

Broadcaster

March 17, 2010

Beyond the Fence: Sabbatical Reflections

In November, I wrote about my hopes and goals for my sabbatical. Do you remember the picture of my three little granddaughters looking over the fence? I imagined myself climbing up the fence and looking at my life from a different view. What might be out there for me to explore as I took time for growth and renewal? I want to extend a thank you to the staff and volunteers who "did my work," as well as to the Church, for honoring the commitment of this sabbatical for me. It was exactly what I needed.

This time away, however, was not just about renewal. I had a yearning to go beyond the fence and explore new paths and even some difficult climbs. I learned to conduct six religious songs (by memory) in a five-week class on congregational singing. I took a pottery class for the first time and sat at the wheel trying to form something out of that lump of clay. I consistently exercised my body and mind; reading 28 books from the library (not religious or theological!); trying my hand at painting and drawing; meditating while taking walks through the snow, sometimes to go to a new restaurant and ordering breakfast for one; practicing the piano daily while tackling new and challenging songs.

I scanned Chicago magazines and newspapers for fun events, many of which were free. I enjoyed concerts, and even went to the opera for the first time in my life. I attended a prayer retreat in Colorado and read by the fire in a castle near the Garden of the Gods, surrounded by Pike's Peak. This place of study turned out to be an amazing surprise. (I'll soon be leading a six-week session on conversational prayer here at GCC as a result of what I experienced there among the mountains and warm breezes.)

Many have asked if I was able to visit my grandchildren. Yes! I delighted in spend-

ing time with all four of them. Keira, 4 years old, even gave me directions when I mumbled to myself about where to turn while driving on an unfamiliar road near her home. She said, "Grammy, see that large sign up ahead? You turn left there." Thank you, O wise one.

I fully enjoyed being with my family and celebrating our winter birthdays, including planning and hosting an 80th birthday party for my mother and 88 of her friends in Indiana.

I wanted some significant time for music in my life during this time away. I attended a workshop called "Worship Alive" and had been mesmerized by the piano accompaniments of the guest composer. I instantly ordered most of his music, which consisted primarily of choral anthems for adult choirs. I chose one song I particularly liked, consulted with Andy Lewis, then, purchased the music for our choir to sing later this spring. I will accompany on the piano!

The final highlight of my sabbatical was to record some favorite hymns on the piano in a professional recording studio. I have more work to do before the CD is completed and ready for distribution, but I will keep you posted.

I have a full and satisfied soul. Was it from taking the time for renewal? Yes, but I'd like to think it was because I was open to an experience with God that urged me to venture out and try something new... "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" I decided to go beyond the fence – past the routine and the comfortable, and see what might take place. I'm glad I did. I invite you to take some moments of Sabbath quiet and exploration for yourself during this Lenten season to see what new thing God might be preparing for you.

Pam

SUNDAY SERVICES

MARCH 21, 2010

Lent 5

8:30 a.m. Bells

10:30 a.m. Bells and Chancel Choir

Scripture:

Psalm 22:14-22, Luke 23:42-43

Sermon:

"Today"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

MARCH 28, 2010

Lent 6

8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

Scripture:

Psalm 22:1-8, Matthew 27:45-46

Sermon:

"Forsaken"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

APRIL 1, 2010

Maundy Thursday

Communion

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Meditation:

Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler

APRIL 2, 2010

Good Friday

7:30 p.m. Pilgrim Wind Ensemble

Meditation:

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

Taize Service

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

"In the Spirit of Taize" is an ecumenical form of prayer modeled after the Taize community in France. The purpose of this prayer service during Lent is to foster reconciliation and peace among all people and to draw closer to God. The service consists of songs/chants, scripture, candlelight, silent meditation and prayers.

Soup & Bread & Study

Lent's Wednesday Soup/Bread & Program Series continues each Wednesday through March 24th. With hot soup and warm bread served at 6:15 p.m. in the Founder's Room. The programs follow at 7:00 p.m. lasting for about 30 minutes.

Come for fellowship, food, and inspiration. Make a reservation in the office in person or by calling 724-2210.

Invite a friend or neighbor.

Labyrinth, A Spiritual Walk

Spiritual Relevance for Today: Walking the Labyrinth is a personal journey or pilgrimage. The single pathway that leads you to the center and out again enables you to free your mind from mundane thoughts and concentrate on the sacred. Your walk, pace, and personal experience are all your own.

When will I be able to participate in the Labyrinth experience?

