AUGUST 2022 | ISSUE 8

THE BURR RIDGE MESSENGER

The monthly publication of Burr Ridge Community Church

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Gospel Gab with PASTOR ALICIA

THE LITTLE WAY

Life is mostly froth and bubble, but two things stand like stone, kindness in another's trouble, Courage in Your own.
. --Adam Lindsay Gordon

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I have often heard our church described as "small and mighty!" Well, there is actually a patron saint of small things. St. Therese was born in 1873 in France. When Therese was just four years old, her mother died of breast cancer. She became a Carmelite nun when she was just 15. Her life was short, dying at 24 from tuberculosis. There was nothing particularly extraordinary about her life, except for the way she decided to respond to her impending death. When St. Therese found out she was dying, she decided that her limited life would be lived with limitless love. She called this "the little way."

We often thing of great love as huge gestures or a great life as having accomplished something enormous but St. Therese reminds us that a great life is made up of many small acts of love. Sometimes we can see smallness as something that must grow bigger (and, indeed, many great things grow from small seeds), but small things done with care, compassion, and kindness, create a mighty big life of love.

Rev. Kate Bowler has a beautiful prayer I want to share with you all:

Dear God,
Bless me with a radical love, inventor of love. And may that love overflow onto, into, and through me. Flood me with Your kindness, generosity, and compassion, so that I may be Your hands and feet in the world.

Help me to remember that love isn't always in grand gestures or extravagant gifts, but in the small, faithful acts. Help me to remember it is in the showing up, in the work behind the scenes, and doing that which won't get us recognition. The one who is the first in and last out. The generosity of time, resources, spirit. The one who leaves flowers in her week. This is the long faithfulness that can change the world.

God, bless me in this Little Way, to be able to do small things with great love. One small action at a time, until it's a bridge – with a span that reaches from my little life to Yours with each act of love. And when I screw up or forget or grow weary, bless me with the courage to begin again. Loving and loving again. Being changed by your love and transforming the world one little act of love at a time.
May it be so.

Peace, Pastor Alicia

BRCC UPDATES AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

August 7 - Kathy Alvisu
August 14 - Susann Pedersen
August 21 -
August 28 - Kids

If you are interested in serving as a Worship Assistant in 2022, please contact Pastor Alicia, Susann Pedersen, or sign up here:
Worship Assistants 2022

WEST SUBURBAN COMMUNITY PANTRY

COFFEE MINUTE VOLUNTEERS

August 7 - Vicky Panos
August 14 - Kathy Alvisu
August 21 - Tom & Ann Fong
August 18 - Larry & Barbara Jefferson

MANNA ORDERS

You can submit your upcoming *September 11* Manna Gift Card order any of the following ways:

- Submit completed order form and payment at worship, Sunday, *September 11;*
- Call the church office with your order and submit payment via mail or on-line giving;
- Send an email with your order and submit payment via mail or on-line giving.

All payments must be submitted at the time the order is placed. ***please be aware if you use a credit card for your Manna purchase, there is an additional processing fee charged to BRCC by the bank.***

Next Manna Order date: October 2!

SUMMER GIVING

As we come into the summer months with many of us traveling, setting up recurring giving through our website or mobile app is a great way to continue to support the church even while on vacation. Consider setting up recurring giving. **Thank you for your continued support!**

MOBILE GIVING APP

Thank you for your vital support of God's ministries at BRCC. We have a mobile giving app for church donations. To download the app for free, search "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement" on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Once you download the app, search for Burr Ridge Community Church, create an account, and you are able to give via the app.

Or click on the icon to be taken to the app

AMAZON SMILE

When you shop on Amazon, using the link below, Amazon will donate to Burr Ridge Community Church:

smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2591671

COUNCIL UPDATES

BOARD OF ELDERS

Our prayers of love and support go out to long-time member Lina Fonacier's family during this time of mourning and grief. Lina passed away with hospice care at home on July 16th. Visitation and service resided at Oehler Funeral Home in DesPlaines on July 29th and 30th. On behalf of the congregation, a special gift from Spoonful of Comfort was sent directly to the family. If anyone is interested in reaching out to the family, you can reach out to Joy Fonacier at 1042 W. Elm St. Palatine,Il. 60067.

Board of Elders are Kathy Alvisu, Barbara Jefferson, and Susann Pedersen.
We pray for all those listed on our prayer wall which is in the Lounge. We receive requests through our website as well. Please add a name of someone you are holding in your heart that you feel needs prayers for any reason and place it on the prayer wall.

