

Pilgrim's Progress

It's that time in the baseball season when players on teams in contention for the playoffs are seen wearing their rally caps. It's a crazy exercise of wearing baseball caps inside out. Does that improve anyone's ability to hit a baseball? Of course not. However, the enthusiasm and encouragement of teammates may get the adrenalin flowing and help batters focus and concentrate better as well as distracting the opposing pitcher and players enough to get a rally going.

Is Rally Day any different than any other Sunday regarding our worship and service to God? Of course not. However, the enthusiasm and encouragement that comes with every member striving to be present and join with other members in worship can help all of us focus and concentrate better in worship and in our service to God and to care for others. Are making plans now to join to be present in worship at 9:30, September 13 to rally the congregation for worship and service as we begin our fall ministry together? I certainly hope you are!

Not only do I hope are you making plans to be in worship, but also I hope you are inviting and encouraging others to join you in worship on Rally Day. It's time to get a rally going for Glenview Community Church. 85% of the people who participate in a congregation do so because a member of the congregation invites them. Now is the time to invite members and friends to join you in worship on Rally Day.

Here is some important information from the Alban Institute about how significant and valuable you are in welcoming, including, and rallying people to be part of GCC.

"Here's the hard truth. Your pastor can teach, guide, lead, support, inspire, even cajole. But in the end, congregational health is a function of how people in the congregation relate to one another, to God, and to their community. A congregation is a microcosm of the greater church, a local embodiment of the body of Christ. In John's Gospel, Jesus says, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). We believe this is one of the primary messages that a healthy congregation embodies for its members and its surrounding community."

"A congregation that is truly being church brings people into a loving, life-giving relationship with God and others that is transformational. This is the nature of the kingdom of God, where covenant relationships model the best aspects of family. People find hope. They experience belonging; they extend and receive forgiveness. They discover a sense of purpose and direction. They learn to live with appreciation and joy no matter what the circumstances. Although a pastor can preach and teach this message, the message has power only to the extent that the people in the congregation live it and practice it with one another. Practicing loving, life-giving relationships transforms congregation members. Witnessing such benefits draws others who want something similar for themselves and their families." ("A Place the Offers Life," Adapted from Pathway to Renewal: Practical Steps for Congregations by Daniel P. Smith and Mary K. Sellon, copyright © 2008 by the Alban Institute. All rights reserved.)

Let's get our "rally hats" on. With enthusiasm and encouragement for each other let's gather to worship on September 13. With enthusiasm and encouragement let's invite fellow members, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to worship with us. We will be transformed and so will those whom we invite to join us. See you in church!

Howard



Look for your RSVP in the mail and please send it in.

August 26, 2009

SUNDAY SERVICES

AUGUST 30, 2009

9:30 a.m.

Summer Music

Scripture: Psalm 119:153-160 Matthew 11:25-30

Sermon: "What Vacation!" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

SEPTEMBER 6, 2009

Children's Message Family Communion

9:30 a.m.

Summer Music

Scripture: John 21:1-12

Sermon:

"Breakfast Time!" Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

SEPTEMBER 13, 2009

9:30 a.m.

Children's Choir, Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir

Scripture:

Psalm 119:33-40 Galatians 6:1-10

Sermon:

"Living in the Complementary Mood" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

HELP WANTED

Sunday school teachers for junior kindergartners through fourth graders; part time, full time, and some time positions available. Contact kathy. lifton@gccucc.org

Church home was a vital part of our lives. When divorce came, the minister and loving friends in that Church gave me the strength to chart a new course.

As I said, change comes into our lives and we church must adjust. I chose to find a new Church home, and that was when GCC entered my life and that of my daughter, my last child at home. We shared together in **Commitment** Sunday morning services, while she went through her two years of Confirmation. That, for me, was a

Part of effectively coping with life is to be able to deal with change. During the major changes in my life, my faith, nurtured in the Christian Church, has played a major role.

My father was a minister, and, as a child, I loved Sunday School, Church camp, and Youth Group where I found the closeness of friends on a similar faith journey.

At Wheaton College, our daily chapel services, and the emphasis on a walk with Christ, encouraged my spiritual growth and provided me with relationships that continue today.

After graduate school, I was married, had 4 children and was active in a Presbyterian Church in the area. Despite our personal difficulties in the years that followed, our

highlight, although, with a full time job and the demands of single parenthood, my personal involvement was limited. Looking back, I can see what I missed at that time, by not using GCC, as much as I should have, as a spiritual and social source of strength and support.

