Pilgrims Progress

Ash Wednesday is forty days prior to Easter, not counting the Sundays. The early church viewed each Sunday as "little Easter" and thus was a feast day and not a fast day. Ash Wednesday is the fast day of all fast days and begins a season of fasting known as Lent. Ash Wednesday, March 9th has been designated as the start of a seasonal journey of personal and corporate introspection and reflection. We will make the beginning of this journey providing personal, individual communion from 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel and Transept. The purpose is for individuals, couples, or families to have a time of quiet reflection, prayer and communion to focus their lives during the six weeks leading to resurrection. In the evening we will have a service of worship at 7:30 p.m. that will include the imposition of ashes.

Ashes are symbols of burnt-out fire, the warmth gone cold. They also represent the mortality of human beings. Ashes are often mentioned in the Bible in connection with dust and sackcloth as signs of mourning, grief, and humiliation. The imposition of ashes is a silent sign to God, to yourself, and to others that you are repenting of your sins and are attempting serious and rigorous devotion to God for the forty days of Lent. The intent is that the new habits you form during Lent will continue after Lent and you will discover that you are growing personally and spiritually as you develop a more abundant life committed to God.

The concept of life as a journey or pilgrimage is an ancient one. Abraham's life is identified as a pilgrimage of faith. John Bunyan's classic work, *Pilgrim's Progress*", describes the journey of Christian through life noting the struggles and pitfalls experienced through the journey. The Lenten season is a journey of personal reflection and introspection with the goal of the Christian becoming more clearly focused and committed as a disciple of Christ. Please join us for one or

both of the services on Ash Wednesday to mark your beginning of your personal Lenten faith journey as we collectively mark the beginning of the journey as a faith community. I look forward to seeing you on Ash Wednesday and joining my life with yours on this spiritual journey of introspection and reflection.

Howard

Lenten Preview

Dr. Roberts will preach on the theme "Miracles of Jesus" during the Sundays in Lent, beginning March 13. He will also be sharing thoughts from the book, "If the Church Were Christian" during four Adult Education sessions later in March and April.

This year we plan to offer a mid-week Lenten gathering called "Telling Our Stories" each Wednesday beginning March 16 and concluding April 13. A simple soup supper will be available at 6:15 p.m. A study and small group discussion, followed by informal worship will begin at 6:45 p.m. We will be finished by 7:30 pm.

Lenten Devotional Booklets

Ash Wednesday begins March 9. Devotional booklets are available for pick up in the church office or you may request a copy and we will mail one to you. This resource follows the Gospel of Luke and the journey of "Traveling on Holy Ground." Plan now to spend time in meditation during this upcoming holy season.

SUNDAY SERVICES

MARCH 6, 2011

COMMUNION

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

Scripture:

1 Kings 21:1-3, 17-19 Galatians 6: 7-10

Sermon:

"Hitting the Curve Ball" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

MARCH 9, 2011

ASH WEDNESDAY

6:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Individual Prayers and Communion Transept and Chapel

7:30 p.m. Worship and Imposition of Ashes

Katherine Hughes & Kevin Kizer

Scripture:

Isaiah 58:1-9, Psalm 51

Meditation:

"Marked" Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

MARCH 13, 2011

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

Scripture:

Genesis 33:1-11, John 6:1-15

Sermon:

"The Miracle of Sufficiency" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts





Join in fellowship, food and fun at the annual St. Patrick's Pot Luck Dinner, sponsored by the Fellowship Board!

Entertainment provided by the Sheila Tully Irish Dancers

Bring a dish to share:

A-F – Salad

G-R - Main dish

S-Z – Dessert or vegetable

Suggested donation is \$5/person for singles or couples, \$3/person for seniors, or \$10/family to offset the cost of the dancers.

Please RSVP to C.J. Sultz by March 5th with your name and the number of people attending to <u>cj.sultz@us.mcd.com</u> or (847)657-7079

Adult Education In The Chapel at 10:45 a.m.

MARCH 6

Join Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler on Sunday morning, March 6 at 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel for our Adult Education session.

Rev. Keckler will share her thoughts on a "Lenten Sabbatical." Having taken a sabbatical a year ago, hear how some centered and intentional time has made a difference in her own spiritual life and how it can in your life as well.

