

Celebrating the Journey September, 2018

The Congregational Church of Algonquin - 109 Washington Street, Algonquin, Illinois 60102
847-658-5308 email: algonquinucc@gmail.com website: algonquinucc.org
“Living Our Faith in Jesus Christ Through Acceptance, Service and Love.”

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*By showing love,
you show Me to others,
for I, God,
am love.*

Rev. Brian Cope

Dear Friends,

When I was in seminary, the sermons that we presented were judged by a specific criterion: did they include the Good News? For the professors, that question meant, did they provide hope? At the time, I thought it an unfair question. Along with the other students in seminary, I had never thought that we were called into the ministry to make people feel good; we were needed to convict people of their sinfulness and turn them into better Christians. The purpose of our call was not to make people feel better, but to please God.

I looked at writing sermons as an academic exercise. When I did my undergraduate and graduate work in Literature, Linguistics, and Philosophy, writing was not to simplify concepts, but to provide avenues to inspire thought. Everything that I wrote was crafted to be read; now I had to learn how to write so that people could understand me through listening. At the same time, I had to learn how to interpret the scriptures that I was using as the base of my sermon. The professors were going against what I had been taught in college. Then I was to work so that the interpretations were my own; now, I was to be bound to how the professors interpreted the scriptures.

In time, as a pastor and preacher in the church, I have come to understand what they were asking; we were not to interpret scripture with either our own or the professor's interpretation, but to offer Jesus's interpretation of scripture. I also learned that preaching to convict someone of their sins is a fool's errand. Every time someone has ever told me that they felt guilty because of something that I said in a sermon, it was something I did not know that I was preaching about. In other words, it was the work of the Holy Spirit, and never my sermon.

While I preach two sermons every Sunday, my best sermons are never from the pulpit. They are the relational sermons that we share with each other. It is the same with interpretation of scriptures. Ministry comes more through experience and relationships than by being told what to do by professors or reading textbooks. I have found that while we can learn how to interpret Jesus's words through books and scholarly writings, we find the sharpest interpretations through relationships with others. If I want to share the Good News with you, sermons are certainly important, but not if those sermons are not connected to our relationships with each other. I understand grace because I share pain with you. I understand the experience of abiding in Christ because I share experiences with you.

You do not have to be a minister or go to seminary in order to learn to interpret the Good News; you only need to allow yourself to be in relationship with other people. Other people can verify the work and presence of God in our lives in a way that we cannot do on our own. Family, friends and fellow church members can see God through us. That is the message that God sent to us through Jesus – that God is with us (Emmanuel).

In one way, in seminary, I learned that preaching the Gospel is not preaching the deep meanings of the words of the Bible. In another way, in ministry, I have discovered that if I am to preach the Gospel, I must delve into the deeper meanings only found in shared experiences.

A word of advice; if you come to church infrequently, and you do not get to know the people worshipping with you, you may truly be missing out on the great joy of Jesus's teaching. Because, ultimately, the Bible removed from people, is only a volume of lifeless words on dry paper. If you would know the excitement of the Good News, come share it with us, if not on Sunday then at one of our Bible Studies. The Bible alone will not laugh with you like we will; the words in the book will not share your sorrow like we will. All in all, when you mix the words of the Bible into a group of people, the Good News will always come alive.

Rev. Cope

RESPECTING OUR BELOVED EARTH

During this week alone, 1.7 million people will be added to the world. Today 5.3 billion people inhabit the earth. During the same time nearly 100 animal species will become extinct. Every 10 minutes a square mile of rain forest is destroyed. Every 5 minutes 9 thousand gallons of oil are spewed into our seas. And, scientists debate the speed and effect of human-induced global warming.

The above statistics and scenarios are not natural disasters; they are human-made reality, created by ignorance or greed, graded and rationalized by worn out principles.

In 1854, Chief Seattle of the Puget Sound Indians was asked to sell a large area of land in what is now Washington State. In a letter to President Pierce, pleading that the white man continue the red man's stewardship of the land, Chief Seattle wrote:

“We are part of the earth and it is a part of us. The perfumed flowers are our sisters. The deer, the horse, the great eagle, these are our brothers ... the earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons (and daughters) of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself.”

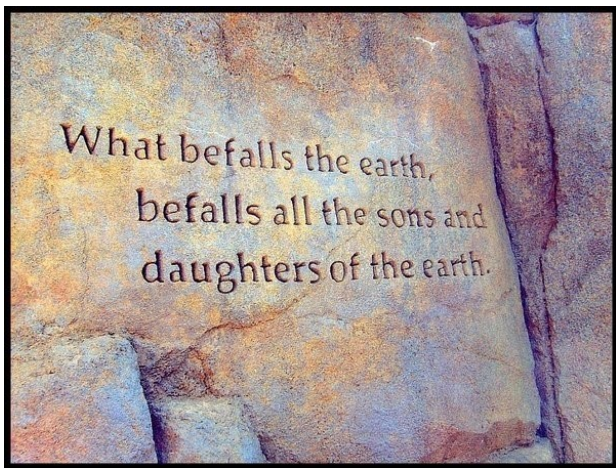
And Chief Seattle continued:

“One thing we know, which the white man may one day discover—our God is the same God ... the earth is precious to Him, and to harm the earth is to heap contempt upon its Creator.”

And upon ourselves. And upon all other species of the earth. And upon life itself.

As the Psalmist wrote: “O Lord, our God, how great is your creation in all the earth.”

