

Broadcaster

GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

FEBRUARY 23, 2011

Pilgrims Progress

"*If the Church Were Christian*" is one of the more helpful books I have read recently. I'm drawing from it for this article and several to follow. I will also be using this book as a basis for four Adult Education Seminars I'll be leading in late March and early April.

In this book Philip Gulley tells about an acquaintance who began attending a small congregation on the outskirts of a large city. She discovered the church during struggling times had managed to set aside thousands of dollars in an emergency fund. The congregation had grown accustomed to having the money, were reassured knowing it was there, and couldn't imagine any circumstance that would compel them to spend it. As this new member became more actively involved in the church, she began gently questioning their pattern of hoarding. At first people were resistant to her suggestions that they give the money away but as they got to know her better they began to trust her suggestions of generously using the money to meet needs around them. Over the period of several years they had given away most of the money they'd gathered. Several warned the church would go broke but instead giving to the church increased.

One man summarized the feelings of many: "I never gave much before because I knew that money would sit in a bank account, not doing anybody any good. When I saw we were putting it to good use, I wanted to give more."

Generosity begets generosity. Once that pattern is established, it grows in other dimensions. When a congregation has a clear vision of its mission and communicates that mission consistently to members and participants people begin to become more open, responsive and generous.

Getting a congregation to this point of generosity is difficult. A significant barrier is the cynicism that many have that the church has lost its way. People are saddened by the church's failure to live up to its ideals. They become resigned to what appears to be a common reality in many churches—that after a while they exist largely for themselves. Even the best churches can be easily sidetracked by a small number of persons whose priorities are skewed. It is profoundly difficult to challenge the status quo in most churches.

I find these words of Gully to be especially worth pondering. "Perhaps the most frustrating moment in a pastor's life is when he or she realizes that no matter how thoughtful, eloquent, or biblically sound a sermon is, it will not move an entrenched congregation in a new direction overnight. Indeed, sometimes entire years will pass with no discernable shift in a congregation's priorities. Congregations are like people; unless they are in a crisis, they change their patterns and habits slowly. This is a good argument for pastoral longevity. It often takes sustained, creative leadership to alter long-established patterns in the church. Unfortunately, many pastors are either fired or leave of their own accord just as they're about to become effective."

A major challenge of the church is to keep the focus on meeting human needs rather than maintaining an institution. Let's do everything in our power to focus on meeting human needs through Glenview Community Church rather than maintaining an institution.

Howard

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

MARCH 9, 2011

ASH WEDNESDAY

7:30 p.m. Katherine Hughes & Kevin Kizer

Scripture:
Isaiah 58:1-9, Psalm 51

Meditation:
"Marked"
Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

MARCH 13, 2011

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

Scripture:
Genesis 33:1-11, John 6:1-15

Sermon:
"The Miracle of Sufficiency"
Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

My Faith, My Church, My Commitment

The Stewardship Board wishes to thank each and every one of you who have gone the extra mile to pledge and/or increase your existing pledge to cover not only the base budget but the first three of five added budget requests. The budget was submitted to the Congregation on February 13 and approved. It is due to the extraordinary response from the members of our congregation who stepped forward to overcome the deficit shown in December. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We now ask every member of our congregation to please help us fund the final

two outstanding budget requests: insurance for our full time employees and the capital reserve (in that order). We still need \$30,000+.

Please consider Pledging, Increasing your Pledge or make a commitment to Donate more than you Donated last year. You can do any of these by contacting Dale Wittenberg by e-mail at dale.wittenberg@gccucc.org, or calling Dale and leaving a message on his voice mail at 847-724-2210 x 27.

St. Patrick's Pot Luck Dinner

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

5 P.M. IN THE MAYFLOWER ROOM

Join in fellowship, food and fun at the annual St. Patrick's Pot Luck Dinner, sponsored by the Fellowship Board!

Entertainment provided by the Sheila Tully Irish Dancers

Bring a dish to share:

A-F – Salad

G-R – Main dish

S-Z – Dessert or vegetable

Suggested donation is \$5/person for singles or couples, \$3/person for seniors, or \$10/family to offset the cost of the dancers.

Please RSVP to C.J. Sultz by March 5th with your name and the number of people attending to cj.sultz@us.mcd.com or (847)657-7079

Lenten Devotional Booklets

Ash Wednesday begins March 9 as the start of our Lenten season. Devotional booklets are here and available for pick up in the church office or you may request a copy and we will mail one to you. This resource follows the Gospel of Luke and the journey of "Traveling on Holy Ground." Plan now to spend time in meditation during this upcoming holy season.

