

From Rev. Zina Jacque

LOVE'S LIFE LESSON

There is nothing like being wrapped in the arms of Love. A friend's hug is more than delicious. Your sibling's voice fills space in an indescribable way and a dear caregiver's presence brings peace and calm. The familiar smell of a spouse, the sound of a niece's, a cousin's, a child's laughter; are all versions of the arms of Love. And then, love shows up in the nuzzle of a kitten, the tail wagging of your dog, the bob of the head of that bird you love, and the sounds of other animals with whom you gladly share space. There is nothing like being wrapped in the arms of Love, even the Love of your own sweet soul.

There is no substitute for Love. There is no remedy when it is absent. Only Love's presence fills the void.

And yet, these challenging and odd days expose us both to the need for, and the absence of, Love. There is the loss of touch and the disappearance of grace that extends when company comes 'round. And, that is not all, there is still more of Love's bounty we are without. We are without the softening Love provides to our edges. That is why we hear of numbers inclining and note them as digits and not as dear ones whose lives are forever changed. Love's loss causes us to feel less strong and our weakness whispers, "Pull in your resources. You will need them." Without the ever-flowing stream of positive regard that is born of our togetherness, we live like dry vessels wondering when we might next be filled. These are some of the challenges born of these odd days. And, the pervasive nature of this strange time is that we are robbed of our readiness to love by an accretion of sorts; by the slow accumulation of anxiety, doubt, and fear that lingers just beyond our endurance.

And, a tear falls.

But here is what I know about God's sons and daughters (and that is who you are). A season without Love, a season when Love's light seems far beyond the horizon, is not our end. It is the beginning of a new appreciation of Love's power, Love's importance. You and I who have known the difficulty of Love's absence will reach for her and prize her all the more. We will search for her until we find her and are free, once more, to take and give of her bounty.

Until then, as your tears fall, know this, they water seeds of Love long dormant, now ready to grow. Know this, they refresh a landscape thirsty for Love's true resurgence. Know this, our longing for love rises first as a moan, then as a sigh, then as a hum, and then as a full-throated song; sung to our God and all creation in gratitude for what we are learning and what we now hold as true.

Now, I have a question, beloved. What do you **now** hold as true? What have these days of physical distancing and social separation shown you about you, about Love? What will you say to those who someday ask you about the time of Covid-19? What will you tell them of the importance of community, of the importance of Love? These odd and challenging times are life's classroom and we are her students. You, dear one, decide the lessons learned. What have you, what have I, learned?

A chance to respond can be found on page 10

JUNE
NEWSLETTER 2020



Moving Forward With New Vision



At the time of writing this, I can assure you that I have become completely aggravated by the following term: “the new normal”. What does that really mean? What was normal about our past, and more importantly, what will a different normal look like for our future?

While I can only hope and pray about what faces us in the coming months, I can be sure of a few things: we will emerge from this quarantine period with a renewed sense of love for one another and a deeper appreciation for this church and the community that is found here.

As we continue to shelter at home throughout the spring and most likely into the summer, I am considering the hard facts of what a re-opening of the church would likely mean for our members.

To this end, we are forming a group that will be known as “ReImagine CCB”. The group will include members from many of our church committees. We will virtually meet in the coming weeks to review and discuss the many details surrounding our Sunday services that will impact our congregation each week.

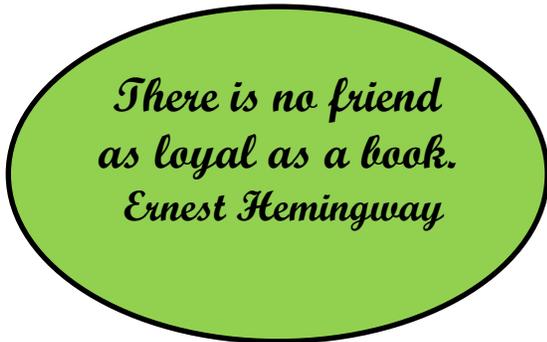
Social distancing, face masks and gloves - how will we meet and greet, provide hospitality and fellowship to visitors and long-time members while keeping the congregation safe from sickness?

