

Newsletter of  
**TRINITY EVANGELICAL  
COVENANT CHURCH**  
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## March

### Ushers

Matt Mateer – Captain  
Tom Klutcharch  
Tracy Hood  
Rich Hood

### Greeters

6 - Edna Garcia, Barbara Johnson  
13 - Matt & Melissa Panush  
20 - Priscilla Sarr, Ray Lewis  
27 - The McShane Family

### Nursery

6 Carol Latimer, Diana Eigenbauer  
13 Gloria Vitro, Carol Byland  
20 Kristen Starr, Grace Persson  
27 Sandy Hutchinson, Kellie Lee

### Counters

Phil Cavallone  
Thad Przybylowski  
Ray Lewis  
Diana Eigenbauer

### Birthdays

2 Barbara Eustace  
7 Ellis Flaws  
8 Richard Erickson  
10 Arnold Almer  
11 William Anderson  
11 Brooklyn Raines  
15 Robert "Bud" Jaderholm  
15 Char Dunk Sladek  
21 Lois Carlson  
22 David Sladek  
22 Ariel Grace Kurzweil  
22 Tracy Hood  
29 Marge Moe  
30 Charlene Sandberg

If we missed your birthday, please let the office know so that it will be listed in the future.

# The Messenger

March 2011

## Over the Pastor's Shoulder

We are a journeying people. From the time we enter the world until the moment we take our final breath we make our way as life unfolds before us. So it is with faith. It too is a lifelong journey.

The Bible provides a remarkable account of the faith journey of God's people. These witnesses of the Hebrew people and the early Christian community told powerful stories of God's presence in the lives of God's people. The biblical stories reveal people who – like us – are weak and wise, willing and wavering. The Bible is history and it is poetry. It is holy and human. It takes us to places we can see as well as places we cannot fully comprehend. It tells their story while it connects to our story.

Although the Bible contains hundreds of stories in a variety of forms, some see within this broad narrative a limited number of core themes that tell the basic story of how God has been active in times past. We will explore the Scriptures through eight core stories during our Lenten Study, **God's Journey With Us**:

### Wednesday, March 9

God's Call: How do we discern in our own lives God's call to a relationship grounded in trust? *Genesis 12:1-9, 17*

### Wednesday, March 16

The Exodus: How might the ancient traditions of Exodus help us to hear a fresh call to community and continue God's work of liberation? *Exodus 3:1-15*

### Wednesday, March 23

Sinai Covenant: How do God's words at Sinai shape an ethic of covenant that honors community? *Exodus 20:1-17*

### Wednesday, March 30

Promised Land: In Israel's tradition of land – promised and possessed – what is revealed about the character of God and of our own sense of "place"? *Deuteronomy 8:1-20*

### Wednesday, April 6

Davidic Rule: How do stories of the Davidic dynasty create hope for leadership and community that can endure experiences of disappointment and exile? *2 Samuel 7:4-16*

### Wednesday, April 13

Jesus' Family Tree: What formed the historical, political and religious contexts for the life and ministry of Jesus as recorded in the Gospels? *Matthew 1:1-17*

### Wednesday, April 20

Jesus' Life: Why is Jesus important to us and what does his ministry teach us about who God is? *Mark 10:35-45*

### Wednesday, April 27

The cross: What does Jesus' death on the cross reveal about God, the life of discipleship and the mystery of suffering? *Luke 23*

### Wednesday, May 4

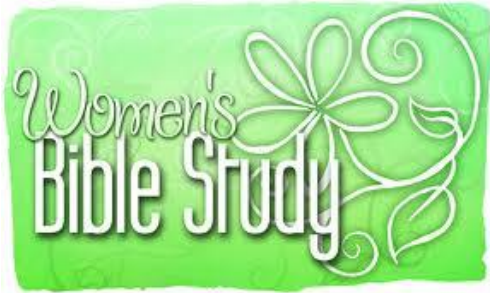
Resurrection life: How does Jesus' resurrection empower us to know God, self and creation in an ever-new way? *Mark 16:1-8*

These stories are described by theologian Walter Brueggemann as the "primal narrative" of biblical faith. Brueggemann says: "The primary narrative is that most simple, elemental, and non-negotiable story line that lies at the heart of biblical faith. This is the consistently believed in and recited root story that a community relies on in crisis and the one by which the truth or falseness of every other story is judged."

