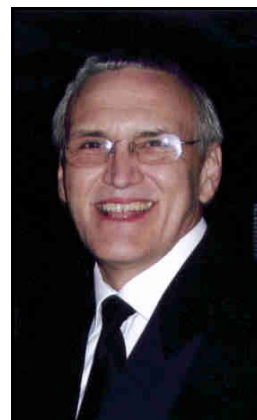




Musings

Change is inevitable in this life. With change comes new opportunities for growth and ministry. We were saddened by the resignation of AnDrea James, our Children's Choir Director after three years of making inspiring music with our youth. AnDrea did an amazing job bringing music to our Church school as well as directing the play "Life of the Party" in May. Twenty-one of our Church School children participated in singing this Biblical story of Mary and Martha. We will miss AnDrea, and wish her well. Her husband is a UCC minister in West Dundee and a good friend of mine; she felt the need to be with him on Sundays instead of with us, which I understand completely! We are grateful for the three years she served in this capacity at NECC.



But I'm happy to announce that Ina Heup has agreed to return as the Children's Choir Director. Having resigned three years ago to care for family members after 27 years of involvement in our music program, Ina is now able to renew her leadership with our youth music program. She will work with Audra Darché to integrate the music program with our Church School children as well as the annual musical that everyone so much enjoys. We welcome Ina back with grateful appreciation for past years and the prospect of the years to come.

The closing of the Preschool after 70 years of kindergarten preparation for thousands of kids in Aurora has sadness for all who were part of this great school. However, the closing of the school caught the attention of a social service agency—World Relief—in Aurora that was looking for space to expand their English as a Second Language program. A component of this program is childcare for preschool children of the adults who are in the class, and the first and second floor of the education wing are ideal for that purpose. We have the space they need and the security that is so important these days.

I have met with the leaders of World Relief on three separate occasions to talk about the possibility. Audra Darché and Desiree Guzman also met with them to discuss the use of the space. Desiree has worked with WR for several years and speaks highly of the organization and the service they provide for Aurorans.

After we worked through some of the details, it came to the Cabinet on Monday, June 24, for consideration. The Cabinet discussed the possibility, sharing positive feedback and concerns, and has decided to recommend to the congregation that we partner with this worthwhile and much-needed program. Please note the special meeting being called by our Moderator Brian Kleemann for Sunday, July 14 following the 10:00 am service.

World Relief is an organization that offers many services and assistance to those families in Aurora who want to integrate into the local culture. English as a Second Language is one of their important programs where adults and their pre-school children not only learn the language but gain help in interviewing for jobs and learn life skills that will serve them well here in Aurora. They are supported by 29 churches, 24 businesses, 16 private foundations, 10 community groups and over 500 people who invest in this life-transforming program. Last year they served over 5,300 people in this area. We hope to be added to the list of supporting churches as they find a new home to offer ESL classes.

As we embrace the changes that have come our way, we also embrace the opportunities for ministry in the future. Thanks for your continued support of our great church.

Gary

Exploring the United Church of Christ

UCC Faith Community Nurse Network



"Throughout scripture, God calls people of faith to healing. Church Health cultivates relationships with individuals and congregations to encourage, educate and equip people to build and sustain healing ministries. As an integral part of a healing ministry, faith community nursing is one of the best ways a congregation can promote health and wholeness. - Faith Community Nursing website."

I've been interested in the Parish Nurse programs since its beginnings in the 1980's. Developed by Granger Westberg through Advocate's Lutheran General Hospital in Park Forest, the program envisioned teaming professional nurses serving in local congregations in order to promote health, prevent illness, and care for those in need. According to Rev. Robert Baylor, retired chaplain at Advocate's Christ Hospital, we were very much involved with the parish nursing programs from the very beginning. The program originally was established as a three-year program through a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. The operation began with six registered nurses. Parish Nursing grew dramatically from its beginnings.

