

SOME "MINISTER" THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP

I decided to write this Broadcaster article while sitting alone here in the sanctuary, hoping to receive guidance on what I should say in it from God's Spirit which graces this sacred space, and from spirits of the numerous departed who made GCC their spiritual home. On this sunny day the sanctuary is beautifully bathed in light and shadows, waiting for us to arrive for yet another Sunday service, when our souls will be nourished through our hearing the Word of God, framed by music from our wonderful organ and choir, and through our singing and praying together. Moreover, the sanctuary seems to be whispering the comforting, reassuring, and uplifting words and melodies of countless baptisms, confirmations, marriages, memorial services and festive events that have taken place in it for over 70 years.

As much as I am finding the sanctuary a place of peace and inspiration, I know that worship here is only part, albeit a major part, of our church life together. As a lay person and then a minister who has been member of and served in several churches over the years, I have been amazed by our numerous activities in Christian education and fellowship, member support and mission, and music that keep GCC's doors open every day of the week.

We are truly a vibrant community of faith! Witness our core activities: 150 Sunday school children gathering for worship and then dispersing to their many classrooms; 62 confirmands sharing prayer requests in their five Sunday morning confirmation classes; adult education introducing theological topics of great interest; Age 60+ luncheons bringing fellowship and many surprises; the young Voices of GCC, the Joyful Ringers handbell choir and the Chancel Choir rehearsing and performing so wonderfully; the many chapters of our

Women's Association and the Men's Ministry engaging in numerous, much-needed projects; the We Care Committee, Privilege Visitors, Called-to Care Companions, and Prayer Chain Ministry being engaged in various aspects of healing ministry; and Bible Study, Lectio Divina, yoga, basketball and pickleball engaging mind, body, and spirit. Witness our special support: GCC Nursery School, Our Church's Wider Mission and many agencies who serve those in need; Chicago Theological Seminary and our In-Care seminarian; Hands of Peace; Scouts; AA and Al Anon; Sing to Live; Senior Housing Fair; A Just Harvest and Northfield Township Food Pantry; Resale Shop; and flu shot program and blood drive. And witness our special events: Simple Gifts Concert Series, The Pageant, Toys for Tots Christmas Concert, Christmas Hymn Fest, Rally Day, Women's Retreat, Labyrinth Walk, and Great Chili Cook-off.

This immense vitality of GCC has been generated and sustained by generous personal participation and financial support of its members. Unfortunately, vitality of any congregation can be seriously threatened during a transitional period between senior or sole ministers, through members withdrawing, lowering or non-renewing their pledges. Although reasons for this vary considerably among churches in transition, most common is residual negativity towards the church because of unresolved issues.

I understand that as a major reason for the substantial decline of the member total pledge for 2012, the Stewardship Board is finding residual negativity towards GCC stemming from past ministry, in some instances coupled with a wait-and-see attitude directed towards the ministry of the yet-to-be-called senior minister. As various members receive their letters from

the Board, asking them to reconsider their pledges, might I suggest that they also give thought to the following facts about their spiritual home:

- GCC is unique among UCC churches in offering every conceivable program for spiritual development and growth, in a liberal and engaging theological environment that promotes personal relationships with God and Jesus Christ.
- GCC is not a pulpit-centered church, for as its ministers will always come and go, its programs will always continue.
- All GCC members, even those with negativity towards their church home, share responsibility in the selection and call of GCC's next senior minister.

As always, I am available to discuss and hopefully resolve or dissolve any concerns that you might have regarding past, present, and future ministry in GCC.

Yours in Christ,

Doug

THIS NEW YEAR, A PRAYER IN THIS NEW YEAR I PRAY:

To live deeply, with purpose,
To live freely, with detachment,
To live wisely, with humility,
To live justly, with compassion,
To live lovingly, with fidelity,
To live mindfully, with awareness,
To live gratefully, with generosity,
To live fully, with enthusiasm.

Help me to hold this vision And to daily renew it in my heart...

Selections from Joyce Rupp

WORSHIP SERVICES

JANUARY 22, 2012

8:00 a.m.

A Time for Reflection

10:00 a.m.

Community Worship

Scripture:

Psalm 62:5-12 Mark 1:14-20

Sermon:

"Called to Follow" Rev. Dr. Douglas Busby

JANUARY 29, 2012

8:00 a.m.

A Time for Reflection

10:00 a.m.

Community Worship

Scripture:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Mark 1:21-28

Sermon:

"Divine Authority" Rev. Dr. Douglas Busby

FEBRUARY 5, 2012

COMMUNION BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

8:00 a.m.

A Time for Reflection

10:00 a.m.

