

# Network

Volume 12 Issue 10

November, 2011

Dates to Remember:

NOVEMBER 3 & 17

Community Kitchen  
Dates

NOVEMBER 6

Harvest Dinner

NOVEMBER 13

Congo Fundraiser

NOVEMBER 20

Stewardship Sunday

NOVEMBER 23

Thanksgiving Service

DECEMBER 3

Lucia

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## Stewardship 2012 Campaign Challenge: Let's start with a heart of gratitude

Personal pledge packets have been distributed to every family in the church. If you haven't received yours, call the church office at 847.446-4300.

Remember **Stewardship Sunday is an all-church celebration on November 20**, recognizing all that we love about Winnetka Covenant Church. We are asking every member to participate—making this a family event-- by walking forward with their pledge.

Be sure to drop your "What I Love About WCC" card in the offering plate, or email Pastor Peter this month. We want to celebrate our church family, and our wonderful church home.

Did you know that only 50% of WCC families make an annual pledge?  
Can you help us this year raise that number to 75%?

As you plan your 2012 giving, remember you can make electronic payments for the first time by going to our website, [winnetkacovenant.org](http://winnetkacovenant.org). You can also view your giving history and pledge commitment. Contact Roger Schmitt at [arielinvestments.com](http://arielinvestments.com) with any questions about electronic giving.

Watch for testimonies about tithing and giving each month in Network. This month, you'll meet 23-year-old Sloane Quackenbush.

As we prepare for a new pledge season, here's what member Nancy Spears shared in response to our question, "What do you love about WCC?"

*"The welcome we felt at WCC was instant. On our first visit, so many people came up to say hello. And the second time we came, they all knew us by name. That amazed me! We've been members now for three years, and that spirit of warmth and welcome has never changed—it's what makes this church special."*

**Let's show our gratitude on November 20th  
for all that we have as a church.**

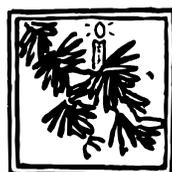
## CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS & EVENTS

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION MISSION STATEMENT of WINNETKA COVENANT CHURCH**  
To teach the Christian faith and develop disciples growing in Jesus Christ through the Word of God,  
through the witness of teachers, through the family of faith, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Opportunities for adults:**

**Intergenerational Sunday School:** A time of experiential learning, storytelling, relationship-building and intergenerational fun in Room 203. For high school students and adults of any age. Quality coffee, hot chocolate and tasty treats are served every week.

**"The Reformation"**, taught by Kurt Peterson until November 20. This continues a series on church history and will cover precursors to the Protestant Reformation - Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, Anabaptists and the Catholic Reformation.



*Light*

*Hope*

*Joy*

*Peace*

All adults and senior high students are invited to join us for an

### **ADVENTure In the Upper Room**

**9:45-10:30 a.m. November 27, December 4, 11, 18**

This Advent it is our joy to present you with an opportunity to step out of the **cold wind** and into a **warm room**, away from the **stressed out crowds** or the **solitary internet shopping sprees** and into the **loving presence** of brothers and sisters in Christ. We invite you to spend 45 minutes each Sunday morning in Advent being somewhat still, savoring some **time to ponder the true treasure of Christmas**. Consider it a gift to you in the midst of a busy season. We will sing carols, hear scripture, and enjoy some music and conversation that will help us reflect on the Christmas story and our own stories.

And, oh yes—we will enjoy good coffee and tasty treats.

*We hope you'll join us as we pause during Advent to make room for the Savior.*

### **Upcoming Children's Sunday School Workshop Rotations:**

#### **January 8-29: Handel's Messiah**

**Grace Notes:** Learn about the life of Handel, explore the arts of the Baroque Period of the 17th & 18th century. Listen to excerpts from the Messiah and learn about the instruments used in the piece. Sing together "Behold the Lamb of God" and experience how the four choral voices work together.

