

# Broadcaster

Glenview Community Church

## Pilgrim's Progress

One of the important books I read about forty years ago is *Your God Is Too Small* by J. B. Phillips. Phillips challenged my thinking about God and caused me to recognize various ways that I put perimeters around God in my efforts to talk about God or define God. I also began to discover the variety of images of God found in the Bible. The diversity of these images underscores the impossibility of capturing God in our human concepts. When I was writing my first book in the early 1980's I found myself exploring how my understanding of God had changed and evolved through the years by what I perceived God to be like when I prayed.

In the Bible God is likened to various parts of nature such as a whirlwind, a cloud, and a pillar of fire and to such animals as a hen, an eagle, and a lion. God is pictured as a tower, a shield, and a garment. God is described using social roles and activities including creator, potter, shepherd, father, birthing mother, and bridegroom. God is assigned human qualities and responses such as intelligence, will, memory, anger, and forgiveness. God is spoken of as possessing human form with eyes, arms, and hands, as walking around, and speaking with a voice.

In a book published this year Wesley Wildman and Stephen Garner also visit this theme of our understanding of God being too small. They point out the need for us to have an expanding understand of God and use expansive language to talk about God. We are drawn to particular images of God at certain times and for certain reasons. There is an important difference between rigid attachment to particular God images and the changing psychological realities of the developing human life. When we are young we need concrete images of God to make the divine reality tangible; that is quite appropriate. Throughout our lives we rely on images to articulate and nurture our relationship with God. Such limitations are not a problem in themselves. Picturing God in such a way that we can relate to God is what makes religious life important. God is a

loving father or mother, in that we believe we can trust ourselves to God completely. God is a friend or confidant in that we believe God knows our thoughts and needs before we utter them, and it is safe to share our deepest longings with God in prayer. God is judge and avenger, in that we believe that the sin and injustice of the world will encounter a divine reckoning. Our working images of God are tailored to our particular needs for God and to our creative, yet limited, ability to imagine that which we believe but cannot fully conceive. Thus, it is developmentally appropriate and psychologically intelligible to use God images to engage the incomprehensible and image-breaking divine reality.

The problem arises when we begin to think that our favorite image of God is the only one or the best one. We lose track of the contrast between God's infinity and our finite humanity. This tendency may be part of the human condition, but it is a trap that mature Christians in every generation learn to avoid.

The fact that our small images of God are so socially potent is one of the sources of great evil in the history of human civilization. It is one of the reasons why idolatry is not merely a matter of poor judgment or spiritual immaturity or theological insecurity.

As you think about and talk about God, what images are most helpful to you? Do these images leave you in a comfort zone of fairly clearly defining God for you? Or do these images challenge you to expand your understanding of God and the language you use in talking about God? Our concepts of God always are too small. May our understanding and images of God always be enlarging and expanding. Then, our understanding of the world and ourselves will also be enlarging and expanding and we'll discover we are people on the grow. (Adapted from *Found in the Middle! Theology and Ethics for Christians Who Are Both*

July 13, 2009

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### JULY 19, 2009

9:30 a.m. Summer Music Begins

#### Scripture:

Psalms 23, Mark 6:30-44

#### Sermon:

"All We Need, Never All We Want"  
Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

### JULY 26, 2009

Hands of Peace

9:30 a.m. Summer Music

#### Scripture:

John 6:1-13

#### Sermon:

"God's Abundant Presence"  
Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

### AUGUST 2, 2009

#### COMMUNION

9:30 a.m. Summer Music

#### Scripture:

John 6:24-35

#### Sermon:

"Bread of Life"  
Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

*Liberal and Evangelical* by Wesley J. Wildman and Stephen Chapin Garner, copyright © 2009 by the Alban Institute. All rights reserved.)

Howard

## My Faith - My Church



I was baptized and confirmed in the Protestant tradition. I attended the youth group through high school, and then didn't go back to church for almost 30 years. During that time I occasionally visited local churches but never felt compelled enough to join.

One of my sporadic attempts to find a church landed me in a pew at GCC. I found the services comfortingly familiar, but more importantly, I sensed an approach to religion that allowed each person to progress at his or her own pace. Underlying that message of acceptance, however, was the challenge to become a better Christian.

I began to attend regularly. A year or two went by and finally that challenge got the best of me. I joined.

No one really asked me to do anything for a while and I began wondering if it was really going to be this easy. Then I was called to join the Stewardship Committee, and I began to realize what one of those Christian challenges might look like. I saw how the members really do run the church. I marveled at how difficult it can be accomplish things in such a democratic, diverse, opinionated, environment. But I was lifted up by members I saw all around me giving unstintingly of their time and considerable talents. I saw how prayerfully they conducted the business of the church. I learned how to be a better Christian from many board members in a way you only do by working with them.

Years of walking the religious perimeter showed me I can't be a church of one. GCC is the church that provided me with the time, the space, the education, and the challenges I needed to grow as a Christian. It is belonging to the body of GCC that sustains me as I struggle to grow as a Christian in my heart, in my soul, and in my mind.

