

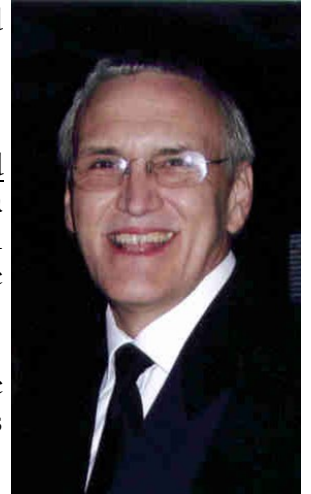


MUSINGS

As the autumn season comes upon us, and we look forward to setting our clocks ahead one hour in November, it is the season of our annual stewardship campaign at New England Church.

There is good news as we enter our campaign for 2019. We began 2018 with a balanced budget and in 2017 our income was greater than our expenditures. This provides a strong foundation for the coming year as we continue our ministry as “a caring church for thinking people.” Thanks to all who have given so generously to allow us to continue our ministry with a strong budget and prayerful support of the congregation.

However, we cannot rest on our laurels. Our thank you to one another must also be followed by our encouraging one another to continue this same pattern of generous giving in order to go into 2019 with a strong financial foundation.



Our Education Ministry, our Outreach Ministry, and our Music Ministry continue to be inspiring. New members have joined our church family this year, and while we are operating without a second clergyperson, our programs are strong. Thanks to Joe Dunham and Martin Forward for their continued preaching ministry. All of our boards have been good stewards of their financial resources, staying under budget while offering high-end programs that engage and challenge us.

By the time you receive this, you will have heard from three of our families' faith journeys, why they chose to join New England Church, and why they continue to support our ministry. These stories remind us why we support this church. You will have also received your stewardship booklet that shares the dreams of our various boards for future ministry.

Thanks for carefully, prayerfully, and generously offering your pledge for the coming year. And while some of you give financially to the church but don't pledge, I would encourage you to consider making a “good-faith pledge” so we can more accurately create a helpful budget for the coming year.

It's also very helpful, and cost-effective, if you will contribute by automatic deduction from your checking or savings account. This saves the 3% fees we must pay for credit card charges while also creating a steady income throughout the year. However, any way you choose to give will be greatly appreciated.

Remember that we are entirely dependent on the voluntary financial contributions of the congregation to support our budget. We have no reserves that provide budget support.

Please join Judy and I as we make our pledge to support the church for another year of exciting and challenging ministry. In anticipation of your generous support, I thank you.

Gary

LITTER CLEAN-UP-CHURCH GROUNDS

An opportunity for exercise and fresh air! We need families, friends or individuals to walk the church campus collecting the litter that accumulates in the bushes and along the fence lines. Do you have an hour once every month or two to help? Sign up in the church office or from the website home page via the orange "Signup Station" button. You will find the activity listed for every Friday but you may do the work whenever you can in advance of Sunday services. Bring a bag to collect what you find and place it in the dumpsters at the west end of the parking lot. Questions to Jan Mamminga - jrmamminga@yahoo.com.

Thank you to our initial "Litter Clean-up" volunteers: Jerry Roesner, Judy O'Brien, Nancy Hopp, John Roesch.



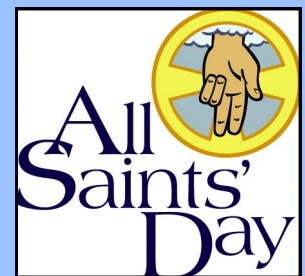
PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE



Please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 18 or 25 so we can take your picture and collect any new contact information. No need to sign-up and it's a quick and easy process. Todd will be taking photos in Friendship Hall (3rd floor off the elevator) from 9:00 - 9:45 am and 11:00 - 11:45 am on those days.

If you aren't available to have your picture taken this time but have new contact information or would like to submit a photo, please email Shelley in the church office at shelley@newenglandchurch.org or call 630.897.8721.

