



The Network

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

May, 2014

The Privilege of Church

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's classic work *Life Together* has been transformational in my own journey as a Christian living in relationship to the Church. I marked up a copy of the book many years ago, and have returned to it again and have enjoyed reading it along with some of you who are Stephen ministers, deacons, and executive board members. The little book leaves me longing and grateful for spiritual community, and challenges me to invest my life deeply in the Church.

Here are a few highlights that might bless and challenge you too!

"We enter into our common life not as demanders, but as thankful recipients."

"Christian brotherhood and sisterhood is not an ideal which we must realize, but rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we may participate."

"We have one another only through Christ, but through Christ we have one another wholly, and for all eternity."

"The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength, because they bear for me the living presence of the Triune God."

"The one who loves their dream of a community more than the Christian community itself becomes a destroyer of the latter, even though their personal intentions may be ever so honest and earnest and sacrificial."

"Let the one who cannot be alone beware of community, and let the one who is not in community beware of being alone."

"Strong and weak, wise and foolish, gifted or ungifted, pious or impious, the diverse individuals in the community are no longer incentives for talking about and judging and condemning, and thus excuses for self-justification. They are rather cause for rejoicing in one another and serving one another."

"Once someone has experienced the mercy of God in their life, they will henceforth aspire only to serve."

Here, just a few examples. This summer I encourage you to take a long, slow reading of this spiritual masterpiece, and let it work on your spirit. And I pray that it would cause you a renewed love for the Church, and your brothers and sisters, and the life together we share!

Grace and Peace.

Peter Hawkinson

May 3
Rummage Sale

May 18
Confirmation

May 18-25
Family Promise

June 8
Summer Worship
Begins,
All-Church Picnic

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Sunday School will continue for children and adults through Sunday, June 1. On Sunday, June 8 we will change to our summer schedule, with worship at 9:30. While there will be no Sunday School hour before church, there will be nursery care and class for the 2's & 3's beginning at 9:30 and children ages 4 through 2nd grade will leave for Children's Church partway through the service

Children's Rotation Sunday School

April 27, May 4, 11 & 18
The Church Year

Workshops include:

Kingdom Characters: A butterfly grower tells a story about butterfly watching, metamorphosis, and the connection to Easter. Kids will release butterflies and do a butterfly craft.

Thou Art: Kids will hear the story of Jesus calming the storm, and look at famous pieces of art that depict this miracle. They will use watercolors to create a personal response to this story.

Garden of Eatin': Kids will learn about the connection between the Jewish harvest celebration of Sukkoth and the American celebration of Thanksgiving, and they'll celebrate the harvest in a class-built sukkah.

Faith Today: Kids will see how the seasons of the church are mirrored in our own lives and put together a time capsule of ways our congregation celebrates the church year. They'll also create a round calendar to celebrate the church year.



May 25 and June 1

All kids will meet together
 for a special Sunday School experience.

Adult Sunday School

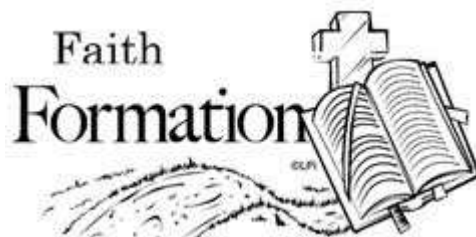
April 27 & May 4 -

Grab a cup of Starbucks and join the continuing conversation about the life of our church, this time in a café atmosphere around tables centered on key questions about "connectedness" within our congregation and with our community. Everyone's participation is valued and important and will make a difference. The ideas generated from these conversations will be used by our church leaders to form next steps for ministry.

May 11, 18, 25, and June 1:

"Love Mercy, Do Justice: Responding Faithfully to God's Call"

Harold Spooner will lead us in an exploration and discussion of what it means for us as Covenant people to respond faithfully to the call of God in Micah 6:8, "to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God." We'll explore how we as a congregation and as individuals might more fully live out this call in our immediate context.



Music Notes

“Beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.”
Philippians 4:8-9



So grateful for the wonderful worship we shared through Holy Week culminating in our celebration choir's "Hallelujah." Christ is Risen!! Hallelujah indeed!

May will be full of more musical highlights -

May 4, Dimitri and Steven will lead the choir in lovely and thoughtful communion anthems, including James Moore's "Taste and See" with truly inspired piano improvisation by Nancy Magill and vocal solo by Art Nelson.

Senior recitals of our interns will be May 2 (Dimitri) and May 9 (Steven) at 7:00 p.m. at Moody's Torrey-Gray Auditorium, 821 N. Wells St., Chicago. Janet Eckhardt will be accompanying. As you are able, you will be greatly blessed by supporting these significant presentations.

