

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our recent programs have given Circle members wonderful opportunities to enjoy the amazing fall weather together. It's been great seeing so many of you, and kudos to the Program Committee for planning these events. Please see Sally Sprowl's story on our October lunch at Mensch's Deli and Sally Dobroski's description of our visit to the Kenilworth Historical Society.

Looking ahead, we expect to have several board vacancies in the spring. Serving on the board is a great opportunity to learn more about Circle and share your ideas with an enthusiastic crew of Circle supporters. Interested in hearing more? Please reach out to a current board member or contact me—we'd love to have you on board!

I've been receiving reminder cards about the 2025 Big Ten Women's Conference, June 6 to 8, hosted by The University Club, University of Iowa, Iowa City. Club members are excited to host the meeting and have put enormous effort into making it comfortable, fun and interesting. The conference is essentially an all-day Saturday event with an informal gathering dinner on Friday and farewell breakfast on Sunday. Judy Holman wrote a wonderful description of our experience at Michigan State University's 2023 conference for last year's November *Courier*.



Please get in touch if you are even a little interested in attending; we hope to have two delegates representing University Circle.

Recently, I've been asked if Circle will be hosting the Big Ten Women's Conference in the future and has it ever been held at Northwestern. The answer to the first query is *no*; Circle Board members agreed to bow out of the rotation because of our group's small size, relative to that of the other clubs.

The answer to the second question is a resounding YES. University Circle hosted in June 2003 and it was an *all hands on deck* effort. So many Circle members, and even their friends, stepped up to work on meals, housing, programs, entertainment and hospitality. It was a success in many ways, especially strengthening our Circle community.

Soon the Adopt-a-Family holiday drive will begin, and thank you in advance for your generous support. Hope to see you at Curt's Café on Wednesday, December 4, for the holiday party, and please do stop by the Piecemakers' Quilt Show at Three Crowns Park on Sunday, December 8.

— Margaret Schatz
mesharbor@gmail.com 847-287-0669





MISSION

The mission of University Circle is to provide opportunities for Northwestern University women to participate in service, scholarship, and social activities that enhance the University community.

MEMBERSHIP

If you know of a woman who is interested in becoming part of University Circle, please bring her along to a special interest group or general membership program. You may also contact Linda LaBuda at 262-348-8205 and she will happily send membership information out by mail. You can find membership information on the University Circle web site:

www.northwestern.edu/university-circle

BOARD MEETINGS

University Circle Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of most months on the Evanston Campus. All members are welcome. Meetings typically last one hour and are always lively and fun. Please contact the president for dates, time and location, and/or if you have an item for the agenda.

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Margaret Schatz
Pat Ulmer
Jeanne Fitzpatrick
Sally Sprowl

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For information about other interest groups,
please contact the president.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL CIRCLE HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday, December 4, 5:30-7:30 pm

Curt's Café, 2922 Central Street in Evanston

Refreshments will be served, and everyone is invited to bring cookies or candy to share (a half dozen). There will also be a cookie and candy exchange for those who wish to participate.

You're welcome to bring unwrapped new toys and books for the children of families served by Northwestern Settlement. We will also be collecting checks to purchase gift cards for the families we are sponsoring. Read below for more information about the Adopt-a-Family Program.

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT Piecemakers quilts that will be given to our families will be on display during the party.



Free parking is available at Byline Bank across Central Street from Curt's, along with several spots behind Curt's. Parking is also available on Central Street (metered) and on Lincolnwood Avenue (free).

Circle is pleased to support Curt's Café, which assists at-risk youth by teaching marketable skills and assisting in securing employment. In addition to culinary techniques, Curt's provides instruction needed to fill in educational gaps, gain confidence, and become job-ready.

Please RSVP by December 3, if possible, to Pat Ulmer at pat.ulmer@gmail.com and indicate if you're bringing cookies or candy.

Hope to see you there!

