Barbeque and God  Pastor’s Column

"Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit, the church exists for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world." (UMC Book of Discipline ¶ 201)

This is part of the description of the function of the local church. I really like this description because it says to me that first and foremost, the church must always be under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Second, being in worship is important - taking time to be in God's presence and reflect on how good and awesome God is. Third, edification of believers: that what we do in church should help draw people closer to God - which then ultimately leads to the redemption of each person and the world.

As I reflect on this paragraph and I think about ministry - I think about a term that John Wesley said, "The means of Grace." He believed, scripture, sacraments, going to church, and being in Christian fellowship, were a means of grace, or a way in which we could draw closer to God.

As the weather gets nicer, I’m thinking about a few means of grace that I’m going to do with our Youth. During GUMY when we have a nice warm day, we are going to have BBQ in the parking lot. Grill some burgers, melt some marshmallows - eat, play, pray outside.

I'm looking forward to taking a group down to the Art Museum and exploring art and faith. Also, if I can make some time, I'd like to make an open invitation for people to play me in ping-pong.

There are many things we can do, that we can offer to God and say, "God bless this idea, whether we only do this once or twice, or it becomes a continuous activity - may you use it for the edification of your people."

So I ask this question, "Is there something that you would like to try?" I pray that God will bless our imaginations so we can all think of ways that we, as a church, can show everyone looking in, that God wants us to enjoy being in God's presence. That God intends us to be in fellowship with each other and God.

Paragraph 201 in the Disciplines ends with the redemption of the world. That is tall order, but as the local church, I believe we can make a mark in the space we inhabit. As a praise song once said, "Step by step we are moving forward. Little by little, we are taking ground." We can do things through Christ. I look forward to the nice weather and every new day of ministry at GUMC.

Shalom,

Pastor Eric
Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

Scott Harr  Shirlee Gervens
Sybil Anderson  Tom Schroeder
Jay Anderson  Helen Murphy
Gene Schnell  John Galarza
Arden Orr

Celebration of Pastor Hwa-Young’s Ministry: June 3rd will be Rev. Hwa-Young’s last Sunday at GUMC. We will be having a luncheon after church to celebrate her seven years of ministry and her marriage to Thomas Smith. How can you be part of the celebration?

• Come to church and the luncheon on June 3rd! The more, the merrier!
• If you’d like to donate to a love offering on behalf of GUMC for Rev. Hwa-Young, you can drop it in the offering plate or at the church office. We will also be collecting a separate love offering for Hwa-Young & Tom’s marriage. Please specify what your love offering donation is for.
• Mary Circle is decorating vases for table centerpieces. If you’d like to take a vase and fill it with flowers, please email Judy Keenan at jp.keenan@sbcglobal.net and we’ll get a vase to you. Feel free to personalize your arrangement!
• If anyone would like to write a special note/card to Rev. Hwa-Young or Hwa-Young & Tom, please bring it on June 3 and there will be baskets for them.

If you have any questions, please contact Judy Keenan (jp.keenan@sbcglobal.net or 847-729-1307).

I would like to thank everyone who helped at this year’s Rummage Sale. All of the department heads were phenomenal, and I absolutely could not have done this job without them. Joy Forman, Steve Ellis, Jim Gernady, Don and Norma Putman, Sheri Staten, Dawn Bode, Doris Welter, Kay Harr, Jan Jeffery, Jane Furch, Bonnie Frame, Barb Galarza, Linda Kleckner, Judy Knoblock and Sue Acer.

In addition, during setup week we had quite a few church members put in a lot of hours helping us get everything organized. I am very grateful for all of your support, and your efforts did not go unnoticed. I need to make special mention of the following people who helped almost every day: Ed Burns, Sarane Siewerth, Helen Jo Ellis, Joan Loyd, Juanita Smith, Mabel Janke, Jan Hutchins, Cindy Berg, and Rose Ackerman. If I forgot anyone, I apologize. I would be remiss if I didn’t mention Wanda Frye, and her able assistant Bob, for the fantastic Donut Balls. We also received fantastic assistance from our maintenance team of Michel and Glenn, and our office staff of Doris Stengl and Janet Ferrone. And finally a special shout out to Jack Murphy and Spencer Peterson for picking up the furniture donations.

I would also like to thank everyone who donated items, bought items or worked on the two days of the sale. I am so thankful to be a member of this truly fantastic congregation.

As of right now we have raised $11,900. Last year at this time, which was our best year ever, we raised $12,900, so I am very pleased with our results, and I hope you are too. Thank you,

Michelle Cummings
A Loss in our Church Family:
Sadly, long time member Marion Hoff passed away on Tuesday, April 17. There will be a memorial service for Marion on Sunday, May 6 at 2:00p.m. at GUMC. Please keep the Hoff family in your prayers.

Garden Sponsorship: Beginning this spring, GUMC will offer its members an opportunity to support and help beautify our campus and create a sense of love and care for our church. Hands-on volunteers are needed for bed maintenance. An opportunity to make a donation of $25 for annuals will also be an option. Look for the garden plans on the bulletin board next to the choir room.

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 2018 as a full time student in a 4-year college or university. Your entry for these awards 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.

