



MUSINGS

October and November are months of reevaluating our ministry at New England Church, precisely because these are the months when we seek financial contributions to underwrite our budget for next year. It's also the time we seek to enlist volunteers for the various boards and committees of the church. **Our budget determines the quality of our ministry.**

That makes this time of year paradoxically **exciting yet precarious.**

Exciting because we are putting into place new ideas for the coming year of ministry with our children and youth, our music ministry and the future of the church.

Precarious because it's always difficult to raise money at church. People avoid opening their mail or answering their phone, afraid of the solicitation...or reading Tidings.

BUT, this church is **well worth our support**, and I encourage you to make an intentional effort to support it...

Well worth it because we are unique for people seeking a traditional worship service with an open and inclusive mindset. If we were not the vital presence that we are in Aurora, many who are looking for "an adult view of God," as someone described our approach, would not have a meaningful place to gather.

Well worth it because we value people over ideals; people on whatever journey is theirs over theological dogmatism; people as they are without expectation of what we think people of faith should be.

I don't like asking people for money, but I do it boldly at New England Church because I believe that this church is a good place to invest our money. The future of this church depends on us. We can't be who we are without you.

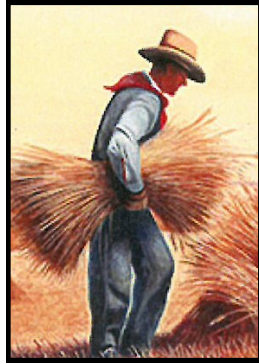
I hope you'll join me in supporting next year's budget so we can continue our good work as a caring church for thinking people.



Gary



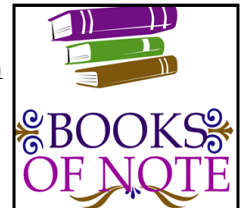
WENDELL MINOR EXHIBITION



Wendell Minor's America will be on display from October 6 – December 11, 2015 at Aurora University's Schingoethe Center. Wendell is an award-winning illustrator who grew up in Aurora and a special friend of New England Church. His traveling exhibition from the Norman Rockwell Museum highlights his 45-year career as an illustrator. He has been the exclusive designer of the book covers for David McCullough and has produced more than 2,000 other book covers and nearly 60 children's books.

Books of Note

Books of Note will meet on Tuesday October 20 at 7:00 pm at NECC. The book for discussion is "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd. All are welcome to join.



Boy Scout Fundraiser



Bob's Hill Troop 3 will be selling Scout popcorn on October 11 and 18. Proceeds help with the Troop's programs, outings, and community service projects. Thank you for your continued support of our Troop's mission.

Narthex Display Cabinet



December's theme is *old or antique Christmas items*. Do you have special figurines, pictures, needlework, etc. that could be displayed in the locked narthex cabinet that supports our theme? If so, please call Ellen Bonewitz at 630.466.1846 to arrange displaying your items.

Looking Ahead

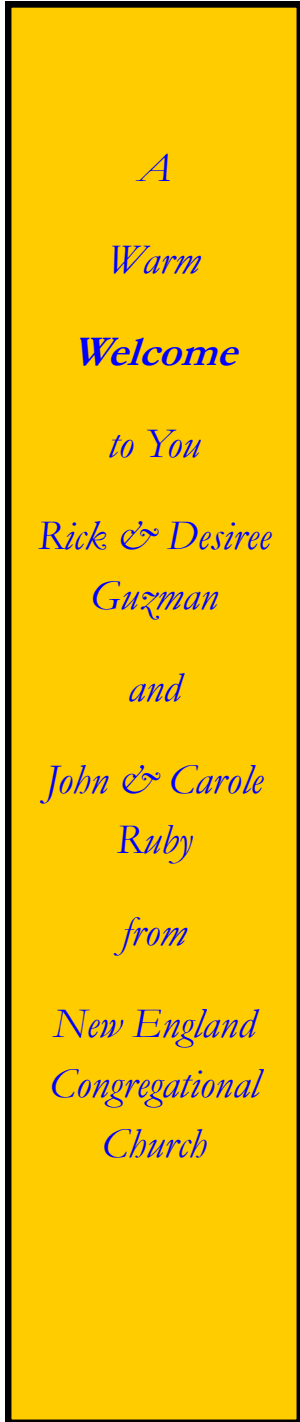
There will be a piano concert featuring Ronald Chioldi on Sunday, November 29, 2015 at 3:00 pm. His concerts in past years have been well-received; you won't want to miss this. More details in the November Tidings.



