



October, 2012

Crossroads Connections



A church in the crossroads of life

All Things New

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I've been painting the house. The idea arose after the hail storm last spring when the insurance company said they would replace my roof and gutters and would paint one side of the house. *Wouldn't that look a bit strange?* I wondered. *Who paints only one side of a house?* I decided to paint the entire house myself—along with Jonathan's help. And so we began painting, one side at a time, until we managed to transform the entire house with a set of new colors.

As I was putting on the final touches to the trim work, I began thinking about Paul's letter to the church in Corinth when he wrote: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). God has been working in the world since the beginning of creation, striving to bring change and renewal. Paul reminds us that God continued that process through the life—and even the death!—of Christ. No matter how difficult life

becomes, God continues to offer a vision of renewal and hope.

After going through a terrible hail storm, paint brushes and gallons of paint have helped "everything become new" for my house. But even though my house looks brand new, it's still the same house. No

bigger; no smaller. I wonder if that's how God works in our lives: even in the midst of the stormy and



difficult parts of life, God somehow brings us through the storm and helps us become new again. We are still the same ornery people as before, but God puts a new coat of paint on us and offers us renewal.

May you trust that God is always working in your life—even the stormy parts.

Doug

Worship times:

Sunday School at 9:30 am.

Worship at 10:45 am.

Elders Corner

I relish October. October brings a change in the weather, usually warm, sunny days and invigorating cool nights. Mums and asters and other fall flowers bloom, and the trees on the bluff began to change.

October is also the time of the year when we finally slough off the lethargy of summer and busy ourselves doing the things we have put off “until the weather gets cooler.” There’s a quickening of spirit in the church, also, as we look forward to the various fall activities: the time of worship goes back to its regular starting time; the choir begins to practice; church school classes rev up for new insights. Committees and other groups, too, begin stirring the activity pot: the Wednesday Night Study Group

begins a study of James; Worship plans for the Prayer Walk, Thanksgiving and Advent; Hospitality begins planning the Annual Church dinner and the Christmas party; and the Elders are writing a second Advent Devotional Booklet and discussing expanding the idea of our congregation’s global mission position.

We usually think of spring as the period of new beginnings, new growth. But I like to think that October brings a “quickening of the spirit,” a renewal of our commitment to God and the church. Like the environmental changes that come in October, so too comes a renewal, a reaffirmation of the life of and in the church. I relish October.

~ Ken Holmes

Book Study

Join us at Crossroads for a four-week study of *The Dovekeepers*

by Alice Hoffman. Books are available at the Vineyard in Belleville.

Wednesday afternoons October 10, 17, 24, 31 from 2:30-4:00 pm

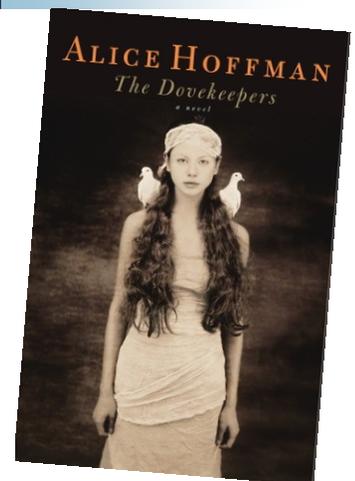
Over five years in the writing, ***The Dovekeepers*** is Alice Hoffman’s most ambitious and mesmerizing novel, a tour de force of imagination and research, set in ancient Israel.

In 70 CE, nine hundred Jews held out for months against armies of Romans on a mountain in the Judean, desert, Masada. Only two women and five children survived. Based on this tragic and iconic event, Hoffman weaves a spellbinding tale of four extraordinary bold, resourceful, and sensuous women, each of whom comes to Masada by a different path. Yael’s mother died in childbirth, and her father, an expert assassin, never forgave her for that death. Revka, a village baker’s wife, watched the horrifically brutal murder of her daughter by Roman soldiers; she brings to Masada her young grandsons, rendered mute by their own witness. Aziza is a warrior’s daughter, raised as a boy, a fearless rider and expert marksman who finds passion with a fellow soldier. Shirah, born in Alexandria, is wise in the ways of ancient magic and medicine, a woman with uncanny insight and power.

The lives of these four complex and fiercely independent women intersect in the desperate days of the siege. All are dovekeepers, and all are also keeping secrets — about who they are, where they come from, who fathered them, and who they love.

