

# **Pilgrim's Progress**

Earlier this year as I prepared to work with the Personnel Task Force I collected data that is helpful, insightful, and challenging to us as a congregation. As we explore our ministry, examine personnel needs and expenses, it is valuable to know the make up of the congregation. It is helpful to have this information so all of us have a more comprehensive understanding of the dynamics and complexities that are part of Glenview Community Church.

We have 2090 people listed in ACS—the software program we use to maintain records of members and friends of GCC. 300 of that number preferred not to provide their birth date or are less than one year old. From the remaining 1790 people the largest age group in the congregation is between 46 and 60 years old. Surprisingly, we have 58 members who are 86 or older, that's 2.77%. The number of people in some age groups is the equivalent of the size of some congregations, 383 between the ages of 46 and 60, 307 between the ages of 19 and 30, and 252 between the ages of 61 and 75.

Worship is a primary function of the church but our participation in worship does not reflect it as a priority in many members lives. 7% participate in worship more than 50% of the time, 15% participate in worship more than 25% but less than 50% of the time, 45% participate in worship less then 25% of the time, and 33% never participate in worship. Wow one third of the members never participate in worship!

Another surprising statistic is that 40% of the members have joined GCC since January 2002. While there are people who have been members twenty-five and even fifty years, it is amazing that four out of every ten members, 591 people, have become a part of the this community of faith in the last eight years. Nearly 20% of our members have been members more than 30 years.

In a sense we have another congregation that functions parallel to the worshiping congregation, the Sunday school. Most of the children in Sunday school are children of members but not all of them. We have approximately 300 enrolled in Sunday school - preschool through the sixth grade with an average attendance of 125 which is 42%. Of course, we have lots of volunteers serving as teachers in Sunday school making this one of the reasons given by new members of what attracted them to GCC.

The dynamic needs of an age diverse congregation like GCC calls for a journey inward and a journey outward. To grow personally and spiritually calls for passionate worship and intentional faith development. This can lead to radical hospitality that truly lives out the statement, "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here." Practicing passionate worship, intentional faith development, and radical hospitality will lead us on a journey outward that involves risk-taking mission and service and that stimulates extravagant generosity.

Where are you in the make up of GCC? How are you growing personally and spiritually? How is your journey inward calling and leading you to journey outward? Where is the growing edge for you in risk-taking mission and service and in being extravagantly generous? How are you progressing as a pilgrim?

Howard

## Annual Congregational Meeting

By a vote of the Executive Board, the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 7:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive nominations and elect the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and board members; receive the annual reports of the leadership; and, vote upon a proposed Constitutional amendment mandating the adoption of a GCC church budget in which income and expenses are in balance and do not result in a deficit budget for the Church.

This notice constitutes the official call to meeting. All members of the church are urged to be present.

Refreshments will be served beginning at 7 p.m. in the Mayflower room.

# SUNDAY SERVICES

### MAY 24, 2009 Summer Worship Services Begin

9:30 a.m.

Tricia and Friends

#### **Scripture:**

Acts 1:1-11 and Ephesians 1:15-23

#### Sermon:

"A Few Good Witnesses…Looking for Hope" Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

No Sunday School Cradle/Toddler Room available

## MAY 31, 2009

#### **Youth Sunday**

9:30 a.m.

Worship planned and led by Elizabeth Ciccolini, Rev. Pam Keckler, and PYF

Summer Sunday School Begins

## **JUNE 7, 2009**

#### **Baccalaureate Sunday**

9:30 a.m.

Chancel Choir

#### Scripture:

Psalm 130, Mark 3:20-35 Sermon: "Helicopter Parents" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

All high school graduating seniors will be recognized during worship.

### **GCC CAREER NETWORK** Monday, June 1 12:00 or 7:00 p.m.

If you are unemployed, returning to work, considering a job change or looking to expand your business network please join us! The GCC Career Network meets every other Monday (6/1, 6/15) at 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Glenview Community Church for about 1 ½ hours. We share experiences, resources, job openings, hear speakers and support one another. Members also have access to a Yahoo! Group to get resources, share information and be alerted of opportunities. Contact Alek & Renee Jablonski at 847-486-1920 or Rev. Pam Keckler at 847-724-2210 for more information.

# TODAY'S TOP SECRETS of EXPERT RESUMES

Monday, June 1

#### 7 p.m. in the Plymouth Room

Marketing your Skills and Abilities will be the topic of this resume writing seminar by Steven Provenzano, author of "Top Secret Executive Resumes" and "Top Secret Resumes & Cover Letters." Mr. Provenzano will emphasize the book's key topic: marketing your skills and talents to win job interviews and increase your career potential. He will also critique resumes for members of the audience.