On Sunday, November 4 at both the 8:30 and 10:00 am services, we will remember those of our church family who have gone before us, calling special attention to those who have died within the past year.



Stewardship: We Need Your Support



Stewardship Sunday is November 4.

We ask that you review our Stewardship Booklet, *A Bridge to the Future*, and bring your financial and service pledge page to church with you on Stewardship Sunday.

If you are unable to attend service that day, we ask that you turn in your pledge page to the church office at your earliest convenience.

Members and friends of New England have responded positively to our church needs over the years. We request that you carefully and prayerfully consider your support of the church.

If possible, we ask that you consider an increased contribution to New England in 2019. Your positive response will sustain both our current and future church programs.

FILM SERIES

NOVEMBER 9: The Miracle Worker (1962)

The story of Annie Sullivan's struggle to teach the blind and deaf Helen Keller how to communicate features Oscar winners Anne Bancroft and Patty Duke.

Presenter: Brian Kleemann



Looking Ahead:
Our annual
Hanging of the Greens Service
will be
December 2
at the 10:00 am service.



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!



Our annual Pianorama is Sunday, November 18 at 10:00 am. This year we have 14 pianists playing on 7 pianos. We hope you will join us for a Sunday of making music and giving thanks.

Men's Group to Ring Bells for Salvation Army



NECC Men's Fellowship will ring bells for the Salvation Army once again (a 19 year tradition!) this Christmas season. Please save the date of Monday, December 3, from 5:00 to 7:00pm. Sign up includes one or two hour time slots. There will be a sign up sheet in the church office beginning November 4. Bells, buckets, and aprons will be at the collection locations.

Jerry Roesner will give you your assigned location on Sunday, December 2. If you are unable to be at the church that Sunday, please call Jerry (630.892.1904) to obtain your location assignment.

In keeping with past tradition, we again assure moderate weather and a delicious meal and other nourishment will follow at the home of Jim and Jan Mamminga 1636 W. Downer Pl., Aurora. If you are not able to ring, we invite you, nonetheless, to join us for dinner and enjoy the fellowship of the giving season.

Annual Cookie Walk

The Cookie Walk cookie sale will take place in Friendship Hall on Sunday, December 2 immediately following the Hanging of the Greens worship service. Buy your homemade Christmas cookies for your holiday parties, gift boxes, or just to have around the house while you wrap presents.



BAKERS NEEDED, if you are able to bake cookies for the event, please sign up in the Marketplace on Sunday mornings November 11, 18, & 25 or use our Sign-Up kiosks in the church office or on your own device. Proceeds go to support our Senior High Youth program.

"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME"



The Neighbor Project (formerly Emmanuel House) and The Paramount Theatre are teaming up for an exclusive and memorable Holiday Family Experience that combines the theme of The Paramount's upcoming Holiday show, The Wizard of Oz, with the Mission of The Neighbor Project to highlight the importance of "home," and to help lower-income families realize the dream of owning their own home.

This special ticket package includes a ticket to the 5:30 pm show on Sunday, December 30 as well as to a VIP post-show dinner and dessert reception across the street at The Meyer Ballroom that includes appearances and photo-ops with several of the Actors from the show!

Tickets for the show and VIP reception—which are not available to the General Public—are only \$75 and benefit both The Paramount and The Neighbor Project. While the purchase of these tickets is not tax-deductible, donations are being accepted for anyone wishing to sponsor a ticket for a child or family member—who might not otherwise be able to see a Broadway show—for one of the families currently saving for Homeownership through The Neighbor Project's program. Tickets will go on sale in the Marketplace in early December.



IT'S WINTER DINNER TIME AGAIN!

Sign Ups Begin November 4

As the weather turns cooler, think about the warmth and fellowship of the NECC Winter Dinners that are coming up in January, February and March. These are delightful occasions to renew old friendships and get acquainted with other NECC folks you may not have known before, all while you relax and enjoy a delicious meal in a comfortable home.

