



MUSINGS

As a “caring church for thinking people,” we strive to be good caregivers, particularly to those who have been through serious medical procedures in the hospital. Cards are signed by the congregation, Gary or Joe make personal calls on extended hospital stays, and the Deacons send cards, all to let people know we care and keep them in prayers.

The general guideline these past years has been to send cards and make calls on overnight hospitalizations. We have not included people who have had day surgery because they have in the past not been as critical as overnight stays.

However, the increase in day surgeries for critical situations has increased, and fewer people are in the hospital overnight. Consequently, we’re changing the guidelines to adjust to a new age in medical technology, and will be signing cards for those who are having day surgery as well.

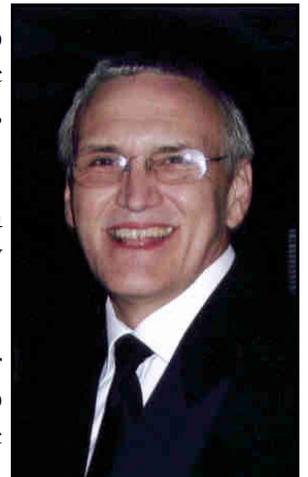
To do this, we will need your help in informing us of your upcoming procedures, whether day surgery or overnight. Send an email to Gary and Shelley to let us know of the dates. Please don’t assume that someone else has already contacted us; if you know of anyone undergoing a serious procedure and a card of support would be appreciated, please let us know.

I’d like to ask you to email me of any such procedures rather than telling me on Sunday. I am focused on other things on Sunday mornings, and by the time I get to the office to write it down, three or four others may have also given me information, and I’m bound to forget something along the way. It will be helpful to have it in print.

In addition, I have developed a team of volunteers who are willing to make hospital calls when I’m unable to respond, or am out of town. I’m grateful to those who have agreed to help in this regard. They will provide “friendly visits” to let you know of the church’s concern, our prayers, and our ongoing care during your illness.

Thanks for your help in making this transition to include more people in our caring ministry. As always, please contact me if I can be of help to you pastorally; as your pastor, I want to be available to you to be of emotional and spiritual support.

And thanks to all of you for being “a caring church for thinking people.”



Gary



Articles for the next Tidings, which is a July/August combined issue, are due June 15. Thank you!

'Conversations With Gary'

Join Gary at Ballydoyle Irish Pub in downtown Aurora for conversations on the subjects you wish to discuss. Everyone buys their own food and drink.

LUNCHTIME at 11:30 am:
 Monday, June 4
 Tuesday, June 12
 Wednesday, June 20
 Thursday, June 28



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



The next NECC Men's Poker Night will be June 8. Anyone interested in playing Texas-Hold'em is welcome to gather at Chestnut House at 7:00pm. Don't forget to bring your favorite drink and snack along with your \$20 buy-in. Contact Bill Donnell with questions.



ARE YOU RECEIVING YOUR COPY OF THE MONTHLY TIDINGS?

Some of us receive it by mail, and some electronically. If you aren't receiving your copy, please contact Shelley in the church office.

SUMMER PARK PLAY DATES

This is a chance to relax and enjoy some down-time with your New England friends and family. No need to sign up! Just come and bring your children along with a snack to one of our summer Park Play Dates at 10:00am.



June 13 — Washington School Park - Host: Ann Eifler
 July 11 — Blackhawk Park – Host: Desiree Guzman
 August 8 — Waubensee Lake Park - Host: Jill Sprau

World Relief at Chestnut House



July 9- August 2, World Relief will be holding an English tutoring program Monday – Thursday at Chestnut House. Mondays and Wednesdays, for 6th-8th graders, our session will be from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. Tuesdays and Thursdays, we will have a morning, 10:00 – 11:00 am, and an afternoon, 1:00-2:00 pm, session for 1st-5th graders. We are very excited to offer ELL classes and are fortunate enough to be using District 129 curriculum to do so.

NECC has been a huge support for our youth summer programs through the use of Chestnut House, and we greatly appreciate it. If you would like to volunteer for the tutoring program, please contact Cyndi Fusek at 630.965.2029 or cfusek@wr.org. Thanks so much for your hospitality!

