

The

Visitor

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

Dear members and friends of Glenview UMC,

When did you take down your Christmas trees and decorations? I believe some of you put them up early and take them down early, perhaps by December 31 or Epiphany Day. Some families wait until the last moment. My family is procrastinators. We took them down on January 12. We know we must take them down but isn't it sad to put them away? But Christmas is not done yet. I want to share with you a poem "Now the Work of Christmas Begins" by Howard Thurman who is a theologian and poet.

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with
their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.*

I am grateful that I start another year's work of Christ with you at, and through, GUMC. I hope that you and

I am filled with enthusiasm for the new opportunities of singing songs at worship, learning and teaching the Good News of Jesus Christ, lifting up healing prayers for the sick and brokenhearted, feeding the hungry, raising voices for the oppressed, and bringing peace among the people. For which work of Christmas do you envision that our church needs to pursue together this year as new ministries? With what ministries you do want to be a part of? How do you want to celebrate our faith community and the works we do?

I envision that we keep going deeper with ministries we do already, exploring new ministry options, engaging in each other's life concerns, and being courageous to follow God's will for the world. Let's use our time, talents and treasures for the work of Christ again in the year of 2020!

One more thing: Lent starts with Ash Wednesday on February 26. But before Ash Wednesday we will celebrate Mardi Gras with jazz music at worship and special food at fellowship. Invite friends, family and neighbors!

In gratitude,
Pastor, Eun-Hye Choi

Member News & Happenings!

Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

Scott Harr	Chris Ernst
Tom Schroeder	Judy Knoblock
Judy Neuberger	Bob Rowlands
Damian Neuberger	Helen Murphy

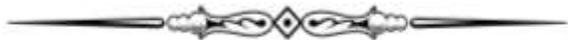
Please let us know if there is a concern in your family. Pastor Eun-Hye: Echoi@glenviewumc.org or Office@glenviewumc.org



With profound regrets, we announce the passing of our dear member and friend:

Our dearest longtime member, Shirlee Gervens, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, January 12, 2020. A memorial service will be held at GUMC on Saturday, February 29, time TBA

Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. May God's love and grace comfort them.



GUMC Travels has been cancelled: Due to Rev. Wright's recent ailments, GUMC will not be traveling to Olivet UMC on Sunday, February 16 as recently advertised. Please keep Rev. Wright in your prayers.

2020 Altar Flowers: We invite the congregation to commemorate a special occasion, such as a birthday, anniversary or a child's special achievement by hosting the altar flowers on Sunday. On your flower Sunday, a note commemorating your event will be published in the Sunday Bulletin. Of course, "To the Glory of God" is always a good choice too. There is a small fee for the flowers and you may take them home to enjoy following the service. Pick your Sunday on the chart in the social hall.

Don't forget to change our email address to **office@glenviewumc.org**. If your email gets returned, we are still here and want to hear from you but you probably sent it to our old .com address.



A THANK YOU from The Missions & Service Committee. Thank you to the GUMC congregation for supporting the following organizations for Alternative Gifts 2019 during the month of **December:** UMCOR, Tree of Life Ministry in Pierre SD, GUMY - ASP Mission Trip, Hands of Peace, and Heifer Project International. The total for all organizations was \$760.00.

SCRIPs for Service: 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 February 16. An order form is included in this Visitor. Return it with a check before February 16. Late orders cannot be accepted. Thank you!

Sunday School needs a little help! GUMC is looking for one or two adults to help with the 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class from January to May. Please let me know if you could help out one or two Sundays per month.



Ways to Grow Ways to Play!



Soup with Substance Lent Program: Nurturing the Soul

Four pastors of our church will share books that they believe are important to nurture our souls during

Lent. They will give a one-page book review and prepare discussion questions. Reading the book is not required. There will be soup and bread dinner before the gatherings.

