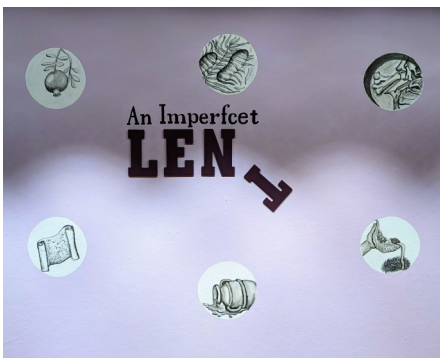


April/May 2023



A Bi-Monthly Newsletter from The Community Church of Barrington

Perfectly Embracing Imperfection



There comes a point in every great rock and roll biopic, typically during an interview, where the musician comes to the realization that they've lost their way. The interviewer will ask, "What's it like to be rich and famous and adored by millions of fans?" The rock star will have a sudden moment of clarity. "It's funny," they'll respond, "When we started out, the goal was never fame. It was never about the money or the partying or the drugs. It was about the music. The goal was always supposed to be about the music."

We started our Lenten season focusing on "God's Gifts of Imperfection" led by Brené Brown's book of a similar title. But imperfection was never the goal. Oh sure! We were taught to embrace imperfection, and this led to many lessons such as:

- It takes courage to be vulnerable, to be honest about ourselves, and to tell our story. It takes tremendous courage to accept our uniqueness, especially if it is "flawed" in the eyes of others.
- Self-worth, the potential for creativity, and God-given talents are all innate within us. We cannot do anything to earn them, but we can develop them.
- Guilt must be separated from shame. Joy must be sought out. Hope must be cultivated.
- This is incredibly hard work. So, we must rest as God rested and pray as Jesus prayed.

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It might seem like all this learning comes back to embracing imperfection.

This is true. It does.

But that was never the goal.

That was only a step towards the goal.

The real goal was — and still is — **wholeheartedness** defined by Brené Brown as “engaging our lives from a place of worthiness” through courage, compassion, and connection (*Gifts of Imperfection* pg. 3). It is further expanded in Psalm 139:14: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well” (NIV).

To affirm that we are God’s wonderful works, we will celebrate Easter with our whole hearts. We will be full, joyous, creative, compassionate, authentic, and courageous. We will celebrate new life in Christ with our whole hearts. We will sing of the promise that nothing will separate us from the love of God, not even death. We will rejoice in knowing we can forge ahead with this promised new life,

A life of laughter. (4/16)

A life of Hallelujahs! (4/23)

A life everlasting. (From now on)

This is what it will mean to have a Wholehearted Easter Season.

I hope you will join us.

-Pastor Chris

EASTER

Wholehearted



Sunday, April 9th
9:00 a.m. - Potluck Brunch

10:30 a.m. - Worship
11:30 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt

Moderator's Update

An Imperfect Look at Spring



Imperfection: some might say it is a blemish or defect, or “the general state of not being perfect. If you look it up, the Latin term *imperfectus* is at the root of *imperfection*, meaning “unfinished, incomplete or immature”.

We are literally surrounded by imperfection in nature. Spring affords us a multitude of opportunities to view what the Japanese term as Wabi-Sabi: discovering beauty in imperfection ~ and acceptance of the cycle of life and death.

Today, we are constantly bombarded with social media showing us how to live a perfect life ~ and it's too easy to fall into a comparison trap, constantly comparing our lives to theirs.

How do we achieve perfection? We can't. Perfection ~ while a wonderful goal ~ is simply not attainable. As humans, we are flawed, make mistakes and are imperfect and I believe that it's OK, as our imperfections are what make each of us beautiful and individual.

As author Brene Brown explains, “When we give ourselves permission to be imperfect, when we find self-worth despite our imperfections, when we build connection networks that affirm and value us as imperfect beings, we are much more capable of change.”

So, head out and take a few moments to look at the wonder that is early spring. Everything might not be perfect, but there is no real beauty without some imperfection.

Jayne Majzan, Moderator

“The more I feel imperfect, the more I feel alive.” Jhumpa Lahiri


MARDI GRAS!





