

July 2018 Newsletter
St. John's United Church of Christ





"The purpose of this congregation is to be a faith community promoting the kingdom of God through worship, teaching and action...get ready!"

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Black Creek, Wisconsin 54106

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Pastor's email styward@sbcglobal.net
Website www.stjucbc.com

Rev. Dr. Tom Fritz, Pastor (920)268-5757

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 9:00 a.m. Worship	2	3	4 <i>Happy Independence Day!</i> Join Pastor Moira at her home and watch the Bonduel Parade (see invitation on pg.4)	5 1:30 p.m. Women's Guild meeting (R. Hanson Devotions; A. Hooyman-Blake Hostess)	6	7
8 9:00 a.m. Worship	9	10 6:30 p.m. Council meeting 	11	12	13	14
15 9:00 a.m. Worship	16	17 9:00 a.m. Newsletter info due in office 	18	19 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social	20	21
22 9:00 a.m. Worship	23	24	25	26 Target: Assemble newsletters	27	28
29 9:00 a.m. Worship	30	31	<div> St. John's UCC 101 S Clark St. (PO Box 264) Black Creek, Wisconsin 920-984-3845 </div> <div> <h1>July 2018</h1> </div>			

Pastor's Message...

Spirit-Led Believers—Sons & Daughters of Encouragement

Six weeks ago, we celebrated Pentecost—the “Birthday of the Church”. On that day, we reflected on how the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and empowered them to carry on what Jesus started. Pentecost reminds us that all of us are all called to be Spirit-led Christians.

Ever since that first Pentecost, Christians have wrestled with what it means to be Spirit-led. Some seek a repeat of the events of that first Pentecost, so they place emphasis on speaking in tongues. Others think that worship must be highly animated—that worshipers must shout “Amen” and wave their arms, or fall on the floor in ecstasy. Others think that being Spirit-led leads people to acts of charity and service to human need.

As I ponder what it means to be Spirit-led, I find myself thinking about Barnabas. Barnabas was a first century Christian who has informed and inspired my faith ever since I learned about him in the late 1990’s. Actually, his given name was Joseph, but he was renamed Barnabas because he demonstrated great faith. The name Barnabas means “Son of Encouragement,” and that is what Joseph was. We first encounter Barnabas in the latter verses of chapter four in Acts. We are told that he sold a field that he owned and gave the proceeds to the disciples for distribution to the needy of the early church. He was a generous Christian.

Barnabas appears again in later chapters of Acts. He accompanies Paul on some of his missions. He befriends a young believer named John Mark, and when John and Paul

Pastor's article continues on page 3



Ice Cream Social *Thursday, July 19, 2018*



Serving from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m.

All families are asked to bring donations of desserts and pickles

GREETER ***Marian Goodwin*..... 984-3668**

BEANS **CHAIR: *Roberta Lorenz* ... 984-3824**

Jan Boman

BRATS AND HOTDOGS *Volunteers needed; please step up*

HAMBURGERS **CHAIR: *Doris Schmidt* 984-3615**

Val Abel; Kent Abel; Esther Meyer; Carol
Schmidt; Robin Schmidt

POTATO SALAD / CHIPS **CHAIR: *Jan Rohloff* 984-3418**

Karen Arnold; Vi Brown-Luebke; Judy
Samson

ICE CREAM AND POP **CHAIR: *Roberta Lorenz* 984-3824**

Trudy Koon; Dorothy Kominowski;
Nancy Noack; Lisa Raaths

SERVING **CHAIR: *Ila Mae Jens* 984-3036**

Judy Samson; Carol Schmidt; Robin
Schmidt; Denis Shepard

DINING ROOM **CHAIR: *Audrey Hooyman-Blake* 984-3092**

Debbie Boettcher; Caitlyn Pingel; Verla
Pingel; Lisa St. John; Tori Scott; Makenna
Scott; Cailey Wheeler; Connie Wheeler;
Holly Wheeler

KITCHEN *dishes & clean up* **CHAIR: *Connie Rohloff* ... 833-2417**

Mike Rohloff; Kerri Samson; Sue
Schneider

SERVING DESSERTS **CHAIR: Vi Brown Luebke ... 920-428-8840**

Jan Boman; Esther Meyer

CASHIERS *Treasurer will get change*

CO-CHAIRS: *Val Abel and Kent Abel* 715-745-4314

Lisa Waterstradt

PUBLICITY *provide details to church secretary by June 15, 2018*

CHAIR: *Vi Brown-Luebke* ... 920-428-8840

Todd Arnold; Ruth Hanson

Pastor's Message...*continued from page 1*

have a falling out, Barnabas sides with John Mark against Paul. Barnabas encourages the young believer — whom tradition teaches is the author of the Gospel of Mark. If Barnabas has sided with Paul, we might never have been given that important gospel.