Blessings for the Journey... Rev. Arn



Remember in Prayer

as well as with a card, call, or visit, the following individuals who are not always able to be with us:

Betty Blair Clare Oaks Rehab Center 825 Carillon Dr. Bartlett, IL 60103	May S. Lehnert The Fountains 965 N. Brighton Cir West Apt. #124 Crystal Lake, IL 60114
Ed Brandwein Eastgate Manor 101 Eastgate Ct. #242 Algonquin, IL 60102	Ollie Lindgren 1735 Heather Dr. Algonquin, IL 60102
Louise Dahm 1005 South Rd. Fox River Grove, IL 60021	Edna McCormick Citadel Health Care Center 180 S. State Street #242 Elgin, IL 60123-6429
Dede & Gary Gray 2001 W. Algonquin Rd #3416 Algonquin, IL 60102	Thea O'Connor c/o Liberty Estates 2080 W. Navajo Dr. #341 Freeport, IL 61032
Joyce Horn Alden Terrace of McHenry 803 Royal Dr., Room 203 McHenry, IL 60050-4209	Helen Stauffer Valley Hi Nursing Home—Rm 105 2406 Hartland Rd. Woodstock, IL 60098
Erna Houdek Valley Hi 2406 Hartland Rd. Woodstock, IL 60098	Claudette Treadwell 731 Longwood Dr. Algonquin, IL 60102
Betty Imhoff 731 Oceola Drive Algonquin, IL 60102	Mary Westerbeck Gardens of Ocotillo Sr. Living 1601 W Queen Creek Rd. Unit 146 Chandler, AZ 85248
Claire Kent 865 Eineke Blvd Algonquin, IL 60102	Barbara Whitaker Fox Point Manor 3360 Charles Miller Rd. Memory Care Building #108 McHenry, IL 60050
Donna Krueger Sunrise Senior Living 790 N. Plum Grove Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60173	Ethel Yamashita Sunrise Senior Living 790 N. Plum Grove Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60173
	Valoyce Williams 2001 W. Algonquin Road, Apt 2013 Algonquin, IL 60102

Members who were hospitalized and/or entered into rehab during August: Joe Varhula, Carol Briggs, Fred Ekstrom, Scott St. John, Sandy Ferguson, Verna Loacker, Debbie Carris

Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Cody Colbert	Richard Dowdle	Eric Hertel
John (Jay)	Jake Korbecki	Dominik Kneip
Joey Mann	Owen Ritsema	Ben Sprouse

Do you know of persons who are currently serving in the military? Please let the church office know of their service, and their names will be included.

Would you like a visit from Rev. Cope?

Call the church office at
847-658-5308 or email him at
revcope.cca@gmail.com

- ◆ Going into the hospital for surgery? He will pray with you before the surgery and during recovery.
- ◆ Want in-home communion?
- ◆ Have something troubling you?
- ◆ Lonely and want someone to talk with? Don't think he is too busy or that you are interrupting him—this is an important part of his job as your minister. Call!

We also have members of the church who will come and visit or help you with transportation, food or errands.

LOVE OF NEIGHBOR



Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. - 1 John 4:11

HELP US HONOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

To help people who cannot come to church feel a part of our family, we are asking you for three things:

- ◆ Remember them in your prayers.
- ◆ Send them a note or card letting them know that you are thinking of them.
- ◆ If possible, call them to say "Hello."

This month we are lifting up two of our members:

Betty Blair & Ed Brandwein

You will find their addresses on this page. Let them know that they are a part of our family and that they are missed and thought about.

Emergency Preparedness Response Team

That is the name of our new group of members who have been meeting, getting trained, and drawing up action plans for what we, as a church, will do in the event we experience:

- *A Medical Emergency
- *Someone Trapped in the Elevator
- *Fire
- *Tornado
- *Gas/Carbon Monoxide Leak
- *Flood Warning
- *An Active Threat

... and this list may grow!

Our team, headed by Robert Benjamin, is starting slowly and working with experts in these fields. We will keep you posted as we learn what we need to know about the best ways to treat our injured, when and how to evacuate, and when and how to shelter in place. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Bob and let him know.

Look and listen for more information. Emergencies happen, we are getting ready.



FIRE DRILL

We have scheduled a fire drill during the 10am Worship Service on October 28

In order to make sure that we all know how to survive an emergency that requires evacuation of the building, we will have our first-ever fire drill. We do not want to surprise you. We want you to know exactly what to do in the event of an emergency. If you are someone with special needs (i.e., you have difficulty with stairs or hearing) please

contact Robert Benjamin to make sure that we are aware of your needs.

On October 28, members of the Fire Department will be here to observe how we evacuate, and to offer us suggestions for improvements. We want to be prepared for this drill, or in the event, God forbid, an actual emergency occurs. You will receive all the instructions that you need on the day of the drill.

Our Group Studies Come in a Variety of Sizes!

At CCA, we are committed to studying the Bible and learning how we can live our faith meaningfully in our lives. The following are our current group studies. Feel free to join any of the groups at any time.

