

A Pilgrim's Progress

We are now well into a new year. This is an appropriate time to call attention to some new people and new things at the church.

We have a new staff member. Perhaps you have met him or talked with him on the phone. Dale Wittenberg is our new Church Business Administrator. Dale was able to begin working in December and thanks to the graciousness of Char Lillquist he has been able to work with Char during the close of one fiscal year and the beginning of another. We are greatly indebted to Char for her generous assistance during this transition. We also are indebted to Dale for the way he began at full speed from the first day on the job. Take the opportunity to meet Dale, introduce yourself, and welcome him to GCC.

The new face at the reception desk on Tuesday evenings is Owen Newberry. Owen has completed his college degree and is job searching. While he is doing that, he has graciously volunteered to assist at the desk. When you come to the church on Tuesday evenings, introduce yourself to Owen and thank him for assisting us in this very helpful way.

Also assisting at the desk is Larry Kemp. Larry is volunteering his time to help us on Sunday mornings. Thank you Larry.

During the Advent/Christmas season you may have noticed new crèche figures. These figures were purchased with gifts given in memory of William Laystrom. Marilyn Laystrom commented that Bill would have been thrilled with the new crèche figures.

During worship on Sunday, January 18 we dedicated a Prayer Shawl Ministry. Several women from the Women's Association are involved in this new ministry.

You may also have noticed some new signs communicating the time of the worship services. Thank you to the Women's Association for providing interchangeable signs to indicate the time of the worship service for the upcoming Sunday. These signs are easily attached to the sign on the south west corner of the lawn.

I hope you have noticed the baseboards are completed in the lower level following

our last flooding. Also new carpet has been installed in rooms 5 and 7.

Periodically, several instrumentalists who are members of our congregation play for worship services. As of this month, they will be rehearsing the first Monday evening of each month and will be known as The Pilgrim Wind Ensemble under the direction of Gary Wendt. On occasion they will be playing for worship services and accompanying the choir on anthems. Gary has additional information about this group on another page.

New small groups are forming now for the winter session. These vary from Bible study to stress strategies to your role in building up the church. Check out the offerings. You can sign up in the Mayflower Room on Sunday or call the office and Kathie Mann will assist you in registering.

Although we invite everyone attending worship to sign the Friendship Book, not everyone does. However, many visitors do sign the book and give us contact information. We had 13 visitors on December 21, 93 visitors on Christmas Eve, 13 visitors on December 28, 4 visitors on January 4 and 6 visitors on January 11. Many of these visitors are looking for a faith community. By being welcoming and inviting, each of us can help many guests to experience the truth of our invitation that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

These are a few of the new people and new things that you may notice during this new year at GCC. May this newness invigorate us to new growth throughout the year.

Howard

Two SERVICES

After considering the varied views of various members of the Congregation, the Executive Board has voted to continue the practice of offering two Worship Services on most Sundays. Those who took part in the discussions are appreciated.

Tom Amos, Moderator

Sunday Services

January 25, 2009 "PATHS TOWARD PEACE" Interfaith Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Interfaith Sunday will be offered on Sunday, January 25 at 9:30 a.m. and will be followed by a number of Seminars. This family service will be of interest to children and young adults and one of the Seminars will be specially designed for families. The theme will be "Paths toward Peace" and will include participants from the Jewish, Muslim, Bahai, and Buddhist faiths.

All are welcome, and be sure to invite your neighbors and friends.

February 1, 2009

8:30 a.m.	Vocal Solo/Ensemble
10:30 a.m.	PYF Singers

Scripture:

Psalm 62: 5-12; Mark 1:14-20

Sermon:

"No Way To Run A Revolution" *Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts*

February 8, 2009

8:30 a.m.	Bell Choir
10:30 a.m.	Chancel Choir

Scripture:

Psalm 147: 1-11; Isaiah 40:21-31

Sermon:

"Source of Strength" *Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler*

New Member ORIENTATION FEBRUARY 8TH

Glenview Community Church will hold an orientation meeting for those considering membership at GCC on Sunday, February 8 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm, followed by dinner together at Pasta Luigi. Anyone interested in membership at GCC should contact Linda Binaei, Director of Member Engagement at linda.binaei@ gccucc.org or 847 724-2210 x 29 immediately. New members will be received during the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, February 15.