By exploring these eight core stories my hope is that you will grasp the heart of the biblical witness – and see your own life experience in light of God's saving activity.

I hope you join us for this very important journey in the Fireside Room starting Wednesday, March 9, at 7 P.M.

*Pastor Jim*



## Women's Tuesday Bible Study

We continue exploring not new meaning but in-depth meaning to the Beatitudes as we struggle with the teachings of Jesus set in scripture yet allowing for additional enlightenment to be wholly workable and partially attainable.

The Beatitudes are not in parable form so we must delve into areas unfamiliar and read, ask and look for spiritual guidance to understand man's need and the solution Jesus offers.

We consider this no easy task but find it interesting and exciting because we are learning and growing and, as an important sidecar, we find our relationships becoming stronger as we realize that the things we do say who we are.

We have a long way to go in this Gospel of Matthew and find we are not opposed to taking our time to experience an agenda set by the Three-in-One to embrace our earthly progress toward a guaranteed eternal reward. So we move forward ever so slowly but on solid ground as we continue with the eight Beatitudes and possibly further teachings in his teaching gospel written especially for the Jews to convince them that the prophecies of the Old Testament are fulfilled in Jesus, the Messiah.

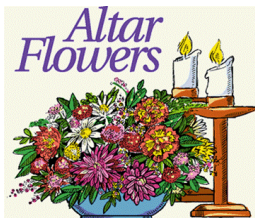
The more we know the less we know and this reasoning prompts us to enter God's holy house every Tuesday with open ears, eyes, mind and heart.

We are works in progress. We are Christians under construction. We are justified (accepted) and are now, until eternity, in the life-long stage of sanctification.

As we communicate with Jesus we can be proud yet humble and joyful in saying "Yes – I am wearing you!"

Trinity Fireside Room – Tuesday 9:30 A.M.

Barbara Johnson



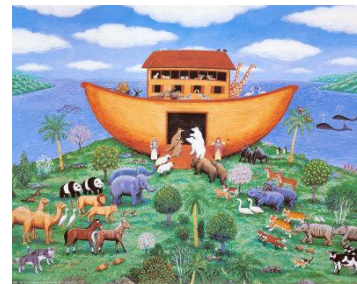
## Altar Flowers

Sign-up sheets for Altar Flowers for 2011 can be found on the north wall of the narthex under the Missions bulletin board. If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one please sign up or contact the church office. The cost is \$40 and you are encouraged to take the flowers following the morning worship service.



## Adult Sunday School

Phillis Sheppard, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, North Park Theological Seminary, will be discussing *Afro American Theology* on March 13 and 20. Ray Lewis will discuss *More Reflections on the Psalms* on March 6 and 27. Please join us at 9:30 A.M. on Sunday mornings in the Fireside Room!



## Noah's Ark Preschool

One of the mother's of a preschooler said to me, "It is such a letdown after Christmas." Yes, it usually is when people begin to take down the Christmas decorations and the winter blues may start to set in. However, we have not had time for any kind of boredom to set in. After we came back from break, we have been in full swing and have not stopped.

This month the groundhog made an appearance in our classroom. Along with a few other animals, like the mouse, rabbit and snake. We talked about how they like to burrow and hibernate for the winter. Mr. Groundhog also poked his head out from his hole and did not see his shadow. Therefore, the rule is spring will soon be on its way. So I'm hoping it is safe to say, we had the last blizzard of the year! (my fingers are crossed along with everything else that can be crossed.)

We also celebrated Chinese New Year. The Chinese New Year lasts for 15 days. Prior to the big celebration the Chinese people clean their house. This gets rid of all the bad luck from last year. They also put up red decorations. Red is considered a very lucky color. They also hand out red envelopes with money inside. I gave the children fancy red envelopes with gold Chinese writing on them. Only I gave them play money instead of real money! The children didn't seem to mind! They had fun playing with the envelopes. Another Chinese custom is getting a haircut and new clothes. They also have a big fancy feast and parade with fireworks afterwards. Everyone learned how to say "Happy New Year," in Chinese. "Gung hay fat choy!" This is the year of the rabbit, so we made windsocks that looked like rabbits.

This is also my favorite month because we celebrate Valentine's Day! The children came dressed in red. We worked on our card for our moms and dads. It was a big hug wrapped up by cupid with a heart and a poem just for their parents. The children brought cards for their friends. The 4-year-olds were able to sign them all by themselves. The 3-year-olds needed a little help with their names. There were so many treats, it was like a Thanksgiving feast. The preschoolers also brought in any Valentine teddy bears or other friends that they might have had at home.

