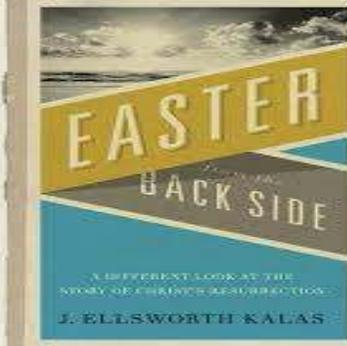


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APRIL
NEWSLETTER 2020

From Rev. Zina Jacque

EASTER FROM THE BACKSIDE

J. Ellsworth Kalas was a crotchety, old seminary professor whose writings I appreciated. Born in Sioux City, Iowa on Valentine's Day in 1923, Dr. Kalas graduated from the University of Wisconsin and (Evanston's) Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. He was a United Methodist for nearly 40 years. In 1992 he arrived at Asbury Theological Seminary (Wilmore, KY) where he taught until his death. His library of works numbers more than twenty books and the number of seminary students he touched exceeds that by a factor of fifty. Among the works he authored is a series of books "From the Backside".

In the Backside books Kalas took well know parables, stories, theological points of view, holidays, and characters and presented them from the backside, rather like approaching a home from the basement door rather than the front door. One such book was "Easter from the Backside." He opens this book with, *"Easter is an answer. It is such a dramatic, earthshaking answer that for nearly twenty centuries artists of every kind and quality have been trying to portray its significance. . . . So, what's the question? If Easter is such a huge, monumental answer, what's the question"*

Indeed, as we approach Easter 2020 we might ask Kalas' question anew and afresh, what is the question Easter answers? This year the answer is nuanced, but it is no different than it is in every generation, on every Resurrection Sunday. Easter is the answer to hubris. Hubris is excessive self confidence and arrogant pride. God, in love and with hope, crafted a world without sin and placed humans in it. Our ancestors (and we) thought they (and we) knew better than God and they (and we) went off on our own, making up alternate rules, treating one another and the earth as if all else was secondary in importance and generally behaving with excessive self confidence. We have even seen it of late as people privileged their needs over the needs of the many by ignoring invitations to remain at home and remain (relatively) safe.

But - and I am so glad this conjunction interrupts what precedes it—Easter is the answer to all hubris. The one who humbled himself and took on the cross, says to you and me, I love you with an everlasting love. I will show you a much better way, a humbler way. The questions is, how then shall we live. The answer is Easter, live the way of sacrificial love.

Happy Easter from the Backside.

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Zina Jacque
Musician - Natalia Revinski
Christian Educator—Dr. Samira El-Yasir

Church Secretary - Sandra Mytys
Moderator - Jayne Majzan
Pastor - Rev. Zina Jacque

Choosing Faith over Fear



The Virus. Wash Your Hands. Social Distancing. PPEs and Self-Quarantine. In the last six weeks, we've watched as the world has become smaller as this infection looms larger in our daily lives.

As I was sitting looking out the window this past week, I found myself wondering what others might be doing at this time. Speaking for myself, the Majzan kitchen has been completely cleaned. Floors and baths have been steamed and disinfected within an inch of their lives. So, as I'm continuing some major spring cleaning, I am struck by this thought: **what is the FIRST thing that I want to do when this shutdown of life as we know it suddenly opens back up to the life we once knew?**

For me, it will most likely be heading to a wonderful local restaurant to enjoy a "non-home cooked meal". Heading to the library or park district for my exercise class. Meeting friends for dinner downtown. And of course, heading back to Community Church!

These are strange, frightening times that seem to test our faith with each daily briefing. The media overwhelms the senses and the grim news grows darker each week. I find myself praying each night for the strength to face each new day and for the continuing faith in God that everything will be ok.

So, I'm only going to ask one thing of each of you: write down the first 5 things you want to do when we're able to use our collective "get out of jail free" cards. You may find this exercise will open up your mind to what is truly important in our lives – seeing other friends, hugging another human ...