Community Worship

Scripture:

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c Isaiah 40:21-31

Sermon:

"Time Out...For Rest" Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler



AT-LARGE MEMBER NOMINATIONS

The Leadership Committee will begin considering nominations for At-Large Members to the Executive Board for the 2012-2013 church year. These members serve a two year term on the Executive Board. In addition At-Large Members serve on the Planning Committee and either the Leadership Committee or the Personnel and Ministerial Relations Committee (PMRC). For a description of this position's responsibilities as well as a description of the committees mentioned above, please refer to the GCC Constitution and By-Laws which can be accessed on the GCC website www.GCCUCC.org under the Resources tab or in the Church Office. If you are interested in being considered for this position or want to recommend someone else, please contact David Aki at dave254@comcast.net or at (847)657-0139 for further information.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION CLASSES

If you've been waiting for our next session about how to become a member at GCC, this is it! We are offering two sessions. One Sunday, February 26 and one on Sunday, March 4 from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Our new members will have a special invitation to attend the St. Patrick's Potluck Supper on March 4 after our last class. New members will then join the church formally on Sunday, March 11 at the 10:00 a.m. Community Worship service. Childcare will be provided for the two sessions if a reservation is made ahead of time. Please tell one of the ministers or call the church office if you would like more information or are interested in attending.

ADULT EDUCATION

January 22 and 29, 2012, 8:50 A.M.

Introduction to Islam. Islam is one of the three great mono-theistic religions and also one of the three, along with Judaism and Christianity, which came from the Middle East. Join Dr. Doug Busby for a fascinating look into one of the world's fastest growing faiths—and a religion which shares many similarities with its older Christian counterpart.

SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Congregational Surveys asking for input into the posting of the GCC Senior Minister position will be mailed the week of January 22 to all members! LOOK FOR THE MAILING AND RESPOND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The Search Committee is looking for vital input from our congregation as we finalize our Church Profile and posting of our Senior Minister position. For convenience, the survey will be emailed to those members for whom we have current emails, those receiving the survey link via email will be able to simply log on and complete the survey online. For those members for whom we do not have email addresses, you will receive the survey by postal mail and can fill out the survey and return it either by mail or in person to the church office. On Sundays January 29, February 5 and February 12, the Search Committee will be available at the coffee hours after church to collect surveys or provide you with the opportunity to fill out the surveys online. We look forward to a huge response from you and hope that we will hear from you quickly so that we can complete the UCC request for our updated Church Profile which will include our Senior Minister job description.

Thank you all,

The Senior Minister Search Committee Tom Aldrich, Mike Lauesen, Steve Brown, Michael McGuire, Kara Clark, Pam Reidy Ed Detwiler, Brad Smith, Jane Hund, Sally Thuresson, Chair

SAVE THE DATE

February 13, 6:30 p.m. in Room 5A gathering of all those women who have experienced breast cancer.



COMMON GROUND

The GCC Common Ground Satellite Programs return for 2012!

On the 4th Friday of the month, there will be a program from Common Ground in our Founders Room at 7:00 p.m. There will be a \$10.00 donation per person each night with refreshments being served.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Jim Kenney will present "Three Great Moments of Buddhism" The Mahayana Buddhist tradition (the schools that flourished in Tibet, China, Korea, and Japan) has an extraordinarily rich and complex history, distinguished by over twenty major schools of interpretation and practice. In this presentation, we'll explore three of the greatest teaching to emerge from that tradition.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Jerrol Leitner will present, "I Ate the World - Emerson's Spirituality".

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Jim Kenney will present, "2012 Campaign Snapshot".



YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE

GCC BLOOD DRIVE

BLOOD DRIVE THIS SUNDAY
Please help replenish the Blood Supply

GCC and LifeSource are holding its annual blood drive on Sunday, January 22 in the Plymouth Room from 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. You must be at least 17 years of age and weigh a minimum of 110 lbs. Please plan to be a part of this important mission for our community. If you have any questions or would like to sign up by phone, please call Sally Hicks at (847)729-3162.

COMMON GROUND IN DEERFIELD

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY, 16, 2012, 7:00-9:00 PM
HOP Israel/Palestine Trip Presentation

Join us for an education presentation of Hands of Peace's trip to Isreal and Palestine. All are welcome to join us for what will certainly be a fascinating evening. Please mark your calendars now, and look for more information and registration details to come.

Peace, Salaam, Shalom -

WOMEN'S WINTER RETREAT

Last chance to sign up for the Women's retreat. We're heading to Marriott Suites in Deerfield on Saturday morning, January 21 and finish Sunday at 11 a.m. There is still room if you wish to come. Just contact Marilyn Belleau or Rev. Pam Keckler in the church office (847)724-2210. We are excited about our guest speaker as well as our fellowship time together. Friends are welcome to come as well!