These are some of the many questions that we will answer before any decision is made to open Community Church. I want you to know that we are working on moving forward with a new vision – we will meet again on the other side of these dark days and will be prepared for whatever God has planned for us.

Jayne Majzan, Moderator

*“In three words I can sum up everything I’ve
learned about life: it goes on.” Robert Frost*

LOOKING FOR A NEW BOOK TO READ Jackie Phinney and Jayne Majzan



We held our first Community Church Book Swap on Tuesday, May 12th. It was a sun-filled success!

We met some of our church neighbors and saw some old friends - Sandy Schroeder's cousin stopped by - and we had a wonderful time swapping books and spending some socially distant, face-masked time with fellow members and friends of CCB.

And, in case you are wondering what types of books we would like, we are so glad you asked. Novels, biographies, beautiful coffee table books, cookbooks, magazines, whatever you think someone else would enjoy reading.

Also, please remember, this is a book swap. The books will not be returned unless of course, you bring them back for a subsequent swap!

We plan on conducting other swaps. So spend some time around your house gathering up some books or magazines and we'll meet you in front of the church soon!

Remember, wear your mask!



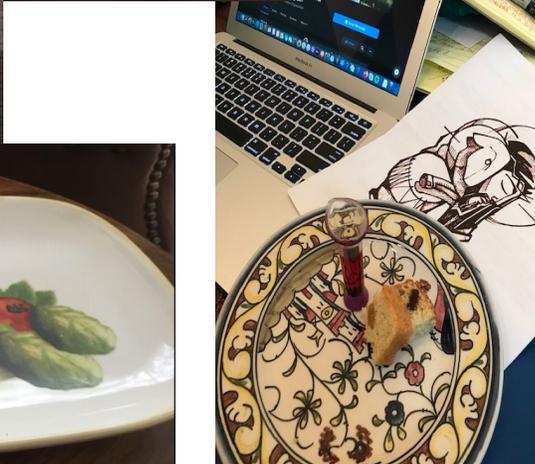
LORD'S TABLE IN THE TIME OF COVID



Beloved, the old adage says, *A picture is worth 1,000 words*. And, on May 3rd, you shared pictures of your Communion Table.

The first Lord's Supper was a Passover meal. It was a home-cooked dinner, shared by Jesus and his friends, in an upper room whose address we do not know. The disciples, and those whose names are lost to history, gathered not knowing this dinner would come down to us as one of the most important acts of the Christian Church.

The Lord's Supper is, for us, our obedient response to Christ's invitation to gather, to remember, and to engage. The pictures that follow bless my heart because they show you, God's people, as the priests of your own homes. Shalom, children of God. Be blessed.



DREAMING AND PLANNING FOR THE DAY WE GATHER

Pastor Zina

I am an optimist. I have been all my life, and I believe I always will be. Yet, life in the time of Covid-19 has developed my realist's muscle. As often as I dream of our sanctuary bursting with your love and faith, I know we are not close to being able to gather as is our way.

However, each time I enter the building, I know we are one day closer to coming back together. Community Church has stood for almost 173 years (much of it on the very corner we now occupy) and we will open wide our doors once more. In fact, the staff, members of Council, the Reimagining CCB Ad Hoc Task Force and the Strategic Planning Committee are hard at work planning for that glad moment when we will raise our voices (masked of course) in praise.

Here is what we are up to. We have set up the sanctuary **and** the Fellowship Hall as worship spaces. We can worship (no more than) 50 people in each space. However, we are considering using both spaces in the following manner; I would preach from the Fellowship Hall and invite Natalia to play from her traditional place in the Sanctuary. We would "send" the activities of the Fellowship Hall into the Sanctuary via our television screens and we would transport the beauty of Natalia's music into the Fellowship Hall through the speaker system. People would be able to choose the beauty of the sanctuary and the poetry of Natalia's playing, or the Fellowship Hall and the presence of the preacher.



In addition, we have consulted insurance companies, denominational leaders, health care workers, other clergy, and anyone else we thought might offer wisdom. We have ordered gloves, masks, and hand sanitizer to keep us safe when we are together. We are at work on a plan to sanitize the building after each gathering (worship, Al-Anon, AA, etc.). And, we are in conversation with our cleaning crew regarding changes in their routine.