You are invited to walk the labyrinth at GCC in the Mayflower room on your choice of dates and times:

Palm Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Monday, March 29 & Tuesday, March 30
4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 31
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

(sponsored by the Pastoral Care Board)

Pastoral Care

Mitchell Sawicki, father of GCC members Michael (Joy), grandfather of Katy (Jon), and Jill, passed away on February 18. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Pray! Pilot Project Group

One of the highlights of my sabbatical time was participating in a prayer retreat in Colorado near the beautiful Garden of the Gods. The leader of the retreat is now in the process of completing a six-week prayer curriculum for church groups to "test." The theme of this book is that "prayer happens best in the context of personal, loving, interactive relationship with God." We receive one lesson per week for six weeks, along with a feedback form to return to the writer/publisher. Various denominations plan to participate. Would you like to join me in this venture? If so, please contact me by email/phone: pam.keckler@gccucc.org or 847-724-2210, ext. 24 and I will follow up with details. The pilot project will be offered at GCC in Room 5 on Friday mornings 9:30-10:30 a.m. beginning March 19 or Monday evenings 7:00-8:15 p.m. beginning March 22 for 6 consecutive weeks. If you can't attend all 6 sessions, you may still join us. Deadline to register is March 17.

Pam

SIGN CHI DO

The Art of Moving Prayer

Come join us for a **FREE** new program being offered in April by Joann Kress, RN and Bachelor completion student with NIU. Sign Chi Do is a unique, spiritual-based program that combines deep breathing, tai chi type movement, sign language and prayer to promote total body health and wellness. The practice of this technique has been shown to reduce blood pressure, improve memory, increase concentration, improve muscle coordination and improve balance. People with all levels of physical abilities can participate!

All classes will be held in room 201 and preceded with a short discussion on the affects of stress on our health. Contact Marilyn Belleau, Advocate Health Care Parish Nurse at 847-724-2210 x 30 for more details.

Dates and Times:

Tuesday, April 13 & 27
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 20 & 27
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Volunteers Needed

The Services and Sacraments Board is looking for volunteers to help with the following:

LECTORS to read at the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services throughout the year. Volunteers will be asked to serve as a lector 3 to 4 times a year.

MEMORIAL SERVICE USHERS. Volunteers are needed to help with services Monday - Friday and on Saturdays. We are willing to accommodate people who are only able to volunteer certain days of the week.

If you are interested in either of the above please contact Carolyn Brown at brownfamily25@att.net or call at 847-729-4766.

Adult Education Seminar

IN THE CHAPEL AT 9:30 A.M.

March 21 and 28

THE FIRST PAUL

Join Tom and Karen Aldrich on March 21 and 28 for a two-part discussion of Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan's enlightening book on the apostle Paul. Subtitled "*Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church's Conservative Icon.*" THE FIRST PAUL explores Paul's socially conscious liberal theology for First Century Christians. Through pictures and stories, Tom and Karen will share their May 2009 pilgrimage to Turkey with Borg and Crossan, as well as present the authors' vision of what Paul has to say to Christians today.

GCC CAREER NETWORK GROUP

MONDAY, MARCH 29 @ 12:00 P.M.

Top Secret Executive Resumes

Presented by Steven Provenzano, Author and President of Executive Career Services & Desk Top Publishing, Inc.

Energize and clarify your job search; improve and add impact to your resume. Steven Provenzano will emphasize marketing your skills and talents to win job interviews and increase your career potential. He will also provide personal feedback on resumes.

Contact Alek Jablonski at 847-922-6870/ajablonski03@hotmail.com or Rev. Pam Keckler 847-724-2210 x24/pam.keckler@gccucc.org for more information.

Bella Voce

March 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Bella Voce, conducted by Andrew Lewis along with Chicago's renowned violinist, Rachel Barton Pine, will present Monteverdi's *Vespro della Beata Vergine*. The Callipygian Players, will also share in the presentation.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.bellavoce.org or by calling (312) 479-1096.

\$35 Premium seating
\$28 General
\$15 Student

Group rate: \$15 each for a group of 10 or more. Groups must purchase tickets over the phone or by sending a check to:

Bella Voce

c/o Dept. of Performing Arts
College of Architecture and The Arts
University of Illinois Chicago
1040 West Harrison Street,
Rm L018, MC 255
Chicago, IL 60607-7130

This is part of the *Simple Gifts* series.

Celebrate the Magic of Hands Of Peace

Hands of Peace is an interfaith organization developing peace-building and leadership skills in Israeli, Palestinian, and American teens through the power of dialogue and personal relationships.

Please join us for our *First Annual Gala* on Saturday, April 24, 2010

REZA'S RESTAURANT

432 W. Ontario, Chicago Il.
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

*Magic by James Sanden
dinner & dessert followed by
stand up comedy and stimulating conversation*

Featuring Ray Hanania, a Palestinian member of the Israeli-Palestinian Comedy Tour and an award winning veteran journalist.

