

Pilgrim's Progress

A composite image is developed in the Gospels of a seeker identified as the rich young ruler. He seems to have been up against the question of meaning in life. He asked Jesus, "What does life mean? What meaning is there in my life? Is there more to life than working, eating, and sleeping? How can I be fulfilled?" Every time I read this conversation (Luke 10:25-37) between Jesus and the rich ruler, I am amazed with what precision and insight Jesus got to the heart of life with this man. Had Jesus seen this man and observed some things about his lifestyle, his attitudes, and his view of life? That is possible. Or maybe the man said other things to Jesus in this encounter that gave Jesus clues about the man's perspective on life. Otherwise, why did Jesus zero in on the wealth issue with this man?

In all the vignettes the Gospel writers record about Jesus and his encounters with people, no two conversations are the same, no two needs are the same, and Jesus nowhere gives two people the same instruction. The rich ruler is the only person Jesus tells to sell all that he had, give it to the poor, and come follow him. Jesus did not stereotype people. Just because a person was wealthy did not mean that person was possessed by his possessions, but his hunch and assessment about this man were right on target. The evidence is the man's reaction to Jesus' observation and suggestion.

What is revealed through this story is what we see in other encounters Jesus had with people. Through engaging conversation, often initiated by the other person but precipitated by some action, statement, or activity of Jesus, Jesus established a relationship with a person. Then, he focused attention and responses to the person in a way to highlight how God's love had value and application in this person's life in this context. As a result of this approach, Jesus did not have a step by step plan or approach to respond and relate to people. Rather he listened and learned about a person. He never told two people the same thing. Why? People are created in the image of God. They are unique and no two people have exactly the same needs. The needs of no two people surface in the same way; therefore, God's love does not come to them or apply in their lives in identical ways. When Jesus invites him to become a traveling disciple--after he does the one thing lacking in his life, sell all he has and give it to the poor—"the rich man," Luke writes, "became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth."

Jesus invites him to give it all away, which will mean giving away his old identity--the way others think of him and the way he thinks of himself. He's not just a man. He's a rich man.

Jesus' invitation is so radical that it does not sound like an invitation at all to the rich man. It sounds out of the question, totally divorced from reality. So with great sadness . . . he walks away.

Imagine the story reading like this: "Jesus said to him, 'You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me"....When the rich man heard this, he grinned from ear to ear, and said, 'Okay! Sure, Jesus, no problem. That's a small price for being with you and living a life with meaning and purpose.' Although he was a man of great wealth, he immediately sent word for all that he owned to be sold and used to feed the hungry and house the homeless. Then, with a lightness of heart and a new spring in his step, he walked away with Jesus--who was also grinning from ear to ear--no longer a rich man but a new man, and strangely enough, feeling wealthier than ever.

Howard

WORSHIP SERVICES

MAY 2	
8:30 a.m.	Bell Choir
10:30 a.m.	Bell Choir & Chancel Choir

Scripture:

Psalm 138, Isaiah 6:1-10

Sermon: "Action" Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

MAY 9

8:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Children's Chorus 4th Grade Bible Presentation

Scripture: Psalm 31:1-5, John 14:1-14

Sermon: "What's in a Name?" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

MAY 16

YOUTH SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. P	YF Worship Band
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10:30 a.m. PYF Worship Band

Sermon by Seniors

Lisa Ruch and Christina Roenitz "Moving Towards Our Destiny"

Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini Director of Youth Ministries and Seminary student at Chicago Theological Seminary

UPDATE THE DIRECTORY

Do you use your cell phone more than your home phone? If you want it in next year's directory, please give us that information. Has your email changed? Please take a minute to give us any changes for the 2010 directory. It will be available to all members at no cost. Please call or email Jane Payne (847-724-2210 or jane. payne@gccucc.org) or drop off a form in the office. Forms are available in the office, narthex and pews. Deadline is June 1st.

Open and Affirming

In preparation for a congregational vote May 25 on whether or not GCC should become an Open and Affirming Church in the UCC, a final question and answer session will be held on May 2 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Please join Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts and the ONA committee to have your questions addressed.