Take a few moments out of these interminable days and think about what you want to do in the future – you may be surprised by your answers. My prayers go out to each of you for continued good health and humor as we face these dark days. Remember that we're all in this together!

Jayne Majzan, Moderator

*"Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid."
Frederick Buechner*

PRAYER FOR THIS MOMENT

By Cameron Wiggins Bellm

**May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.**

**May we who have no risk factors
remember those most vulnerable.**

**May we who have the luxury of working from home
remember those who must choose between
preserving their health or making their rent.**

**May we who have flexibility to care for our children
when their schools close
remember those who have no options.**

**May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those who have no place to go.**

**May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.**

**May we who settle in for quarantine at home
remember those who have no home.**

**As fear grips our country,
let us chose love during this time when we
cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbor. Amen.**



MISSION TRIP 2020 ~ What's in Your DNA?

When I first arrived at CCB in 2010, I prayed, “Lord, what do you want my focus to be in Christian Education with those that will cross my path? What do they need to see, hear, and live out while they are at CCB?” I began my ministry with a simple devotional series that taught what it means to be the hands and feet, and oh yes, the heart of Christ. So this year when I was praying about where we could and should serve, God led me, through others, in a different way, in a different direction, to a different place.

Questions I asked God as we sought guidance included: Why is it that we have such a good feeling when we serve others? God's answer is, I believe, because God created us that way. It's in our DNA. We are created to serve.

Why is it when we love others, it feels so right and so good? It's in our DNA! We're created to love and to be loved.

The author of Psalms 139:13-14, sings his praises to God: *“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”*

As we each reflect on our lives and what God is calling us to do, regardless of our age or place in life, think of how amazing it is that our ancestors, starting with our parents and grandparents, were created by God and blessed with their unique DNA. I am who I am today because of them. We truly are fearfully and wonderfully made.

This year we will be going to IOWA and partnering with the Habitat for Humanity organization. The location we will be serving has 3 serving opportunities, and we have selected 2 of those with which to engage. We will be participating in “Rock the Block” for our first day. This program provides repair and revitalization of over 250 homes in Des Moines each year. The remaining days we will be taking part in “New Home Construction”. Because of the wonderful skill sets our group has learned over the years on our various Mission Trips, we already have the skills needed to do this type of construction. The greater Des Moines area is looking to build around 30 homes for families in 2020.

We have also been blessed to receive offers of places to stay. We will be living with a partner of Habitat in the area, the Joshua Christian Academy, and we have our inflatable beds packed! This academy began 10 years ago as a central location to show the urban children in Des Moines the love of God. We look forward to supporting them as well if need be. Do take a moment and see what they are doing for the children in the community. Their site is <http://gotjosh.org/>.

We will be leaving CCB on June the 14th in the early hours and returning on Sunday the 21st. As we prepare for this mission experience, we are so thankful to God that we are uniquely designed to serve and to love, and we are deeply thankful for each new person God will put in our path during this mission trip. Our prayer is that we can share with them so they will know that they, too, are wonderfully made (and loved) by God, and they, too, have been created to serve and to love. I know that each person, if their hearts are open, will have an inspiring and life-changing experience.

Please join us in prayer as we prepare our hearts and minds to serve God. This year, please do take time to think of ways you can serve God with your hands and feet, and oh yes, your heart. Come and show God's grace of the cross this year in all you do for others.

Traveling with you, *Dr. Samira El-Yasir*

NOTHING IS EVER LOST IN THE DIVINE ECONOMY OF GOD

I have spoken about my grandfather before. That's him and my grandmother on their 30th anniversary. His name is Peter James and he is my Mom's dad. My grandmother is Marinda James. Peter was born in the late 1800's and he was a man filled with stories and maxims. I do not know where he got them or if he created them, but I know his words and stories live in my soul, even now.

One of his favorite maxims was,

***Nothing is ever lost
in the divine economy of God.***

To me this maxim means every instance in our lives comes to teach, shape, and transform us. Come the good or the bad, we must open our heart and eyes and learn.

If my grandfather were alive today I wonder what he might say about Covid-19 and what it comes to teach us. Though I will never know his exact thoughts, I can tell you what his granddaughter thinks.

