

A Pilgrim's Progress

A major event for me this month was being summoned to appear in court. I was summoned by the Court of Confirmation to answer accusations for, "saying and teaching things that seem unreasonable and illogical, teaching about God, Jesus, and everlasting life." I was summoned to appear on February 6, 2011 and to respond to the following questions:

- What and/or who is God? What is your interpretation of God? Is God all powerful?
- 2) Was Jesus perfect? That is, was he sinless? If he was perfect, why the story of him turning over tables in the synagogue? If he was not perfect, how is it that we all worship him and not other people that are also not perfect?
- 3) Are the miracles true? Did Jesus really feed so many people with so little bread/fish? Did he really walk on water?
- 4) Were the Old Testament stories true? Did God really kill everyone on the earth during the Flood? Do we have to follow the laws of Leviticus? (One of those laws states that if a child curses his mother or father he should be put to death.)
- 5) What is Love? Jesus said to love your enemies, how do you do this, it seems so difficult? How can you love someone if you don't even like them?
- 6) What is Heaven? Who gets to go to Heaven? Do animals get to go? What about mosquitoes?
- 7) Does prayer work? If you pray for something and it doesn't come true, does it mean God didn't hear? Does God have the power to grant prayer requests?

- 8) Why do we go to worship services? Is the church the only place you can worship?
- 9) In the UCC, we say everyone is welcome here. Is this really true? Do we really welcome everyone? What if 100 black homeless men decided to come every Sunday, would we all still welcome them? Do we truly welcome people that are different from us?

What a challenge! By the way I was found guilty by the Court of Confirmation. What a wonderful learning opportunity for me and I hope for the Confirmands. Thanks to Monty Davis and his Confirmation Class for arranging the trial and posing the questions.

These are excellent questions. How would you answer them? I hope you will take some time and answer them. Are your answers different now than they would have been last year? What about ten years ago? If your answers are not different now than earlier, why is that? If your answers are different now then earlier, what has led to the change in your thinking?

Howard

Give Time and Talent to GCC

Do you have time to help out once, twice or three times a year? Find your niche at the coffee hour on Volunteer Sunday, February 27th.

Come join the fun -- there'll be food, prizes and even a surprise guest as we learn about the boards and activities at GCC. Your volunteering will strengthen our congregation, enrich your life and the lives of others. You won't want to miss this! (Church School will not be dismissed until 10:45 a.m that morning.)

Phyllis Scott, Membership Board

SUNDAY SERVICES

FEBRUARY 20, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Chancel Choir and Joyful Ringers

Scripture:

Genesis 25:27-34, Mark 3:31-35

Sermon:

"Growth By Irritation" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

FEBRUARY 27, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Chancel Choir and Pilgrim Wind Ensemble

Scripture:

Isaiah 61:1-11, John 8:31-47

Sermon:

"God and the "L" Word" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

MARCH 6, 2011

COMMUNION

9:30 a.m.

Chancel Choir

Scripture:

1 Kings 21:1-3, 17-19 Galatians 6: 7-10

Sermon:

"Hitting the Curve Ball" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts



My Church, My Faith, My Commitment

Having grown up in a strict Catholic family, I found Glenview Community Church to be a pretty unusual place when I first visited. Communion wasn't served every week, nobody made the Sign of the Cross or genuflected, and there were no kneelers in the pews. However, I soon realized that there are many ways to worship God, and it's what a person feels inside that's important--not whether she is kneeling, sitting, or standing. In fact, some of the differences have been quite refreshing; the monthly Communion has become something very special to me, although I sometimes am teaching Sunday School and have to miss it. However, when I am in the Sanctuary for Communion, I just love hearing that "All are welcome at the table." That fellowship with God and with everyone else at the service is an amazing feeling!

Glenview Community Church is also special because it has slowly become like a second family to me. If you take the time to join one or more of the many groups here, you meet so many incredible people of various ages and from all different backgrounds. The Women's Association

has brought me some dear friends and also enabled me to help out with great service projects. Serving on various boards again allowed me to make new friends and learn about the inner workings of GCC. I have gained insight from people of all ages by attending small group sessions and working with the youth of the church. The way that everyone at GCC embraces and encourages the children is beautiful. I get chills whenever Dr. Roberts lifts up a baby at a Baptism and tells us to "Behold a new child of God." The Pageant is a magical tradition filled with beauty and artistry, and it's a privilege to watch the kids each year move on to their next roles.

I am grateful for the gift of GCC in my life and on my faith journey. I am blessed to be in a place where it's okay to ask difficult questions and express doubts. I am happy that I belong to a faith community that welcomes people of all backgrounds to come together and share faith, food and fellowship.