Steve is a CPRW: Certified Professional Resume Writer and CEIP: Certified Employment Interview Professional, and is President of ECS: Executive Career Services & DTP, Inc. in Schaumburg. He has appeared on CNBC, CNN/fn, ABC/NBC and CLTV in Chicago, and is endorsed by Chicago Tribune Columnist Lindsey Novak and top Motorola executives. The author and his staff may be reached toll free at 877-610-6810 or 630-289-6222; website: Execareers. net. You may forward materials to: Careers@ Execareers.net.

Contact Alek & Renee Jablonski at 847-486-1920/ajablonski03@hotmail.com or Rev. Pam Keckler at 847-724-2210 if you would like more information about this program.

# **Broadcaster Deadlines**

The following dates are summer deadlines for the Broadcaster. Please remember that all articles need to be received by 9:00 a.m. the week before.

Summer Deadlines 6-3-09, 7-8-09, 8-12-09,

Beginning the new church program year 8-19-09, 8-26-09 and continuing weekly.

# Thank You For Making Sally's Heart Sing!

Thank you to all who participated in and attended Rev. Sally Iberg's sabbatical send off on Sunday, May 10. Sally will be returning to GCC on August 16. Please keep her and Jim in your prayers.

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO: Treat bakers;

Mary-Lou Aagaard, Jack and Ashley Davis, Dana Grad, Sally Hicks, Carolyn Keller, Betsy Martin, Michelle Monteith, Sue Newberry, Barbara Pollak, Connie Pruter, Peggy Roberts, Jane Sanderson, C.J. Sultz

#### Posters;

Nan Hinchsliff, Tania McCarthy

#### Set-up/clean-up;

Tom Amos, Karin and Bud Kinzlow, John Miller, Barry Nelson

#### From Sally's Sabbatical Committee:

Gary Berkenstock, Lloyd Bettis, Don Clark, Amy Davis, Dick Gottfred, Gretchen Grad, Bill Ryan, Jane Sanderson, Jackie Seter, Tracy Sawires, Peter and Ann Grant, and Mary Munday.

## Adult Education Sundays 9:30 am in the Chapel

MAY 24 Memorial Day Sunday No Adult Education

Ideas, suggestions for future Adult Education programs? E-mail Chris Calandra at ccalandra4@comcast.net

# God's Economy is not a Rollercoaster

We've been riding a roller coaster in the financial world, and it has not been fun. This is not a roller coaster we stood in line for and got excited about. This is a roller coaster that pulled up underneath us and took us on a wild and unwanted ride. The ups and downs are getting old, but we can't seem to get off.

When our world is rocked by financial waves, we are not powerless. We can open our hearts to people more vulnerable than we are. We can pray for one another. We can still be generous, in time, talent and treasure.

Most importantly, we can look around at everything in our life that does not cost money, and treasure it.

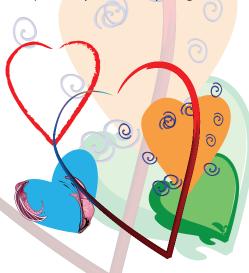
Our economy may be rocky, but God's economy is booming.

Lillian Daniel, www.ucc.org http://www.ucc.org/stewardship/faith-andtough-econmic-times/gods-economy-is-nota-roller.html

# Thank You

Thank you for the lovely reception on May 10th launching my sabbatical time. I appreciate your kind thoughts and prayers. The balloons were beautiful and the chocolate was delicious. I will be back at GCC on Sunday, August 16 and look forward to catching up when I return.

God's peace to you, Rev. Sally Iberg.



# **Bridge Marathon**

The Women's Association Bridge Marathon ended their twenty-eighth season having their luncheon and mini marathon this past Thursday in the Mayflower Room.

#### Season winners were;

1st Pat Nold & Mariam Swanson with a total of 19,760

2nd Corinne Spaulding & Barb Subak with a total of 18,080

3rd Sylvia Krasner & Jan Valkenaar with a total of 14,970

Mini Marathon playing 16 hands won by Corinne Spaulding & Barb Subak 3,430 Tillie Stuart & Gloria Sylvester 3,330

Please call Corinne Spaulding (724-6054) if interested in joining us in 2009-2010.

