



NEW COVENANT COMMUNITY

Progressive | Spiritual | Inclusive

AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATIONS



We are collecting school supplies for Suzie Hutton's team at Bloomington Junior High School again this year (see her thank you note for last year below). The most needed item is pencils. Also needed are colored pencils, highlighters and pocket folders. You can be on the watch for sales of school supplies or leave a check (with school supplies in the memo line) in the plate. Please put your supplies in the container on the back table.



Dear NCC Family,

I have meant to send this "thank you" for quite a long time. The students and staff at Bloomington Junior High School want to thank you for all of the school supplies you donated last year. The teachers were so overwhelmed by your generosity, and knowing that they could easily provide for student needs throughout the year truly created a more peaceful environment. Furthermore, students seemed to treat the donations more respectfully as we could tell them exactly where the pencil, paper, etc. came from. With our school especially hit hard by deficit reductions last year and this year, your generosity helped bridge a major gap for the staff and students.

Again, thank you very much.

Suzie Hutton
7th grade Language Arts Teacher/ Extremely Proud NCC Member



GET READY, GET SET, SMILE! YOU'RE ON NCC CAMERA!

The Steering Committee is in the process of planning a new directory that will include updated photographs and contact information as well as new information on interests and skills. We hope this will facilitate us to better know each other! In the next half of the year we hope to: 1) have several Sunday's where you can get your picture taken, 2) put out some blank member information sheets for you to update your contact information, 3) input the photos and data about NCC members into a new more flexible and sortable database.



Look for specific dates in the coming months. If you are interested in helping with this process please contact, Joe Boudreaux or David Hirst.

New Covenant Community
210 W. Mulberry St.
Normal, IL 61761
309.454.7362
www.nccnormal.org

THE NCC ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE PRESENTS INFORMATION ABOUT “SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING”

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

6pm—Potluck Supper in the Coffeehouse Area

7pm—Program with staff from Domini Social Investing in the Chapel

We hope you will join us for this informational presentation by representatives from Domini Social Investing, where 60% of our NCC Endowment Fund monies are currently invested in their Domini Social Equity Fund. Not only will you learn about how our Endowment funds are helping invest in a healthier, greener, peaceful, and more sustainable future, you will also receive information about considering socially responsible funds for your own personal investments.

“Socially and environmentally concerned investors have social, as well as financial, objectives. The Domini Social Equity Fund seeks to meet these objectives by offering a diversified stock portfolio for long-term capital appreciation that is consistent with social and environmental priorities.” (from the web site)

We’ll begin with an informal potluck in the Coffeehouse Area at 6pm, followed by a program in the Chapel at 7pm. Sign-ups for the potluck will be on the back table at NCC on Sunday mornings later this month. Mark your calendars now for this important evening!

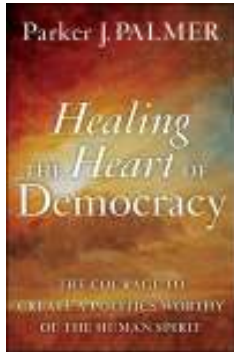


NCC ADULT EDUCATION ACADEMY

The fall 2013 Adult Education Program is gearing up to begin in September.

Sunday Mornings at 9am beginning September 15 ~

“Living the Questions” DVD – Part 3: This is the third of a three-part series, and you have not seen these sections before. You may take this class even if you missed parts 1 and 2.



Healing the Heart of Democracy by Parker Palmer

At a critical time in American life, Parker J. Palmer looks with realism and hope at how to deal with our political tensions for the sake of the common good—without the shouting, blaming, or defaming so common in our politics today. Palmer builds on his own extensive experience as an inner life explorer and social change activist to examine the personal and social infrastructure of American politics. What he did for educators in *The Courage to Teach* he does here for citizens by looking at the dynamics of our inner lives for clues to reclaiming our civic well-being. In *Healing the Heart of Democracy*, he points the way to a politics rooted in the commonwealth of compassion and creativity still found among “We the People.”

Tuesday evenings at 7pm beginning on September 17 ~

Lost Christianities: The Battles for Scripture and the Faiths We Never Knew

by Bart Ehrman

The early Christian Church was a chaos of contending beliefs. Some groups of Christians claimed that there was not one God but two or twelve or thirty. Some believed that the world had not been created by God but by a lesser, ignorant deity. Certain sects maintained that Jesus was human but not divine, while others said he was divine but not human. In *Lost Christianities*, Bart D. Ehrman offers a fascinating look at these early forms of Christianity and shows how they came to be suppressed, reformed, or forgotten.



SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP UPDATE

Toxic Charity: The NCC Steering Committee has authorized the “Partners in Mission” group to recommend how NCC should disperse local mission monies.

IPA: The Immigration Workshop 101 and following service presented by Jen Carrillo of IPA went well.

Book Bike: The NCC community has donated two shopping bags of books in the past month. The book bike bag will continue to be available on the back table for donations.

Interfaith Walk: Several NCC members participated in the walk.

School Supply Project: There will be a school supply drive for BJHS coming in August. Specific information to follow.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be August 14 at Margaret Rutter’s home.

You Are Cordially Invited to Join The NCC Social Justice Group

The NCC Social Justice Group is looking for new members. The group meets the second Wednesday of the month to discuss social justice issues and actions. Fresh ideas are always welcome.

If you are interested, contact a member of the group (Charline Watts, Margaret Rutter, Janet Warfield, Mark Wyman, Julie Sullivan, Joe Boudreaux, or Pam Lubeck).



August Birthdays

- 10 Caroline Fox & Julie Sullivan
- 11 Susan Ryder
- 15 Rhys Lovell
- 22 Mark Austill
- 25 Kathy Vitek
- 26 Elizabeth Anvick & William Lovell
- 29 Sandy Bush
- 30 Ellen Miller-MacCannell
- 31 Carys Lovell

If we don't have your birthday, please let Susan Ryder know so that we can include you next year!



AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday Worship at 10:00am
 Sunday School meets during worship

August 13	6:30 Steering Committee
August 14	7pm Social Justice Meeting
August 20	September newsletter deadline

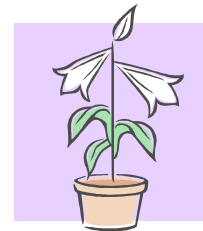
To keep up to date with NCC happenings make sure to check out the NCC calendar online at www.nccnormal.org/calendar.htm

PARTNERS IN HEALING

NCC is a member congregation of Advocate BroMenn Medical Center's "Partner's in Healing" program, which is a project of intentional prayer for specific medical units on a rotating basis with other local congregations. Each congregation is asked to pray for patients receiving medical care in a specific unit, as well as for the staff who are treating them and/or for their families.



NCC will be praying for the patients, families, and staff of Advocate Home Health & Hospice (HHH). Home Health & Hospice provides in-home care to patients in a 50 to 60 mile radius of Bloomington/Normal. Patients range in age from infancy to older adults. Patients include those who were born prematurely, are recovering from illness, injury, or surgery, or are dying.



Sympathy and love to Ruth Reeves on the death of her husband Paul.

NEWSLETTER CALL FOR NEWS

Please share reports and announcements, what you are reading and poetry you've written, or let us know of a news story we could mention.

Please email articles to Susan Ryder at normalsue@aol.com by July 20 for the August newsletter.

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