United Church of Christ congregations were among the first to adopt the Parish Nurse program, making it available to our local churches and providing financial aid and assistance where needed. The United Church of Christ entered the program by setting up the UCC Parish Nurse Network. In 1997 General Synod 21 passed a resolution titled "Reclaiming the Churches' Ministry on Health and Healing", resolving to encourage "local congregations to develop/include in their mission a commitment to health and wholeness, engage health and wholeness issues through an ongoing health cabinet/health ministry team, and consider the implementation of a health ministry/parish nurse program." As the program continued to grow, the Parish Nurse Network became the UCC Faith Community Nurse Network.

The program was originally designed to provide a Parish Nurse as a paid staff member of the local Church. When I served a congregation in Strasburg, Ohio, we had an active clergy group in town from three local congregations, Lutheran, Methodist and United Church of Christ. All three of us had one or more nurses in our congregations. We designed a Parish Nursing program that enlisted volunteer nurses who would rotate responsibilities and provide a nursing presence in each of our churches. They maintained a visible presence in the congregations by providing free blood pressure clinics in each congregation once a month. We also sponsored a continuing education seminar for participating and interested nurses in conjunction with Kent State University,

Today, Faith Community Nursing is recognized as a specialty nursing practice by the American Nursing Association. Parish nurses continue to provide health care services to their congregations and to the wider community. Over the years the scope of parish nursing has dramatically expanded. It is now fully international and widely ecumenical. Now called *faith community nursing*, there are now 15,000 participating nurses. Although they are primarily in the United States, faith community nurses are also working in 29 countries, including Australia, the Bahamas, Canada, England, Ghana, India, Kenya, Korea, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Palestine, Pakistan, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Ukraine, Wales, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The mission of faith community nursing is to intentionally integrate the practices of faith and nursing so that people can achieve wholeness in, with, and through the community of faith in which they serve.

The UCC Faith Community Nurses, along with the Health Care Justice Program, currently comes under the auspices of the Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ. The Faith Community Nurse is in many ways a revival of the work of the Parish Deaconess of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Recall that the Deaconess movement sought to train young women "spiritually, intellectually and technically." The modern Faith Community nurse is called upon to treat each individual in the wholeness of body, mind and spirit. Beyond the role of the Parish Nurse, the Network seeks to embody the General Synod resolution to inform and engage UCC congregations in ministries of health and healing for the benefit of each congregation and the community it serves.

Fred R. Krauss



A congregational meeting is being called for Sunday, July 14, following the 10:00 am service to consider the Cabinet's proposal that we partner with World Relief DuPage/Aurora, allowing them to use our vacated preschool rooms for their English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. Please make every effort to be present.

Thank you!
Brian Kleemann, Moderator



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!



'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, July 1

Tuesday, July 9

Wednesday, July 17

'Conversations with Gary' will NOT meet in August.



Join us at the Ballpark for a Kane County Cougar Baseball Game!

Monday, August 5 at 6:30 pm.

We have great seats in Section 112, on the third base line! Tickets are \$5 each and will be on sale in the Marketplace on July 21, July 28 and August 4.

Half priced premium and craft beer night.

Fun for the whole family. Ask us about discounted Parking Rates.

FALL FESTIVAL

NECC's Annual Fall Festival Celebration-Sunday, September 8

The indoor picnic begins after the 10:00 am service with delicious food and fellowship in Friendship Hall. There will be a bounce house, face painting by Dots and Splashes, and a piñata set up in the church garden for the children to enjoy. We invite everyone to join and bring your friends and neighbors. We will need lots of donations of cookies, fresh fruit, salad ingredients, and more. Please watch for sign-ups in the church Marketplace so you can help.



Joys & Concerns

Births:

Cora Lee Box-Lacy, born to Courtney Lacy and John Box on May 29.

Baptisms:

Andrew Jeffrey Brungart, son of Steve & Michelle Brungart.

Hospitalized:

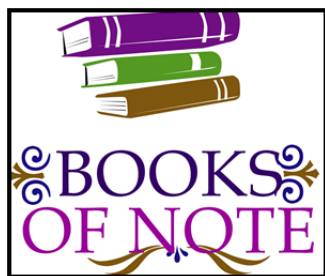
Sally Funk, Beth Ann Miller, Janet Gaff, Marilyn LeVasseur, Pat Demetry, Steve Svendsen.



Deaths:

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Dee Kelly.

