

WHAT HAVE
YOU LEARNED?

SUMMER
NEWSLETTER 2020

From Rev. Zina Jacque

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED

If I tell the truth, beloved brothers and sisters, these past few weeks have been hard. In the past month, our beloved nation has known the pain of unrest unleashed. On top of the pandemic of a virus whose name we did not know 100 days ago, we have watched the brutalization of Ahmaud Arbury, Rayshard Brooks and George Floyd. And we watched a woman call the police, lying on a black man in a park, assuming her story would be believed because of the terror in her voice and the color of her skin. We watched and we cried, we raged and we sat silent and numb. But we watched. The nation, dare I say the world, watched and now we know, in stark relief, that the stories that seemed one offs, were not. We watched and we recognize a divide has grown between the experiences of people depending on where they live, how they dress, the economics of their lives and the color of their skin.

Let me tell you why I say this. A few weeks ago, as I placed my rubbish and recycling receptacles at the curb, a large black SUV pulled to an abrupt stop in front of my home. Two men got out, one of Middle Eastern descent (he was the Uber driver) and the other, I later learned, of Eastern European descent (he was the passenger). The Uber driver looked in my direction and said, "This man is drunk and wants to fight. I am putting him out of my car." And he did. So now, there was a very inebriated man, maybe 50 years old, in shorts and a t-shirt, in my driveway. I asked, "Do you need help?" He replied he lived in the area and moved toward inspecting my garbage. Sharply, I said, "Stop please". This man, though inebriated, apologized profusely and began walking north on my street. He made it two houses and then slumped down alongside a tree. I phoned the police and indicated this gentleman needed help. Two plainclothes, Buffalo Grove police arrived. They talked to me, then the inebriated gentleman, and helped him into their car (no handcuffs) and off they went.

Buffalo Grove, everyone was nice, compliant, and no one died.

As I watched the exchange with Rayshard Brooks in the drive-through of a Wendy's, I could not help but wonder, what would have changed in my neighborhood if any of the ethnicities of any of the players had been different. I will never know, but my beloved brothers and sisters, I do know this, somehow in charged situations, we have lost the ability to see one another's humanity. Somehow, we have made decisions about people based, in part, on implicit biases. And, as the authors of "Blindspot, Hidden Biases of Good People" suggest, we have become locked into a set of expectations about people based on benefit, perceived worth, myth, and innuendo.

I am very glad the Buffalo Grove police, on that Sunday evening in front of my house, lived up to their motto, serve and protect. I believe they saw the humanity of the inebriated man and helped him home. I pray, in this time of transformation for our nation that each of us finds new lens to see one another as fully made in the image and likeness of God, and fully worthy of living and sharing space on this great green and blue ball. I pray, and work, and hope.

However, you take in these words for you, whatever your position in life affords; may we each pray for God's guidance and transforming power. May we each work for Kingdom principles. And, may we hope (confident expectation) that God's justice and righteousness will be known in our world, for all people. Lord, hasten this day, and use your children to make it so. Amen.

Summer Update: Watch For Our Grand Re-Opening in August!

Jayne Majzan, Moderator



The ReImagine CCB! Team has been hard at work taking the necessary steps required to re-open the church for our members and friends across Barrington and the surrounding communities.

Our team members will continue to meet and work throughout the summer preparing Community Church to welcome those who desire to worship in person at the corner of Lincoln and Grove while continuing to welcome those who are more comfortable worshipping online through our continuing presence on Facebook Live. We hope to reopen in early August 2020.

We will be following the State of Illinois and CDC Guidelines for opening up our church to the community.

All required distancing, signage and cleaning precautions will be taken. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available, and the public areas will be disinfected after each weekly service.

We will provide signage to help inform our members and guests that for Sunday Services:

- Cloth masks will be required to enter Community Church.
- 6 ft. distancing will also be required between members whenever possible.
- Baskets for offering envelopes will be provided for contactless pledging.
- All hymns will be printed in the Bulletin; there will be no hymnals or Bibles available under the pews. Members are encouraged to bring a Bible from home if they desire.
- The Tower Door and Grove Ave. entrances will be utilized, and ushers will assist members in using the appropriate doors for entry and exit.
- Restrooms will be used by a single member at a time. All food and beverage service will be suspended until further notice.



As you can see from the photos, we have been blessed by the loan of beautiful quilts from Bonnie Stevens and Lindsay Campe. These quilts help to lessen the sound issues that occur as we continue to film in a relatively empty Sanctuary each Sunday. The quilts will take on a very important role as we attempt to map out the appropriate 6 ft. distancing that will be required for members to gather in the Sanctuary. As we continue to gather throughout the coming months, we also hope to have overflow seating with appropriate distancing throughout Fellowship Hall.



