



# NEW COVENANT COMMUNITY

*Progressive | Spiritual | Inclusive*

NOVEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

## Change your clocks Nov. 3

Remember to set your clocks **BACK** one hour before you go to bed on Sat, Nov. 2 so that you are on time for Sister Simone at NCC the next morning.

Daylight Savings ends at 2 am on Sunday, Nov. 3.



## It's that Time of Year Again

In October you received an emailed stewardship letter from the Steering Committee and a 2013 "Estimate of Giving" form, followed by a 2014 Draft Budget. If you did not them there are copies available at worship on the back table or online:

<http://nccnormal.org/wp-content/uploads/2013-Stew-Letter.pdf>

<http://nccnormal.org/wp-content/uploads/2014-Budget-Draft-Proposal.pdf>

The Steering Committee would like to receive your "Estimate of Giving" forms by Sunday, Dec. 1 if possible, in time for our Dec.3 Steering Committee meeting, where we work on finalizing the budget proposal we will present to the entire congregation for approval at the Dec. 15 Community meeting. There will also be an informational meeting on Sunday, Dec. 8 after the service to update you on expected income, answer questions, and discuss the proposed budget.

Submitting an "Estimate of Giving" form helps us anticipate money we will receive for the coming year, and thus be able to provide more accurate information about projected income to the congregation as we make final budget decisions. Many of you already give generously to NCC each year without submitting a form, and your gifts are greatly appreciated. Turning in a form helps with planning, so if you have not done so in the past, we encourage you to consider doing so this year. Thank you!

## Steering Committee Highlights

The Steering Committee met October 15 to plan options for the 2014 NCC budget, approve new mission giving recommended by the Partners in Mission group (\$250 to Recycling for Families and \$250 to The UNITY Community Center in Normal), and adopt a final version of the Presbyterian Church (USA)-required Sexual Misconduct Policy for Steering Committee members. Kathleen and Susan reported that NCC's records were approved at the October 12 Presbytery Review, and Kim will arrange for our required financial records review before the end of 2013. Marie will arrange for electronic cloud storage to protect ongoing treasury records. Pam and Joe will work together to coordinate the garden groups for NCC and the CRC. Steering Committee and pastors discussed worship arrangements for November (mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter) while they take their last month of Sabbatical time, and planned the budget communications that will precede the December 15 Community Meeting, to give NCC all the information needed for pledging and voting on the final budget.

New Covenant Community  
210 W. Mulberry St.  
Normal, IL 61761  
309.454.7362  
[www.nccnormal.org](http://www.nccnormal.org)



## SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP UPDATE

October 2013

**IPA:** IPA has expressed appreciation for NCC's mission money donation to the immigration reform campaign.

Twenty-five IPA members and supporters completed the two-day walk from Decatur to Taylorville in support of immigration reform. The walk was capped by a rally attended by around 200 people.

IPA leaders plan to meet with representatives from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which is in charge of developing and implementing fracking regulations for the State.

IPA is planning an action on Oct. 19, Global Frackdown Day. There will also be a lobbying day in Springfield on Oct. 23.

**Book Bike:** Karen Schmidt has expressed appreciation for NCC's continued donations to the book bike. The book bike has an ongoing need for donations, especially of children's and Spanish language books.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. at Luther Oaks, Janet Warfield hosting. Charline will chair and Margaret will take minutes.

The SJ group invites all to attend our meetings.



## NOVEMBER PASTORAL COVERAGE

Bob and Susan will be away from Nov. 4 to Dec. 3 for the final month of their sabbatical time. If you have an emergency of any kind, please contact a member of the Steering Committee or the Care Team — their names and contact information can be found in the NCC 2013 Directory. Sundays will be covered by NCC'ers with a variety of great Reflections to share!

**Sunday, Nov. 10** — Amy Stutzman will share how we might become involved as a community in Karen Armstrong's Charter for Compassion Project.

**Sunday, Nov. 17** — Kathleen Kirk will offer a Reflection on "Sing Praise."

**Sunday, Nov. 24** — Janet Chandler will lead a Reflection on "Curiosity (?), Blessings :-), and Gratitude (!)"

**Sunday, Dec. 1** — Tasha Dunn will begin Advent with a Reflection on "Rocks of Ages." **There will be no Sunday School this day so that the kids can be part of the service and hear Tasha speak.**

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

It is coming soon to NCC and we want to see you in it!!! Is it hot water? No! Is it a bubble? Not exactly! It is the 2014 NCC directory. We are working to create a workable database that we can all use to get to know each other better and put names to the faces we see each week at NCC.

For three weeks, Dave Rademacher will be using his photographic talent to capture all who want to be included in the directory in a picture. You will have a chance to fill out an information sheet that will be entered in a directory for the church. We hope to have both print and e-copies available shortly after the beginning of the New Year. So come to NCC on Dec. 1, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15 to fill in your information sheet and get your picture taken! We want to see you in print soon!