Luckily, as life became more stable, I realized that my personal journey of faith needed to be encompassed by those who could strengthen me, and who could give me comforting words and reassurance of God's love and caring. I needed new friendships and new opportunities for Christian service. I needed a real "new Church home," where I could feel a part of a family. The greatest joy of my life's changes was the coming of my husband,

Marvin, into my life. He too had grown up in a strong Christian home and had been yearning for a place to share his Christian life. As a couple, we reaffirmed our faith when he joined together with me at GCC.

During these years, we have been nurtured by the word of God from the pulpit, thrilled by the Music program, strengthened by small groups and retreats, participated in the broadening of our knowledge of the Christian life and faith through Adult Education, served on Boards, experienced personal and spiritual relationships with friends, young and old, and appreciated the outreach of GCC. I feel strongly that the Church should not be an island, so our Mission program has special meaning to me in the diversity of its involvement and contribution.

My faith has become revitalized, as my Church home has helped me to stabilize my life, strengthen my vision, and given me opportunities to both learn and serve. I have become a part of the "community of faith" in GCC, and for that I will be forever grateful.....

Mary Ellen Johnson, August 2009

If you are unemployed, returning to work, considering a job change or looking to expand your business network please join us! We have coordinated our schedule with other local networking groups* and will now meet the last Monday of each month. Contact Alek Jablonski at 847-486-1920 /ajablonski03@hotmail.com or Rev. Pam Keckler at 847-724-2210 for more information.

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 12 NOON Interview Survival-

How to Anticipate the Unexpected Presented by John M. Orr, PhD., Rogala & Orr, Inc.

Learn how to be the "perfect fit" for the organization that you are interviewing with or interested in from a professional who teaches behavior interviewing skills to managers.

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 7:00 PM **Phone Interview and Negotiation** Skills

Presented by Alek Jablonski Join this interactive presentation on how to be prepared for a full-blown phone interview, not just a quick screening. We will also go over common components of a compensation package, salary requests, tips for salary negotiation, counteroffers and accepting or rejecting the offer.

*** OTHER GROUPS MEETING**

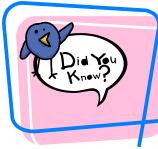
2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. **OLHP Career & Business Networking** Group, Glenview. www.olphglenview. org/community/othercommunitygroups/businessnetwork

3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. St. Mary's of the Woods Business Networking Group, Edgebrook. www. smow.org/menu.asp?parenttitle=Minist ry+Web+Pages&parentid=SLGPCDLAQ T&id=MJN6LD3H9L

Women's Fall Retreat Watch for More Info

Our annual women's fall retreat will be held on Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, October 2-3, 2009. This year we'll be staying at the Cabrini Retreat Center on Golf Road in Des Plaines, Illinois.

Registration forms will be available September 1.



Interesting history and current facts showing how groups and individuals make a difference at GCC.

Did you know... that collectively 10% of your annual pledge contributions are the major source of funding for GCC's Mission Outreach Programs? As an example, 10% of your pledge dollars made in 2008, that's \$91,600, are being used this year to fund major charities both locally and nationally.

GCC WALKERS 📌

The next outing for the GCC Walkers will be a repeat of a well-received locale a couple of years ago. We will be walking around a neighboring suburb's homes facing a very nice country club. We will be leaving after the single service at 9:30 a.m. on September 13, so wear your walking gear to church. We will car pool from the north lot. Call this walk's leader, Steve Lindell, at 998-6806 with any questions you may have. All are welcome. Did you know... last year our Mission Outreach Board reviewed and allocated funds to over 25 different groups in need? Here's just a sample of programs that benefit from your generous pledge dollars:

Back Bay Mission, Night Ministry, Youth Services of Glenview, Helping Hands, Northfield Food Pantry, Good News Community Kitchen, Interfaith House, Hands of Peace, UCC/Our Church's Wider Mission, Chicago Theological Seminary, Community Renewal Society

Did you know... you can also help our Mission Outreach Program with commitment of time and energy? Here are examples of the many ways you (and your family) can assist:

- Good News Soup Kitchen bimonthly volunteer opportunity to prepare food or serve meals
- Back Bay Mission Adult Workcamp
- Cookie Collection for the Night Ministry
- 1st Sunday Food Collection for Northfield Pantry
- Greater Chicago Food Depository Work Days
- Cornerstone Outreach Programs

Did you know... volunteering to help your Mission Outreach Board is just a phone call away? Call Bill Ryan, chair, at 847-486-0585 and volunteer in helping to make a difference at GCC!