**Moved by the Spirit:** Express a variety of Messiah pieces with movement and props.

**Thou Art:** Explore how Handel's Messiah was interpreted by Timothy Botts' calligraphy. Kids will create their own calligraphy expression of a musical passage of Messiah.

**Garden of Eatin':** Using snack food as their medium, kids will express their emotions while listening to "The Messiah."

Workshop leaders are still needed for Thou Art and Garden of Eatin'. Please contact Pastor Andrea if you'd like more information or are interested.

#### **February 12-March 4: Jesus' Baptism**

**Thou Art:** Create baptism banners with a dove motif.

**Good News Games:** Meet Martha as she remembers Jesus' baptism and then play a matching game with scriptures and road signs that are appropriate to reveal the way that Jesus communicated the Kingdom.

**Moved by the Spirit:** Use string figures to tell the story of Jesus Christ. Do a guided imagery to ponder the scripture, "You are my own Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Create a giant ICHTHUS (Fish symbol of Christ).

**Disciples' Drama:** Create a puppet show about John's message based on the song "Bugs for Lunch" by Brian Sirchio.

If you are interested in being a workshop rotation leader for any of the Jesus' Baptism workshops, please contact Pastor Andrea.

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## MUSIC NOTES



Thanks be to God! We are 'in the thick' of Fall's ministries now and on the threshold of Advent and Christmas. Preparations abound on all fronts and certainly music is central to much. The special Sundays are continuous and filled with great music:

Reformation - Thanks to Dan & Mary Gingrich and friends for fine brass quartet;

All Saints' - "Sing Me to Heaven" is a wonderfully poignant setting by Daniel Gawthrop; for November communion we sing the Lord's Prayer that is as familiar in the Orthodox church as our Malotte version. Royce Eckhardt has written choral parts for our closing text, "for thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever."

Stewardship - Dwight Lilse's "We Are An Offering" is enhanced by a very fitting Mark Hayes accompaniment;

Christ the King - Pachelbel's "Now Thank We All Our God" and David Cherwien's "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven"

Advent begins November 27 - a new arrangement with Darlene Zschech's 'The Potter's Hand' and 'Have Thine Own Way' reflecting God's word through Jeremiah, "I am the potter, you are the clay".

Thank you all for your generous contributions to our organ renovation drive. At this writing, our total to date is \$20,200 in new gifts and an additional \$14,900 in memorial funds have been designated. After your pledge giving, do remember to give as you are able. Even small gifts over time will bring us to our \$65,000 need.

Mark your calendar for our inspiring Christmas concerts:

- ◆ December 11 @ 5:00 - Choral Christmas Concert: "Pause . . Prepare . . Praise" making room . . the dear Christ enters in" will be a wonderful variety of music to focus on God's great gift of salvation.
- ◆ December 18 @ 5:00 - Sunday School Christmas: "Messiah for Young Voices" G F Handel (adaptation)

URGENT NEED: stage manager and STRONG volunteers to move risers after church Dec 11 & 18.

*"I thank my God on every remembrance of you. . ." Dawn*

### Children's Sunday School Christmas Program and December Plans

Beginning Sunday, November 6 through December 18, kids age 4 through grade 5 will be practicing music for the Children's Christmas program. Our program this year is a youth version of Handel's "Messiah."

They will be practicing with Dawn Pegis from **9:45 a.m. to 10:10 a.m. in the choir room**. At 10:10 a.m., they will go to room 203 for a special story and drama time. Some gifted story-reading adults will read the story, "They Followed a Bright Star"--a beautiful picture book--and the kids will act out parts of the story each week, with costumes and props.

The Children's Christmas Program will take place on **Sunday, December 18, at 5:00 p.m.** A dress rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 17, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. If you plan to have your child participate in the program, attendance at Sunday morning practices and the dress rehearsal is necessary. It's understandable if they cannot be there every Sunday, but we request their presence for the majority of the practices. To help us plan, please contact Pastor Andrea if your child plans to participate, and if he or she would like a speaking part or a vocal solo.

