

Window

An Oasis of Grace in the Heart of the Community

northfield
community church



JUNE
JULY
2026

Looking Over the Pulpit — Duayne Meyer

Seeds and Seasons

"Seeds and Seasons" was the theme for the celebration of Ronda Bower's 20 years of ministry at NCC and our, reluctantly, beginning to say our farewells as Ronda is relocating to Florida this August. We lift up with joy the seasons of service Ronda has spent with NCC and are grateful for the many seeds of love and faith she has planted through those seasons.

But, as we said, there are seasons and, by nature, seasons change: Spring to summer, summer to autumn, autumn to winter, winter to Spring. As my dear friend and colleague Ted Roos would remind me with some regularity, "life keeps comin.'"

The new season coming to NCC will bring dramatic changes. NCC is actively engaged in the search process for someone to take up planting, cultivating and tending to the garden that is intergenerational ministry at NCC. Any good gardener knows that, as much as we think we can control or manage (water, weed, fertilize), Mother Nature also has a significant say-so in the outcome. In the same way, we depend on the Holy Spirit to help us during the time of search and discernment. We are fortunate to have some dedicated "gardeners" - search committee members - but their competencies and commitments do not lessen our dependency on the ways and workings of the Holy Spirit. The committee covets the prayers of the congregation and invites all of us to keep our eyes and ears open for possibilities and, potential candidates, we may know or hear about in our various social and professional circles.

I want to address one more, simultaneous, season of change: on June 15, the sanctuary will close and NCC will be worshipping in the chapel at 9am and 1030am each Sunday. There is a possibility we may need to shift schedules, or even spaces, over the summer but, for the immediate future, this is the plan. A significant amount of work inside and outside the building will be taking place through September. And just like a gardener who plants seeds, much of that work we will not see. HVAC, roofing, concrete, electrical, audiovisual. Some we will notice because it will be under our feet and seats, and over our heads: new flooring, new pews and chairs, light fixtures here and there. As summer transitions to fall, we hope to move back into the sanctuary and experience a refreshed sanctuary, buildings and grounds.

It would be easy to be dismissive about property repairs, improvements and aesthetic changes, suggesting that all that really matters is faith development and service to our neigh-

(continued on the next page) →

Rooted and Growing

Inside this issue:

*Ronda's
Remarks* 2

*Mission
Connections* 3

Music at NCC 4

*The Church
Family* 5

*Office
Notes* 5

Looking Over the Pulpit (continued)— Duayne Meyer

bors. And yet, our church property is that fertile ground where we worship, learn, teach, and fellowship. No gardener worth her salt would be satisfied with a weedy garden in disrepair. Our property is the garden entrusted to us, and it is a mission outpost from which, after being encouraged, empowered and equipped, we move into the world with confidence and hope to tend to our world. Furthermore, our building and grounds - inside and out - are reflections of how we see ourselves and our optimism about our present and future ministry and mission. In baptism we say the sacrament is "outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible grace." Perhaps we might say the garden that is NCC is a similar sort of sign.

NCC is not sacrificing outreach in order to repair and update our facilities. To the contrary, after this season of building and grounds refreshment and repair, I hope we will focus even more on outreach and growth, inviting the community to join in tending to the needs of our neighbors, especially those who are discouraged about what their future holds.

Our work as the church is to continue planting and cultivating - and doing what we can - ultimately entrusting the harvest to the One who gives the growth, who sets the seasons and enlists us in Christ's service.

A new season is before us. Honestly, while I find change unsettling, I am trying to learn greater trust and faith in the providence of God. That process of growth and greater faith may take me more than just one or two seasons! ~ Duayne

Ronda's Remarks— Ronda Bower

"Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink. You are the body of Christ and parts of each other." - 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH, WAS CHILDREN'S SUNDAY AT NCC. Thank you to the 32 children and teens, from 4 years old to 12th grade who led us in worship at the 10:30 worship service as we explored and celebrated our job to share God's love to all. Let's remember the words from First John chapter 4, which was the central part of the worship: "Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and God's love is perfected in us." Thank you NCC children and teens. You are a blessing to your church!

GRADUATES: Sunday, June 7th will be Graduate Recognition at both services. Graduates are invited to attend if possible. **If you have an immediate family member who is graduating** from high school, college, or with a post-graduate degree, please email Ronda at rbower@northfielducc.org or call the church office at 847-446-3070, and let staff know the graduate's name, where they are graduating from, and future plans if they are known.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL Summer Sunday school will begin June 7. There will be Sunday school at both the 9:30 and the 10:30 worship times. All children, ages 3 through 8th grade are invited. The theme will be "Exploring God's Word Through Science and Fun!"

