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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](http://www.glenviewumc.org)

Dear friends,

Thanksgiving and Christmas are precious seasons in our hearts. We have many memories and rituals on those holidays, such as driving hours to visit grandparents, making pies or cookies together, deciding who's going to carve the turkey each year, or making a special side dish that is a family tradition. My husband Chris' family makes a special Jell-O called, tomato aspic. It is tart and sweet at the same time. Whenever a new person joins the family by marriage it is a test of how he or she will adjust to the new family. When I tasted it for the first time, I liked it. Maybe I was meant to be a member of Walters' family! But everything has changed this year due to corona virus. We cannot have big gatherings with friends and family. We will miss all of them. What should we do this holiday season without big gatherings, cookie swaps, gift wrapping, and special outings? What would God want us to do in this special time?

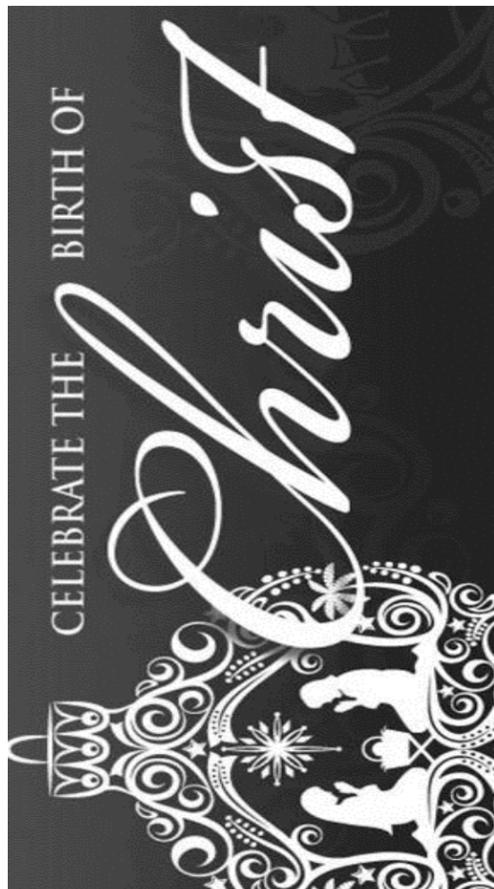


I believe both Thanksgiving and Christmas are all about gratitude. This year again, we give thanks to God for what we are given rather than grieve what we have lost. On Christmas we are grateful for the gift of Jesus, the Son of God who is given to the world. We may truly celebrate Christmas this year, not despite the pandemic but because of the pandemic. Because of the pandemic we slow down, look around all of God's creation closely, breathe deeply, and pray and think more.

The first Sunday of Advent is on November 29th, right after Thanksgiving Day. When you decorate Christmas trees, the roof and porch, and mantles I want you to make a home for the Advent candle wreath. You need four blue or purple candles in a circle and one white candle in the middle. I will put a weekly Advent meditation in Tuesday's e-news. You can use it as your weekly meditation with candle lighting at home.

We originally planned to have Taize' style in-person Advent prayer services on Wednesday evenings. But due to worsened corona virus situations in Illinois, we decided to move them to online. It is hard to have a Taize' style prayer service online. So, we will have weekly Advent zoom gatherings with Advent candle lighting, scripture readings, Christmas songs, and prayers. It will start on December 2 at 7pm and last about half an hour. It is for all ages. You can invite your whole family. The zoom link will go out through GUMC's constant contact e-news on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I believe God still wants us to gather in safe ways to share the good news of incarnated Jesus Christ and to paying our attention to all the gifts of God. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Eun-Hye Choi



**Celebrate Advent on**

**Facebook Live Sunday**

**Mornings at 10:00**

**Dec Christmas Eve**

**Thursday, December 24**

*Worship on YouTube at 4:00.*

**We will have a fresh Christmas message  
mixed with previously recorded  
Christmas music from the GUMC choir.**

Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

Judy Knoblock  
Greg Furch  
Sarane Siewerth

Please let us know if there is a concern in your family.

Pastor Eun-Hye: Echoi@glenviewumc.org or  
Office@glenviewumc.org

## IN MEMORIAM

**Gladys K. Druger**, passed away Saturday, November 7, 2020. She was the loving mother of Nancy (Curtis) Corbige, and grandmother of Laura.

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

### Advent Music Service

Join us on Facebook Live on December 6 as we celebrate the Advent season through music and readings.

Hear the ancient prophets foretell the coming of the Christ child and listen to the music that celebrates the story. We welcome guest musicians along with our singers and readers to tell the story anew.



**You may pick up** your box of 2021 offering envelopes in the office during the month of December. These will not be mailed. Thank you!



## Prayer Service

Starting on December 2nd, join us for an Advent candle lighting service on Zoom.

**December 2, 9, 16 and 23**  
**7pm**

We will prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of Jesus with scripture readings, prayer, silent meditation, and candle lighting.

ZOOM links will be included in the Tuesday and Thursday e-news each week. If you are interested in reading one of the scriptures for the candle lighting, please contact Pastor Eun-Hye Choi.



