

From Pastor Zina Jacque

The Truth of Our Flaws

Pastor Zina

Beloved, recently, during dinner with a friend, I remembered and reiterated the story noted below. The author's name is long lost to history's winds, but the meaning and moral are timeless.

How do you use your flaws? How do I use mine? What might we learn from them? How would you respond to the moral question posted at the bottom of the page?

May this story speak to our hearts and challenge us to live into the fullness of our gifts and our flaws.

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years, this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you". The bearer asked, "Why? What are you ashamed of?" The pot replied, "For these past two years I am able to deliver only half of my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you don't get full value for your efforts".

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion, he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path." As they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it somewhat. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way, you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Moral: Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. In this world, nothing goes to waste. You may think like the cracked pot that you are inefficient or useless in certain areas of your life, but somehow these flaws can turn out to be a blessing in disguise. ***How might you use what once you thought of as a flaw?***

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Zina Jacque
Musician - Natallia Revinskaya
Christian Educator—Dr. Samira El-Yasir

Church Secretary - Sandra Mytys
Moderator - Stu Overby

MAY
NEWSLETTER



Renewable Energy

Stu Overby, Moderator

Over the past 20 years, there has been quite a bit of discussion about “renewable energy.” Wikipedia defines the phrase “renewable energy” as follows:

Renewable energy is energy that is collected from renewable resources, which are naturally replenished on a human timescale, such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves, and geothermal heat.

I believe there is another form of renewable energy that Wikipedia left off its list-- that of human renewable energy. How has Community Church existed for over 170 years? First, to be formed as a church at the outset required the energy and commitment of a brave group of souls back in 1847. Throughout the years, the church necessarily experienced “renewable energy” from various volunteers and without that, would not have the strong history and foundation we enjoy today.

Over the past six months or so, many members of our CCB Church Council and Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) have provided articles on “Why I Serve” to share with you what they give and what they receive by serving in their respective leadership roles. I have had the pleasure of serving as your Moderator at CCB for the past six years, and am stepping down to help make way for new and exciting leadership on the Church Council. In sharing why I have served those six years, I think the trust, support and acceptance by the congregation is at the top of my list. Serving on Council has provided me an opportunity to contribute, consistent with my own expertise and interest and the needs of CCB. Serving on Council represents a place one can succeed, given the great group of people with whom you have many opportunities to partner. In short, you can “do good and feel good” all at the same time.



By the time you read this article, the voting members of the congregation will have elected members of the Church Council and PRC for the June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019 term. Fortunately, we are blessed with “renewable energy” in the form of candidates well equipped to fill leadership roles. For example, Jayne Majzan stepped forward as the candidate for the Moderator position. Jayne has great experience having served as chair of the Properties Committee and prior to that, Chair of the Membership Development Committee. Also, I am very happy to note that we have a candidate who has volunteered to serve as Assistant Moderator, a position that has been vacant for several years. Peer Lykke, a relatively new member at CCB, brings his passion to serve and his wealth of experience in other organizations to the CCB Church Council for that position. We are also excited that Alayne McNulty, a relatively new member, has volunteered to serve as CCB’s representative to the Chicago area chapter of the American Baptist Churches (ABC-Chicago). Many other Council members have taken on new roles or have renewed their commitment in a current role to serve an additional term. The full list of your Council and PRC volunteer leaders appears in our 2018 Annual Report.

I am grateful to all these leaders and to every member of the congregation for your service to CCB in whatever role enables you to “do good and feel good.” I believe that is the essence of the “renewable energy” we enjoy at CCB. Thank you all for the support I have experienced as the CCB moderator over the past six years.

Two by Two

An Abundance of Gifts

Pastor Zina

The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. Luke 10:1

Beloved, once I was ordained, this passage from the 10th chapter of Luke took on much greater importance to me. You see, Jesus called together this mass of people to be his “forward guard”. They were to visit the cities where Jesus intended to go, and they were to help get the residents ready. Seventy-two people, chosen and appointed, and, Jesus sends them out two by two.

When we go out to minister together, we have a built-in system of accountability and encouragement, and this is good.

Since coming to CCB, I have been blessed by the presence of both Dr. Sami and Rev. Robert Reekie. And now, the Lord has blessed us, as a church family, with the presence of two additional colleagues.

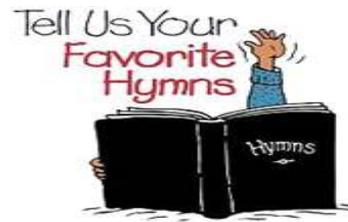
Rev. David Burns and his brilliant and beautiful wife, Donna, have come to CCB from California to be closer to their daughter, son-in-law, and two gorgeous grandsons.

And the other new clergy is the Rev. Alissia Thompson. As you know, Alissia was ordained by CCB on January 6, 2018.

Given that God has blessed us with so much talent and so much wisdom, we plan to engage all of our clergy in worship and our church’s life. There is more to come, but expect to see the Reverends Burns, Reekie and Thompson sharing in worship on an ongoing basis.

How blessed we are, CCB, to have so many wonderful clergy leaders among us. Thank you, God.