Deacon’s Benevolence Fund

Please keep in mind that Crossroads Christian Church has an emergency assistance fund available to Church members who are in need. If you are in need please contact Pastor Doug or an Elder. Your request will be held in the strictest confidence. If you would like to donate to the fund please place your donation in the offering plate or bring/send to the office. Be sure to designate that the funds are for the Deacon’s benevolence fund.



Chips from the Board

16 People were in attendance at the board meeting.

The following was reviewed:

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Set into record.

Reports of Officers

Treasurer/Office Manager: Monthly Financial report and the August check register to be filed for audit.

Reports from the various Committees/ Task Forces

Worship – Ken Holmes stated that the Prayer Walk is underway, which is set for September 29, 2012. The committee is working on devotional directions using hymnal which will be forthcoming in 2013. Along with continuing preliminary planning for a Global Partnership /Ministries Sunday.

Stewardship/Finance – Mike Thompson was absent. Pat McAllister presented the financial reports submitted by Mike Thompson.

Property – Discussion regarding the current state of the organ with Carol Brookshier to obtain updated information. Jim presented information regarding the sign.

Hospitality – Carole Thompson's report

Bus Trip to Hindu Temple

On October 14th Metro-East Interfaith Partnership will lead a bus trip to the Hindu Temple in St. Louis. Cost for the trip is \$10 per person, you may purchase your tickets from Pastor Doug. We will board the bus at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows visitors center parking lot at 1:30 pm and plan to arrive at the Temple at 2:30. The tour should last about 2 hours and we should be back to the Shrine about 5:30 pm.

stated the following:

The congregational dinner will be held on Sunday, November 18th, 2012.

The Christmas Dinner – Program will be held on Saturday, Dec. 8th at 6pm

This dinner will be catered. The monthly coffee time will be hosted by co-volunteers through now to December.

Coffee Fellowship Hosts:

Sept. 9th Carol Brookshire and Patty Buckhannon

Oct. 14th Jan Evans and Carole Thompson

Nov. 11th Eric and Cathy Mielke

Dec. 2nd David Kennedy and Pat Hayes

Pastor's Report - stated that there are changes being discussed for the structure of the Region. The Area Assembly is being held Oct 12th, 13th and 14th. Pastor Doug and Staci will be attending as our congregational delegates. Also, the 1st week in October is the Pastor's Conference in which Pastor Doug and Jennifer Lewis will be attending.

Next Board Meeting to be held on: Sunday, October 21, 2012.



Prayers

- Jackie T. death of her father (Friend of Dawn)
- Debra R. arm injury and insomnia
- Larry heart blockage and upcoming surgery (friend of Cathy M)
- Safe travels to Germany for Jonathan C.
- Jackie T. death of her father (bonus daughter of Dawn)
- Adina (Jennifer's sister) prayers for Mom & Baby Adia
- Prayers for the families of the diplomats killed in Libya
- Celebration of 25th wedding anniversary for Pat & Connie M.
- Prayer for Don & Shirley on the recent loss of their daughter-in-law (friends of Dan U.)
- Thanks to the Lord for the beauty of your creations (Susan & Virginia)
- Death of Nancy Stone
- Dwight C., pneumonia at Belleville Healthcare & Rehab
- Blessings for the marriage of Alicia & Travis and their new life together (friend of Staci)
- Tom (Jessie's husband)
- Death of Shirley H. brother-in-law
- Unspoken prayer request
- Lindsey R. coming home early from Afghanistan, end of Sept.
- Laura (daughter of Dale) hurricane damage and husband is over seas
- Lee (brother of Dale) cancer free however diabetes and neuropathy are painful
- Ron G., work schedule changed and he works on Sunday
- All those affected by the Hurricane
- Michael (Dawn's nephew) in combat zone in Afghanistan doing rescues
- Dale R. (friend of Dawn) extreme back pain, Dr's can't find cause so now they are testing for cancer. He is a 2 time cancer survivor.
- Family and friends of Helen Stumpe who passed away last week
- Death of Vicki Small (close friend of the Cripe family)
- Barbara (cousin of Dan U) hip replacement surgery
- Rosellen H, cancer
- Ruth (neighbor of Marie) fell and broke hip
- Kim H. recovering from surgery
- Shooting at Sikh, burning of Mosque in Joplin and shooting near Texas A&M, innocent bystanders killed.

Our Homebound

Pat Beyer
Ray Doctorman
Rollie & Jodie Hoehn
Rosellen Hoerr
Mary Moss
Nelson Rodriguez-Arté



A Festival of Psalms

You are invited to . . .