GROUP STUDIES AND FELLOWSHIP AT CCA

Weekly

Christian L.I.F.E. Hour—Sundays, 9:00—9:45 am resumes 9/16/2018 see page 7
Tuesdays with the Pastor—Tuesdays, 4:30—6:00 pm

Bi-Monthly

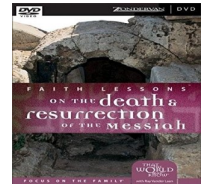
Monday Bible Study—10:00 am September 10 & 24
 (normally the 1st and 3rd Mondays, changed for September due to Labor Day)
Women's Fellowship—2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 10:00 am September 12 & 26
Teen Faith in Action—2nd and 4th Sundays, 10:15am September 23 only

Monthly

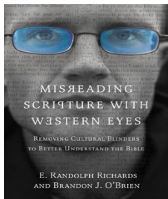
Confirmation Classes—1st Wednesday, 5:00—6:30 pm September 5
Bible and Brew—2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm September 13
Women's Bunco—2nd Friday, 6:30 pm September 14
Men's Fellowship Breakfast—2nd Saturday, 8:00 am September 8
Movies with Meaning—2nd Saturday, 1:00 pm September 8
Peace Service—3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm September 20



Monday Morning Bible Study—*That the World May Know, Volume 4—The Death and Resurrection of the Messiah*. by Ray Vander Laan. In this part of the series, “being a follower of Jesus does not mean staying away from evil. It means confronting it—face to face—just like Jesus did, every single day, and through his resurrection. Learn how confronting evil can be loudly proclaiming the name of Jesus or quietly caring for someone in need.



Tuesdays with the Pastor—*Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes*— What was clear to the original readers of Scripture is not always clear to us. Because of the cultural distance between the biblical world and our contemporary setting, we often bring modern Western biases to the text. For example: When Western readers hear Paul exhorting women to “dress modestly,” we automatically think in terms of sexual modesty. But most women in that culture would never wear racy clothing. The context suggests that Paul is likely more concerned about *economic* modesty—that Christian women not flaunt their wealth through expensive clothes, braided hair and gold jewelry.



Biblical scholars Brandon O'Brien and Randy Richards shed light on the ways that Western readers often misunderstand the cultural dynamics of the Bible. They identify nine key areas where modern Westerners have significantly different assumptions about what might be going on in a text. Getting beyond our own cultural assumptions is increasingly important for being Christians in our interconnected and globalized world. Learn to read Scripture as a member of the global body of Christ.

Women's Fellowship Bible Study—*Experiencing Contagious Joy*, by Christa Kinde. Joy has a way of working its way from the inside out. When our lives are filled with joy, the symptoms are unmistakable. A twinkle in the eye, a ready smile, a skip in our step, a song in the heart. Joy lends a glow to the face and a lift to the voice. It is also the birthright of every believer. But rainy days have a way of distracting us from that fact. In this study, readers will take a careful look at this uniquely Christian characteristic and discover they have every reason to be joyful.



Bible and Brew— Do you have questions about your faith, the Bible, the church or Christianity? Write them down and bring them to the study. For September, we will have a free-wheeling discussion about some of the questions we have always had—questions that don't always seem to get answered.

Fall Kickoff



Sunday, September 9, 2018

SHEP U OPEN HOUSE & ALL-CHURCH LUNCHEON!

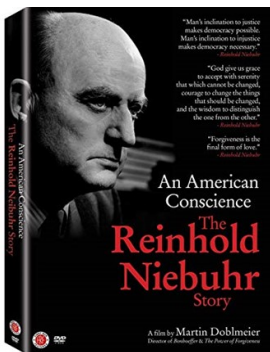
There will be a luncheon after the 10:00 am service in Fellowship Hall.



The whole church is invited! Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. You can bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Sign up in Fellowship Hall!

Sunday Morning Christian LIFE Hour Weekly, starting September 16, 9:00 am



An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story by Martin Doblmeier

Reinhold Niebuhr (1892–1971) was an inner-city pastor, an ethics professor, the author of the famous Serenity Prayer, and ordained in the United Church of Christ.

Time magazine's 25th anniversary issue in March 1948 featured

Niebuhr on its cover, and *Time* later eulogized him as "the greatest Protestant theologian in America since Jonathan Edwards." Cited as an influence by public figures ranging from Billy Graham to Barack Obama, Niebuhr was described by historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. as "the most influential American theologian of the twentieth century." We will study his life and thought and its impact on theology and politics today.

Shep U will resume Sunday, September 16



Shep U will be open to children 3 years to 5th grade.

Classes will be held weekly DURING the 10:00 am Worship Service.

Children will start in church, attend the Children's Message, then depart together for Shep U.

Teen FIA is open to middle & high schoolers



Teen Faith in Action will continue to meet at 10:15 am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, beginning September 23.



We are looking for teachers and volunteers to serve in Shep U and for Teen Faith in Action positions.

Please see the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

Shep U Teachers will teach for an entire month, with a rotation of volunteers each week.

Teen Faith in Action will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays only.



Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. - 1 John 4:11

Men's Fellowship Breakfast



Saturday, September 8
8:00 am

Hosting This Month:
Ken Thime & Steve Guenther

Sign Up in Fellowship Hall

Women's Bunco is Back!

Friday, September 14, 6:30 pm

Everyone is welcome.

Bring \$5 and a snack to share

The winners get to chose the charitable
organization we donate to for the evening.

There's even a prize for the biggest loser!

FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN



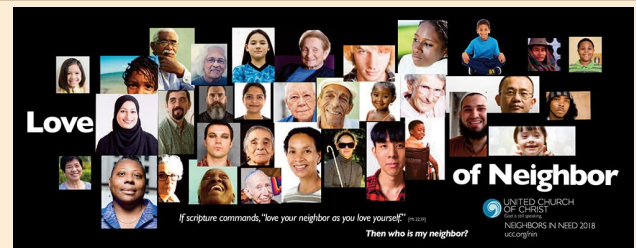
Sign Up Sheet
in Fellowship Hall

Feed My Starving Children Food Packing Event

Saturday, September 15, 2018
11:30am-1:30pm

We are scheduling a trip to work at the Feed My Starving Children location in Schaumburg, Illinois. This event is for youth and adults interested in making a difference. If you want to join us, please sign up on the bulletin board. Youth need a permission slip to participate, unless your parent plans to attend also. Please see Sally Cope. We are required to let FMSC know exactly the number that are coming, so please think carefully about signing up, as we have asked for 20 spaces. We will happily get more, but we have to have the exact count. **Feed My Starving Children 1072 National Parkway Schaumburg, IL 60173, or carpool by meeting at the church at 10am.**

Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes, as you may be standing and/or walking for a time. Also, please wear **no** jewelry. There are even jobs for those of us who have trouble standing. This is an event that makes you feel so much like you have done something



Neighbors in Need Offering—October 7

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Look for specially marked envelopes in the pews for this special offering to be collected **October 7th.**

Please share our events on Facebook. It is a completely **free** way to promote the happenings at our great church. If you need help with Social Media, contact the church office. We will set you up with a tutor for a customized, easy-to-understand lesson.





Movies with Meaning

September 8, 1:00 pm

The Hollars, written by James C. Strouse and directed by John Krasinski, is a simple and familiar story brought vividly and beautifully by a cast of immensely talented actors who find every touching nuance of their characters and relax into them with authenticity and honesty and with such warmth and affection that the film's 88-minute running time feels like a mere cinematic blip.

The story centers around John Hollar (Krasinski), a struggling New York City artist suddenly forced to navigate the smalltown ways he'd long ago left behind when his mother, played with her typical perfection by Margo Martindale, is struck by a serious illness that rocks the entire family including Ron (Sharlto Copley), her divorced son who lives in the basement, and husband Don (Richard Jenkins), whose business is simultaneously about to go under.

The film works precisely because this ensemble cast acts like an ensemble. They find the authenticity in the relationships, the right touches of humor in the humanity, and a surprising degree of sweetness that elevates *The Hollars* above its familiarity and formula and into the realm of that rare dramedy that leaves you satisfied with the journey and appreciative of the time you've had with the family.

Don't miss this one!



IMPORTANT CPR / AED

TRAINING

CPR/

September 23, 2018—11:15 am
Fellowship Hall



Cost: \$10, payable at the door

A guest trainer from the ALITH Fire Protection District will join us to conduct a 2-hour class on emergency preparedness. Trainees will learn:

- ◆ What is an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), where it is kept at our church, and how to use it.
- ◆ How to **perform CPR**.
- ◆ Where we keep the **first aid supplies**.

This training will **not** be for certification.

It is meant to help prepare us to handle a medical emergency here with our church family.

Sign Up in Fellowship Hall

Crop Walk 2018—While the CARDUNAL Crop Walk Group (Carpentersville/Dundee/Algonquin) has disbanded, we have been invited to join the McHenry Crop Walk Group. Barb Erion will help anyone interested to connect with the right people.

The McHenry County walk is being held in Crystal Lake on **Sunday, September 30, stepping off at 1:00 pm from 1st Methodist Church, 236 W Crystal Lake Ave.** You can choose either a 1-mile route, or a 5k route; the longer route having 2 rest stops along the way. As with the CARDUNAL walk, the donations that are collected will be divided between local food pantries and Church World Services.

If you are interested in being part of this walk to fight hunger, please contact the church office or Barb Erion (berion750@aol.com or 847-658-8252). Come Join us!



VARIOUS DONATION BOXES AND BINS ARE LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH



In the Multi-Bin Area Alongside the Left Wall of the Coatroom

- Pop Tabs
- Inkjet Toner Cartridges & HP Laserjet Toner Cartridges (you can also turn toner cartridges IN at most office supply stores that sell them in THEIR recycle bin!)
- Eye Glasses—which are retrieved by the Lions Club.

We can no longer take batteries as we have nowhere to recycle them. Most alkaline batteries can be thrown into the regular trash.

Behind the Curtain to the Right as you Enter the Coatroom

- Styrofoam—picked up weekly by our volunteers
- Plastic Grocery Bags (no newspaper or other plastic bags) (used by Heavenly Attic and the Food Pantry)

Donations PADS, Food Pantry & Heavenly Attic

- Items for Pads—In the Coatroom on the shelving you face as you enter the room.
- Donations for Food Pantry* and Heavenly Attic are collected in the carts next to the elevator.
*See paged 12 for this month's Food Pantry needs!



Plastic Bottle Caps and Lids

Mayfield Church was pleased to report they collected enough caps and lids for 3 benches and are no longer accepting donations for this project.

Completed!

Mayfield Church extends their thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to their cause.

Christian Materials are wanted:

Your donation of used Bibles, Study Guides, Sunday School Materials, etc. for “Love Packages” to distribute in areas of need.



We have sent 6 boxes of materials to support this mission since we began this collection in May, 2018.

**USE THE COLLECTION BOX
LOCATED IN THE LIBRARY
ACROSS FROM PASTOR'S OFFICE**

Go the Extra Mile and Give More!

We have been challenging ourselves to do just that. Towards this goal, we post monthly the needs of a few of the groups which we are currently working with to serve the needs of our community, as noted on pages 10-12.

**The Ministry of Missions
is looking for items of interest
for the Missions' Bulletin Board**

Do you have an article, a letter, a notice, or a photo related to missions?

Please put your item into the **mail slot** marked

Missions' Bulletin Board

Please include your name

Ministry of Missions



Yarn Works

We knit, crochet, and do all other types of handwork.

New people are always welcome!

We have supplies to get you started and absolutely lovely people to teach you, if you want to learn. Our work helps support our Prayer Shawl Ministry, Snug Hugs for Kids, and your own personal projects.

