

Wednesday digest

March 7, 2012

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New today from the *Century*:

- Kay Lynn Northcutt on [illness and solitude](#): "Chronic illness is like *Walden*: life is pared down to essentials. But unlike Thoreau, I can't walk away." (subscription required)
- Bob Cornwall [reviews Tom Long](#)
- Steve Taylor on [churches that meet monthly](#) instead of weekly
- Steve Thorngate on the new [gender-byline-gap numbers](#)

In the news:

- [Don't lose sight of Middle East peace, U.S. religious leaders say](#)
- [Jews worry about Purim's endorsement of alcohol](#)
- [White House insists contraception talks are on track](#)