



From Rev. Sarah Jay

While in college I had the opportunity to visit with a newly retired astronaut, Story Musgrave. During his career, Story had been both an astronaut and a physician. While we talked, he shared with me about his experience of looking down at the earth from its orbit – a rare perspective. He saw with another unusual perspective, as well – his physician’s eyes.

Story told me that, as he looked out of the window of his spacecraft at our planet, he was struck with the resemblance between the rivers and streams of the earth and the veins and arteries of the human body. The familiar patterns of the human body seemed to be echoed on the gigantic canvas of the earth.

Psalm 24 says,
The earth is the LORD’s and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it. (NRSV)

In 1 Corinthians, Paul uses this text to argue that even meat sacrificed to idols belongs to God and, therefore, can be eaten with good conscience. All that is *in the world* belongs to God.

However, you may be more familiar with the King James version of this text:
The earth is the LORD’S, and the fullness thereof;
the world, and they that dwell therein.

That phrase, “the fullness thereof,” is what Story’s experience stirs up in me. What fullness there must be that we haven’t yet seen, what completeness, what wholeness, what connectedness!

Yes, the *fullness* belongs to the Lord.

Do we live in such a way that we prevent ourselves from having a share in that fullness?

Do we pause to stand still and take it in? Do we permit ourselves the feeling of joy without allowing anxiety to place a tax on it? Do we let go of our own self-thoughts and doubts long enough to appreciate the beauty in others?

And, the *entirety* belongs to the Lord. What (who) have I turned my back on that bears the same pattern of God’s creativity that winds its way through me?

This month of November brings All Saints Day and it brings Thanksgiving, both occasions to reflect upon the fullness, the wholeness of life. Let us take on a rare perspective ourselves, a perspective that begins to see God in all that surrounds us.

With Gratitude

Jayne Majzan, Moderator

"All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all."



The adult Sunday school class is currently reading the book "Saved By Faith & Hospitality" by Joshua Jipp. In it, Jipp details the many ways that Jesus used hospitality to help spread the good word.

"God's hospitality towards us and our friendship with God create the foundation for friendship within the church. Humans are created for friendship with God and for friendship with one another."

This act of welcoming others - even strangers - into our homes for a shared meal evokes the first Thanksgiving. If not for the hospitality of the Wampanoag tribe, the Pilgrims might not have survived their first year in New England's "howling wilderness." Their joint feast of fowl and fixings was really a giving of thanks for the welcome acceptance of one people by another.

According to Henri Nouwen in his book, "Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life",

"Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines."

Hospitality creates the kind of gratitude that pays forward to the next Thanksgiving. With a grateful heart and stretchy pants, I look forward to celebrating this holiday with my family. And in case you're searching for an "ice breaker" joke to lighten up your holiday table, feel free to go with this:

Why can't you take turkey to church?
Because they use fowl language!

Hello CCB

Thank you for this amazing gift of time to reflect, imagine, and learn. As you know, I am off on a journey to discover how churches that are primarily Euro American in membership and have hired an African American pastor (sound familiar) have learned, grown and changed. Currently, I have completed three interviews and have nine more scheduled. The churches are from traditions that welcome the congregations to search for and hire the pastoral staff. This means none of my subject churches "received" their pastors through an appointment system. All have done as you did, seek the person they desired and hire the one they choose.

It has been a fascinating adventure already, and I've only just begun. The goal is to prepare a paper to submit to the funding agency, the Louisville Institute. The paper is due June of 2019. Though I miss you and pray for you daily, I must admit this season of discovery is enriching and exhilarating.

I pray as you approach Thanksgiving you have many things on your list for which you are thankful. I am grateful for Pastor Sarah, Dr. Sami, Bonnie Stevens and Sandy Mytys who keep the office humming. I am grateful for our leaders who bring their gifts to the service of God in manifold ways. Moreover, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as the pastor of this fantastic church. Be blessed in your journey and know that you are at the center of the heart of God and my heart too. Blessings see you in about a month. *Pastor Zina*

Saturday, December 9th is Barrington's Giving Day when the surrounding communities pull together to give to those in need. For the past few years, we have supported this event by donating boots for children and teens. We will continue that tradition again this year. Please drop off your donations of boots at the church office by December 2nd. If you don't feel you can afford a pair of boots, ask a friend to go in with you. Let's make this the best collection ever!"