May 11 we sing the lovely new setting of "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" by Dan Forrest.

May 18 features the rousing Shawn Kirchner arrangement, "Cornerstone" recounting "the stone that the builders rejected became the cornerstone [of a whole new world]." It's one of those catchy tunes that happily resounds long after worship as an encouraging reminder of God's provision and faithfulness.

The Wednesday night music leadership team takes a special role on May 25.

Looking ahead to summer, there are many opportunities for musical offerings. Please contact me about how you and your loved ones can be involved (dawnpegis@gmail.com).

Rejoicing in the goodness of Spring and Resurrection!!

Dawn

Upcoming Events

Bach Week Festival

Once again this year the Bach Week Festival is partnering with North Park University for a wonderful series of concerts.

- Friday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m., at North Park's Anderson Chapel
- Sunday, May 4 at 2:30 p.m., at North Park's Anderson Chapel

Information about these concerts, including prices and ticket ordering details at bachweek.org or by calling 800-838-3006.

Temple Jeremiah's Stanley C. Golder Interfaith Lecture

Temple Jeremiah in Northfield welcomes **Dr. Basit Bilal Koshul** for a wonderful event for people of all faiths on **Saturday, May 10, 8 p.m.** The title of his talk will be **Scriptural Reasoning and the Search for Wisdom After the Holocaust.**

The Holocaust (Shoah) is a defining moment in modern history. It forces us to face the fact that the most promising fruits of secular Enlightenment (i.e. science, technology, and bureaucracy) can produce demonic results. At the same time it forces us to question the religious notions of faith, hope, and love. As believers living in the shadow of the Shoah, it is difficult to escape the conclusion that facing these facts and asking these questions is a necessary (but insufficient) condition for attaining hokhmah, hikmah, or wisdom.

Dr. Basit Bilal Koshul is an Associate Professor at Lahore University of Management Sciences in Lahore, Pakistan. The mission of the Golder Interfaith Lecture Series is to promote understanding among every faith and embrace the unifying spirituality of all religions. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, call the temple office at 847-441-5760, e-mail lia@templejeremiah.org, or visit www.templejeremiah.org/golderlecture.

Trustee News

The Winnetka Covenant Church financial summary through March 2014:

As of the end of March, 2014, we have started the year 2014 in a very good financial position! Thank you for your response and support to our mission as we start 2014.

Our financial summary is highlighted below.

» YTD Financials

- o General Fund Giving through March 2014 - \$285,484
 - Receipts to date are 8% ABOVE planned budget.
- o Expenses are 5% above 2014 planned budget (mostly due to our cold and snowy winter).
- o General Fund cash & investment totals are 46% higher than 2013. Our planned capital projects are funded.

Comparisons to Prior Year and Budget:

	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	%	2014 Bud.	%
General Fund Receipts	\$ 285,484	\$ 237,391	120%	\$ 265,337	108%
Expenses	\$ 291,141	\$ 305,519	95%	\$ 178,307	105%
Net Operating Income / (Loss)	(\$ 5,657)	(\$ 68,128)			

	<u>3/31/2014</u>	<u>3/31/2013</u>
General Fund Cash	\$(51,886)	\$(60,835)
Building Fund*	0	3,050
Exchange Fund	103,913	86,059
Depreciation Set Aside*	0	40,865
Memorial Funds*	0	103,824
Investment Funds*	311,405	78,055
Petty Cash	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>
Total	\$363,557	\$251,146

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

» Capital Projects

- o WCC front sign has been installed. Signage by the office door to come. Landscaping and lighting will start in the Spring.
- o WCC playground to be started in the Spring

The WCC Board of Trustees 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.

Rummage Sale - Saturday, May 3

Items for sale are now pouring in but there's still room for more. Please **pre-sort** as much as possible and **label bags** as to content. It's helpful if you can **bring your hanging clothes on hangers**. Pickup of large items is available on Wednesday, April 30. Call the church office to get on the list. Volunteers are needed for the week of and the day of the sale. Come on over whenever you have a couple of hours to help out. Proceeds from the sale will benefit this summer's mission trip and the general fund.

Missions - Local and Global

Mission Committee Invitation - Mark your calendars!

Please join the Mission Committee in an opportunity to hear *in person* from two of the missionaries we support:

- **Tuesday, May 6, 7 p.m.**
Merritt Sawyer, Executive Director of the Paul Carlson Partnership
- **Tuesday, May 20, 7 p.m.**
Christy Taylor, Career Missionary in East Asia

Dessert will be served. Questions? Contact Cindy Buettgen or Jeff Johnson, Mission Committee co-chairs.