Barnabas makes no eloquent speeches. He is not a preacher, or a healer, or a leader with great acclaim. He is simply a follower of Jesus Christ who decides to encourage others with his gifts of faith. His actions did the talking for him and, while working behind the scenes, he had a powerful influence on the formation of the early church.

As I think about what it means to be a Spirit-led Christian, I think of Barnabas, the “Son of Encouragement”. I am convinced that God is calling all of us to be sons and daughters of **Encouragement!** Encouragement is essential to the journey of faith. Sooner or later, all of us “hit the wall”. Our energies are depleted. Our faith may have been weakened by tragedy or challenge. Our dreams may have crumbled around us. We may be mired in frustration. At such times, we need encouragement. We need to know that we are loved; that there is hope; that even in the midst of defeat, God cares for us.

I am convinced that there is too much discouragement in the world. People are far too judgmental. There is too much condescension. There are too many people trying to re-make the world in their own image, and the image is usually one that is controlling and manipulative. The world needs encouragement now more than ever before.

Encouragement is more than cheerleading, although sometimes we do need to cheer others on. Encouragement is

Pastor's article continues on page 5

You are Invited!

Come to the Village of Bonduel's

107th Annual

Fourth of July Celebration

a.k.a. The **Bonduel Parade...**

Wednesday July 4th

Watch the parade at Pastor Moira's house!

You're welcome to arrive any time after 9:00 a.m.

The parade begins at 11:00 a.m.



What to bring...

something for the grill

something for the potluck table

lawn chairs

drinks

Pastor Moira will provide plates and silverware.

Her address is: **130 E. Green Bay Street** (*Pastor Moira shares a driveway with Lisa's Flowers*).

There is a back driveway on Highway 117 just south of the sign for Antler's Supper Club.

A little extra information:

The Bonduel Bike Giveaway is back! Sign up will be directly after the parade, and the drawing will be held at 3:00 p.m., at Village Park. Kids up to age 15 may participate. Must be present to win.

Jerry Voelker & The Jolly Gents play from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Adam Trask Band will play from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Fireworks at dusk (*approximately 9:45*), with the raffle drawing to follow.

Pastor's Message...*continued from page 3*

about accepting others—as they are and where they are.

Encouragement allows persons to make mistakes without judging. Encouragement is forgiving and accepting.

Encouragement helps persons to discern their path without efforts to judge or control.

In today's world, it seems that far too many persons are too judgmental, and a majority of them are Christians. Some Christians judge that those who are divorced and remarried are not welcome at the Table of our Lord. Some Christians judge that those who are not heterosexual are not valued by God. Some Christians judge that those who are liberal are agents of evil. Others judge those of other faiths with disdain and hatred. The problem with such judgments is that they sow the seeds of intolerance, and intolerance leads to violence. In the past couple of years, we have witnessed a rise in violence directed at those who are different. President Trump speaks harshly about immigrants, Muslims, athletes of color who protest police violence, and any other group that dares to disagree with him. Other voices speak similar words of judgment. All such messages seek to diminish those who are different—judging them to be “less than” others.

When we judge that someone is “less than,” it is easier to justify violent actions against them. In the Middle East, Israelis judge that Palestinians are “less than” so they take Palestinian land and treat Palestinians unjustly. Palestinians judge the same about Israelis, so they commit acts of violence against Israelis. In our own nation we experience too many school shootings, as individuals decide that others are “less than” and can be killed indiscriminately.

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Pastor's Message...continued from page 5

In the midst of a world gone mad, we need more people like Barnabas. We need daughters and sons of encouragement to embrace the world with the love of God; to give themselves to the weak and down-trodden; to care for all persons as the wonderful children of God that they are. Encouragement is not an easy lifestyle. It challenges us. It sometimes tires us. It makes us vulnerable. But, it works! Encouragement works because it is a gift from God's Holy Spirit. It works because God has ordained it. Encouragement may lead us to suffering, but that suffering is only temporary. The suffering produced by judgment and control is deeper and is far more insidious.

As you ponder what gifts of the Spirit God may have given you, I invite you to consider the gift of **encouragement**, and to make it your lifestyle.

