Dreaming with God  Pastor’s Column

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ~ Ephesians 4:4-6

The Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet on June 4-6 in St. Charles. This is the annual gathering of the pastors, lay representatives, and staff of our conference for worship, Bible study, and business meetings. The highlights of the annual conference are Ordination, Memorial, and Retirement worship experiences. These services mark the important transitions and celebrations of the people of our conference. I always find it so meaningful to hear the call stories of pastors who are ordained, life witnesses of those who have entered into eternal life in God, and ministry reflections of those who retire.

The theme of the conference is "Light Shines Through..." and the planning committee says that this theme is based on the Leonard Cohen quote, "There are cracks in everything, that’s how the light gets in." To me, this is a statement of hope. In the mistakes, imperfections, and fears of our human life, God enters in to give us new hopes.

We live in a critical time in the life of our denomination. The United Methodist Church is a global church. This means that our denomination includes members not only in the United States but in all the continents of our world. It is a great blessing as we are part of the world-wide denomination. At the same time, it gives us unique challenges, especially on achieving unity in the midst of great diversity.

The differences we have on theological and biblical interpretations on important issues can invigorate or divide our denomination. One of the key differences we face now is on human sexuality. A special session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church will convene in 2019 in St. Louis to guide our denomination to move forward amid the impasse related to sexuality issues. I deeply desire and pray that we stay as one denomination and be able to live in the unity celebrating all our differences! The decisions made at General Conferences will have great implications on local churches, and I will keep you updated as new processes are made. In the meanwhile, please keep all our leaders and churches in your prayers!

This month many of our families will celebrate graduations of all different stages in life from preschool to higher education. I pray that God will add joy to your celebrations. We recently lost our dear long-time member Clayton Welter. I pray God will comfort the Welter family and all who are grieving. The youth service with confirmation in May was an exciting experience for all. I pray that God will continue to strengthen our children and youth ministries. Our mission team will engage in providing lunch for the community summer programs for children. I pray that each child who receives the lunch may experience God’s love. In all that we do, I pray that we proclaim and share God’s presence in the world.

Continued on Page 3
Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

Pat and Gus Carlson          Jay Anderson
Emil & Diane Capitani       Bill Murphy (Chicago)
Sybil Anderson              Scott Harr

Deepest Sympathy to Doris Welter and her family. Clayton (Corky) passed away peacefully on May 23. Memorial service has not been finalized.

Welcome to our family of faith: On May 14, we welcomed Kristin Audrey Slobodecki into our family through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Kristin is the daughter of Amy and Kevin Slobodecki and granddaughter to Flo Labbe.

New Address:
Sharon and Richard Espino
1072 Irwin Ave., Des Plaines IL, 60018

2017 Annual Conference: June 4-6, 2017 at Pheasant Run Resort and Conference Center, St. Charles. Our Pastors and Lay Members will be attending the Annual Conference in St. Charles. The Mission challenge for this year will be Dignity Kits. Chicago Northwestern District is hoping to donate 400 disposable razors and nail clippers. If you can help, please leave them in the donation carts.

Thank you! For your contributions to Coins & Singles for Mission Projects:
Jan. Loaves & Fishes $224.31

Thank you GUMC! Another year and your church has again shown how generous you are by collecting so many diapers for Mary Lou's Place. They are very needed and appreciated.

The Y has started a new program called "Bridges" which gives the mothers and children who are survivors of domestic violence more time to recover and start new lives. They can stay up to 3 months at Mary Lou's Place, which is not enough time to figure out how to support their families, recover emotionally and find housing. This program provides safe, independent housing for survivors who have moved through immediate crisis and trauma and are moving toward self-sufficiency. They have 1 and 2 bedroom apartments for up to 52 women and children. This is a very exciting program that has been in the works for quite a while and now has reached fruition. Now our diapers are more important than ever, as they are reaching an ever increasing number of families.

Thanks for all your hard work in making this diaper drive such a success, Kathy Tschaen, Diaper Drive Coordinator

HOPE GROUP Helping Other People Endure: June 12 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.
Continued from page 1… I am excited that I will be visiting Russia later this month. The Methodist presence in Russia is small but strong! I will be visiting the Methodist seminary, Methodist churches, and missionaries mostly in Moscow and St. Petersburg as a way of experiencing the global nature of our denomination. Russia is part of the larger Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference. Bishop Eduard Khegay of the Eurasia episcopal area is a Korean descent, whose family moved to Russia several generations ago. I am reminded of Wesley's words, "The world is my parish." We do live in a global village, and we are all connected through our one God!

I pray that you will enjoy the beauty of this month!

Love and Peace,

Pastor Hwa-Young

NEW COMERS' BRUNCH SUNDAY, JUNE 4: AFTER WORSHIP IN THE PARLOR. Are you new to Glenview United Methodist Church? Would you like to know more about the mission and ministry of the church? Please come to the new comers' brunch for food and conversation! All are welcome! Pastor Hwa-Young will give you a brief update on church's mission and ministry, and you will get a chance to tour the building. If you are interested in joining the church, there's more information on that too. Please RSVP to the church office.

LIFE GOES ON, June 20: 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.

Loose Coins and Singles for the month of June: Hands of Peace. This Glenview interfaith organization arranges for Israeli and Palestinian youth to come to the U.S. for three weeks each summer, stay with host families and teenagers in an interfaith setting. The youth learn peace building and leadership skills through dialogue and personal relationships. On June 11, Rhonda McCarty from HOP will join us in worship as a guest speaker.

