

Pilgrims Progress

Sunday, May 1st is Confirmation Sunday. During worship 26 eighth graders will be confirmed. But what in the world is confirmation? Why do we do this? What does it mean?

We have a great, well integrated two year confirmation program that is one of the best of any congregation anywhere. Confirmands learn about the Bible and Christian faith. They participate in worship and prepare worksheets about worship. I am impressed with their insight and understanding about worship and its application to their lives. They learn about and participate in worship with congregations of other faiths. All of this is done so that Confirmands can make thoughtful decisions about whether to commit their lives to the Christian faith. Congratulations Confirmands! I celebrate your work and accomplishments. It will be a delight to share in your Confirmation service.

With the excellent guidance, care, and teaching of their teachers under the leadership of Rev. Pam Keckler and the support of their parents, these 26 eighth graders are ready to make their faith declarations on May 1st. I hope the parents of these Confirmands are anticipating the moment of their child's confirmation with as much enthusiasm and prayerful consideration as they might offer up the day he or she takes the driver's license exam or the day your child applies for college. These who are being confirmed have been looking at their parents and many of us and learning from what they have observed. What they have seen in us, they are attempting to emulate in their lives. I wonder what they have seen and what they are taking into their lives.

I'm concerned about what happens after confirmation because it makes all the difference. There is the temptation to see confirmation as the end of the process rather than the beginning of service.

There is the tendency to see confirmation as completion rather than commencement. There's the temptation for Confirmands and their parents to drop out of church before the year of their confirmation ends. Whether adults or adolescents, we must resist the temptation simply to follow the crowd and opt instead to follow the one who shows us how to live and serve. There's probably no such thing as a free lunch, and Jesus says there's no such thing as a free life. Life costs, especially when it is a life lived with integrity.

Let's review those costs again. The decision to follow Jesus: expensive. It could run into years of self-denial and doing things for the benefit of others. Abundant life blessed with the Creator who treasures us, the God who shows us how to love and live through the life of Jesus: priceless. So the cost to follow Jesus: expensive. The blessings received from God: priceless.

As we gather to worship on Sunday, let us celebrate with these 26 young people and their families. As part of our celebration let us commit ourselves to encourage and support them in being actively involved in the life and ministry of GCC. May we help them to know and experience Confirmation as an important step in their growth and development, as a beginning and not an ending in their involvement and participation in the ministry of the church. May our worship on Confirmation Sunday help all of us to renew our faith in God and renew our commitment to serve God through the ministry of the church.

Howard

APRIL 27, 2011

WORSHIP SERVICES

MAY 1, 2011 **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** COMMUNION

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

Scripture: John 20:19-31

We will confirm 26 eighth graders.

Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler **Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts**

MAY 8, 2011

9:30 a.m.

"Life of the Party" Voices of GCC

Directed by, Debby Shellard

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

MAY 15, 2011

YOUTH SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.

Special music by Youth & Liturgical Dance

Theme: "Many Rooms – One Church"

Sermons: by High School Seniors

Elizabeth Hartung Ciccolini **Director of Youth Ministries**



Retiring

Jane Payne has announced her plans to retire as Administrative Assistant to the Senior Minister August 31, 2011. Jane began her work in January 2, 2011 when she replaced Pat Angelaccio who retired December 31, 2006. We appreciate Jane's work and assistance to the Senior Minister, the Church Clerk, the Chair of the Stewardship Board, the Moderator, Executive Board, and members of the congregation throughout her four and a half years in this position. Please take the opportunity to express your appreciation to Jane and share your well wishes for her retirement.

Adult Education Program

There will be no Adult Education presentation on May 1 due to the open forum discussion on the times/numbers/days of upcoming church services during coffee hour. There will be no Adult Education on May 8 due to celebration of Mother's Day.

Update the Directory

A directory is only as good as the accuracy of its information!

The Membership Board is asking you to please take a minute to give us any changes for the 2011 directory. The pastoral staff is also asking for emergency contacts for internal use only. 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 or in the pews.



Party, that is...