Thank you, Reverends Burns, Reekie and Thompson.



Whenever I open my copy of the *Broadman Hymnal*, I can hear my mother’s familiar hum. She hummed hymns when she ironed, when she washed dishes or as she cooked. She hummed hymns as she sewed, canned beans or made strawberry preserves (my favorite was her pear preserves). My mom hummed hymns everyday of her life and that is why I love them so.

Whether you can carry a tune or not, worship songs, traditional or contemporary, invite us into God’s presence. With that in mind, I wonder, **what are your favorite hymns?**

Over the course of the summer we want to be sure to mix up the hymns we sing. If you have a favorite hymn, please let us know (cards are on the tower hallway counter). And if it is not in our hymnal, please give us the name of a source where we might find it.

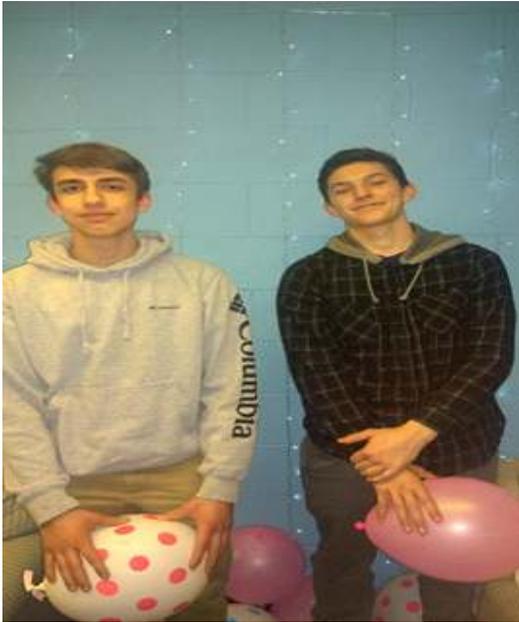
And, if you know the story behind the hymn, please let us know that as well. For instance, did you know, an 18th century slave trader named, John Newton, escaped numerous brushes with death without acknowledging God’s providence? But during one tumultuous night on the sea in 1747, he began to read the *Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas ‘a Kempis. One phrase, *the uncertain continuance of life* brought John Newton to a saving knowledge of Christ.

Eight years later, Newton left the sea behind and was, eventually, ordained in the Anglican Church. “Amazing Grace” was one of 281 hymns Newton penned over his lifetime.

Looking forward to learning your favorite hymns and singing our way through the summer, together.

Blessings.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Who We Are—Installation 3. And here are the dudes of the Sr. High Youth Group. Here are our amazing guys that help us stay balanced in our group. Gentlemen, thank you for all you teach and give us. We are proud to know you! Blessings, Dr. Sami



Hello! My name is Emil. I am sixteen years old and I'm a junior at Wauconda High School. My favorite color is lime green because it spells out my name backwards. My youth group is interactive, and easy to get along with and cool. I love spending time with friends and laughing with them. If I could share one thing about me, it would be that I'm approachable and easy to talk to. I go to CCB because I want to strengthen my relationship with God. When I think of Him, I think of guidance. I am the guy on the left in the picture below!

Hello, my name is Jacob Jensen. That's me on the right in the picture! I go to Wauconda high school. I am at Community Church of Barrington because it is a fun environment and the people are great. When I think of God, I am thankful for everything He does for me in my everyday life. My gifts and talents are working hard, being positive, and athletics, but those are just some of many gifts that I have. My favorite color is red. When I think about God, I think about waking up every day to all the things I am blessed with, and the new experiences I am blessed with seeing throughout the day.

Hello everybody! My name is Mark Luchsinger. I am 15 years old, and I am also home-schooled. When I get older, I would like to be a pilot or an engineer. I attend CCB because of the people, opportunities, and learning experiences. When I think of God I usually think of nature and the stars. My favorite bible passage is Psalm 23. My gifts and talents are music. My favorite color is purple; and my hobbies are chess, riding my bike, video games, Boy Scouts, and camping. I also love ultimate Frisbee because it's fun to play, and it's the sport that I am probably best at and best suited for, and I also love skiing! One thing everybody should know about me is that I love to work and build things with my hands, so that works out for the mission trip this year.