## COLUMBARIUM

The columbarium is now complete and, fittingly, will be dedicated following the 10:45 worship service on November 6, All Saints' Sunday. The contracts for reservations of niche space, memorial garden space or a plaque on the memorial wall are available in the Narthex each week. Soon there will be a list of garden features (benches, trees, etc.) that will be available, if you would like to donate something.

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## A JUST HARVEST COMMUNITY KITCHEN

As we go into the month of November, we look forward to Thanksgiving, the celebration of God's bounty to us and we are mindful of how blessed we have been. We are also mindful of the fact that there are many people who are struggling to make it from day to day and are in need of what we can contribute to help make their lives easier.

Two times a month we prepare dinner in our church kitchen for approximately 160-175 patrons of A Just Harvest Community Kitchen. We always welcome cooks of any age to our church kitchen on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 1:00 to about 3:30 to prepare the meal that we provide for the community

kitchen. Please join us in the month of November on the 3rd with John Anderson as contact, and on the 17th with Ted Garrison as contact. If you are only able to come for part of that time we'd be happy to have you.

On the third Thursday of each month we also need a group of about 10 people to go to the Kitchen to help serve. The sign-up to serve is outside our kitchen. Our help is needed.

*Thanks, John Anderson*

## YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH NEWS

We have created a very brief survey in order to solicit feedback from the congregation about our priorities and goals for our new youth pastor. The survey will be e-mailed to the congregation on October 30. Printed copies will also be available in the narthex and at church - both on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. The congregation's input is crucial to our work in finding a new pastor to serve our youth, and we welcome all suggestions, comments and input. Please take the time to fill out the survey by November 11. Anyone who does not receive the e-mailed survey, can request one by e-mailing [wccsearchcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:wccsearchcommittee@gmail.com). Thank you so much for your support as we work together to discern the best person to fill this important role in our church family.

The Youth Pastor Search Committee: Jen Brunzell, Peter Hawkinson (ex officio), Hal Jenkins, Nadia Jimenez (chair), Cam Johnson, Kat Knotts, Rachel Kovacic, Sam Madvig, Liesel Magnusson, Cathy Norman Peterson, Melissa Schmidt, George Tzanetopoulos (ex officio)

## INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Are we listening to God?

Please join us at the Winnetka Interfaith Council's annual interfaith service, hosted this year by Christ Church, and begin Thanksgiving with those of other faiths, as we think about what's really important in our lives.

Winnetka Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service  
Wednesday, November 23rd, 8 p.m.  
Christ Church, Winnetka  
784 Sheridan Road, at Humboldt Ave.

### **"God Here: What Do I Need to Do to Get Your Attention?"**

Speaker: Sue Stevens, CEO of Stevens Wealth Management in Deerfield and the former Director of Financial Planning at Morningstar Inc.. Sue has been named one of the top fifty female wealth managers in the country by Bloomberg and AdvisorOne. Her book, *Put Your Money Where Your Heart Is*, has won multiple awards. Sue is a CFP, CFA, CPA and holds an MBA from the University of Chicago.

Singers are invited to join with the choir for this service. Choir members will meet prior to the service at 6:30.

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## MISSION NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

**CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY - November 5th, from 1:30-4:30 p.m.** is our next opportunity to volunteer at the Greater Chicago Food Depository, with our work supporting the North Park Friendship Center food bank. This is a fun opportunity for adults and teens (age 13 and up) to serve. Long pants and closed-toe shoes are required. Sign up on the list next to the kitchen or on the website or call the church office for details.

**HARVEST DINNER - Sunday, November 6th at 5:00 p.m.**

This annual potluck dinner (bring one dish, enough for your family plus five additional persons) is a highlight of our church year. It is an opportunity for relaxed fellowship with our friends, a time to meet new people, and also this is our opportunity to make a personal donation toward a Christmas gift to the career missionaries that we support as a church. Baxter and Margie Swenson, Covenant missionaries, will be our speakers as part of the evening.