Though Coffee Hour will be suspended for a while, we are working to determine the best way to pass the peace, serve the Lord's Supper (individually packaged graham crackers and juice boxes, anyone), and simply "have church". Innovation and out-of-the-church thinking pepper our conversations as we consider how to reimagine and recast these important moments in the life of CCB. And, we are anticipating the day we may apply these plans.



In the end, we will not return to worship until our leadership, local and state, suggest we do so. And, even after we return, we will continue to stream our worship services for those who wish to remain home a bit longer. In all of our planning, please know we are praying and striving to be good citizens, to follow guidelines intended to keep us safe and healthy and to function as a positive role model for our community and beyond.



Finally, when we do return, we have a special gift for you; a button you might wear to remind your brothers and sisters that you love them, but a hug is just not the thing.

Until we are able to gather, face to face, we will remain committed to gathering heart to heart, on one accord, in praise and thanksgiving for our God at 10:20 each Sunday morning at [www/facebook.com/ccbarrington/live](https://www.facebook.com/ccbarrington/live) (scroll down the page toward the bottom to find the livestream).

Until we meet again, I am dreaming of that day.

CONGRATS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE – CLASS of 2020

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” Romans 15::13 NIV

Just two months ago, we were looking forward to the joy and festivities that accompany springtime on high school and university campuses, culminating in Commencement celebrations! So many of our youth and young adults were gearing up for the traditional crowning of their achievement with a high school or college degree.

Who would have imagined then that we would close out this 2019-20 year while continuing to shelter in place. As so much has changed in these recent weeks, the members and friends of Community Church of Barrington and the youth and young adults in this environment have approached the pandemic challenges with admirable energy, creativity and a can-do spirit!!

COLLEGE Graduates Class of 2020 – (from left) Jason Alton, Levi Palomo and Alex Campe



HIGH SCHOOL Graduates Class of 2020-(from left) Alexandra Palomo, Maggie Pechan and Jake Davis



The **Class of 2020** deserves resounding cheers for their resilience and accomplishments in unprecedented circumstances. While many of the graduates likely did not expect to complete their degrees fully online, they did it!! They finished!! **CONGRATULATIONS Class of 2020!!!!**

Join me as we bring out the trumpets, watch the procession, hear the commencement addresses and lift up those that would inspire each of us and give us HOPE! Thank you **GRADUATES** for being in our lives, we wish you all the amazing things God has planned for you. Remember that: ‘BEHIND YOU, all your memories, BEFORE YOU, all your dreams, AROUND YOU all who love you and WITHIN, all you need.’

Blessings, Dr. Samira and Your CCB Family

COVID 19- CONFIDENT OF VICTORY IN (the) DIVINE

I believe that many of us, regardless of our age or station in life, have struggled to process what is happening around us, perhaps embracing a new norm? Over the centuries, as crises have hit, the Church has turned to what they know to be true about God. We see this as we look at the Israelites in the wilderness. When things got tough, they remembered who God was and how He had been faithful to them in the past. I believe this is meaningful for us as well now. As our young people navigate days of quarantine measures and uncertainty, let's remember some truths about God. First, God is in control; second, God is good; third, God is constantly at work to bring about good; fourth, God has seen us through this crisis, already. And finally, when things get rough, and we get down, or worried or scared, there is a powerful truth our youth and children teach us to cling to: that Jesus holds all things together. Jesus is the force that binds the world together during the chaos.

