

# Commitment to Community Sunday, September 19, 2010



225 East Exchange Street  
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456  
616 842 1985 p  
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*We are an inclusive spiritual community  
with an open exchange of ideas.  
Whether your background includes a  
chapel, mosque, synagogue or no faith at all,  
you have found your spiritual home.*

C3 is an open and affirming spiritual community. We are grateful to have you with us today. We invite you to introduce yourself to a staff member or Community Life Council host. Welcome!

**Ian Lawton**  
*Executive Minister, Teaching and  
Theological Inquiry*

**Bob Kleinheksel**  
*Minister of Care and Community Life*

**Ted Poulton**  
*Director of Administration*

**Brad Vander Ark**  
*Audio/Visual and Online Ministry*

**Roger Schuring**  
*Facility Maintenance*

**Jacqueline Rose Fisher**  
*Director of Fine Arts*

**Kim Bazy**  
*Youth Program*

**Marsha Mason**  
*Children's Program*

**Cheryl Van Abbema**  
*Activities Coordinator*

**Tricia Bernhard**  
*Finance Manager*

**Malea Nicolet**  
*Communications and Membership*

**Barb Kelly**  
*Nursery Care*

**Brian Drabczyk**  
*Sound Technician*

Office Reception Hours  
Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Building Hours  
Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

**Gathering Music**  
Allegretto grazioso from Sonata VII, K. 333

**Jacqueline Rose Fisher**  
*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

**Welcome and News of the Community**

**Musical Celebration**

**Ralston Bowles**

**Gathering Words**

- One: A dream is the bearer of a new possibility, the enlarged horizon, the great hope.
- All: Follow the grain in your own wood.**
- One: At the core of life is a hard purposefulness, a determination to live.
- All: To keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it.**
- One: Commitment means that it is possible for a man to yield the nerve center of his consent to a purpose or cause, a movement or an ideal, which may be more important to him than whether he lives or dies.
- All: The one who fears is literally delivered to destruction.**
- One: Community cannot for long feed on itself; it can only flourish with the coming of others from beyond,
- All: Unknown and undiscovered brothers and sisters.**
- One: Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it.
- All: What the world needs is people who have come alive.**

*- Howard Thurman*

## Participants:

### Teacher

Ian Lawton

### Liturgist

Bob Kleinheksel

### Musicians

Ralston Bowles

Jackie Fisher

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### Sound booth

Brian Drabczyk

### Video cameras

Brad Vander Ark

### Ushers

Randy Ray – Captain

Gay Maria Ray

Ron Zoet

Char Zoet

Steve Platt

Marti Youngdahl

Mike Youngdahl

Cheryl VanAbbema

Rod VanAbbema

*The green team ushers next Sunday.*

## We appreciate your offering

This is a community-led organization that relies primarily on the support of individuals. Donation envelopes are available in the pews. For your convenience, we invite you to join the vast majority of our members who give regularly via automatic checking withdrawal, credit card, and online donations. Indicate your interest on a white pew card and place it in the offering plate and our office will contact you. **Your generosity makes the work of this community possible.**



## Musical Reflection

“Forever Young”

Ralston Bowles

- Bob Dylan

*May God bless and keep you always  
May your wishes all come true  
May you always do for others  
And let others do for you  
May you build a ladder to the stars  
And climb on every rung  
May you stay forever young  
May you stay forever young.*

*May you grow up to be righteous  
May you grow up to be true  
May you always know the truth  
And see the lights surrounding you  
May you always be courageous  
Stand upright and be strong  
May you stay forever young  
May you stay forever young.*

*May your hands always be busy  
May your feet always be swift  
May you have a strong foundation  
When the winds of changes shift  
May your heart always be joyful  
And may your song always be sung  
May you stay forever young  
May you stay forever young.*

## Children's Time

Connie Farell

## Readings

Carla Flanders

Thus says the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

- Jeremiah 29

There are no magic answers, no miraculous methods to overcome the problems we face, just the familiar ones: honest search for understanding, education, organization, action that raises the cost of state violence for its perpetrators or that lays the basis for institutional change—and the kind of commitment that will persist despite the temptations of disillusionment, despite many failures and only limited successes, inspired by the hope of a brighter future.

- Noam Chomsky

## Music and Meditation

Bob Kleinheksel and Jacqueline Rose Fisher

## Musical Reflection

Ralston Bowles

## Teaching

Rising to the Challenge

Ian Lawton

## Community Offering

Ralston Bowles

## \*Affirmation

May your hands always be busy  
May your feet always be swift  
May you have a strong foundation  
When the winds of changes shift  
May your heart always be joyful  
And may your song always be sung.

## \*Closing Music

Fanfare

Jacqueline Rose Fisher  
Jacques Lemmens

## Today's events

9:00 a.m. - Awakenings  
9:00 a.m. - Bible Study for Progressives  
9:00 a.m. - Coffee & Conversation  
10:00 a.m. - Gathering  
10:00 a.m. - Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups  
11:00 a.m. - Connections Fair  
11:45 a.m. - Sermon Talk-Back  
12:00 p.m. - Auction Committee Meeting  
12:10 p.m. - Singles Group Meeting

## Fellowship in the Parlor

We encourage you to engage and exchange your stories and conversations in the parlor where you'll find beautiful artwork from our talented C3 community, relevant and intriguing books, DVD's of teachings, music, and coffee and refreshments to refuel you.

## The Newcomer Nook

If you are newly attending C3 or visiting today, please find the Newcomer Nook in the Lobby. You may pick up our latest news, learn more about C3Exchange, and be WELCOMED into this affirming community.

## What's Happening?

What happens outside of Sunday gatherings? LOTS! Visit us at [www.c3exchange.org](http://www.c3exchange.org), and via Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/c3xchange>.

## Upcoming events and gatherings

### **Sunday, September 26**

9:00 a.m. - Awakenings  
9:00 a.m. - Bible Study for Progressives  
9:00 a.m. - Coffee & Conversation  
10:00 a.m. - Gathering  
10:00 a.m. - Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups  
11:15 a.m. - Sermon Talk-Back  
11:30 a.m. - Sweet Harmony Rehearsal  
12:00 p.m. - Auction Committee Meeting  
12:10 p.m. - Singles Group Meeting

## Upcoming musicians

Bob Van Stee and Kathy LaMar  
Piano Trio - Betty VanTill, Karen Frederiksen, Jackie Fisher  
Piano and Organ Duo - Betty VanTill and Jackie Fisher

## **Saturday, October 23**

"New Spiritual Communities" Seminar

## **Friday, November 5**

"Spirit of the Roaring 20's" Auction

C3 is an inclusive spiritual community  
connected by a sense of mystery and love that many call God.

Inclusive grace moves us to embrace all with unconditional  
love and gracious acceptance, celebrating ethnicity, gender, age, and sexual orientation.

We honor all spiritual paths, and celebrate the universal  
truths such as peace and unity found in all traditions.

Please join us as we strive for greater love and peace in the world  
inspired by Jesus and social activists through the centuries who challenged the status quo.

Join us to be the change we wish to see in the world, respecting earth's patterns,  
and honoring wellness in its many forms.

We are a community of open mind and warm heart,  
valuing the human journey, where all are encouraged  
to honor their minds and unique spiritual path,  
ask questions in good company,  
and embrace the peace of inner wholeness.

We invite all to join us in this exciting  
adventure of humanity.