BOOKS OF NOTE



Hello fellow readers! While we may be on a summer break, Books of Note is continuing to read.

We are a group that meets the third Tuesday of each month here at NECC at 7:00 pm in the parlor, September through May.

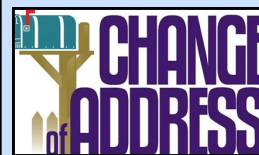
All are welcome to join our group for discussion and fellowship. We read a variety of fiction and non-fiction selections. On Tuesday, September 17, we will be discussing

The Hundred Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of a Window and Disappeared, a novel, by Jonas Jonasson.

Looking ahead to October, our selection is Michelle Obama's memoir, *Becoming*.

In September, we look forward to hearing what people have read over the summer so that we can choose selections for the rest of the 2019-2020 reading season.

We hope you will join us in September for lively discussion and a good time, whether you have read the book or not!



Janet Gaff
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John & Donna
Palmer
1691 Briarheath Dr.
Aurora, IL. 60505

July/August, 2019
Vol. 7

Tiny Tidings

SUMMER ADVENTURE: THINKING GREEN

JULY 7	Caring for Animal- Fox Valley Wildlife Center
JULY 14	Earth Friendly Sing Along- Cathy Canfield-Jepson
JULY 21	Lesson: What is Trash?
JULY 28	Underappreciated Animals-David Taylor (COD)
AUGUST 4	Composting and Worms-Kendall County Forest Preserve
AUGUST 11	Prairie/Land Conservation-Jon Koepke
AUGUST 18	Lesson: Leaving Our Footprint
AUGUST 25	Emissions and Climate-Saurabh Chawdhary-Argonne
SEPT. 1	Lesson: Thinking Green...Now What?

CHURCH SCHOOL SUMMER ADVENTURE



Our summer children's program focusing on Thinking Green is in full force. The program began on June 2nd, and since then, the children have identified ways to keep our planet clean and healthy, while also being exposed to several community organizations that specialize in conservation. It has been exciting to have The Conservation Foundation, Red Oak Nature Center, and our very own Nancy Hopp share their expertise with our class this summer. Remember to keep an eye out for our next guest speaker and we invite you to join us for the remaining summer adventure lessons. As a reminder, the summer program will continue to take place each Sunday until September 1st.

REGISTRATION 2019-2020



Our fall church school registration is right around the corner and to ensure we have every child accounted for our upcoming 2019-2020 church school program, please complete the church school registration form for your child. The forms will be in the church school hallway and can be returned directly to Audra Darche in the church school office. Please remember to register your child/children/grandchildren by September 1st, so we can have rosters and name tags ready for each child.

SAVE THE DATE



On Saturday, August 24th, all church school children and families are invited for another "Feed My Starving Children" packing day from 4:30-6:30 PM. If interested, please sign up on the Feed My Starving Children site by clicking "volunteer" and then entering our code: PDW7X9



CHURCH DONATIONS

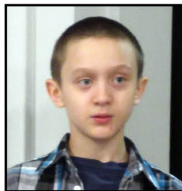
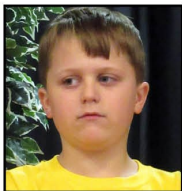
The church school needs glue-sticks for the fall. Please drop off any donations to Audra Darche in the church school hallway.

Thank you!



LIFE OF THE PARTY

(Children's Musical)



Martha & Soloist



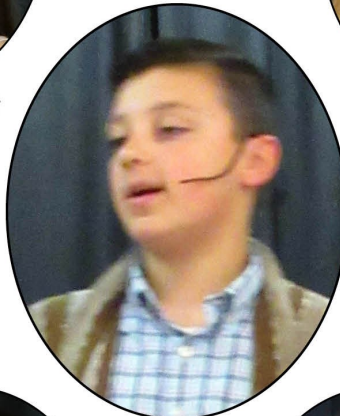
Soloist



Peter



Lazarus



Jesus



Mary & Soloist



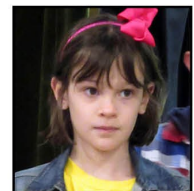
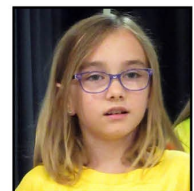
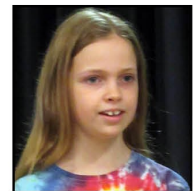
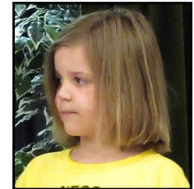
Soloist