Let us not just be 'hand washers' let us continue to be 'foot washers' during this time. Christian Education at CCB has included various ways for young people to step into the story of Jesus. It's in these moments they see how powerful God is in their lives. We are all learning together the truest definition of reliance and strength through our experience with COVID 19. As a Christian Education group we continue to ask God to help us to navigate together during these times. A question I asked recently of the Sr. high group was, "If Jesus asked you what you would need from Him, and you knew He would supply it, what would you say?" They said, "Strength", "Guidance", "Perseverance", "Motivation", and "Discipline". Find below some of what they are doing to show the love of God. Be blessed CCB. You are faith in motion. Thank you Youth and Children for leading us. *Washing our hands and feet together, Dr. Samira and God's children.*





Each Sunday, a small but intrepid crew of souls gathers to put on our Sunday morning worship. There is always someone present to run the camera (thank you Bonnie Stevens, Jayne Majzan, and David Phinney), someone to read scripture (thank you Alayne McNulty, Ted Newman, and Carol Marsh), and those who lead worship (thank you Dr. Sami). Kim McLean still bakes our Communion Bread, Bill Akerstrom still works to choose anthems, and Sandy Schroeder continues to provide all sorts of technical assistance.

I am grateful to each of these souls for their support, resilience, and grace under pressure. But you may have noticed, there is one whom I have not mentioned, Natalia Revinski. Natalia’s music, the sheer poetry of her playing, the kindness she offers as we select pieces for worship, and her willingness to include your favorite hymns as part of the preludes and postludes for the remainder of our online worship services is just amazing and a blessing.

So many of you comment on Natalia’s playing during the service that we want to offer you a gift. Several Lenten seasons ago, Natalia recorded quiet, reflective hymns to guide our prayer and meditation. We have reissued her CD during this time apart, offering each of you a time of peace and calm. We hope you will enjoy her CD; it includes the hymns noted below. If you would like a CD, please contact the office (ccbfour@sbcglobal.net or 847 381 1294). We will gladly make one available to you. Blessings as you grow still, listen, reflect and draw closer to our Lord.

We Shall Behold Him
Near the Cross
Beneath the Cross of Jesus
Hosanna

Sacred Head, Now Wounded
I’d Rather Have Jesus
In Christ Alone
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

The Love of Jesus (Medley)
God So Loved the World
I’ve Just Seen Jesus
Were You There?

IN THESE UNPRECEDENTED TIMES



The Pastoral Relations Committee would like to express, on behalf of the entire congregation, our heartfelt thanks to our leader, Pastor Zina, and our pastoral associate, Dr. Sami, for performance above and WAY beyond the call of duty. At a time when despair, anxiety, fear, and sadly, anger threatened to push us apart, they have not missed a beat in keeping the CCB family together—worshipping our God, caring for each other, connecting in untold and unique ways—and often, laughing. With the able assistance of Sandy Mytys, Natasha Revinski, Jayne Majzan and the handful of intrepid souls they recruited, we have shared glorious worship together—including Easter!—fed the heroes at Good Shepherd, been surprised and thrilled with home visits and gorgeous sidewalk chalk creations, attended ZOOM Council meetings, shared Holy Communion, listened to Zina’s words of wisdom on Facebook, swapped books with each other, rejoiced while our youth and children interacted frequently both online and in surprise visits with Dr. Sami. And now the latest endeavor—MORE with Zina every Wednesday! There are countless other ways that our church leaders have reached out over the course of the past almost 3 months, and we could not be more blessed to have Zina and Sami leading us through this indescribably difficult and challenging time. THANK YOU! You are truly a gift from God.

BARRINGTON BACK TO SCHOOL GIVING DAY

By Carol Marsh

In August, CCB will again have the privilege of participating in **BARRINGTON'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL GIVING DAY**, serving children who participate in the reduced and/or free lunch program in our school district.



This year's Back-To-School Giving Day will look a little different, but it will remain on point in its mission – to help prepare these children and their families for the start of a new school year. Due to the impact of COVID-19, the event will extend over 3-4 days to ensure the safety of participating families and volunteers. There will be opportunities to help organize donations before the event, plus assist families the days of. More to follow on that. CCB will again supply new, long-sleeved tops for elementary school girls. The sizes and the number of tops we need are;

Girls Size 7/We need 12 tops

Girls Size 10/We need 21 tops

Girls Size 8/We need 17 tops

Girls Size 12/We need 21 tops

You may drop your purchases off at the church, where they will be collected and taken to St. Matthew's Church, from now until mid-July. Thank you for helping in this important ministry and blessing these young girls and their families. And, now let's hear the personal experiences from two special people.