HELPING SETTLEMENT FAMILIES IN NEED

— by Pat Ulmer

Circle has been associated since 1916 with the Northwestern University Settlement, which like Jane Addams Hull House was a neighborhood house providing social services in Chicago. The relationship continues today, and every year at the holiday season Circle participates in Northwestern Settlement's Adopt-a-Family Holiday Program.

It seems that the families we are asked to sponsor are even more vulnerable this year than the year before. We have five extremely needy families that have recently arrived in Chicago and are living in temporary shelters until they can find stable housing, which can take several months. Each family lives in one room and all their possessions must fit in one dresser. We have a total of 20 people in our five families. Of those, 12 are children ranging in age from 6 months to 16 years. They are only given winter coats by the shelter so our gift cards will be used to buy basics: underwear, socks, shoes, and winter gear (hats, gloves, scarves).

With your donations, Circle will purchase gift cards to help the families purchase the items they need and can fit in



their room. We will provide additional gift cards for each family to buy food. We will plan to give a small personal gift to each child based on their requests. The Circle budget will help cover the cost of these gifts.

Following the generous tradition begun last year, each family will receive a beautiful quilt created by our talented Piecemakers group.

To donate to the Adopt-a-Family Holiday Program, please write a check payable to University Circle and send it to Jeanne Fitzpatrick, 6401 Lincoln Avenue, Unit 205, Morton Grove, IL 60053. Please note on the check that it is for the Holiday Fund. Jeanne will also be accepting checks at the holiday party at Curt's Cafe on December 4. All donations will go to the families in need. Any extra funds will be given to Settlement for their food pantry and emergency fund.

In addition, members, if they wish, may bring new, unwrapped toys or children's books to the holiday party. These donations will be delivered to Settlement for the Toy Room, where parents who are served by Settlement but who do not have a family sponsor may select gifts for their children.

HONORING CIRCLE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

— by Diane Unger

Circle members gathered on May 17 at Norris University Center for Circle's annual meeting and 2024 Circle Scholarship Tea.

During the brief business meeting, the following officers were elected: Jane Dowding and Linda LaBuda, membership vice-presidents; Lindy Link, recording secretary; and Jeanne Fitzpatrick, treasurer.

Debbie Crimmins, chair of the Scholarship Committee, presented scholarships to four NU employees who are pursuing degrees in NU's School of Professional Studies. The four recipients—Michele Ortiz, Oliver Sterling-Angus, Andrea Vanderlaan and



Circle Scholarship recipients meet at the Scholarship tea. Left to right, Michele Ortiz, Oliver Sterling-Angus, Sophie Xiao and Andrea Vanderlaan.

Sophie Xiao—all gave very moving talks about their backgrounds, studies, challenges, and future plans.

We were fortunate to have our partners from the School of Professional Studies join us: Margaret McCarthy, Vanessa Carpenter, Soo La Kim, and Susan Wesner. As in the past, Norris provided a nice selection of tea sandwiches and pastries for all to enjoy.

Circle thanks Scholarship Committee members Debbie Crimmins, Jane Dampts, Sally Dobroski and Lonnie Dunlap for their work in selecting the recipients. Information about how members can donate to the Scholarship Fund will be available in early 2025.

KENILWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR

— by Sally Dobroski

It was a beautiful day on November 7th when 18 members of Circle enjoyed a docent-led tour of Kenilworth Historical Society, Kenilworth Assembly Hall and Joseph Sears' children's log cabin playhouse. At the Historical Society, they viewed the exhibit "Kenilworth Centennial Homes, 1889-1924." They admired a treasured needlepoint rug depicting village houses and sites, with each of the 60 panels stitched by village volunteers.



Walking across Kenilworth Avenue to Kenilworth Assembly Hall, docent Will Taylor shared information about the hall's architect, George Maher, his love of Prairie Style architecture, stained glass windows and



nature. The building's foyer originally showcased a tree whose top branches extended through the roof of the hall. Only after the tree developed a disease in the 1980s was the tree removed.

After eating lunch at Marco Roma Pizzeria, members said their good-byes, as they look forward to seeing each other at Curt's Café on December 4th for Circle's holiday gathering.