**FUNDRAISER FOR CONGO**

You are invited to a concert and silent auction on Sunday, November 13, 3-4:30 p.m. Feature soloist: Anastasia Cameron Black. Ms. Cameron-Black is a soprano soloist and Music Director at St. James the Less in Northfield. She performs with the Bach Week Festival Choir and the Chicago Symphony Chorus, with whom she toured to Carnegie Hall last spring.

Silent Auction items will include work from local artists, family photo shoots, babysitting and baked goods! If you are able to donate an auction item (for example: tickets to concerts or games, weekend getaways at a lake house, etc.) please contact Christine.

Come at 3 pm to enjoy appetizers and make your bids! Concert will begin at 3:30. All proceeds will support Christine Buettgen with Covenant World Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Read more about Democratic Republic of Congo at [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country\\_profiles/1076399.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country_profiles/1076399.stm)

Follow Christine's journey at: [www.christinemerle.blogspot.com](http://www.christinemerle.blogspot.com).

**WORLD RELIEF CHICAGO NEEDS**

We have received requests from World Relief Chicago for needs that they have:

**Winter Coat and Boot Drive** - Usually an influx of these items comes AFTER it is already cold, so they are trying to get a jump on it this season. There is a box in the Narthex for donations of the following:

- ◆ Winter boots for children, men and women
- ◆ Winter coats - small sizes for men especially, also women and children

Winter gloves and hats for children, men and women

**NORTH PARK FRIENDSHIP CENTER -**

There is an ongoing collection of nonperishable food items for the North Park Friendship Center. A box sits in the mission area of the Narthex for your donations. A suggestion: when you are at the grocery store and see a buy one/get one free sale, why not take the second item to use as a donation.

**BLANKET DRIVE**

During the month of November we will be conducting a blanket drive. From November 6 to November 20 we will gratefully accept all clean blankets, comforters, quilts, and sleeping bags. Please bring them to the tables in the narthex on Sundays or Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

They will be delivered to overnight shelters, the homeless on the street, needy families, and our own Family Promise.

**FAMILY PROMISE**

We hosted guest families in the Family Promise program for two weeks in October, with members of the Congregation Hakafa assisting in providing volunteers. We want to thank all who participated in this important ministry. The next time we will be hosting the families will be at the end of January, 2012.

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## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES NEWS

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 as we combine our November and December meetings at a luncheon on December 8. You'll enjoy the fellowship! Call Marian Eckhardt with questions.

**STITCH AND STUDY** - Stitch and Study, combining Bible Study, conversation, and craft/needlework projects, **meets on the first Tuesday of each month** at the home of Marilyn Nelson at 7 p.m. We meet in November on the 1st. We continue to use our own Covenant Hymnal as a resource for the study. Participants are welcome to come for the study and conversation, with or without a project.

**THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP** - Thursday afternoon women's Bible study **meets each Thursday at 1:00 in the library.** We are in the midst of a Beth Moore study: "Believing God; Experience a Fresh Explosion of Faith." This is a 10-week study with Member Workbook & DVD sessions weekly. The study draws from "Heroes of Faith", Hebrews 11, and examines the lives of Abraham, Moses and others who believed God. The study's goal is to lead a more active, living faith. Member workbooks can be ordered from LifeWay.com. Please contact Claire Macfarland for more information or with any questions.

**TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - The Book of Nehemiah** is the subject of the Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study. Nehemiah was a faithful follower of God who learned to recognize and handle God's enemies. These lessons will teach us to use Nehemiah's tools of prayer and persistence to improve our relationships with our faithful Lord. A study of 2nd Corinthians will begin in January. Please call Sue Abram with any questions.

### **2012 WOMEN'S RETREAT - February 3-5, at Covenant Harbor Bible Camp in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.**

Watch for more information in coming months, but reservations are being taken through Sunday, November 6. Our speaker this year is Bonnie Sparrman. You may reserve following church in the Narthex or call the church office.