Peace and Joy, Pastor Tom

Women's Guild



WOMENS GUILD

The Women's Guild met on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, at 1:30 p.m., with thirteen members present! Our devotional leader was Esther Meyer, who shared beautiful readings from the 2018 Commemorative Calendar entitled *Rediscovering God in America*, with pictures of historic landmarks for each of the monthly readings. They were very interesting! Esther also shared a reading about a coach from Alabama, who died in 1982. The reading, *The Magic Bank Account*, was in his billfold, and the author is unknown. We are all winners, because the prize is time. We each receive 86,400 seconds of life as a gift from God, each morning. Any

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Women's Guild...continued from page 6

remaining at bedtime is not credited to us—what we didn't use is lost—yesterday is gone. God willing, each morning, we are refilled! Seconds are worth more than money, so take care of yourself, be happy, love and enjoy life.

The business-meeting portion of our meeting was called to order by President Roberta Lorenz. The Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were read and approved. There was \$7,401.40 in the General Fund, and there is \$472.98 in the Memorial Fund.

The annual Ice Cream Social is set for Thursday, July 19, 2018; serving between 4:00 and 7:30 p.m. Check the participant list for assignments. You can find it in your copy of our *Women's Guild Congregational Activity Book September 2017—August 2018* and on page 2 of this newsletter.

The Rummage Sale is set and will be held June 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, and 30, this year. Thank you for your donations, work, time, and shopping.

Our next Guild meeting will be on Thursday, July 5, 2018, at 1:30 p.m., with Ruth Hanson leading us in devotions, and Audrey Hooyman-Blake will be our hostess. Come; join us, ladies.

The offering was taken, and a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. We sung the *Doxology*, and then we enjoyed a delicious raspberry dessert and ice cream by Judy Samson for Marian Goodwin.

We closed with the *Lord's Prayer*.

Bless you all.

Guild Secretary Audrey Hooyman-Blake



Church Council “Preliminary” Minutes

June 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Menning, with Aron Rasmussen, Gary Vander Linden, Connie Wheeler, and Pastor Tom Fritz present.



The meeting was opened with a prayer from Pastor Tom Fritz.

A motion was made, by Gary Vander Linden and seconded by Aron Rasmussen, to accept the minutes from last month. Motion passed.

A motion was made, by Aron Rasmussen and seconded by Connie Wheeler, to accept the Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's reports. Motion passed.

Pastors Report (May 2018)

- Conducted 4 worship services and 2 weddings
- Attended 1 church meeting, 3 administrative meetings, 2 group meetings, 1 conference meeting, and 1 community meeting
- Made 2 home visits, 1 hospital visit and 2 other visiting times

Committee Reports

Membership: *Nothing at this time.*

Christian Ed: Black Creek parade went well with enough walkers, and we took 2nd place with a \$75.00 check. This money will go to the youth group funds. Our next meeting is August 7, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.

Worship: *Nothing at this time.*

Music: There will be special music through the summer. If
Minutes continue on page 13

Financial Secretary's May Report

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

May-18

DATE	05/06/2018	05/13/2018	05/20/2018	05/27/2018	DIRECT DEPOSIT	TOTAL
CHECKING DEPOSIT	\$2,430.50	\$1,904.00	\$2,049.50	\$1,361.50	\$300.00	\$8,045.50
GENERAL FUND	\$2,240.50	\$1,804.00	\$1,249.50	\$1,301.50	\$100.00	\$6,695.50
BUILDING FUND	\$60.00	\$50.00			\$100.00	\$210.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	\$130.00	\$50.00	\$800.00	\$60.00	\$100.00	\$1,140.00
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING						\$0.00
NEIGHBORS IN NEED						\$0.00
STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH						\$0.00
CHRISTMAS FUND						\$0.00
FUEL FUND						\$0.00
						\$0.00
TOTAL MEMB. CONTRIBUTIONS	\$2,430.50	\$1,904.00	\$2,049.50	\$1,361.50	\$0.00	\$300.00
OTHER INCOME						
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL CHECKING DEPOSIT	\$2,430.50	\$1,904.00	\$2,049.50	\$1,361.50	\$300.00	

Financial Secretary's Semi-Annual Report 2018

2018	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	
DEPOSIT	\$10,359.60	\$8,369.00	\$11,454.14	\$11,448.00	\$8,045.50	\$9,192.75							\$58,868.99
GENERAL	\$7,714.60	\$6,701.00	\$9,494.50	\$9,866.00	\$6,695.50	\$7,457.75							\$47,929.35
Campital Campaign	\$510.00	\$710.00	\$730.00	\$410.00	\$1,140.00	\$800.00							\$4,300.00
Building fund	\$205.00	\$293.00	\$527.50	\$617.00	\$210.00	\$225.00							\$2,077.50
OGHS			\$320.00	\$5.00									\$325.00
NIN													
STC						\$30.00							
Christmas Fund													
Fuel fund													
	\$8,429.60	\$7,704.00	\$11,072.00	\$10,898.00	\$8,045.50	\$8,512.75							\$54,661.85
MEMORIAL GIFTS	\$20.00	\$665.00	\$250.00										\$935.00
endowment campital	\$1,910.00												\$1,910.00
SS campital campaign						\$600.00							
mens dartball			\$22.00										
EASTER BREAKFAST				\$550.00									
TURKEY FUND													
cans for dogs						\$80.00							