Singing our Faith:

A Festival of Psalms

On Sunday, October 14, 7:00 p. m.
In the Wehrli Chapel at Eden Theological Seminary
475 E. Lockwood Ave.

Webster Groves, MO 63119

Featuring Richard Bruxvoort Colligan --

Composer, poet, singer, and the current Artist-in-Residence at Eden Seminary

- with Donita Bauer and the Eden Choir, Clint McCann (who will briefly introduce the psalms), Sarah McCann (psalms from Taizé and Iona), Laurel Koepf Tayl (plainsong/children's psalms), and more!
- More info? Call Clint at 314-395-5826 or email at cmccann@eden.edu

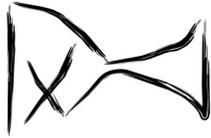
Moving Sale

Carol & Patty are in the process of selling their Mother's house and have a few nice furniture items for sale. Please talk to one of them for more information.



Lay Worship Leaders—October, 2012

	October 7	October 14	October 21	October 28
Worship Leader	Kay Marshall	Patty Buckhannon	Mike Thompson	Lori Burgess
Elders—Bread Cup	Dan Upton Kay Marshall	Kay Marshall Dan Upton	Dan Upton Kay Marshall	Kay Marshall Dan Upton
Deacons Prepare	Pat Killian Carol Brookshier	Marie Dyar Pat Killian	Carol Brookshier Pat Killian	Pat Killian Marie Dyar
Deacons Serve	Carolyn Percivall Staci Cripe David Kennedy Lori Burgess	Carolyn Percivall David Kennedy Bonnie Speraw Lori Burgess	Bonnie Speraw Staci Cripe David Kennedy Lori Burgess	Carolyn Percivall Staci Cripe David Kennedy Lori Burgess
Deacons Candles	Staci Cripe	N/A	David Kennedy	N/A
Sanctuary	David Kennedy	Carol Brookshier	Marie Dyar	Pat Killian
Greeter	Staci Cripe	Curt Sutton	Marie Dyar	Cathy Mielke
Audio-Visual	David Kennedy	David Kennedy	David Kennedy	David Kennedy
Fellowship		Jan Evans Carole Thompson		
Scriptures	Job 1:1; 2:1-10 Mark 10:2-9, 13-16	Mark 10:17-31 Hebrews 4:12-16	Job 38:1-7 Mark 10:35-45	Job 42:1-7, 10 Mark 10:46-52



October 2012

SEGA Prayers for the Month

9/30-10/6 Compton Heights Christian Church, St. Louis, MO
 10/7-10/13 First Christian Community Church, Centerville, IL
 10/14-10/20 Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, St. Louis, MO
 10/21-10/27 Overland Christian Church, Overland, MO
 10/28-11/3 World Mission Christian Church, St. Louis, MO

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:00 Stewardship 5:30 Dinner/Video 7:00 Choir	4	5	6
7 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	8	9	10 5:30 Dinner/Video 7:00 Choir	11	12	13
14 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	15	16 12:00 Lunch Bunch	17 5:30 Dinner/Video 7:00 Choir	18 7:00 Elders' Meeting	19	20
21 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Board Meeting	22 9:00 Stewardship	23	24 5:30 Dinner/Video 7:00 Choir	25	26	27
28 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	29	30	31 	Happy Birthdays! 1 Kay Marshall 4 Roz Stevens 5 Bob Emory Marion Wilson 8 Dan Upton 10 David Kennedy 13 Edna Schneider Hedy Madison 21 Virginia Johnsen 22 Hannah Weygandt 24 Vandora Elfrink 25 Liam Moder 26 Marie Reichling 27 Robert Clay Rebekah Cripe 30 Zoey Goble 31 Adam Johnson Sheri Kraus Curt Sutton 		

Happy Anniversary!

1 Curt & Margaret Sutton
 17 Ken & Shirley Holmes
 21 Steve & Pat Reichling
 23 Ralph & Edna Schneider

Disciple chaplain calls for sermons on painful subject

The wounds we can see are bad enough, but for many the internal wounds to self-worth, the moral dissonance, and a sense of isolation can be unbearable. For soldiers and veterans, the rate of suicide is climbing at an alarming pace and one Disciple chaplain wants to do something about that.

“It’s like the building is on fire and no one is saying anything,” Chaplain (Major) Craig Johnson said. “I believe our Church and our faith have something to say here.”