An adult assistant is needed each Sunday. If you are available to help on a Sunday in June, July, or August, especially at 9:30, please let Ronda Bower know. No experience necessary.

Just come and enjoy a little time with NCC's incredible kids.

Ronda's Remarks (continued) - Ronda Bower

DON'T MISS THE LAST MESSY CHURCH OF THE PROGRAM YEAR AND THE ENDING OF 10 YEARS OF MESSY CHURCH AT NCC! SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 4:30 P.M



This Messy Church will feature Ronda's favorite book *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy, with lots of fun games and activities. There will be a delicious pizza dinner and a wonderful celebration worship. Be at church at 4:30 so you don't miss shooting off rocket prayers! Don't miss the fun! Invite friends and family. Remember you don't have to be a child to come to Messy Church. You don't even need to bring a child! Everyone is invited!

MISSION OPPORTUNITY: Please be watching for more information on an opportunity to help others. NCC will be putting together Church World Service Emergency Buckets and Hygiene Kits this summer. NCC will soon advertise items needed for the Hygiene Kits and a day to put together both CWS kits. An opportunity for all ages.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer. I hope to see you all at church when you are in town. Even in the summer, we are the body of Christ, and stronger when we are together. *Peace, Ronda*



Children's Sunday

Mission Connections

The Youth Group is gearing up to leave for their Mission Trip to Kentucky on June 14th! Throughout the week, our students and leaders will have the opportunity to serve others, build lasting relationships, and grow deeper in their faith together. We would love for our church family to keep the group in your prayers as we prepare for this incredible experience. Thank you for supporting and encouraging our youth as they go out to be the hands and feet of Christ!



More Mission Connections—Bill McKinley

\$48K of Smiles in the Heart of Rogers Park

On Saturday May 23rd, Dental Access Days partnered with Family Matters, Swedish Hospital, and Gale Community Academy to provide free dental services to the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago. Rogers Park is widely recognized as one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse zip codes in the U.S., serving as a "port of entry" for generations of refugees and immigrants. With over 80 languages spoken in these few square miles, the logistical challenge of providing healthcare is significant. The 10-chair clinic was staged in the gymnasium of the Gale Community Academy Annex. We provided \$47,866 worth of basic dental services.

Our upcoming clinic dates follow. Help spread the word to your dental providers.

They can volunteer by emailing dentalaccessIL@gmail.com

Date	Agency Partner	Location
Aug 22	Sarah's Circle	New Town, Chicago
Oct 24	Gall Church	Gage Park, Chicago
Nov 21	Margaret's Village	Englewood, Chicago



Music at NCC - Tim Lambert

Dear NCC Community,

It's hard to believe June is already here and the program year is coming to a close! We look back fondly on what was a wonderfully successful year for our music ministry team. From the collaboration between the praise band and choir in September, to our joint choral service with Winnetka Congregational in November, to the Pergolesi concert in April — and so much more — we feel truly blessed to have shared so many moving musical experiences with you this year. Thank you for your continued support of everything we do here at NCC. None of it would be possible without you!

Over the summer, things will quiet down as our musicians enjoy a well-deserved rest, but we will of course continue to bring music to both services throughout June, July, and August. Our 10:30 service will welcome a weekly music leader; some will be familiar faces, while others will be new guests joining us for the first time. Each week, Tim will include a short bio in the bulletin so you can learn more about where these talented singers come from.

We look forward to returning in September — in a newly renovated Sanctuary, no less!

With every good wish for a restful, relaxing, and restorative summer,

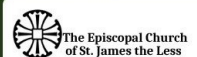
Tim (and the entire NCC music ministry team)

WORSHIP
in the **PARK**
July 5 at 9 AM

Join us for community worship with the
Willow Road Congregations at
Clarkson Park, 1950 New Willow Rd, Northfield

All are welcome! Bring a chair or blanket.
Children's space will be provided.
Fellowship and refreshments will follow.

Rain location: Northfield Community Church



The Church Family

We mourn the passing of

Lois Katariski— Lois passed away peacefully at her home on March 25th. Services were held at NCC on April 7th.

Ron Holmberg—Ron passed away on April 24th. Ron passed away peacefully at his home in Glenview. During the fifty plus years the Holmberg family have been members of NCC, Ron served in almost every volunteer capacity at the church including as Treasurer, a role he undertook with characteristic vigor and excellence. A memorial service was held at NCC on May 20th. Please hold the Holmberg family in your prayers.

Ray Kennedy — Ray passed away on May 3rd after a long illness. Services are private.

Prayers are offered for those who have been hospitalized or are being cared for at home or Assisted Living. *At Home:* Rick Connor, Steven Evenstad, Eugene Hertelendy, Judy Hertelendy, David Otis, and Ginny Tips.