Mark Lefens, June 26, 2009

**SAVE THE DATE**



**Rally Day September 13th**

## HANDS OF PEACE



**It's hope for peace in the future**

It's nearly time for another Hands Of Peace Program! Our visitors arrive on Friday, July 17. As usual, GCC is generously supporting HOP with facilities for some of our events, as well as delicious meals from the Women's Association. HOP would like to invite GCC members to the following events:

**Sunday 7/26 - 930 a.m.** - HOP participants will attend church at GCC and would love to meet you after the service.

**Monday 7/27 - 7-9 p.m.** at GCC (in the Mayflower Room) - Dr. Ron Miller of Lake Forest College, Common Ground, and the HOP Board of Directors will speak to Hands

Of Peace about "Levels Of Consciousness". This is a favorite event each year and we would be pleased for GCC members to attend as our guests.

**Sunday August 2, 6-9 p.m.** at Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation in Evanston - HOP Farewell Dinner. If you are interested in attending, please make a reservation. If you have not received an invitation, please find them in the church office or contact Debby Fosdick at 847-832-1396

Thanks to everyone at GCC for your generous support of Hands Of Peace.

## Financial Summary

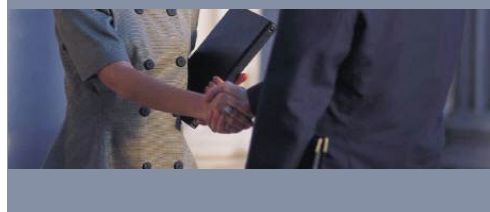
As of May 31, 2009, year to date, a summary of pledges received to date (Pledges Made), payments received against the pledges made (Pledges Paid), total revenues (including Pledges Paid) received (Total Revenues), and actual expense paid (Expenditures) is summarized below:

Pledges Made \$978,521  
Pledges Paid \$462,159

Total Revenues \$599,475  
Expenditures \$543,085

*Respectfully submitted, Rob Hevey, Treasurer*

## GCC CAREER NETWORK



GCC Career Network Summer Meeting  
If you are unemployed, returning to work, considering a job change or looking to expand your business network, please join us this summer. We meet Monday, July 13 at noon only; Mondays - August 10 and 24 at noon and 7:00 p.m. We gather in the Plymouth room to hear a speaker, share resources, discuss job openings, and support one another. Those who attend may also sign up to have access to a Yahoo! Group for ongoing information and help. Questions, call Alek and Renee Jablonski at 847-486-1920.

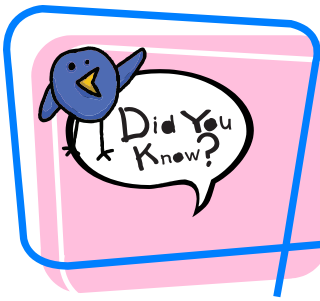
## Be an AMBASSADOR

Be an Ambassador and extend "Radical Hospitality" at Glenview Community Church. GCC appreciates all those who serve as Ambassadors at each of our worship services. Members and friends enjoy the warm greetings, visitors appreciate the welcome and helpful information about child care, Sunday school, fellowship and events. If you would like to volunteer to serve and help extend "Radical Hospitality", please call M-J Detwiler at (847) 724-4844 or e-mail [mjcd2223@gmail.com](mailto:mjcd2223@gmail.com). If you are serving as an Ambassador and want to continue you don't need to do anything. If you are unable to continue serving as an Ambassador, call or e-mail M-J Detwiler.

## Facility Manager

The Search Committee has recommended Jennifer Helgren as the new Facility Manager. Jennifer has accepted our invitation and will begin her work on July 15. She has worked as a telephone technician installing, repairing, and troubleshooting for American Business Telephone Systems. She was a maintenance engineer for an adult living facility operated by Alexian Brothers. Most recently Jennifer has been the Director of Building and Grounds for Shimer College. Comments by references indicated that Jennifer is excellent in communicating with employer, employees, and colleagues; extremely well organized; excellent ability to respond to emergencies while maintaining daily maintenance and repair of facility. We welcome Jennifer to the staff of Glenview Community Church.





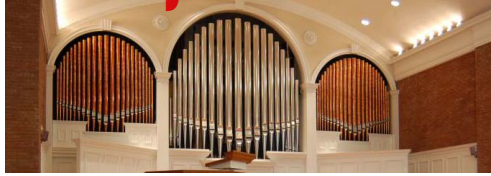
Interesting history and current facts showing how groups and individuals make a difference at GCC.

**Did you know...** that one of our ministers is on call at all times for emergency pastoral care? When you call the church office after office hours, the minister on call will be listed, along with a phone number where they may be reached. If you leave a message at the church office, it may not be retrieved until the next day or after the weekend. So feel free to make that phone call if you need to contact us.

