



May 29, 2014

## TRANSITIONS

This year has been a tremendous year as I graduate from Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS) after a 5 year journey. I remember 4 years ago when I paused during PYF and thought I could graduate the same year as these freshmen. Four years later I graduate from Seminary and those same freshmen will be graduating in a little over a week. Last week at the CTS graduation, I along with the other graduates, were challenged to keep working for God's justice in the world past graduation. The senior sermons from this year's PYF Sunday also ask us to consider God's love at work in our lives and in our community. There is much to be learned from the work the youth did last Mother's Day and it is worth considering what they are asking of us as adults. The sermons and one poem are below.

*Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini*



### ALY FORD

Glenview Community Church has been an important part of my life for as long as I can remember. I went to preschool and Sunday school here, was in the Children's

Choir, and was confirmed here. After being in the pageant since I was 4, having the honor to be Dancing Mary and Gabriel in my senior year was definitely the highlight of all of the experiences I have had at GCC.

Being a part of PYF has changed my life. I love how it is a loving community of high schoolers that have the opportunity to learn

from each other and make friendships, but also join in a spiritual journey together. PYF also allowed me to bring my passion, Erika's Lighthouse, into the group environment for the past 4 years.

Erika's Lighthouse is a non-profit organization based in Winnetka that educates about and busts the stigma of adolescent depression. Because of Erika's Lighthouse in Winnetka and its surrounding communities, countless lives have been saved, including my own.

I joined Erika's Lighthouse teen club at Glenbrook South as a freshman in high school, and it has been the most influential part of my high school experience, and my life. Last Saturday I had the honor of telling my story at the 10th Anniversary Gala at Michigan Shores Club.

Since sophomore year or so, I have brought up the ideas that Erika's Lighthouse has given me in discussions at PYF. It was important for me to bring my passion to a group of people I care about so much. At first I was hoping to just gain more members at the club meetings at Glenbrook South, and I did not realize the impact I could make on the youth at PYF.

Going through a really hard time with my own depression freshman year, I felt no presence of God, and this was devastating for me. Elizabeth lent me a hand of support, and she may not know it, but she really helped me out, and find how God is present and active in my life and the world around me.

I was always open about my depression at PYF since I knew I could trust everyone, and hoped to encourage others to be open

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## WORSHIP SERVICES

**JUNE 1, 2014**

**COMMUNION**

**A PEACEMAKING CHURCH**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Scripture:**

John 17:1-11

**Sermon:**

Rev. Dr. Chuck Mize

**JUNE 8, 2014**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Sermon:**

Rev. Dr. Chuck Mize

**JUNE 15, 2014**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Sermon:**

Rev. Dale Susan Edmonds



about not only struggles of depression, but of everyday life.

On my first mission trip with PYF, last year, to Newport, Tennessee, I brought up Erika's Lighthouse and the topic of depression in one of PYF's evening discussions. It opened up a conversation of mental health and I was stunned to see how everyone had something to say about this topic. Later in the week, one of my fellow retreatants confided in me that they were going through a very hard time and how they thought they had depression. Through conversations later in the week, I could tell I was making a difference in their life and I was happy to hear that they eventually got the help they deserved. Moments like this make me so thankful that PYF has allowed me to open up about my struggles, provide hope, and encourage positivity.

Before the end-of-summer retreat to Tower Hill, Michigan, Elizabeth asked me to bring up Erika's Lighthouse and talk about how to help a friend who is struggling. She didn't tell me names, but said that a few girls on the retreat could benefit from this. That same day I went to say hi to Pam Keckler, and she brought up the idea of possibly bringing an Erika's Lighthouse presentation to GCC for parents of middle school students. I was ecstatic. Not only have I been able to talk about Erika's Lighthouse at PYF, but I now had the opportunity to further bust the stigma in all of GCC.

The following November, myself and three other Erika's Lighthouse panel members from GBS, along with an Erika's Lighthouse staff member, gave a presentation in the youth room to several adults who cared about good mental health for the youth of this church. This was also the first time my parents had seen this presentation, so it was amazing to see their reaction and be able to credit them for helping me through the toughest part of my life.

I am so fortunate to have grown up in a church that welcomes change and reform, and to have been able to be a part of the change by bringing my passion, Erika's Lighthouse, to not only PYF, but also adults in the church. PYF was the first place besides Erika's Lighthouse where I opened up about my depression and struggles, and I was accepted and supported. I have to

thank each and every one of you for being good parents, friends, and colleagues to the 1 out of 5 adolescents who struggle with depression. If it wasn't for GCC and Erika's Lighthouse, I don't know who I would be today. Being able to bring two very important parts of my life together was the best part of my high school experience.

