

Broadcaster

January 20, 2010

Pilgrims Progress

Having moved into a new year, we are moving into the unknown. Perhaps revisiting Abraham's story will help us as we go forward in 2010, not knowing where our journey will take us this year but confident of the God who guides us as Abraham was confident in his day.

The storyteller summarizes Abraham's life with this line, "Then he moved on from place to place, going toward the southern part of Canaan" (Gen. 12:9). Abraham and his family became nomads, people who would put up their tents for a season, then take them down, and move to another place. After Abraham started listening to God, he never again knew a settled life.

This is characteristic of the seeker's life. Abraham searched for a place, found a place, settled for a season, only to uproot and seek another place. Seeking a place became a life-long journey for Abraham.

Perhaps the theme song for Abraham and his family was, "On the Road Again." Neither Abraham nor his descendants considered the wandering a blessing. They didn't like the struggles and the changes and living in a state of having not yet arrived any more than we do.

But what if the blessing weren't the land at all? Maybe we've been missing the point all these years. What if the land was a metaphor for something more important than being able to call a piece of land your own, to build a house on it and keep a family there from generation to generation? What if the blessing was not the land but the relationship itself? The moment Abraham walked out of the house in Haran he began a journey that put him into a covenant-relationship with God. Centuries later when Moses died on the East Side of the Jordan looking over into Canaan, no bitterness or remorse is evident in his life. Maybe the Promised Land is not about geography but about relationships, relationships with God and with fellow human beings, a place to be.

Have you ever had the notion that some day your life would be settled? I have, but I am finally permitting that illusive dream to die. When I was in high school, I was eager for college. That would be real life. In college, I was eager to get on to seminary and make preparation for my vocation. I was eager to finish seminary so I could get on with real ministry. Having been a pastor now for more than forty-three years, I have not found life to be settled by any means.

Maybe all of us are nomads, pitching our tents first here and then there. We camp out at a committee meeting, a worship service, at our jobs, at school, drop by the house for bite of food and nap, and we're off again moving from place to place going toward the southern part of the Promised Land wherever and whatever that is.

Relationships are for a lifetime. They change because life is constantly changing. Abraham's worldview changed because his covenant relationship with God caused him to redefine his world. Abraham's life from the time he left Haran was much harder and much better than he ever imagined possible. Has this been true of your relationship with God? Ever since you got involved with God has your life been unsettled, moving from place to place, emotionally if not also geographically? The blessing is the relationship, and it contains both threat and promise. The threat is that we will be changed. The promise is that we will be changed.

As we journey in relationship with God, it becomes clearer that to live our lives on God's terms is to live a nomadic existence, moving from place to place. The only thing settled in our lives in the relationship with God is how unsettled our lives are. Relationships are for a lifetime and they are forever changing. The blessing from God is not the settled place but the relationship.

Consciously and unconsciously, we are

SUNDAY SERVICES

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.

Pilgrims Choir

10:30 a.m.

Pilgrims 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:

"Salt and Sight"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

searching for relationships. As relationships evolve, change, grow, and deepen so do we. Indeed, we are seekers, seeking a place and the place we seek is a relationship with God and with each other.

Howard

HOT HEADS:



CALLING ALL KNITTERS

In the chilly mountains of rural Rwanda, where last year PIH partner organization began working with the Burera District Hospital, resources are very limited and the temperature often drops into the 50s. Newborn babies, particularly those born prematurely, often struggle to keep warm. In a country where one in 10 babies dies before her first birthday, hypothermia is a serious threat. A simple solution that can help save

*"It warms our hearts
to warm little heads."*

some of these little ones is to provide them all with beanies to keep them warm. The Burera District Hospital welcomes about 100 new babies into the world each month, so PIH's current goal is to provide 100 caps per month.

Our contributing pile of caps numbers 55. This box has been sent and we are looking for many more caps.

"It warms our hearts to warm little heads."

Altar Flowers

We have openings for altar flower orders for 2010. If you would like to purchase flowers for our altar, forms are available in the church office or narthex.

OPEN DATES

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| January 24 | July 4 |
| February 21, 28 | August 1, 8, 15 |
| March 7, 14, 21 | September 26 |
| April 11, 25 | October 10, 31 |
| May 24 | November 7, 14, 21, 28 |
| June 6, 13, 27 | December 12, 19 |

New Member Class

February 14th from 3-5 p.m. is the date and time of our next New Member Orientation Class. If you are interested in becoming a member of GCC or interested in learning more about membership, this class is for you. Please put this class on your calendar and call the church office (847-724-2210) to register for the class.

Scout Sunday

Sunday, January 31st is Scout Sunday at Glenview Community Church when we will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Scouting in America. Watch for uniformed members of Boy Troop 156, Venturing Crew 156 and Cub Scout Pack 156 who will be helping distribute bulletins and collecting the offering during both services. If the weather permits, the Scouts also plan to serve freshly cooked donuts at the west parking lot entrance between services to say thank you for GCC's on-going support of Scouting, a commitment that has continued at our church for more than 50 years.

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.

Adult Education Seminar

IN THE CHAPEL AT 9:30 a.m.

January 24, 2010

There will be no Adult Education classes on either January 24 or February 14. There is only one church service on the 24th, the Interfaith Service at 9:30 a.m. On February 14 the midwinter congregational meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m.

IN THE CHAPEL AT 9:30 a.m.