## It's That Time Again To Update The DIRECTORY

Please check your directory to make sure all the information is correct. If you have any changes to be made, please email them to Jane Payne - -jane.payne@gccucc.org.

deadline for all changes will be **June 5, 2009** 



To honor the men and women of the military who have served our country both here and abroad, the 2nd annual concert "God Bless America—For Those Who Gave Their All" will be presented on Sunday, May 24th at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary. As our special guest, The Navy Band Great Lakes Wind Ensemble will be the highlight of the event, along with Tricia Melzer-Swaydrak and members of the Chancel Choir. The concert

is FREE and open to the public and we invite all people of the community to honor our "Valiant Heroes." American Legion Post 166 and U.S.Navy League, Glenview Council, encourage the community to come and participate. It's a great way to begin the holiday weekend, so turn off the grill, bring your friends and neighbors and come over and say "thanks" to our area veterans! For information call 847-724-2210.

# **GLOBALIZATION FOR THE COMMON GOOD**



#### International Conference of Interfaith Leaders to Meet June 1-4 at Loyola University

Hands of Peace is a co-sponsor of this year's "Globalization for the Common Good" Conference.

#### **MAJOR THEMES ARE**

- 1) America's Role in World Affairs
- 2) The Role of the Global Interfaith Movement
- 3) The Global Environment
- 4) The Struggle for Social and Economic Justice and Human Rights

Come hear prominent religious and academic leaders from around the world speak on some of the pressing issues of the day.

Daily pass \$40/day. Cost for 4-day pass \$150. Details and registration at www.gcgchicago2009.org Questions? Contact Gretchen Grad gmgrad@comcast.net, 847-998-5576.

### Summer Worship Music CALLING ALL GCC MUSICIANS...

We are fortunate to have such tremendous musical talents within our own congregation, and are honored each year to hear them lead us musically in our worship services. If you are interested in playing or singing for one of our summer services (June 14 - September 6), please contact Andy Lewis or Gary Wendt:

Andv: 847.724.2210 X31 andy.lewis@gccucc.org



**Sunday School** Sunday school classes will not be in session on May 24. Cradle/toddler care will be available. The summer Sunday school program will begin on May 31 at 9:30 a.m.

# Looking Ahead...

Youth Sunday will be on May 31 at 9:30 a.m. Four seniors are busy preparing their sermons. Join us and support our youth. PYF Stock Sale for workcamp will conclude on that morning. Thanks to all for your support.

High School Senior Breakfast will be on June 7 before the 9:30 worship service. Watch for your invitation in the mail.

## Pastoral Care

Tex Beneke, died May 7 and the funeral was held May 2. Please keep the Beneke family in your prayers.

Murray Pratt's father, John N. Pratt died in April. Please keep Murray and his family in your prayers.

Tom Aldrich's father, Larry Aldrich, passed away on May 12. Please keep Tom's and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Mary Dohring is experieding health issues and would appreciate receiving wellness cards. They can be sent to Mary Dohring, 706 Rosedale Rd., Glenview, IL 60025.

# **A Member of Glenview Community Church**



February 7 at the United Nations in New York City, GCC member Gretchen Grad proudly received a prestigious award from Hamilton Ventures for her work in founding Hands of Peace.

Gretchen holds a BA in mathematics and economics from Hamilton College, a private liberal arts college in Clinton, New York. After college, she came to Chicago to work for First Chicago Capital Markets from 1985 – 1997. She'd been accepted to Cornell's combination business and law school program, but liked Chicago so much, she decided to come here. She holds an MBA from the University of Chicago. Last fall, she received her MBA class's Alumni Award in Public Service.

Along with Deanna Jacobson of Congregation BJBE and Nuha Dabbouseh of the Islamic Cultural Center, Gretchen founded Hands of Peace in 2002. Since that first year, every summer, teens from the West Bank and Israel come to the Chicago suburbs for two weeks of dialogue, team-building and friendship. GCC has actively contributed to the program by providing space for meetings and activities, and many GCC members have participated as Hands (teen participants), host families and wherever volunteers are needed. Erika Grad, Gretchen's oldest child, joins the program this year as an assistant to the Program Directors.

Wanting to stay connected to her undergraduate alma mater, Gretchen became a member of the Advisory Board for Hamilton Ventures, an association of Hamilton College alumni devoted to new enterprise development, and organized the not-for-profit segment of the Alumni Venture Association's First Symposium in New York City in February. Gretchen serves on the Advisory Board for Hamilton Ventures. During her day at the conference, she participated in a discussion about Survival Tactics for Non-Profits, and in the evening, her smiling family saw her receive the Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Congratulations Gretchen!

HANDS OF PEAC