A Pilgrim's Progress

Each year weather patterns provide powerful visual images of winter kissing spring. I recall one year while living in Virginia seeing dogwood trees in bloom while snow peppered the air. Last year in Glenview Good Friday was ushered in with a significant snow fall. It resulted in a white Easter.

Spring follows winter but not with clear-cut precision. The usual pattern is a teasingly warm day followed by a day or two of blustery wind and rain and then sunshine again. In mid-February we had one of those warm days when the temperature rose to the mid 50's. We knew it was a tease and soon the temperatures plummeted to near single digits and more snow fell. Hope was revealed in the tease of a warm February day. We knew then that eventually spring will arrive in full bloom and thoughts of winter will be long forgotten at least for a few months.

It is helpful to view the year as a whole, remembering the complete seasonal cycle of spring, summer, fall, and winter. All the seasons are necessary to complete the year. The earth benefits from all the seasons. Winter is a time for the earth, trees, and perennial plants to be dormant, not dead, but dormant. Winter rains and snows water the earth, the dormant plants take in nourishment carried to them through the water. Spring pops, buds burst, new growth is seen all around. Even with snow falling on dogwoods, I knew that it was winter kissing spring good morning rather than winter wrestling time from spring.

We often compare our lives to the seasons of the year. Roughly, perhaps we see the seasons of our lives in twenty-five year segments. Spring is the first twenty-five years. Summer is from twenty-five to fifty. Autumn is from fifty to seventy-five and winter is from seventy-five onward. Someone recently said to me, "Eighty is the new sixty-five." Those filled with hope and optimism see the winter of their lives lasting until they are one hundred or beyond. However, there usually is the caveat: "I want to live as long as I have a good quality of life." People continually prefer quality over quantity of

life. Of course, that is not always a clear cut choice we are able to make.

As we reflect on our lives, regardless of what season we are in our lives, it is healthy and helpful to think deeply about what gives our lives meaning and purpose. What nourishes and nurtures our lives? What are our dreams? What gives us hope?

For some of us the seasons will contract and our lives will end too early, too abruptly. Others of us will have the opportunity for both quality and quantity of life. None of us know which it will be for us. May we strive to live each day with meaning and purpose, loving and respecting those around us, being generous in our attitudes and actions. Then, whether the winter of our lives comes early or late, we will live fulfilled lives and find ourselves filled with gratitude for the lives we have been given. Is this another way that winter kisses spring, causing hope to spring eternal?

Howard

The Labyrinth Walk

Walking a labyrinth is a personal journey or pilgrimage. It is a spiritual tool dating back to ancient times. It offers a pathway of prayer and a walking meditation. Unlike a maze, a labyrinth has a single pathway for entering and exiting. No directional decisions are necessary. Your walk, pace and personal experiences are all your own. There is no right or wrong way to walk a labyrinth. A labyrinth guide will be available to assist you and answer any questions you may have.

All are invited to experience the Labyrinth Walk in the Mayflower Room beginning Palm Sunday morning, April 5th 11:30 am to 1:30 pm; Monday and Tuesday April 6th

April 7th 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm; Wednesday, April 8th 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. There is no charge for this unique Lenten experience.

SUNDAY SERVICES

MARCH 15, 2009

MISSION MOMENT

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

Scripture:

Matthew 26:57-75; Ephesians 4:25-32

Sermon:

"To Tell The Truth" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

MARCH 22, 2009

8:30 a.m. Student Soloist 10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

Scripture:

Obadiah 1-16; Matthew 5:21-24, 38-48

Sermon:

"The Killing Attitude" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing offering is a Lenten offering that supports programs internationally for building sustainable communities, emergency relief and rehabilitation, and refugee advocacy and resettlement as well as domestic and international disaster preparedness and response.

March Mondays with Pam

Want to talk about life? Your life? What do you believe or don't believe now? What was your religious training, if any as you were growing up? Rev. Pam Keckler will be in Room 5 each Monday during March from noon until 1 pm and from 7-8 pm if you would like to sit and talk about issues such as these. The only thing not allowed is church business! Feel free to bring your lunch and beverage and sit for a spell. Just show up!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry just keeps growing. Almost 30 women are now knitting prayer shawls and 15 have been personally delivered and blessed with some of our members, many who are unable to come to church. Several knitters met recently to work on their prayer shawls together, while some came to learn how to knit from our teachers! The next meeting will be March 17 at noon.

If you would like to be part of this special ministry, please contact Rev. Keckler or Marilyn Belleau.



Join us for a day of "Irish Fun" as we enjoy the songs and trivia of St. Pat's Day. We will all be "a wee bit Irish" on this day, so remember to wear your favorite color green. Enjoy the delicious soup, bread and special Irish dessert. Mark your calendar and bring a friend. There is no charge for this fun filled afternoon.