As a human species, I wonder what we have done to the habitat of bats in Wuhan China. I wonder what conditions have evolved to allow a virus that has lived in bats for decades (centuries?) to suddenly jump from bats to humans. I wonder what we have done to the honey bees and their habitat. They are dying in record numbers and no other insect can pollinate the plant life that gives us life. I wonder what I have done to have so much plastic in my home and which habitat I have harmed because I am so dependent on this form of petroleum. I wonder what we, as a species, have done to weary our planet, injure the bio dome, and pollute the place we live?

My grandfather used to say also, no animal fouls his own nest. He usually said this when one of his many grandchildren had not taken care of our assigned responsibilities. If my grandfather were here I imagine he would focus not on the Covid-19 virus, but on what we, as a species, have done to lessen the health of our planet, making possible the evolution of conditions that do not lead to health or wellness.

Brothers and sisters, we live in an inextricably linked world. What happens in Wuhan China, as now we know, affects us deeply. It is my hope that our interconnectedness is not lost on us and that we see ourselves as near neighbors to everyone else on this beautiful, spinning planet of blue. If we see ourselves in this way, then, we will hold our everyday actions as powerful and also as a precursor to the future we leave for those who come after us.

Join me, my friends, in taking care of our planet. Recycle, refuse, reuse, reduce. Take your pick, but do something. Covid-19, according to my grandfather's wisdom, has come to teach us an essential lesson. Generations yet unborn will judge our ability to learn this lesson. I, for one, want to be judged as wise and prudent, not reckless and selfish.

May we begin to learn and let nothing hinder us along the way.



HAPPY EARTH DAY, APRIL 22, 2020

*Community Church of Barrington
Order of Service—March 29th*



PRELUDE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Arr. Jan Sanborn

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

One Voice:

Jesus, you said, come follow Me and I will make you fishers of people.

Many Voices:

But we turned away, not wanting that kind of work.

One Voice:

You said, come away with me and rest.

Many Voices:

But we prefer the hectic pace that looks like an accomplished life.

One Voice:

You said, take up your cross and follow Me.

Many Voices:

And we said, not so fast, that sounds like a lot to ask.

One Voice:

Jesus, we promise to listen to Your voice and heed Your call.

ALL VOICES:

In this moment of worship help us hear Your voice and follow Your way. Amen.

HYMN

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back, no turning back.

The cross before me, the world behind me.
The cross before me, the world behind me
The cross before me, the world behind me
No turning back, no turning back.

SCRIPTURE

Micah 6:8 and Matthew 16:24-26

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

One Voice:

The word of God, for the people of God.

Many Voices:

Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI

#806

*Glory to the Father, glory to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be, world without end.
Amen*

(worshippers may be seated)

GATHERING the JOYS and CONCERNS of the CHURCH

CALL to PRAYER

Give Me Jesus

#551

*In the morning when rise, in the morning when I rise,
In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus,
You may have all this world, give me Jesus.*

SILENT PETITIONS and PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

Bought with a Price

The words to today's anthem, adapted from I Corinthians 6:20 and Micah 6:8, have been set to music by Natalie Sleeth.

You were blessed by the Word, born of the Spirit, called by the Pow'r divine
You were led by the light, washed with the water, marked by a sacred sign.
You are part of the chosen people, You are children of Abraham.
You were bought with a price, spared by a sorrow, saved by the blood of the Lamb.

So what, then does God require of you? Nothing in truth you cannot do:
This, this alone your whole life through, but to walk in the way of the Lord!

You were claimed by a cross, graced by a glory, loved by the Lord on high.
You were fed by the faith, filled from the fountain, destined to testify.
You are part of the chosen people, You are children of Abraham.
You were bought with a price, spared by a sorrow, saved by the blood of the Lamb.

