



Broadcaster

January 13, 2010

Pilgrims Progress

A colleague of mine, Tom Conley, an Episcopal priest and Executive Director of a counseling center, wrote an excellent newsletter article appropriate for the beginning of 2010. With his permission I'm sharing his article with you.

As I reflect on the old year, I am struck with many events and situations that we can expect to see again in 2010 and in the new decade upon us. We know beyond doubt that there will be new births, fresh souls brought into this ambiguously troubled and beautiful world. And as those arrive, there will be those of us who leave for the spirit world. There will be tears a'plenty for the usual suspects, the expected vicissitudes of the human saga. We know there will be sorrow over war, and its sometimes-necessary stupidity, impatience with the machinations of the body politic and its essential compromises that will leave some of us elated and others of us disappointed. On the world front we will continue to see genocide, starving children with hollow-eyed appeals that tug at our heartstrings and eventually bring us to "compassion fatigue." The roll of the dice will make some of us wealthy and leave others in a dwindling middle class, or lower.

Ah, yes, and there will continue to be sexual escapades as there have been for centuries, no, millennia. This is so expected and predictable, so certain a series of events, that I wonder if they should be called "scandals" anymore. Like birth, death, taxes, hunger and thirst, our sexual appetites will continue to be titillating realities, and in a host of instances continue to go out of bounds. They always have, always will.

Engage tongue-in-cheek-imagination for a moment. Go back to the tenth century BCE and King David of the Hebrew nation. I can fancy the front page of the Jerusalem Times heralding: "King implicated in Death of Uriah; Claims Uriah's Wife, Bathsheba, as his Own. Nation Stunned.

Still, a Man after God's Own Heart." Or again, after David, the Times might have read: "King Solomon Announces his 300th Concubine. Rumors Are King has Chronic Fatigue Syndrome."

Way back in 1939 a psychiatrist, Rollo May, wrote a book entitled, *The Age of Anxiety*. It is as timely now as it was then. Only the names and events have to be changed to reflect the decade. Then, the Depression was less than a decade old and economic fears and anxieties still abounded. Many of our grandparents and great-grands back then lived out of a philosophy of scarcity instead of looking at the world through the lens of abundance. Some of us are now doing the same, and our anxiety rises daily: no job or under employed, health care dangling in the balance as the wealthy with cornucopias benefits decide what the rest of us will share; on food stamps for the first time in our lives, bartering for the bare necessities, and watching as our future slips away. While some are too large to fail, and receive billions, others of us are too small to succeed, and receive foreclosure notices.

But there is more. Underneath this litany of frustration, anxiety, and disappointment; subsumed under this debris of human suffering, uncertainty and pain, there is something else that stirs ever so slightly beneath the debris. There is something that radiates through darkness, a Light that cannot be extinguished. Some name it the Light of the human spirit, a Divine emanation, a resident and residual Iridescence that cannot be squelched. Call it Spirit, or Love or Hope; name it Faith or Compassion, or Deity; call it by whatever name, it is what keeps us going, it is what picks us up from the dust, it brushes the ashes from our faces as gently as the brush of a swallow's wing, and calls us into tomorrow, hopeful and full of fight and faith. It is like a sterling Thread that winds its way through the universe and inspires,

lifts and holds us in the darkest moments. It is why we make resolutions, give peace prizes and continue to battle our way through the miasma of human misery. It is that ineffable Mystery whose Voice urges us on, believing in a better tomorrow. It is why we continue to love one another and birth babies and honor reason and give others a hand up.

Yes, there are so many things that we will face in 2010 and its decade that we, and our predecessors, have all faced before. But with that, there is the Mystery that will sustain, help and nurture us in the fray. Maybe that is why the exclamation "Hallelujah" is the same in virtually every language. No translation needed. It is uttered from the bowels of compassion and from the profoundest depths of the soul. So in the raw edge of a New Year, I say with a wry grin on my face, knowing we will be victorious, "Hallelujah!" Thanks be to God, by whatever name!

Thanks, Tom, for your insights and your encouragement. Thanks for permitting us to learn from you.

Howard

Congratulations

Congratulations to Brandon and Leslie Roberts on the birth of their son, Greyson Thomas on 1/7/10. Grandparents are Howard and Peggy Roberts.

Pastoral Care

Keep the family and friends of Ruth Prather in your prayers. Ruth died December 25. A memorial service was held Saturday, January 9.