Need a ride? Call Marilyn Belleau, Parish Nurse at 847-724-2210 ext. 30.

Interfaith Film & Discussion

SUNDAY, MARCH 22 AT 5 PM

At the home of Jane Turner 1630 Brandon Rd., Glenview.

If you are planning to attend please contact Mickey Safstrom at Mickeysaf@juno.com or 729-0732. Bring with you an appetizer, salad, or dessert. A main dish will be provided. Please feel free to bring guests with you. This is always a wonderful evening. All are welcome!

Adult Education Sundays 9:30 am in the Chapel

Tom Aldrich will present three weeks of Lenten Bible study using the Kerygma series as a resource starting March 15. This will be a wonderful way to add to our observations of the Lenten season.



Be More Active! Pilates Classes at GCC

Pilates Classes will be offered here in the church by Coach Yvonne Bennett, a Stott Certified Pilates instructor and AFAA certified personal trainer/fitness consultant.

We will meet in Room 201 at 7:00 PM on Tuesdays March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 21, 28 (skipping April 14).

Pre-registration is required (forms in church office) – return to Marilyn's mailbox

Cost for 6 week session is \$75.00 Questions? Call Marilyn Belleau, Parish Nurse, 847-724-2210 ext. 30 or email instructor at yvonne@allbennetts.com.

A President's First 100 Days

THURSDAY APRIL 30 AT 10 AM

The Chapter 8 members of GCC Women's Association are sponsoring a not to be missed Spring program. We think this venue will appeal to both men and women of all ages.

A Presentation by JOYCE SCHRAGER. Ms. Schrager is a well known, highly respected and popular current events' lecturer.

In the aftermath of the presidential election, all are watching and anticipating "change" in this current time of crisis. Joyce, a dynamic speaker, is an expert on past and present political events. The presentation will be followed by a buffet luncheon. Tickets are \$15 for the program and luncheon.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

"Extend Radical Hospitality" to GCC's visitors by delivering bread!

Did you know that GCC volunteers deliver bread to first time visitors who live in the nearby neighborhood? It is a great way of acknowledging to GCC's visitors that "All are welcome here." Bread deliveries for the Spring-Summer will soon be scheduled. Bread Volunteers are scheduled for 1 delivery day every 2-3 months and usually have two to three loaves of bread to deliver. To participate please call Linda Binaei, Director of Member Engagement at 847-724-2210, extension 29.



Soup at Six and Lenten Bible Study

Join us in the Mayflower Room on Thursday evenings in March for a simple soup and bread at 6:00 p.m. followed by a Bible study from 6:30-7:30 p.m. with Dr. Roberts. A basket will be available for donations to cover the cost of the food (suggestion of \$5.00). Many have signed up for this supper and program. If you haven't signed up for supper but would like to come, simply call the church office and let us know. Thank you.



Serves: A healthy portion of Peace for

up to 99 people!

Preheat: Set Calendar to Sunday,

March 22, 2009, 3 p.m.

Ingredients:

- * \$50 Adult Ticket
- * \$30 Student Ticket
- * 5 (five) Baskets of delectable treats will be raffled, each including a copy of The Arab-Israeli

Cookbook. \$5 per ticket, or 3 for \$10! Winner need not be present to win.

Directions:

- * Purchase theater and raffle tickets with a credit card at www.hands-of-peace. org, or call Wendy Steinberg at 847-207-1218 to purchase with a check or for ticket information.
- * Enjoy the performance! THE ARAB-ISRAELI COOKBOOK The Storefront Theater 66 E. Randolph Street, Chicago
- * Join cast and audience members for a "talkback" and refreshments following the performance!

A portion of the matinee's proceeds directly benefits Hands of Peace.



As we enjoy our coffee and fellowship, we are helping small farmers in Latin America, Africa, and Asia as they build a better life for themselves and their families. The church purchases the Cafe Salvador coffee that is served on Sundays. Additionally, we have many loyal customers that buy these products every month.

Keep in mind that this partnership with the fair trade organization, Equal Exchange, ensures that growers receive a fair price for their product, have access to affordable credit, and can plan for the future.

Each cup is a cup of justice. Thank you from the members of Chapter 8

PREVENTING

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

12:00 in the Mayflower Room Preventing Personal Identity Theft Seminar

David Kreiman, Senior Vice President at Glenview State Bank will be in the Mayflower room on March 22, at noon. He will discuss the steps you need to take to be and feel secure insofar as your identity is concerned. If you have specific questions for Mr. Kreiman, you can e-mail them to David Aki, dave254@comcast.net and we will forward them to Mr. Kreiman, who will address your concerns on March 22.

Bagels, doughnuts and coffee will be available (for a donation).