Karen Ornduff

An Excerpt from the EQUAL EXCHANGE Newsletter

written by a church member in Wenatchee,WA

"I have a deep passion for our beautiful planet earth. The seed for this passion was planted nearly 100 years ago by my "dry dirt" (non-irrigated) poor Irish American grandparents as they eked out their hardscrabble existence in rural East Texas. In young adulthood, my sustainability tree lay somewhat dormant as I became a psychologist and dedicated myself to growing my own family. I was awakened from my environmental complacency by an unusual event. I met an "environmental preacher" from another continent, Marcelo da Luz with his amazing xof1 solar car (www.xof1.com). My tree flourished by helping Marcelo break the world distance record for a car that is completely powered by sunlight. I embraced his message that we all belong to one planet and need to think globally; we are all connected in this beautiful world. If one part of our world becomes sick and dies, the entire rest of the world will eventually be affected and might perish as well. This new growth caused me to search more earnestly for ways to minimally impact the earth; recycle

more, downsize instead of upgrade; conserve energy, water & resources; grow my own vegetable garden, etc. My tree grew stronger and I learned more ways to promote sustainability throughout the world and not just in my own little corner of the USA. I studied environmental research, organic farming and how to minimally impact the earth. I made the commitment to buy as many organic products as I could afford, and to buy locally when possible. I want to support farmers as much as possible, and to help them earn a fair wage which is why I buy Equal Exchange coffee/tea/chocolates. I am very happy with the quality, price and taste. While my tree continues to grow, I intend to drink some wonderful Equal Exchange tea or coffee and indulge in the world's most delicious chocolate along the way!"

Equal Exchange products will be sold at the Coffee Hour on February 20. See you in the Mayflower Room.

SAVE THE DATE! Quiz Night and Dinner Fun for All Ages - April 10, 2011

Mark your calendars NOW for Quiz Night and Dinner at GCC on Sunday, April 10 beginning at 5:30 p.m. This event is open to GCC members and friends...all ages...individuals, couples, and families! It's a great way to meet new people, see old friends, and to test your knowledge on a variety of fun topics. A satisfying pizza dinner will be served. Details will follow closer to the date!

Thank you from Chapter 7 of the GCC Women's Association.

MEALS ON WHEELS

For well over 30 years the Chapters of the Women's Association have been preparing and delivering meals twice a month to needy organizations. We cook for 30 people and usually two drivers deliver the food. Our meals include: Main protein dish, starch, vegetables, fresh fruit, and dessert.

For several years we had been taking the food to a men's shelter which was located just east of Cubs park. This facility changed its program the end of December, so it was necessary to find a new home for our meals.

We are very happy to tell you that the food is now going to The Youth Campus which is located in Park Ridge. They are a residential home for up to 30 girls ages 11 to 18 that are referred to them by DCFS. They receive counseling, a safe home, and guardians. A school is also on the Campus and the girls can decide if they wish to attend there or enter public school. These girls come from all over Illinois, not just Chicago. There is 24 hour a day staffing in the 2 residential homes.

The Youth Campus is delighted to be receiving our meals. Those 2 days a month when the staff doesn't have to plan and prepare meals is a real blessing for them.

Once again, we say Thank You to all the ladies who contribute to this wonderful program.

Emily Davis and the Women's Association

Adult Education In The Chapel at 10:45 a.m. FEBRUARY 20

Please join the Adult Education board in welcoming Nick Bubnovich as our speaker. Nick is a GCC member and attorney and his presentation will be:

"\$ocial Ju\$tice: How Relevant is Co\$t? Sovereign states, as well as the separate US states (and even municipalities), play a key role in dispensing and maintaining social justice. At a time of severe deficits and debt burdens at seemingly all government levels, what effect will this have on social justice and what can be done about it?"

This will be a timely and thought-provoking look at one of the problems facing our current and future governments as well as individuals.

Aziz Family Arrives to Cold and Snow!

GCC Sponsored Refugee Apartment

GCC members, Sunday school classes, Women's Association chapters, the Resale Shop at GCC, and the Village Treasure House responded with enthusiasm and generosity to the project of furnishing a refugee apartment in partnership with RefugeeOne. Furniture, kitchen/ bathroom supplies, winter clothes, gift cards, and linens were collected and used to furnish a one bedroom apartment for the Aziz family. The husband, Abdul, fled Burma in 1996 and met his future wife, Nasima, at a refugee camp in Malaysia when they were both children. They eventually married and their two year old son Muhammad was born in Malaysia in 2010.

The originally scheduled November arrival date for the family came and went, but when confirmation came that the Aziz family would finally arrive at O'Hare on a cold January night, GCC members jumped into action and the apartment was cleaned, set up, and groceries provided in time for their arrival. A few GCC members have met the Aziz family at the RefugeeOne office and future home visits with the family will be set up. If you would be interested in meeting the family, please contact Kris Voelker at kristine_voelker@yahoo.com or Tracy Sawires at kristine_voelker@yahoo.com (847)832-0063.

Thank you for the generous support! GCC Missions Outreach Board.

New Mother Kits

Donations Needed for March 6 Service Project

On March 6th, PYF and the 6,7,8 Club will be putting together new mother kits for The Night Ministry.

Please consider donating diapers, baby wipes, bottles, pacifiers, onesies, baby lotion, baby soap, diaper cream, or baby toys for this project. Please put your donations in the box outside the GCC office before March 6.

Thank you!

