

JANUARY



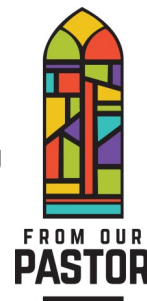
2024

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Community Church in Harrington Park

The Courier
published by
the Community Church in
Harrington Park
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Pastor Emeritus
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Pastor Emeritus

The Courier



Dear Friends,

Imagine you're feeling like there's got to be something more to life than what you've found so far. Imagine you're a person whose parents didn't go to church, so you don't have the slightest idea of what the church is supposed to be about. Imagine you're sorta curious about the church and wondering if there might be something there for you.

What would make a difference for you? Is it how beautiful the worship is, or how eloquent or practical the sermon is? Maybe, but probably not. Is it how lovely or user-friendly the building is? Almost certainly no. What then?

It's probably how a church shows its love for the community. It's probably something like how the church goes out into the world and tries to make some modest difference. It's probably some regular service that a church is committed to, some way of showing it genuinely cares for people who are hurting.

Maybe it's serving meals to homeless folks. Or working with Habitat for Humanity. Or serving people who have developmental disabilities. Or working hard to provide clean water around the world.

This stuff is really important. It's really important in and of itself. We have to be showing our love, or else it can be assumed that we don't love.

But it's also really important that we show that we're showing our love. People are looking, looking to see if the church is inwardly focused, or if it means what it says, if it practices what it preaches.

Here we are in the season of Epiphany, the season when we examine Jesus' life. And when we examine Jesus' life, we see He's always stopping what He's doing, whether it's travelling or teaching or leading worship, and He brings the love of God to a hurting world by healing and talking and listening. As we live into the life of Jesus, that's one of our great challenges – to bring the love of God into the world in a regular, practical, meaningful way. It's a privilege to serve Him with you.

Grace and peace,



When Would You Like to Get Together in Small Groups

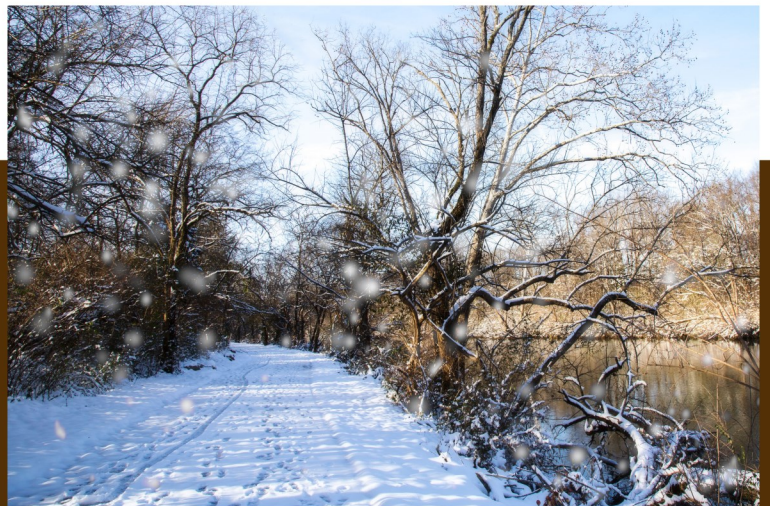
We're gearing up for a new round of small groups, starting the week of January 14. This will be a five-week study on dealing with anxiety by Max Lucado. Anxiety seems to be an issue that many of us are wrestling with right now, and so there couldn't be a better time for this video study.

In worship on January 7, and in a separate email, the Task Force sent out a survey. We're going to be offering small groups on Sunday after worship (in person), and/or Mondays at 7:30 (by zoom), and/or Thursday mornings at 10 (in person). We'd like to know how many of those times to offer, and what works best for you. Would you send an email to Steve Sayer (sayercchp@verizon.net) indicating your first second and third preferences?

What's on Your Mind?

Pastor Sayer will be preaching a series of sermons during Epiphany about issues that we probably haven't talked enough about down through the years. These will be put together in a sermon series called, "What's on My Mind?"

But he's also like to know what's on your mind. During Lent he'd like to craft a sermon series called, "What's on Your Mind?" This will address issues that we haven't been talking about, but which you've been thinking about. Would you take a little time and send him an email telling about a topic you think we ought to address in worship. You can reach him at sayercchp@verizon.net.



The human mind plans the way,
but the LORD directs the steps.

