

A WALK ON THE WATER

Last weekend I traveled to Tower Hill in Sawyer, Michigan, to our UCC Camp. I joined 50 plus Confirmands , high school youth and other adults. It's a favorite place for all ages. Some of you may have spent your camping days there. The beauty of Lake Michigan and the Sand Dunes, the woods and trails nearby all contribute to peaceful living, something all of us yearn for these busy days. It was beautiful, indeed. But what moved me was observing our youth mentoring and leading our Confirmands in group discussion, singing around a campfire, worshipping by the beach and sharing communion. The small groups talked about courage, choices and prayer. One young man said he prays when he runs. Another one talked about difficult decisions that have to be made in her life. An older youth shared how we have to move on with faith, even when we have family challenges. There was ample fun, but there was extreme listening. There were no cell phones or texting, just talking, laughing and enjoying one another. We didn't participate in communion in pews. We sat on the beach and shared the sacred elements with the roar of the waves in front of us. Some comments from the Confirmands included: "Being on the beach was a wonderful experience. I liked being able to be near nature and beauty while praising God. I learned about praying and how you can do it anywhere, anytime and any way." "When we were on the beach worshipping, I felt very close to God and my friends. I felt blessed because I was surrounded by amazing miracles of creation – the lake, the creek, and every person on the trip. This retreat has affirmed my beliefs in God and my life." "I am thankful for all

the opportunities God has given me and to expand my faith through this week-end."

Matthew 14:22-33 tells the story of Jesus walking on water. Peter wants to join Jesus but he is scared of the unknown. The young people coming to Tower Hill took a risk. They weren't sure who would be there or what they would really do. These teens are thinking about school and the changes in their lives. We adults aren't much different, are we? We worry about changes around us and where we'll be next in life. Jesus said to Peter and says to us, "Take courage. Don't be afraid. Come." Peter responded to Jesus' call and stepped out on the water. It wasn't easy. It was uncomfortable to trust, not knowing what would really happen. But Peter was willing to believe that Jesus would be with him. We may prefer to stay dry and safe and comfortable rather than take a walk on the water and risk. But we may miss the miracle in front of us.

"Recognize and accept that there is another dimension to life than what is obvious to us. Live with obstacles, doubt, and paradox, knowing that God is always present in the world." *Spiritual Literacy*.

Take a step toward the water -- Pam

August 31, 2011

WORSHIP SERVICES

There will be special music each Sunday.

SEPTEMBER 4, 2011 COMMUNION

9:30 a.m. Scripture: *Psalm 100; Acts 17:22-28*

Sermon: "How Close is God?" Rev. Dr. Pamela Kecker

SEPTEMBER 11, 2011 RALLY DAY

8:00 a.m. A Time of Reflection10:00 a.m. Community Worship

Scripture: Psalm 100; 1 Corinthians 12:14-26

Sermon: "All Together" Rev. Dr. Douglas Busby

4:00 p.m.

2nd Sunday Informal Worship

September 11 marks the tenth anniversary of the tragedy of our nation. We will begin our 10:00 a.m. worship with special music, a solemn procession with words of remembrance, and conclude with a litany of hope, before continuing with our regular order of worship. Please join us.

SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

8:00 a.m. A Time of Reflection 10:00 a.m. Community Worship

Scripture: 1 Kings 17:17-24, Matthew 8:1-3, John 4:46-53

Sermon: "Healing with Prayer" Rev. Dr. Douglas Busby



Mark your calendar!

Our first 60 Plus Luncheon will be held in the Mayflower Room on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 12:00 noon. We're excited that The Abington of Glenview will present an informational program titled "Are You Having So Much Trouble Because Of Your Arthritis?" Don't miss this unique opportunity for good food, friends and the chance to become better informed about a condition which effects so many.

If you need a ride, please call Marilyn, Parish Nurse at 847-724-2210 ext. 230.

Lectio Divina

Meditation will resume again on September 8, 2011. We meet the second Thursday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Room 5. If you have any questions, please call Marilyn Belleau, Parish Nurse at (847)724-2210 ext. 230.

You Are Invited

The Glenview community is invited to come together to remember the 10th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks at a commemorative ceremony from 7 - 8 p.m. Sunday, September 11, at Gallery Park, at Patriot Boulevard and Chestnut Avenue.