Also remember Mike, Heidi, Kevin, and Ryan Barron in your prayers. Mike's dad died in California on December 25.

SUNDAY SERVICES

JANUARY 17, 2010

Mission Moment

8:30 a.m. Ring Them Bells
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir &
Ring Them Bells

Scripture:

Isaiah 62:1-5, John 2:1-11

Sermon:

"Jesus' First Miracle"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

JANUARY 24, 2010

Interfaith Sunday

Finding Faith Through Music

9:30 a.m.

The service will include representatives of the Jewish, Muslim and Baha'i faiths as well as our own Christian faith. Highlights will include the children's choir from BJBE, a Quartet from the Baha'i Temple Choir, and a young composer/musician from the Muslim community.

JANUARY 31, 2010

8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir &
Voices of GCC

Scripture:

Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15

Sermon:

"Unrealistic Jesus"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

FEBRUARY 7, 2010

Communion

8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir and
Paul Leddington Wright,
guest organist

Scripture:

Isaiah 58:1-9, Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon:

"Thinking Small, Acting Big"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

Words of Gratitude

As we greet the new year, I want to leave you with words of gratitude. Gratitude for the wonderful experience I have enjoyed at Glenview Community Church as Minister for Mission and Ministry since November 1, 2003. Gratitude for the ways my ministry has been embraced. Gratitude for the outpouring of support and well-wishes for Jim and me as we embark on our new adventure. Gratitude for the many cards, notes, calls, coffees, dinners, lunches, thoughtful gifts. Gratitude for the decision by the Executive Board to cover the premium for our health and dental insurance for the first quarter of 2010, a financial commitment of \$4398.75. Gratitude for the generous financial support provided by members and friends of GCC – we received a check on Sunday, December 27 for \$3135. Jim and I enter 2010 with confidence that before long we will once again be a two-income household, that I will find a church in the area that welcomes my ministry as sole pastor or senior minister, and that all of you will celebrate our new beginning with us. We carry you with us and wish you well.

Rev. Sally Iberg

Bookshelf Wanted

The Children's Board has been given approval to create a children's library in the narthex that will support Christian learning during worship services for those children who are unable to attend to or comprehend the sermon and other parts of Sunday worship. We are planning on a rotating collection of seasonally themed Christian books and children's Bibles at various reading levels. We need your help! We are looking for a bookshelf that can house our library. This shelf should be of solid wood (not particle board) and be consistent with the décor of the Narthex both in style and color. We are seeking a piece that is approximately 42-48" wide and no more than 34" high. If you have a piece that you would like to donate, if you have carpentry skills and can build one, if you'd like to donate funds for materials or to purchase a new piece (approximately \$600 custom made), or if you've seen something that might be appropriate while shopping, please contact Laura Heyser at 847-724-2526 or lheyser@comcast.net.

Drink Free Zone

When the renovation of the sanctuary was completed in 2004, a stated policy was communicated that food and drinks not be taken into the sanctuary. Over the course of time we have become less diligent in keeping this policy. Let's return to our former practice of keeping the sanctuary a drink and food free zone. This will help maintain the sanctuary as an attractive, inviting place to worship and assist the facility staff with their responsibilities. Thank you for your assistance.

Thank You, Thank You!

Thanks to all the wonderful people who helped deliver poinsettias to some of our GCC members and friends. You certainly added excitement to their holiday season. Thanks too, to those who delivered to the nursing home. For these residents, days can blend into weeks, and weeks into months, and the kind words from our members have added joy to the new year.

Chapter 20

Please join the ladies of Chapter 20 on Wednesday, January 20 to hear Janet McIntyre from Glenview Library tell us about Great Reads of 2009. We are meeting in the Chapel at 9:30 a.m.

The Simple Gifts Concert Series presents

THE KEVIN KIZER JAZZ QUINTET

Kevin Kizer, tenor sax, Katherine Hughes, violin, Dave Miller, guitar, Jake Vinsel, bass and Neal Wehman, drums

Sunday, January 17th at 3:00 p.m.
Our own, Kevin Kizer, who performs in our sanctuary on Sunday mornings with the Pilgrim Wind Ensemble, will bring his quintet for your mid winter listening enjoyment. Kevin is an active member of the Chicago music community, performing with the Green Mill Jazz Club. The Kevin Kizer jazz quintet performs an exciting mix of post-bop and free jazz, with an emphasis on melodic development. All compositions are original. You won't want to miss this dynamic quintet!