Beryl B. Bills berylbills@comcast.net

Looking for more AMBASSADORS

Glenview Community Church appreciates all those who serve as Ambassadors at each of our worship services. If you would like to volunteer to serve and help extend "Radical Hospitality", please call M-J Detwiler at (847) 724-4844 or e-mail <u>mjcd2223@gmail.com</u>. You are scheduled approximately once every 6 weeks. We are always looking for more subs if that's more suitable for you. If you are serving as an Ambassador and want to continue you don't need to do anything, but if you are unable to continue serving as an Ambassador, call or e-mail M-J Detwiler.

1st Sunday Conversations Join the Senior Minister for 1st Sunday

Join the Senior Minister for 1st Sunday Conversations. The discussion is open ended around your topic of choice, including sermons, worship, church life, moral and ethical decisions. We'll gather in the Library following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Join us in the Mayflower Room for refreshments and make your way to the Library for conversation with the Senior Minister.



Joyce Schrager Friday May 7 at 10:00 a.m. SCHRAGER TO SPEAK ON

"POLICY AND POLITICS: ONE YEAR LATER" Chapter 8 of the Women's Association will again host a program and luncheon featuring popular lecturer, Joyce Schrager, on Friday, May 7, in the Mayflower Room. Tickets for the program and luncheon are \$15 or \$10 for the program only and may be purchased in the church office from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and during fellowship hours in April.

GCC Senior HOUSING FAIR

Sunday, May 2, 2010 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mayflower and Founders Rooms

The Glenview Community Church is once again sponsoring a Senior Housing Fair which will provide members of the church and visitors from the community an opportunity to be informed about various types of senior housing available in the North Shore and surrounding areas. For more information, please call Marilyn Belleau, Advocate Health Care Parish Nurse at (847)724-2210 ext. 30.

Happy Birthday Celebration



Final Birthday Concert Celebration

Sunday, May 2, at 3 p.m.

The culmination of our year of celebration for the 10th birthday of our beautiful organ will take place on the first Sunday in May. Please note the time and date above and mark it on your calendar.

During the concert a commissioned composition by Ovid Young will have its premier performance. It is for piano and organ and will also have choral parts sung by our 45 voice Chancel Choir. Our 15 person bell choir, The Joyful Ringers, will also be a part of this concert.

Let your neighbors and friends know about this special event, and bring them with you when you attend.



All ladies of GCC (*5 years and older*) are invited to attend a traditional English tea on Sunday, May 23 at 2:30 p.m. in the Mayflower Room. Reservations will be taken after the 10:30 service on May 2, 9, and 16 or a check for \$10 per person can be sent any time to C.J. Sultz, 1570 Bluestem Lane, Glenview, 60026. Bring a friend, neighbor, or family member and enjoy an afternoon of fine food and fellowship!

Wider Church

Participating in the Wider Church of the United Church of Christ (UCC)

The following programs and events are being sponsored within the UCC. If you would like more information, please contact Rev. Pam Keckler.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING UIC campus - June 18-19

This is a gathering of all the Associations in our conference and will offer various programs, worship, service projects, and dialogue.

REGIONAL YOUTH EVENT Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio

June 17-20

This event is for youth who have completed 6th grade through 12th grade. Cost is \$225 per person and features workshops, worship, music, fellowship and service projects.



Take the night off cooking and let **Goode & Fresh** do the work.

Sponsored by Chapter 11 of the Women's Association. Order forms coming soon. If you have any question, email Kim Vanderveen at <u>chicagodutch@yahoo.com</u>

Congratulations

We congratulate 2010 Confirmands,our newest members.