## A Special Tribute

A special tribute was recently given to GCC members Jane Sanderson and Tracy Sawires by The Journal for their volunteer and mission outreach in the church and community. If you missed the article you may read it on the bulletin board near the sanctuary. Congratulations Jane and Tracy!

## Sound Byte



### – the pipe organ

The origins of the pipe organ can be traced back to Ancient Greece in the third century BC, in which the wind supply was created with water pressure. Ctesibius of Alexandria, described as a musician and an engineer, is generally credited with building the first pipe organ, the hydraulis. By the sixth or seventh century AD, bellows were used to supply organs with wind. Beginning in the twelfth century, the organ began to evolve into a complex instrument capable of producing different timbres. By the seventeenth century, most of the sounds available on the modern classical organ had been developed. From that time, the pipe organ was the most complex man-made device; it retained this distinction until it was displaced by the telephone exchange in the late nineteenth century.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the installation of our Buzard organ. Stay tuned for more details on planned events this fall!



## Sunday School

Sunday School is held each Sunday in the summer at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. There will be no Sunday School on Labor Day Sunday, September 6, but the nursery will be available.

## A Prayer Shared from a Youth

At our June worship service when we honored our graduating seniors, Cailey Hinz shared a prayer that our members have asked to be printed. The prayer idea came from Group Magazine and is taken from Psalm 46. Read that scripture passage first, then the prayer.

### GOD IS MY ROOM

God is my room.  
In my room I am safe.  
God is my room and I am safe.  
I am safe in my god.  
My God gives me joy.  
When the voices inside my head scream so loud that the walls rattle.  
When the world's noises get so loud that I can't shut them out.  
When it feels like my entire life is in chaos, God will say "Shhh."  
"Quiet, my child. I'm here. I've been here all along.  
I will be here and never leave you."  
God is my room.  
Amen.



## Personnel Task Force

The Personnel Task Force hopes that you have been able to participate in the discussions at our Town Hall Meetings held for the last two weeks. If you have been unable to attend, we hope that you will pick up some of the materials in the church office or call the office to have them sent to you. We also hope that you will e-mail or write your comments regarding your thoughts regarding those church programs you feel are most important and how you might reduce costs in order to move toward a balanced budget for 2010. Please send those thoughts to your Moderator, Contance Filling via the Moderator's e-mail at GCC.

## 7th Graders

Don't forget to register for confirmation class which begins September 13. There are registration forms and a letter on the youth bulletin board as well as in the church office. Classes will be formed later in July. Questions? Contact Dr. Keckler, who is in charge of the confirmation program (847-724-2210, Ext. 24.)

## PYF

Watch for your PYF Fall mailing this month. It will include a letter, schedule for the year, registration sheet and emergency form.

## PYFF

Pilgrim Youth Family Fellowship will gather on Sunday evening, August 30 for worship, dinner and a speaker for parents, fun for the youth. Mark your calendars now. All high school youth and their families are invited. More information in August.

## A mission trip to Cass Lake, Minnesota

At 5 am on June 14, 11 youth and 2 PYF leaders met at church to depart for our 10 hour car ride to Cass Lake, Minnesota. We arrived at Cass Lake Bena High School in the Cass Lake Native American Reservation. We were greeted by our 5 Youthworks counselors and we met youth from 3 other churches from the Midwest. For 5 days we stayed at the high school and went to other sites to serve the Native American community. We played with kids at the Boys and Girls Club, the local day care, and at Outrageous Sports Camp. We also did projects including painting and yard work at the homes on the Reservation and we picked up trash and trimmed bushes at the beach. In the mornings and evenings we had time for worship. We did devotions and had a worship service with music, prayer, scripture, and a message. We also had time to reflect and discuss with just our PYF group. Each night we had an activity, including hearing stories from Native Americans, a community cook-out, bowling, and walking around the town and beach. Although it was hard work, we still had time for games and fun. We impacted so many lives, especially the children on the Reservation. We learned about each other, our religion, and ourselves. This trip was an amazing experience that we will remember forever.

Hillary Davis

# GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

1000 Elm Street  
Glenview, IL 60025-2897

Phone: (847) 724-2210

Fax: (847) 724-2213

E-mail: gccucc@gccucc.org

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

## Office Summer Hours

Monday - Friday

8:30 am - 12:30 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*

## 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

Thurs		no events scheduled
7-16		
Fri		Hands of Peace Program Begins
7-17	8:00 pm	AA Mtg., Parlor
	8:00 pm	AI - Anon Meeting, Rm 201
Sat		no events scheduled
7-18		
Sun	9:30 am	Worship Service, Sanctuary
7-19	10:30 am	Fellowship Hour, Narthex
Mon		no events scheduled
7-20		
Tues		no events scheduled
7-21		
Wed		no events scheduled
7-22		

## Office Summer Hours 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Office summer hours begin June 15 through August 7, 2009.

## 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.

Summer Deadlines

7-8-09, 8-12-09,

Beginning the new church program year

8-19-09, 8-26-09 and continuing weekly.

## 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](mailto:tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org)