The ceremony will feature patriotic music, including a performance by the Bagpipes and Drums of the Emerald Society and Glenbrook South High School vocal groups Nine and Solace; a keynote address by Richard Jaehne, director of the Illinois Fire Service Institute; and presentations by Glenview Fire and Police Department representatives and local Scouts. For information about the ceremony visit the website at <u>www.glenviewremembers911.com</u>.

Bylaws Changes

Here is a summary of changes to the Bylaws of the Constitution of Glenview Community Church that were recently approved by the Executive Board.

- 1. The size of the Children's Ministry Board was reduced from 12 members plus 1 chair to 10 members plus 1 chair.
- 2. The size of the Fellowship Board was reduced from 12 members plus 1 chair to 10 members plus 1 chair.
- 3. The process for changing the title of an Associate Minister or Assistant Minister was clarified. The approved additions are shown in bold type below.

In The Bylaws Article I Section A.1.b.: Associate Minister or Assistant Minister are elected ministerial offices of the Church and shall assist and aid the Senior Minister in the ministry of the Church. Based on the will of the Congregation, there may be more than one Associate or Assistant Minister. The Executive Board may alter the title of an Associate or Assistant Minister to reflect the duties and responsibilities of that Associate or Assistant Minister.

In The Bylaws Article I Section C.2.: The Executive Board or the Congregation may alter the duties, titles and responsibilities of each member of the Council of Ministry at any time. The Senior Minister shall periodically review the duties, titles and responsibilities of each member of the Council of Ministry and may, after consultation with said Council of Ministry member, recommend to the Executive Board changes in their duties, titles and responsibilities.

Financial Summary

A Year-to-Date summary as of June 30, 2011:

Pledges Received to date: Pledges Made - \$957,704

Payments received against the Pledges Made: Pledges Paid - \$456,368

Total Revenues received (including Pledges Paid): Total Revenues - \$547,113

Total Actual Expenses paid: Total Expenditures - \$531,618

Respectfully submitted, Rob Hevey, *Treasurer*

Help Wanted

Audio Ministry has openings for volunteers to record Sunday Worship Services. No experience needed. If you are interested please contact Barry Nelson via email at <u>bnelson1@core.com</u>.

28th General Synod News TAMPA, FLORIDA JULY 2011

THEME: Imagine What's Possible!

At every UCC General Synod meeting there are always various Resolutions that delegates discuss and deliberate on during their meeting times. More details may be found on the website <u>www.ucc.</u> <u>org.</u> Here are some highlights.

General Synod of the United Church of Christ:

- Calls for Advocacy on behalf of the Congo Calls on congregations to adopt Youth Ministries Covenant Clergy Health Care resolution approved Aligning money and values affirmed unanimously LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered) adoptions affirmed Nuclear test ban treaty resolution approved Calls for International LGBT rights. Passes resolution on Mindful and Faithful eating Stands against hostility toward Islam
- and the Muslim community Creation of a Theological Forum New Moderators installed

Closing worship theme "Transform What's Possible"

- 3,219 people were registered for Synod this year
- An Invitation to next General Synod in Long Beach, CA on June 28-July 2, 2013

Rev. Pam Keckler attended Synod this year as a visitor and enjoyed the beautiful music and worship services, including a song about peace to share with the congregation later.

There were group service projects for Church World Service where various kits were put together; Suncoast Saturday which included a global music celebration, a keynote by Leonard Pitts Jr., as well as a variety of workshops and programs, viewing the exhibit hall, and seeing old friends again.

Support the Northfield Food Pantry and a Gardener

The Organic Pantry Profit (TOPP), a local not-for-profit group, together with

GCC and Pleasant Ridge Elementary School, have created 2 donation gardens that benefit the Northfield Food Pantry (NFP). Not only have these gardens provided hundreds of pounds of organic herbs and vegetables to the NFP, but they have provided an avenue to support and educate children learning about gardening and healthy eating. TOPP has worked closely with the Children's Ministry at GCC to bring children out to the garden during Sunday school throughout the growing season; to help plant, tend, and harvest the crops.