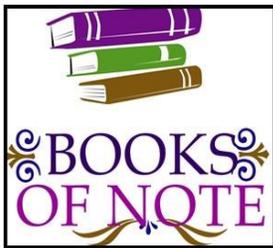
FILM SERIES

June 8: I Remember Mama (1948)

The ups and downs of a Norwegian immigrant family, circa 1910, starring Oscar nominees Irene Dunne, Barbara Bel Geddes, Oskar Homolka and Ellen Corby.
Presenter: Brian Kleemann



BOOKS OF NOTE



Books of Note is now on its summer break, but we're all looking forward to reading over the summer months. In September, we'll be reading *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towle, and in October we are going to discuss *Al Capone and the 1933 World's Fair* by William Elliott Hazelgrove, a Chicago author. We meet every third Tuesday at 7:00pm in the parlor from September through May. Our group is open to anyone who enjoys reading, discussing books and authors, and is looking for an opportunity for fellowship. We read a wide variety of both fiction and non-fiction selections. We would love to have you join us anytime, and look forward to hearing about what people have read over the summer so that we can plan for more great reads and discussions into the next season. Happy reading and we hope to see you at Books of Note in September!



Thank you to everyone who has done an excellent job of keeping their 2018 pledge payments up-to-date!

We would also like to remind you that while you're off vacationing this summer, pledge payments may be made by mail, or you can consider setting up automatic payments through the church's website, www.newenglandchurch.org, click **Donate** Thank you!

NEW ENGLAND PRESCHOOL



On Friday, April 20, New England Preschool held our 13th annual Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The week leading up to the event, the children learned about bike safety, as well as the wonderful hospital and how it helps sick kids. Our preschoolers decorated their bikes and collected pledges from friends and family. They also wrote get well cards to the children at St. Jude's.

The Aurora Police Department met our riders on that beautiful spring morning. The officers came on their bikes, reviewed bike safety rules, and led the children on the first lap around the parking lot.

Our wonderful riders raised \$3200! We are proud of all of them and grateful to the APD for their continued support of this amazing event.



Pride Parade

For those walking in the Pride Parade, please meet at the church at 10:00 am on June 17 and walk to the Parade starting point from here. We need a few to go save our place in the lineup. Those going after church will leave by 10:45 or so to meet those who are already there. We have about 75 walkers and one 1929 Model A Ford named "Eleanor" who will accompany us.



AN INTERFAITH JOURNEY



Israel-An Interfaith Trip with Temple B'nai Israel and New England Church-February 20-March 2, 2019. Join Rabbi Ed Friedman, Rev. Gary McCann, and the communities of our two congregations as we explore the country of Israel, visiting religious and historical sites and engaging in conversation with military experts, peace activists, and citizens of this 70 year old country. We will visit museums, biblical sites, experience home hospitality, and feel the vibrancy of the old and new as it is mixed together in the modern country of Israel. If you are interested or need more information, please contact gary@newenglandchurch.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer to work at the Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry -NECC sends volunteers to work in the warehouse and/or to restock shelves every 2nd and 3rd Monday of the month from 3:00-4:00 pm. The location is 110 Jericho Road, Aurora. Thank you!



June, 2018
Vol. 6

Tiny Tidings

CHURCH SCHOOL SUMMER ADVENTURE: ART IN OUR LIVES 2018

- JUNE 3:** Summer Program Kick Off Lesson
- JUNE 10:** Crocheting: Guest Artist: Sue Herren
- JUNE 17:** Nature and Art: Guest Artist: Nancy Hopp
- JUNE 24:** Painting: Guest Artist: Marilyn LeVasseur



EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILL



Evacuation Drill

On April 8th, all of the church school children (pre-school-4th grade) practiced running through our emergency drills to ensure they all understand the protocol in the event of an actual emergency here at church. The children reviewed where to go if there was a tornado and where to go in the event of a fire. To enhance the lesson, the Aurora Fire Department joined the children at the end of class and talked with the children about the importance of listening and following directions during an emergency. We are grateful to the Aurora Fire Department for their partnership in this very important lesson.

MOTHER'S DAY PROJECT

This year, the children in Pre-K through 4th grade ended the year with a Mother's Day project. The children worked diligently on various projects hoping mom would be impressed with their special gift. The Pre-K and Kindergarten children made breakfast in a bag, 1st & 2nd grade children planted flowers in clay pots, and the 3rd & 4th grade painted a canvas picture for mom. The kids had a blast and we hope all of the moms felt special too!!



CHURCH SCHOOL SUMMER ADVENTURE

Summer Adventure!



Don't forget our summer children's program: Summer Adventure begins on Sunday, June 3rd. This summer, the church school children will be exposed to and engaged in a variety of art forms from oil painting, quilting, watercolor painting, cake decorating, and more. We hope your child will join us on Sunday mornings for these hands on and informative lessons. As a reminder, the children will start in church with their families and then will move into the church school area after "Time with the Children" in church.