WANTED: GCC Members to Mentor Families

The Membership and Fellowship Boards at GCC are introducing a Mentor Program for new members. The purpose of the Mentor Program is to support new church members by inviting, encouraging and informing them of all that GCC has to offer. With your help we can successfully connect new members to church activities, group outings, or even better a seat next to you during a Sunday service. If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact Director of Member Engagement, Linda Binaei, 847-724-2210 for more information.

2009 Budget PROPOSAL

An Important Meeting on Finances will be held on February 1 after the second Worship service. Your Finance board will present their proposal for the 2009 Budget.

This is the time for those interested to hear details and a time to have questions answered. The Budget proposal will be voted on at the Mid-Winter Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 8 between services.

From THE OFFICE

If you haven't yet picked up your 2009 offering envelopes, please stop in the office at your earliest convenience and pick them up. If you pre-ordered envelopes your box will have your name on it. If you did not pre-order, extra boxes of envelopes are available. Due to high postage costs offering envelopes will not be mailed.

Thanks and Happy New Year!

An Evening at **PASTA LUIGI** Coming soon on February 8th.

Come out of the cold and into the warm fellowship of a night at Pasta Luigi. Come for the spaghetti dinner, the singing waiters and waitresses, and come with your family and friends. Tickets are available during the coffee fellowship hours and in the office. Come and get 'em while they're hot (and cheaper than at the door!)

Prayer Shawl MINISTRY

The Women's Association has begun a Prayer Shawl Ministry and members and friends of GCC are invited to participate. During worship on January 18 we dedicated this special ministry and offered a blessing for those who knit or crochet the prayer shawl, as well as the recipients. As the shawls are finished, the pastoral team of the Ministers and Parish Nurse will distribute the shawls to designated people where comfort and prayers might be extended. If you would like to be part of this ongoing work please contact Barbara Schwarting at 847-258-5466.

Lenten **DEVOTIONS**

Calling all writers – and non-writers—to submit reflections and poems for our 2009 Lenten Devotional Book. This book is a compilation of writings from church members and others which are then used as daily readings during Lent. Our theme for this year is: "Obstacles on the Journey – Things That Get in Your Way." You are invited to write about your personal experiences and struggles on your spiritual journey and what seems to get in your way as you're trying to grow, etc. If you need some more help or want to talk, call Rev. Pam Keckler. You may email your work or put in Pam's box in the office. Deadline is February 2.

Altar Flowers FOR 2009

There are still dates open for altar flowers for 2009. If you would like to purchase flowers, the cost is \$50.00 and forms are available in the Narthex and Church Office.

Women's **RETREAT**

Thirty women met last weekend in Deerfield for their annual winter retreat and had a wonderful time together. We made our way through the snowy roads and settled into our sacred space for reflection on our spiritual journey: our past, present and future. UCC Minister and Life Coach Marsha Thomas was our retreat leader and helped us in looking at our passions and values as women. Marilyn Belleau, Parish Nurse, and Rev. Pam Keckler led our Sunday worship and communion.

Adult Education SUNDAYS 9:30 AM IN THE CHAPEL January

25 No Adult Education (Interfaith Sunday)

February

- 1 Nick Bubnovich –the Tale of the Grand Inquisitor from Brothers Karamazov
- 8 No Adult Education—all congregation meeting at 9:30
- 15 Debbie Burdick book review
- **22** Allan Ruter; Hamlet, Huck Finn and the Apostle Paul

GCC Nursery School **REGISTRATION**

The 2009-2010 school year registration is underway. The dates are:

JANUARY 21, 2009

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - OPEN HOUSE!