Local Missions where YOU can be involved:

A Just Harvest Community Kitchen

Join the fun kitchen crew as they prepare the food for the Just Harvest Community Kitchen - **May 1** (Ted Garrison, contact) and **May 15** (John Anderson, contact), starting at 1:00. On May 15 we will need a crew to go to the kitchen in East Rogers Park to serve the food. Contact Pastor Andrea if you are able to help.

Greater Chicago Food Depository

On **Saturday, May 10, from 1-3:45 p.m.** you can volunteer to support the North Park Friendship Center food bank.. This is a fun opportunity for adults and teens to serve together (age 14 and up). Long pants and closed-toe shoes are required. Sign up next to the kitchen or call the church office for details.

Family Promise

May 18-25. We partner with a number of local churches to provide meals and housing, for a week at a time, for temporarily homeless families. There are opportunities for volunteers to prepare dinners, stay overnight, and spend part of an evening just hanging out with the families. There are sign-up boards in the narthex or on the church website, www.winnetkacovenant.org. Take a look and see where you can get involved.

Sankofa Journey

The next Sankofa Journey is scheduled for July 31-August 3, 2014. Sankofa, "A Journey Toward Racial Righteousness", is a trip sponsored by the Covenant Department of Compassion, Mercy, and Justice. It involves a multiracial group traveling together into the deep south, visiting some of the spots that were instrumental in the struggle for Civil Rights. For more information and to register, e-mail chrissy.palmerlee@covchurch.org, call 773-784-3000, or visit the Covenant website, www.covchurch.org.

Confirmation Sunday May 18

Join us on **Sunday morning, May 18** as we recognize and celebrate the two years of hard work and study our confirmands have invested in their spiritual growth. Besides the culminating service on May 18 we also invite the congregation to come to church on **Friday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.** to hear the confirmands read their Faith Papers.

This year's confirmands are:

- **Graham Breidenbach**
- **Emma Brunzell**
- **Nathan Hall**
- **Stina Hawkinson**
- **Ashleigh Thomas**

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 **May 22** 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, meets 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. **The May meeting will be on the 20th.**

Thursday Bible Study -

Thursday afternoon Bible Study meets intermittently. Contact Claire Macfarland for information.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study -

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study has their last meeting for the year on April 29. They will resume meeting, with a new course of study, in September.

Save the dates:

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. Two upcoming showers to put on your calendars are:

- Thursday evening, May 15, at 7:00, shower for Sarah Whims and Colin Quackenbush
- Saturday morning, June 7, shower for Erin Isaacson and Matt Lewitke

Men's Ministries News

We continue the exchange and the spiritual growth in the *Men's Fellowship* which meets on the first three Saturdays of each month at 8:00 a.m. in the Prayer Room. All men are invited to participate. It's worth getting up for!

Men's Work Crew - Painting parties, carpentry projects, and service projects are a regular part of the Men's Ministries. Workers will be recruited as the needs arise. Watch for an e-mail notification.

Men's Share and Support - If you're expecting a medical procedure, test, treatment, or new medication, get connected to someone who's been there and done that. Pastor Hawkinson will try to link you to someone with experience to share and who can help turn anxiety into anticipation. Men willing to share and support can also contact Pastor Hawkinson.

Youth Ministry Dates for May

- Sr. High League (6:30 Sunday nights) - May 4, 11 & 18. Final Sr. High for the school year will be June 1. May 11 will be Senior Night, where we celebrate our graduating seniors.
- Junior High Youth Group (during Wednesday night activities) - May 7, 14 & 21 (last of the school year)
- Coffee (High School, after school) - May 7, 14 & 21
- Rummage Sale - May 3, with setup during the prior week.
- Confirmation - May 18th (presentation of faith papers Friday, May 16 at 7 p.m.)
- **Youth Ministry Parent Gathering - Monday evening, May 5th, Upper Room, 7-8:15 p.m.**
- Summer mission trip team will go to Covenant Harbor on Saturday, May 31, for a day of training and team building.

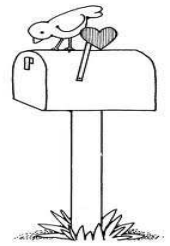
Mailbox

Mary Beth Molenaar gives us updates on friends who have been on our prayer list:

Marc & Jodi Kavinsky have appreciated our prayers after the death of their son, Jared, who was struck by a car and killed last November on his way home from college. They continue to grieve his loss.

Janice Goldblatt, who suffers from chronic fatigue syndrome writes, "I can't think of a greater gift ... than the precious and powerful grace of a congregation's healing prayers!"

Thanks to the congregation for faithful prayers for those on our prayer list.