You were blessed by the Holy Spirit, called by the Pow'r divine;
Washed with the living water, marked by a sign.
You are part of the chosen people, Children of Abraham,
Redeemed by a sacrifice and saved by the Lamb. (repeats)

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

One Voice: May the words of my mouth,
All Voices: **And the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable in
Thy sight, O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer.
Amen.** *(Psalm 19)*

SERMON

In the Shadow of the Cross: A Plea

Rev. Zina Jacque

CLOSING HYMN

Come, Share the Lord

#782

We gather here, in Jesus' name.
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame.
For through his loving Son, the Father makes us one,
Come lift your cross, come lift your prayer, come share the Lord.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Walking With the Master

Lani Smith



THE TRUE DEFINITION OF WORSHIP

I love words. That surprises no one. The Greek word for worship is *proskuneo* (*pros-koo-hey-y-oh*). It means to prostrate oneself in homage. In other words to worship is to lie, face down in reverence to a person, place, or thing.

Beloved, when we worship, we are called to stretch out our spirits before God, to lie in a humbled position, and to adore the one we worship. To worship is not to gather in a place, nor is it to stand with arms raised in praise. Praise and worship go together, but they are different. In this time of

worshipping in new ways, I welcome you to allow your spirit to lie before God in reverence and in thanksgiving for the love of a God who will never abandon us to viruses, processes, or even our own behaviors.

And so, we will worship together, virtually, throughout this period of social distancing and staying well. In fact, on Sunday, April 5th we will observe both Communion and Palm Sunday. Please be on the look out for a packet which will contain your very own palm, crackers for Communion (you will have to supply the fruit of the vine), and a bulletin. And, in that same packet you will receive your Good Friday bulletin. We will Facebook Live Good Friday at 7 pm April 10th. We will also Facebook Live Maundy Thursday on April 9th. But, that service will not require a bulletin.

Our plans for Easter are still taking shape but we will host our **RESURRECTION SUNDAY** service, from the Sanctuary, on Facebook Live at 10:30am, April 12th. We hope all will tune in and share in the service on the holiest day of the Christian year. For, if our Savior had not been willing to sacrifice his life, we would have no hope for life eternal or abundant. We praise God for this special time of the year and we, your staff, promise to make it as wondrous and as worshipful as we can. Easter bulletins will be ready by April 7th. We will email them to everyone and **if you would like the office to mail you a printed one, please email us no later than Tuesday, April 7th (ccbfour@sbcglobal.net).**

WHAT ELSE HAS CHANGED?

In order to continue the work of the church, we will maintain office hours throughout. Sandy Mytys, Dr. Sami and I will staff the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays, from at 8am – 3pm. Please call us if we may serve you. And please be aware we are attempting to limit traffic into the office.

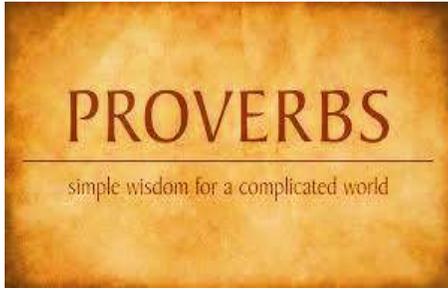
STAYING CONNECTED WHILE WE CANNOT MEET

While we worshipping in our homes we will work that much harder to remain connected. Each morning, through Holy Week, you will continue to receive a meditation in your email box. On Sunday mornings, as noted above, we will stream our abbreviated worship services. And, during the week, I will offer a moment of prayer each day on Facebook Live.

YOUR DIRECTORY IS YOUR PRAYER PARTNER

Now, more than ever, it is more important to remember Jesus' great commandment; to love one another. We love one another in part, by bearing one another's burdens and serving one another. Given this, I would encourage you to take your Community Church Directory and choose two to three people, per week, and send a note of electronic or snail mail cheer. Pick some people you do not know well and connect with your CCB brothers and sisters. Make someone smile by the thought you send. You will be blessed and you just might be someone's answered prayer.

PROVERBS FROM YOUR SISTERS



PROVERBS: A short pithy saying in general use, stating a general truth or piece of advice.

BIBLICAL PROVEB: A short pithy saying, offered in our Bibles, stating God's truth, wisdom, and guidance.