#### IMPACT BY JANNA LYHUS



I never thought I'd say this on the pulpit, but PYF is a lot like the Cheetah Girls. Each girl in the Disney band brings a different strength to the group. They say:

"we make up one big family, though we don't look the same... we make each other stronger, that ain't ever gonna change..." PYF is a community that is strong because of our differences. We welcome and love the special weird traits about each other, because, come on, that's what makes us so dern cool.

PYF is a community that is strong because our relationships are deeply rooted in respect. We encourage each other to trust, take risks, and grow because we care for one another. We all know what it's like to feel and fear being vulnerable, but with PYF, there's no need for the defenses we might have against sarcasm, bullying, and gossip. Without hesitation, I can tell you that with the PYF community I have come to feel safe.

I didn't realize this going into PYF. Being cool felt the same as being cold, frozen in insecurity. On my first day at PYF, watching a kid acting goofy, a sarcastic jab seemed like the easiest start to a conversation. I casually passed it behind my target's back, attempting to impress the upperclassman

on my right. My target was having fun and I was feeling awkward; compensation for my insecurity only seemed fair.

The older PYF member turned to me and said: "yeah, well, he's my friend."

In transitioning from middle school to high school, I noted that my classmates and homework load had both gotten larger. I assumed that competition and the need for gossip would increase in a similar way. My hypothesis was so wrong, in school and PYF.

That one response: "yeah, well, he's my friend", made me aware of how much I value integrity. I learned that vulnerability shouldn't force me to undermine others, but instead further my own growth. However impossible reaching out, extending myself to others, may seem, I won't allow it to compromise my integrity. Overcoming intimidation is a risk I'm willing to take. Earlier in the service, Holly read to you all the Parable of a sower who sowed his seeds in all conditions of soil, good and unpromising. The sower gave all terrain the opportunity for and responsibility of growth. Isn't the task of the sower something we face every day? Personally, I see our time and energy being like the sower's seeds, and our opportunities for growth and relationships like the sower's ranging conditions of soil.

We constantly make decisions for where our time and energy are best optimized and where our investments would be wasted, but, honestly, I sometimes question our criteria.

We can't scatter our individual time and energy as easily as the sower does his seeds, but I think that we can make more mindful decisions if we find strength in one another—if we can share success and know that the possibility of failure will not be faced alone.

PYF is a community in which I find unwavering support. Win or lose, the people in PYF are my fellow teammates in Nerf Dart, Capture the Flag, cooking competitions, scavenger hunts, and friends I'm happy to see in school. They are willing to ask for help, speak what's on their minds, and share

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their attention and time. I learn from them every day.

Because of my experiences in PYF, I know that just one response: "yeah, well, he's my friend", can make a huge impact. It sure did on me, and I am so grateful. Thank you.

### WHY DO YOU BELIEVE IN GOD? BY ANN ISAACS



Why do you believe in God?

It's a fair question, I suppose.  
Why believe in something you can't see or touch?

I'll tell you why.

Since adding one word to my identity,  
I see things differently.  
Writer.

It fits right between scientist and friend,  
And it makes me think:

What are we if we are not stories?  
And what is a story without its writer?  
I believe very firmly  
That a person is her stories  
Or, rather, her story  
I believe that every story has its writer,  
Its author.

And I believe every writer  
Knows her character by heart.  
Name, age, birthday, eye color, favorite  
band, favorite food, favorite book,  
How long she takes to do homework  
What she does when she is home alone,  
If she has one pencil or many.

I believe in God  
Because God is my writer.

The one who picks apart my traits and  
knows them by heart,  
Who records and knows every detail  
Of my story.  
I think God knows that I believe this way.  
I believe God is someone else's artist,  
Someone else's composer,  
Maybe even someone else's director.

But I believe God is my writer  
And that's why  
I believe in God.  
For a character to forget her writer,  
Is to forget that someone created her  
Exactly the way she is, was, will be,  
Is meant to be.  
So I am for a reason,  
And I have a purpose, because this is my  
story,  
And every story has its purpose.  
Thus, I have a reason,  
As does everyone.  
No one in a story exists without reason.

I believe in God because God is my writer

Why do you believe in God?

## ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON

A wonderful luncheon was held following the annual meeting in the Mayflower Room on May 18, Rainbow Sunday. Thanks to all who brought food and helped set up and clean up, as well as Goode and Fresh! Special thanks to Karen & Tom Aldrich, and Rev. Dale Susan Edmonds, for organizing this event.

