



The

Visitor

GROW, PLAY AND SERVE WITH HEARTS
FOR CHILDREN AND HANDS FOR SERVICE!

Dreaming with God Pastor's Column

Dear Glenview UMC Church Family,

We have been so richly blessed to have Pastor Wendy with us these past three years. During these years, she communicated God's love so beautifully, touched our lives in a profound way with grace and compassion, and helped us grow in our faith. Under her leadership, our youth ministry thrived. The last mission trip she led was the biggest group in recent years. While we are truly sad to see her go, we know that it is an exciting change for Pastor Wendy in her ministry. Let us keep Pastor Wendy and her family in our prayers, as she prepares to begin her new ministry at Trinity United Methodist Church in Mt. Prospect.

This month we welcome our new Associate Pastor, Rev. Eric Reniva. You will find more about Pastor Eric in this newsletter. Pastor Eric was the Youth Director at Geneva United Methodist Church past six years, and comes with many gifts and experiences in youth ministry, music, visual arts, and preaching. He is so excited to be part of the ministry team at Glenview UMC. His first Sunday with us is August 20. Let us welcome Pastor Eric, his wife Marissa, and their daughter Aurora, with joy and gratefulness.

Transitions are not always easy. They sometimes bring a sense of tension and anxiety. Different expectations may bring confusion. It takes time to adjust to new changes. I pray that the transitions this month will go smoothly for Pastor Wendy and Pastor Eric, their families, our church, and all the congregations involved. I trust that the Spirit will guide us in the right direction.

This month, our Sunday worship will be led by our praise band. Kathy Heetland will take a month off in August. We are so fortunate and blessed to have Kathy as our organist/pianist. She plays beautiful music almost every Sunday throughout the year. As she takes this much deserved time off, we recognize once more how music plays an important role in deepening our faith in God. We are also so grateful that our Student Pastor JK will be taking the lead with the band. This is Pastor JK's last year at Garrett, and we are happy that she will return to us in the new program year as Student Pastor.

One exciting change I will have is that I will begin to use an English nick name - Hannah. In the Bible, Hannah's story is found in First Samuel chapter 1 and 2. Hannah is introduced as the mother of her son, Samuel, who would become an important leader. I am more touched by her own relationship with God, her prayer life, and her powerful witness to her faith. Hannah is one of the biblical models of faith for me. Please feel free to call me either Hwa-Young or Hannah!

I pray that you are enjoying these beautiful summer days. Hopefully, this summer has been a time of renewal and rejuvenation in your personal life, your relationship with loved ones, and your connection with God.

Peace and Grace,

Hannah Hwa-Young Chong

Member News & Happenings!



Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

Pat and Gus Carlson Scott Harr
Emil & Diane Capitani Jay Anderson
Sybil Anderson Peter Adams
Helen Wilson



Beloved past member, Rosa Good, passed away Thursday, July 6. She had been very active at GUMC until she moved to Arlington Heights, but still

helped out at the GUMC Rummage Sale and was a member of Abigail Circle. Please hold William and the Good family in your thoughts and prayers. May God's love and grace comfort them.

Pastor Eric, Marissa and Aurora Reniva

207 Washington Blvd. #3A
Oak Park, IL 60302

Chris and Tammy Campise

3417 Reeder Drive
Amarillo, TX 79121

Cathy and Greg Giometti

1116 Adirondack Dr.,
Northbrook, IL 60062

Tiffany Cordell

P.O. Box 2124
Glenview, IL 60025-6124

Scott & Michelle Duncan

300 E. Marshall Street, Apt #111
West Chester, PA 19380



Congratulations! Susan Duback and Itiel Diaz were married on Saturday, July 1. The happy couple honeymooned in Greece and reside in Chicago.

Scholarship Winner Announced: The Memorials Committee is pleased to announce Grace Murphy has won the 2017 Nilson Scholarship. Grace will be a sophomore at the Univ. of Vermont this fall. She has been active in Colleges Against Cancer events & also Generation Outreach. We also thank the Nilson family for making this annual scholarship possible.