May 1 and May 8 following worship at 10:45 a.m. in the Mayflower Room. Snacks and beverage will be available during this coffee hour time. Children are invited to the gym for a movie during the meeting. All are invited to give ideas for future worship services such as times, style, structure, substance, etc. The Planning Committee, Ministers and Staff want your input on what worship might look like at Glenview Community Church. We need to make a recommendation to Executive Board at the May meeting, having done a trial "one service" this past year. Since this is a brainstorming session, we will receive all ideas but will not comment on them. Christine Folev will facilitate the session on May 1 and Cathy Ach will lead the session on May 8. Bob McGee, our clerk will write all ideas on an easel. Don't miss this time of fun as we generate ideas for future worship services. If you are unable to be present and wish to contribute your thoughts, please put them in writing and give to a moderator or minister.

Confirmation 7th Grade

During the month of May we will attend worship as a class for; Confirmation Sunday, May 1, Children's Musical, May 8, Youth Sunday, May 15.

All services will start at 9:30.a.m Please turn in any reports to Rev. Keckler by May 15.

PYF

Youth Sunday is coming! We will be conducting the worship service on Sunday, May 15. Our theme is Many Rooms: One Church. On Friday night, May 13, we will have a dinner at 5:00 followed by a practice from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

SOLID ROCK

GCC Men's Ministry cordially invites all GCC members and friends to attend a presentation by Solid Rock Carpenters on Wednesday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the GCC Founders, refreshments will be served.

Solid Rock Carpenters was started in 2005 by Scott and Jeff Engle. They have had about 30 teams travel to Louisiana and Mississippi to build more than 20 homes with Habitat for Humanity.

In addition they have worked on many different Habitat projects including: Blitz and "Accelerated" builds, framing of houses in Glenview that were shipped to Louisiana, building a playground and building beds for homeless shelters.

Donations will be accepted to support future Solid Rock Carpenters projects. To learn more about Solid Rock Carpenters go to: <u>www.solidrockcarpenters.org</u>.

A Remnant of Resurrection

the time for daffodils has come, bunches of six, ten, or twelve, with tightly wrapped buds, arrive from warmer lands. like sentinels of invitation they keep my wintered heart leaning into Spring. the directions say to cut at least a half inch off the stem, then place in water and wait for the surprise. behold, in the early hour of dawn, I see resurrection on my kitchen table, every yellowed daffodil hurrahing the morning, stretching outward in the etched-glass vase. but what captures my attention is one small, thin remnant, voluntarily discarded, beneath the smiling daffodils. this dry, transparent cover, a cast-off tube of protection once concealing a fragile bud, conveys the price of blooming. I pick up this remnant of resurrection and hold it for a long, silent time, wondering what soul-shroud of mine needs to be unwrapped, before I, too, am blooming.

author, Joyce Rupp



Please join us for the 6th annual GCCNS Spring Boutique. Over 20 vendors, most of them new to our boutique, will be selling jewelry, purses, workout wear, home décor, personalized stationery, children's clothes, toys and more. Visit <u>www.gccns.com/</u> <u>springboutique</u> for a list of our wonderful vendors.

GCC CHILDREN'S MUSICAL



Please mark your calendar and plan to see this year's GCC Children's Musical Life of the Party on either Sunday, May 8th (Mother's Day) during the 9:30 a.m. service or Monday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m. The play focuses on the lives of sisters Mary and Martha and their brother Lazarus. The show appeals to all ages with songs that range from lighthearted and humorous to moving and dramatic. And you don't want to miss the youngest cast members with their "sheepish" grins!

The Rainbow Garden Springs Forth Again!

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What a fantastic start to our gardening season we had on April 10! The second graders enjoyed a gorgeous, and unseasonably warm day in the garden. With the help of some terrific parent volunteers, we mended the fence, talked about and cleaned off the winter "blankets" of leaves from some of the beds, and planted lettuce. We also explored the garden and found dried out marigold heads and many of our junior gardeners got right to work planting

the seeds from those heads around the outer edge of the fence. What a fantastic example of how nature rejuvenates itself (in this case with a little guidance from 2nd graders)! We also had some terrific discoveries: onions that were still growing and smelled great when we broke open the skins, baby roly poly bugs, and an enormous earthworm. My smart helpers were quick to say that this worm was a garden helper so we let him stay put.