January 31 and February 7, 2010

"In the Bleak Midwinter": A Quartet of Haunting, and Haunted, Texts

Winter is merely half over, yet Lent approaches resolutely and reassuringly. The Adult Education Sunday seminar will focus on four texts that embrace the meteorological and metaphorical darkness of this peculiar meeting-of-seasons. Each one—a lyric sung by Peggy Lee, a sonnet by G. M. Hopkins, a short story by Ernest Hemingway, and a narrative poem by T. S. Eliot—is marked by haunting language. Each one, in its own way, is haunted by the unseen, un-felt presence of God.

Leading these seminars, which will include interpretive reading and interactive discussion, will be Allan Ruter, longtime teacher of literature and writing in The Glenbrook High Schools. Copies of the texts will be supplied; participants need bring with them only their wits and reading glasses.

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 Leddington 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-Swydrak (708-702-0833).

GCC CAREER NETWORK

Monday, January 25 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. Joy 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 pm 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 for more information.

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 hour 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.

Coming Soon

February 14, 2010

Treat your favorite valentine to an evening at Pasta Luigi! our annual spaghetti dinner with the Singing Waiters and Waitresses from the Chancel Choir. Tickets on sale during coffee fellowship hours and in the office, through February 10th at a big 25% discount over prices at the door. Get 'em while they're hot!

Greater Chicago Food Depository...

GOOD WORK AND GOOD FUN!

NEXT GCC DATE - 3/27

On Saturday, 1/9 a group of 11 from GCC went down to the GCFD for an afternoon session. We worked the assembly line and put together 850 emergency boxes which contained a variety of canned and boxed items to keep a person fed for 3+ days.

The next scheduled session at GCFD is Saturday, 3/27 (leave GCC at 12:30) and this volunteer opportunity is open to ages 13 and older, so mark your calendars and RSVP to Tracy Sawires at esnstsms@hotmail.com if you're interested in going.

Each time we volunteer at GCFD we donate our work credits to one of GCC's partner agencies that receives food from the Greater Chicago Food Depository-San Lucas, Northfield Food Pantry, or Good News Community Kitchen, so our efforts go even further to help provide food to the hungry! GCFD and our partner agencies report an increase of 35-50% in need over the last year.

Thank you for your participation from your friends on the GCC Missions Outreach Board.

With Appreciation for Your Support...

Chapter 20 of the GCC Women's Association and the GCC Missions Outreach Board would like to thank GCC members, friends, and the GCC Women's Association for the generous support of the Blanket Sales and Mission Tree collection (12/13 and 12/20). Proceeds and items from both projects were given to The Night Ministry. The Blanket Sales brought in \$1400 (at \$7 a piece, The Night Ministry will be able to provide 200 blankets to the population living on the streets) and three large bags of cold weather items were given from the Mission Tree collection.

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.



**JANUARY
FEBRUARY**

JANUARY 22 - 23

Winter Trip

JANUARY 24

**4 - 6 p.m. Youth Room
PYF Singers & Open Gym**

JANUARY 31

**4 - 6 p.m. Youth Room
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!

FEBRUARY 7

Souper Bowl Sunday

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Please mark your calendars. It is not only Super Bowl Sunday but also Souper Bowl Sunday. We will be taking part in a National Campaign to fight hunger. In the morning we will raise money for Good News and in the afternoon meet and go to the kitchen as a group.

**OPEN YOUTH ROOM &
SHIFTS FOR POT BANGING**

Shift 1 9 am - 9:45 am

Shift 2 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Shift 3 11:15 - 11:50

Good News Outing

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

There is room for 6 youth. Please let me know if you are able to attend. Christine Foley and I will be taking the youth to Good News Community Soup Kitchen.

Glenview Community Church Nursery School

We offer classes for ages 2 - 5 years old and the school is home to many GCC families, including preschool director Marcia Kiraly, an expert in early childhood development. The preschool is holding an open house on Wednesday, January 20 and the registration deadline is February 3 at 9:00 a.m. Please visit us at www.gccns.com or call 847/729-1440 to visit a class in action.

GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

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

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| Thu 1-21 | 9:00 am 12:30 pm 6:15 pm 7:30 pm | Resale Shop open until 5:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm Music Review, Mayflower Rm, Choir Rm Bell Choir, Bell Rm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary |
| Fri 1-22 | 9:00 am 8:00 pm 8:00 pm | Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm AA, Parlor Al-Anon, Rm 201 |
| Sat 1-23 | 9:00 am 9:00 am | Resale Shop open until 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Rm Men's Open Gym, Gym |
| Sun 1-24 | 9:30 am 10:30 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm | Interfaith Service, Sanctuary Interfaith Seminars, Various Rms PYF, Youth Rm Voices of GCC, Rm 201 |
| Mon 1-25 | 12:30 pm | GCC Networking, Plymouth Rm |

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| Tues 1-26 | 11:00 am 7:00 pm | WA Chapter 8, Founders Rm Executive Board, Mayflower Rm |
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| Wed 1-27 | 9:00 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm | Resale Shop until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm BSA Troop 156, Gym, Mayflower Rm Life To Eagle, Founders Rm Venture Crew, Rm 210 |
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Pastoral Care

We offer our sympathy to the family of Diane Damico, who died January 11. A memorial was held on January 16 at GCC. Please keep the Damico family in your prayers.

Haiti Relief

The web page that is set up through the UCC denomination to handle Haiti relief donations is: <http://www.ucc.org/disaster/major-earthquake-strikes.html>

The mailing address for receiving donations is:

UCC
Global Resources
Wider Church Ministries
700 Prospect Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

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