Celebrate with Pastor JK! Pastor JK will graduate from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree on Friday, May 11, 2018, at First United Methodist Church, 516 Church St., Evanston, IL. All are invited to attend the commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. and a reception at the church after the ceremony. Pastor JK has been with us for two years, and it has been a wonderful time. She is so multi-talented, and she has given so much to our church! There is a possibility that Pastor JK might be appointed as a local pastor to serve a church, but we will not know until a later date. Her official end date with us will be Sunday, May 13. During worship we will take a brief moment to recognize her ministry. She wants to come back to GUMC next fall, if she does not get an appointment. We will update you with new information later. In the meanwhile, let us celebrate with Pastor JK for her graduation and accomplishments! If anyone would like to attend the commencement ceremony, please talk to Pastor Hwa-Young. We will try to sit together.

The Endowment committee is very aware, like everyone else, that Income tax laws are changing a lot for 2018. We all would like to find ways to include deductions for next year. One way is to donate appreciated stock to the G.U.M.C. Endowment Fund. If you have stocks that have grown a lot since your original purchase, they can be given to the church to eliminate capital gains, as well as being a charitable deduction.
Loose Coin and Singles for the month of May will go to the Bishop’s Appeal and delivered to the Annual Conference June 4. Bishop Sally Dyck has chosen "Global Migration" as the recipient. Twenty people every minute in some place in the world will face the desperate and unthinkable reality of having to leave their homes and run for their lives. For some it’s violence and war, for others it’s regular and systematic persecution; and for some nature's wrath leaves them no alternative. They seek safety and opportunity in a new land, but are probably unfamiliar with the customs, do not know the language, and may feel unwelcome.

We, who make up the Northern Illinois Conference, have a unique opportunity to combine our resources to care for some of the families affected by the Global Migration Crisis. 75% of the offerings will go to the Global Migration Advance for international assistance to refugees and migrants. 25% will stay in Northern Illinois to support organizations like Refugee One and World Relief that work with local immigrant and refugee families.

Opportunity to serve and do mission locally—1 evening meal per month. We have been invited to team up with Trinity UMC, Wilmette, to serve meals to the homeless at A Just Harvest in Rogers Park. The date and time are: Third Friday of each month, from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. - includes registration and cleanup. Car pooling can be arranged. If interested please contact - Ethel Doyle, 847-975-0361

The 2018 Diaper Drive will run through Mother’s day, May 13. The sizes that are most requested: Sizes 4, 5, 6, as well as pull ups in 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T and baby wipes. Any brand and any quantity is appreciated.

Family Friendly Service Opportunity: Join the Village of Glenview Natural Resources Commission for the 25th annual Chicago River Day. Help to beautify the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River with a trash pick-up. Meet at Kohl’s parking lot off of Willow Road Saturday, May 12, 9-noon. Stay as long as you can and work gloves, tools and trash bags will be provided!

Office Closed: The GUMC office will be closed on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.

SCRIP sales are taking place. Scrip gift cards are the same gift cards you can purchase from the retailer. With over 300 of the country’s biggest brands, including grocery and department stores, gas stations, restaurants, hotels and home improvement, SCRIP has something to appeal to everyone. This is a fun and easy way to help the youth raise funds for their annual mission trip. SCRIPs are on sale through noon on Sunday, May 20. An order form is included. Please return it with a check before May 20. Late orders cannot be accepted. Thank you!
Children’s Christian Education News!

**Sunday School:**  *Change your Hearts and Lives* is the title of May’s unit. We will explore how lives were changed by knowing Jesus. How has your life been changed? Also, our last day of the regular Sunday school year will be May 20. Be sure to join us that Sunday to say thank you to our wonderful teachers!

**Confirmation Sunday:** Seven confirmands will make their public profession of faith on May 6. Join us as we celebrate this moment in the lives of our youth. Please hold in prayer the following youth in prayer as they mark this milestone on their spiritual journey: Aidan Conlin, Tyson Espino, Merrick Kehoe, Skylar Read, Jeremiah Rejuso, Alix Williams and Sadie Williams.

**Sunday School Teacher Recognition:** May 20 we will thank our teachers for another year of nurturing the faith of our children. A big thank you goes out to the following teachers: Caryn Granzow, Peter Cummings, Paula Stoddard and Mark Rowlands.

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**from Pastor Eric!**

GUMY Nights are designed to be flexible and work with the amount of Youth who come. We have done different types of activities from Nerf to Sardines. We have gratefully shared supper together. GUMY is a good time. As we move into the summer, I’m encouraging youth to revision the GUMY room and come up with ideas for ministry that GUMY can take on throughout the year. I look forward to rocking out with GUMY.

Shalom,

Pastor Eric

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**May 2018 Schedule:**

May 6: Confirmation Sunday
   GUMY 5:30-7:20

May 13: Mother's Day - No GUMY

May 20: ASP Training 2-4pm
   GUMY 5:30-7:20

May 27: GUMY 5:30-7:20 - BBQ in the Parking Lot
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

Glenview United Methodist Church
Bike to Church Sunday

Sunday, May 20

The Glenview Clergy Association invites everyone to participate in this COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENT.

Biking is a cost effective, healthy and low-polluting way to travel around Glenview!