# Sister Simone Campbell



## Nov. 1-3, 2013 to Bloomington-Normal

Sister Simone is the national coordinator of NETWORK, a Catholic social justice lobby striving to close the gap between rich and poor, and founder of the “Nuns on the Bus,” who first traveled through nine states during the 2012 presidential campaign highlighting the struggles of the poor and elderly. Their recent summer 2013 “Nuns on the Bus” tour – 6500 miles through 15 states – brought awareness to common sense, ethical immigration reform. Campbell will talk about faith, and how it can move us to achieve universal justice.

### Three Great Events

**Friday, November 1:** Free Public Lecture in Cooperation with Illinois Wesleyan University, *Living the Biblical Demand for Social Justice: How and Why Do We Speak Truth to Power?*

Location and Time: Presser Hall, Illinois Wesleyan University 7:00 PM

**Saturday, November 2:** Workshop, *Promoting the Common Good*, 9:30 AM- 2:30 PM

Location and Time: Alumni Center, Illinois State University, check-in opens at 9:00 AM

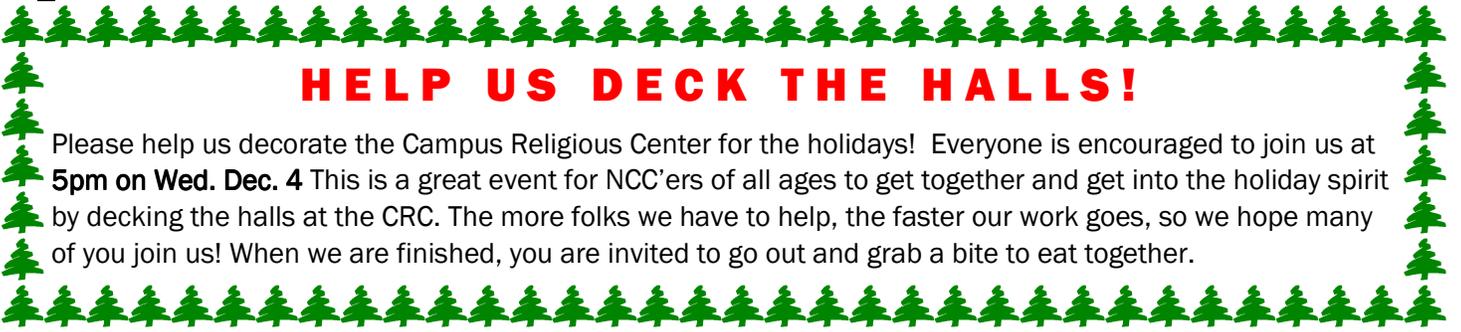
Cost: \$20, Free For Students.

You can register online at [www.pruynelectures.com](http://www.pruynelectures.com) — please do so ASAP by Oct. 31 If possible!

**Sunday, November 3:** Worship at New Covenant Community

Location and Time: 210 W Mulberry St, Normal, IL 61761, 10:30 AM

For more information go to our web site at [www.pruynelectures.com](http://www.pruynelectures.com).



## HELP US DECK THE HALLS!

Please help us decorate the Campus Religious Center for the holidays! Everyone is encouraged to join us at **5pm on Wed. Dec. 4** This is a great event for NCC'ers of all ages to get together and get into the holiday spirit by decking the halls at the CRC. The more folks we have to help, the faster our work goes, so we hope many of you join us! When we are finished, you are invited to go out and grab a bite to eat together.



### November Birthdays

- 1 Heidi Bowman
- 4 Joshua Dahmm
- 5 Diane White / Willemina Esenwein
- 11 Janet Warfield
- 12 Cynthia Ashbrook
- 15 Steve Newman / Eric Bowman
- 16 Nancy Pichla
- 18 Ave Rio

*If we don't have your birthday, please let Susan Ryder know so that we can include you.*



### PARTNERS IN HEALING

NCC is a delegate congregation to the Advocate BroMenn Medical Center. As part of that delegation, we participate in a project of intentional prayer for specific medical units associated with the Medical Center 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 for a month.

NCC will be praying for the patients, families, and staff of the **Obstetrics Unit** at Advocate BroMenn during November. Located in the newly opened patient bed tower, the Obstetrics Unit includes 37 private birthing/post-delivery care rooms, a 38-crib nursery, a seven-crib special care nursery and 2 operating rooms for cesarean sections.

### THANK YOU FROM IPA

Dear New Covenant Community,

Thank you for your kind and generous gift of \$250 on 9/24/13 to Illinois People's Action.

Your donation for immigration issues helped sponsor a spectacular pilgrimage for 25 Latinos and allies from Decatur to Taylorville. The experience was a renewal of faith as well as a political statement for our elected officials. The pilgrims were greeted enthusiastically by hundreds of supporters in three cities.

We cherish your partnership and support!

Don, Dawn, Jenn, Sonny, Kathy

### CALENDAR

**Sunday Worship at 10:30**

Sunday School meets during worship

**November 30** ~ December newsletter deadline

**December 1** ~ Estimate of Giving forms due

**December 3** ~ 6:30 Steering Committee

To keep up to date with NCC happenings make sure to check out the NCC calendar online at

[www.nccnormal.org/calendar.htm](http://www.nccnormal.org/calendar.htm)

Please email articles to Susan Ryder at [normalssue@aol.com](mailto:normalssue@aol.com) by November 30 for the December newsletter.

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