ASH WEDNESDAY



UPCOMING EVENTS

April 16th *Holy Humor Sunday* 
They thought he was dead and gone,
but Jesus had the last laugh.
As we move into the Easter season,
we are reminded to smile, laugh, and celebrate.
This will be a special family service for all generations.

April 23rd *Hallelujah Sunday* 
Get ready to make a joyful noise as we
look at all of the ways we say "Hallelujah."
From the roars of elevation to the quiet whispers
of relief to the broken hallelujahs of Leonard Coen,
all are divine.

April 30th **CAMP SUNDAY** 
Amber Naylor, head of the Outdoor
Ministry Program of ABC-Metro Chicago
will be here to talk about some of the
great outdoor opportunities coming up this
summer including kids' and youth summer camp.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

CHILDREN

Please plan on joining us on Sunday's for a very fun time of bible stories, sharing, crafts and games! We meet at The Kid's Table in the Narthex during the church service which begins at 10:30am. Our wonderful CCB teachers are excited to share the fun lessons they have prepared and are looking forward to seeing you!

ADULTS

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, but we will pick up again on April 16th with a new Bible study series called *Evidence of New Life*. In this series, which will continue through May 21st, we will look at appearances of Jesus post-Resurrection, as well as some other instances in scripture where the promise of "new life" was revealed.



Beginning May 28th and running for three weeks, we have the pleasure of Bill Marsh leading our Sunday School once again. This time Bill will be taking us through *Paul's Second Letter to Timothy*. This letter has interesting revelations about discipleship, Paul's triumphs and struggles in the early church, and more.

Join us to continue growing.

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship Service 10:30	3	4	5 CAROL EZELL B'DAY MARJORIE NEWMAN B'DAY	6 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6PM CCB JACKIE PHINNEY B'DAY	7 GOOD FRIDAY 7PM SALEM UMC GRACE MERCHANT B'DAY	8
9 EASTER Worship Service 10:30 9:00 Potluck 11:00 Egg Hunt	10 BADC MTG. Fellowship Hall	11	12	13	14	15 DENNY MCLEAN B'DAY
16 Worship Service 10:30 Holy Humor Sunday JIM MAJZAN B'DAY	17	18 JAYNE MAJZAN B'DAY	19 Potluck	20 JACKIE & DAVE PHINNEY ANNIV.	21	22 GRACE DAVIS B'DAY
23 Worship Service 10:30 Hallelujah Sunday PRODUCE SUNDAY	24	25 COUNCIL MTG.	26 REV. CHRIS SHADE B'DAY	27	28	29
30 Worship Service 10:30 Camp Sunday						

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 JEAN CAPELLOS B'DAY	3 BILL AKERSTROM B'DAY PAM PELIZZARI B'DAY	4	5	6
7 Worship Service 10:30 DAVE PHINNEY B'DAY	8 BADC MTG. Fellowship Hall	9	10	11	12 SHARON & MIKE HORNIG ANNIV.	13 TOM ALTON B'DAY
14 Worship Service 10:30 MOTHER'S DAY	15 LAUREN DAVIS B'DAY	16	17 POTLUCK	18	19 JOYLUCHSINGER B'DAY	20
21 Worship Service 10:30 ASCENSION SUNDAY FAMILY SUNDAY	22	23 COUNCIL MTG. JIM & JAYNE MAJZAN ANNIV. CHERYL & SANDY SCHROEDER ANNIV	24 ENA HENNEGAN B'DAY	25	26	27
28 Worship Service 10:30 PENTECOST PRODUCE SUNDAY	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	31			

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



Little Springtime Prayer

God, grant this little springtime prayer
And make our hearts, grown cold with care,
Once more aware of the waking earth
Now pregnant with life and bursting with birth...
For how can man feel any fear or doubt
When on every side all around and about
The March winds blow across a man's face
And whisper of God's power and grace?
Oh, give us faith to believe again
That peace on earth, good will to men
Will follow this winter of man's mind
And awaken his heart and make him kind...
And just as great nature sends the spring
To give new birth to each sleeping thing,
God, grant rebirth to man's slumbering soul
And help him forsake his selfish goal.

~ Helen Steiner Rice ~

Nubia Group