## LIFE EVERLASTING

We trust the promise of the resurrection for Michael John Carr who died on April 18, 2014, even as we hold his brothers Eric and David Carr and their families in our prayers; also for Virginia Hall who died on May 20, 2014, even as we hold her daughter Barbara Hall in our prayers. May God's peace be with all.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be held for Donald Alfvén on Sunday afternoon, June 8 at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A reception will be held after the service in the Founder's Room.



## FOOD ON THE FIRST

The first Sunday of the month is coming! Hunger is here in our community and nearby. Please remember to bring nonperishable food items that have not expired to share with our hungry neighbors served by Northfield Township Food Pantry and Iglesia San Lucas, a UCC church in Chicago's Humboldt Park.

## CONFIRMATION

7th Grade Confirmation Classes next Fall. Registration forms are now available in the church office for all incoming 7th graders this fall for the confirmation program. Those going into 8th grade do not need to register, as you will keep the same class and teacher.



## MEN'S MINISTRY ANNUAL BBQ

Please join us for an evening of BBQ and fellowship on Wednesday, June 25, beginning at 6:00pm. John Demler will again host this event at his home. This event is always well attended and is a great opportunity to catch up with friends, so if you know of others whom you think would be interested, please invite them as well. Even if you have not attended a Men's Ministry event before, please consider joining us at this get-together.

Please reply to John Demler at [johndemler@comcast.net](mailto:johndemler@comcast.net) or Dave Aki at [dave254@comcast.net](mailto:dave254@comcast.net) so we can properly plan the event.

# THOUGHTS FROM OUR NEWEST MEMBERS THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2014

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I will wait all day long."

*Psalms 25:4-5*

## PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

- It can help people to come and open up their eyes to the world around them and see that other people are in need, too.
- Is about being welcomed into a place where you are able to become connected with your faith.
- The church was made to express God's love towards God's children and to show people the light.
- I believe the church is a place where you can open up and be free from oppression.
- It's a place to pray and connect with God in our most valiant moments or in our deepest melancholy.

## THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit is the presence of God in our life that helps us feel like we are never alone. I think the Holy Spirit encompasses everything.
- The Holy Spirit is the essence of God that exists within us, to guide our daily lives in the way that God wants us to.
- It is the feeling you get when you do something good or show compassion and love towards someone. It's almost like the wind; you can't see it, but you can feel it.

## WORSHIP

- Worship allows me to connect with God in my own way and allows me to have someone who will listen to my thoughts.
- I think worship would be more meaningful if I could have people who support my prayers.



Hatred starts wars.  
Hatred splits families.  
Hatred causes children to be isolated.  
Hatred can only be fought by love.  
So love your family, country, and species in this world of darkness.

## ON MEMBERSHIP

- We've come a really long way to prepare for this, and I think we are all really ready and prepared to take it seriously. We are officially going to be members and I just hope that everyone knows how serious we are about this time in our lives.
- I want people to think of me both as a member of the UCC, and as a member of the world, because even though there are so many different religions and denominations in the world, each and every one of them has a similarity to share. There is no reason to be split by religion or race, or anything, because we should all be brought together as one world and work together for the good of all.

## MY FAITH

- I've learned that it's okay to be unsure about what you believe, and that my faith is still evolving and will be my entire life.
- I'm really glad my parents chose to baptize me as a child, but now I am more grown up and I have the power to choose what I believe and really take charge of my faith in God.
- I learned that service work is a really big part of my faith and following God.
- When I first started confirmation, I believed everything I was told, with no doubts whatever. Now I have learned to be more critical with my thinking, really challenging myself about what I truly believe, instead of accepting everything without a second thought.
- I still don't know how what I believe matches up with everything I have been learning, but I believe my beliefs will continue to be altered as I continue to learn about Christ in worship and otherwise.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GCC

