Dreaming with God  Pastor’s Column

I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.
(“In the Garden,” United Methodist Hymnal 314)

Flowers are blooming everywhere this month! Our church's Memorial Garden is beautiful with daffodils, forsythia blossoms, and little blue flowers. Peonies are on the way too! If you haven't been to our memorial garden, I encourage you to take a moment to see it. Surrounded by God's beauty and the spirits of our saints, it is a great place to say a prayer.

Gardens have a special place in our faith stories. The Garden of Eden was the first home for humanity. Prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Amos spoke of vineyards and gardens as a symbol of God's presence. The future reign of God is portrayed as a garden in the Book of Revelation.

In this season of resurrection, we also remember that the resurrected Jesus appeared before Mary Magdalene in a garden. Mary at first did not recognize Jesus and thought that he was a gardener. Mary went to the tomb early in the morning to take care of Jesus' body. While it was still dark before the sunrise, a stranger appeared to her. It did not take a wild imagination on Mary's part to consider him as a gardener. Who else would you expect to see other than a gardener in the garden early in the morning?

Easter reminds us that the resurrected Jesus comes to us in our gardens of ordinary life. Our gardens may be literal like our church garden, or symbolic as places or experiences where life happens: home, school, work, grocery store, on our way to pick up our children, in our casual conversation with friends, or while we are running an errand. Whether literal or symbolic, God wants our gardens to flourish. God calls us to water and nourish our gardens with love and care, so that all life may grow well.

Of many flowers I see around our church campus are hyacinths by the sanctuary entrance. Those pink, purple, and yellow flowers are a welcoming presence for all who enter the church. You might have noticed, though, that the hyacinths on the west side are thriving, while we have only one flower on the east side. I believe that it's because the west side is more exposed to the sun. The nourishment from the sun makes such a huge difference!

Continued on page 3...
Congratulations! Emily Krzik and Luke Cerny married on April 28 in Thiensville, Wisconsin. May God bless them with abundant love!

Survey Says! Please complete the brief survey enclosed in this Visitor. It will help us plan for the future. You can also complete it online at www.glenviewumc.org/current-events/fundraising-survey

Thank you for your prayers, cards, calls and TLC during my recent knee replacement surgery. Thanks to the prayers, surgery went as it should & I am well on my way to recovery. Like so many things in life, rehab is hard work but so worthwhile when I reach my end goal. Blessings to you all. ~Jane Furch

Sandhill Family Farms is a family farm located in south central Wisconsin. They grow high-quality, organic produce, eggs and meat. Sign up to receive a share of their harvest during the growing season. Weekly delivery is made to GUMC beginning May 25. Visit www.sandhillfamilyfarms.com to join.

Nilson Scholarship! Now is your chance to apply for the Nilson $1,000 Scholarship Award. It is for any GUMC member who will be enrolled in the fall of 2017 as a full time student in a college, university or trade school program. Your entry for this award should consist of a short essay highlighting your accomplishments and activities, your higher education plans, and future career and personal interests. Also, please include a brief explanation as to how this award would benefit you. Entries must be submitted to the church office in a sealed envelope marked “Scholarships”. The deadline is June 1.

Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

Pat and Gus Carlson  Jay Anderson
Emil & Diane Capitani  Elaine Rechel
Sybil Anderson  Peggy Curkov
Scott Harr  Elsie Westman

Did you know….GUMC has a Prayer Chain.
This is a virtual support group. Prayer chain requests come to the church through Sunday pew prayer cards, phone calls to the church office or emails to the pastors. The prayer requests are distributed via e-mail once a week, or more if necessary. At least twenty-five people pray fervently and daily for those who have requested to be placed on the Prayer Chain list. If you have a prayer request, please call, send an email, or fill out a pew card. You can share as much or as little information you want.

Memorial Service for Dorothy Foote:
Dorothy passed away on February 5, 2017. A service will be held at GUMC on May 6 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made for a memorial at White Pines State Park. Contact Linda Brown at slblfb@aol.com.

Welcome little one! Baby Xander Ramos Vasquez, second son of the proud parents Vince and Janella Vasquez, was born on April 5 at Northwestern Hospital. Baby Xander is the 6th grandson of the very happy grandparents Mac and Alice Ramos.
...Pastor’s Message Continued from front page

Like flowers, we all need nourishment. We have been so beautifully fed by Spirit's sunshine through worship, music, fellowship, and commitment to mission during Lent and Easter. Our Easter service was one of the best attended in recent years. I want to thank all who have made our Easter such a meaningful experience. As we continue our journey in this season of Easter, we are thankful that God's resurrecting power is with us.

I pray that God's sunshine of love nourish your souls and make your garden grow this month!

Love and Peace,

[Signature]

Office Closed: The GUMC office will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

Confirmation Sunday, May 21: Two of our youth have been meeting with a group of their peers, Linda Duback, and their adult mentors. They have gathered weekly during Sunday GUMY and for a weekend retreat. Their classes are complete, and they are ready to profess their faith. Please join us on Confirmation Sunday to welcome, and bless them, into our faith family.

HOPE GROUP Helping Other People Endure: May 8 at 2:00 p.m.
This support group for cancer patients, spouses and others with long term illnesses meets to share thoughts and feelings with others who have had similar experiences. This provides comfort and spiritual support to each other and spouses. The HOPE Group meets in the church parlor.

BE WELL for Breast Cancer Survivors: May 23 at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor
This is a support group offering the ability to share experiences of breast cancer in your life. It is in the sharing of your thoughts and feelings with others of like experiences that you can gain new knowledge and spiritual support. This group is open to all women who have had breast cancer.