Dates: March 4, 11, 18 and April 1. (Wednesdays)

Time: Starting at 6pm with dinner and end at 7pm

Books: The Second Mountain by David Brooks
(Pastor Eun-Hye Choi)

Gracism: The Art of Inclusion by David A. Anderson
(Chris Walters)

Final Gifts: Understanding the Special Awareness, Needs, and Communications of the Dying by Maggie Callanan and Patricia Kelley (Tim Lankford & Pastor Eun-Hye Choi)

Happy Surprises: Help Others Discover the Joy of Giving by David Heetland (David Heetland)

LUNCH BUNCH! This group enjoys 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. This group will meet **Tuesday, February 18, 1pm – 3pm Wildfire, 1300 Patriot Blvd, Glenview**

The Boy Scout troop we sponsor, Troop 69, is holding its annual Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction on Sunday morning,

February 9, 2020. This breakfast is scheduled from 8:30 am to 10:00 am, and

from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. They will be serving delicious pancakes with real-fruit homemade toppings, sausages, coffee, and orange juice. It's all you can eat! Please plan to attend this breakfast. *The Scouts assist us out throughout the year with events such as: Rally Day, Rummage Sale, Spaghetti Dinner cleanup and other projects. We like to help them out as well, and the food is terrific!*



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Mark your calendars to join Sunday School on Feb 23rd for a Kids Mardi Gras Chime Choir during church and for a Mardi Gras craft after church in the Social Hall.

You might have heard that the Mardi Gras colors are purple (representing justice), green (representing faith), and gold (representing power). Some historians claim that there was no real symbolism assigned until later 1892, although the colors had been adopted some 10 years before.

Football fans may appreciate this: According to legend, Mardi Gras colors influenced the choice of school colors for archrivals Louisiana State University and Tulane University. They say when LSU was deciding on its colors, the shops in New Orleans had stocked up on purple, green, and gold for the Mardi Gras season. LSU decided upon purple and gold, and bought much of it. Tulane bought much of the only remaining color – green. (from mardigrasneworleans.com)

~Heidi Ortiz



venture with beth and greg

"I am sure that the One who began a good work in you will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns." Philippians 1:6

Preparing for the MLK weekend Children's Sermon and Sunday night GUMY, I was reminded of one of Dr. King's most powerful quotes: *"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere...Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."* (Letter from Birmingham Jail, 4/16/1963). We could also think about it this way: One less hungry family, one more child that has access to books, or one more person that has a warm blanket means we are one step closer to the dream that so many share with Dr. King. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the MLK Day of Service and a special thank you to Ethyl for being GUMC's organizer. GUMC volunteers, from 5 year olds to grandparents, donated over 60 hours of work and 250 books. The good works of Dr. King carried on in each person that volunteered.

Also carrying on these good works is the Appalachia Service Project (ASP). This year's ASP theme is "Complete but not finished" based on Philippians 1:6. ASP's "vision is to see substandard housing eradicated and everyone who comes into contact with the ministry transformed." To send our GUMC crew to Central Appalachia for a week to make home repairs for low-income families is an expensive endeavor. How might you help?

By the time you get this, many of you will have already participated in the Chili Cook-off. Now, we don't know who this year's winners are, but we do know that we will have a lot of thank you's to give as this is a main fundraiser for the ASP trip.

In February, we will be selling Scrip. Think about it this way, if you grocery shop (which I am pretty sure we all do), consider buying a grocery store gift card or two. We automatically get funds back and it costs you nothing more than what you would normally spend on groceries. Pretty cool!

There will be dine and share opportunities at Glenview restaurants. You eat out, the restaurants give GUMY a portion of the net profits back. Pretty easy! Stay tuned for dates, times and places!

Check out the ASP sponsorship board outside the Social Hall if you are interested in providing a specific need for the ASP mission trip.

This year the ASPers will be in Kentucky, June 14th - 19th, leaving Glenview the morning of June 13th and returning the evening of June 20th. If you or your rising 9th grader on up, are interested in participating in ASP June 2020, contact Beth and Greg at petersons@glenviewumc.org and we will share all the details. Our Group Count Commitment form and deposit are due March 1st so please let us know before then if you plan to join ASP this year.

February Events:

Souper Bowl of Caring on 2/2. Bring in food items and donations for the Northfield Township Food Pantry!