Johnson, the Instructor of Homiletics in the Army’s Chaplain School who has seen combat himself, acknowledges that suicide is a tricky subject to raise. Not only is there fear of upsetting those who have lost family members to suicide, but there are also a lot of myths surrounding the subject. Johnson is calling for Disciples pastors to find ways to address some of the main issues from the pulpit, targeting Sunday, Nov. 11 – Veterans Day. And he’d like to collect the resulting sermons.

According to a summer story in TIME magazine (July 23, 2012; pages 24 - 31), an active duty soldier commits suicide every day. However, not all of them have seen combat. Many have sought help. But the fact remains that more U.S. military personnel have died by suicide since the war in Afghanistan began than died in the fighting in that war.

In addition to Johnson’s call to preach on the Church’s role in ending the isolation and proclaiming God’s love, the General Assembly in 2011 received a proposal for reflection and research,

“Moral Injury and Spiritual Care in a Time of War (#1119).” Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University has taken on the study and research task with the Nov. 12 opening of the Soul Repair Center to find ways to help combat veterans in particular. The programs the center plans to implement range from a think tank to congregational programs and training.

Selected resources from the project

But that doesn’t help the person in the pew this week who is hiding pain and needing the reminder of God’s love whether they are active duty, a veteran or simply someone who is feeling very alone. Johnson offers resources along with suggested books from the Soul Repair Center.

Pastors are asked to please send their resulting sermons to:

craig.m.johnson1@us.army.mil

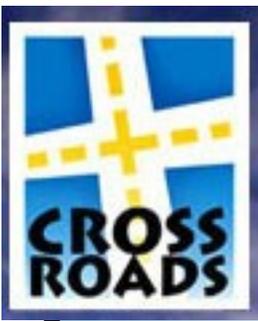


Thank You!!

To my Crossroads Family,

Thank you for the prayers, concerns and cards over the past 2 years. Tom keeps fighting. We seem to be at a stand still right now. A lot of tests have been conducted the past 3 weeks, no chemo for 6 weeks. The Dr. is looking for reasons why Tom keeps retaining fluid. We see the oncologist next Thursday and will hopefully have some answers. We have enjoyed the last 6 weeks without chemo and no cancer growth. Tom’s strength and endurance are low but he is getting hair growth. We take one day at a time. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Tom & Jessie Hull



Christian Church

2415 North 89th Street
Caseyville, IL 62232
(618)398-1587

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Douglas Cripe
ddcripe@gmail.com

Office Manager - Dawn Standridge
crossroadsdisciple@sbcglobal.net

Hours: Monday 9-1 Wednesday 1-5
Thursday 8-12

Music Director - Lisa Cripe
lacripe@charter.net

Nursery - Connie McAllister
Custodian - Richard Reichling

We're Disciples: a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world

Upcoming Events

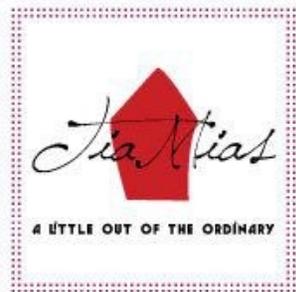
Beacon - MECCA Auction

Please help support Beacon by attending the MECCA Auction and Dinner. Saturday November 3. Doors open at 4:30. Tickets are \$30. And may be purchased by calling 222-8842.

Lunch Bunch

On Tuesday, October 16th the Lunch Bunch will meet at Tia Mias, 122 North Bluff Road, Collinsville, IL (North Bluff is also 157 and the restaurant is almost across from Home Depot)

Sign-up sheet is in fellowship hall.



"Thomas Merton and the Wisdom of Peace and Nonviolence"

Oct. 6, 2012 9 – 11:30 a.m.
National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows



John Dear entered the Jesuits with a fire to pursue a life of peace and justice. He began to immerse himself in the writings of great peacemakers like Gandhi, Martin Luther King, JR., Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton.

Merton remains a voice of sanity, reason, faith, clarity and hope despite what is going on in the world. Fr. John will share the simple callings that he has learned from the life and writings of Thomas Merton.

Fr. John Dear, SJ, peacemaker, retreat leader and author, has traveled war zones, led Nobel Peace prize winners to Iraq and given thousands of lectures on peace across the U.S. He was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008 by Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa. He currently writes a weekly column for *The National Catholic Reporter*. His newest book is *Lazarus, Come Forth!*