MEMORY GARDEN BRICKS

Would you like to purchase a brick to honor a loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary? The price per brick is \$150.00. Order forms are on the Fellowship Hall counter. Forms and checks may be mailed or dropped at the church office. Please make checks payable to Community Church of Barrington. If you have any questions, please contact Glee Huddlestun at 847-207-2133. The deadline for orders is Sunday, November 11th.

It's Just Words...

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

-John 1:1 NIV

People love to talk. Sometimes they just like to hear their own voices, and sometimes they like to talk about other people. The 'talk' can be uplifting or it can be the opposite—words that are negative or uncomplimentary. We talk at work, over the backyard fence, and especially over the telephone. Or maybe you even talk in your sleep. And of course, each time we 'talk', we use words.

Many newspaper columns, magazines, and TV and radio talk shows are devoted to the latest gossip about movie stars, politicians, and other public figures. People delight in digging up dirt or even creating it. And social media, whether Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat or others, have created a plethora of potential avenues to both make us feel better in sharing good news, but unfortunately also to cut others down.

If we were honest, most of us would admit we ourselves at times have a problem with what we say, a problem with our words. How many can honestly say they have never said something about someone else, and then later realized they should not have said it at all? Or maybe we overheard something and then passed it along, knowing we should have just walked away, just let it go or maybe, we should have stood up for someone. If we understood both the Bible and our own motives better, we might regret even more of the words we speak.

This month I encountered both verbal and written words that were hurtful, slanderous and just not truthful, kind, or nice. I went to my Bible to get guidance and relief, and got on my knees to pray for wisdom because that's my favorite place to be. And I sought counsel from trusted people in my life.

Here is some of what I know and have learned, and that is that **words start everything. Words have meaning when we give them life. Whether we say them into the air or write them on a document, WE give them life.**

As you examine your own words here are some interesting definitions from *The American Heritage Dictionary*

<i>Gossip</i>	<i>"Rumor or talk of a personal sensational, or intimate nature."</i>
<i>Rumor</i>	<i>"Unverified information of uncertain origin usually spread by word of mouth; hearsay."</i>
<i>Slander</i>	<i>"The utterance of defamatory statements injurious to the reputation or well-being of a person...A malicious statement or report."</i>
<i>Backbite</i>	<i>"To speak spitefully or slanderously about (a person)."</i>
<i>Talebearer</i>	<i>"A person who spreads malicious stories or gossip."</i>
<i>Revile</i>	<i>"To denounce with abusing language."</i>

Sometimes we do things and we may not realize it is wrong. Speech by itself is not wrong, of course, but it is our choice of words and how we use them that can cause us to sin by hurting others. So we need to truly examine our own motives, and at the same time, not get involved with those who are slander-spreaders. I learned that many spiritual people in the Bible had difficulties choosing their words. In addition, I read and have come to believe that to correct our speech, we must first correct our hearts. Matthew 12:33-37 tells us that what the mouth speaks depends on the condition of the heart. So to correct our speech, we must correct our hearts. Slander is caused by sinful motives, so before we speak we must carefully examine our hearts to be sure we speak from proper motives.

What should be the correct motive for speaking about others? Matthew 22:39 tells us to "Love your neighbor as yourself". If we cease being focused on our own pleasure, we can learn to be concerned about what is best for all. That simple change in focus may help us improve our attitude and behavior by putting ourselves in the other person's place. In other words, if I had this problem, what would be the proper, Biblical, loving way for me to deal with it?

I think to pray for the welfare of the person that has spoken or written ill of you is a good first step, and one I am working on. This is not easy, to sincerely pray for someone who has done us wrong. As Christians we need to work diligently to maintain proper attitudes, behaviors and proper usage of our words. And again, I turned to the Bible for wisdom. I have three verses I would like to share with you.