Narrator & Soloist



Soloist





THE PERFECT WAY TO END THE
CHURCH
SCHOOL
YEAR



PICNIC

YOUTH TIDINGS

JULY/AUGUST, 2019

103RD EDITION

5TH & 6TH GRADE

Hope everyone is enjoying these short summer months. The new school year will be here before we know it! This past year, the 5th and 6th graders had a great year participating in service activities and fun events and we have many more exciting lessons and activities planned for the upcoming year. As a reminder, **SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL START UP AGAIN ON SEPTEMBER 8TH ALONG WITH THE FALL FESTIVAL** immediately after church! Looking forward to seeing everyone very soon. If you have any questions about our 5th & 6th grade class at New England Church, please contact: Kathy Kokkinos at flyinchippy@yahoo.com

HIGH SCHOOL

We hope all the high school families are enjoying the summer break and we are looking forward to hearing all about summer vacations and experiences when we return to class in September. As a reminder, the Fall Festival will take place on Sunday, September 8th. To ensure all of you can enjoy the good eats and fellowship after church with the larger church community on Sept. 8th, **OUR FIRST HIGH SCHOOL CLASS WILL NOW TAKE PLACE THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH AT 11:05 AM AT THE CHESTNUT HOUSE.** If you have any questions about our high school program, please contact: Lesley Myers at lesley.myers@mchsi.com

ENROLLMENT 2019-2020

Although it seems as if summer has just begun, the planning process for our fall program has already been in the process for at least a month. To ensure, we can identify all who will be participating at each of our church school levels, we are asking all to complete a registration form for each child. This information allows us to better identify our class numbers, but this also helps plan events throughout the year. Please keep an eye out for the upcoming registration form.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation at New England Church is for 7th and 8th grade students and meets 2nd and 4th Sundays from the first Sunday after Labor Day weekend until the first Sunday in May. 8th graders are confirmed in the spring after building a relationship with a mentor from the congregation and completing a faith project. Besides our regular class meetings, we also offer trips, service opportunities, overnights and church visits through-out the year.

CONFIRMATION FALL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS:

- AUG 9-11** Summer Weekend Trip to Lake Michigan/Warren Dunes/Tower Hill
- SEPT. 8TH** First Confirmation Class and New England Fall Festival
- SEPT. 29TH** Confirmation Info Meeting for Parents, Students & Mentors - Mini-Golf Trip
- OCT. 13TH** Decorate Chestnut House for Halloween/Lunch with 5th & 6th grade class
- Nov. 2-3** Lock-in Overnight at Chestnut House

This is just small glimpse of our program. If you have any questions about Confirmation at New England Church, please contact Desiree Guzman 630-564-1849 or desireeguzman@sbcglobal.net



Congrats to all our high school students that graduated this year! We want to wish all of you good luck in all your future endeavors and hope you pop into class occasionally, to say hello.



*“God
Is Still
Speaking”*

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A Caring Church for Thinking People

OUR STAFF & CHURCH OFFICERS

Senior Minister: Gary L. McCann

Assistant to the Minister: Martin Forward

Office Administrator: Shelley Lund

Director of Education Ministries: Audra Darché

5th & 6th Grade Education: Kathy Kokkinos

7th & 8th Grade Education: Desiree Guzman

9th–12th Grade Education: Lesley Myers

Children’s Choir Director: Ina Heup

Chancel Choir Director: Jon Warfel

Organist: Marsha Foxgrover

Assistant Organist: Marilyn Parolini

Handbell Director: Cathy Canfield-Jepson

Director of Community Life: Kimberly Adams

Wedding Coordinator: Nancy Richmond

Nursery Care: Jenni Moses, Hannah Watkins

Custodian: John Hett

Building Maintenance: Todd Jones

Moderator: Brian Kleemann

Moderator-elect: Judy Lopez

Treasurer: Andy Sprau

Clerk: Sally Floyd