**Coins and singles in the virtual offering plate thru December: Kids Above All (formerly Child Serv)**  
Please donate on line at [www.glenviewumc.org/donate-online](http://www.glenviewumc.org/donate-online) using the "other" option and specify **Loose Coins**. Or you can mail a check to the church.

Since 1994 their mission has been to protect, heal and educate children and families so they can build better lives. Every child in their care has experienced trauma-abuse, neglect, poverty, toxic stress or violence. They encourage healing and personal growth so the children can realize their dreams. Foster care, adoption service, early childhood education, and group homes for youth are services provided.

# venture with beth and greg

Since last March, some of our friends and colleagues have regularly commented on how all of our homes are cleaner than they have been in a long time. With more time at home, there is more time to declutter, re-organize, and sanitize as if we were all preparing for extended stay guests rather than keeping our families safe. Today, as we sat down to write this, we got an emergency alert on our cell phones, "All of Illinois enters Tier 3 Mitigation. Work from home when possible, avoid unnecessary travel, and celebrate the holidays virtually with extended family." And the alert included the 3 W's: **W**ash your hands, **W**atch your distance and **W**ear a mask. So we begin Advent 2020 the same way we ended Lent this past spring.

Advent - filled with traditions and expectations and rituals all in preparation for Christmas. The excitement of the holidays, bringing the kid out in all of us, is still here. But how do we put away the messiness of not knowing when things will be back to "normal", the stress of online learning for our children and not being with their friends and classmates as much, the stress of managing it all as parents to prepare our hearts and homes to celebrate the birth of Jesus? How do we share the excitement and love of Christmas with our families, friends and neighbors when we know it will be different this year? Maybe with more time at home, rather than all of the hustle and bustle that we have come accustomed to, we will find new traditions to cherish and celebrate. Maybe there will be more quiet and reflective time this season which we may find just as meaningful and maybe even welcomed or needed. Next year, we will be even more appreciative and grateful as that hustle and bustle returns. What a great celebration that will be!

We move back to remote Confirmation and GUMY for now and will continue to keep families updated with any changes to our schedule. Though the Children and Youth Nativity is on hold until December 2021, we would like to thank those families who are helping us to tell the Christmas story each Sunday in Advent and on Christmas Eve. We will also continue to adapt and find new ways to build community and will even have a virtual holiday gathering on 12/20 at 4:30. Confirmation and GUMYouth will need to find that ugly Christmas Sweater, your Christmas mug of eggnog or hot chocolate and be ready for our virtual holiday GUMY game night! Confirmation and GUMY will also meet on 12/13 and 12/27 from 4:30 - 5:30. Links to join will be sent to families via email.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas!  
Peace,  
Beth and Greg



### Emergency Contact Information:

The office is glad to accept a name, phone number or address of a family member or good friend to contact in an emergency. This information will be kept confidential. You can call or email the office with the information.



### THE MITTEN TREE FOR OLIVET - NOW through Jan. 3.

The Mitten Tree is collecting mittens, mittens and more mittens (it's hard for kids not to lose a mitten or two each season). We are also collecting any other type of warm clothing; new or clean/gently used hats, scarves, coats, sweaters, and blankets too. Donations can be put in the collection bins near the social hall or the church office. Deliveries will be made periodically to Olivet, our Chicago West Side, sister



# Pastoral CARE

**Pastoral care for our church family!** Too often we find out about illnesses, crises and hospitalizations after they occur. This is a missed opportunity for the calls and visits we would like to share. Please let us know if there is a concern in your family or in another congregants family (with their permission) We need your help in order to offer ours.

Pastor Eun-Hye: [Echoi@glenviewumc.org](mailto:Echoi@glenviewumc.org); [Office@glenviewumc.org](mailto:Office@glenviewumc.org); 847-729-1015



*Be curious, not judgmental.* - Walt Whitman

No, I have not been reading poetry lately (unless the poem is sent to me by our dearest poet Wanda Frye!). I heard this quote on a TV show of all places. I didn't think too much of it at the time, since the scene of the show involved an expensive wager over a bar room game of darts. Didn't seem too spiritual!



I thought about this alot later in the week as I was listening to an interview of journalist Mary Louise Kelly. She has severe hearing loss, but the nature of her job involves precise and careful listening. She has coped through the years with hearing aids, reading lips, and leaning in closer to hear people better. She was talking about how this pandemic has been a nightmare for her. Reading lips? Masks cover everyone's mouths. Leaning in closer? Not with social distancing. At least she has hearing aids, right? But between the muffling effects of the masks and the plexiglass barriers, the effectiveness of the hearing aids is much diminished.

If I ran into someone right now with these issues, I wonder if I would be curious, or judgmental? A minister at a previous church we attended gave the same benediction every week - "Be kind, be kind, everyone is fighting a battle you know nothing about!" As we are in the midst of this pandemic, this is truer than ever.