Mother Loss and Adult Daughters

A group for women of all ages whose mothers have died.

Glenview Community Church

Thursday Evenings 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. September 17 thru October 22, 2009

Facilitator

Barbe Creagh, Ph.D., FAMI, CT

Fee: \$90.00 (six sessions). If you are unable to pay this amount, we ask that you pay an amount which does not cause a hardship for you. This group is also for GCC members and others. If your loved one was a Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care patient, the fee is waived.

Group size is limited and registration is required. For additional information or to register, please call:

Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care Bereavement Services at (847) 692-8884 or e-mail to bcreagh@rainbowhospice.org

Co-sponsored by Marilyn Belleau, Advocate Health Care Parish Nurse

The Joyful Ringers

The Joyful Ringers will begin fall rehearsals Thursday, August 27th from 6:15-7:20 PM We are currently looking for one "full time" ringer to join us. Contact Gary Wendt at X51 or email at gary.wendt@gccucc.org for more details.



Summer Sunday School Summer Sunday School concludes on August 30. Family worship and communion, along with a children's message will take place on Sunday, September 6 at 9:30 in the Sanctuary. Nursery and toddler care will be provided on both Sundays.



TEENS IN 7TH - 12TH GRADES

Would you like to participate in a fun event? Join the UCC Illinois Conference Youth as they gather at the Lincoln Park Zoo on Saturday, August 29. Meet at the main entrance at 10:00 a.m. Admission is free, but parking is not free. You will get special tours of the zoo and then have a picnic lunch at noon. Bring your own lunch or you may purchase food at the zoo restaurants. If you have a UCC or GCC t-shirt to wear, please do so. If not, come anyway! For more information contact Rev. Keckler.

And mark your calendar now for Saturday, October 10 for the Youth Harvest Event with the UCC Illinois Conference. More details to come.

Pilgrim Youth Family Fellowship

Pilgrim Youth Family Fellowship will meet on Sunday evening, August 30 from 4:00-6:15 pm in the Youth Room.

All high school youth (including new freshmen) and their families are invited to share in communion and vespers, food, fellowship and fun.

Our theme this year is "Tips for Staying Connected as a Family." We've invited a favorite speaker back, Dr. Cassandra Friedman who will give our first tip: "Raising Drug-Free Teenagers." All parents are invited to attend this informative session. Food will be provided for supper in the Mayflower Room.

Please call or email Pam Keckler with your reservations for the meal and program: pam.keckler@gccucc.org or call 847-724-2210, Ext. 24

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* 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 8-27		no events scheduled
Fri 8-28	•	AA Mtg., Parlor Al - Anon Meeting, Rm 201
Sat 8-29	·	Leadership Retreat Scout Masters' Meeting
Sun 8-30	9:30 am 10:30 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	Fellowship Hour, Narthex Pilgrim Youth Family Fellowship, Youth Room
Mon 8-31	12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Career Networking, Founders Rm Career Networking, Founders Rm
Tues 9-1	7:00 pm	Book Club, Parlor
Wed 9-2	9:0 am 9:00 am 7:00 pm	WA Chapter 19, Parlor Resale Shop until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm BSA Troop 156 Meeting, Gym, Mayflower Rm

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Help Rebuild New Orleans

New Orleans is still in recovery mode, rebuilding from the devastation of floods following hurricane Katrina in August 2005. From September 12 to 20, Rev. Sally Iberg will join with members of various churches throughout the Chicago area to travel to New Orleans and work as a volunteer rebuilding homes. Sally joined this group in the spring of 2008. Nan and Dick Conser joined them this past spring. Consider participating in this recovery effort. Contributions may be made to the Chicago Metropolitan Association. You might purchase a gift card that can be used in New Orleans for needed building materials, or a gas card to help defray travel costs. You could volunteer to join this group in September. And you can always pray. The group travels by van, stopping each way over night in Memphis. We sleep in dorms and share community meals. And we do work that is very rewarding. The cost per person runs about \$300 (unless one chooses to fly). For more information please talk with Rev. Sally Iberg. You can reach her through her email at sally. iberg@gccucc.org or by phoning her at 847 724-2210 x 23. Information is also available through the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the United Church of Christ: www.cmaucc.org.

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