

# Broadcaster

GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

JANUARY 19, 2011

## Pilgrims Progress

Through forty-seven years of ministry one of the common refrains I have heard is the disconnect between the conduct of the church and the church's stated beliefs. I wonder if the major cause for this disconnect is the church's obsession with orthodoxy—getting all rules right and keeping them—over practice—showing grace and loving kindness to people regardless of their beliefs. As I contemplated and then entered ministry as a vocation, I thought that theological principles were clear, that Christianity had the truth, and that spiritual, moral, and ethical decisions were black and white, and there were no gray areas.

The term "fundamentalism" was not in vogue in daily comments and conversations about religion but the attitude was prevalent in my native religious culture. There was encouragement and support for being unwavering in one's faith stance. I received conflicting messages from members of my faith community urging me to "let nothing keep you from getting a good education" and "don't let those professors destroy your faith."

Slowly I began to realize that rigidity was being equated with faithfulness. I began discovering that fundamentalism was a mindset and there were adherents in nearly every faith tradition and in many denominations and subdivisions within those faith traditions.

As I began seriously exploring what the ultimate results would be if some of what I believed were true, I found I had to revisit, reexamine, and rethink the beliefs I was holding. I discovered other moral and spiritual codes that were as beneficial as my own and some even seemed superior. Jewish leaders did not conclude that I had no standing with God if I did not understand God as they understood God. Mahatma Gandhi practiced non-violent civil disobedience better than any Christian ever had until perhaps Martin Luther King, Jr. and Gandhi was a faithful Hindu.

It did seem that those with the most rigid views were the unhappiest people. It was as if people were clinging to rigid views in an effort to maintain control of their lives. What was a common pattern of development for many individuals also was a common pattern for institutions. Orthodoxy is the church's insistence that all must experience God as it has. Creeds may have been a necessary part of the church's development but they hindered the church's ability to evolve spiritually. The result was as Philip Gulley says, "In its rush to codify faith, the church provided answers long before we knew what questions to ask. When we dared to ask questions, we were directed to the creeds and commanded not to stray from their boundaries." (If the Church Were Christian, chapter 4).

Results from this approach are: honest seeking is discouraged, any conclusion that contradicts church assumptions is branded as heretical, people are kept spiritually underdeveloped, and grace is neither experienced nor offered. This is contrary to what we see in Jesus' approach with people—i.e. Zacchaeus and a woman accused of adultery—or his signature story of the Samaritan. The church can be unbelievably intolerant and take years to act graciously. At times the church has furthered evil—defending slavery, denying women equality, labeling homosexuals as abominations, defining AIDS as punishment from God, and promoting war as an expression of God's will.

A great irony of the church is that a significant number of its members care more about believing certain things about Jesus than following his example of love and service. "If the church were Christian, mirroring the compassion of Jesus would be more important than echoing the orthodoxy that has built up around him." (Philip Gulley, If the Church Were Christian, chapter 4).

Howard

## SUNDAY SERVICES

JANUARY 23, 2011

### INTERFAITH SERVICE

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir, Voices of GCC

#### Scripture:

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Romans 12:1-8

#### Sermon:

"An Interfaith Journey"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

JANUARY 30, 2011

9:30 a.m. Men's Pilgrims Chorus  
and Liturgical Dance

#### Scripture:

Psalms 148, Luke 15:1-10

#### Sermon:

"Jesus Had Friends in Low Places"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

Confirmants will join us in worship

FEBRUARY 6, 2011

### COMMUNION

9:30 a.m. Women's Chorus

#### Scripture:

Psalms 112:1-10; Matthew 5:13-16

#### Sermon:

"Who Are We? What Are We To Do?"

Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

# Donating Blood...



## AN IMPORTANT REMINDER!

GCC and LifeSource will be holding its annual blood drive on **Sunday, January 23, 2011 in the Plymouth Room from 7:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.**

If you are at least 17 years of age and weigh a minimum of 110 lbs., we are asking you to help others by making this important blood donation. If you would like to assist with the blood drive or have any questions, please contact Sally Hicks at (847)729-3162.

# SAVES LIVES!

## Did You Know?

- \* 60% of the population is medically eligible to give blood, yet only 5% of the national population donates blood.
- \* If all blood donors gave 2 to 4 times a year, it would help prevent blood shortages.
- \* 4.5 million Americans would die each year without life saving blood transfusions
- \* Every three seconds someone needs blood.
- \* About three gallons of blood supports the entire nation's blood needs for one minute.