Hosted by: The Men's Ministry and the Board of Adult Education



resale shop is now taking donations of spring merchandise

Please consider donating your gently used quality clothing and merchandise such as small housewares, toys, jewelry and accessories for sale at the GCC Resale Shop. The Resale Shop at Glenview Community Church is the primary source of funding for the charitable activities of the GCC Women's Association.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle HELP THE ENVIRON-

Purchase reusable bags to support the service organizations of the Women's Association on March 15 in the Mayflower Room at both coffee hours.

These colorful and compact bags are on sale for only 5 dollars each.

Mission Moment

Our next Mission Moment will be presented by a representative from By the Hand at both services on Sunday, March 15. By the Hand is an after-school program that serves kids in Cabrini-Green and other impoverished neighborhoods throughout Chicago. GCC has been an important partner of By the Hand, and we will be donating the proceeds of this year's Easter Egg Hunt on April 11 to them. Please join us on Sunday, March 15, to learn more about the important work in which By the Hand is engaged with our support. Thanks from your friends on the Missions Outreach Board.

LECTIO DIVINA

Thursday Mar 12, and the second Thursday of each month. This is a unique opportunity to bring prayer and meditation into your life this Lenten season. Using Scripture to experience the power of prayer in your life today, join other GCC members for this gently transforming 90 minutes. We meet from 9:30 am to 11 am in Room 5. Facilitator: Parish Nurse, Marilyn Belleau, ext. 30.



Don't forget to save the date, April 11 for the Easter egg hunt. Watch for your invitation in the mail.

PYFF Lenten Vespers

Sunday, March 22 from 4-5 pm. Join us for a fun night of worship, fellowship, potluck supper and games for youth. Parents will bring their favorite parenting tip in working with their teenagers. All are welcome. To reserve your spot, contact Flizabeth or Pam.

PYF 4:00 - 6:00 PM

March 15

Miniature Golf @ Putting Edge. Meet at the church at 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$10. Meet in the youth room at 3:30 and we will return by 6:30.

March 29

Spring Break



CHAPERONES FOR PILGRIM YOUTH FELLOWSHIP WORK CAMP

This year our youth will travel to Northern Minnesota to work on the Cass Lake reservation, repairing houses and working with young children.

We are looking for two chaperones. Youthworks is the organization we are working with this year. www.youthworks.com The dates are June 14- June 19. Please email Elizabeth Ciccolini for information on the process to become a PYF chaperone. Elizabeth.ciccolini@gccucc.org

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

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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
	9:30 am	Lectio Divina, Rm 5
	12:00 pm	Chapel Meditation, Chapel
3-12	6:15 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal, Bell Rm
	7:00 pm	N. Suburban Day Care Assn., Rm 201
_	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm, Sanctuary
Fri	9:00 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm
	12:00 pm	Chapel Meditation, Chapel
	6:30 pm	Blue & Gold Dinner; CSA, Mayflower Rm
3-13	8:00 pm	Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201
	8:00 pm	AA Mtg., Parlor
Sat	9:00 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm
Sat 3-14	9:00 am 9:00 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm Men's Open Gym, Gym
	-	
3-14	9:00 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym
3-14 Sun	9:00 am 8:30 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym Sunday School, Room 105
3-14 Sun	9:00 am 8:30 am 9:15 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym Sunday School, Room 105 Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm
3-14 Sun	9:00 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 9:30 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym Sunday School, Room 105 Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm Fellowship Board, Rm 213 8th Grade Confirmation, Various Rms
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3-14 Sun	9:00 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym Sunday School, Room 105 Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm Fellowship Board, Rm 213 8th Grade Confirmation, Various Rms 7th Grade Confirmation, Rm 8 Membership Board, Rm 7

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Sun	10:15 am	Confirmation Closing Prayers, Plymouth Rm		
3-15	10:30 am	Sunday School Gathering, Rm 201		
	11:30 am	Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm		
	3:30 pm	Voices Rehearsal, Rm 201		
Mon	9:30 pm	Finding My Spirit, Library		
3-16	12:00 pm	March Mondays With Pam, Rm 5		
	12:00 pm	Chapel Meditation, Chapel		
	7:00 pm	March Mondays with Pam, Rm 5		
Tues	9:30 am	WA Board Mtg., Parlor		
3-17	12:00 pm	Knitting Classes, Rm 5		
	12:00 pm	60 Plus Luncheon, Mayflower Rm		
	7:00 pm	Executive Board Mtg., Mayflower Rm		
	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Key 3, Rm 210		
Wed	9:00 am	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm		
	9:15 am	WA Chapter 11, Parlor		
	9:30 am	WA Chapter 20, Chapel		
	12:00 pm	Chapel Meditation, Chapel		
	6:00 pm	Girl Scout Mtg., Rm 201		
3-18	6:30 pm	BSA Troop 156, Mayflower Rm		
	7:00 pm	Venturing Crew, Rm 210		
Broadcaster Deadline				

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