Order your tickets now on line at <http://www.hands-of-peace.org>

For more information call Lisa Fisher (847) 615-9296 or Karen Botton (847) 945-1553.

Help Share the Joy of Easter!

You can help share the joy of Easter by delivering an Easter Lily to someone who is unable to enjoy these plants in person. We need many people to sign up and help with this wonderful Easter tradition. The lilies may be picked up after the 11:00 AM service on Easter morning. To volunteer, please call Betsy Martin at 847-657-7595 or Carolyn Keller at 847-577-5115.

Breakfast with a Musical

Sunday, April 18 @ 8:00 a.m. – Noon
Sponsored by Resource Development Committee (RDC) supporting GCC programs through faith, fellowship & fun!

Our 7th Grade Confirmation Class and the GCC Men's Ministry will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday April 18.

For \$5, you receive sausage, a beverage and all the pancakes you can eat. Breakfast will be served before and after the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. performance of *"Rescue in the Night"* brought to you by Voices of GCC.



Send in your RSVP for the 8th Annual Easter Eggstravaganza Fundraiser for *By the Hand Club*. They also are in need of socks and underwear for ages 2 - adult. Please bring unopened packages and receive a special Easter treat!

Pre-purchase raffle tickets for eggcellent prizes. There are extra RSVP forms and invitations in office. Any questions please contact ColleenMackimm@hotmail.com.

PYF

MARCH 21

3:30 p.m.

Putting Edge - Mini Golf:

Meet at the Church at 3:30 p.m. return to the Church at 6:15.

We Need Wii

PYF and 678 Club Looking for a Wii

Do you have a Wii that is no longer being used? The PYF and 678 Club can put it to good use. The Confirmation & Youth Board is looking to acquire a Wii gaming system. Because Wii games are popular with youth, and encourage positive interaction, a Wii would be a great addition for the programs.

Contact Elizabeth Ciccolini, Director of Youth Ministries at 847-724-2210, x33 or email Elizabeth.Ciccolini@gccucc.org if yours is looking for a new home.

Confirmation

MARCH 21

7TH GRADE – Opening prayers at 9:30 in the Youth Room, followed by regular class.

8TH GRADE – We will be taking a field trip to a local funeral home during our regular class time. Parents are invited to attend as well. We will gather at N.H. Scott & Hanekamp Funeral Home 1240 Waukegan Road at 9:30 a.m. Please be on time. If you need a ride, contact your teachers.

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 at the coffee hour on March 21st or April 11th, or by mailing or dropping off a donation at Church C/O Elizabeth Ciccolini. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated.

GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Glenview, IL 60025-2897

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

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 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

Thu 9:00 am Resale Shop open until 5:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm
3-18 12:00 pm Meditation & Prayer, Chapel
1:00 pm Minister's Mentor Meeting, Rm 210
1:00 pm Joyce Shrader Mtg., Parlor
6:15 pm Bell Choir, Bell Rm
6:30 pm North Suburban Family Mtg., Rm 201
7:30 pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

Fri 9:00 am Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm
3-19 9:30 am Pray Group, Rm 5
9:30 am Resale Shop Mtg., Parlor
12:00 pm Meditation & Prayer, Chapel
8:00 pm AA, Parlor
8:00 pm AI-Anon, Rm 201

Sat 9:00 am Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm
3-20 9:30 am Eggstravaganza, Gym and various rooms

Sun 8:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
3-21 9:15 am Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm
9:30 am Confirmation Opening Prayers, Youth Rm
9:30 am 7th Grade Confirmation Class, Various Rms
9:30 am 8th Grade Confirmation Class, Youth Rm
9:30 am Adult Education, Chapel

Sunday cont.,

9:30 am 4th Grade Sunday School, Rm 5
9:45 am Primary Choir, Rm 201
10:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:30 am Sunday School Gathering, Rm 201
11:30 am Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm
3:30 pm Voices of GCC, Rm 201

Mon 12:00 pm Meditation & Prayer, Chapel
3-22 7:00 pm Troop 156 Committee Mtg., Founders
7:00 pm Pray Group, Rm 5

Tue 11:00 am WA Chapter 8, Founders Rm
3-23 12:00 pm Meditation & Prayer, Chapel
12:00 pm Knitting Group, Rm 5
7:00 pm Executive Board, Mayflower Rm

Wed 9:00 am Resale Shop until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm
3-24 12:00 pm Meditation & Prayer, Chapel
6:15 pm Lenten Soup & Bread, Founders Rm
7:00 pm Lenten Taize Service, Sanctuary
7:00 pm BSA Troop 156, Gym
8:00 pm Venture Crew, Rm 210

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