Thursdays at 10:00 am Fellowship Hall



Heavenly Attic Resale Shop

The Heavenly Attic Resale Shop stocks gently-used items and is open to the public. Proceeds from the Attic support the missions and ministries of the CCA. You may place donated items for Heavenly Attic in the marked cart by the elevator on the main floor.

307 South Main Street
Algonquin, IL 60102
Phone: 847-854-4552

Hours: Tuesday thru Friday
10am to 4pm
Saturday 10am to 2 pm

LOVE OF
**NEIGHBOR
CHILDREN
CREATION**



**Do You Want to Know more
about a charitable organization?**



**Look in the Charity Research Notebook
in the church office.**

**If the charity is not there, fill out one of the
forms in the display holder near the Missions'
Bulletin Board and place it in the Missions mail
slot...Please be sure to sign your name.**

Ministry of Missions

*“Living our faith in Jesus Christ through
acceptance, service and love.”*

**Holy Joe's
Cafe**
COFFEE FOR THE TROOPS

UCC military chaplains have found an old way to invite US service personnel into a safe and informal place where they can receive spiritual care, and good coffee.

“Holy Joe’s Café is a place where chaplains in the small forward-operating bases, hangar bays, hospitals, aid stations and their makeshift chapels are able to bring a taste of home to the tired, anxious, angry, lonely and the wounded. They can all get gourmet coffee, a reminder that the world they willingly left behind still cares!” Chap. (Ret) Andrew Sholtes

Here at CCA, we can support

**“The Coffee House Ministry”.
Make your donation in the can
on the coffee service counter
when you get your “Cup of Joe”
on Sunday morning!**

...*"Truly I tell you, whatever you do for the least of these, you do for me"* Matthew 25:45



There is a bin for these items in the coatroom. Thank you for your help!

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Canned Meats | Nuts | Peanut Butter |
| Beef Jerky | Canned Fish/Chicken | Crackers w/Cheese or Peanut Butter |
| Sardines | Toilet Paper | Paper Towels |
| Hats | Gas Cards | Protein Bars |
| Gloves | Hygiene Items (shampoo, razors, soap) | |



Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Food Pantry

**Suggested for September—
Rice and Noodle Side Dishes**

Items for the Food Pantry may be left in the cart on the main floor, near the elevator.

Every month you send us your generosity. We are very grateful for supporters like the Congregational Church of Algonquin.



Your gifts are a direct benefit to the families of veterans in the area.

Thank you again!

As part of the Ministry of Missions,



the Heavenly Attic donated \$200 to the District 300 **Stuff the Bus Project**, providing school supplies to needy community students.

An additional donation was made by the Heavenly Attic to support our Teen Faith in Action in their current project for **Feed My Starving Children**.



Fair Trade
Remember to stop by
our table the 2nd Sunday of each month

September 9, 2016

Now that we can expect cooler weather, (really!) we can again order chocolate without paying the extra fee! So check out the display. You may read articles about children taken out of school to harvest cocoa beans without pay. But remember Equal Exchange is fairly traded chocolate, and farmers are given good, consistent prices for their product! Not only that, but it's one of the best tasting chocolates available.

We are having a coffee tasting to see if we want to continue serving the Columbian, or to change to a stronger brew. This will be a blind test, to keep it unbiased! It will be at the regular coffee service counter on September 2.

Thank you for your continued support.

Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program

Help us to continue sponsoring these two children in India! Our church sponsors two children at King's Matriculation School at the Family Village Farm near Vellore, India. Their families cannot afford to send them to school, and our gifts cover tuition and lunch for them each school day.

- **Sheeba** is a hard-working girl whose favorite subjects are math and English.
- **Velmurugan** is an energetic, attentive boy, cheerful and highly motivated.

While the members of the Faith in Action group contribute to the sponsorship fees (**\$20 per child per month**), we are asking the whole congregation to participate with us.

There is a **can on the desk in the narthex**, and anyone who would like to help us is encouraged to drop a few dollars or even your loose change into the can. **You may also write a check** payable to CCA and designate it for "Child Sponsorship." If you would prefer to help in another way, we need people willing to write to the children. If you are interested, please see Rev Cope.



We sponsor the children through the United Church of Christ Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program. All of the money that we raise goes directly to the support of the children; there are no administrative fees.

Faith in Action

Letters from the children are posted on the Missions Bulletin Board

Justice and Peace Bulletin Board



Be sure to check out our bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for news about climate change and issues of concern for people of faith.

In addition, you will find the names and contact information of congress persons so that you may bend their ear on a regular basis about those issues that concern you!



We are continuing **Round Table Discussions** on issues related to social justice



If you haven't joined us yet, please give it a try.

* The next **Round Table Discussion** will be held on **Sunday, September 16 at 11:15 am.**

* The next **regular meeting** of the Social Justice Advocates is **Monday, September 10, 10:00 am** in the Library.

All Views Are Valid & Welcome!

Come join our monthly

PEACE SERVICE

on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

This might be just what you were looking for!

Thursday, September 20
 7:00 pm



Literacy and ESL Tutoring

(English as a Second Language)



Do You Wish To Tutor?

You only need to be certified. You can do that by taking tutor training classes. See schedule below.

Brochures are available at the **Literacy Tutoring Display in Fellowship Hall** that explain more about the classes and tutor/learner assignments.

Questions? Please talk to Pastor Cope or JoAnn Schindler, or visit the websites for either of these agencies:

elginliteracy.org & mchenry.edu/volunteer

The Literacy Connection Tutor Training

Course Schedule and Registration Volunteer Tutor Training is offered several times per year at a variety of locations. You must start with Part A, and it must be completed in person. Additional information about on-line training options are provided at that session.