### **LUCIA BREAKFAST AND PAGEANT - December 3, 9 a.m.**

Reservations will be taken in the narthex on November 13 and 20. Please plan to pay when you reserve.

One of our favorite events of the year! If you would like to be involved in the preparation, please contact Inger Eisland-Schultz. Also, please consider how you might contribute to the Raffle, something handmade or perhaps there's a Koinonia Group who would like to go in on a larger purchase. Please contact Julie Bender regarding Raffle donations. If you are interested in having a table as a vendor, please contact Jane Rivi for details.

### **Det är dags att baka kakor för Santa Lucia igen! (It's time to bake cookies for Santa Lucia again!)**

There are two options for you to help.

- ◆ We'll bake together in the church kitchen on Tuesday morning, November 8th, starting at 9:00 a.m. (Pepparkakor) and again on Friday evening, November 18<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:30 p.m. (Spritz).
- ◆ You may bake at home and bring the labeled cookies to the church kitchen by Wednesday, December 1st. Clean cookie tins are available for your use in the church kitchen.

Either way, your help is hoped-for and appreciated. Recipes are printed and available in the narthex. You may also find these recipes on our church website at [www.winnetkacovenant.org](http://www.winnetkacovenant.org). Click on resources, then helpful links.

Please contact Robin Magnusson if you can participate . . . and tack så mycket!

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## FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations and best wishes to Mike and Elizabeth Schwartz on the birth of their son, Matthew Jeremiah, on Wednesday, October 19. He weighed 7 lb., 13 oz. at birth. John and Jeanne Couleur are the happy grandparents.

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### **WINNETKA COVENANT PRESCHOOL NEWS**

Help us pass the word! The Winnetka Covenant Church Preschool will host two open houses. If you or a parent you know is interested in learning more about our preschool, come to an open house on

**Saturday morning, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 1:30 a.m.**

**or**

**Thursday evening, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.**

We are now offering more program choices, including extended day options for the 2012-2013 school year.

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Saturday, November 12, 1:00-4:00pm, get a head start on your holiday shopping AND help create jobs in the developing world through fair trade holiday shopping!

Rachel Yantis, who was here with us from California last year to represent Trade As One, is excited to share some of her favorite products and stories with you. Festive treats will be served as you browse the newest holiday fair trade items in Rachel's West Rogers Park home.

Product range includes food, jewelry, scarves, bags, stationery, housewares and kids stuff! If you want to check out Trade as One's products, go to [www.tradeasone.com](http://www.tradeasone.com).

Please contact Kat Knotts if you are interested in attending and would like to RSVP. An invitation will then be sent to you with all the details. Thanks!

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### **Two quick reminders -**

- ◆ Winnetka Covenant Church participates in the every member plan for the Covenant Companion. It's a wonderful magazine and helps us stay connected to the larger Covenant denomination. We appreciate donations of \$18 per member family to help defray the cost of these subscriptions.
- ◆ If you would prefer to receive your monthly Network by e-mail, please let Joan know at [wccjoan@juno.com](mailto:wccjoan@juno.com)

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**Today's WCC Web Site Feature Spotlight** - Did you know Winnetka Covenant Church supports 10 foreign missionary teams and several ongoing international projects? You can stay in touch with each of them and follow their progress via their own web sites and blogs. Go to the "**Reaching Out**" section of [www.winnetkacovenant.org](http://www.winnetkacovenant.org) and then click the "**International**" tab. This page lists all our missionaries and international outreach projects along with each mission's own individual web and blog links. See their current pictures and read their periodic updates. It is a great way to stay current with what **YOU** are helping make happen every day in places like Taiwan, Colombia, Mexico, Alaska, Honduras and Ethiopia.

## OUR MISSION

*To be a Christian community and to proclaim the gospel,  
Worshiping together in love,  
Nurturing people in faith,  
And serving others as Christian disciples,  
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.