Proverbs 16:9, NRSV



Many, many thanks to the choir and the worship committee for a beautiful and meaningful Christmas season . The choir worked so hard, and we had so many extra rehearsals but we always shared fellowship and moved forward learning the music at hand ...and it was challenging !!! Not only that, but everyone made all of our young Brass Quintet musicians feel so welcome and at home. Thank you everyone, and there is always room for another voice ! It's a great way to pray, through words and music combined.

Amy Duran, Music Director

The Children's Choir will begin again on Sunday, January 28 at 11:15 AM. Invite a friend to come and sing!



I hope you all have had a chance to view the new look for our church website.

It has been my pleasure over the past these past 9+ years to be the manager of the website. With this in mind, I am looking for and open to finding a backup person to help manage the content.

It does not take much time once you are familiar with the mechanics of the site.

If anyone is interested in this ministry please contact me at dgnovak@optonline.net.

Thank you,
Dennis Novak, CCHP WebMaster

Happy New Year to all! May God bless you and your family in 2024.



The Advent/Christmas season is a joyous time in the life of the church and also a very busy one. We thank the many people involved in decorating the church including the sanctuary and chapel trees and poinsettia display. We appreciate the tech team and those who greeted, ushered, lit the Advent candles and helped with the lovely luminary display on Christmas Eve. It was a perfect night for our candles to show the Light of Christ.

We especially want to thank all involved in the music program. Our gifted music director and pianist, Amy Duran, selects beautiful and challenging pieces, leads the Chancel and Alleluia Choirs, and often enhances the music with soloists and added musicians. We also thank Dot Abelman and the members of the Bell Choir, Nate Giordano, guitarist and Barbara Ciannella, organist. The Dec. 17 Musicale was an especially joyful, uplifting and spiritually-nourishing service. We are truly blessed.

Ushers/Greeters: Please continue to sign up in the narthex to usher and greet. We need four people each week. Two people should arrive by 9:45 AM to greet and the other two can come at the normal time and do the offering.

Chris Novak and Chris Doyle

Guild for Christian Service

The Guild would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! We are looking forward to lots of great opportunities for spiritual growth, outreach, and fellowship this year! Stay tuned for events and dates! Here are the circle meeting dates for January and February! All women are welcome to attend any circle meeting they are able! Deborah Circle will meet in the Johnson Chapel on Tuesday, January 9 at 7:30 PM and Tuesday, February 13 at 7:30 PM. Rachel Circle will meet in the conference room on Wednesday, January 10 at 1 PM and Wednesday, February 14 at 1 PM. Looking Ahead: The Soup Supper will be on Ash Wednesday, February 14 at 6:30 PM. We're always grateful for those who can make a soup. **Tracy Ciavaglia & Chris Novak**



Our next Women's Breakfast Ministry event will be on Saturday, February 3rd in Founders' Hall. The time is 9:30 AM. The women who gather together are from other churches and denominations, as well as from our church. We are all blessed by this time of fellowship and spiritual nourishment! Invite your friends, co-workers and neighbors to come!



Our puppets are back to working on a new skit. They did an awesome job on Dec. 10 lighting the Advent wreath and their skit, "Where's God?"



Puppet Team

Come join us each Sunday morning at 10:00 AM in Founders' Hall, as we work on a new skit. All children are welcome. Puppets meet for the first half, then on to Sunday School.

We look forward to hosting coffee hour on January 21st. I will be reaching out to the parents for some help with baking. Any questions, please feel free to contact me jhoerauf@naihanson.com or my cell (201) 519-1782.

Miss Joan



Coffee Hosts Needed!
We are always looking for volunteers to make coffee and provide snacks for coffee hour

after church. This is a time to meet new people and fellowship with each other.

If you do volunteer I will be happy to meet you and walk you through it! The sign-up sheet is in Founders' Hall, but feel free to reach out to me as well! Jocelynbrueck@gmail.

Did you know that we have a team of members at CCHP that visit our members at their homes, hospital, or nursing home? If this is something you may be interested in please contact Sharon Brahs at s.brahs@icloud.com.



Congregational Care

The Congregational Care Team will meet on Tuesday, January 16 at 7:30 PM.

Feed Our Souls delivered 29 meals in December. We are so very happy to announce that the roast turkey meals that were delivered were prepared with turkey breast donations from our congregation! The Feed Our Souls team would like to thank all who donated. We are so blessed to have this wonderful ministry at CCHP. A huge thank you to Sue Wood for all her hard work and dedication!!!



