

THOUGHTS FOR THE JOURNEY — May 2017

A Small Piece of String

A visitor to Niagara Falls has it easier today compared to what it was like over a hundred years ago. There was no easy way to get from the American side to the Canadian side of the falls. The only practical way involved a frightening boat ride over a very dangerous stretch of river. One day someone came up with a very practical idea, "Why not build a suspension bridge across the river?" That sounded like a good idea, but it really wasn't that easy. The most difficult part was actually getting started. The canyon walls were too steep and the rapids were too dangerous to get the first cable started. Finally, someone got a bright idea. They proposed a contest with a ten dollar prize. They wanted to see who could be the first youngster to fly their kite across Niagara Falls. The thought was this would be the way to get the first cable in place.

The critics had a good laugh when the contest was announced. How could a simple kite and string be used to build a great bridge? The whole idea seemed to be preposterous. In fact, it was so preposterous that it worked. A young boy named Homan Walsh flew his kite across Niagara Falls in 1948. The simple kite string gave way to a line and to a rope, and finally the first cable was in place. Soon a great suspension bridge spanned the falls, a great bridge that owed its existence to a boy, a kite, and a slender piece of string.

Beloved, how many of us look at our place in church as if we only have a piece of string. We doubt that we can contribute anything at all to the building up of the church. We may not see ourselves as having the necessary talents, gifts and abilities to be leaders in the Lord's church. This sort of attitude can cause so many to sit back and refuse to become involved in the church's ministry and mission. In the first place, most of us have more abilities than we can ever imagine. Great people of God like Moses, Deborah, Gideon, Esther and Mary made excuses for their lack of ability when they were called to serve the Lord. After they hesitantly accepted the call, they found that their faith did indeed allow them to serve the Master in ways they had never dreamed possible. However, even if we're totally convinced that our talents are meager, remember that small piece of string that spanned the great Niagara Falls. Compared to the mighty cable that anchored the bridge, the string was pretty insignificant. However, until the string did its part, the cable was useless.

Let's all promise ourselves to serve God and his church to the best of our abilities. Those abilities are richer and more varied than many of us would admit. Until we are ready to use those abilities, then the Lord's work will not get done. Beloved, if a small piece of string can bridge a mighty river, then the lives of the members of the North Eaton Christian Church can bridge the chasm between God, humanity and our community.

Blessings for Journey,

Rev. Chuck

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MAY 2017

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Christian Ed. & Youth Director: Polly Tallos

Secretary: Londa Blaine

Music Director: Miki Saito

Bookkeeper: Bob Weber

Dr. Ralph Thompson: Pathways Counseling

The VOICE

"Working together to make the difference that matters."

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MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIV.

- 3 Carol & Buz Bokman
Bob & Tammy Hammond
- 5 Stacy Zawoyski
- 6 Shari Kyle
- 7 Roger Driver
Dan Hicks
Sharon Kiesel
- 8 Theresa & Mac McDonough
- 9 Harry Hinkel
Brett Nash
- 11 Aaron Durbin
- 12 Tom Mott
- 13 David Insley
- 18 Chris Hickman
- 19 Jeannie Sizemore
Maggie Carpenter
Vern Black
- 20 Ray & Karen Konko
- 21 Tammy & Mel Gamble
- 23 Nanci Ickes
- 24 Steve Cihla
Sally Belfi
- 27 Julie Haumschild

Berea Animal Rescue

We are asking for your help for the Rescue by donating used TOWELS and BLANKETS.

Drop them off at the church in the east entrance or bring them to church and place them in the basket on the fireplace. Any questions, contact LINDA ICKES, 440-235-8956.



Serving At the Lord's Table MAY 2017

8:00 Ed Carter, Chris Hensley

9:30 Mike & Paula Krasnevich, Carol Bokman, Carol Butcher, Don Ables, Mike Mott

ELDERS: Glenn Swartz, Melissa Folk



Living Last Supper – Maundy Thursday

Our thanks and appreciation to the men and women who portrayed the disciples at the Last Supper. They did a fantastic job!

Our thanks to Chris Hensley for helping with this production and with the lighting. The saying “practice makes perfect” sure worked that night.

Thank you to Cody Knorr for running the powerpoint.

It was truly and inspirational evening.



New Pictorial Directory — Our new directory needs YOUR face! In celebration of NECC's upcoming 175th anniversary (Oct. 15th) the Evangelism Committee is working on creating a new pictorial directory. You may submit your own family photo, or have one taken at the church, **after worship, the first three Sunday mornings in May.** Carol Busche, Diana Tyler and others will be available to snap your picture and have an informational form for you to fill out. No need to make an appointment, nothing to buy.