Moving on into the month, we also celebrated President's Day! The 3-year-olds made an Abraham Lincoln mask. I told them Lincoln lived in a log cabin with a dirt floor. And he was the 16th president and freed the slaves. When we went to show Mrs. Charlene our masks, I asked them what they remembered about Abraham Lincoln? They told her, "He lived in a dirty house!" I guess I will have to go back over that a little more before we talk about George Washington! The 4-year-olds made puppets from pennies and quarters. They seemed to get the whole concept about the dirt floor, a little better. I think we will bring out the Lincoln Logs and grab some dirt, if that is possible! As you can see, there NEVER is a dull moment in preschool.

Sue Kapala, Preschool Director



## Welcome New Members

On Sunday, February 6, Trinity welcomed three new members: Pamella Romano, Jennifer Davies and Mike Davies. Watch for more information on our new family members in the next newsletter.



## Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Rev. Mark Mohrweis and Jessica Finney who will be united in marriage on Friday, March 11, at First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park, Richardson, TX. Mark did his internship at Trinity 2005-06.



## Family Night

Come join us for our next Family Night on Wednesday, March 16. We will meet at 6 P.M. for dinner and then enjoy an Irish story-teller and an Irish scavenger hunt. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the bulletins.

## Interactions

Bring the whole family and join us on March 6, at Brunswick Lanes at 103<sup>rd</sup> and Cicero, for bowling from 2-4 P.M. We have reserved 4 lanes. The cost is \$39.99 a lane. See Rich Hood to confirm your reservations.

## Pryme Tymers

Pryme Tymers invites the entire church family to the Beverly Country Club, 8700 S. Western Ave., on Wednesday, March 30, at 11 A.M. for a presentation and free luncheon sponsored by Smith Village, 113<sup>th</sup> Place and Western Ave.

The video/question/answer program is open to Pryme Tymers, Trinity Church members and their friends. There is unlimited seating, but reservations must be made by Friday, March 25. The event is for the "curious" as well as those "looking" for a "new" place to live "in the community". Call the church office if you would like to attend.

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On Thursday, March 10, we will meet at 11 A.M. Rev. LeRoy Carlson will give a presentation on "The Head of Christ" by Warner E. Sallman. The entree is beef stew.

On Thursday, March 24, at 11 A.M. our program will be Pryme Tymers member Chuck Ferrini and his accompanist. They will take us to "Roma" in song as we celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph. Wear red in honor of our Italian (and Polish) members! The entrée is spaghetti and meat sauce.

Reservations are required and need to be made no later than the Friday before we meet. The fee for the program and lunch is \$6.

Again, remember to sign up. We have had sold out audiences for the past several months.

## Helping Together We Cope

On Sunday, March 6, we will be collecting soups and cereals to help Together We Cope, a homeless prevention agency in Tinley Park. Please remember to place your items in the narthex. Start searching for bargains on tuna and peanut butter for our April 3 collection.

## Pacesetters – Save The Date!

We will have lunch at church on Sunday, April 17, after the morning worship service. A brief program will follow. Please save the date. Look for more details later.

Barbara and Tom Dorl, Chairs

## 2011 Board and Committees

Co-chairs: Ray Lewis, Diana Eigenbauer

Board: Bruce and Char Dunk Sladek, Gloria Vitro, Pat Anderson, Ellis and Lois Flaws

### March/April

\*Barb & Tom Dorl  
JoAnn & Vern Bergwall  
Lois Carlson  
Barbara Johnson  
Linnea Wimpenny

### May/June

\*Joan & Dick Erickson  
Rhea Maurer  
Britta Johnson  
Lorraine & John Weszely

### August/September

\*Grace & Harry Persson  
Ginny & Bill Almer  
Patricia Petersen  
Dick Larson  
Carol & Jim Strickland

### October/November

\*Arline & Mel Mueller  
Dolores & Clar Rosengren  
Grace Viner  
Barb & Tom Eustace

**New Year's Eve** – December 31, 2011 – Hosted by Pacesetters Board. Watch for information!

\*Indicates Committee Chairs

## Church Chuckle

Potluck dinner on Thursday night: prayer and medication to follow.