Your search committee is busy reviewing the many resumes that have come in our search for a new minister. We will meet again on January 10 to set up some preliminary interviews with some of the candidates.

We will keep you apprised of our process. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any member of the search committee. Jeff Pond and Bob Carr, Co-Chairman, Justin Johnson, Jill Cox, Chris Novak, Jane Marshall, Jodie Wu – our liaison from Classis and Joan Hoerauf.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Anonymous; Lynn Baker; DeAnna and Roger Carman; Ernie Hepperle; Janet Kosack; Nancy Lanzalotto; Ed Serrano; Craig Terjanian, the Search Committee.



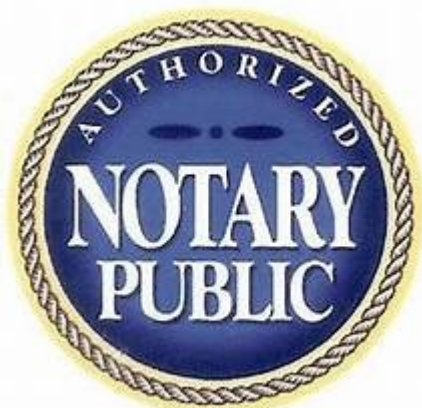
- Ketchup
- Coffee (instant and ground)
- Tea (regular and decaf)
- Corn Beef Hash
- Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- Spam (turkey & low salt)

Les and Jill Cox are kind enough to deliver your donations to the Norwood Food Pantry. So, bring your donations to church with you on any Sunday. Thank you!!!



*Best Wishes to
Justin and Alissa Johnson
On their daughter, Ally's engagement to
Jack Ansell.
A mid-2025 wedding is planned.*

If you find yourself in need of a Notary Public, Lori Anders offers this service to church members, free of charge. Just give her a call in the church office (201-768-2457) Tuesday through Friday from 9 to 1 PM, and she'll be glad to help you out.



The Community Church

January/February, 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 <i>Courier Deadline</i>	6 9:30 Women's Breakfast Ministry
		7:30 Consistory		7:30 Chancel Choir		
7 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS	8	9	10 9:00 Courier Assembly 1:00 Rachel Circle 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	11 10:00 Publicity Meeting 7:30 Chancel Choir	12 11:00—2:00 Club 60 in FH	13 8:30 Men's Breakfast
		7:00 Outreach 7:30 Deborah Circle (postponed)				
14 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS 11:15 Alleluia Choir	15	16 7:30 Finance 7:30 Cong. Care Meeting 7:30 Deborah Circle	17 <i>Feed Our Souls</i> 7:00 Property 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	18 <i>Feed Our Souls</i> 7:30 Chancel Choir	19	20
21 10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS 11:15 Alleluia Choir 11:15 Guild Executive Mtg.	22	23	24 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	25 7:30 Chancel Choir	26	27
28 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS 11:15 Alleluia Choir	29	30	31 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	<i>Feb 1</i> 7:30 Chancel Choir	<i>Feb 2</i>	<i>Feb 3</i> 9:30 Women's Ministry Breakfast

SS=Sunday School; FH=Founders' Hall; HPBOE=Harrington Park Board of Education



I remember....

"The Commission" - My family arrived in HP in 1960 and settled here as there was a Reformed Church in the town. The memories which stand out as I was a young boy were that there was a group of ladies whom, to me, seemed to be the governing committee of the church. Yes, there was a Pastor, Consistory (9-12 men at that time). However...these special ladies "RAN" the church. To name a few (I'm sure I'm leaving out a few), "The Commission:" Sophie Butterfield, Adalyn Quantmeyer, Lucille Herring, Leena Meyer, Augusta Krauss, Clara Eckerson and Maybelle Grammenstetter... to name a few...there were more. *Anonymous*

I have wonderful memories of our girls—Hannah, Ally, and Jillian—participating in the Cherub Choir. Hannah and Ally would sing loudly and proudly while Jillian did her best to hide in the back and pretend to sing. *Alissa Johnson*

Many years ago my wife talked me into our first Frost Valley Weekend Retreat. I was told it was a ski weekend, so was I surprised! But it turned out to be a great experience. Great memories! *Anonymous*

Chuck Johnson singing my father's favorite hymn, "Amazing Grace", at his funeral service in December 1989. *Linda Michels*



www.cchpchurch.org