## Hands of Peace

Hands of Peace will be featured for the Adult Education class on January 23 at 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel following the Interfaith service. This is an opportunity to learn more about the program and meet teens and host families who participated last summer. Please plan on attending this class to hear current and future developments for Hands of Peace.

## SAVE THE DATE

### MEN'S ROUNDTABLE

**Tuesday, February 15**

**7:00 p.m., Founders Room**

Men's Ministry is hosting a winter roundtable discussion, Spiritual Strength: How do you get it? How do you nurture it? How can you pass it on? Insights into how Jesus, Brother Lawrence, Brother Charles de Foucauld, Thomas Merton, and Henri Nouwen lived these questions will be provided, but contemporary interpretation will depend on the shared experiences of those participating in the discussion. Please plan to attend and join in the discussion.

If you have questions or wish to attend, please contact John Miller by phone (847) 687-6953 or by e-mail, [john.miller@scottforesman.com](mailto:john.miller@scottforesman.com) or Dave Aki by phone (847)657-0139 or [dave254@comcast.net](mailto:dave254@comcast.net).

## Confirmation

**January 30**

We will attend worship as a class and dialogue with Dr. Roberts after the service. Remember to turn in your service project reports and worship reports. Extra sheets are available on the youth bulletin board.

## Glenview Community Church Church Nursery School

It's that time of year again! Preschool registration is here and we invite you to check out Glenview Community Church Nursery School. GCC member and Director Marcia Kiraly invites you and your children ages 2-5 to visit the school and see a class in action. The preschool will hold an Open House January 19 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 and 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. The registration deadline is January 26. We are NAEYC accredited and offer a number of enrichment classes in arts, music and early literacy, math and science concepts as well as a story time lunch bunch and Parent's Day Out program. Feel free to visit us at [www.gccns.com](http://www.gccns.com) for more information. We look forward to seeing you soon!

## Sunday School

Dear Parents,

From the scripture reading focused on in our January 9 Sunday school class, your child learned that the Great Commandment tells us to love our neighbor. What does this mean? Does this include people who are not like us, those of another race or religion, or those who look down on us and we on them? Because people were confused by this directive, Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan. The hero of the story is a member of a people despised and hated by Jesus' nation. Please help your child understand the lesson taught in this parable. Please help him/her carry out the sometimes difficult task of being a true neighbor. You may want to read to your child and discuss the story of the Good Samaritan in your Bible. (Luke 10:30-37).

## PYF

### PILGRIM YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

**January 21-22**

Ski - Trip: Kalahari & Cascade Winter Trip/ Retreat

**January 30, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Mission Project

Night Ministry Cookies

## New Winter Youth Shelter Now Open!

The Night Ministry, in partnership with Lakeview Lutheran Church and First Slice, has opened a new, nighttime-only, winter shelter program for youth ages 18-24.

Homeless and formerly homeless youth working with The Night Ministry named the shelter program "The Crib," which calls up an image of safety and comfort. The shelter will provide youth with a warm, safe bed out of the Chicago cold, as well as referrals to other services, and is open between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m., seven nights a week.

The dire lack of shelter beds for youth in Chicago means that these 15 beds are a welcome and much-needed addition to our community. As always, we will continue our commitment to serving those in need with complete acceptance, no matter who they are. A big thank you and congratulations to all of the staff who have been working hard to get this shelter program up and running!

There will be an article with more information about The Crib in The Night Ministry's print newsletter next month. If you do not receive our print newsletter, NIGHTLIGHTS, e-mail Megan Groves at [megang@thenightministry.org](mailto:megang@thenightministry.org) with your name and address and ask to be added to our mailing list.

There are a number of items needed for the new shelter, including new packages of underwear in various sizes, single dose packs of pain relievers and antacids, small sizes of toiletries of all kinds, even a large TV (flat-screen so it won't take up much space). For more information about these and other items needed, please e-mail Megan Groves at [megang@thenightministry.org](mailto:megang@thenightministry.org). On behalf of those we serve, thank you for your support!

*Nightbytes January 2011*

## In Sympathy

We offer our prayers to the family of Isabel Erickson Wood who died on January 6 and to the family of Catherine (Kitty) Creyke who died January 10. Isabel and Kitty are former members of GCC. We offer our prayers to the family of Virginia Sullivan who died on January 6. A service was held on January 11 in the church Sanctuary.

Our prayers and sympathy for the family of Ron Aines, who died on January 12 in Northbrook. Son, Marshall Aines, a former Singing Stones of GCC.



The Night Ministry provides shelters for teenagers.