CIRCLE EVENTS COME FULL CIRCLE

– by Sally Sprowl

Last Spring, Circle members had a great opportunity to visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie where we toured their exhibit, “I’ll Have What She’s Having: The Jewish Deli.” Afterwards, it seemed like a good idea to “come full circle” by having lunch at a Jewish deli. And that’s exactly what nearly 20 Circle members did on Wednesday, October 9!

Conversations were buzzing while we enjoyed delicious soups, sandwiches, salads and more at Mensch’s Deli on Chicago Avenue in Evanston. After lunch on that beautiful October day, a number of us walked merely a block away to the new location on Chicago Avenue for Ten Thousand Villages. There, we browsed fair-traded gifts, including

jewelry and scarves, crafts and housewares from Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. All in all, it was a delightful afternoon for Circle members to be together.



POTLUCK DINNER ON A MIDSUMMER EVENING

– by Diane Unger

It was no surprise that Circle members eagerly accepted the invitation to meet at the home of Jane Dowding on the evening of August 13 for Circle’s summer potluck dinner. Once again it was an opportunity for sharing food and camaraderie in the best Circle tradition. Many thanks to Jane for providing the venue and to all those who helped make the evening special.



Claudia Krizek and Jan Smith are all smiles at the summer potluck dinner.



Margaret Schatz (second from right) welcomes new member Elizabeth Nelson (second from left) and guests Joy Tolbert Nelson (far left) and Eileen Halperin (far right).



Left to right, Jane Dowding, Kay Hamel and Joy Joyce spend time together at the potluck.



Elisabeth Malthouse and Jeanne Fitzpatrick share a laugh at the Circle get-together.

PIECEMAKERS KEEP BUSY ALL YEAR ROUND

– by Carol Nielsen

The Piecemakers Quilting Group has been busy all year working on quilts for a couple of groups and meeting new members and showing them the process for making and donating quilts.

We are so pleased to welcome Marilyn Hall, Loretta Thompson-Cole, Laura Nieder and Peggy Pearson to Piecemakers and welcome back Tiffany Tuck. Quilting is a great way to meet people, make some lovely things, and share our love of quilts with the various groups that we have supported over the years.

This year's quilts will go to children at Lydia Home in Chicago and the Lydia Home at the Rice Center in Evanston. Both facilities house children who are neglected, abandoned, or orphaned. The children receive in-house treatment, stable housing, schooling and healthcare, until they are adopted or fostered in new families.

Currently there are over 80 children living in the two residential locations. There is a constant need for additional quilts, and we have donated quilts to these organizations in the past. When the children arrive, they pick a quilt from

Piecemakers invites you to a
QUILT SHOW
Sunday, December 8 from 2 to 5 pm
Three Crowns Park
2323 McDaniel Avenue, Evanston
Please join us as we showcase three dozen quilts Piecemakers made this year.

the “stash” and it is theirs to keep and take away with them when they move on. The children served at both locations are between the ages of 7 and 17.

A Piecemakers quilt will also be given to each of the five families Circle is sponsoring

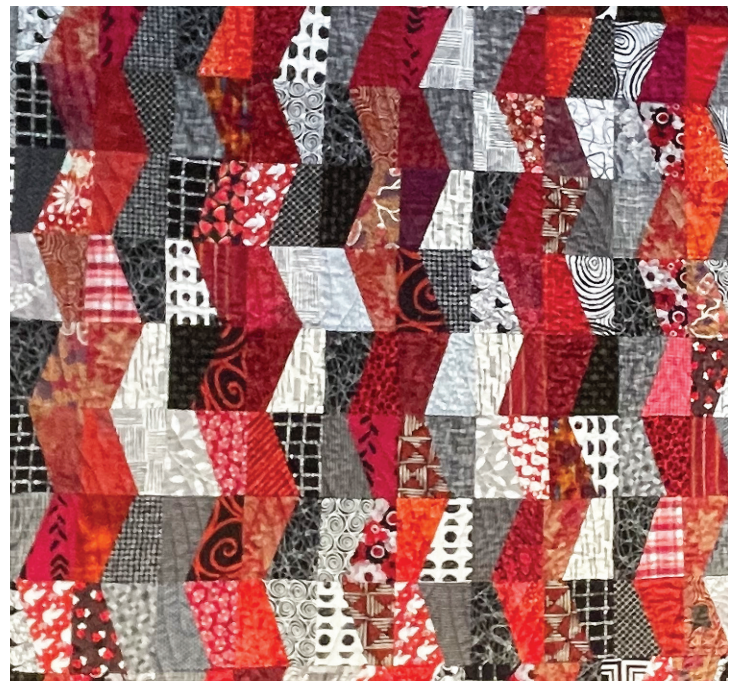
in the NU Settlement Adopt-a-Family Holiday Program. These quilts will be on display at the Circle holiday party at Curt's Cafe on December 4.