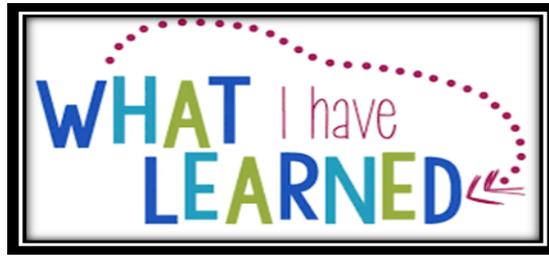
Long ago, the prophet Micah asserted that what God requires of us is “to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8). The Covid-19 pandemic has radically changed our lives and our world. It has not, however, changed what God requires of us.

This moment has called for the Council to step into the role of moral leaders and to guide our members with the virtues of justice, love and humility. In this spirit, we will continue to work to provide care-filled attention for the well-being of all the members and friends of Community Church.

I'd like to say a sincere thank you to the members of the ReImagine CCB! Team:

Pastor Zina Jacque Cindy Alton Ted Newman Dave Pratscher
David Phinney Sandy Schroeder

WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED?



Beloved, in the June newsletter, I asked you what you learned during the time of Covid-19. Following are some of the responses.

How to embrace the Kingdom of God

That remote church is like a long-distance love affair,
exquisite at its core, but much better in person.

The importance of the gift of my spouse, the arrival of spring, our home and deck to enjoy,
but still missing interacting with people and acutely aware of the need for masks and such.

I love the quiet of the streets in the morning, when traffic is light or non-existent
and bird songs, not blaring horns, fill the air.

I am better company than I thought.

I am not such good company.

I have fallen into books and I cannot, do not want to, get up.

For such a time as this has taken on meaning beyond the story of Esther.
There is much for us to learn, too much for this card. But I am here (you too) just for this time.

Brace yourself. The world is not going to be the same. I have not decided if
this observation leads to good or ill

Friends, I ask again what have you learned during this time “away”? Learning is crucial. Many of you know the story of my Grandfather’s evening ritual as he tucked any, or all, of his grandchildren into bed. He would ask each of us, in turn, *what did you learn and who did you help today?* His goal was to teach us the ethics of learning and service. Now, over fifty years later, I know the importance of examining my day in order to obtain intentional, personal, awareness and growth.

During this Covid season, what have you learned in general and about yourself? What personal awareness and growth has occurred? What might you do with what you gleaned? How will it shift your being, change or strengthen a behavior or allow you to learn and serve all the more?

Nothing in the divine economy of God is wasted (another of my Granddad’s sayings). May each of us glimpse our learning and gather up the lessons as we move into what is next. And, may we be wiser, clearer, and intentionally aware of how we will be in the world, post C-19. Blessings as we continue to learn.

God Is In The Midst Of ALL Things...

It's summer...finally, and what a year it has been. As I think of summer I think of new ways to go out and enjoy the sun God has given us. Being from the Midwest, cloudy days and dreary winters are the staple of life and so...blue skies and summer breezes fill my being with much joy and contentment. *I also think of summers as a time to begin afresh—to grow and be nourished physically, mentally and spiritually.*

We as a people, this past winter and spring, have had the opportunity to use our tongues to voice our truths regarding the Coronavirus and the unjust treatment of George Floyd and so many in our country and in our communities. As we enter the summer months may we be renewed in the strength that God is in the midst of all things and look to Him in how we best use our tongues moving forward.

As our lives and faith have been tested, I asked God to show me some words in Psalms. I was led to the 39th chapter, verses 1-4. As I read this Psalm, I immediately played this out in my mind step by step. I saw myself standing in the middle of those who were yelling obscene things and doing obscene things. I thought about all the events of the past year and those most recent that affected our nation.

Verse 1: I said to myself, "I will watch what I do and not sin in what I say. I will hold my tongue when the ungodly are around me." So, am I really supposed to say nothing to all of this ungodliness? Shouldn't I correct or rebuke something, Lord?

Verse 2: "But as I stood there in silence--not even speaking of good things--the turmoil within me grew worse." I kept thinking, "Lord, this is too much for me to handle. I really have to say something. Let fire come from my mouth like the Prophets in Revelation and burn them up! Come on!"

Verse 3-4: The more I thought about it, the hotter I got, igniting a fire of words: "LORD, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered--how fleeting my life is." Then I saw Jesus in the midst of this and I realized how brief His time was here on earth. I understood how His days as a man were numbered, just like ours, and His life was like a breath of air just like ours.