Here's how it works:

Sign up during November to come to one, two or all three dinners. We will be in the Marketplace at church every Sunday between services and after the 10:00 am service. You do not have to commit to specific dates; just tell us which months you can come. Couples and singles are equally welcome.

You will be randomly assigned to a group of 8 – 10 people in each month you want to participate. There will be as many groups as are needed to accommodate everyone.

The volunteer host of your group will contact you to set up a date for your dinner that works for everyone.

There is no requirement to host a dinner if you don't want to. All you have to do is bring a dish to share for each one you attend.

We would also welcome help from anyone who would like to work with us to organize these dinners. We especially need someone with better computer skills than ours who can create a program to help with the creation of the groups and perform a few other technical tasks. Our contact information is in the church directory. Thank you!

So plan to stop by our table in the Marketplace during November. We'll be glad to answer your questions and sign you up. Hope to see you!

Barbara King and Mary Jane Ditzler

new ENGLAND PRESCHOOL

Mayor Richard Irvin visited New England Preschool. He read to the students as we participated in the annual Read for the Record. We all enjoyed listening to and talking with him. He also toured our preschool and congratulated us on our 70th anniversary.





Joe & Lindsey Arko
2224 N. Leavitt St.
Apt. 1R
Chicago, IL 60647

Rick & Audra
1523 Parkfield Ct.
Naperville, IL. 60543

'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, November 5

Tuesday, November 13

Wednesday, November 21

Thursday, November 29



Inquirer's Meeting & Building Tour

Inquirer's Meetings for those interested in learning more about New England Church will be held on the following Sundays at 11:15 am in the third floor Chapel. November 11 * January 13

This PowerPoint presentation will give you a thumbnail sketch of our history, our program, our mission, and our future. It will also give you a chance to ask questions. If you are interested in attending, let Gary or Kimberly Adams know. And if you need child care during that time, please indicate that so we can provide nursery care.



Building Tours will be offered on the following Sundays at 11:15 am. November 18 * January 20
Gary will take you around our three buildings explaining a bit of New England Church history, some of the artwork around the church, and point out some of the important and functional features of our buildings.

POINSETTIAS

ORDER DEADLINE: November 18, 2018

I would like to order _____ poinsettias through the church to be used as a chancel decoration during the Christmas holidays. At \$15.00 each, I enclose my check or cash for \$_____. I will leave my poinsettia until after the December 24 worship service. **PLEASE PRINT**

To Remember: _____

Signed _____

Women's Circle of Friends

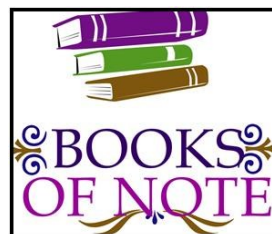
Women's Circle of Friends



Women's Circle of Friends will be trying out a new Aurora downtown restaurant on Saturday, November 10 at 10:00 am. Calla Lily is located at 83 S. LaSalle St. Park across the street or meet at the church at 9:30 am and we can carpool. This Victorian tea room has their menu online, plus serves daily quiches. We made reservations for 18, so sign up online or in the church office. Please note that we are meeting for brunch at 10:00 am, rather than our usual time.

Books Of Note

Books of Note will be meeting on Tuesday, November 13 at 7:00 pm in the parlor to discuss *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng. This bestseller is described as "a contemporary novel about a seemingly-perfect family in Shaker Heights, OH, whose lives are turned upside down by a custody battle which divides the town." Please join us for lively discussion and fellowship. New members are always welcome, whether you have read the book or not. Hope to see you there!



Don't forget to
turn your clocks
back the night
of
Saturday,
November 3!

Angel Tree



This year we will be distributing gifts to students in two schools: the Greenman School and the Dieterich School. The Christmas Angels will be hung on the tree in the Marketplace on November 18 & 25. We ask that you wrap and label your gift (for the angel you selected) and deliver these gifts to the Marketplace area no later than

December 9, so that we can deliver them to the schools on December 14.