LIFE GOES ON, May 16: This group of 20-25 singles enjoy the fellowship of getting together monthly at various restaurants suggested by the group. It provides an opportunity to meet and socialize with people and enjoy delicious food together in a great environment. All widows, widowers and singles are welcome to join. Call for upcoming restaurant information.
WORDS FROM WENDY!

Our GUMY word of the month for May is CELEBRATION! Proms, end of year banquets, end of year trips, and more are a part of the school year right now. For our youth and families, it’s a time filled with looking back—and looking forward to the next year! The Psalms are full of this kind of joy, like Psalm 92: “It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Lord, to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.” This month we will celebrate with all of our GUMY families at a special all-GUMY Banquet on Saturday night, May 20 at 6 p.m. We’ll honor our graduating seniors and our confirmands, have some fun, and look back at the 2016-17 year with GUMY. I hope everyone will plan to join us for an unforgettable evening!!!

In Christ,

In Christ,

Here’s the plan for GUMY in May:
May 7: ASP Team Meeting, 5:30-7:30 (no Confirmation)
May 14: GUMY/Confirmation, 5:30-7:30
May 20: GUMY Family Banquet, 6 p.m. in the Social Hall
May 21: Youth and Children lead Worship, 10 a.m.
May 27: NO GUMY on Memorial Day Weekend

Children’s Christian Education News!

Sunday School: During the month of May we will focus on stories involving Peter and his ministry. Peter’s life was full of powerful ministry and an important part of the spread of Christianity!

Confirmation Class: Our last class will be May 14 with our celebration banquet May 20. Our banquet will be for all GUMY families to attend as we celebrate those being confirmed and our graduating high school seniors. Watch for your invitation!

Theater Bible School Summer Camp: Have you signed up for camp yet? You won’t want to miss the collaboration between North Shore Dance and Theater and GUMC as we offer a one week camp August 14 – August 18. Session 5A meets from 9am-12pm for Grades K-5th, session 5B meets from 1pm-4pm for Grades K-5th and session 5C is a Counselor in Training Program for Grades 6th – 10th that meets from 9am-4pm. Only $50 for GUMC members. For more information go to http://www.northshoredanceandtheater.com/contact.html.

Children and Family Ministries presents: Calling children and their parents! Get a treat at coffee fellowship on May 7 and then head into rooms 11 and 12 to meet Moshin Ishaq, youth coordinator for the Muslim Education Center. Mr. Ishaq will provide a bit of information about the Muslim faith and then answer questions the children might have. We will also have children from the Center and include some time for all the children to play some games. At that time parents will have time for questions. Christ calls us to love our neighbor and this is a wonderful way to get to know our neighbor and share our hospitality! Please help us show that hospitality by coming May 7.
Summer Adult Inter-faith Mission Trip
We are teaming up with the Interfaith Council to go to St. Louis to help with clean-up and repair of homes damaged in the 2015 flood. We leave Sun. July 30 after worship, and return Thurs. Aug. 3. If interested or for more details, contact Ethel Doyle 847-965-5417.

Annual Diaper Drive for 2 more weeks! Show your dedication to children and families! Please participate in our annual diaper drive to benefit the women and children who are victims of domestic violence at Mary Lou’s Place in Evanston. A variety of sizes are needed. Any brand is acceptable. These should be for children only. No adult diapers will be collected. Place them in the collection bins outside the office or social hall. Now until Mother’s Day, May 14.

SPRING SCRIP SALE: We will be taking orders through May 21. Don’t use cash or credit to pay for your regular household purchases, use scrip gift cards. Scrip fundraising gift cards are the same gift cards you would normally purchase from a retailer in your local retail stores, and they work the same way. You’ll find cards you can use at grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, movie theaters, home improvement stores, and almost any business that accepts gift cards. There is no extra cost to you. The face value is what you pay. The merchants donate a percentage of their earning to GUMYouth to send them on their ASP Mission Trip. Order form is included in this Visitor. Pick up on Sunday, June 4 or in the church office anytime.

YOU are the front lines of caring ministry in our congregation. Throughout the week, as you meet and greet those around you, think Stephen Ministry. If you see persons who are downcast or struggling through difficult times, think Stephen Ministry. Tell them about this special ministry in our congregation where they can receive the extra love and care they need to make it through the challenge or crisis they are facing. You, or they, can contact either pastor or Ethel Doyle or Damian Neuberger to confidentially discuss options.
GUMC is a Reconciling Congregation

Following the loving example of Jesus Christ, we affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person as a beloved child of God. We welcome into the life and ministry of Glenview United Methodist Church all persons of every age, ability, race, gender identity, ethnicity, nationality, marital status, sexual orientation, family configuration, or socioeconomic or employment status.

Glenview United Methodist Church
727 Harlem Avenue
Glenview, IL 60025
Phone 847/729-1015
E-Mail office@glenviewumc.org

Get Your Monthly Visitor online at:
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GUMC is a Reconciling Congregation

Hear the story of how Edward VIII gave up the throne of England to marry this American divorcée. How did she win his heart and become the most famous, well-dressed, stylish woman in the world? Discover the details of their courtship; their marriage; the royal family’s fall out; and how she made one of the greatest comebacks in history.

Wallis Simpson
THE DUCHESS WITH STYLE
Presented By Lynn Rymarz
May 20
9:30 a.m. Breakfast

Tickets now available.
Glenview United Methodist Church
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