Michael Gregory Baddeloo Alexandra Jane Canary Alyson Danielle Ford Jacqueline Kelly Golding Melanie Candace Hively Joel Kinzalow Laura Jane Leinbach Janna Lauren Lyhus Colleen Anna Lynch **Brent Edward Mitchell** Victoria A. Mohr Bryant Norman Nelson Jessica Lynn Rolf William Henry Cyril Schiele William Cole Stewart Jason Richard Vevang Alexandra Claire Whisler

With special thanks to 8th grade teachers Bob & Allison Vevang, and to our 7th grade teachers: Monty Davis, Kerry Karth, Bob McGee.

Service Projects 7TH AND 8TH GRADE CONFIRMANDS

Do you ever wonder what our confirmands do for their service projects? They are required to do four service projects a year, either as a class or individually. Many of them participate in our 678 Club, a fellowship and service club for sixth, seventh and eighth graders. This past year they made birthday bags and new mother welcome kits for the Northfield Food Pantry. For the Night Ministry, they organized and packed sack suppers, hygiene kits and bags of cookies the Women's Association brought.

Others helped with the Easter egg hunt at church, participated in a volley ball game to raise money for breast cancer research, jumped rope for American Heart Association, helped in the nursery or Sunday school class, helped at the Heifer hoe-down, picked up garbage in a park, set up the Nativity display, was a Spanish peer tutor, helped disabled children play soccer, read to children at the library, and taught a computer program to seniors at North Shore Senior Center. One young man saved money from his allowance and purchased groceries each week for the Food Pantry.

We are proud of all the accomplishments of our young people as they help others.

Rev. Keckler

PYF

MAY 2

Boat Ride and Navy Pier: Join us for this fun trip to the city. We will be taking the train downtown and taking the boat to and from Navy Pier. We will leave at 1:00 p.m. and return at 6:15 p.m.

PYF Work Camp Stock Sales



Fifteen PYF youth and four adults will be traveling to Booneville, Arkansas in June to participate in Youthworks work camp. The group will spend time working with children at Kids Club and doing house painting and home improvements for local community members. The youth will also have the opportunity to get to know some other youth groups from around the country and learn about local culture. To support this faith building mission experience, you may purchase stock for \$10 a share by mailing or dropping off a donation at Church C/O Elizabeth Ciccolini. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated.

Confirmation 8TH GRADERS

Our 8th grade confirmands wish to thank all who participated in their class service project through various fund raisers for Project 1500. The students sold Christmas ornaments, went door to door to collect money, and several of you walked and found sponsors. Their goal was \$1500, but they surpassed that amount. The confirmands presented a monetary gift this past Sunday for \$2,029 to St. Martin de Porres House of Hope. St. Martin is a private, non-profit Christian shelter for homeless women and recovering substance abuse women and their children in Chicago. This class visited with the children at House of Hope and decided they wanted to share their time and money with them. Part of the gift may go toward buying better mattresses for the mothers and their children. Thank vou.

7TH GRADE May 2

Regular class at 9:30. No opening prayers.

Did You Know?

That the Resale Shop is the primary source of income for the Glenview Community Church Women's Association? Because of that, over the last few years, it has been able to do the following:

- Provide between \$31,000 and \$56,000 in grants annually to social service agencies
- Pledge annually to the church \$10,000 this year
- Provided \$16,600 for the refurbishing of the 1st floor Women's Powder Room
- Provided \$17,400 for the air conditioning of the Plymouth Room
- Provided 100 % of the funding for the redecorating of the Parlor
- Provided only partial funding of the Library redecorating, as an independent grant was received
- Provide the FEDS committee with annual funds for projects in the church, which is currently \$5,000
- Grant \$10,000 to Oakton Community College for a scholarship fund
- Purchase a new washer and dryer for the church kitchen
- Provide \$2,500 for two seminary scholarships
- Provide PYF work camp scholarships
- Provided \$1,000 for women's retreat scholarships
- Periodically purchase equipment for the church kitchen
- Provide financial assistance to chapters for their programming such as Rally Day, Mission Tree, Blanket sales, Family Trivia night and the Joyce Schrager program/luncheon.