Registration is recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. To register: (1) by phone at 847-742-6565, (2) online at <http://elginliteracy.org/how-to-help/become-a-tutor>, or (3) email info@elginliteracy.org with your full name, address, phone number, and the course date you plan to attend. You will receive a confirmation email within a couple of days.

Course Materials and Cost There is a \$35 fee to cover materials and a background check, and can be paid by cash or a check made payable to **The Literacy Connection**. Payment is collected at the first course meeting.

The schedule below shows the volunteer tutor training offered by the **Literacy Connection at Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N. Grove Avenue, Elgin—847-742-6565.**

Ses-	Date	Location	Time
Part A	Sat 9/22	Office, 2nd Floor	9:30 am—12:30 pm
Part B	Thurs 9/27	2nd Floor Conf Rm	9:30 am—12:30 pm
Part C	Sat, 10/6	Office 2nd Floor	9:30 am—12:30 pm
Part D	Thurs 10/11	2nd Floor Conf Rm.	9:30 am—12:30 pm

Tutoring Update



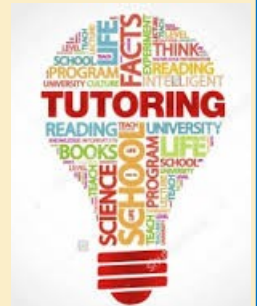
I'm not a big fan of September. September is the month of the last celebration of summer, Labor Day, and the beginning of school. It spells the end of summer fun.

However, for many of our literacy students from Mexico, the last holiday of summer is Mexican Independence Day, September 16th. This holiday is also referred to in Mexico by the date of the event: *el dieciseis de Septiembre* (the 16th of September), much like our 4th of July. It is one of *Las Fiestas*

Patrias (the patriotic festivals) and is celebrated on the night of September 15 and all day on the 16th. This is one of the most important fiestas of the year in Mexico, and the whole month of September is referred to as *el mes de la patria* (month of the homeland).

Some people outside of Mexico may confuse Mexican Independence Day and Cinco de Mayo (5th of May), but that is a different celebration, and a much less important one in Mexico. So, if you need a reason

to extend the summer celebration season a little longer, by all means, celebrate our neighbor Mexico's independence from Spain!



JoAnn Schindler

The Literacy Connection
Tutor Training Schedule
for September through November is
posted at the Literacy Table in Fellowship Hall

info@elginliteracy.org
www.elginliteracy.org

A WOMEN'S WEEKEND AWAY IS AS EASY AS 1—2—3

1

Sign up for a Different Kind of Mission!

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Spend a day on the farm whose mission is "to feed our neighbors, regardless of their ability to pay."



Farmers are up early, and it's a 3 hour drive, so we will leave CCA by 6:30 am! This is a fun mission day. What to bring: sunscreen, gloves, farm/garden clothes, lunch, money for dinner on the road. Last year we brought back produce to sell, and sent the farm over \$100. This year, Pastor Cyndy Ash is being ordained on the 29th, so we may be working on cleanup. Carpool will meet at the church.

[Sign Up in Fellowship Hall](#)



2

**AN EXTRA NIGHT & DAY
AT PILGRIM PARK!**

Women who are going to Jubilee Farms can also stay over a Pilgrim Park, on Thursday night, and the join the Annual Women's Retreat

for an additional \$22-32, depending on cabin assignments (plus the cost of the retreat).

Since the retreat starts at 4:30 pm, the entire Friday is free for hiking, study, relaxing, etc.

Get details from Nancy Kneip or JoAnn Schindler
See the [informational pamphlet in Fellowship Hall](#).

PILGRIM PARK CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Out of the Ordinary Into the Sacred

26449 1340 North Avenue, Princeton, IL 61356

odmregistrar@gmail.com

<http://www.il-outdoorministries.org>

Call Tara Cade at Pilgrim Park Camp 815-447-2390

8th Annual Illinois Conference

3

Women's Retreat

Friday, September 28, 4:30 pm until

Saturday, Sept. 29, 3:30 pm

Conference Fee—\$113.75 which includes retreat materials, dinner, lodging on Friday, breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

[Registration is required before September 14](#)

**Biblical Women of Power,
Persistence & Perseverance**

Joshua 1:9 reads: God told Joshua to be strong, to be brave, to be fearless; and to not be alarmed or terrified because God is with you wherever you go. As we read the Bible, we realize so many of the women mentioned were also strong, brave, and fearless. Women like Deborah, Esther, Jochebed, Lydia, Priscilla, and many others discovered they had power and found ways to persist and persevere, and literally change history. Weaker sex? Nah, just a myth!

During this 23-hour get-away, we will discover why the writer of Proverbs 31:10 said that women are far more precious than jewels. We will share Bible insights, enjoy activities, free time, good food, and laughter, while relaxing in the beautiful Pilgrim Park accommodations of the Upper Conference Center and its surroundings.

[Information and Registration detail is available on the Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.](#)

Register early for nicer cabins.

[If going to Jubilee Farms, please use signup sheet in Fellowship Hall](#)

You are Invited!
2018-2019
Playgroup



We are organizing a group of season ticket holders for 6 shows at the Woodstock Opera House. Shows are put on by the Woodstock Musical Theatre Company and the Townsquare Players. Our scheduled dates are as follows:

Friday, October 2	42nd Street
Friday, November 2	Little Women, the Musical
Friday, November 23	A Christmas Carol
Friday, March 1	Be Our Guest
Friday, March 29	Nunsense
Friday, June 14	A Few Good Men

All shows are at the Woodstock Opera House and start at 8:00 pm. The **season ticket for all 6 shows is \$99.00, payable to The Woodstock Opera House.** Checks may be left in the designated envelope by the church office, or given to Ann Venzon, and are due no later than September 16.