James 3:1-8 This passage deals with the tongue. “Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check. When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one’s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind,⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.”

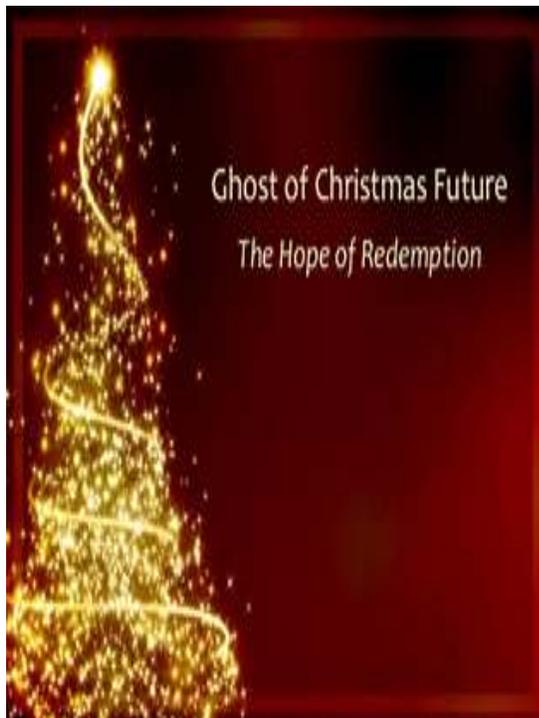
The second verse comes from Psalms 141:3 (NIV) “Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.”

And finally, Colossians 4:6 (NIV) “Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

What I have shared with you is just a small morsel of the immense power of words, and let us remember as we look to God and the Bible, how I began this passage, “In the beginning was the Word...”

What about our speech, your words and mine? Would our Lord be pleased with our speech?

On the journey of words with you.....Dr. Samira El-Yasir



Mark your calendars for the annual children and youth Christmas Pageant

Leave the “Bah! Humbug!” of the season behind, and come into the light!

Come and join the youth and children of Community Church of Barrington on Sunday, December 16th at 10:30 a.m.

This year the pageant theme will be their rendition of ‘Scrooge’. Come and see how the Advent season plays with their notion of time. Come and gather as a church in the present to ponder both the past and a future hope filled with light. Come and be inspired and encouraged.

Birthdays

November 3 Ted Newman

November 7 Philip Roussel

November 8 Valissa Hilligoss

November 8 Cheryl Schroeder

November 9 Stu Overby

November 11 Peter Luchsinger

November 11 Chris Newman

November 18 Isaac Goldstein

November 21 Bruce Dockery

November 21 Maggie Pechan

November 21 Laura Newman

November 24 Martha Duke

Anniversaries

November 28th Zina Jacque & Andre Bell

G.R.O.W. The ladies of GROW will meet on **Tuesday, November 20th at the church.** All women of the church are invited. Please RSVP to the church office by **Thursday, November 15th.** **Pastor Sarah will lead GROW!**



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

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month at the church. This month they will meet on November 10th and 24th.

Book Club meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Adult Sunday School Room. Join this fun group on Tuesday, November 13th for lively discussion. See Jayne Majzan for more information.



Mark your calendar for **CLEAN UP DAY** on Sunday, November 11th. Help us spiff up the church in anticipation of Hanging of the Greens on November 25th! Many hands make short work. See Dave Phinney for details.

The office will be closed on Thursday, November 22nd in observance of Thanksgiving (gobble, gobble)!

POTLUCK— Join us for Potluck on Wednesday, November 14th. Bring a dish to pass and prepare to share fellowship and great conversation with all who attend. It starts at 6:00 pm.

Be sure to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday evening, November 3rd!



November 2018

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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<p>4</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Service SET CLOCKS BACK</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Terrific Tuesday</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Philip Roussel B'day Women Who Breakfast</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Al-Anon Mtg. Cheryl Schroeder B'Day Valissa Hilligoss B'Day Youth Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Stu Overby B'Day</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Men's Fellowship</p>																																																																																										
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Community Church of Barrington
407 S. Grove Avenue
Barrington IL 60010