The Women's Association looks for your continued support of the Resale Shop through your purchases, donations and consignments. Shop now for quality clothing, jewelry, and accessories for adults and children that are available at very reasonable prices, as well as a selection of housewares and toys. Current season donations are still being accepted although the deadline for consignments has passed. The shop will continue to operate this season through June 18th, close for the summer and reopen in September.









MAY

JUNE

SENIOR HOUSING FAIR Sunday, May 2 starting at 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in the Mayflower room

THE ORGAN BIRTHDAY FINALE CONCERT Sunday,May 2 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

JOYCE SHRAGER: POLITICS AND POLICY Friday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m. lecture and lunch Tickets can be purchased in the church office.

MOTHER'S DAY



PLANT SALE PICK UP Saturday, May 15 between 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Delivery available for \$10/address



GCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING Tuesday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. Check the GCC web site at www.gccucc.org to download the board minutes.



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION AFTERNOON TEA Sunday, May 23 at 2:30 p.m. in the Mayflower room



GCC CAREER NETWORKING GROUP Monday, May 24 at 12:00 p.m. in the Plymouth room-

25

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Tuesday, May 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mayflower

30

GOD BLESS AMERICA CONCERT SIMPLE GIFTS SERIES Sunday, May 30 at 4:00 p.m.

RESALE SHOP

GBENCE)

Friday, June 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Plymouth room. This will be their last day for the season.



Saturday, June 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Gym and Sunday, June 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lock

PYF held its first annual "Lock In" event on April 9 and 10. This year's PYF members were given the opportunity to spend their Friday night and Saturday morning in the church. We started the night by cooking a meal for ourselves with the fantastic assistance of chefs Melissa and Dave Aki. A diverse mix of pasta, sushi and pot stickers highlighted the evening's menu. After dinner the group spread out as some played volleyball while others practiced singing. Later, the group reconvened for an illustrious game of hide and go seek. The night was then capped off by a midnight devotion. We awoke to a robust breakfast prepared the night before.

Dan Baddeloo



hygiene kits

It started with a voice expressing a need. Someone heard the voice and shared the need. Action was taken and a project was born.

I want to thank Elizabeth and the PYF youth for taking action and starting the Hygiene Kit project. I also want to thank all those who donated items to this project. You are making a difference in peoples' lives daily. Everyone who has received a kit has expressed their gratitude.

CLEANING OUT

McGee's Closet



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 a.m. - 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

At A Glance

Thur 4-29	9:00 am 6:15 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 pm	Resale Shop open until 5:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm Bell Choir, Bell Rm PYF Fellowship Time, Gym Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
Fri 4-30	9:00 am 8:00 pm 8:00 pm	Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm AA, Parlor Al-Anon, Rm 201
Sat	9:00 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym
5-1	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm
	10:00 am	Memorial - Harry Nelson, Sanctuary
Sun	8:30 am	Worship Service, Sanctuary
5-2	9:15 am	Senior Housing Fair/Fellowship, Mayflower Rm
	9:30 am	Adult Education, Chapel
	9:30 am	7th Grade Confirmation Class, Various Rms
	9:30 am	Open & Affirming Discussion, Sanctuary
	9:45 am	Primary Choir, Rm 201
	10 : 30 am	Worship Service, Sanctuary
	10 : 30 am	Sunday School Gathering, Rm 201
	11:30 am	Senior Housing Fair/Fellowship, Mayflower Rm
	11:30 am	1st Sunday Conversation, Library
	11 : 45 am	Membership Board Mtg., Parlor

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Sunday Con	tinued	
	3:00 pm 4:00 pm	Organ Birthday Finale Concert, Sanctuary PYF, Youth Rm
	4:00 pm	Voices of GCC, Rm 201
Mon 5-3		No Meetings Scheduled
Tue 5-4	7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Book Club, Parlor Children's Board Mtg., Rm 201
Wed 5-5	9:00 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Resale Shop until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Mayflower & Gym Called to Care, Rms, 210, 213 & Upper Rm Venture Crew, Parlor

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Broadcaster Deadline

Please submit all articles by 9:00 am, Wednesday, one week in advance to publishing via e-mail at tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org