College Graduations

We offer our congratulations to the following students who are graduating from college:

- **Steven Braun** graduates from Moody Bible Institute on May 17, with a Bachelor of Arts in Music. He will be getting married in June.
- **Jessica Carley** will graduate from North Park University on May 10, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She has been accepted into the Doctor of Nursing Practice Midwifery program at the University of Illinois Chicago for the fall.
- **Jonathan Fogel** will be graduating on May 10 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from North Park University. He is eagerly looking for an entry level job in anything!
- **Dimitri German** graduates on May 17 from Moody Bible Institute with a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance. He will pursue a Masters of Music in voice performance.
- **Sean Kelly** will graduate on May 18 from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in Finance. In November, Sean will begin OCS, Airborne and Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia, with the US Army.
- **Keir Quackenbush** graduates from North Park University on May 10 with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and a Bachelor of Arts in Scandinavian Studies. Plans after graduation are still unfolding.
- **Linc Rhodes** will graduate from Bowdoin College on May 25 with a major in Chemistry. Next year he will attend the University of Pennsylvania's Post Bacc Pre-Medical Program in Philadelphia to finish his required pre-dental course work, then plans to pursue dentistry as a career.
- **Alisa Siebrasse** graduates on May 3 from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science in neuroscience and with a minor in gender and health. She plans to attend medical school in the future.
- **Robert Thomas** will be graduating from North Park University on May 10 with a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies. He plans to attend either law school or seminary in the fall of 2014.
- **Stuart Voit** will graduate on May 15 from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. In early June he will begin working in Procurement/Supply Chain for Caterpillar in Peoria, IL.

Delegates are needed for the Covenant Annual Gathering, this year held at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, June 26-29.. Contact the church office or the Nominating Committee for more information.

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Wilmette, Illinois, 60091

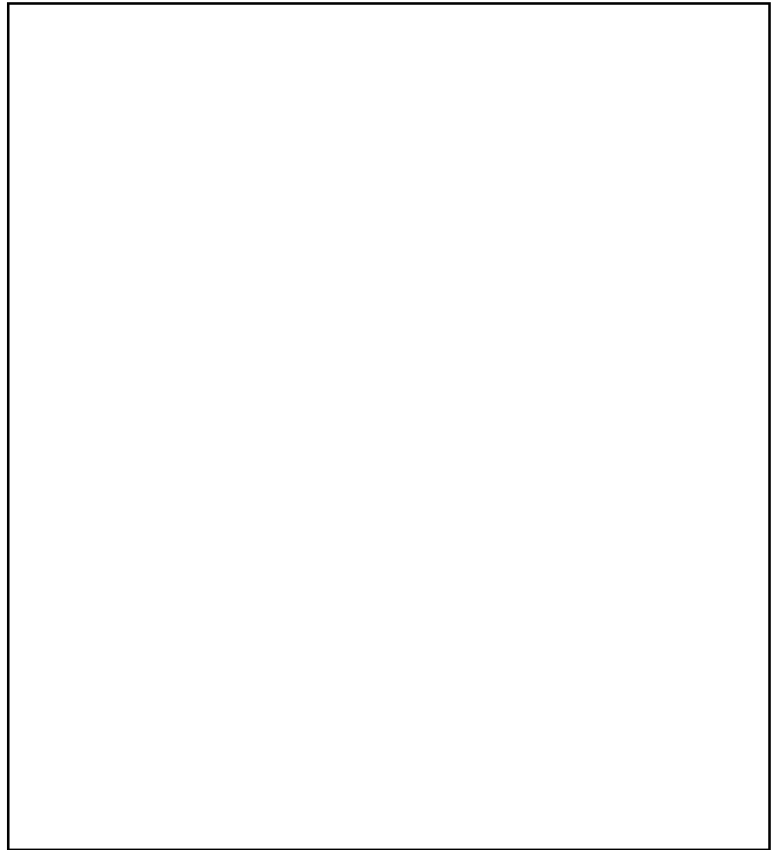
847-446-4300
www.winnetkacovenant.org

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.



Anyone Up for Adventure?

**Escape with us! Vacation Bible School 2014:
June 16-21, 6-8 p.m.**

We're planning a great Vacation Bible School week in the Wilderness, where we'll join Moses as he and the Israelites escape Egypt and travel to parts unknown—trusting in God all the while!

Our goal is to reach 70 children with God's love at our Wilderness Escape event. How can you help?

Join the Wilderness Escape Team!

We're currently seeking adults who want to have a great time helping kids deepen their faith in God by using their gifts in one of the following roles:

- Fun & Games Leader
- Drama Team (Moses & Malachi)
- Tent Crafts Leader
- Baker's Tent Snacks Coordinator
- Tribe Leaders – adults and teens welcome
- Registrar
- Publicity Coordinator
- Decoration Coordinator

Visit the Wilderness Escape Job Fair in the narthex after morning worship to see job descriptions and to apply. (Early applications will also be accepted--contact Pastor Andrea anytime!)