The Elders work directly with Pastor Alicia Reese with the spiritual needs of our congregation members and friends. We are responsible for preparing and providing communion for the 1st Sunday of each month. We assist pastor with duties pertaining to the care of the congregation as requested by the pastor.

Please continue to pray and support our members and friends who are healing from surgery, those anticipating procedures or surgery, Covid19 long haulers, those who grieve the loss of a loved one, and anyone struggling with issues we may not see physically but who need a smile, hug or a word of comfort.

Blessings for a beautiful August.

Kathy Alvisu – 630-325-5612
Barbara Jefferson - 773-928-0712
Susann Pedersen – 630-863-5736

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Current trustee projects:

- Additional shelving installed in decoration storage room
- Fire extinguisher and exit sign recertification completed
- Grass cutting volunteers needed

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Thank you all for your financial support of BRCC!

Month of July 2022

Income: $ 10,561.48
Expenses: 8,643.97
Surplus: $1,917.51

Year-to-Date as of 7/31/2022

Income: 69,815.41
Expenses: 80,834.60
Deficit: ($11,019.19)

RESERVE ACCOUNT FUNDING

Thank you everyone for supporting our "Reserve Account Fundraising! The balance is as follows:

Interior Reserve: $3,622
Can be used for sound system, interior updating & repairs.

Exterior Reserve: $1,105
Can be used for exterior projects such as parking lot sealcoating and new outdoor church sign.

Total Reserves (including the above): $33,492

Feel free to either mail or drop off your donation to the church. Please indicate where you would like your donation applied.

BOARD OF STEWARDS

(FUNDRAISING)

The Board of Stewards met in July to discuss the next fundraiser which will be the BRCC Fall Festival. The B.O.S. has created a committee for this Festival and new members have accepted the challenge! We would like to welcome Russ and Carole Beck in contributing to our discussions and proposing ideas.

In the nature of the beast, we like trying new things. Not having done anything for the fall, we thought about replacing the Fall Clothing sale with something for the families of the community to come and enjoy. Within the Fall Festival will include the raising of revenues for the church. The event would be something similar to the Spring Festival but without the rummage sale. We have set aside Saturday, October 15, 2022. Since the inception of the fall occasion, there will be lots of brainstorming the next couple of months. As always, we will keep you all updated on progress.

Happy August!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Join us for Worship every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. either in-person or on Facebook Live or YouTube. If you are worshiping with us at home, follow along with the weekly Worship Folder found on our website. You can find the worship live stream by following the link below:

Facebook Livestream

YouTube Livestream

In-person worship follows protocols set forth by the CDC, Illinois Department of Public Health Guidelines and UCC.

WOMEN'S WELLNESS

Women of the congregation are invited to attend Women's Wellness on **Thursday, August 18th at 6:30 p.m.** We will be following CDC guidelines.

Anyone who is or has gone through an emotional or physical situation and would like to come, relax and enjoy each other's fellowship are welcome. All conversations are personal and confidential. What is spoken at the gathering, stays at the gathering.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

We wish Happy Birthday to those that celebrate in August. We hope you have a wonderful day!

Shannon Fong - August 1
Joy Fonacier - August 5
James Reese - August 8
Sue Apel - August 9
Ryan McNally - August 14
Vicki DeVries - August 15
Kyle Fong - August 17
Hannah Sundwall - August 21
Kelsey Sundwall - August 22
Mike Fleming - August 29

August birthday celebrants, please join us after service on August 28 for cake as we celebrate all our August birthdays!

MEETINGS

August 29th - Council Meeting - 6:00pm

Serving Hope

SERVING HOPE SUNDAY

Thank you to all who participated in our first Serving Hope Sunday!

WONHN
Woodridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors

A big thank you to our sponsors!

ADOLF FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES

TOMMYR'S CATERING

Pete's Market

Culver's

Portillo's HOT DOGS · BEEF · BURGERS · SALADS

BROOKHAVEN MARKETPLACE "The finest foods from around the world"

RESERVE ACCOUNT DONATION

If you would like to donate to the Reserve Account Fundraiser, please complete the below information and return with your donation to the church office. If you prefer, you can make your donation on our website, and select the funds category to which you are supporting.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Select the project(s) you are supporting and the amount of the pledge.

❑ General Operating Expenses

❑ $_____

❑ Exterior Projects (Parking Lot Preservation, Building Stain, New Church Sign)

❑ $_____

❑ Interior Projects (Lounge Updates, Office Technology, Boiler Maintenance)

❑ $_____

Total Donation: $_____

BURR RIDGE
Community
Church