If you submit your own photo we will also need: Names & birthdates of your household. Your current address. Phone numbers to be published. Email addresses we can publish. One photo of your household (family, not separate) Information & photos may be directed to Evangelism Committee Chair Diana Tyler and left in the church office or email to webmaster@neccdisciples.com now thru JUNE 15TH. **If any of the information should change OVER THE SUMMER, please let us know. PLEASE NOTE:** We are unable to use photos taken by a commercial photographer because of copyright laws. In addition, we reserve the right of approval of all photos submitted.



NECC All Church AUCTION & Garage Sale

Thanks to a kind offer from one of our members who will be downsizing their living space and donating furniture and other “quality” household goods to our Capital Campaign, the Capital Campaign will be hosting an ALL CHURCH AUCTION/GARAGE SALE — and we're inviting YOU to take part!

We're looking for large items like furniture, working appliances, etc. (DO NOT donate outdated electronics, or non-working appliances.) We will accept wall art, china, jewelry, collections, trinkets, etc. We will NOT accept clothing.

All items will be stored at the site of the sale — Jeff & Chris Hensley's home in Grafton, 36620 St. Rt. 301.

Please contact Jeff or another member of the Capital Campaign Committee to coordinate deliver of the items you are donating. QUESTIONS?

JEFF HENSLEY—440-926-3269 (H), 440-213-5236 ©, Jchensley1@frontier.com
DIANA TYLER—440-458-5829 (H), diana@dianatyler.com

For now, we're asking that donations be completed by JULY. The sale will be held late summer or early Fall.

Are you a Veteran? Are you or a family member currently serving?

If you answered “yes” to one or both of the above questions, may we have your information. Laura Kuhn will be collecting information after the first service (8:00) and Sally Botson after the second service (9:30). You may also contact LAURA KUHN at 440-309-5864 or the church office with the following information:



- Veteran** — NAME, BRANCH OF SERVICE, YEARS SERVED.
- Currently Serving** — NAME, BRANCH OF SERVICE, ADDRESS WHERE SERVING. (This can be a spouse, child, grandchild, niece, nephew etc.)

We would like the info. by MAY 21st so we can have a complete list by Memorial Day.
Sally Botson

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT Did you know you can support the CAPITAL CAMPAIGN by shopping? I was able to convert my Amazon Account to the AmazonSmile and each time I purchase something from AmazonSmile 0.5% goes to NECC, which goes to our Capital Campaign.

Each quarter a check will be sent to NECC. Last month we received \$6.72 for activity between October-December 2016.



Simply go to wwwSmile.Amazon.com and sign up for a new account or put in your email information and password, it will take you to the charity of choice.....North Eaton Christian Church. After your account is setup, just type in North Eaton Christian Church, check the box that says you will use this charity for all transactions and then YOU ARE DONE AND READY TO SHOP!

Encourage your facebook friends and family to join us. We would love your support. Our thanks to Sally Botson for setting this up. If you need help or have questions, Sally will be happy to help you.

Laura Kuhn, Financial Secretary

Graduate Recognition

NECC WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE ALL OF OUR GRADUATE. If you are graduating from high school, trade school or college, please contact POLLY TALLOS or the church office. We would like to recognize your accomplishments and celebrate with you.

COMMUNITY Vacation Bible School (It's free) CAVE QUEST... FOLLOWING Jesus, the light of the world.

June 19-22 — 9:00—12:00

**Hosanna Lutheran Church
13485 West River Rd.
Columbia Station**



AGES 4 to Grade 8

Remember to dress for the weather and wear sunscreen.

NO flip flops or loose shoes.

*Please donate canned goods or toiletries for the Columbia Food Pantry.
Monetary donations also accepted.*

REGISTRATION FORMS are in the church office or call and we will mail it to you.

We are joining with the following churches to sponsor this fun week:

- ClearView, Columbia Baptist, Columbia Methodist, Hosanna Lutheran, New Life Wesleyan, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

Easter Egg Hunt Thank You ... Thank you for putting on the Easter Egg hunt. The prizes were so cool. I love the crafts. The bouncy house was so awesome. When we got the prizes I could not believe that they were so cool. Thank you.

Love, Alina

Valentine's Day give-a-way @ IGA

Dear members of NECC, Your Valentine Gift was really appreciated! The IGA gift card was an expression of charity that our family will not soon forget. God bless you all.

Another thank you came in the form of a phone call: She originally thought the gift came from IGA but when she reread the card saw it was from our NECC YOUTH and wanted to express her delight and appreciation.