Want a mini-sabbatical during Lent? It can be done! Come and discover how!

MARCH 13

Have you ever driven by Wagner Farm, seen the cute cows but never stopped? Join Todd Price, Director of Wagner Farm as he recounts the story of the Wagner Family when they left their home in Germany and started a new life in Glenview. The Wagner family experience

is very similar to that of many Northfield Township's early farmers. We will also hear how Glenview Park District acquired the Wagner Farm property.

Steve Sargent, a local architect and

member of GCC's Property Board will also present drawings of the original farm buildings. These



drawings document the construction material and methods of the early 20th century American farm.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE:

Wash Your Hands & Wash Them Well!

The flu season is upon us and it is very important that we understand that proper and frequent hand washing is one of the easiest ways to avoid getting sick. The common cold, flu, and infectious diarrhea are commonly spread through hand-to-hand contact. The flu can be serious (especially for older adults and those with chronic medical problems). The flu combined with pneumonia is the eighth leading cause of death in the U.S.

WHEN SHOULD YOU WASH YOUR HANDS? After a trip to the bathroom or after

After a trip to the bathroom or after changing a diaper,

After touching animals or animal waste,

Before, after, and even during food preparation,

Before eating,

After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing,

Before and after treating wounds or touching a sick person,

After handling garbage,

Before touching contact lenses.

A recent study showed that hand washing cut in half children's risk of pneumonia and diarrhea, so teach children good hand washing techniques by your example.

THE ABC'S OF HAND WASHING

Warm water is just right. Hot water is hard on the skin. Cold won't make suds.

Lather up. You don't need to kill germs with pricey antibacterial soap. Just dislodge them with good lather.

Soap it all. Get thumbs, backs of hands, under nails.

Scrub for 15 seconds. (for fun – that's "Happy Birthday" sung twice).

Don't skimp on rinse water. Flush away suds and germs.

In a public washroom, use a paper towel to turn off the faucet and open the exit door.

Prayer: Thank you, gracious God, for the many simple ways you have given us to stay healthy. Help me do my part in staying well this winter. Amen

Marilyn Belleau, Advocate Heath Care Parish Nurse

BRILLIANT BAROQUE:

Bella Voce & The Callipygian Players Friday, March 4, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

Bella Voce, Chicago's premier chamber choir, conducted by our very own Andrew Lewis, will sing works by Handel, Vivaldi, Corelli, and Allegri accompanied by period instruments. The instrumental ensemble, The Callipygian Players, is led by Baroque violin virtuoso Martin Davids.

Those of you who attended the Bella Voce & The Callipygian Players concert last year already know what a moving musical experience this will be. You may purchase tickets by phoning (312)479-1096 or at the Bella Voce website: www.bellavoce.org.

For groups of 10 or more, tickets are \$15. Otherwise tickets are \$28 to \$35.

BSA Troop 156 Pancake Breakfast

Troop 156 will have their annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 5 in the Mayflower Room. Begins 7:30 a.m. and "all you can eat" pancakes will be served by uniformed waiters until 11:00 a.m. rain or shine. The suggested donation is \$5 at the door or by buying a ticket from any T-156 Scout. Proceeds go towards camping and high adventure outings.

Teach-In for Peace

March 18, 7:00 p.m.

Kathy Kelly, First Hand Report on Visits to Afghanistan & Pakistan

8:00 p.m.

Coffeehouse Concert Featuring
Osvaldo Vena & The Still A Dream Band

March 19, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Seeking Shalom for Strife Torn Peoples Discussions led by Dr. Peter Makari, Veronica and Michael Kyle, Dr. Ann Frisch and Dr. Osvaldo Vena.

The public is invited and all events are free. Register by March 16 at http://www.congucc.org/updates.htm or call (847)392-6650.

Congregatonal United Church of Christ 1001 W. Kirchoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois.

GCC Job Networking

The GCC Job Networking group is no longer actively meeting in the church. Special thanks to Renee and Alek Jablonski who led helpful meetings, found speakers, and provided ongoing support. OLPH continues with their networking group each month. Please contact them for more information.