Karen Aeshelman

On January 17 following the 10:30 a.m. service, please join us during coffee hour to recognize Karen Aeshelman for her service to our youngest members. Karen has been welcoming and caring for children in our Cradle-Toddler room for over 30 years. Under her care, Karen created a warm and nurturing environment for children to play while their parents worship.

After her many years of service, she is retiring to enjoy warm weather get a ways to Florida and Arizona as well as trotting around the globe.

Thank you Karen for all that you have given to our community.

Adult Education Seminar

IN THE CHAPEL AT 9:30 a.m.

January 17, 2010

Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS) at GCC

Why is it important to have trained religious leaders? What does it mean to partner with a local UCC Seminary?

On January 17, find answers to these questions and participate in the Adult Education session with Rev. April Lewton, Director of Annual Giving and Community Engagement, at CTS. The session will feature small group discussions on meaningful and active ways of partnership, the study of scriptures that address the meaning of religious education, and the sharing of information about the life and community of CTS. Come and participate to learn more about Chicago Theological Seminary and its relationship with GCC. Please join us at 9:30 in the Chapel.

IN THE CHAPEL AT 9:30 a.m.

January 24, 2010

On Sunday, January 24, Steve Morgan, chair of the Finance Board, will join the Adult Education group for a discussion of the GCC budgeting process. He will explain how the budget is determined and what happens when there are shortfalls or extra funds. There will be time for questions, answers, and general discussion. Please join us for this timely presentation at 9:30 in the Chapel.

60 Plus Luncheon

JANUARY 19, 2010

12 noon in the Mayflower Room

New opportunities come with the new year! Don't miss the chance to enjoy delicious food and plenty of fun and laughter as we gather together to hear Ms. Gail McGeever, Marketing Director of Arden Courts, help us play some "Brain Games".... An Interactive Approach to Keeping Your Mind Active". This program is beneficial for people of all ages. Join us for an enjoyable afternoon and bring a friend.

If you need a ride, please call Marilyn Bel-leau, Advocate Parish Nurse at 847-724-2210 ext. 30.

SALE - 50% OFF

The Women's Association Resale Shop's 50% Off sale begins January 20th through January 29th. Come in and check out the merchandise. Review the list of social services that the Resale Shop supports.

GCC CAREER NETWORK

MONDAY, JANUARY 22 AT 12:00 P.M.

JOB SEEKERS: GET HIRED FAST

Presented by Joy Putnam, Results Coach

You can be even more effective at networking and interviewing. Jill will teach you key skills to build relationships along with sales and communication strategies to create the career results that you desire. She has helped hundreds of clients, at all levels, improve their motivation and focus and sales, communication and presentation skills.

If you are unemployed, returning to work, considering a job change or looking to expand your business network please join us! We meet at 12 p.m. on the last Monday of each month at Glenview Community Church to hear speakers, share experiences, resources, job openings and support one another. Members have access to a Yahoo! Group to share information, community meetings dates and be alerted of opportunities. Contact Alek Jablonski at 847-922-6870/ajablonski03@hotmail.com or Rev. Pam Keckler at 847-724-2210/pam.keckler@gccucc.org for more information.

Interfaith Family Service

JANUARY 24 AT 9:30

"*Finding Faith Through Music*" will be our theme for the single service on January 24 at 9:30 a.m. The service will include representatives of the Jewish, Muslim and Baha'i faiths as well as our own Christian faith. Highlights will include the children's choir from BJBE, a Quartet from the Baha'i Temple Choir, and a young composer/musician from the Muslim community. Our service will be followed as usual by several seminars - some appealing to children and young people. It is hoped that you will come, sing, and find this service an inspiring and learning experience which will move your own faith toward fulfillment.

You're Invited!!

Saturday February 6, 2010

If you enjoy music in worship, please join us for a day of workshops, fellowship and singing, focusing on the many aspects of choral, congregational and organ music in worship throughout the church year. Saturday, February 6, 2010 in the Sanctuary-- all day!

Guest Clinician/Composer/Conductor, Paul Ledington Wright will lead us through this wintry day of workshop clinics, culminating in a celebration of church music in Hymn Fest 5: "To Everything There is a Season: a celebration of hymns and songs for every season"-- a sing-along concert of hymns and anthems in a musical journey through the church year. For information, contact the church office, Andrew Lewis or Gary Wendt in the music office, or Tricia Melzer-Swaydrak (708-702-0833).

