334	101%
Expenses	$357,822	$353,944	99%	$363,228	97%
Net Operating Income/(Loss)	($6,170)	($10,200)			

	04/30/2016	04/30/2015
Cash		
General Fund	$(55,634)	$(76,624)
Exchange Accounts	86,507	99,389
Petty Cash	125	125
Memorial/Bequest Funds*	6,316	38,416
	$37,315	$61,305
*Investments		
Memorial/Bequest Funds	$ 134,478	$93,065
Johnson/Gustafson Memorial	44,965	50,952
Sabbatical Grant (’15 AMJ)	0	22,470
General Fund	521	513
Total	$179,964	$167,001

- Capital Projects
  - The door security system is installed, contact the church office for instructions to use
  - Church roof leakage repair and tuck pointing project in final stages
  - The Trustees are moving forward with the $250K NCP LOC for projects approved at the annual meeting

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

Covenant Companion Named Best Denominational Magazine

The *Covenant Companion* was recently named the best denominational magazine at the annual Evangelical Press Association convention. The *Companion* also won second place for publication redesign, among other awards. In total, the magazine won ten awards.

Our church participates in the every-member plan, where we provide subscriptions for each of our church member families. If you are able to reimburse the church for the cost of your subscription ($18.00) it is appreciated. If you are able to give a little extra to help pay for a subscription for someone else, that is also appreciated. You can pay online through the website (www.winnetkacovenant.org) or place a check in the Sunday offering, with “Companion” marked in the memo line.

Boards and committees will have a revised schedule for the summer. Schedule is:
June 7 – normal meeting as scheduled
July – no meeting
August – meet on the 23rd
September – no meeting
October 4 – return to normal schedule

Mission Opportunities

A Just Harvest – June 2nd and 16th, at 1:00, cooking in our kitchen. New participants are always welcome to join the cooking crew. On the 16th we are also asked to send a crew to the Kitchen to serve the food. They will meet at church to depart at 4:30 and return about 7:00. Contact Pastor Andrea to sign up or with questions.

Greater Chicago Food Depository – Volunteer to help repackage food at the Greater Chicago Food Depository on the 3rd Saturday of each month, 9:00-11:45 a.m. Our next volunteer day is **Saturday, June 18th. Volunteers must register and sign up online ahead of time (http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/).** Contact Pastor Andrea with questions or for help with signing up.

Sankofa Journey – July 14-17, 2016. The Sankofa Journey is an intentional, cross-racial prayer journey that seeks to assist disciples of Christ on their move toward a righteous response to the social ills related to racism. This interactive experience explores historic sites of importance in the Civil Rights movement and sites of oppression and inequality for people of color, while seeking to move participants toward healing the wounds and racial divide caused by hundreds of years of racial injustice in the United States. This trip is sponsored by the Love Mercy Do Justice department of the Evangelical Covenant Church. Contact Lmdj@covchurch.org for more information.

Fun Summer Opportunities at WCC

Summer Book Group Fellowship

Join in the fellowship and discussion of the book ***"Keeping The Sabbath Wholly"* by Marva Dawn.** A great read! Themes are Ceasing, Resting, Embracing, and Feasting. How can we embrace Sabbath Rest in the midst of active and busy life? Gathering for Thursday evening conversation at the Hawkinson Home on the following dates:

June 9, 7 p.m. – Ceasing (pp. 1-50)
July 7, 7 p.m. – Resting (pp. 51-98)
July 21, 7 p.m. – Embracing (pp. 99-148)
August 25, 7 p.m. – Feasting (pp. 149-211)

Books are available, free of charge. See Pastor Hawkinson. Join one or all of the gatherings. Come when you are able!

Summer Walking is Back!

Wednesday evenings at 6:30, beginning June 8 and running through August 17! We gather at the park bench outside the east wing of the Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Avenue in Glenview. We will walk through and around Gallery Park. All are welcome! Look for Kitti Steiner or Peter Hawkinson. We will not walk on June 15, so that all can come to church and enjoy the Music on the Steps.

Bike to Church

Bike to Church days are June 5 (church picnic day), July 17 and August 7.

Once a month this summer you are invited to bike to church! Then stick around after the worship service to bike together to a close location for brunch/lunch (stick around on June 5th for the church picnic!). Those who attend the 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. worship can gather together after the service to coordinate a ride to share a meal. There will be opportunity to extend the ride beyond a meal for those who are interested. 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! Invite a friend or two or three.

