



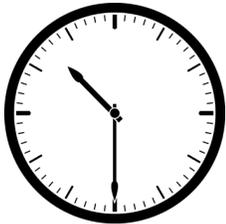
NEW COVENANT COMMUNITY

Progressive | Spiritual | Inclusive

SEPTEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

JULY COMMUNITY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**Sunday Service
returns to 10:30am
on Sunday, Sept. 7**



At our July 27 Community meeting, three motions were approved. The first was on behalf of the Partner's in Mission Group: "To approve and support NCC participation in the Bridge of Hope program and to commit up to \$3000 in mission budget funding each year for two years, beginning in 2014." The motion was approved unanimously, and NCC community members wishing to make extra specified individual donations for this mission project may do so, which will reduce the amount taken from the mission budget line item for local mission.

The remaining motions involved process for dealing with recommendations from the congregational consultant. Both were approved unanimously.

- a. Motion: The Steering Committee work with the PPR Committee to develop a process for the pastors' annual evaluation.
- b. Motion: The Steering Committee review the bylaws and return to the Community with further recommendations specifically about (but not limited to):
 - i. Participatory vs. representative governance models
 - ii. Written descriptions to clarify the roles and decision-making authority of the SC and the Community.

AUGUST STEERING COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS



**5TH
SUNDAY
POTLUCK
AUGUST 31**

We will have a community potluck after the service on Sunday, August 31. Please bring a dish to share, and join us for a time of fellowship and food as we break bread and get to know each other better.

Our August 19 Steering Committee meeting had a full agenda. Special guest David Hirst shared that the new pictorial directory is almost ready to be released. We are seeking input from NCC'ers about how to best share the directory with the rest of the congregation. Options include making printed copies and/or flash drives with pics and info available (both for a small fee), and online access that would include names and photos only. If you have suggestions about how we can best share the directory and be sensitive to privacy issues and online vulnerabilities, please let a member of Steering Committee know.

We also discussed options about how to proceed with a process for reviewing the NCC Bylaws as per the motion approved by the congregation in July. We appointed a small group made up of Steering Committee and Community members (Betty Rademacher, Karen Rousey, Susan Ryder, Jim Pruyne and Joe White) to begin the review process. The job description update and annual review for our pastors was also discussed. The plan is to have the job description and goals for the upcoming year completed by December, with a process for an annual review formulated and ready to utilize at the end of 2015.

NCC COMMUNITY MEETING AFTER THE SERVICE ON SEPT. 21

Please plan to attend our Fall Community Meeting after the service (about 11:30am) on Sunday, Sept. 21. The purpose of this meeting is to elect members to the Nominating Committee, who will present Steering Committee and officer nominees to the Community in December.

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

ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS AND MEMORY WALK



For the second year, New Covenant Community will host a team in the annual Bloomington-Normal Memory Walk, supporting our local Alzheimer's Association as well as the many friends and neighbors affected by this devastating disease. The event will take place at Corn Belters Corn Crib, 1000 West Raab Road in Normal on **Sat, September 20, 2014**. Check in and festivities start 8:30AM. The Walk itself will begin 10:00AM, preceded by a ceremony at 9:30am.

There are several ways you can participate. Consider...

- Walking with the NCC Team! You can register to join NCC's team (Progressive Bipeds) online at: http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2014/IL-GreaterIllinois?team_id=214321&pg=team&fr_id=5076
- You can also email Bob at rwryder@aol.com to indicate that you want to take part, and he will be in touch with information.
- Sponsoring a walker with a contribution supporting the event. (Ask Bob for details.)
- Attending the Memory Walk (even if you prefer just attend the festivities and not to walk yourself).
- Making a contribution to our team. Contributions can be made online (see above link) or you can give Bob a check made out to B-N Alzheimer's Association and he will pass it on.



2013 NCC Team-Progressive Bipeds

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP UPDATE

August 13, 2014 Meeting

IPA: There was a recent action in Springfield on fracking and payday lending. We need a representative to attend the local meetings.

Book Bike: Donations continue to come in. 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.

Sustainability: We are continuing to gather data before taking further action.

Mental Health: Three people, with strong interest in mental health issues, have been added to the McLean County Board of Health. The board is working on several fronts. Julie will keep us updated.

New Business:

Sister Simone's book was suggested as the social justice read for adult education classes.

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.

Charline shared information about the tiny homes movement for the homeless.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Ruth Reeves. Please let Ruth know if you would like to attend.



September Birthdays

- 1 Judy Boudreaux
- 3 Gabe Maurer / Sue O’Neal
- 8 Mark Wyman / Sally Turner
- 20 Chris Kaufman
- 26 Michelle Wait

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



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. During September, NCC will be praying for the patients, families, and staff of the Addiction Recovery Unit (ARC). Advocate BroMenn’s 18-bed Addiction Recovery Unit, located on 3 South, treats both inpatients and outpatients with various kinds of addictions.

PARTNERS IN MISSION

Partners in Mission would like to invite ideas about possible mission projects for us to continue to explore for possible mission giving in 2014 and 2015. We also need specific suggestions for a local mission for the Christmas offering. Contact one of the members of the Partner in Mission group with your input: Karen Rousey, Marla Finch, Willemina Esenwein, Pam Lubeck, or Margaret Rutter.

If you want to give any individual donations towards the Bridge of Hope program, please give them to Marie Genrich by October so we can make final decisions on amounts for the remaining mission programs we will support before the end of December.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship moves to 10:30am on Sunday, Sept. 7
 Sunday School meets during worship

- Sept 10** 7pm Social Justice Meeting
- Sept 16** 6:30 Steering Committee
- Sept. 20** October newsletter deadline
- Sept. 21** Community Meeting after the service

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 September 20 for the October newsletter.

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