GCC Walk 4 Change

Walk, Make a Difference and Stay Warm?

Introducing the GCC Walk 4 Change. Join in the church-wide INDOOR winter walk to benefit St. Martin de Porres House of Hope, a private, non-profit, Christian shelter for women and children on the south side. Sign up at the coffee hours on January 24th. Raise any amount of money and walk any distance, anytime in February at the Park Center (or your favorite walking spot). Raise \$30 or more and receive a walk t-shirt. Sponsored by the 8th Grade Confirmation Class. For questions, please call Bob and Allison Vevang at 847-724-5343 or email abv@att.net.

AT A GLANCE

JANUARY

17

SIMPLE GIFTS CONCERT

The Kevin Kizer Jazz Quintet
Sunday, January 17 at 3:00 p.m.

23

GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT

Saturday, January 23 at 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

24

INTERFAITH SUNDAY

Sunday, January 24 at 9:30 a.m.

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GCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m.
Check the GCC web site at www.gccucc.org to download the board minutes.

FEBRUARY

6

HYMN FEST V

Saturday February 6, 2010 in the Sanctuary at 4:00 p.m.

13

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION AFTERNOON TEA

February 13, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. in the Mayflower room.

14

NEW MEMBERSHIP ORIENTATION

Sunday, February 14 at 3:00 p.m.

PASTA LUIGI

Sunday, February 14 at 5:00 p.m.

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SIMPLE GIFTS CONCERT

Sunday, February 21 at 4:00 p.m.

23

GCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m.
Check the GCC web site at www.gccucc.org to download the board minutes.

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FAMILY TRIVIA NIGHT

Sunday, February 28 at 5:00 p.m.

Pilgrim Youth Fellowship



PYF January

4 – 6 p.m. Youth Room

JANUARY 17

New Mother Welcome Home Kit

Please bring diapers, wipes, baby bottles, diaper bags, pacifiers, onesies, rattles, & receiving blankets to assemble kits for the Night Ministry.

JANUARY 22 - 23

Winter Trip

JANUARY 24

PYF Singers & Open Gym

JANUARY 31

Music & Media

Join us for this fun night as we explore with our small groups and together in fellowship how media might influence our choices. Please bring your cell phone, your mp3 player, your favorite magazines and/or a favorite CD!

GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Not for profit Organization
US POSTAGE PAID
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Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 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 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

Thu	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 5:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm
1-14	9:30 am	Lectio Divina, Sanctuary
	12:30 pm	Music Review, Mayflower Rm, Choir Rm
	1:00 pm	Ministers Mentor Meeting, Rm 210
	6:15 pm	Bell Choir, Bell Rm
	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
Fri	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm
1-15	7:00 pm	Not-So-Young-And-Restless Volleyball, Gym
	8:00 pm	AA, Parlor
	8:00 pm	Al-Anon, Rm 201
Sat	8:00 am	Troop 156 Scout Masters, Founders Rm
1-16	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm
	9:00 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym
	1:00 pm	CSA 156 Pine Wood Derby Workshop, Gym
Sun	9:15 am	Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm
1-17	9:30 am	Adult Education, Chapel
	9:30 am	7th Grade Confirmation Class, Various Rms
	9:30 am	8th Grade Confirmation Class, Youth Rm
	9:45 am	Primary Choir, Rm 201
	10:30 am	Sunday School Gathering, Rm 201
	11:30 am	Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm
	2:00 pm	678 Club, Youth Rm & Gym

Sunday Continued

	3:00 pm	Simple Gifts Concert, Sanctuary
	4:00 pm	PYF, Youth Rm
	4:00 pm	Voices of GCC, Rm 201
Mon	9:30 am	Finding My Spirit, Library
1-18	7:00 pm	Troop 156 Committee, Founders
Tues	12:00 pm	60 Plus Luncheon, Mayflower Rm
1-19	7:00 pm	WA Executive Board, Parlor
Wed	9:00 am	Resale Shop until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm
1-20	9:15 am	WA Chapter 11, Parlor, Cradle Toddler Rm
	9:15 am	WA Chapter 20, Chapel
	1:00 pm	Good News Kitchen, Kitchen

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