OPEN HOUSE

The Women's Association Resale Shop will be holding an Open House on Sunday, February 20, 2011, after the worship service until 12 noon. Come and meet some of the staff and committee members and browse the merchandise. If you are unfamiliar with the shop, it's located on the west side of the church's lower level, in the Plymouth Room.

Calling All Knitters

Calling all knitters for spring IDEAS.
Tuesday, MARCH 1 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 5
For more information, please contact
Nan Hinchsliff_at_nhinchslif@aol.com.

BRILLIANT BAROQUE:

Bella Voce & The Callipygian Players Friday, March 4, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

Bella Voce, Chicago's premier chamber choir, conducted by our very own Andrew Lewis, will sing works by Handel, Vivaldi, Corelli, and Allegri accompanied by period instruments. The instrumental ensemble, The Callipygian Players, is led by Baroque violin virtuoso Martin Davids.

Those of you who attended the Bella Voce & The Callipygian Players concert last year already know what a moving musical experience this will be. You may purchase tickets by phoning (312)479-1096 or at the Bella Voce website: www.bellavoce.org.

For groups of 10 or more, tickets are \$15. Otherwise tickets are \$28 to \$35.

Six New Pans!

Thanks to those who used Jewel stickers to get pans for the refugee apartments. Due to the combined effort and stickers, we were able to get a set of six new pans for a refugee apartment. Great work! With appreciation from your friends on the GCC Missions Outreach Board.

Sunday School

On Sunday, February 13, during the 9:30 worship service, the following fourth grade Sunday school students were presented with a Bible:

Megan Elizabeth Aki Alexander Cornwell Ban **Emily Ann Bauer** Lauren Grace Bundy **Lindsay Jean Burrowes Grace Butler** Jordan Chisholm Julia Anne DiSano Katherine Rose Gregory **Emma Frances Isaacs** Reo Ludemann Jorgensen Paul Charles Krueger Charles William MacKimm John McNamara Sarah McNeela Grace McNeela Ben Mergl Carter Dye Morgan John Steven Morgan Trinity Elise Nelson Grace Kelly O'Brien Stephanie Theresia Ornduff Collin Roy Lauren M. Zylke Henry Smith Kate Elizabeth Solem Zachary Spalding

PYFF

Megan Elizabeth Stettler

Jordan R. Wilbon

Jack Hugh Whisler

Elizabeth Grace Vanderveen

Pilgrim Youth and Family Fellowship
Our final gathering for youth and families is Sunday, February 27 from 4-6 p.m.
We meet for opening worship and Communion in the YouthRoom, followed by a potluck dinner, then time for youth fellowship and parent discussion. It's a great way for families to get to know one another better. Contact Elizabeth Ciccolini if you are coming: elizabeth.ciccolini@gccucc.org. She will give you the food assignment.

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. Howard Roberts, Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler, Minister for Spiritual Formation

DIRECTORS:

Marilyn Belleau, RN, Health Ministry Kathy Lifton, Children's Ministry Elizabeth Hartung-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*

Return Service Requested

At /	4 GI	ance	
THRS	2/17	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 5:00 pm, Plymouth Rm
		12:30 pm	Music Revue, Choir Rm
		6:30 pm	North Suburban Day Care Assn., Mayflower Rm
		7:30 pm	Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
FRI	2/18	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm
		2:30 pm	CSA 156 Den Mtg., Founders Rm
		7:00 pm	CSA 156 Pack Night, Mayflower Rm
		7:00 pm	NSY&R Volleyball, Gym
		8:00 pm	AA Mtg., Parlor
		8:00 pm	Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201
SAT	2/19	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm
		9:00 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym
SUN	2/20	8:30 am	Fellowship Board Mtg., Rm 213
		8:45 am	Primary Choir Rehearsal, Rm 201
		9:30 am	Confirmation Classes In Session, Various Rms
		9:30 am	Worship Service, Sanctuary
		9:30 am	Sunday School, Various Rms - start in Rm 201
		9:45 am	Confirmation Closing Prayers, Youth Rm
		10:30 am	Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm
		10:45 am	Joyful Ringers Rehearsal, Bell Rm
		10:45 am	Adult Ed Presentation, Chapel
		10:45 am	Leadership Committee, Founders Rm
		4:00 pm	Voices of GCC, Rm 201
		4:00 pm	PYF , Youth Rm

MON 2/21 7:00 pm BSA 156 Committee Mtg., Founders Rm

TUE 2/22 11:30 am WA Chapter 8, Founders Rm

4:30 pm Hebrew School, Various Rms7:00 pm Executive Board Mtg., Mayflower Rm

7:00 pm Executive Board Mtg., Mayflower Rm
7:00 pm Membership Board, Parlor & Library

WED 2/23 7:00 pm BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Gym, Mayflower Rm

8:00 pm Venture Crew, Parlor and Gym

Pastoral Care

Long-time GCC member Gerry W. Bruce died on February 13, 2011. We offer our sympathy and prayers to wife, Jan Bruce and daughter, Pamela Bruce-Cronin and their family.

A memorial service will held in the near future. Please call the church office for details.

Broadcaster Deadlines:

Submit articles by 9:00 a.m., Wednesday to Tania McCarthy via e-mail at *tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org*.

Nonprofit Organization

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