Hello Glenview!

I'm Pastor Eric Reniva. I'm excited to be joining Glenview UMC. My wife Marissa and my daughter Aurora and I are coming to Glenview after being at Geneva UMC for six years. My wife is a Med/Surg Nurse at Presence Mercy hospital. My daughter is about to turn 2 years old in August. I have been told my daughter looks like Moana.

I have a love for music - I play bass guitar and I sing when I can. I have played in several different praise bands over the years. I love to teach and preach; it's fun and a joy to talk about the bible and theology. I'm a firm believer that the Holy Spirit speaks to everyone and through everyone in different ways - so it is always good to be in conversation together about the Word. I have a deep love for art, comic books, video games, nerf, movies, anime, manga, action figures, pro-wrestling, and samurai. My undergrad work was in Media Arts and Animation - so I'm a geek.

I look forward to meeting everyone, please don't hesitate to come and chat with me about anything whether it's about church things or updates about the Marvel Universe. I welcome everyone and look forward to getting know you and seeing just how cool God created you. Blessings to all and see you soon.

Peace,

Pastor Eric

Thank you!

Many, many thanks for all of the expressions of gratitude as I leave GUMC and begin my new ministry at Trinity UMC in Mt. Prospect.

I am grateful for your care for our family, for all of the conversations around church meeting tables and bible studies, during coffee hour and by hospital beds, for the privilege of having our youth share their lives with me, and for the gift of working with Pastor Hwa-Young, Linda Duback and all of our amazing staff.

“I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.”

--Philippians 1:3-5

In Christ,
Pastor Wendy and family

A Place to Pray

We know God hears us wherever we pray, but are you looking for a special place to spend time with Jesus. Our Memorial and Biblical Gardens might be just what you are looking for.

Nestled in the courtyard of GUMC is a garden that celebrates life. The Memorial Garden consists of trees, plants, multiple seating spaces, shade and sun, all of which work together to create a tranquil environment.

The Biblical Garden has recently undergone a transformation. With the removal of the chapel and relocation of the preschool playground, the Biblical Garden now has a whole new look. The grand cypress tree still provides abundant shade. There is also a new butterfly garden facing the playground.

Visitors are encouraged to visit and experience either garden on a deeper level. The variety of plants keeps the feeling of peace and hope alive Spring through Fall. These spaces are perfect for reflection, prayer, meditation, or reading. Come anytime, renew and refresh your spirit in a peaceful setting.

Choir Members Enjoy Health, Spiritual Benefits, By Christopher Fenoglio (United Methodist Communications)

Better Worship

A common statement about singing in church is “To sing is to pray twice.” Although the statement is often attributed to Augustine, the actual author is unknown. Still, the sentiment is true. Music is an art form that lifts up ordinary text to another level that inspires us and nurtures our souls.

Better Community

The benefit of singing with and caring for others goes beyond church walls, as many community choirs will attest. In these days of an increasingly polarized culture, music can be a common bond between peoples.

Better Health

“We believe singing in a choir and other creative arts can promote healthy aging,” says Dr. Julene Johnson, a University of California at San Francisco professor and founder and director of the Community of Voices study. “We were looking for a way for older people to remain independent and engaged. We knew that to have an effect the activity had to be meaningful, engaging and challenging. The creative arts do that.”



You are invited to "Sing to the Lord" with GUMC Sanctuary Choir. The words from the Psalms call us to join in singing the praises of God. And so we call each of you to share in lifting your voice to the glory of God. Bring your gifts to the celebration of worship! Rehearsals for Sanctuary Choir begins on Wednesday, September 6 @ 7:00. We sing a wide variety of music in Sunday worship and in various other services throughout the year. All are welcome! If interested contact Tom Tobin at tomtbn@sbcglobal.net.