6th and 7th graders will meet during the Sunday School time on 2/9 and 2/23

The next GUMY Open Mic is tentatively Scheduled for 2/23



And keep carrying on those good works GUMC! Peace, Beth and Greg

BISHOP DYCK COLUMN: ROAD TO RECONCILIATION • POSTED: JANUARY 21 2020 AT 08:00 AM

...This may be the moment in United Methodism when we have just enough reconciliation for us to separate in peace. By this time, I hope that you have had the opportunity to read the "Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation," which was a mediated agreement by factions within The United Methodist Church to end the harm we are inflicting upon each other regarding human sexuality. I encourage you to read it at unitedmethodistbishops.org First, let me say that I come to this place of potential separation with a great deal of sadness. I have for decades believed that we could find a way as the church to bridge, if not resolve, our differences about human sexuality and the underlying dynamics, such as interpretation of scripture.

Partial Article!
To read the full article please
go to the Northern Illinois
Conference website.
UMCNIC.ORG

We are not only divided, but are in a constant state of battle, strewing winners and losers along our way. The United Methodist Church itself was the greatest loser following the Special Session of General Conference in February 2019. I think all would agree that no one won and that our witness to the world for Christ was seriously damaged. A lot of plans have been proposed for General Conference 2020 since our special session in St. Louis in February. I think it's safe to say that most of them involve some degree of separation, too, so the Protocol isn't unique. What's unique about it is that it is a mediated agreement by the factions within the church to put an end to the war. Part of that agreement is that the other plans will be pulled back so that General Conference 2020 can act on this one.

A few other points to keep in mind:

- The United Methodist Church has not separated or split, as many secular press have reported through sensational headlines. The General Conference is the only body that can act on the agreement and that won't be until May 2020, if it happens.
- The United Methodist Church remains intact; in essence, it wouldn't split but allows others to leave if they so desire. The Traditionalists are expected and have negotiated these terms in order to leave. Others such as progressives could also leave.
- The agreement allows The United Methodist Church to be a "Big Tent" church, not forcing anyone to officiate same-gender weddings but also not penalizing those who do. Likewise, LGBTQ+ persons who already serve among us are not penalized.
- No one is required to vote! This has been a cry across the church during the last year as proposals have been developed and discussed. No local church or annual conference needs to vote in order to stay in The UMC. Only if a local church or annual conference does not want to stay within The UMC, then they would vote to leave.
- The agreement called for a moratorium or abeyance on all complaints, charges and trials against LGBTQ+ clergy or clergy who perform same-gender weddings, beginning now. Admittedly this isn't the official law of the church, but it is a part of the cascade of my own conviction not to pursue complaints. The Northern Illinois Annual Conference's legislation in June 2019 also calls for the bishop not to pursue complaints to trial and not allow any money or personnel to be used for complaints and trials. The North Central Jurisdiction's delegation also issued a statement that there be no complaints and trials regarding human sexuality across our jurisdiction....

Some people who have read the Protocol are encouraged by this development and others understandably have concerns. We need to understand the Protocol as it exists and also discern how it might be perfected without jeopardizing the agreement so as to bless those who wish to leave The UMC.

My reference to having enough reconciliation to separate in peace is important in our discernment about the future. A compromise (which is what this mediation protocol is) doesn't make everyone happy or comfortable. But if it is perfected and agreed upon, it will prevent a legal blood bath or the total coming apart of our church. My question is: what is the alternative to some form of this protocol going forward?

Therefore, I encourage people to attend our conversations in February across the conference (see below for dates). The agenda may have shifted slightly, but it's still important to understand what is going on in our church and to hear from and have the ear of our own delegation to General Conference. [Click here to register.](#)

Road to GC2020 Conversations

Co-hosted by the NIC Exploration Team, NIC General Conference Delegates, and the Cabinet.