THUR	9:00 AM	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm
05/29	11:00 AM	Working Out With Weights, Mayflower Rm
	4:00 PM	Construction Conversations, Library
	4:00 PM	FISH, Rm 7
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
FRI	9:00 AM	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm
05/30	8:00 PM	AA Meeting, Parlor
	8:00 PM	Al-Anon, Library
SAT	8:00 AM	Men's Open Gym, Gym
05/31	8:30 AM	BSA 156 Camper Interviews, Mayflower Rm
	9:00 AM	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm
SUN	10:00 AM	Summer Church School begins in the Sanctuary
06/01	10:00 AM	Sunday Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 AM	Fellowship and Refreshments, Narthex
	11:15 AM	Bell Choir Rehearsal, Bell Rm
MON	12:00 PM	Called To Care, Founders Rm
06/02		
TUE	10:45 AM	Chapter 8 Luncheon Meeting, Founders Rm
06/03		
WED	7:00 PM	BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Gym
06/04		
THU	9:00 AM	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm
06/05	11:00 AM	Working Out With Weights, Mayflower Rm
	6:15 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	HOP Operating Mtg., Rm 213
FRI	9:00 AM	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm
06/06	8:00 PM	AA Meeting, Parlor
	8:00 PM	Al-Anon Meeting, Library
SAT	8:00 AM	Men's Open Gym, Gym
06/07	9:00 AM	Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm
SUN	10:00 AM	Worship, Sanctuary
06/08	10:00 AM	Summer Sunday School Begins In Worship, Sanctuary
	11:15 AM	Fellowship Time, Narthex
	1:00 PM	Memorial, Don Alvin, Sanctuary
MON	9:30 AM	Finding My Spirit, Library
06/09	6:30 PM	Faith In Action Team, Parlor
	7:00 PM	Children's Board Mtg., Youth Rm
	7:30 PM	Mission Outreach Board, Parlor
TUE	7:00 PM	Adult Education Board Mtg., Founders Rm
06/10	7:00 PM	Pastoral Care Board Mtg., Parlor
WED	7:00 PM	BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Mayflower Rm
06/11	8:00 PM	Music Board Mtg, Music Office

**THE NEXT DEADLINE FOR THE BROADCASTER IS JUNE 4, 2014 AT 9:00 AM**

## SUMMER MUSIC AND MOVEMENT CLASSES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Summer music and movement classes for young children will be offered on Thursday mornings at 9:15 and 10:15. Start date Thursday, June 19. Summer classes will be offered as "drop in" classes to accommodate your busy summer schedules; however, it would be greatly appreciated if you contact Debbie regarding which times you are interested in and what days. At the present time, classes will be offered on June 19, and 26 and July 10, 24, 31. Non-GCCNS families are welcome as well, so share the information with your friends or neighbors that might be interested. Please contact Debbie at [debbieberg23@gmail.com](mailto:debbieberg23@gmail.com) to sign up for summer session dates or ask any questions you might have.

## MYRA LORIS A HUMORIST AND OUTSTANDING STORYTELLER, WILL BRING THESE MESMERIZING TALES TO LIFE.

**June 17: "HUMOR AND COMEDY in AMERICAN CULTURE"** looks at the effects of the nations humorists, in words and writings, to shape the destiny of the country and to both create and reflect significant social changes. It includes an in-depth look at Mark Twain, Will Rogers, Steven Colbert and others as both entertainers and social critics.

Join us on Tuesday, June 17 for a dessert at 7:00 p.m. and lecture by Myra Loris at 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased during coffee hour after worship on Sunday or in the church office during the week. You can also call Beryl Bills to make a reservation, (847)241-1694. TICKETS: \$15 per lecture.

## CHAPTER 7 GIVING BACK



Chapter 7 parents and kids recently went to Ronald McDonald House near Loyola University Medical Center to make dinner for the families who are staying there. Ronald McDonald House provides a "home away from home" for families whose children are receiving treatment at nearby hospitals. Chapter 7 alternates their monthly meetings with family-oriented service projects in the community.

**GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
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Web: [www.gccucc.org](http://www.gccucc.org)

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
August 19, 2013 - June 13, 2014

### PASTORS

Rev. Dr. Charles E. Mize, *Senior Pastor*  
Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler, *Pastor*

### MINISTRY STAFF:

Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini, *Youth & Children's Ministry*  
Rev. Dale Susan Edmonds, *Congregational Care*  
Gary Wendt, *Music Ministry and Organist*  
Stephen Blackwelder, *Adult Choirs*  
Debby Shellard, *Children's Choirs*  
Marcia Kiraly, *GCC Nursery School*  
Martha Fergus, *Resale Shop*

### MINISTRY SUPPORT STAFF

Tania McCarthy, *Office*  
Susan Woodsome, *Office*  
Dale Wittenberg, *Business Manager*  
Jennifer Helgren, *Facility Manager*  
Krzysztof Leson, *Facility*  
Miguel DelRio, *Facility*  
Gabriel Berumen, *Facility*

Nonprofit Organization

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## CONGRATULATIONS!

A special word of congratulations goes to Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini, who graduated from Chicago Theological Seminary on Saturday, May 17, 2014. Elizabeth received a Master of Divinity degree. 20 people from GCC, including her family, were present to cheer! Donald Clark, Jr. was the commencement speaker and was presented an honorary doctorate from CTS.