Contact Pastor Christy with any questions.

Co-ed 16-inch Softball

We are looking for men and women (age 13 and up) to play in the Covenant Church Softball League from June through the beginning of August. The league is made up of area Covenant Churches, along with North Park Seminary and others. The games are played at Peterson Park (Peterson and Central Park) in Chicago on Sunday and Monday evenings. Usually we will have one game per week, but some weeks we play both evenings. Some players from past years are unable to play this year so we are looking for new players to join us. You do not have to commit to every game or be a great player, just come when you can. We need people! It is a time of fun and fellowship, with most games followed by pizza!

Please contact Steve Fogel, Kurt Zitzner, or the church office if you are interested.

Watch your summer bulletins for dates when volleyball will happen.

Women's Ministries

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

Moms Together – This group, led by Judi Geake, is a chance for mothers of young children to explore together the parenting journey. Child care is provided. The **June meeting will be on the 3rd,** from 9:30-11:00 a.m. They will not meet in July and August.

Quilters, Knitters, etc. – Meet on the second Thursday of each month for fellowship and service. Watch the weekly bulletins for 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 **June 23rd** at Baker's Square. You'll enjoy the fellowship! Call Marian Eckhardt with questions.

Stitch and Study - Stitch and Study, combining prayer, conversation, and craft/ needlework projects, meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the home of Marilynn Nelson. New participants are always welcome to come with or without a project. **June meeting is on the 21st.**

Tuesday morning Bible Study – Make your plans for the future to join us in September when we begin a study in the fascinating book of Revelation. Questions: Contact Joann Larson (joannlarson@comcast.net)

Bridal Shower –

A bridal shower is planned for Saturday, August 27, for Courtney Cameron and Rob Thomas. Rob is the son of Chris and Laurel Thomas, grandson of Carolyn Carlson. All women of the church are invited to join us as we show our love and support to this couple taking this important step. If you are interested in being a hostess for the shower, please contact the church office.

Youth Opportunities

Friday, June 10th. 6-10pm Serving with Feed My Starving Children - for youth and parents! We've loved volunteering with them this year! And this time - PARENTS are invited, too! This is a family night opportunity for Jr. and Sr. High students serving alongside their parents. If you have interest in signing a younger sibling up, reach out to me to see about age requirements, etc--they can accommodate younger kids, too. We'll gather at church beforehand for dinner and fellowship together and then head to FMSC by 8:15pm. Register with Pastor Christy by Tuesday, June 7. Space is limited.

Connect with great all-church events! There are so many great things happening this summer for all ages!
Sign up to help with VBS! June 20-23
Bike to Church, June 5, July 17, August 7
Join the Church softball team!
Come to Beach Worship at Gilson!
Bring a picnic dinner and enjoy our own version of Ravinia with Music on the Steps, June 15!

And look forward to July and August "Campfire Nights," our annual summer trip to Six Flags, and more impromptu connections!

ONLINE YOUTH CALENDAR!
Visit the Winnetka Covenant website (www.winnetkacovenant.org), then select "Ministries" in the side bar. Click on either Junior or Senior High to see a list of up-to-date happenings, including the link to the online calendar.

Please remember our children, youth and families who will be spending time at camp this summer. Pray for safety, for fun, and for establishing or deepening a relationship with Jesus Christ. Campers include:

Covenant Harbor: Rose Brunzell, Kendall Drimalla, Isabella Ecklund, Annabelle Fogel, Hailey Fogel, McKenna Geake, Payton Geake and Ryan Geake.

Covenant Point: Micah Bowe, Drew Bramley, Harper Breidenbach, Gabby Heintzelman, Madison Heintzelman, Gwen Johnson, Maeve Johnson, Sonja Johnson, Will Kelly, Anni Magnusson, Ian McClellan, Emmett Peterson, Ashleigh Thomas, Eli Werling, Jacob Werling, the Bramley family, the Hausman family and the Werling family. Pastor Pete will be camp speaker for family camp at the end of July. In addition, several of our high school and college students will serve on summer staff.

Mailbox

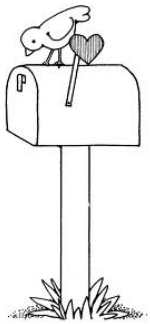
Thanks so much for all the cards and for your prayers during my mother Harriet's illness. It was a miracle that I was able to be at her side for the last leg of this journey. She took her last breath as my brother was reading John 14 and we sang her on the way with her favorite Covenant hymns. She lived with my family many winters and always looked forward to services at WCC. She loved the warm welcome, the pastors and their sermons, and especially the music. Thanks again.