STICKY MATTER

Now that the end of the school year is upon us, many of you will find yourself going through your child's backpack to sort through all of their left over school supplies. If you are sorting and come across glue or glue-sticks in good shape, please consider donating your new or gently used glue to the church school classes. Due to the upcoming summer theme of: Art in Our Lives and the various crafts the children do throughout the year, glue has a tendency to go bad quickly. If you do have glue to donate, please drop off to Audra Darche in the church school hallway.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

THANK YOU ANDREA JAMES for your time and dedication this year in teaching our church school children several songs and for leading the production of "In the Image" on Sunday, May 20th. In addition, **A BIG THANKS TO CATHY CANFIELD-JEPSON** for teaching several of our younger children how to play the bells. It has been so exciting to see growth taking place through the music ministry in our church!



Practicing emergency drills with the help of Aurora firemen.



Church School children packed 133 kits for the people at Hesed House.



For Earth Day the children made art projects out of recycled materials.

YOUTH THINGS

JUNE, 2018

91ST EDITION

5TH & 6TH GRADE



In order to maintain the safety standards set by the church, the 5th and 6th graders conducted their own emergency procedure drills on May 6th. The 5th and 6th graders should be well prepared in the event of an emergency. After the emergency drills, the students worked on a special Mother's Day gift. I hope all the mother's enjoyed their special gift!

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

During the month of May, the 5th and 6th graders continued to practice with Mrs. James for the church musical. The student's hard work shined through at the final performance on May 20th. Great job to all those who performed! A big thank you to Mrs. James for all your time and effort with this musical! We look forward to next year's performance.



5TH & 6TH POOL PARTY

A date has been selected for the 5th and 6th grade POOL PARTY this summer!!!!

SAVE THE DATE:

July 15th, 2018 at 12:00PM.



LOOKING AHEAD FOR CONFIRMATION

This summer we plan to start the process of cleaning up and refreshing Chestnut House. When we get our plan in place, we will be looking for students who are willing to help. Also, be on the watch for a fun social event coming in August (maybe something involving water slides?) Enjoy your summer break, but don't be a stranger! We love seeing your smiling faces at church.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to our 2018 confirmands and their mentors!

<u>CONFIRMAND</u>	<u>MENTOR</u>
Madison Buckley	Mim Smith
Shelby Darche	Terri Roseman
Abigail Eller	Lauralyn Theodore
Michael Eller	Bob Lundquist
Ty Jones	Rick Starke
Kelly Roney	Scott Voris
Mary Voris	Harriett Reutter
Sophie Wiencek	Judy Lopez
Sydney Wiencek	Desiree Guzman

We can't wait to see what these amazing young people do next!



HIGH SCHOOL

A lot has been going on with our group!! In late April we hosted a lunch and escape room event for the Confirmation Class. We had a great turn out and the kids had a fun time. Plus, they escaped before their time was up!! It was so amazing to see the two classes work together to solve the puzzles. On Mother's Day the High School Youth Group had a mini celebration with their moms at the Chestnut House. We played a game, had some snacks and there were prizes, too. What a fun way for the mom's to celebrate their special day.



Confirmands at Chestnut House.



Youth at All in Adventures Escape House.



Gary takes the confirmands on a tour of the Art Institute.

Confirmands with their faith projects.



**“God
Is Still
Speaking”**



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A Caring Church for Thinking People

**Visit us on the web
at
www.newenglandchurch.org**

Joys & Concerns

Baptisms:

Willem Turner Farnum, son of Scott & Alicia Farnum.

Hospitalized:

Ally Snicker



OUR STAFF & CHURCH OFFICERS

Senior Minister: Gary L. McCann
Assistant Minister: Joe Dunham
Office Administrator: Shelley Lund
Preschool Director: Jacquie May
Director of Education Ministries: Audra Darché
5th & 6th Grade Education: Kathy Kokkinos
7th & 8th Grade Education: Desiree Guzman
9th–12th Grade Education: Lesley Myers
Chancel Choir Director: Jon Warfel
Children’s Choir Director: AnDréa James
Organists/Pianists: Marilyn Parolini, Arlene Thurow
Handbell Director: Cathy Canfield-Jepson
Director of Community Life: Ann Eifler
Wedding Coordinator: Nancy Richmond
Nursery Care: Jenni Moses, Susan Kleinwachter
Custodian: John Hett
Building Maintenance: Todd Jones

Moderator: Scott Voris
Moderator-elect: Brian Kleemann
Treasurer: Andy Sprau
Clerk: Judy Lopez