Our Bibles contain proverbs of wisdom, beauty, and stinging truth. If you open to the book of the Bible that bears that same name you will find these words:

♦ **Proverbs 3:5**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.

♦ **Proverbs 4:23**

Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life.

♦ **Proverbs 17:22**

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.

♦ **Proverbs 22:6**

Train up a child in the way he should go and even when he is old, he will not depart from it.

♦ **Proverbs 27:17**

Iron sharpens iron, so one sharpens another.

However, I have some additional proverbs to share with you. These were created by the women of G.R.O.W. (God Renewing Our Women). At our most recent gathering (March, 2020), your sisters listened for the word of the Lord and created these unique proverbs. We are delighted to share them with you. May you read them and be blessed.

*W*ith age we hope comes wisdom. But sometimes there are old fools.

*K*now your own value. Let no one treat you below your worth.

*W*hen you have a need, do not be afraid to ask for help. Wisdom can reside in the request.

*F*ollow your instincts and trust what your heart hears from God.

*B*e a good listener and you will be a good friend.

*L*ife is hard but it is so worth living

*T*ry new things and have a way of escape if all does not go well.

April 2020 Birthdays

4-02-20 James Goldstein	4-07-20 Grace Merchant	4-18-20 Jim Majzan
4-02-20 Paige Rivers	4-08-20 Art Rice	4-21-20 Emily Troxell
4-05-20 Marjorie Newman	4-10-20 Lindsay Campe	4-22-20 Grace Davis
4-06-20 Jackie Phinney	4-15-20 Denny McLean	
4-06-20 Jim Zurek	4-16-20 Jayne Majzan	

WOMEN WHO BREAKFAST - We can't meet this month but treat yourself to a delicious French Toast breakfast. We are together in spirit! Bon Appetit'

6 thick slices bread 2 eggs 2/3 cup milk
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon (optional)
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg (optional) 1 teaspoon vanilla extract (optional) salt to taste



Directions. Beat together egg, milk, salt, desired spices and vanilla. Heat a lightly oiled griddle or skillet over medium-high heat. Dunk each slice of bread in egg mixture, soaking both sides. Place in pan, and cook on both sides until golden. Serve hot.

As we grow close to God,
we grow closer to others.
As we grow closer to others,
they grow closer to God.

by Cortez White

Our G.R.O.W. ladies will not meet this month. We encourage you to stay safe during this time. Watch your flashes and bulletins for future meeting dates.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP WILL NOT MEET IN APRIL.

"IN THE BEGINNING..." by Chris Szybinski

"Do not be afraid, for I will make you fishers of men."

THIS TOO, SHALL PASS.

When things are bad, remember:
It won't always be this way.
Take one day at a time.

When things are good, remember:
It won't always be this way.
Enjoy every great moment.

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 James Goldstein B'Day Paige Rivers B'Day	3	4
5 Worship 10:30 Marjorie Newman B'Day	6 Jackie Phinney B'Day Jim Zurek B'Day	7 Grace Merchant B'Day	8 Art Rice B'Day	9 Maundy Thursday	10 Good Friday 7:00 PM Lindsay Campe B'Day	11
12 Worship 10:30 Easter	13	14	15 Denny McLean B'Day	16 Jim Majzan B'Day	17	18 Jayne Majzan B'Day
19 Worship 10:30	20	21 Emily Troxell B'Day	22 Grace Davis B'Day	23	24	25
26 Worship 10:30 Party for Zina's Anniversary!	27	28 Council Meeting	29	30		

Community Church of Barrington
407 S. Grove Avenue
Barrington IL 60010



Friends, pages 6 and 7 are your worship bulletin for Sunday, March 29th.

Please join us on the Community Church of Barrington Facebook page at 10:30am. If you are not a member of Facebook, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/ccbarrington> and scroll to the very bottom of the Community Church Facebook Page. The video will begin at 10:25 with five minutes of prelude by Natalia.

Please also click the donate button on the Community Church of Barrington Website (www.ccbarrington.org) to make your pledge or a contribution to the Church.