

THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

March 12, 2009

YEARNING TO CREATE

"So many of us see creativity as some kind of magic spell, rare form of genius, or external energy we should be able to tap into if only we escaped the mundane demands of life, had the right space, enough money, lived in the city, the country, out of the country...But creativity is so full of anxieties and failures, boredom and drudgery. When we resist these experiences because they are painful or frightening, we deny ourselves a rich aspect of life. We also may not realize how creative we are already – because we expect creativity to look and feel a certain way."

-- Rabbi Irwin Kula, YEARNING: EMBRACING THE SACRED MESSINESS OF LIFE

Dear Cross Creeker:

Thank God for those among us who are willing to help create worlds of justice and equality for all!

As I write this, [Dan and Nancy Tepfer](#) are on their way to Washington D.C. to join veterans, activists and advocates from around the country on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol on Friday, March 13th. They are gathering to urge lawmakers to repeal the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" ban on lesbian and gay service members and to pass the [Military Readiness Enhancement Act](#).



Hundreds of people are expected to descend on Washington and urge Congress, and the White House, to follow through on pledges to topple the military's ban, which results in the dismissal of *two more service members every day*.

And note this: Among the speakers at the March 13th gathering will be our own Dan Tepfer, a retired Air Force Colonel . . . a PFLAG National Board Member . . . and a leader in PFLAG's stellar Dayton, Ohio chapter. Also speaking is [Margarethe \(Grethe\) Cammermeyer](#), who wrote the book *Serving in Silence (1994)*, which became a movie starring Glenn Close in 1995.

Dan, who previously called for repeal in [The Dayton Daily News](#), has been invited to share his thoughts about being a veteran, a father and a champion for repeal.

Dan served in the U.S. Air Force from 1965 to 1989. He was commissioned a second lieutenant through the AFROTC program after graduating with a BA in English from Butler University in Indianapolis. At retirement, he held the rank of Colonel. While on active duty he was stationed at: Duluth International Airport MN, Clark AB, Republic of the Philippines; Malmstrom AFB, MT; Vandenberg AFB, CA, Maxwell AFB, AL; Defense Contract Administration Services office Pittsburgh, PA; Wright-Patterson AFB, OH; and Hanscom AFB, MA. He served as an administrative officer, an Armed Forces courier, a Minuteman combat crew commander and instructor.

The last 11 years of his career were in procurement. He worked in contract administration in downtown Pittsburgh, was a buyer in the KC-10 program office, was deputy director of contracts in the F-16 weapon system program and was director of contracts in the Joint STARS program. Col. Tepfer earned an MBA from the University of Montana in 1973 through the Minuteman Education Program. He is a graduate of the USAF Armed Forces Staff College (AFSC), and completed USAF Squadron Officers' School (SOS) and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF). He is the recipient of numerous military awards, including USAF Legion of Merit, USAF Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal and the AF Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster.

In other words, Colonel Tepfer knows a thing or two about the armed services.

His work in Washington will be to once again reiterate to lawmakers what he told readers of the [Daily News](#): "It's time to repeal 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,' an immoral policy that prohibits patriotic and qualified gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens from serving openly in the military."

On March 13th, why don't we call our Senators and our Representative in the House and add our voices of support for the [Military Readiness Enhancement Act](#). Let our voices of support and advocacy be our prayers and our own small creative touch to Dan's faithful action and witness.

Thank God for those among us who are willing to help create worlds of justice and equality for all!

I'll be looking for you this weekend as we gather to worship on the Third Sunday in Lent!

Peace, Pastor Mike

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IN WORSHIP *THIS WEEKEND*

This weekend we will continue our Lenten series [YEARNINGS: EMBRACING THE SACRED MESSINESS OF LIFE](#). I will be offering the "PROMPTING" entitled "[Crafting Unfinished Stories.](#)" We'll be reading from the Psalm 19 and the Gospel According to John 2:13-22. If you are following along with Rabbi Irwin Kula's book [YEARNINGS: EMBRACING THE SACRED MESSINESS OF LIFE](#) we'll be considering the section [YEARNING TO CREATE](#). The [Cross Creek Choir](#) will be singing. And kids, both young and old, we'll also have a special appearance by [Miley Cyrus](#) (a.k.a. Hannah Montana)!

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FRIDAY NIGHT LENTEN MEAL & MOVIE SERIES

This is a great opportunity for fellowship and deepening relationships among Cross Creek people. It is also another means to enter in the spiritual discipline of Lent through film. Each movie has been selected to correspond with the theme of worship for that weekend.

Friday, March 13: [PATCH ADAMS](#)

(It's too late to RSVP for the meal but come and join us for the movie!)

Friday, March 20: [TRANS AMERICA](#) (Meal: Manicotti meal with vegetables, salad, bread and dessert)

Friday, March 27: [LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL](#) (Meal: Spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread, and dessert)

Friday, April 3: [PAY IT FORWARD](#) (Meal: Sloppy Joes, Potato Salad, Veggie Tray and Dessert)



HOLY WEEK

April 4-5, 2009 – Sixth Sunday of Lent – [PALM SUNDAY](#)

YEARNINGS: Yearning for Transcendence

**Communion served at all weekend services.*

April 9, 2009 – [MAUNDY THURSDAY](#) at 7:00 p.m.

Communion and Footwashing ending with the beginning of a Tenebrae Service or "Service of Darkness":
An medieval tradition of readings and extinguishing candles.

Childcare available for children age 5 and younger.

April 10, 2009 – [GOOD FRIDAY](#) at 7:00 p.m.

Completion of the Tenebrae Service and worship in the Style of Taize.

Childcare available for children age 5 and younger.

April 11-12, 2009 [EASTER CELEBRATIONS](#)

**Communion served at all weekend services.*

[Questions about Cross Creek Church? Come to the Exploring Membership Class!](#)

Those interested in investigating covenant membership at Cross Creek Community Church, as well as those interested in learning more about church's statement of faith, its vision, mission and distinctive values, its decision making processes and its varied ministries, as well as its affiliation with the United Church of Christ and the Alliance of Baptists are invited to attend the Exploring Covenant Membership Class scheduled for Saturday March 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. You can sign up in the church hallway or contact Pastor Mike Castle to register at pastor@crosscreekchurch.org. Childcare is available upon request with advance notice.