Children's Christian Education News!



Summer Sunday School: Our one room summer Sunday school for grades preschool – rising 5th graders finishes August 20. We are having fun exploring what it means to be one of God's heroes! Be sure to join us so you, too, can be a hero!!



Blessing of the Backpacks: School begins on different dates for the local school districts but everyone can bring their backpack to church August 20 for a blessing for the new school year. Don't start the year without your blessing!!

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.

Confirmation Class and GUMY: We have a great opportunity to serve others on Sunday, August 13. We will leave GUMC at 3:30 and head to the United Church of Rogers Park to serve the hungry. Please let Mrs. Duback know if you are going so we can plan for our transportation needs.

Special family worship August 27: There will be a special worship service led by Pastor Osvlado Vena and his band this Sunday. We will all remain in worship to enjoy and maybe even join in the music!

Glenview United Methodist Youth in August...

August will be a time of transition, as Pastor Wendy's last Sunday was July 30, and Pastor Eric begins on August 15.

Please make note of this important dates:

Aug 8: (the GUMY trip to Great America has been canceled due to the pastoral transition)

August 13: GUMY will travel to United Church of Rogers Park to serve the hungry at their Community Feast. We'll leave at 3:30 from the GUMC parking lot, and serve from 4:30-6:30 (this includes set-up and clean-up). Linda Duback will be the point person for this trip—please let her know if you/your youth will be joining us, and parents, please also let her know if you'd like to help drive: lduback@glenviewumc.org

August 27: GUMY/Confirmation Fall Kick-Off for youth and families! 5:30-7:30 in the courtyard, weather permitting. This will also be a time of welcome for Pastor Eric! Bring a dish to share and come on out to kick off the school year with GUMY!

GROW

Music Service: "Still A Dream"

Sunday, August 27

Oswaldo Vena & Band

Dr. Oswaldo Vena is a faculty member of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, teaching the New Testament. In addition to being a scholar, he is a singer-songwriter. He has been passionate about creating and singing the songs of justice and peace. In the past two decades, his music has evolved around dreaming of peace in Israel/Palestine and all around the world. Dr. Vena and his band will present the original songs on Sunday, August 27. Come to be inspired! Please see www.stilladream.com for more information of Dr. Vena's music.

PLAY

BOWLERS NEEDED!!! The GUMC Bowling League is in need of five bowlers for the 2017-18 season. We bowl only nine times, between September and May, on the first Saturday of the month, 6:30 pm, at Classic Bowl in Morton Grove, near Dempster and Waukegan. The league is friendly and non-competitive, with the emphasis on fun and fellowship. It's a handicap league, which makes it fair for bowlers of all skill levels (even people with no prior bowling

experience). Bowlers must be at least 13 years old. Even though we don't bowl until September 2, teams need to be filled now, since we can't keep the reserved lanes without teams to fill them. New substitute bowlers, who would like to fill in for absences, are also needed. The cost of bowling is \$17.00 per month, which includes the year-end banquet. For more information or to ask any questions, please call Sue Ready at 847-965-6597 or the church office as soon as possible.

Women's Wellness Weekend has been announced: September 22 to Sep 24. More details will be posted in the next Visitor.

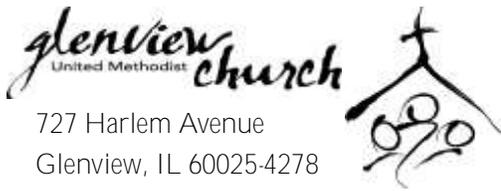


Loose Coins and Singles for the month of August: will be donated to Oswaldo Vena. On Aug. 13, Lyn Johnson, will be the Minute for Mission Speaker.

SCHOOL - AGAIN!! ALREADY!!!

We're again collecting school supplies for the neighborhood children of Olivet UMC on Chicago's west side. While doing your normal shopping, please pick up some supplies and put in the collection bins by the Social Hall or the Church Office until Aug. 13. Whatever you donate is most appreciated.