Sunday, Feb. 2 at 3-5 p.m. at River Forest UMC, 7970 Lake St., River Forest

Thursday, Feb. 13 at 3-5 p.m. at Woodridge UMC, 2700 75th St., Woodridge

Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7-9 p.m. at Schaumburg: Our Saviour's, 701 E. Schaumburg Rd., Schaumburg

Sunday, Feb. 16 at 3-5 p.m. at Rockford: Christ, 4509 Highcrest Rd., Rockford

From Finance Committee

The Finance Committee wants to express a gratitude to members and friends of Glenview UMC who supported the church with generous and faithful giving last year. We struggled financially throughout the year, but your support sustained all ministries of the church from children's education ministry to pastoral care ministry for the sick and troubled and everything in between. We ended last year with paying about 43% our apportionment in total of \$25,600. We are grateful that it was all possible by your generosity. If you didn't return your pledge card yet, please do so. We will pass the budget of 2020 on February 3 at the Coordinating Council and your pledge will help greatly. There are many ways you can give to church. The church office can help you with providing an EFT (electric fund trans) form, guiding you to church website giving, or using an app on your phone. If you intend a special giving to the church, please talk to pastor Choi or Dick Hoffman who is the chairperson of Finance Committee. Also, please remember to put Glenview UMC in your will.

Here is a piece of useful financial information from Jill Schlesinger who is a CBS News business analyst.

"For those who are 70 1/2 and older and need to withdraw money from an Individual Retirement account, consider a qualified charitable distribution, which allows you to direct some or all of your required minimum distribution to a public charity (not to a private foundation, nor to a charitable supporting organization or a donor-advised fund). You don't get to count a QCD towards an itemized charitable deduction, but you avoid being taxed on the money. As a result, using a QCD may be a smart way to give, because it can minimize your adjusted gross income. You can transfer up to \$100,000 a year from your IRA and you can give away more money than your actual RMD amount. A QCD can be tricky, which is why working with a CPA or CEP can be crucial. For any cash or property valued at \$250 or more, you must have a receipt (bank record, payroll deduction or written communication) identifying the organization, the date and amount of the contribution and a description of the property. For text message donations, flag the telephone bill with the name of the receiving organization, the date of the contribution and the amount given."

Hands for Service

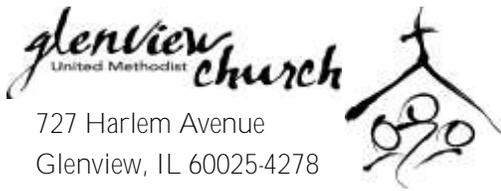
Loose coins and singles for February will go to: Lux Christi Honduras. Lux Christi (Light of Christ) Honduras is a young, grassroots charity serving and working with families in Candelaria, Honduras. Founded in 2006 by Glenview native Michael Klatt, Lux Christi seeks to provide hope to this very poor, mountainous community through education of children, community beautification, and environmental initiatives.

Education: School through the 6th grade is free in Honduras, but 49% of the students do not complete primary school because they cannot afford the supplies, need to work to help support the family, or just don't understand the value of a more complete education. Lux Christi provides school supplies. In return, students are asked to set 3 personal goals per year and give 8 hours community service with a parent each year (including planting 3 trees!).

Beautification and Hope: -Lux Christi also contributes some funds to assist the community in projects like restoration of a historic church which suffered a devastating fire, projects which seek to beautify the community and restore hope.

Environmental: Candelaria was way behind the times in how they managed and handled garbage. Through a partnership with Engineers Without Borders, there is now a properly constructed landfill which has made for a safer environment and has also provided additional employment. However, maintenance, such as repairing fences, mitigating erosion, and managing the safety of the workers is critical and costly. Lux Christi assists with these efforts by donating a small amount each year to these environmental efforts.

Thank you for your coins and singles, if you are called to give more, please submit a check with Lux Christi Honduras in the memo line.



727 Harlem Avenue
Glenview, IL 60025-4278
Phone - 847/729-1015

E-Mail - office@glenviewumc.org

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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



February 23 10:00 a.m.

Join your friends and church family at this fun worship event featuring great music and food. Wear your purple, green and gold.



February 26

Lunchtime Imposition of Ashes: 12:15 pm

Evening Worship and Imposition of Ashes: 7:00 pm

Please mark your calendar now, and come to one of our services to receive the ashes on this first day of Lent.
Let us begin this holy season of Lent together!