We've Moved



Beth Ann Miller
35 Century Dr
Oswego, IL. 60543



FILM SERIES



Film Series begins Friday, October 9 at 7:00 pm in the Source Theatre (3rd Floor)! *Shun Li and the Poet* (2011). The film studies the friendship between a Chinese woman and a fisherman who came to Italy from Yugoslavia many years ago. They now live on a small city-island in the Veneto lagoon. Presenter: Maureen McKane.

Burial Plots Available

New England was given two burial plots and a bronze headstone in the River Hills Memorial Park in Batavia. River Hills has told us that the value of each burial site is \$1,050 and the bronze headstone's value is \$2,300, for a combined value of \$4,400. We continue to offer these items to members and friends of New England and we will accept any reasonable offer for the plots and headstone. If you have an interest or know someone who might, please contact the church office.



Women's Fellowship



Women's Circle of Friends has been cancelled for the month of October due to unforeseen circumstances.

5 Crowns



Every Sunday night at 5:00 pm the church parlor is busy with people playing 5 Crowns. If you enjoy playing games and meeting new people, come join us for an evening of fun! The game is simple and easy to learn. If you have questions see or contact Barb Vavrinek, Pat Myers, or Sue Scheuerman.

Hymn-Sing

Aurora University will be hosting a Community Hymn-Sing on Sunday, October 4 at 1:30 pm. This special event to be held in Crimi Auditorium is free and open to the public. All who love hymns and want to experience the power and beauty of many voices united are welcome to participate in this celebration of our musical heritage of sacred song. Our own Marilyn Parolini will be at the organ. See the poster in the Marketplace for more information.



Fall Event



The Fall Meeting of the Chicago Metropolitan Association and the Fox Valley Association UCC will be held Saturday, October 24, 2015 at First Congregational UCC of Elgin, 256 Chicago St., Elgin, IL. The Keynoter will be Rev Mike Piazza, formerly of the Center for Progressive Renewal and now at Agile Church and author of 11 books on church revitalization. For more information and to register please go to www.foxvalley.ilucc.org



October, 2015
Vol. 9

Tiny Tidings

PREK - 4TH GRADE CHURCH SCHOOL CALENDAR

Oct. 4	Noah & the Ark
Oct. 11	Abraham & Sarah
Oct. 18	Abraham & Sarah
Oct. 25	Halloween Fun House (Chestnut House)



CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

**DON'T FORGET
TO REGISTER**

Thank you to those families who have completed your Church School registration forms. This time of year is busy with back to school forms, sports forms, and additional activities, so if you haven't had a chance to complete the form (Pre-K-12th grade), please stop by the Church School hallway and pick up a registration form or contact Audra Darché for a form.

CHURCH SCHOOL OFFERINGS

The Church School offerings will continue to support Feed My Starving Children this year. Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit Christian organization committed to providing hand-packed meals formulated for malnourished children. These meals are then shipped to nearly 70 countries around the world. In addition, throughout the year, New England children and members of our congregation will have an opportunity to help pack some of these meals. Look for upcoming details and how your family can help this wonderful organization.



HALLOWEEN COSTUME SUNDAY

**WEAR YOUR
HALLOWEEN COSTUME**

On Sunday, October 25th, all Church School children are invited to participate in our annual Halloween dress-up day. Wear your Halloween costume to church and show everyone your favorite seasonal ensemble.

CHURCH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

During the Fall Fest, several parents signed up to help teach Church School for the fall. It is with your dedication our Church School program will continue to thrive. In addition, your children will be so excited to have you in their classes. We still have a couple of dates to fill, so if you have a Sunday or two you'd be willing to help out, please sign up on the sheet in the Church School hallway. Please, if possible, remember to sign up for one two week unit.



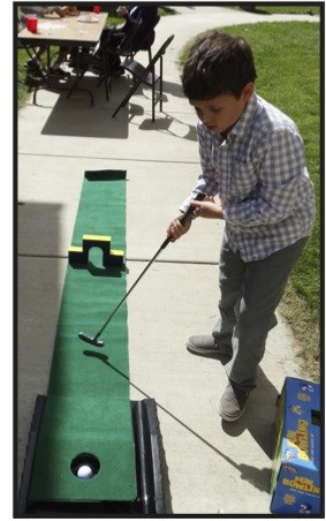
WHOOO WOULDN'T LOVE THIS CRAFT



SUPPLIES: PINECONE, BLACK EYELASH TRIM/BLACK FEATHERS, YELLOW SCRAP OF FELT, 2 GOOGLE EYES, & GLUE.