Congratulations to the First Place Bowling Team for the season 2016-2017: Sheri Staten, Juanita Smith, Michael Potter, Ken Ready

The following tried valiantly to beat them: Doris Stengl, Catie Neumann, Steve Neumann, Lindsay Kleckner, Becky Netherland, Linda Kleckner, Curtis Corbige, Anita Green, Sam Green, Shelby Green, Jim Reid, Terry Costlow, Chris Ernst, Sue Acer, Norma Putman, Don Putman, John Potter, David Slaght.

We bowl the first Saturday of every month at 6:30 p.m., September through May, at Classic Bowl in Morton Grove and are a handicap league. We encourage anyone, high school age and up, to come join this great, friendly team of “average” bowlers. Just call the church office, 847-729-1015, and let us know you are interested in joining this league, either as a regular or even as a substitute. We always need new folks.

The Community Garden at GUMC provides produce for the local food pantries. Helpers to weed and water are always appreciated. Contact Mark Netherland to discuss current punch list items. 847-998-1276
**WORDS FROM WENDY!**

Our GUMY Word of the Month is REST. As in, Summer is a time to REST a bit. Like in Genesis, after God created the heavens and the earth. “And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.” (Genesis 2:2) Or in the gospels, when Jesus and his disciples were so busy they had not made time to rest. “Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.” (Mark 6:31) As school winds down, I hope you will take some time to rest. Sit outside. Go for a swim. Take some friends on a hike. Plan your family vacation (or staycation). Read a book. Go to a movie. Take a nap. Pray. Listen for God’s voice. Stare at the sky. If God rested, and Jesus rested—then so should we.

In Christ,

PatoWendy

Here’s the plan for GUMY in June:

June 4: No GUMY (Pastor Wendy away at Annual Conference)
June 7: Gather at First UMC Evanston with area UMC Youth (Beach Time and Fun!)—leave GUMC at 5:45, return by 8.
June 10: ASP Parent Meeting (9-9:30) and ASP Final Construction Workshop (9-Noon)
June 18 and 25: To Be Decided!!!

NOTE: July 2 is our ASP Commissioning Sunday, July 8-15 is our ASP Trip!

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**Children’s Christian Education News!**

**Summer Sunday School:** Our one room summer Sunday school for grades preschool – rising 5th graders begins June 4 and lasts all summer. It meets in room 12 off the social. Our awesome theme this summer is Hero Central where you will discover how to be a super hero for God! We will use stories from the Bible and children’s literature to build upon the United Methodist’s Social Principles and Creeds. We will discover God’s heroes have heart, power, wisdom, courage, and hope. Look out world, we are going to do good, seek peace and go after it!

**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.
Graduation Congratulations!

College:
Dahee Will (daughter of Hwa Young Chong), graduating from DePaul University in Chicago, summa cum laude with double major in Finance and Economics Honors in June 2017. So excited to join Deloitte (Chicago) as a consultant.

High School:
Alexanderson Ferrone: Graduating from Glenbrook South. Alex will attend Endicott College in Beverly, MA, where he will study Psychology and play lacrosse for the Endicott Gulls.

Walter Meyer: Graduating from Glenbrook South. Walter will attend the University of Wisconsin, Madison where he will study Civil Engineering and play in the marching band.

Other High School graduates are: Cassidy Price, Jeremy Schutt, and Danny Suhadolnik.

Middle School:
Dorothy Adams, Haley Cordell, Lucas Jaffe, Benjamin Keenan, Nate Meyer, Jacob Risley

A Graduation Blessing
Bless their lives from this day on with goodness and love. Help them to stay true to their dreams, to use their gifts wisely, and to walk into the future with faith, hope, and great love.

High School Youth Mission Trip: Appalachia Service Project News!
We are now up to seventeen (!) youth and eight adults heading to Rainelle, West Virginia, July 8-15, to help repair homes and build relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ. The theme for ASP’s Summer 2017 is “Love In Action.” Your prayers and support for our annual mission trip are also “love in action” and they make all the difference to our team—thank you!

We are so grateful for all of the responses to our ASP Fundraising Bulletin Board

And—we are so excited to report that we have raised almost $11,500 to date—well over our goal of $10,000!!! We will be able to invest that money in some of the homes we’ll be working on, and have some additional seed money for ASP 2018! THANK YOU to our generous congregation for your support of our youth! With your giving and your continued prayers, you are INVESTING in the lives of our youth, and in the lives of families living in Appalachia. Please let Pastor Wendy know if you have questions or would like to know more about how to support ASP and our youth.

Adult & High School Teens - Mission Trip to St. Louis, July 30 - Aug. 3. Many volunteers are needed to help rebuild homes damaged in the 2015 flash flood; framing to finishing, painting and cleaning. Mix of inside and outside work. Something for everyone to do. Sadly, some of this same area was hit again this April by a devastating flood. Never before 2015 did this area experience flooding, now they’ve been hit twice in two years. This is an Interfaith trip involving several Protestant and Catholic churches and a Synagogue. We travel by bus, stay in a motel, all meals are provided. For more information and forms: http://lcgoodshepherd.com/mission-trip/ or contact: Ethel Doyle, 847-965-5417
**Flat Jesus:** Join in the fun and take Flat Jesus with you wherever you go this summer!

We know Jesus is with us at all times but let’s show how we are living that by taking a picture with your flat Jesus at different places you go this summer and sending it to Linda Duback at lduback@glenviewumc.org. Don’t forget Jesus likes to be at the park, playground, picnics, family reunions, ice cream store as well as the official vacation trip to somewhere.

You can take your flat Jesus from the basket behind the last row of pews or the basket on the treat table at fellowship time. This isn’t just for kids. Adults can show us where Jesus went with them, too!