Every Sunday after Easter, we will be inviting Sunday school students to join TOPP in the garden, one grade at a time, so please look for announcements from Kathy Lifton to dress your children accordingly. In addition, TOPP members will be in the garden following the ser-

vice each Sunday and welcome everyone to stop by for a tour, a chat, or to volunteer.

> We will be hosting a volunteer informational/organizational meeting at 10:45 on May 1 at the garden.

Ordination Process

Jim Coyl, former Student Associate at Glenview Community Church, will be ordained to the Christian Ministry on Sunday afternoon, May 22 at 3:00 p.m. at Glenview Community Church. Some of you have asked about this process – how it works, etc. During seminary a student becomes "in care" with his/her local church as well as with the Association (Chicago Metropolitan Association). Jim's GCC committee consisted of Chair, Barbara Schwarting, Earle Shultz, John Witt, Mary Lambert, Beth Herbert. We thank each of them for supporting Jim during this process.

After being in care for at least 2 years, the student meets with the CMA Committee on Ministry, and works with an advisor/ mentor, preparing their ordination paper, stating what they believe and why, as well as describing their call to ministry. When the student has successfully completed the ordination examination by this committee, the next step in the approval process is an ecclesiastical council. This is where the student presents the ordination paper to both ministers and laypeople in the Association and answers any and all questions. Jim did this several months ago and was voted unanimously to continue on this journey as he sought a call from a local church. Jim recently received a call and began work in March at St. Paul UCC in Chelsea, Michigan. Once a student in care receives "a call" they may then be ordained, normally at their local home church.

We will celebrate with Jim and his family in May when the local churches and ministers in CMA gather here for Jim's ordination service. He will be officially ordained and then lead us in communion as a minister. Please join us!

Favorite Hymns

Do you have a favorite hymn you would like to sing in worship sometime? During the summer we would like to sing some favorite hymns of the congregation. If you have a favorite, let us know and we will add it to the list for July and August. Who knows, your song may be chosen! Simply write the name of your hymn or song on paper and place in the office mailboxes of Gary Wendt, Andy Lewis or Rev. Keckler or email us. Keep on singing!



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 | 4/28 | | Resale Shop open until 5:00 pm, Plymouth Rm Interim Minister Search Committee, Parlor |
|------|------|---|--|
| FRI | 4/29 | 11:30 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm | Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm Daisy Girl Scouts, Founders Rm & Rm 8 NSY&R Volleyball, Gym AA Mtg., Parlor Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201 |
| SAT | 4/30 | 9:00 am | Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm |
| | | 9:00 am | Men's Open Gym, Gym |
| SUN | 5/01 | 8:45 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 10:40 am 10:45 am 10:45 am 3:00 pm | Confirmation Sunday, Youth Rm Primary Choir Rehearsal, Rm 201 Worship Service, Sanctuary 7th Grade Confirmation in Worship Service Sunday School, Various Classrooms Worship Brainstorming Party, Mayflower Rm Joyfull Ringers Rehearsal, Bell Rm Organic Garden Volunteer Meeting, Garden Organ Walk Concert, Sanctuary Voices of GCC, Rehearsal, Rm 201 |
| | | 5.50 pm | voices of GCC, RefleatSal, RITZUT |

MON 5/02 6:00 pm Voices of GCC, Sanctuary

Nonprofit Organization

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| TUE | 5/03 | 4:00 pm Hebrew School, Various Rms |
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| | | 7:00 pm Book Club, Library |
| | | 7:00 pm Children's Board Mtg., Rm 201 |
| | | 7:00 pm Core Fusion Class, Gym |
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WED 5/04 6:00 pm PYF Small Groups, Youth Rm 7:00 pm BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Gym & Rm 201 7:30 pm Confirmation Youth Board, Youth Rm 8:00 pm Venture Crew, Rm 210 & Gym

Regret and Error

With regret Sally Sargent's mother's name was misspelled last week. Please see the corrected version below.

Pastoral Care

Our prayers and sympathy to Sally Sargent and her family upon the death of her mother, Viola Larson on April 15, 2011.

Broadcaster Deadlines:

Submit articles by 9:00 a.m. , Wednesday to Tania Mc-Carthy via e-mail at *tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org.*