FEBRUARY 4, 2009

9:00 a.m. - Open Lottery Deadline

Please check out our website at www. gccns.com or contact Marcia Kiraly for information and to schedule a tour of the school!

A NEW CLASS OFFERED

Sign, Say, & Play[®] Classes: A series of six classes designed to enable small groups of parents and their babies (6-24 months) learn signs in a relaxed, supportive, and entertaining atmosphere while at the same time being introduced to important concepts from the lead child development researchers in the field, Drs. Acredolo and Goodwyn. Participants enrolled will receive the Sign, Say & Play[®] Starter Kit. January 20 and 27, February 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m.

To register in Sign, Say & Play[®] class please contact: Jamie Stevens - 847-767-6210 -or- jbstevens@mail.com. You can also pick-up registration information at GCCNS or visit www.gccns.com

Women's ASSOCIATION

The membership committee of the Women's Association is going to start a new chapter or two! Noting that there is a need for another group of young moms, the co-chairs will be contacting new GCC members from the past year to assess their interest. Other groups could also be formed around special interests.

Chapters are a great way to be a part of a small group within the larger church. Chapters usually meet monthly to study, work together on outreach projects and to have fun. The meeting time and place will be selected by the group. Several experienced chapter members will help get the new group started.

Chapter membership is not restricted to recent new members; any woman interested in knowing more about the Women's Association and its 10 existing chapters, as well as the possible new chapter, can call CJ Sultz, 724-657-7079. A February start-up meeting is being planned.

Chapter 20

Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 21 at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for a wonderful presentation about an exciting hiking trip in Bhutan, in the Himalayan Mountains. Presented by Ann Deakyne, Rosalie Amos and Mary Ann Peruchini. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Guests are welcome.

A short meeting for Chapter 20 members begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

Small Group Ministries

Do yourself a favor and register for a small group. We have some great topics and excellent facilitators. Howard Roberts will offer several small group Bible studies including a Lenten series. Pam Keckler and Marilyn Belleau will offer a small group to discuss women in the Bible. Pam and Elizabeth Ciccolini are offering a small group for 8th, 9th, and 10th graders and/or their parents, talking about how we handle stress. Elizabeth will offer a small group for high school juniors and seniors to talk about what comes after high school. Sally Iberg will lead a discussion of Robert Schnase's book, "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations." You may register at Fellowship Hour following worship. You may also register by stopping by or calling the office at 847 724-2210 or going to our website: www.gccucc.org.

Tenth Annual COOKIE BAKE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

It is hard to believe that we started this very worthy all church project 10 years ago for the Night Ministry.

The Night Ministry, in addition to their shelters for youth, also run a bus serving homeless and people living on the street six nights a week. Visitors to the bus come for counseling, HIV testing, visiting with a nurse, and always for a hot beverage. As they leave the bus, they are given a package of three cookies. The cookies mean somebody cares for you. On average they give away about 900 cookies a week! Our cookie gifts mean a great deal to the people who visit the bus. Our church members bake the cookies, and the PYF and 678 club Youth groups put them into packages of three. You can never bake for a more worthy cause. Home made cookies are always greatly appreciated, but if you buy them, Oreos are preferred.

Please bring your cookies to the kitchen by Sunday, February 8, plainly marked for the Night Ministry. They will be packaged on Sunday and delivered later that week. If you have questions, please call Dori at 847-724-4453 or Elizabeth Ciccolini at church 847-724-2210, ext., 33.

Introducing... The Pilgrim Wind Ensemble

An exciting new group has taken shape at GCC over the past month. We are blessed with so many talented musicians in our congregation that we decided to make it official – our woodwind players are "incorporating." The members of the Pilgrim Wind Ensemble will be meeting once per month with Gary Wendt to rehearse and plan to lead our musical worship experience more often in the future. Thank you to these members who are giving their time and talents to make our worship services a deeper experience for all!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Regular Sunday school classes will not be in session on Sunday, January 25 so that all may enjoy the Interfaith Worship service at 9:30 a.m.