The energetic kids and wonderful adult volunteers have demonstrated such pride in their efforts and really under-

stand that what they are doing is helping a whole lot of people within their own community. TOPP would like to recognize these volunteers, as well as all supporters of the donation gardens through a shirt sale.

The green shirts will have TOPP's logo on the front and "Bee a Gardener" on the back with a bee, in recognition of the research on bees that is being conducted at our gardens and many others across the Chicago area. Orders for shirts will be taken during coffee hour during Rally Day on September 11. Shirts will be sold for \$15 each and all proceeds will be put back into the gardens to cover operational costs such as seeds, compost, stakes, harvest bags, and more, thus ensuring that we are providing the most bountiful yield possible to the folks at the NFP!

We appreciate your support and invite you to come to the garden!



BACK TO SCHOOL KITS

PLEASE DONATE NOW

Crayons and rulers and scissors, oh my! We need school supplies! GCC congregation members, families, and friends will be assembling Back to School Kits on Sunday, September 11, 2011. Please consider donating the following supplies now: children's blunt tip scissors, 70 page spiral notebooks, 12" rulers (with centimeter markings also), hand held pencil sharpeners, and 24 count box of Crayola crayons. Also, if you have good



quality used backpacks, we can distribute those to children in need through a separate program, so put those in the collection box too. Watch future GCC publications for information on the actual assembly project so you can participate in that too!

> Thank you from your friends on the Missions Outreach Board.

RALLY DAY!!!!

| 9:00 a.m. | Confirmation Classes |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00 a.m. | Sunday School |
| 11:15 a.m. | Lunch Fellowship , Games and Fun for ALL ages. |

Sunday School Begins

The 2011-2012 Sunday school year for three year olds through sixth grade students begins on September 11 at 10:00 a.m. (Note time change from last year.) Three and four year olds will check in at the Nursery on the first floor. First through sixth graders will check in outside of Room 201 on the second floor.

If you registered in the past, you will be asked to update your information, if necessary. If you have never registered, forms and assistance will be available. After the 10:00 a.m. worship service, plan on enjoying food, games, and other Rally Day activities on the church grounds.

Confirmation 7TH AND 8TH GRADES:

Classes will begin on September 11 at 9:00 a.m.

Those who attended the retreat – be sure to turn in your worship sheet from the beach.

A special Parent Information meeting will be held on September 25 at 9:00 a.m.

PYF at the beach



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 - 12:30 p.m.

MINISTERIAL STAFF Rev. Dr. Douglas Busby, MD, Transitional Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler, Minister for Spiritual Formation & Church Operations

DIRECTORS: Marilyn Belleau, RN, Health Ministry Kathy Lifton, Children's Ministry Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini, Youth Ministry Debby Shellard, Children's Choirs Gary Wendt, Music & Organist

AFFILIATES: Marcia Kiraly, Director, GCC Nursery School Barbara Thewis, Manager, Resale Shop

Return Service Requested

At A Glance

| THUR | | | WED | | |
|------|----------|------------------------------------|-----|------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9/01 | 6:30 PM | Bell Rehearsal, Bell Rm | 9/7 | 6:30 PM | BSA Troop 156 Meeting |
| | 7:00 PM | BSA 156 Patrol Leaders, Fouders Rm | | | |
| | 7:30 PM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm | | | |
| FRI | | | | | |
| 9/2 | 8:00 PM | AA Meetings, Parlor | | | |
| | 8:00 PM | Al-Anon Meetings, Rm 201 | | | |
| SAT | | | | | |
| 9/3 | | No events scheduled | | | |
| SUN | | | | | |
| 9/4 | 9:30 AM | Worship Service, Sanctuary | | | |
| | 10:30 AM | Fellowship Hour, Narthex | | | |
| MON | | | | | |
| 9/5 | | Building Closed for the Holiday | | | r Deadlines |
| | | | | | s by 9:00 a.m. , Wednes- ny via e-mail at <u>tania.</u> |
| TUES | | | | iv@gccucc. | |
| 9/6 | 6:30 PM | Sing To Live Rehearsal, Choir Rm | | | |
| | 7:00 PM | Children's Board Mtg., Rm 201 | | | |
| | 7:30 PM | Pack 156 Committee Mtg, Rm 213 | | | |

Nonprofit Organization

US Postage PAID Glenview, IL Permit NO. 41