Financial Secretary's June Report

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT						
Jun-18						
DATE	06/03/2018	06/10/2018	06/17/2018	06/24/2018	DIRECT DEPOSIT	TOTAL
CHECKING DEPOSIT	\$3,584.00	\$1,272.50	\$951.25	\$3,085.00	\$300.00	\$9,192.75
GENERAL FUND	\$2,796.00	\$1,242.50	\$871.25	\$2,448.00	\$100.00	\$7,457.75
BUILDING FUND	\$63.00			\$62.00	\$100.00	\$225.00
CAMPITAL CAMPAIGN	\$125.00			\$575.00	\$100.00	\$800.00
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING						\$0.00
NEIGHBORS IN NEED						\$0.00
STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH		\$30.00				\$30.00
CHRISTMAS FUND						\$0.00
FUEL FUND						\$0.00
TOTAL MEMB. CONTRIBUTIONS	\$2,984.00	\$1,272.50	\$871.25	\$3,085.00	\$300.00	
OTHER INCOME						TOTAL
Sunday School Campital Campaign	\$600.00					\$600.00
cans for dogs			\$80.00			\$80.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL CHECKING DEPOSIT	\$3,584.00	\$1,272.50	\$951.25	\$3,085.00	\$300.00	

Preliminary Minutes... *continued from page 8*

you are interested in performing, please contact Bonnie Vander Linden.

House: Aron placed one of the Rost detectors in the basement of the church, near sump pump, and the other in the parsonage basement near the sump pump. These detectors will alert Aron, on his cell phone through Bluetooth, if there is water near it. We are getting an estimate for the broken bricks on the porch at the parsonage. The sump pump at the parsonage is not working and needs to be replaced.

Stewardship: *Nothing at this time.*

Campital Campaign/Mission Projects - For the month of May, we collected \$1,140.00. We have collected \$3,090.00 YTD. Our yearly goal is \$3,500.00.

Old Business: The vote was done for Moira Finley to become our part-time pastor starting in September 2018.

New Business: Pastor Tom's last Worship Sunday will be August 26, 2018. Details to be announced.

Prayers and Thanks: Prayers continue for Ron and Kim. Thank you to all the helpers with the rummage sale for their time and dedication. Thank you to the families that donated, because without the donations, we wouldn't have a rummage sale. Thank you to the helpers and walkers for the parade.

A motion was made, by Aron Rasmussen and seconded by Gary Vander Linden, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Connie Wheeler, Council Secretary

St. John's UCC Participated in the Black Creek Parade

A picture is worth a thousand words! If you would like to see a picture of the float and walkers, please come to worship and get a hardcopy.

Congratulations to all who participated for winning 2nd place this year! Thank you to our dedicated leaders and youth.

The picture is not included in our online version of our newsletter.



Pastor Tom's contact information



The office telephone number is 920-984-3845.

His cell phone number is 920-268-5757, and his email address is styward@sbcglobal.net (be sure to put in subject line "St. John's"). Pastor Tom usually will be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer months.

Please call ahead if you want to be sure he is in the office at a specific time—he may be out on pastoral business.



Treasurer's Report—May 2018

Building Fund	Deposits	\$ 210.00
	Interest	\$ 1.14
	Disbursements	\$ 0
Memorial Fund	Deposits	\$ 0
	Disbursements	\$ 0
Organ Fund	Deposits	\$ 0
	Disbursements	\$ 0
General	Deposits	\$ 7,835.50
	Disbursements	\$ (8,145.58)



*2 Corinthians
8:12*

<i>Capital Campaign</i>	\$1,140.00
Total YTD	\$3,090.00
Goal for 2018	\$3,500.00

Total	Beginning Balance	\$ 39,942.07
	Deposits	\$ 8,045.50
	Interest	\$ 1.14
	Disbursements	\$ (8,145.58)
	Ending Balance	\$ 39,843.13

General Fund	\$23,089.24
Building Fund	\$ 6,057.42
Memorial Fund	\$ 5,699.47
Organ Fund	<u>\$ 4,997.00</u>
	<u>\$39,843.13</u>

YTD Membership Giving \$46,699.10

YTD Expenses \$(46,104.69)

Net Amount \$ 594.41

A Riddle – Just for Fun

Question: Where was Solomon's temple located?