From the Parish Nurse:

Wellness Screening, Sunday March 13, in the Plymouth Room beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Take advantage of this confidential and convenient blood screening that checks 30 Plus tests. You will have a Lipid and Chemistry Profile which checks for Coronary Heart Disease, Diabetes, Kidney Function, Metabolic Function, Bone Metabolism, Infection/Nutrition, Liver Function along with a Complete Blood Count (CBC) which is a series of tests that looks for blood abnormalities, infection, anemia, and certain cancers. All for \$41.00 (a value of over \$200.00)

Additional Tests Include:

Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) -- \$40.00
(for males 45 yrs and older)

Thyroid Profile -- \$40.00
(abnormal thyroid function)

C-Reactive Protein -- \$40.00
(high levels linked to inflammation in the blood vessels—hardening of the arteries)

Colocare -- \$6.00
(colon cancer take home test)

This is a perfect chance to check your health status at a very reasonable cost and detect conditions early to prevent disease down the road. With this economy, and healthcare costs so high, you can't afford to miss this unique opportunity. Blood pressure check and self-serve height and weight are also included in the testing.

Registration will take place during the Fellowship Hour after the worship service on February 27 and March 6. Payment is due at the screening.

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.**

Congregational Training Session

Being a powerful congregation in relationship with God involves engaging one another on the issues that are important to us. On Saturday, February 26, we have a unique opportunity to learn how better to do this. In conjunction with our partners at the Community Renewal Society, the Missions Outreach Board is hosting a congregational justice training session from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Mayflower Room. During this session, we will develop leadership skills that can be used in building a more powerful church. Coffee and bagels and a pizza lunch will be provided. Please join us for this amazing opportunity. For further information or to confirm attendance, please contact Bill Ryan at (847)226-6972 or billjryan@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you from your friends on the Missions Outreach Board.

Don't Miss Volunteer Sunday February 27th!

Are these cold winter days getting you down? Ready for some fun, frolic, food and friends? Come to Fellowship Hour after the service on Sunday, February 27. Get to know your boards and the many activities happening throughout the year here at GCC. Your volunteering will strengthen our congregation, enrich your life and the lives of others. There will even be a surprise guest! (Church School will not be dismissed until 10:45 a.m. that morning.)
Phyllis Scott, Membership Board

Adult Education

In The Chapel at 10:45 a.m.

MARCH 6

Join Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler on Sunday morning, March 6 at 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel for our Adult Education session.

Rev. Keckler will share her thoughts on a "Lenten Sabbatical." Having taken a sabbatical a year ago, hear how some centered and intentional time has made a difference in her own spiritual life and how it can in your life as well.

Want a mini-sabbatical during Lent? It can be done! Come and discover how!

Teach-In for Peace

March 18

7:00 p.m.

Kathy Kelly, First Hand Report on Visits to Afghanistan & Pakistan

8:00 p.m.

Coffeehouse Concert Featuring **Oswaldo Vena & The Still A Dream Band**

March 19

9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Seeking Shalom for Strife Torn Peoples Discussions led by Dr. Peter Makari, Veronica and Michael Kyle, Dr. Ann Frisch and Dr. Oswaldo Vena.

The public is invited and all events are free. Register by March 16 at <http://www.congucc.org/updates.htm> or call (847)392-6650.

Congregational United Church of Christ
1001 W. Kirchoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois.

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.

Thank You

Many thanks to all those who baked or brought cookies to our 12th Annual cookie bake for the Night Ministry. This year we had many more Oreos than home baked. Is that a sign of our busy lives? Also, we were down about half of our previous Cookie Days. The PYF packed 525 bags (each bag holds 3 cookies), so our total was around 1500 cookies. The two previous years we made 950 packages.

Night Ministry gives out over 600 packages of cookies each week. They are very grateful for any help we give them because they are a huge presence and fill a dire need in the lives of Chicago's homeless.

Dori Hirsch

Lenten Preview

Ash Wednesday begins March 9 with "*Private Prayer and Communion*" with a minister. Individuals or families may enter the West entrance and come to the Sanctuary or the Chapel during hours of 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. Ashes will not be given at this time.

An evening Ash Wednesday service will be held in the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. where ashes will be distributed, along with prayers and singing, and music by the Pilgrim Wind Ensemble.

Dr. Roberts will preach on the theme "*Miracles of Jesus*" during the Sundays in Lent, beginning March 13. He will also be sharing thoughts from the book, "*If the Church Were Christian*" during four Adult Education sessions later in March and April.

This year we plan to offer a mid-week Lenten gathering called "*Telling Our Stories*" each Wednesday beginning March 16 and concluding April 13. A simple soup supper will be available at 6:15 p.m. A study and small group discussion, followed by informal worship will begin at 6:45 p.m. We will be finished by 7:30 p.m.

Off the Shelf

Check out the program, Off the Shelf, on Glenview Cable Television, channel 6 or 17. Martha Kofoed interviews Howard Roberts about the books he has written, how he became an author, and some of the topics in his books. The program is on at 10 a.m., 2, 6, and 10 p.m.

Thank You

The local Glenview Girl Scouts would like to thank Kevin Barrett, Tommy Barrett, Sam Canary and Michael Aki who worked through the morning on Saturday to help sort and load nearly 4,000 cases of Girl Scout Cookies at Springman Middle School. Their hard work and willingness to volunteer is very much appreciated! Thank you!