In the Hospital or Assisted Living: Eiko Fricke, Jim Goettsche, Mike Parker, Diane Peterson, Nancy Puls, Bob Snyder, Susie Shabica, and Pegeen Soare.

Office Notes

Interested in joining an NCC Board or Committee? It is a great way to “not become weary in doing good.” We will be electing and installing Board members at the Congregational Meeting on May 14th and are looking for new members. You can speak to any of our current Board members (see below) about the details! They can fill you in on the work of any of the boards. **We need your help and the time commitment in most cases is small.**

Deacons/Ushers: Jeff Jordan

Missions: Bill McKinley

Christian Education: Janet Jesse

Memorials: Tracey Buchman

Trustees: Kevin Trimpe

Music: Helen Raymaker

Partners in Christ: Nancy Hyrczyk

We're looking for comments on **Assistive Listening Systems** for the sanctuary. A part of the Facilities Refresh is updating our assisted listening system. Many of the systems available work with hearing aid apps that reside on smart phones and/or with Bluetooth. We'd like to install a system that folks are able to use. This will likely include the FM broadcast system and another, more modern type system, perhaps Auracast. If you have comments, questions or suggestions, please contact Lea Jones in the office. Thanks!



We are blessed with many volunteers! Thank you to:

Sue Golden for delivering food donations to the Northfield Township Food Pantry.

Aidan Andrew, Claudia Andrew, Mia Andrew, Margaret Weber, Bill McKinley, Vijay Johnson, Kelly Jordan, Lea Jones, and Rob Orr for serving as worship service livestream techs.

The submission deadline for the **August Window** newsletter is **July 17th**.

If you would like to make an online donation to Northfield Community Church, you may use this QR code.



NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH
400 WAGNER ROAD
NORTHFIELD, IL 60093-2922
Address Correction Requested

First Class

NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

June & July Events

- June 5th** A Just Harvest
- June 7th** Choir and Graduate Recognition
- June 9th** Board of Christian Education
- June 14th** Mission Trip Begins
- June 14th** Messy Church
- June 15th** Sanctuary Closed for Renovation
- June 16th** Board of Trustees
- June 18th** Partners in Christ
- June 21st** Mission Trip Sunday
- June 22nd** Church Council
- July 5th** **Worship at Clarkson Park**
- July 17th** *Window Newsletter Deadline*
- July 21st** Board of Trustees
- July 27th** Church Council



The Church Staff

- All of the members of NCC Ministers
- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Steve Ash | Business Manager |
| Eileen Baumgarten | Organist |
| Ronda Bower | Pastoral Associate of Family & Educational Ministry |
| Lea Jones | Office/IT Manager |
| Tim Lambert | Music Director |
| Duayne R. Meyer | Senior Pastor |
| Don Minnick | Pastor Emeritus |
| Sarah Paige | Director of Youth Ministry |



Northfield Community Church

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga	3	4	5 10:00am Prayer Shawl Group 11:00am A Just Harvest	6
7 Choir and Graduate Recognition 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship and Praise 9:50am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:50am Sunday School	8	9 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga 7:00pm Board of Christian Education	10	11	12	13 8:30am Relevant Bible Study
14 Mission Trip Begins 9:30am Worship and Praise 9:50am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:50am Sunday School 4:30pm Messy Church	15 Mission Trip	16 Mission Trip 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga 7:00pm Board of Trustees	17 Mission Trip	18 Mission Trip 10:00am Partners In Christ	19 Mission Trip 10:00am Prayer Shawl Group	20 Mission Trip
21 Mission Trip Sunday 9:00am Worship and Praise 9:10am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:50am Sunday School	22 7:00pm Church Council	23 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga	24	25	26	27
28 9:00am Worship and Praise 9:10am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:50am Sunday School	29	30 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga	Please check the NCC website for the most current Calendar information: www.NorthfieldUCC.org			



Northfield Community Church

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please check the NCC website for the most current Calendar information: www.NorthfieldUCC.org			1	2	3 11:00am A Just Harvest	4 
5 9:00am Worship at Clarkson Park	6 <i>Office Closed</i>	7 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga	8	9	10	11
12 9:00am Worship and Praise 9:10am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:50am Sunday School	13 <i>Office Closed</i>	14 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga	15	16	17 <i>Window Newsletter Deadline</i>	18
19 9:00am Worship and Praise 9:10am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:50am Sunday School	20 <i>Office Closed</i>	21 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga 7:00pm Board of Trustees	22	23	24	25
26 9:00am Worship and Praise 9:10am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:50am Sunday School	27 <i>Office Closed</i> 7:00pm Church Council	28 10:00am Women's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Yoga	29	30	31	