



NEW COVENANT COMMUNITY

Progressive | Spiritual | Inclusive

OCTOBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

INFORMATIONAL COMMUNITY MEETING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

Please stay after the service on Sunday, October 26 for an informational meeting. Brian Finch, one of NCC's representatives on the Campus Religious Center Board, will offer an overview of our relationship with the Campus Religious Center.

STEERING COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

September 16 meeting

We had a full agenda for our September 16 meeting, and we got a lot of work done!

We began work on a draft for the 2015 Budget, and approved a fall stewardship letter draft (both will go out to the congregation later this month). We also and received updates from our pastors on their work, and from the Lectureship Committee, Partners in Mission, and Social Justice group. There was also an update from the newly appointed "By-laws work group," and one on the status of updating the pastors' job description in cooperation with the Pastor Parish Relations Committee.

Bob Ryder offered information about the status of financial and building issues related to the Campus Religious Center. SC Members suggested that an NCC representative to the CRC Board share this information more widely with the congregation at a meeting in October.

COMMUNITY MEETING

At the **September 21 Community Meeting** following the service, we elected Donella Hess-Grabill and Willemina Esenwein to serve with Marie Genrich on the Nominating Committee, which will offer a slate of Steering Committee members and officers to be elected and/or reelected at the December 14 Community meeting.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

On Saturday, September 20, Jen Ho, Kathleen Kirk, Bob and Daisy Ryder, and Russ Rutter represented NCC for the second year as the "Progressive Bidpeders" in the Walk to End Alzheimer's, raising \$880 as a team. Way to go team!



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



FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

September 10 Meeting Notes

Old Business:

IPA: There have been actions in Peoria and Decatur on immigration. Currently the group is focusing on immigration and fracking and, to a lesser extent, on a living wage.

Book Bike: Donations have decreased somewhat recently. Announcements about donating will continue in our weekly bulletin, space permitting.

New Social Justice Committee Members: We welcome additional members and will approach several people about joining the group.

Mental Health: The McLean County Board of Health has formed a continuing committee to focus on mental health issues. Julie will serve on that committee and keep us updated.

New Business:

We continue to be concerned about the situation of unaccompanied children crossing the border from Mexico into the United States and are open to ideas about how we can help.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Margaret Rutter. Pam will chair the meeting and Julie will take minutes.

FALL ADULT-ED MINI CLASS OFFERING

John Kirk, long-time member of NCC and Emeritus Professor of Theatre at Illinois State, joins us as a mini-series presenter this fall. Known for his love of writing, telling, and acting of stories, John now invites us to think with him as he creates yet another story – one that is emerging entitled, “**The Story of US.**” Join him for a “free-wheeling discussion” about ideas he will present from the four chapters described below. Resources and stories participants may have that illustrate and inform the content are welcome. Please sign up on Sunday mornings through October 19, or by emailing Susan Ryder.

Chapter Topics for Discussion are:

10/ 26 - Chapter 1. “GENESIS: The nature of generating myths and why cultures need such myths, and whether we need one today.”

11/2 - Chapter 2, “EXODUS: The process of becoming human. ‘The human journey begins in our single-celled self and ends when we reach the fullest flower of our humanhood.’”

11/9 - Chapter 3, “EMERGENCE: The evolving human race.” How our thinking about ourselves has evolved during the 10,000+ years of human history. How knowledge of this process of cultural evolution can help us understand and be at peace with ourselves today.

11/16 - Chapter 4, “IMMANENCE” is about what it means to be human today.” How can we be responsible for ourselves now that the human race has reached the age when it is about to leave the house of the father and move out into the world on its own?

Note: Although regular attendance is always preferred by class leaders, this class is open enrollment without attendance requirement.



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 Acute Rehab Unit (REH) during the month of October. Advocate BroMenn's 15-bed Acute Rehabilitation Unit on 4 South serves patients needing extensive rehabilitation from head, spine and other traumatic injuries and illnesses.



October Birthdays

- 2 Chloe Brauer
- 9 Kim Tingley
- 17 Karen Pfost
- 18 Colleen Farlee
- 31 Anna Genrich



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



COMPASSION AND CHOICES

The McLean County Chapter of Compassion and Choices is pleased and excited to present an interactive program:

BEYOND THE DNR

October 8, 7pm, ISU Alumni Center, free accessible parking

At this program, Mary Garrison, a registered nurse involved in palliative care will explain how the POLST, a Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment, modifies and supplements the traditional DNR, a form indicating that someone does not wish to be resuscitated under certain conditions.



OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship at 10:30

Sunday School meets during worship

October 3 to 17 ~ Bob and Susan will be taking one week of vacation and one week of study leave.

October 5 ~ Mary Campbell from the Labyrinth Outreach will be speaking in worship

October 12 ~ Bruce Campbell will be preaching.



October 20 ~ November newsletter deadline

October 21 ~ 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

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 October 20. for the November newsletter.



New Covenant Community
210 W. Mulberry St., Normal, IL 61761 | (309) 454-7362 | www.nccnormal.org