Sarah Serbinski, Girl Scout Troop 40240

Donations Needed

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!

Confirmation

Regular class on February 27. We'll attend worship together on Sunday, March 6. All 8th graders be sure to mark March 20 for our annual Church Scavenger Hunt in the evening. More details to follow.

PYFF

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 youth room, followed by a potluck dinner, then time for youth fellowship and parent discussion on a current teen topic. 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.

PYF

February 27:

Pilgrim Youth and Family Fellowship:
Potluck & Lenten Vespers

March 6:

New Mother Kits:

Please try to bring in some donations as well for these new mother kits that you will be assembling. Items needed include: diapers, baby wipes, bottles, pacifiers, onesies, baby lotion, baby soap, diaper cream, or baby toys.



FAREWELL, LUIGI, AND THANKS!

The restaurant lights have been turned off and Pasta Luigi has finished a long 20 year run on a high note.



This year was a success with the support of the ministers and staff; the voracious appetites and generous donations of the congregation; the welcoming of the New Members and the Membership Board; the hard work by our facilities staff--Chris (taking down the entire Resale Shop) and Rolando (cleaning up with us afterward); the schlepping of pasta noodles by Mike Lynch to-and-from Catered by Design in Morton Grove; the stellar help of the PYF and Confirmand kids (organized by Debbie Berg and Elizabeth Ciccolini-- these young people were an inspiration and energizer for the whole event as they set up tables and place settings after church and later served the meal along with choir members and then helped take down the tables and chairs!); the Music Board members and Music staff (with extra kudos to Dick Conser for chairing the event and Barry Nelson for handling all things "tech" related); Bob Raebel and his cute little Italian cousin, Luigi, for entertaining us with his bad jokes year after year; and (most gratefully) the Chancel Choir members who have worked hard throughout all these many years giving

of their time and talents—singing, playing, cooking and serving—and helping to raise funds to do good for others; and of course, Charlene Melzer for the best Italian spaghetti recipe by a good-hearted German woman!!

It started 20 years ago as a fundraiser for the Fine Arts Committee programs and has continued as a tradition by the Chancel Choir (then with the addition of the Music Board) as our way of helping mission outreach in the community. I don't know the exact amount of money that has been raised through these past 20 years, but since that first Pasta Luigi event we've donated money to assist 2 Glenview families in crisis; raised funds for a few choir robes; donated money to assist choirs from Eastern European countries to attend the International Church Music Festival; every year, helped the Northfield Township Food Pantry stock their winter shelves with food for those in need; and this year, also donated money to the PYF mission trip to West Virginia this Summer. This year we netted about \$1,500, so, you do the

math and you'll see how much we've donated these 20 years.

It was a wonderful and fun dinner to provide every year and a great way for this congregation to come together to share a meal and enjoy each other's company. We are blessed in this church with many talented and giving people. And, though "Luigi" is heading back to Italy for a much needed respite, may we all continue gathering in fellowship and love.

Beth Raebel and Tricia Melzer-Swaydrak



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, *Music*

AFFILIATES:

Marcia Kiraly, *Director, GCC Nursery School*

Barbara Thewis, *Manager, Resale Shop*

Nonprofit Organization

US Postage

PAID

Glenview, IL

Permit NO. 41

Return Service Requested

At A Glance

THRS	2/24	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 5:00 pm, Plymouth Rm	MON	2/28	No meetings scheduled
		12:30 pm	Music Revue, Choir Rm			
		7:30 pm	Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	TUE	3/1	4:30 pm Hebrew School, Various Rms
FRI	2/25	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm			7:00 pm Book Club, Chapel
		11:30 am	Daisy Girl Scouts, Founders & Rm 8			7:00 pm Children's Board Mtg., Rm 201
		8:00 pm	AA Mtg., Parlor	WED	3/2	9:00 am WA Chapter 19, Parlor
		8:00 pm	Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201			6:00 pm PYF small Groups, Youth Rm
SAT	2/26	9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm			7:00 pm BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Gym, Mayflower Rm
		8:30 am	CRS Justice Training, Mayflower Rm			7:00 pm Confirmation/Youth Board Mtg., Youth Rm
		9:00 am	Men's Open Gym, Gym			8:00 pm Venture Crew, Parlor and Gym
		11:00 am	Memorial, Gerald Bruce			
SUN	2/27	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			
		10:30 am	Fellowship Hour/ Volunteer Sunday, Mayflower Rm			
		10:45 am	Joyful Ringers Rehearsal, Bell Rm			
		4:00 pm	Voices of GCC, Rm 201			
		4:00 pm	PYFF , Youth Rm, Kitchen, Plymouth Rm			

Pastoral Care

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to the family of Gerald Bruce, who died on Feb. 13. There will be a memorial service at GCC on Saturday, February 26 at 11:00 a.m.

Broadcaster Deadlines:

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