

**Blessed NOCC Community** Thanks for the interest many of you have expressed in the BIG WORDS sermon series currently underway. I hope it may prove helpful to you on those occasions when these BIG WORDS come into your conversations. The influential 20th century theologian Karl Barth said, "In the Church of Jesus Christ there can and should be no non-theologians." My hunch is that he means to say here that church folks have a responsibility to be as theologically informed as time allows. We've already covered KINGDOM OF GOD, EVIL and JUSTICE. Sunday's BIG WORD is GRACE. (Matthew 5: 43-48) You can now locate previous sermon manuscripts on our new and expanded website. I also highly recommend our Sunday Adult groups and our weekday Bible groups, Vital Conversations and our Saturday movie group and book group as places where you can participate in very accessible theological conversations. You may even want to talk theology over pizza with your pastor sometime!

**NOCC YOUTH AND FAMILIES** will be eating out following worship this Sunday at Red Wok----planning for Youth Sunday which is February 10. Northland Youth (grades 2-12) will meet 5PM at Park Hill Christian----supper provided by Elzene Gourley (thanks!) Special Guest-----Cara McKinney from Disciples Global Ministries.

**REGIONAL DISCIPLES MIDDLE SCHOOL MID-WINTER RETREAT** is February 22-23 at Tall Oaks. Find out more information here: <https://www.talloaks.org/chi-rho-midwinter-2019>

Go straight to the registration page here:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dZGpt52DnhCAOx5l7AxAbqPk5VorInftCWuVcgpW\\_U4/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dZGpt52DnhCAOx5l7AxAbqPk5VorInftCWuVcgpW_U4/viewform?edit_requested=true)

**REGIONAL DISCIPLES SUMMER CHURCH CAMP DATES** are listed on the Tall Oaks Web site. Information packets will be available soon.

**SOUPER BOWL SOUP FEST** Sunday February 3 following worship. We are seeking volunteers to bring soup and bread for this event. Everyone is invited to wear the colors/jersey of your favorite team (college or school etc---any sport) to church that day. Donations will be accepted for HARVESTERS. Thanks to our Community Life Ministry Team for planning this fun time together.

**SCOUT SUNDAY** Sunday February 3 we will welcome once again our Troop and Pack Scouts and families to worship. We have also invited them to stay for soup!

**INTRODUCTION TO CENTERING PRAYER AT NOCC** You've heard about centering prayer, maybe the time has come to learn more! Our former clergy intern Kevin Kelley has recently been trained to teach centering prayer and will be leading this workshop with Rob's supervision. Saturday February 9 beginning at 9AM until noon. We have a handful of folks coming and welcome more. Contact Rob to sign up. This is a free event.

**VITAL CONVERSATIONS FEBRUARY 13** "While the World Watched: A Birmingham Bombing Survivor Comes of Age During the Civil Rights Movement," by Carolyn Maull McKinstry: Join David Nelson and friends at the Antioch Library 1PM

**REGIONAL DISCIPLES WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT** is planned for March 8-9 at Tall Oaks. "Tell Me A Story" is the theme to be explored with Dr. Marti Steussy, Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. Earlybird Registration deadline is February 8. Final registration deadline is February 22. Contact Debbie Herrick for more information. <https://www.talloaks.org/gkc-dwm-retreat-2019>

**CHERITH BROOK WISH LIST** As you can imagine, our friends at Cherith Brook are dealing with cold weather issues and needs related to feeding the homeless folks who stop in for a bite to eat and a shower. So shower supplies always needed, along with personal hygiene items. Cold weather items such as chap stick, cold meds, sleeping bags, blankets, socks are always welcome. Items for the house/kitchen include rice, salt/pepper, sugar, creamer (Roasterie donates coffee) dish soap, and energy saving light-bulbs.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday Groups for all ages 9AM

Sunday 1130AM Youth and families to Red Wok

Sunday 5PM Northland "Big Group" at Park Hill Christian

Monday 6PM Troop 900

Tuesday 945AM Men's Bible group

Tuesday 6PM pack 900

Wednesday 7PM Music Ministry

Thursday 6PM Girl Scouts

Saturday 745AM Men's Breakfast at Kate's

Saturday 9AM Centering Prayer

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 10 IS YOUTH SUNDAY

## SAVE THE DATES

ASH WEDNESDAY OBSERVANCE WITH HOLY FAMILY PARISH MARCH 6 7PM

NOCC LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS BEGIN WEDNESDAY MARCH 13 6PM

NOCC Eastertide Weekend Retreat at Marillac Center in Leavenworth KS April 26-27

YOU, ME AND THE ENNEAGRAM Led by Lori Hall Thursday evenings May 2, 9, 16 630-9PM

The Christian life is not about pleasing God the finger-shaker and judge. It is not about believing now or being good now for the sake of heaven later. It is about entering a relationship in the present that begins to change everything now. Spirituality is about this process: the opening of the heart to the God who is already here.

**Marcus Borg**

With you in ministry