Jesus knew how He would be treated and did not defend Himself in the chaos of this ungodliness. And when I look at Jesus I see that there were times He kept silent, but in all times **He managed His emotions in the presence of evil people and in the untruths told.** In the circumstances of late we must continue to manage our emotions with God's help but speak our truth. Jesus held His tongue and went to the cross for every one of those ungodly people.

What will we do in the midst of ungodliness and challenges that we are experiencing. This summer, have an amazing time, and maybe we can work not only on our exercise plan but on "the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts." May we look at each others' hearts moving forward.

Looking forward to hearing in the fall all about what you did and learned over the summer J. On the walk of faith with you and in Joy.

Dr. Samira El-Yasir



JULY BIRTHDAYS

7-1 Mark Luchsinger	7-10 Nicole Powers
7-3 Heloise Pechan	7-16 Max Palmer
7-5 Katharine Palmer	7-23 Mike Hornig
7-6 Zoe Krug	7-24 Sandra Mytys
7-9 Pat Roig	7-28 Carolyn Roussel
	7-30 Emily Newman



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8-1 Mia DeBartolo	8-9 Maggie Roig	8-18 Naomi Krug	8-23 Betty McLean
8-3 Barb Neal	8-12 Marlene Tourville	8-19 Johanna Papadimitriou	8-24 Steve Jahnke
8-4 Claudine Athmann	8-13 Julie Zurek	8-19 Cher Zeller	8-26 Sandy Schroeder
8-7 Mary Troxell	8-14 Bonnie Stevens	8-22 Katie Pechan	8-29 Sami El-Yasir
			8-29 Alissia Thompson



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8-11-20 Lindsay & Michael Campe	8-17 Margaret & Bill Akerstrom
8-16-20 Carolyn & Philip Roussel	8-22 Stacy & J.D.Grom

WANT A LITTLE MORE?

Each Wednesday, from Noon – 12:30, we gather on ZOOM (by computer or by phone) to share in a **Moment Of Reflection**. Each week Pastor Zina selects a topic and we share our thoughts and gather in prayer. It is a quick, but meaningful, 30 minutes of just a little bit **MORE**. Won't you join us? We would be delighted to welcome you. We open the line about 11:50 and conclude our time together about 12:30.



PHONE: If you are Zooming by phone, dial the number below and it will bring you into the conversation: +13126266799 (Pin: 81818631019#)

COMPUTER: If you are Zooming by computer, please click on this link.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81818631019>

BARRINGTON BACK to SCHOOL GIVING DAY

We have just a few more days to collect our tops for the Giving Day. The chart below notes what we still need. And, if you are a little concerned about shopping, Carol Marsh, will shop for you. Please bring or send your donation to the office and we will shop till we dress these beautiful young ladies well. Thank you, for your generous hearts.

Girls' Size	# of Tops Needed	Total Collected as of 6/22/2020	Still Needed as of 6/22/2020
Size 7	12	8	4
Size 8	17	7	10
Size 10	21	9	12
Size 12	21	14	7
Totals	71	38	33

Other Sizes XL 12

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Mark Luchsinger B'Day MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00	2	3 Heloise Pechan Birthday	4
5 Worship 10:00 Katherine Palmer B'Day	6 Zoe Krug B'Day	7	8 MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00	⁹ Pat Roig B'Day	10 Nicole Powers B'Day	11
12 Worship 10:00	13	14	15 MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00	16 Max Palmer B'Day	17	18
19 Worship 10:00	20	21	22 MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00	23 Mike Hornig B'Day	24 Sandra Mytys B'Day	25
26 Worship 10:00	27	28 Virtual Council Meeting Carolyn Roussel B'Day	29 MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00	30 Emily Newman B'Day	31	

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Mia DeBartolo B'Day
2 Worship 10:00 Barb Neal B'Day	3	4 Claudine Athmann B'Day	5 MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00	6	7	8 Mary Troxell B'Day
9 Worship 10:00 Maggie Roig B'Day	10	11 Lindsay & Michael Campe Anniv.	12 Marlene Tourville B'Day MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00	13 Julie Zurek B'Day	14 Bonnie Stevens B'Day	15
16 Worship 10:00 Carolyn & Philip Roussel Anniv.	17 Margaret & Bill Akerstrom Anniv.	18 Naomi Krug B'Day	19 MORe—Noon Youth Call 1:00 Johanna Papadimitriou B'Day Cher Zeller B'Day	20	21	22 Katie Pechan B'Day Stacy & J.D. Grom Anniv.
23 Worship 10:00 Betty McLean B'Day	24 Steve Jahnke B'Day	25 Council Meeting Virtual	26 Sandy Schroder B'Day	27 Al-Anon	28	29 Sami El-Yasir B'Day Alissa Thompson B'Day
30 Worship 10:00	31					

Community Church of Barrington
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