

**Blessed NOCC Community** Opportunities abound in March and April to invite someone you know to church. Perhaps our best loved tradition---our Lenten Soup Suppers are FABULOUS occasions to introduce a friend to the NOCC Community. Child care will be provided each of those five Wednesdays. Holy Week begins with the pageantry of waving palms followed by REZOUND at 3PM. A meditative celebration of communion on Thursday, a music-filled observance on Good Friday, and of course Easter morning!

In other news----I FINALLY made it to LEO'S PIZZA this week, after hearing about it for years. WOW! Leo's is my new favorite pizza! Let's go to lunch sometime soon!

**SOUP SUPPERS BEGIN---CELEBRATING FAVORITE HYMN TEXTS** Do you have a favorite hymn text? Maybe more than one? I'm talking about the words here more than the music but of course they both tend to enhance the other. For our Lenten Soup Suppers this year I am wondering if 10-15 people (2-3 per week) would be willing to take a few minutes to share their favorite hymn texts---the words, and to share how and why the words of a particular text are meaningful. I'm not sure why, but in recent months I've been paying closer attention to the texts of the hymns Jeff selects for Sunday and wow-----lots of beauty and eloquence and rich theology/spirituality there! If you were wanting to share a favorite hymn text be assured you would NOT be expected to lead us in singing it. The emphasis would be on the words and their significance to you. It MAY be that we do some singing, but this is not part of the assignment I am giving here. Our Soup Suppers begin Wednesday March 13. Then March 20, 27, April 3 and 10. SO PONDER THIS AND LET ME KNOW WHICH DATE YOU PREFER!

**ASH WEDNESDAY-----THANKS** It was a wonderful turnout of NOCC folks at Holy Family Church on Wednesday. Thanks to all of you and to our special participant/helpers.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONALS ARE AVAILABLE** We missed our opportunity to make these available last week due to weather. Be sure to pick one up this Sunday----one per household please.

**HAPPY TO HELP** If we run out of Lenten Devotionals and you need some help finding devotional reading for Lent, let me know----there are many options.

**SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE BLACK** is a book written by Tanner Colby which will be discussed at this week's VITAL CONVERSATION. Using a historical/case study approach, Tanner Colby describes the "strange story of integration in America." Beyond the societal and political dynamics of segregation and integration, he reflects on the phenomenon of racial separation in American society. Why is it that people of different races in this country largely do not associate or develop close relationships? Colby examines 4 segments of American

society: a) schools/public education; b) housing and real estate development; c) business and industry; and d) religion/church. Join us 1PM at the Antioch Library Wednesday March 13.

**REGIONAL DISCIPLES SUMMER CHURCH CAMP DATES** are listed on the Tall Oaks Web site.

**DISCIPLES GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN DES MOINES---ROAD TRIP?** The General Assembly of the Christian Church happens every 2 years in various cities from coast to coast. IT WILL NOT BE THIS CLOSE TO KC FOR AWHILE. So-----Rob is planning to attend a portion of the event July 22-23 and is happy to have company. Costs would include registration for the event, hotel room, food, etc. Be in touch with Rob if interested.

**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. **BELTS OF ANY SIZE AND MEN'S AND WOMEN'S UNDERGARMENTS ARE ESPECIALLY NEEDED.** 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 9AM Groups for all ages

Sunday 5PM NOCC Youth with Northland BIG GROUP

Monday 6PM Troop 900

Tuesday 945AM Men's Bible group

Tuesday 1230PM Women's Bible Group

Tuesday 6PM pack 900

Wednesday 1PM Vital Conversations

WEDNESDAY 6PM LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

Wednesday 7PM Music Ministry

Thursday 6PM NOCC Board

Saturday 9AM Centering Prayer

## SAVE THE DATES

SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS Sunday April 7 5PM

REZOUND BELL CHOIR IN CONCERT AT NOCC PALM SUNDAY APRIL 14 3PM

HOLY THURSDAY MEDITATIVE COMMUNION April 18 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP April 19 7PM

HE IS RISEN! April 21

NOCC Eastertide Weekend Retreat at Marillac Center in Leavenworth KS April 26-28

YOU, ME AND THE ENNEAGRAM Led by Lori Hall May 11 930AM May 16 630PM May 23 630PM

*Arsenius always used to say this, "Why, words, did I let you get out?  
I have often been sorry that I have spoken, never that I have been silent."*

[The Desert Fathers: Sayings of the Early Christian Monks](#)

With you in Lent

Rob