Your faithfulness in providing for my missionary support and praying for us so faithfully all these years is enough to humble me at God's amazing provision in our lives. And then you decide to bless us again with a personal gift! Thanks so much for remembering Steve and me in a personal way. You have truly cared for our needs.

We're so looking forward to being in Chicago beginning in July 2011 for a year-long home assignment. It will be good to reconnect and hear of what's going on at Trinity, and likewise share about how God is at work here in Belgium.

With thanks for your love and care,  
Barb & Steve Swanson, Covenant Missionary  
– Mosaics Project in Europe (Belgium)

Thank you so much for the lovely floral arrangement sent in memory of our Mother, Gram, Nana – Jeanette Louise Petersen.

After the memorial service the flowers were delivered to a shut-in who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 12. She was overjoyed and said she planned to celebrate all month! God's love lives on in little kindnesses. Thank you again.

Pat, Joyce, Bill and Amanda Petersen

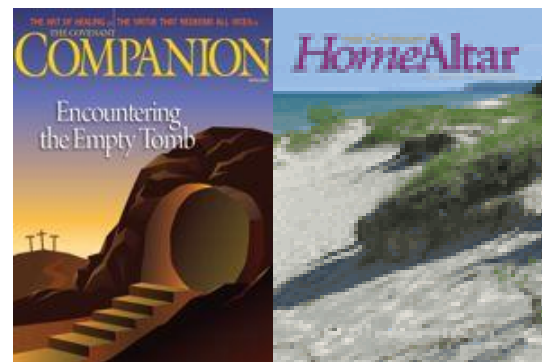
Thank you so much for the beautiful flower/plant that you sent us in memory of my mom. The prayers and love of our Trinity family have been so comforting. We love you all.

Mary and Ray Almer



## Envelope for Memorial Easter Flowers

Enclosed for your convenience is an envelope for you to use for your gift for memorial Easter flowers. Names of deceased loved ones you indicate on this special envelope will appear in the Easter Sunday memorial bulletin. Deadline for gifts and information requested on this envelope is Palm Sunday, April 17.



**The Covenant Companion** is a 40-page award winning monthly magazine. As the denominational magazine of The Evangelical Covenant Church it informs, stimulates thought and encourages dialogue on issues that impact the church and its members. Articles deal with Christian life, the church, spirituality, issues impacting the Christian community, social justice and outreach ministry.

It is a time to be alone with God; a time for prayer, reflection, and preparation for what lies ahead. No matter where you find yourself in your spiritual journey, it is important to spend a quiet time each day with God.

**The Home Altar** is a devotional guide meant to aid you in that process. Written by Covenanters, it is based on Scripture and seeks to relate biblical insights to everyday experiences.

If you wish to start receiving the Covenant Companion and the Covenant Home Altar, please let the church office know and we will **add** your name to the mailing list. If you no longer want to receive these two publications please let us know and we will **remove** your name from the mailing list. The cost to receive these materials is \$22 for the 2011-2012 subscription year. Please use the enclosed envelope and return promptly with your payment.

### Thought to Ponder

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.

Anne Frank



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Rummage Sale

So you got a new sweater for Christmas. Hang on to those old sweaters and clothes and donate them to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Rummage Sale. Watch for more info in the coming months. **The date has been set for May 20-21.**



### Save the Date!

On Saturday, April 23, at 1 P.M., the Children's Theatre of Western Springs will present *Lyle the Crocodile*, based on the books *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile* and *The House on East 88<sup>th</sup> Street* by Bernard Weber, adapted by Kevin Kling. Cost is \$3 per adult, \$1 per child. Invite your family and friends to attend!



### Camp Registration

Sunday, March 13, is the cut-off date for the early bird registration discounts for Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point. Please be sure to get your registration forms filled out and into the church office by this date. Space is filling up fast!

### Kidz Korner

**Megan McShane** was written up in the Manteno News for sharing as a reading buddy. She is paired with a struggling reader in a lower grade and they share a special reading time together.

**Mary Faith and Connor West** will be in the Hometown School talent show on March 11.

**Paul Kozak** received a 1st place Blue Ribbon Medal at the District 66 Solo Festival at Lakeview Junior High School, Downers Grove. Paul plays the baritone horn.

**Maddie Ford** is in a play at the Beverly Arts Center on March 19 and 20 at 2 P.M. The name of the play is "How to Eat Like a Child". It is a musical. Tickets are \$7.