We plan to meet prior to each show at a restaurant near the theater for dinner. Those who have signed up will be issued a list of participants, as well as the name of the first restaurant we where we will meet.



September

Birthdays

- 01 Ann Armato
- 01 Macy Barham
- 01 Richard Field
- 04 John Tipps
- 05 Alice Woertendyke
- 06 Kari Carpenter
- 07 Ellen Kuroghlian
- 07 Caroline Wodziak
- 10 Krista Cope
- 10 Cole Guenther
- 16 Matt Hellyer
- 17 Eric Jensen
- 17 Kevin McMahan
- 18 Kathy Jamison
- 18 Carol Whitney
- 20 Paul Sigrist
- 22 Jessica Thornsberry
- 26 Jacqueline Sigrist
- 30 Jacqueline Scheske



Anniversaries

- 01 Frank & Wendy O'Laughlin
- 07 Robert & Bonnie Soukup
- 10 Pat & Sal Maggio
- 20 Steve & Heather Wilson



Treasurer's Report July 31, 2018

Total Operating Fund Income

Month of July	23,197.50
YTD	152,066.44

Total Operating Expenses

Month of July	23,283.18
YTD	149,900

Mortgage Balance * 145,378.08

If you would like a copy of the entire monthly Treasurer's Report, please contact the church office

*The mortgage with Home State Bank was paid off on December 28, 2017. The "NEW" mortgage balance represents the amount taken from the Endowment Investment account (approved by the Congregation) to pay off the mortgage. The balance reflected above is to repay that loan to ourselves. For more information, contact the Church Treasurer.

Please submit all items for the October Newsletter to the church office no later than noon, Friday, September 14th. Items submitted after the 14th may not be included in the October edition.



Many thanks to one and all for making it to my 90th SURPRISE birthday party. For me, this was certainly one to remember!
(Thanks Family!)

A sincere thank you for all the cards, messages and gifts (including a 32 x 40 card with edible messages, bordered with candy kisses!)
Thanks again, Barb Hess



Thank you to Gary & Paulette Ryg for hiring someone to trim the bushes and shrubs around the Church and Parsonage properties. The place looks GREAT!
We are happy Gary & Paulette are back, and are full of appreciation for this wonderful gift.
Ministry of Trustees

Thanks

VOTING



With the **Midterm Election** coming in just over 2 months, on **November 6**, there might be some question about voting in Illinois, either for yourself or for others you know.

Here are some facts:

- ◆ Voter must be a US citizen, and must have resided in their precinct for 30 days. Must be 18 on or before election day.
- ◆ You can register AT the following places during the regular registration period, which closes October 8. After that date, locations are more limited.

Office of County Clerks	Election Commissioners
Precinct Committees	Schools
Military Recruitment	Driver's License Facilities
Municipalities	Public Libraries
Department of Employment Security	
Department of Healthcare and Family Services	

Online voter registration can be done at ova.Elections.il.gov.

You need 2 forms of identification (one with your current address). In 2017, Illinois passed Automatic Voter Registration when you visit the DMV and other similar facilities.

To check to see if you are registered, visit www.elections.il.gov/VotingInformation/register.aspx.

- ◆ Illinois permits early voting with ID, and registration PRIOR to 10/23.
- ◆ Illinois permits absentee voting for anyone.
- ◆ Voters are generally not required to show ID on Election Day
- ◆ While in prison for a felony, one cannot vote. But voting rights are reinstated after release.

5th Sunday Offering



The Night Ministry is a Chicago-based organization that works to provide housing, healthcare and human connection to members of our community struggling with poverty or homelessness. The Ministry of Missions will be sending our September 5th Sunday Birdhouse collection to support this ministry.



Worship Assistants

Date	Ushers	Greeters	Announcer	Acolyte	Liturgist
9/2	Ron Martens	Lois Carpenter	Dave Aggen	AJ Albandia	Dick Elke
9/9	Ron Martens Dick Elke	Wynn Ann Roggeveen	Jen Jazwinski	Scott & Abby Kapusinski	Pat Hemmingsen
9/16	Ron Martens Nidia Kulack	JoAnn Schindler	Sally Cope	Macy & Ella Barham	Ed Turk
9/23	Ron Martens Lori Martens	Paulette Ryg	Michelle Tarosas	Nolan Pocijewski	Wynn Ann Roggeveen
9/30	Ron Martens	Ed Turk	Sharon Stengel	Madison Thornsberry	No Liturgist

Childcare is available each Sunday during worship service from 9:45-11:15

Nursery

Date	Nursery Staff	Volunteer
9/2	Pam Elliott	Peg Nesser
9/9	Jordan Guenther	Kathy Sanders
9/16	Pam Elliott	Cory Kirkpatrick
9/23	Jordan Guenther	Janet Kelley
9/30	Pam Elliott	Kim Carney

We follow "Safe Church" Standards

Shep U Meets Every Sunday
10:00 am in the Sanctuary before we head

September Teacher: Karen Guenther

Shep U Weekly Assistants	Teen FIA
9/2 No Classes	Teens meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays at 10:15 am
9/9 OPEN HOUSE	
9/16 Liz Albandia	This month 9/23 only
9/23 Needed	Sally Cope
9/30 Needed	

Styrofoam Recycling	Week Beginning	Volunteer
	9/2	George Roby
	9/9	Lori Martens
	9/16	Art Nesser
	9/23	Sue Kreibich
	9/30	Dick Elke

Coffee Hour

9/2	Schwab & Armato Families
9/9	Church Council for Coffee Hour
9/16	Jolitz Family
9/23	L. Brown & Kapusinski Families
9/30	Hess & Wallace Families

The 2018-19 Schedule is posted in Fellowship Hall. If you cannot make your scheduled date or would like to volunteer for a Sunday, please contact the church office.