Mary Beth Molenaar

Thank you so much for visits from the pastors, as well as cards and visits from other friends. The Easter lily the deacons brought lasted a long time and was very fragrant. I love to have visitors.

Thanks to all of you for your care and concern.

Paul Nilsen



Dear Pete, Andrea, Christy, and my Winnetka Church family,

Thank you very much for recognizing my retirement from the Winnetka Covenant Church Preschool last Sunday.

For 24 years, working at the preschool was a complete joy and privilege for me. I am truly grateful I had the opportunity to touch the lives of so many young children. They were indeed a blessing!

With love and appreciation,
Kris Heintzelman

Family News

High School Graduates:

Congratulations to the following students as they finish their high school years and look forward to college:

- **Grace Brunzell** graduates from Glenbrook South High School on June 5. She plans to attend North Park University, pursuing a degree in Education
- **Spencer Eanes** graduated from Evanston Township High School on May 22. In the fall he will attend St. Olaf College and plans to study computer science and math.
- **Sarah Hawkinson** graduated from New Trier High School on May 22. She plans to attend North Park University, majoring in English.
- **Chad Nelson** graduated on May 22 from New Trier High School and will attend North Park University.
- **Liam O'Donovan** graduated from New Trier High School on May 22 and will be attending Illinois Wesleyan University.
- **Haydon Peterson** graduates on June 14 from Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center in Chicago. He will go to St. Louis University in St. Louis, MO.
- **Allison Rivi** graduated on May 22 from New Trier High School. She plans to attend University of Michigan as a business major.
- **Ethan Schmitt** was another May 22 graduate of New Trier High School. He will attend Miami University, planning to major in business.
- **Seth Swanson** graduates from Niles North High School on May 29. He will attend North Park University, planning to play football and study pre-med/youth ministry.
- **Sarah Westerfield** will graduate from Glenbrook South High School on June 5. She plans to attend Grand Valley State University, outside of Grand Rapids, MI. Physical Therapy or Athletic Training are areas of interest.

New Offerings in the Library

Are you looking for some fun summer reading? The WCC library has been gifted with 32 books from the "Tales from Grace Chapel Inn" series, published by Guideposts.

"Once you visit the charming village of Acorn Hill, tucked away in rural Pennsylvania, you'll never want to leave. Townsfolk relax on their porch swings or gather to discuss the day's events at the Coffee Shop over homemade pie. And you'll love spending time with the Howard sisters, who have begun a new life together in their childhood home, a gracious Victorian house that is now a bed-and-breakfast called Grace Chapel Inn. Here they rekindle old memories, rediscover the bonds of sisterhood, and meet many fascinating guests along the way."

Each book stands alone; they are not chronological. The village and the characters remain constant. Stop in to experience Grace Chapel Inn for yourself.

Winnetka Covenant Church Network

1200 Hibbard Road
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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.

Bone Marrow Registry Drive – June 11th, 9-11 a.m.

Did you know that your blood could save someone's life? Our church has prayed for Jodi and Mark Kavinsky after the loss of their son in an accident, and now Jodi's brother Gregory Lesiecki was diagnosed with bone cancer. A bone marrow (stem cell) transplant is his only hope and unfortunately, none of his family is a match. We pray that someone in our church may be a match for Greg and can save his life with a simple blood donation and if not, that our drive may help someone else in the future.

People 18 - 44 years:

- Fill out a commitment survey and health/consent form in the WCC library
- Donate some cheek cells on four cotton swabs (free) – takes 10-15 minutes

People 45 – 61 years:

- Register online at: https://join.bethematch.org/WinnetkaCovenant, will receive kit in the mail
- Cost is $100, but later expenses are covered if chosen

If you are called for a donation:

- All expenses are covered; most donations are local
- 80% of donations are stem cell, similar to donating platelets (what Greg needs)
- 20% of donations are bone marrow extraction (for child/infant). Requires anesthesia and extraction of small amount of liquid from pelvic bone
- Your body replenishes cells within 4-6 weeks

Watch for information on a Blood Donation Drive on Saturday, August 27th. Contact Mary Beth Molenaar with questions. Check out the BeTheMatch.org web site for further information.