Confirmands

The 7th and 8th grade Confirmands recently held bake sales to earn money for Toys for Tots and other worthy causes. The 8th graders are gearing up for their Church Survivor Night in February, which includes a church scavenger hunt, as well as preparing for a field trip to a local funeral home in March. Meanwhile, they are completing their three service projects and eight worship reflection sheets. Confirmation Sunday is April 26.

678 Club and PYF

They recently completed 34 new mother kits which were donated to the Night Ministry. Each bag included a bottle, diapers, soap, lotion, wipes and baby clothes. Thanks to all who helped with donations.

A "Souper" Day on FEBRUARY 1st

SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the 10:30 Sunday School hour on Super Bowl Sunday, the Children's Board and our GCC children (age 4 to 6th grade) will be assembling "Souper" jars. These jars, containing all of the ingredients for Cheese Soup, will then be distributed to customers of the Northfield Food Pantry. To make it even more "Souper", we invite the congregation to visit us in the Plymouth Room after church (adjacent to coffee hour) and sample our special recipe!

PILGRIM YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

PYF will meet in the morning on February 1. There will be Open House in the Youth Room, Brunch, and a Mission Project from 9 a.m. to noon. We'll also support our PYF Singers who will sing at the 10:30 a.m. service. We plan to once again participate in the annual Souper Bowl of Caring Fundraiser for the hungry. This is a nation-wide program. Listen for the banging pots and pans as people leave after worship and we collect money for the hungry.

Thanks for your support.

PYF

PYF will not meet Sunday, January 25, as they are on their winter retreat in Wisconsin, having winter fun skiing, tubing, and enjoying the water park nearby.

Remember PYF-Subscribe@ gccucc.org for the latest details

Glenview COMMUNITY CHURCH

1000 Elm Street Glenview, IL 60025-2897

Phone: (847) 724-2210 Fax: (847) 724-2213 E-mail: gccucc@gccucc.org

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 Rev. Sally Iberg, Minister for Mission and Ministry

Directors:

Marilyn Belleau, *RN, Health Ministry* Kathy Lifton, *Children's Ministry* Elizabeth Ciccolini, *Youth Ministry* Linda Binaei, *Member Engagement* 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

At A GLANCE

				-
(Thurs	9:00 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 5:00 pm	
	1-22	1:00 pm	Minister's Mentor Mtg., Rm 210	
		6:15 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal, Bell Rm	
l		7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm, Sanctuary	
(Fri	9:00 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm	
	1-23	6:00 pm	NSVYR Volleyball, Gym	
		8:00 pm	Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201	
l		8:00 pm	AA Mtg., Parlor	
(Sat	8:30 am	Interfaith Rehearsal, Sanctuary	
	1-24	9:00 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm	
		9:00 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym	
(Sun	4:00 pm	Voices Rehearsal, Rm 201	C
l	1-25			Co th
ĺ	Mon	6:30 pm	CEMC Rehearsal, Rm 201	Br
	1-26			В
(Tues	11:30 am	Chapter 8 Mtg., Founders Rm	
	1-27	7:00 pm	Executive Board Mtg., Mayflower Rm	Pl ac

Not for profit Organization US POSTAGE PAID Glenview, IL Permit NO. 41

Wed	900 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm
1-28	6:30 pm	BSA Troop 156 Mtg, Gym, Mayflower Rm
	7:00 pm	Venturing Crew, Rm 210

Congratulations

Congratulations to the proud parents Amy and Mike Eccleston on the birth of their new son, Quinn Ryan on December 8, 2008. Brennan and Madeline are overjoyed to have a new brother.

Broadcaster DEADLINE

Please submit all articles by 9:00 am, Wednesday, one week in advance to publishing via email at tania.mccarthy@sbcglobal.net.