Lawn Care Team For September

9/2	Dave Aggen
9/9	William Hertel
9/16	Dave Carris
9/23	Bob Benjamin
9/30	Steve Guenther

Dates shown are the Sunday of the week your service begins. Check with the last team member to see what date the lawn was last cut. Weather conditions are always a factor.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALGONQUIN

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30 Prep for Carpet Cleaning	31 carpet cleaning	1 post carpet cleaning work
2 1st Sunday Food Pantry Offering 8:00 AM Worship NO Communion 10:00 AM Worship NO Communion	3 LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED	4 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 3:00 PM Tutoring 4:30 PM Tues w/ Pastor 5:00 PM WWMA	5 5:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM Staff Mtg 7:00 PM EPRT 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Sr Choir	6 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 7:30 PM AA	7 Set up for Men's Fellowship	8 8:00 AM Men's Fellowship Brkfst 1:00 PM Movies with Meaning
9 Fair Trade Sunday 8:00 AM Worship COMMUNION 8:45 AM Ministry of Trustees 10:00 AM Worship COMMUNION—SrChoir FALL KICKOFF & LUNCHEON	10 10:00 AM Social Justice Advocates 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:00 PM Tutoring 7:00 PM Memorial Committee Mtg 7:00 PM Trails Swim Team	11 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 3:00 PM Tutoring 4:30 PM Tuesdays w/ Pastor 5:00 PM WWMA	12 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship 6:00 PM Staff Mtg 7:00 PM NA 7:00 PM PS Bd Mtg 7:30 PM Sr Choir	13 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 6:30 PM Bible and Brew 7:30 PM AA	14 6:30 PM Women's Bunco News-letter Deadline	15 10:00 AM Feed My Starving Children
16 8:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Christian Life Hr. Adult Studies 10:00 AM Worship - Sr. Choir 10:00 AM Shep U 11:15 AM Min CEEd 11:15 AM MinFinance 11:15 AM New Member Class 11:15 AM Soc Justice Adv - Roundtable	17 4:00 PM Tutoring	18 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 2:30 PM Newsletter Committee 3:00 PM Tutoring 4:30 PM Tuesdays w/ Pastor 5:00 PM WWMA	19 1:00 PM Pastoral Relations Com 5:00 PM Church Growth 6:00 PM Staff mtg 7:00 PM BS Com Mtg 7:00 PM NA 7:00 PM New Member Class 7:30 PM Sr Choir	20 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 1:30 PM Prayer Team 7:00 PM Peace Service 7:30 PM AA	21	22 4:30 PM Richardson Farm Corn Maze
23 8:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Christian Life Hr Adult Studies 10:00 AM Worship - Sr. Choir 10:00 AM Shep U 10:15 AM Teen FIA 11:15 AM CPR Class	24 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:00 PM Tutoring 7:00 PM MinDeacons	25 10:00 AM Tutoring 12:00 PM Tutoring 3:00 PM Tutoring 4:30 PM Tuesdays w/ Pastor 5:00 PM WWMA	26 Folding Team 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship 6:00 PM Staff Mtg 7:00 PM NA 7:30 PM Sr Choir	27 Jubilee Farms Trip 9:30 AM Tutoring 10:00 AM Yarn Works 7:30 PM AA	28	29
30 5th Sunday Offer. 8:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Christian Life Hr Adult Studies 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Shep U 11:15 AM MOM 1:00 PM Crop Walk						

**8TH Annual IL Conference
Women's Retreat**
 8/28 4:30 pm to 8/29, 3:30 pm



About CCA and the UCC

The Congregational Church of Algonquin is a congregation affiliated with the United Church of Christ. It is one of the oldest churches in McHenry County. Members have been worshiping in its current sanctuary since 1868.

The church is located a block east of Main Street and a block south of Algonquin Road (Route 62) in downtown Algonquin.

The United Church of Christ is a denomination with over 1.4 million members in nearly 6,000 congregations.

The UCC was founded in 1957 by uniting several different Christian traditions. From the beginning we were a church that affirmed the ideal that Christians did not always have to agree to live together in communion.

Our motto - "*that they may all be one*" - is Jesus's prayer for the unity of the church. The UCC is one of the most diverse Christian denominations in the U.S.

Affirming that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, the UCC claims as its own the faith of the historic church

expressed in the ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of Protestant reformers.

Yet the UCC also affirms the responsibility of each generation and community to make faith its own in reality of worship, in honesty of thought and expression, and in purity of heart before God. It looks to the Word of God in the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to prosper its creative and redemptive work in the world.

For more information about the United Church of Christ, go to www.ucc.org.

The Congregational Church of Algonquin

A United Church of Christ
109 Washington Street
Algonquin, Illinois 60102

Phone: 847.658.5308

Website: www.algonquinucc.org

Email: algonquinucc@gmail.com



Senior Pastor

Rev. Brian Cope
Revcope.cca@gmail.com

Pastoral Counseling

Rev. Dr. Arn Schaper

Music Ministry

Bev Tipps

Senior Choir Director

Greg Tipps

Administrative Assistant

Teri Franklin



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
God is still speaking,

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALGONQUIN

A United Church of Christ
109 WASHINGTON STREET
ALGONQUIN, ILLINOIS 60102