Over the summer we had two lovely afternoons in Carol Nielsen's backyard—tying and binding quilts. We have a new meeting “home” at Three Crowns Park retirement community in Evanston, thanks to member Bert Mount. We meet in the game room and work at tables that are all set up and easy for us to move around. This has been a real gift as it is hard to find houses with enough space for ten women to work.

If you attended the “Fine Art of Fiber” exhibition at the Chicago Botanic Garden earlier this month, you were able to see up close the fine work of Iva Freeman, Margaret Schatz and Melanie Anderson, whose quilts were on display. They are three of the many talented members of Piecemakers.



Maureen Hanrahan (left), Carol Nielsen (right) and others show that many hands make light work when tying quilts.



Detail of Iva Freeman's quilt on exhibit at Chicago Botanic Garden.



One of 36 quilts that Piecemakers will donate to children and families.



Maureen Hanrahan (left) and Carol Booth (right) work on one of many Piecemakers' quilts.



Margaret Schatz hand stitched her quilt on display at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

Remembering Our Circle Friends

NU Circle was saddened to learn of the passing of these Circle friends. We extend condolences to their families and friends

Julie Roth passed away on July 3, 2024. Julie and her husband Bob Hastings were members of NU Circle and attended Circle events before Bob's passing in 2021. tinyurl.com/yvymxnrr

Bob Smith, husband of Circle member Jan Smith, passed away on September 17, 2024. Both Jan and Bob frequently attended many Circle programs for the last several years. Bob was a proud and very loyal NU alum. He played in the Marching Band while in college, and was a member of the NUMBALUMS for many years thereafter. tinyurl.com/3suznfx3

Ed Wilson passed away on September 18, 2024. Ed was known to Circle members through his wife, the late Jean Wilson, who was a long-time Circle member and who passed away in 2023. Ed was affiliated with Kellogg School of Management for more than 35 years, serving as director of admissions, dean of students and director of the executive master's degree program. tinyurl.com/2rwr5jzx



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Courier November 2024

LOOKING AHEAD – CIRCLE EVENTS

Mark your calendar and watch your inbox for more information about these Circle events.

HOLIDAY PARTY to Support Settlement Families

Wednesday, December 4, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Curt's Cafe

2922 Central Street, Evanston

PIECEMAKERS QUILT SHOW

Sunday, December 8, 2 to 5 pm

Three Crowns Park

2323 McDaniel Avenue, Evanston

DOLPHIN SHOW

"Cinderella"

Saturday, February 1, 7:30 pm

Cahn Auditorium

preceded by dinner at Tapas Barcelona

UNIVERSITY GUILD PROGRAM

"Archiving the Black Student Experience at Northwestern University"

with Charla Wilson, Curator for the Black Experience,
Northwestern University Libraries

Monday, February 3, 1:30 pm

Scott Hall, Guild Lounge

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

A hearty welcome to the newest members of University Circle: **Marilyn Hall, Elizabeth Nelson, Peggy Pearson** and **Loretta Thompson-Cole**.

We're happy to have you join us!

You're invited to **CIRCLE'S HOLIDAY PARTY**
Wednesday, December 4. See page 3 for all the details.