Consider selecting an angel this holiday season; sign up in the Marketplace to buy a Christmas surprise for a child that may be less fortunate than most.

...and they will know we are Christians by our love.

November, 2018

Vol. 10

Tiny Tidings

CHURCH SCHOOL CALENDAR

- NOVEMBER 4** Joseph
3rd-4th Music class with Mrs. James
- NOVEMBER 11** Joseph
- NOVEMBER 18** PreK-2nd Grade Music class with Mrs. James
3rd & 4th Graders serve Coffee Fellowship after 10:00 AM service
- NOVEMBER 25** Ornament Workshop
PreK-4th Graders Sing in Church

SAFETY TALK

To ensure safety in our church school classes, walkie-talkies have been purchased, programed, and placed in each of our church school classes. Due to our ever changing world, the BEM and our church school education staff agreed that having access to immediate communication in the event of an emergency is important in our church. In addition, the walkie-talkies allow our volunteer teachers to communicate immediately with our Director of Children's Ministry if there is a sick child, injury, or any other type of emergency. The walkie-talkies that were purchased are digital and are user friendly, and can also be used off-site at various fun events to keep in touch with one another.



HALLOWEEN FUN HOUSE



to the our current 5th & 6th grade youth and confirmation students, along with their teachers: Kathy Kokkinos and Desiree Guzman at New England Church for putting together another amazing Halloween Fun House for our 1st - 4th grade children. The church school children wore their costumes, participated in seasonal activities, and enjoyed the Halloween snacks at Chestnut House on Oct. 28th. It was truly an enjoyable day for all.

CUP OF JOE

During the month of November, the church school children will continue the tradition of selecting a Sunday in November to host coffee fellowship for the congregation. This year, the children will be hosting on Sunday, November 18th after the 10:00 AM service. All the church school classes and families (PreK-4th grade) will participate in bringing treats to fill the table in the narthex and the 3rd and 4th grade children will serve during the coffee fellowship time. Make sure to mark this date on your calendar and keep an eye out for the treat sign up.



Coffee Fellowship

ORNAMENT WORKSHOP



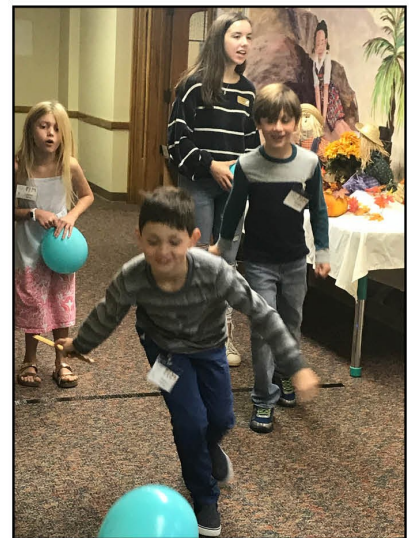
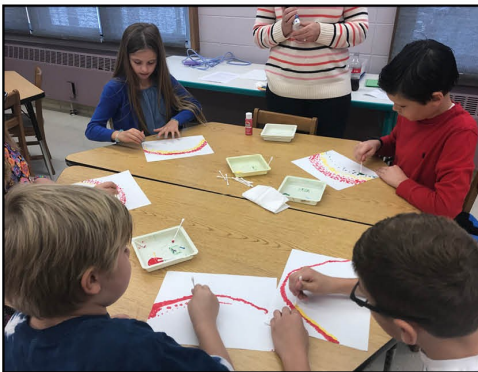
On Sunday, November 25 the church school classes will be making various ornaments to adorn the Christmas tree in the Sanctuary. Then, once the ornaments are completed, the children will be asked to hang their creations during the Hanging of the Greens service on Sunday, Dec. 2nd. If your child is unable to attend church school during the ornament workshop, extra ornaments will be made so they can still participate in the annual Hanging of Greens service.



<<<<The 1st and 2nd graders painting and designing their own snake to help them remember the story of Adam and Eve.