SERVE



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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.

Get Your Monthly Visitor
online at:
www.glenviewumc.org



Welcome to Pastor Eric! We welcome our new Associate Pastor, Rev. Eric Reniva! Pastor Eric's start date is August 15, and his first Sunday with us is August 20. Pastor Eric graduated from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary last May. He is married to Marissa and they have a two year old daughter, named Aurora. Pastor Eric majored in fine arts in college. His home church is St. John UMC in Oak Park. He has always been active in the church, and loves youth ministry and church music. Most recently he worked as a youth director at Geneva United Methodist Church. He is so excited to begin his ministry at Glenview in August. Pastor Eric is a licensed local pastor, and is in the ordination process in the elder track in the Northern Illinois Conference. He will be at Glenview UMC on a half time appointment, and his other half time appointment is at Cosmopolitan United Methodist Church in Melrose Park. Pastor Eric's Sunday morning time will be divided between the two churches, but he will be with GUMY every Sunday evening. Let us welcome Pastor Eric and his family with joy!

2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

The 2017 Annual Conference of the Northern Illinois Conference met in June 4-6 in St. Charles. The theme of the conference of "The Light Shines Through. . ." Pastor Hwa-Young, Pastor Wendy, Linda Duback, Don Brackey, and Ethel Doyle from our church participated in the annual conference. During the conference, the following ministry candidates who had been connected to our church were commissioned or ordained: Rev. Mary Rawlinson (ordained as a deacon) and Rev. Sophia Hyon (commissioned towards an elder's order). Congratulations to Mary and Sophia!

Hwa-Young Chong
Glenview United Methodist Church

Northern Illinois Conference Legislation

The Northern Illinois Conference summarized proposed conference restructuring legislation which was passed at annual conference as follows:

“With submitted legislation, the **Organizational Task Force is introducing a restructuring plan** for the Northern Illinois Conference to streamline committee work, align resources and create an intersection between administrative, program and superintending functions.

“As outlined in the legislation, the **proposed structure is centered around an Annual Conference** Shepherding Team (ACST) and six District Shepherding Teams (DST). The ACST is an adaptive learning team with a primary purpose to coordinate and communicate the ministry of the NIC in order to make disciples for Jesus Christ. The primary purpose of each DST is to coordinate the equipping of local churches so that they might be faithful, Christ-centered communities of worship, prayer, witness and change, and to enhance the connection between local churches, the districts, and the NIC.

“The ACTS and DSTs will **prayerfully focus on the following Core Areas of priority that were identified through the Landscape process:** 1) Congregational Life; 2) Clergy Life; 3) Missional Life; 4) Connectional Resources.

United Voices for Children Annual Breakfast

United Voices for Children had its annual breakfast which started at 6:45 a.m. on June 6. It drew 125 friends and supporters. United Voices for Children summarized some of the activities at the breakfast as follows:

“The Rev. Dr. Reggie Blount, Assistant Professor of Formulation Youth, and Culture at Garrett Theological Seminary urged those present to remember the covenant made at a child’s baptism –

‘to increase their faith, confirm their faith, and perfect them in love.’ In living out that covenant with children within the congregation and in the neighboring community, congregations can truly embody ‘compassion and justice to young people yearning to experience the love of Jesus that cares, that nurtures, that empowers, that loves, that heals.’

“UVC also honored two persons for outstanding ministries with children, youth and families for the 2017 Bishop Jesse DeWitt Child Advocacy award. Lorena Corey, of First UMC Arlington Heights, was honored and recognized for founding and leading Pinwheels, a ground-breaking ministry for families with gender creative children. The Rev. Dr. William Lenters was honored for years of faithful service as chaplain at Rosecrance serving youth and young adults struggling with substance abuse and for his inspirational writings for church leaders responding to persons with addictions.”