JOIN US FOR A FIRST EVER GCC CHILI COOK OFF!!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 6:00 PM, MAYFLOWER RM

It will be a fun evening of food and fellowship where attendees will be able to taste and then vote for their favorite chili. In addition to fantastic chili, there will also be salad, corn bread, dessert, drinks, buttered noodles for the younger set, and entertainment provided by talented PYF youth! Tickets will be on sale during coffee hour on all Sundays in January and will also be available at the door on the night of the event. Do you think you have the best chili recipe this side of the Mason-Dixon line? Then be one of the chili cooks vying for the hearts and stomachs of GCC members by signing up to compete. For more details, contact Mark Sawires <u>msawires@sbcglobal.net</u> or Brian Grad <u>hedgehog61@comcast.net</u>. This is a fundraiser for the PYF summer mission trip and is sponsored jointly by the Youth and Confirmation and Fellowship Boards.

Hope to see you there!

MUSICAL ARTS INDIANA VESPER CHORALE

Presents: **HOLOCAUST CANTATA**Songs from the Camps

Sunday, February 19, 4:00 PM

Temple Jeremiah, 937 Happ Road, Northfield, IL 60093. General admission tickets are \$20 and \$15 for students and seniors.

Tickets will be available in the Mayflower Room following Sunday morning services on January 22, 29 and February 5, 12, and 19. You can also mail a check made out to *Simple Gifts to GCC*, 1000 Elm Street, Glenview, IL 60025.

This performance is sponsored by Am Yisrael Congregation, Glenview Community Church Simple Gifts Concert Series, and Temple Jeremiah

678 CLUB

The next 678 Club will meet on Sunday, February 12. We will be bagging cookies for the Night Ministry. Thanks for all who helped with the blankets for our last service/ mission project.

678 PARENT GROUP

The next 678 Parent Discussion Group will be on January 29 from 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. in the Youth Room.

CONFIRMATION

Regular opening and class during the month of January. 8th graders – please email Rev. Keckler your height and weight so that we might order confirmation gowns soon.

PYF WINTER FUN

SUNDAYS, 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

JANUARY 29

We will be helping with the Glenview Community Church Great Chili Cook Off. Money raised at this event will be donated to the Mission Trip. Watch for more details at coffee hour, bulletin and Broadcaster to enter and watch for more details for help needed via email.

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 - 4:30 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

BROADCASTER DEADLINES & GUIDELINESArticles to be submitted by 9:00 a.m., Wednesday one week prior to publication dates to Tania McCarthy <u>tania.mccar-thy@gccucc.org.</u>

Keep articles brief to 80 words - no all caps - no centering. Your article will run two consecutive issues.

AT A GLANCE

THUR		
1/19	9:00 AM	Resale Shop until 5:00 PM, Plymouth Rm
	9:00 AM	GCC Yoga, Narthex
	6:30 PM	BSA 156 Patrol Leaders Council Mtg., Founder & Mayflower Rms
	7:00 PM	Basketball Practice, Gym
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm & Sanctuary
FRI		
1/20	9:00 AM	Resale Shop open until 1:00 PM, Plymouth Rm
	1:00 PM	GCC Historical Project, Parlor
	1:30 PM	GCC Pickleball, Gym
	7:00 PM	Volleyball, Gym
	8:00 PM	AA Meeting, Parlor
	8:00 PM	Al-Anon, Rm 201
SAT		
1/21	9:00 AM	Men's Open Gym, Gym
	9:00 AM	Resale Shop open until 1:00 PM, Plymouth Rm
SUN		
1/22	7:30 AM	Blood Drive, Plymouth Rm
	8:00 AM	Reflective Worship Service, Transept
	8:50 AM	Adult Education, Chapel
	9:00 AM	Confirmation Opening Prayers, Youth Rm
	9:15 AM	Confirmation Classes, Various Rms
	9:15 AM	Voices of GCC, Rm 201
	10:00 AM	Community Worship, Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Sunday School Classes, Various Rms
	11:00 AM	Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm
	11:15 AM	Joyful Ringers Rehearsal, Bell Rm
	11:15 AM	Leadership Mtg., Founders Rm

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Continued				
	4:00 PM	PYF, Youth Rm		
	4:00 PM	Voices of GCC, Rm 201		
MON				
1/23	9:30 AM	Finding My Spirit, Library		
	1:30 PM	Pickleball, Gym		
TUES				
1/24	11:30 AM	WA Chapter 8 Mtg., Founders Rm		
	6:30 PM	Sing to Live Rehearsal, Sanctuary		
	6:30 PM	Operating Committee, Mayflower Rm		
	7:00 PM	Executive Board, Mayflower Rm		
WED				
1/25	9:00 AM	Resale Shop open until 1:00 PM, Plymouth Rm		
	1:30 PM	Pickleball, Gym		
	6:30 PM	BSA 156 Mtg., Mayflower Rm, Gym		
	7:00 PM	Holocaust Cantata Mtg., Library		
	7:00 PM	Venture Crew, Rm 210 & Gym		

PASTORAL CARE

We learned of the death of William R. McKinley, age 91 who died January 4. Our sympathy and prayers to Bill and Cynthia McKinley and their family.