## It's Time To Start Baking Cookies

We are about to celebrate our 12th year of baking or bringing cookies for the Night Ministry!!! The date for this special event is January 30th. Please bring your cookies to the kitchen by Sunday, Jan. 30th. Plainly mark them for the Night Ministry. For those ladies attending the Retreat, bring the cookies on Friday.

The Night Ministry is a very worthy agency that GCC helps to support. In addition to providing shelters for teenagers, they run a bus that serves homeless and street people 6 nights a week. There visitors come in for warmth, counseling, HIV testing, to visit with a nurse and are always given a hot beverage. As they leave the bus, they are given a package

of 3 cookies, kind of a symbol that somebody cares about them. On average they give away about 1,200 cookies a week!

Our cookie gifts mean a great deal to the folks who receive them. Our church members bake the cookies and the PYF and 678 Club put them into packages of 3 and deliver them. Thus, this is an all church hands-on project.

You can never bake for a more worthy cause. **Home-made cookies are always greatly appreciated**, but if you buy cookies, OREOS are preferred.

Questions: Call Dori at (847)724-4453 or Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler at church, (847)724-2210.

## Mission Moment

### A JUST HARVEST

GCC member Pam Riedy was our mission moment speaker this past Sunday. Pam represented A Just Harvest (formerly Good News Community Kitchen). A Just Harvest began as a ministry of the Good News Community Church (UCC) in 1983. Today, A Just Harvest is the largest and only self-standing community soup kitchen in the Chicago metro area serving hot, nutritious meals 365 days per year to anyone in need. The board of directors decided that the organization needs to go beyond feeding people to address the causes of hunger and poverty and, as a result, Northside P.O.W.E.R.\* was created in 2004. For more information about Northside P.O.W.E.R. or A Just Harvest, please visit their web site at <http://www.ajustharvest.org/organizing-for-justice/>.

Thank you from your friends on the Missions Outreach Board.

\* Northside P.O.W.E.R. (People Organized to Work, Educate and Restore) is an institution-based people's power organization whose members are located in the North Side of the City of Chicago and North Shore Communities. Northside P.O.W.E.R. works on issues that address the causes of hunger and poverty. Currently the organization is working in the areas of housing and food justice.

## GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

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### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

8:30 am - 4:30 p.m.

### MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts, *Senior Minister*

Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler, *Minister for Spiritual Formation*

### DIRECTORS:

Marilyn Belleau, *RN, Health Ministry*

Kathy Lifton, *Children's Ministry*

Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini, *Youth Ministry*

Debby Shellard, *Children's Choirs*

Gary Wendt, *Organist, Instrumental Music*

Andrew Lewis, *Adult Choir*

### AFFILIATES:

Marcia Kiraly, *Director, GCC Nursery School*

Barbara Thewis, *Manager, Resale Shop*

Nonprofit Organization

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## Return Service Requested

### At A Glance

THRS	1/20	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 5:00 pm, Plymouth Rm	MON	1/24	9:30 am	Finding My Spirit, Library
		12:30 pm	Musical Revue, Choir Rm and Mayflower Rm	TUE	1/25	11:30 am	WA Chapter 8, Founders Rm
		1:00 pm	Ministers Mentor Mtg., Rm 5			4:30 pm	Hebrew School, Various Rms
		7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary			7:00 pm	Executive Board Mtg., Mayflower Rm
FRI	1/21	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm	WED	1/26	7:00 pm	BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Gym, Mayflower Rm
		7:00 pm	NSY&R Volleyball, Gym			8:00 pm	Venture Crew, Rm 210 and Gym
		8:00 pm	AA Mtg., Parlor				
		8:00 pm	AI-Anon Mtg., Rm 201				
SAT	1/22	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm				
		9:00 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym				
SUN	1/23	7:30 am	Blood Drive, Plymouth Rm				
		8:45 am	Voices of GCC Rehearsal, Rm 201				
		9:30 am	Worship Service, Sanctuary				
		9:30 am	Confirmation 7th Grade, Founders Rm				
		9:30 am	Confirmation 8th Grade, Parlor, Library, Rm 5				
		9:30 am	Sunday School, Various Rms - start in rm 201				
		10:20 am	Confirmation Closing Prayers, Youth Rm				
		10:30 am	Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm				
		10:45 am	Adult Education, Chapel				
		10:45 am	Bell Rehearsal, Bell Rm				
		10:45 am	Leadership Mtg., Founders Rm				
		1:00 pm	Liturgical Dance Rehearsal, Sanctuary				

### Broadcaster Deadlines:

Submit articles by 9:00 a.m., Wednesday to Tania McCarthy via e-mail at [tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org](mailto:tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org).