



ON THE STREET

The Peoples Church of Chicago

Newsletter for July, 2012

“A Spiritual Home for People of Conscience”

CALENDAR

Movie/Film Night

- **Movie Night** is on vacation for the summer...

Upcoming Sundays

- **Sundays 10am:** Worship Service, with Rev. Jean Darling preaching.
- **Sun, July 8,** after service: **Anna Fehsenfeld**, of McCutcheon Elementary School, comes to talk with us about the **Billion Tree** project.
- **Sun, July 15,** Flower Communion service – bring a flower! After service: **“Amahl” Puppet** project team meets
- **Sun, July 22:** **Rev. Bonnie Osei-Frimpong** preaching, on “Occupy!” **Trustees** meet after service.
- **Sun, July 29:** All church **Potluck** after service.

Other Events

- **Fri, July 13, 6pm:** **Second Friday** Taizé service and Coffeehouse, with **Margaret Nelson**, live.
- **Sat, July 28, 4pm:** Spiritual Beans meets at Inspiration Kitchens on Sheridan.
- **Sat, July 28, 7pm:** Joseph Bures classical piano recital, Auditorium:

Minister’s Notes:

Mmmm, barbeque!

Rev. Jean Siegfried Darling

Summertime, and the living is easy! The fish are jumping, and the cotton is high...

Well, it feels like the summers in Arkansas I remember from being a little kid, these 103° days – of course it’s worrisome, being so dry that it looks like mid-August, the grass so sere and lifeless-looking...

But right now I’m not going to worry about it.

I’m thinking about food.

The thing that is especially luscious about summer is the abundance of barbeques, cookouts, picnics: all times for us to get together with friends and family and eat together.

In this heat, it has been more tempting to make cold food like salad, or deviled eggs, or gazpacho, that cold soup with fresh tomatoes and cucumbers and green peppers and onions, all chopped up, and a dash of Tabasco and some V-8 and some ice cubes. And salt and pepper. Yum!

Summer is also the time for fresh fruit – those peaches that melt in your mouth and drip down your chin until you figure out how to slurp it into your mouth as you bite.

From a poem by Milena Abrahamyan:

I remember bringing a peach to my nose,
fuzz caressing skin, devouring
the sweet smell before biting in.

And, by William Carlos Williams,

“To a Poor Old Woman”

munching a plum on
the street a paper bag
of them in her hand

They taste good to her
They taste good
to her. They taste
good to her

2 Li'l Fishes

Starting soon, 2 Li'l Fishes will serve a free hot lunch every day but Wednesday, downstairs in Anderson Hall. All are welcome.

To help out, contact Will Pruitt, volunteer coordinator, twolilfishes@yahoo.com.

cont'd...

Minister's Notes, cont'd

And from the poem "Apples" by Grace Schulman:
Bring me a Winesap like the one Eve tasted,
savored and shared, and asked for more.

No fool, she knew that beauty strikes just once,
hard, never in comfort. For that bitter fruit,
tasting of earth and song, I'd risk exile.

The act of eating, so sensual, so significant, so solitary! Our tasting and savoring and experiencing these delights of summer is private, in some essential way. And yet, so often we choose to eat together, if we have the choice.

So I was thinking about the importance of that shared food, and what it does for us, just to break bread, just to pass the coleslaw along, just to pour a lemonade for someone and hand it over.

There's something sacred about sharing food. Food represents, like water, life itself – we must eat to live. So sharing food is a form of sharing life. Alone we really are nothing. We know that we need one another. Even our enjoyment is sweeter with someone to share it with.

To be able to speak to someone else of our delight, of our astonishment at beauty, of the sweetness and bitterness of life, gives it meaning far beyond our solitary experience.

peace, Jean



Second Friday in July:

Margaret Nelson at the Coffeehouse

Come to the meditative **Taizé service** at 6pm to unwind from your stressful week, with chants, poetry and quiet reflection.

Stay for live music at the **Coffeehouse**, with fresh-brewed coffee and Ludie's fabulous desserts. Margaret Nelson sings traditional story ballads, old and new love songs, lullabies, comic songs, gospel songs, childrens' songs, her own, and others' songs. Margaret shamelessly promotes peace, love and ecological sanity.



Soup with Pastor Jean

Join us on Tuesday, July 24, at 6:30pm, in Molly's Café, for supper and conversation. Tonight it's Green Soup. Always vegetarian, always amusing.

"Spiritual Beans"

Treasures of Uptown interfaith discussion group meets on Saturday, July 28, 4-5pm at Inspiration Kitchens, 4715 N. Sheridan, for another lively conversation. See www.TreasuresofUptown.org for more information.



Classical Piano Recital, Saturday, July 28, 7pm:

Joseph Bures plays "The Long and Short of It" – a few short pieces and some long ones.



The Peoples Church of Chicago

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Calendar – July 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10am Service	2	3 1-2pm worship – JustEmbrace	4 4 th OF JULY HOLIDAY	5	6	7
8 10am Service	9	10 1-2pm worship – JustEmbrace	11	12	13 6pm Second Fri Margaret Nelson	9
15 10am Service	11	12 1-2pm worship – JustEmbrace 1:30 Staff mtg	13 6:30pm Worship committee	14	15	16 10-noon PBC board meeting
22 10am Service Rev. Bonnie Osei-Frimpong 11:30 Trustees	23	24 1-2pm worship – JustEmbrace 1:30 2 Li'l Fishes 6:30pm Soup w Pastor Jean	25	26	27	28 10 JustEmbrace Sole Care foot clinic 4pm Spiritual Beans at Inspir. Kitch. 7pm Joseph Bures recital
29 10am Service 11:30 Potluck	30	31 1-2pm worship – JustEmbrace	1 AUGUST <i>Pastor Jean on vacation for month of August.</i> 6:30 Treasures steering comm..	2	3	4