Welcome New Members



Scott & Megan McClung Lauren, Evan and Jonas



John & Nicole Tomaszewski Andrew & Alexandra



Colin & Kathleen Crawford Bradley and Caroline



Marion Alexanian

FOOD FOR THE 1ST March 6

Please bring a bag of non-perishable food and/or paper products for the 1st Sunday food collection on March 6. GCC collects food on the 1st Sunday of each month, all year long, and distributes over 250 bags per year to our neighbors in need through our partnerships with Northfield Food Pantry and San Lucas UCC church (Humboldt Park). Make this an outreach tradition for yourself and for your family. Items always needed by the pantry include: cereal, crackers, canned vegetables and fruit, rice, pasta and sauce, juice, boxed meals, canned meat, peanut butter and jelly, toilet paper, paper towels, etc...Collection tables will be set up in the Narthex, upper level of the west entrance, and outside the office. Thank you from your friends on the Missions Outreach Board.

Sunday School

Sunday school students are collecting clean plastic milk jugs, liter soda bottles, water bottles, and other plastic containers with lids to use as incubators for our seedlings in the Rainbow Garden. This year TOPP anticipates beginning our planting season in May and TOPP members and volunteers will be busy helping students prepare and plant the garden for another bountiful growing season. The harvest from the Rainbow Garden supports the Northfield Food Pantry. Interested volunteers should contact Laura Heyser at (847)724.2526.

Confirmation

March 6 we attend worship together at 9:30 am.

8th graders

March 20 is our annual Church Scavenger Hunt in the evening. Let your teacher know if you will be absent.

678 Club

Last one on March 6 for New Mother Kits. Join us from 2-3:30 p.m. for service project and fellowship.

PYF

March 6: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. New Mother Kits:

Please try to bring in some donations as well for these new mother kits that you will be assembling. Items needed include: diapers, baby wipes, bottles, pacifiers, onesies, baby lotion, baby soap, diaper cream, or baby toys.

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

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, Music

AFFILIATES:

Marcia Kiraly, Director, GCC Nursery School Barbara Thewis, Manager, Resale Shop

Return Service Requested

At A Glance

THRS 3/3 9:00 am Resale Shop open until 5:00 pm, Plymouth Rm

4:00 pm HOP Leadership Mtg., Parlor 7:00 pm Bella Voce Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7:00 pm BSA Troop Patrol 156, Founders Rm 7:00 pm HOP Operating Committee, Rm 201

FRI 3/4 9:00 am Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm

7:00 pm NSY& R Volleyball, Gym

7:30 pm Bella Voce Concert, Sanctuary (ticketed concert)

8:00 pm AA Mtg., Parlor 8:00 pm Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201

SAT 3/5 7:30 am BSA 156 Pancake Breakfast, Mayflower Rm

9:00 am Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm

9:00 am Men's Open Gym, Gym

SUN 3/6 8:45 am Primary Choir Rehearsal, Rm 201

9:30 am Confirmation In Worship, Sanctuary

9:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary

9:30 am Sunday School, Various Rms - start in Rm 201

10:30 am Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm

10:45 am Adult Education, Chapel

10:45 am Joyful Ringers Rehearsal, Bell Rm

2:00 pm 678 Club, Youth Rm 4:00 pm Voices of GCC, Rm 201

5:00 pm St. Patrick's Potluck Dinner, Mayflower Rm

7:00 pm Interfaith Housing Resident Mtg, Mayflower Rm

Nonprofit Organization

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7:00 pm PMRC, Parlor

3/8 7:00 pm Music Board Mtg, Rm 201

MON

TUE 3/8 4:30 pm Hebrew School, Various Rms

7:00 pm Stewardship Board, Rm 7 7:00 pm Children's Board, Rm 201 7:00 pm Pastoral Care Board, Rm 210 7:00 pm Property Board, Library

7:00 pm Adult Education Board, Founders Rm 7:00 pm Service & Sacraments Board, Rm 213

7:30 pm Mission Outreach Board, Parlor

7:30 pm CSA 156 Committee Mtg., Rm 201

WED 3/9 6:00 am Ash Wednesday, see front page for details

6:00 pm PYF small Groups, Youth Rm

7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

Pastoral Care

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to the family of Ronald Frantz who died on February 21, 2011. His children are Betsy Garvey and Michael Frantz.

Broadcaster Deadlines:

Submit articles by 9:00 a.m., Wednesday to Tania McCarthy via e-mail at <u>tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org.</u>