I had to go back to re-listen to the interview of Ms. Kelly. What was her final summary of her struggles hearing during the pandemic? First, that context is everything. This is another good reminder to be curious! Her final thought was that there's always a way to get through these difficulties. I wonder if her own curiosity to know what people are saying helps her overcome the judgmental people she meets.

I hope we all can use our curiosity to learn about others during this time. Remember, everyone is fighting a battle we know nothing about.

Stay safe, friends!  
Heidi

*(If you would like to listen to the interview I talked about in this article, you can find it by googling "Ted Radio Hour Mary Louise Kelly")*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Here are our December birthdays and anniversaries. If you have a December birthday or anniversary and your name is not listed, please call the church office so we can update our records.

|                      |                        |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 12/2 Samuel Phillips | 12/3 Ellie Ventura     | 12/4 Emily Ortiz       |
| 12/4 Elsie Westman   | 12/6 Trent Houdek      | 12/6 John Losquadro    |
| 12/6 Ismael Rejuso   | 12/7 Katie Jones       | 12/8 Lynn Heniken      |
| 12/9 Greg Peterson   | 12/9 Don Putman        | 12/10 David Duback     |
| 12/11 Merrick Kehoe  | 12/14 Maeve Doherty    | 12/14 Lauren Ellis     |
| 12/14 Rebecca Gedmin | 12/15 Jennifer Adams   | 12/16 Wanda Frye       |
| 12/16 Savannah Jones | 12/17 Jessica Vassallo | 12/18 Brielle Doherty  |
| 12/18 Gregory Furch  | 12/22 Holly Field      | 12/23 Marianne Brackey |
| 12/24 JoAnn Minear   | 12/25 Dorothy Adams    | 12/25 Jesus Christ     |
| 12/26 Donnie Ford    | 12/26 Holly Porrett    | 12/26 Maricar Ramos    |
| 12/29 Lacey Naber    | 12/30 Diana Berger     | 12/30 Drew Stryker     |

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 12/7 Linda and David Vassallo
- 12/23 Sarane and Bruce Siewerth

## Church Mice

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We want to sincerely thank Paula Stoddard for her many, many years of handling the GUMYouth Scrip program. It not only raised so much money for our youth so they could go on their annual ASP Mission trip, but helped all of us with our shopping, gift giving, etc. She has decided that now is the time to retire from this volunteer job and we want to let Paula know how much we appreciate her time and her kindness in helping all of us for so many years.

Looking for a quick and easy way to make your gifts to the church? Download the GivePlusChurch app from the App Store or Google Play. It is safe and secure. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Search for **GivePlusChurch** to quickly download the free app today.

We've Moved



Ed and Meg Pyterek  
2539 Osage Drive  
Glenview IL 60026

**GivingTuesday  
A Global Generosity Movement  
December 1, 2020**

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past seven years, it has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

We loved the Italian Dinner and Silent Auction in the fall, but we missed it this year due to the Corona virus pandemic. This fundraising event helped us to support the ministries of our church. You worked hard to organize it, responded generously to it, and enjoyed being a part of a great faith community. We raised over \$7,000 from this fundraising last year. Would you consider giving to GUMC on Giving Tuesday (12/1/2020) the amount that you might have given to the fundraising dinner and auction?

The dinner ticket was \$25/person. The average one auction item might have been around \$30 to \$40. If you have means to help and want to donate to GUMC as your charity of choice, please go to [www.glenviewumc.org](http://www.glenviewumc.org) and click on "Donate Now". You choose "Other" and the amount and leave a memo of Giving Tuesday. You can give before and after Giving Tuesday! We are able to do, and to be, the Glenview UMC because of your support! Thank you!

Please make sure to return your 2021 GUMC Pledge Card. Thank you !

**Be the Spirit of Christmas!** People are the true magic of the season and the best "gifts" can come from the most unexpected places. During this holiday season, it can be a difficult time for those in our church family who are homebound, lonely, or suffering. Perhaps you'd like to send a Christmas



greeting to them to let them know you are thinking of them. The online directory ([www.glenviewumc.org/directory](http://www.glenviewumc.org/directory) password Dec25) is always up to date to the best of our knowledge or you can call the church office.

Jan Alexander

Marilyn Eichelberg

Alice Goodspeed

Barb Hillis

Joyce Hosler

Howard Lacina

LaVerne Lundquist

Isabelle Marth

Mary Lou Neining

Burton and Mariann Randle

Marilyn Stowell

Doris Welter

**ALL NEW FORMAT FOR 2020 Whose Birthday Is It, Anyway? IMPORTANT DROP-OFF INFORMATION!**

Sue and Ken Ready will be standing outside the social hall entrance on Sunday, Dec. 6 from 9 – 10:30 a.m. for gift drop-off. Please stay in your car and pull up to the social hall eves. You are always welcome to drop-off before December 6 to the church office Monday-Thursday 10-2.

Thanks for your continuing support and please contact me with any questions.

Sue Ready

847-603-1702, [s-ready@comcast.net](mailto:s-ready@comcast.net)