Brenda and Stu Overby's involvement grew from their participation in the Community Meal, for which they have prepared and served meals for many years. When Back-To-School Giving Day was initiated, Community Meal and the Overbys showed up, serving picnic lunches to all of the participating families. Sue says the experience is one of the best – that nothing can compare with the joy and wonder on the children's faces after they have selected clothing and shoes for themselves. And the sense of hope and belonging that permeates the day. She still remembers the thrill she experienced as a child, of having something new for the first day. She loves that the support of CCB has been so consistent and generous. Her encouragement to us is to shop for these children, and also to carve out time to help – either organizing and sorting donations, assisting shoppers, or any other way to be involved.

Sarah Dockery has been serving with this event for many years. Her personal sensitivity to and concern for these families began, as she said, "eons ago", as a new bride and young 2nd grade teacher. She recalled a particular young girl – sweet, shy, irregular in attendance, not always clean, and lacking skills of the average 2nd grader. As Sarah learned of that family's considerable needs, she became aware of other families who, in what many consider to be an affluent community, live among us "in the shadows".



And she never forgot it. Sarah has volunteered to help alongside the Overbys with food service. She also recalls the joy in the children's faces after they were allowed to select new clothing for themselves, school supplies, and more, and the fun as families gathered on the lawn to share in the abundance of a loving community. And so, dear friends, thank you for your kindness and heart for our community, and for participating in this lovely event.

May 2020 Birthdays

6-02-20 Dave Pechan
6-03-20 Cap Menes
6-04-20 Belle Roig
6-05-20 Sarah Palmer
6-08-20 Carl Newman
6-09-20 Jason Alton
6-10-20 J. D. Grom

6-14-20 Dave Burns
6-17-20 Lynn Rice
6-19-20 Julian Roig
6-22-20 Andre' Bell
6-23-20 Brooke DeBartolo
6-25-20 Heather McLean

6-25-20 Peer Lykke
6-25-20 Jacob Jensen
6-26-20 Susan Carsello
6-26-20 Sarah Dockery

Anniversaries

6-07-20 Betty & Don McLean

6-14-20 Heloise & Dave Pechan

6-17-20 Bunny & Steve Jahnke



PLEASE PULL THE CARD OFF
THEN, READ BELOW
THIS LINE.

Beloved, the cover page of this newsletter asks what these days of physical distancing and social separation have taught you. The postcard attached to this page is for you to complete. If you are willing, please share a thought or two about what you have learned during these days apart about you, about love, or about anything else you would like to share.

You can sign the card or send it in anonymously. If there are several thoughts from members of your household, feel free to give everyone a sentence or two, or make up your own extra card to return. And, if you would prefer, you are welcome to email your thoughts to the office, ccbfour@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you and blessings for sharing your thoughts. We cannot wait to hear what you have learned during these days none of us ever desired or predicted.

The capacity to learn is
a *gift*; the ability to
learn is a *skill*; the
willingness to learn is a
choice.

Brian Herbert

June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Dave Pechan B'Day	3 Cap Menes B'Day MORe -Noon Youth Call 1:00	4 Belle Roig B'Day	5 Sarah Palmer B'Day	6
7 Worship 10:30 Betty & Don McLean Anniversary	8 Carl Newman B'Day	9 Deacons Virtual Meeting Jason Alton B'Day	10 J. D. Grom B'Day MORe -Noon Youth Call 1:00	11	12	13
14 Worship 10:30 Dave Burns B'Day Heloise & Dave Pechan Anniversary	15	16	17 Lynn Rice B'Day Bunny & Steve Jahnke Anniversary MORe -Noon Youth Call 1:00	18	19 Julian Roig B'Day	20
21 Worship 10:30	22 Andre' Bell B'Day	23 Council Virtual Meeting Brook DeBartolo B'Day	24 MORe -Noon Youth Call 1:00	25 AI-Anon Heather McLean B'Day Peer Lykke B'Day Jacob Jensen B'Day	26 Susan Carsello B'Day Sarah Dockery B'Day	27
28 Worship 10:30	29	30				

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



The Hendershott's dog joining them for Sunday Worship