Glue a bit of eyelash trim/black feathers to back of google eyes, then glue the google eyes to the pinecone. Then, cut the little yellow felt into a small triangle and glue between the eyes. Now, you have a wise guy! <http://www.freekids-crafts.com/wise-guy-owl-pine-cone-craft/>

PLAYING GAMES



FUN



FRIENDS

YOUTH TIDINGS

OCTOBER, 2015

63RD EDITION

5TH & 6TH GRADE & SR. HIGH

5th & 6th and Senior High Youth Fellowship will be working together in October to create and host a (mildly spooky) FUN House for the church school children on the Sunday before Halloween. Watch email and mail for developing details.



to ALL the youth for the help during the Fall Church Picnic in September especially the Senior High Youth made signs, set-up and ran yard games, did lots of food preparation, and clean-up!

WOW what an awesome effort and team!

FUN FALL TRIVIA

1. What is the first day of fall called?
2. How long does autumn last in the Northern hemisphere?
3. What is a harvest moon?
4. If September means seven in Latin, why is it the 9th month of the year?

1. autumnal equinox 2. from the autumnal equinox until the winter solstice or about mid-Sept to mid-December 3. the full moon which occurs closest to the autumnal equinox 4. When it was named by the Romans, the calendar started in March so September was the 7th month of the year. When Julius Caesar created the Julian calendar, the first month was changed to January

ANSWERS

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

I CANNOT ENDURE TO WASTE ANYTHING SO PRECIOUS AS AUTUMNAL SUNSHINE BY STAYING IN THE HOUSE.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE

CONFIRMATION CAMP REPORT

In the summer, the confirmands have an opportunity to spend a week at the Summer Confirmation Camp Retreat Experience. They spent six days learning about Worship & Prayer, Bible, Church History, Introduction to World Religions, Christian Living, and Mission & Service. There is also time for fun and games like going to the beach, dunes rides, blueberry picking, and Captain Mike's Fun Park which includes go karts, bumper boats, bumper cars, and mini-golf.

Here's what **ALYSSA BURKEEN** had to say about her week:

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION? A time when I learn about my faith.

ARE RELIGION AND FAITH THE SAME THING?

No. Faith is more of what you believe.

Religion is what you do.

DOES THE LOCATION OF WORSHIP MATTER?

The location of worship does not matter. The Amish worship in homes or barns. Jesus worshipped in field or on hillsides.

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU LEARNED THAT YOU THOUGHT WAS INTERESTATING?

I learned how similar the religions were to each other. I learned that Martin Luther made a "95 Thesis" of complaints. I learned the UCC is a bunch of branches that came together.

WHAT DID YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT THE FUN THINGS?

I liked the bumper cars at Captain Mike's. I liked the beach. Flying the kite was hard. I liked the tie-dying. We didn't do it like usual, though. I likes how we put the dye in squirt guns and shot each other's shirts instead.

WHAT WOULD YOU TELL OTHERS ABOUT THIS WEEK?

It was awesome! I was deer and wild turkeys, went to the beach, went on dune rides, played games and slept on a bunk bed.



BEGINNING A NEW YEAR



SINGING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD



ENJOYING THE FALL CHURCH PICNIC

YUMMY FOOD & Pesky Bees



ARTISTIC FACE PAINTING BY
CHRIS
KIERSTEAD



Joys & Concerns



Hospitalized:
Marlene Pearson, Amber Hardin, Susan Davis.

Visit us on the web
at
www.newenglandchurch.org

OUR STAFF & CHURCH OFFICERS

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A Caring Church for Thinking People

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Assistant Minister: Joe Dunham
Minister of Education & Mission: Mike Daly
Office Administrator: Shelley Lund
Preschool Director: Jacquie May
Director of Children's Ministry: Audra Darché
Minister of Music: Ina Heup
Children's Choir Accompanist: Beth Ann Miller
Organists/Pianists: Marilyn Parolini, Arlene Thurow
Handbell Director: Cathy Canfield-Jepson
Wedding/Funeral Coordinator: Nancy Richmond
Nursery Care: Jenni Moses, Susan Kleinwachter
Custodian: John Hett
Building Maintenance: Todd Jones

Moderator: Rose May
Moderator-elect: Bob Lundquist
Treasurer: Andy Sprau
Clerk: Cheryl Vonhoff

**"God
Is Still
Speaking"**