**Lucy Panush** loved her second Valentine's Day! She made Rice Krispie treats with mommy and stirred them and poured in the marshmallows! She also traced her hand in all of her Valentine cards to family and put stickers on them all by herself. Lucy was also moved ahead in her weekly Gymboree class due to her performance and use of her imagination 2 months early!!

**Kaylen Torres** attended the Open House at Southwest Chicago Christian School. She'll be starting kindergarten in the fall. She loved it! She now refers to it as "her school." She is very sad about leaving Mrs. Sue and Mrs. Joyce, but she's happy that she will still see them around on Sundays and during holiday events at church.

**Chloe Torres** has recently become a "big girl" just like her "sissy". You can talk to her mother about this recent accomplishment!

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We will be highlighting our church youth in this section. Let the church office know by the newsletter deadline what your kids have been up to!



# 125th Central Conference Annual Meeting and History Celebration

## Where:

**North Park Covenant Church**  
5250 N. Christiana Ave. Chicago, IL  
60625

**North Park University**  
3225 W. Foster Ave. Chicago, IL 60625

## Driving Directions

## When:

### Ministerial Association Meeting

Thursday, April 28, 2011 at 7 pm and  
Friday, April 29, 2011 from 8:30 am -  
Noon

(On-site registration starts at 5:00 pm  
at North Park Covenant Church on  
4/28/11)

### Central Conference Annual Meeting and Celebration

Friday April 29, 2011 starts at 12:00 PM  
&  
Saturday April 30, 2011 from Noon - 5  
pm

(On-site registration starts at 10:00 am  
at North Park University on 4/29/11)

Add to my calendar

## OTHER INFORMATION:

- Parking will be available on a first-come first serve basis on Chicago streets and in North Park University's three largest campus lots (located on Foster and Kimball, Carmen and Kedzie, and Foster and Kedzie).

- If you have any physical disabilities that make parking or traveling difficult for you, please contact the Conference

## Greetings!

The Central Conference is hosting its 125th Annual Meeting and History Celebration on April 29 and 30, 2011, held in Chicago, IL. **YOU ARE INVITED!**

Please consider joining us as a delegate or come as a general attendee to the annual meeting to share in this celebration with our entire region.

The 125th Meeting and Celebration will include:  
- creative worship, diverse voices, and preaching by ECC President Gary Walter

- history presentations, displays, and archive material from each district

- a new video telling stories of the Central Conference (with popcorn!), delicious meals and time to network.

Click here for the schedule, workshop/connecting sessions info. and more details about the event.

Several new options for registering are available for this special commemorative year. You can join us for a portion of the event or the whole event. Click the link below for an easy, one-step, online registration process.

## Register Now!

I can't make it

To download registration form, please click here.

**On-line registration or mailed in registrations are due  
NO LATER THAN APRIL 18, 2011**

**Note: Refer to the registration form to view registration fees for early bird & late registration .**

## For Hotel Reservations and Shuttle:

# March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## Notes:

Mar 5: Men's Prayer Breakfast at Jedi Garden (8 AM)

Mar 6: Interactions Bowling after church

Mar 7: No Preschool

Mar 8: **C.E., Trustees, Deacons (7 PM)**

Mar 9: Lenten Study (7 PM)

Mar 10: Pryme Tymers (11 AM)

Mar 13: Early-bird registration for camps due today!

Mar 16: Family Night (6 PM)

Mar 16: Lenten Study (7 PM)

Mar 17: Church Board (7 PM)

**Mar 18-25: No Preschool – Spring Break**

Mar 20: Special Congregational Meeting (12 noon)

Mar 23: Lenten Study (7 PM)

Mar 24: Pryme Tymers (11 AM)

Mar 27: SKF (3 PM)

Mar 30: Lenten Study (7 PM)

### On-going Ministry

Sunday Mornings

9:30 Adult S.S.

9:30 Confirmation

10:30 Kingdom Kids

10:45 Worship

Noah's Ark Preschool – Mon-Fri 9-11:30 AM

Women's Bible Study – Tues 9:30 AM

**Deadline for  
April Messenger 20  
is Sunday, March 20**

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**Reverend Dr. James R. Sandberg**

*Senior Pastor*

**Carol Raines**

*Director of Music*

**Betty Aardema**

*Organist*

**Sue Kapala**

*Director – Noah's Ark Preschool*

**Charlene Sandberg**

*Secretary*

**Phil Cavallone**

*Custodian*

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