*Come to church on July 8, 2018, and you'll find the
answer in your bulletin!*

The Magic Bank Account

Imagine that you had won the following prize in a contest: each morning, your bank would deposit \$86,400.00, into your private account for your use. However, this prize has rules. The set of rules:



1. Everything that you didn't spend, during each day, would be taken away from you.
2. You may not simply transfer money into some other account.
3. You may only spend it.
4. Each morning upon awakening, the bank opens your account with another \$86,400.00, for that day.
5. The bank can end the game without warning; at any time it can say, "Game Over!". It can close the account, and you will not receive a new one.

What would you personally do?

You would buy anything and everything you wanted; right? Not only for yourself; but for all the people you love and care for. Even for people you don't know, because you couldn't possibly spend it all on yourself; right? You would try to spend every penny, and use it all, because you knew it would be replenished in the morning; right?

This game is real...

Each of us is already a winner of this prize. We just can't seem to see it.

The prize is time! Each morning, we awaken to

Story continues on page 16

The Magic...*continued from page 15*

receive 86,400 seconds—a gift of life! And when we go to sleep at night, any remaining time is not credited to us. What we haven't used up that day is forever lost. Yesterday is forever gone. Each morning the account is refilled, but the *bank* can dissolve your account at any time without warning...

So, what will YOU do with the 86,400 seconds God grants you today? Those seconds are worth so much more than the same amount in dollars.

Think about it, and remember to enjoy every second of your life, because time races by so much quicker than you think.

So take care of yourself [and your neighbors], be happy, love deeply, and enjoy life!

Here's wishing you a wonderful and beautiful month, *which by the way is 2,678,400 seconds of life!*

Start “spending!”

Source:

https://www.reddit.com/r/GetMotivated/comments/2b7z4g/the_magic_bank_account/

A version of this was found in the billfold of Coach Paul Bear Bryant, of the University of Alabama.

Psalm 145:9

The Lord is good to all,

and His compassion is over all that He has made

(NRSV)!



July 2018 Schedule

Sunday, July 1, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. - Communion Sunday

Reader	Robin Schmidt
Greeters/Ushers	Robin Schmidt & Bev Kruse
Greeters/Ushers	Mark Hooyman & Kelcie Hooyman

Sunday, July 8, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Reader	Roberta Lorenz
Greeters/Ushers	Roberta Lorenz & Esther Meyer
Greeters/Ushers	Lisa Raaths & Judy Samson

Sunday, July 15, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Reader	Connie Wheeler
Greeters/Ushers	Connie Wheeler & Cailey Wheeler
Greeters/Ushers	Gene & Audrey Blake

Sunday, July 22, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Reader	Sue Biese
Greeters/Ushers	Joe & Sue Biese
Greeters/Ushers	Kerri Samson & Keith Kruse

Sunday, July 29, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Reader	Marian Zuleger
Greeters/Ushers	Marian Zuleger & Duane Zuleger
Greeters/Ushers	Ryan & Stephanie Julius



Romans 13:7 NRSV

Pay to all what is due them — taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due.

August 2018 Schedule

Sunday, August 5, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.- Communion Sunday

Reader	Randy Miller
Greeters/Ushers	Randy Miller & Karen Arnold
Greeters/Ushers	David & Brenda Holz

Sunday, August 12, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Reader	Lisa St. John
Greeters/Ushers	Todd & Lisa St. John
Greeters/Ushers	Tanner St. John & Jonathan Tesch

Sunday, August 19, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Reader	Jan Rohloff
Greeters/Ushers	Jan Rohloff & Trevor Rohloff
Greeters/Ushers	Mike & Connie Rohloff

Sunday, August 26, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Reader	Vi Brown-Luebke
Greeters/Ushers	Vi Brown-Luebke & Gary VanderLinden
Greeters/Ushers	Bryce VanderLinden & Darwin Ethington



Hymn of the Month for July:

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

This month, we will be singing a hymn that comes with an international history. The words are written by a Scottish missionary, and the tune comes from Ghana. Like so many other hymns, it was composed in dedication to a church—the one in Chereponi, Northern Ghana.



The message of this hymn is clear— all persons are our neighbors and are worthy of our love and care. In a world that is increasingly fragmented by divisive politics and ideologies, the message of this hymn is more important than ever. As we sing it each Sunday in July, may we all become just a little more neighborly, a little more kind, and a little more loving of all God’s children.

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another (John 13:34-35 NRSV).”



Agnus Day appears with the permission of

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