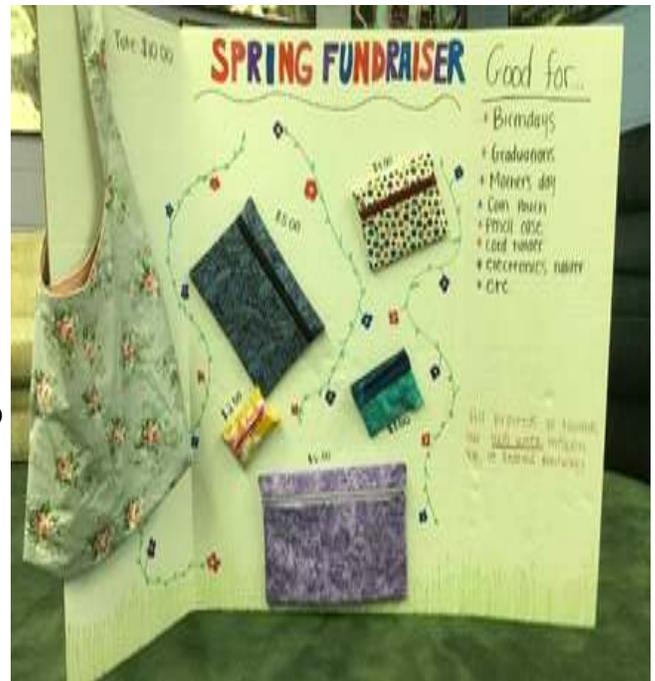
Hey, my name is Jake Davis. I am 16 years old. I go Community Church of Barrington. When I go to Community Church of Barrington each week I get an experience which is different every week. When I am asked what I think of God, I think of a protector. I have many gifts I have yet to discover. Also my favorite color is blue. I do have a gift for communication with animals. I am engaged in youth group and I am currently in J2A. Here is a fun fact about me: my favorite snack is Twix.

What are the CCB youth up to this spring?

This spring will bring April showers and May flowers, and it also brings Mother's Day, birthdays, graduation, etc. . . . This year, in addition to the wonderful Tapas fundraiser to be held at CCB on April 29th, we will be selling the beautiful bags shown in the picture below plus many more. They are handmade by us, the youth of CCB. These are limited editions :-)) and come in various sizes. So, come and do your gift shopping and eating at the same place, Community Church of Barrington.

The date again, is April 29th right after our worship service. Our service begins at 10:30, and we will see you beginning at 11:30. Come for the service and stay for the food :-)) Thank you for your prayers and support.

The money earned will go towards our mission trip to the Appalachian region this June. Advance tickets are \$10 for the Tapas Event, \$12 at the door. For more information or to purchase tickets, the CCB number is 847.381.1294.



Birthdays

May 2 Jean Capellos
May 3 Bill Akerstrom
May 5 Bunny Jahnke
May 7 Dave Phinney
May 13 Tom Alton
May 15 Lauren Davis
May 18 Donna Burns
May 19 Joy Luchsinger
May 22 John Grom
May 23 Alex Campe
May 24 Ena Hennegan

May 27 Natallia Revinskaya
May 29 Don McLean



Anniversaries

May 5 Jim & Julie Zurek
May 12 Sharon & Mike Hornig
May 23 Jim & Jayne Majzan
May 23 Sandy & Cheryl Schroeder
May 25 Stu & Brenda Overby

G.R.O.W. The ladies of GROW will meet on **Thursday, May 17th at the church.** . All women of the church are invited. Please RSVP to the church office by May 14th. Hope to see you!

WOMEN WHO BREAKFAST - Join us on May 2nd for breakfast and coffee, or just drop in for a chat at the Bread Basket 7:30 a.m. All ladies are welcome.



COMMUNITY MEAL

Join us on May 17th in fellowship with the members of our community for a wonderful meal. The event begins at 5:00 PM.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month at the church. This month they will meet on May 12th and 26th.



Book Club meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Adult Sunday School Room. Join this fun group on Tuesday on May 8th for lively discussion. See Jayne Majzan for more information.



MEMORIAL DAY— The Office will be closed on Monday May 28th in observance of Memorial Day.

REFUGEE ONE UPDATE! Kim Snoddy, our liaison from Refugee One has alerted us we may have our Refugee One family by the end of May. We are so excited. We would still like a few more volunteers willing to go into the city once per month between June and December. If you are interested in being one of the family visitors, or if you are interested in donating items to set up their home, please contact Pastor Zina by April 30th. We are welcoming the stranger, just as God calls us to do. What a marvelous adventure, what a great blessing this will be to the family we serve and to us.

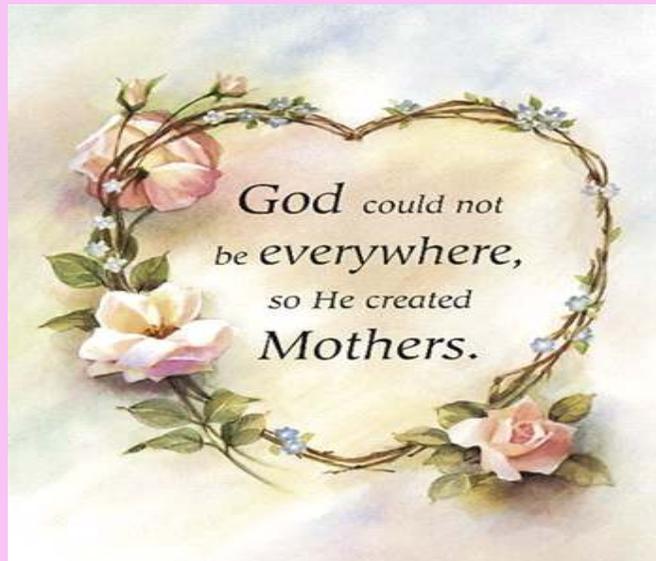
May 2018

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
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Community Church of Barrington
407 S. Grove Avenue
Barrington IL 60010

April



HAPPY MOTHERS DAY