The children were able to identify the difficulty Noah had when loading the animals onto the ark by playing a game. The children were asked to guide their bouncing balloon(animal) across the room to the other side which was identified as the ark.

The children created rainbow art to help remind us of God's promise to never flood the earth again.



The children worked together to line up the animals in pairs just like in the story of Noah's Ark.



Children learning to play the ukuleles with Mrs. James our music director.

YOUTH TIDINGS

NOVEMBER, 2018

95TH EDITION

5TH & 6TH GRADE HELPING HANDS PROJECT

THANK YOU



Chestnut House was transformed into a Halloween Fun house during the 5th and 6th graders first Helping Hands project for the year. The 5th and 6th graders diligently worked with the Confirmation Class to decorate for the Halloween event. Then, on October 28th, the 5th and 6th graders led the younger church school children in fun Halloween games. You may have seen some of our ghosts and goblins parading around the church before the event. A **SPOOKTACULAR** time was had by all!

CONFIRMATION LOCK-IN

Confirmation Students will participate in an **OVERNIGHT LOCK-IN AT CHESTNUT HOUSE ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2ND.**

We will explore the Mexican Tradition of Dia de Los Muertos and create our own "ofrenda" to honor the people of faith who have gone before us and continue to inspire us. If you are a parent, mentor, or friend of a confirmation aged student, this is a great time to share stories about people in your life who have passed away, but whose legacy continues to inspire and motivate you.

CONFIRMATION FIELD TRIP

On Sunday September 30th, Confirmation students visited St. David's Episcopal Church in Aurora as a part of our effort to help students learn about and develop respect for diverse faith traditions. We have two more visits planned for this school year. We will visit a synagogue in February and one more location TBD in March.

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT

November 3rd, high school youth will join the confirmation class after their lock-in at 8:30 AM for breakfast at the Chestnut house. Then, we will head out to rake leaves for church members who live nearby. The entire event will take place from approximately 8:30 AM-12:30 PM.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ACTIVITY MEETING

On November 4th Lesley Myers will be hosting a High School Youth & Parent Activity meeting at the Chestnut House immediately following church. This will not be a class meeting, but will instead provide an opportunity for the students to identify events that they would like to participate in and also a chance for parents to share what events they would be willing to help out with.

I HOPE THAT ALL THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS (OR PARENT) CAN JOIN US!!



We are still in need of parent helpers for our high school classes.

Classes are held immediately after church for 45 minutes

on Sunday morning. Being

a parent helper is super easy!!

You do not teach but instead

just provide an extra set of eyes within the classroom setting. If interested, please contact Audra Darche or Lesley Myers to secure the date that works best for you.

5TH & 6TH GRADE SPECIAL EVENT

NOVEMBER 25: ORNAMENT WORKSHOP IN FRIENDSHIP HALL
(5TH & 6TH GRADE PARTICIPATE AND ASSIST YOUNGER CHILDREN).

THESE ORNAMENTS WILL ADORN THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE SANCTUARY ON DEC. 2ND.

A FUN TIME AT JONAMAC APPLE ORCHARD



***“God
Is Still
Speaking”***



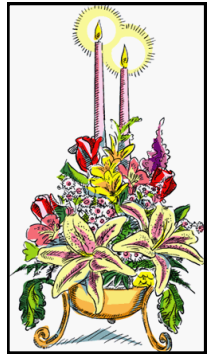
New England Congregational
Church-UCC
406 W. Galena Blvd. Aurora, IL. 60506
Phone: 630.897.8721
Fax: 630.897.8744
Email: office@newenglandchurch.org
A Caring Church for Thinking People

Visit us on the web
at
www.newenglandchurch.org

Joys & Concerns

Hospitalized:

Kim Peterson, Judy McCann, Bob Bergman, Bonnie Hardin,
Bob Dell.



OUR STAFF & CHURCH OFFICERS

Senior Minister: Gary L. McCann

Assistant Minister: Joe Dunham

Assistant to the Minister: Martin Forward

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: Kimberly Adams

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