



April, 2021

# The Visitor

## **Realizing our Vision: Grow, Play, and Serve with a People with Hearts for Children and Hands for Service**

A message from Scott Daniels, Chairperson of the GUMC Coordinating Council  
An Introduction to our 1st Town Hall Zoom meeting held March 7, 2021

These times have been difficult for everyone, resulting in hardship for people and families worldwide. We have all experienced dramatic events over this last year that none of us would have previously thought possible. Through it all, our church adapted, and because we adapted, we remain solid and unified in our pursuit of our faith and support of each other. These times have shown us that together, we have the capacity as a church to address our challenges and succeed. We were agile. We adjusted. We changed.

There is no question it is a time of great opportunity for our church and our members. It is a time to revitalize and reinvigorate our congregation in the community and set a path for growth and involvement that will be of interest to our members. In tandem with 120 churches of the UMC Foundation of the Northeast Illinois Conference, and under the auspices of the "Agile Church" program, a group of church leaders have been meeting to explore ways to just that. The overall concept is quite simple. We start with a vision statement and then provide a plan on how we will make the vision statement happen, focused on 1) identification of the mission of our church in the community, 2) development of vital ministries, 3) the use and upgrade technology, and 4) to have year-round stewardship programs.

Our church is blessed to already have a vision statement, "Grow, Play, and Serve with a People with Hearts for Children and Hands for Service". Now we need to gather your thoughts, from everyone in this church, on how we can best work together to serve our mission and enhance our presence in our community.

On behalf of our congregation, I would like to thank Sarane Siewerth, Ethel Doyle, Kay Harr, Beth and Greg Peterson, Janet Ferrone, Heidi Ortiz, Karen Daniels, and Rev. Eun-Hye for beginning this process. However, now is the time for the entire congregation to participate in the process. Your vision, ideas, and energy are an important part of bringing to life the vision of our church. Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Believe you can, and you're halfway there." You are here because you believe. We are already halfway there! On behalf of everyone in the Glenview United Methodist Church, thank you for your participation!

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*To read the notes of all the participants and small groups please turn to page 3. If you have any comments or suggestions, please reach out to Pastor Eun-Hye, Scott Daniels or any other Agile Church team member listed above.*

*Thank you!*

**Let us remember the following members in our prayers.**

Judy Knoblock, Susanne Rudolph and family, Jan Jeffery, Bob Deme, Dick Hoffman, Nancy Corbige, Priscilla Nutt, Michelle Cummings

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

Pastor Eun-Hye: [Echoi@glenviewumc.org](mailto:Echoi@glenviewumc.org) or [Office@glenviewumc.org](mailto:Office@glenviewumc.org)



**Wednesday Bible Study group starts new series!**

Beginning April 14 Bible study will focus on the books of Ruth and Esther in the Old Testament starting at 7pm on ZOOM. No textbook is required. Please contact Pastor Eun-Hye to receive the zoom link.

**What Do Stephen Ministers Do?**



Stephen Ministers are members of

Glenview United Methodist Church who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people who are facing a crisis or simply going through a difficult time. A Stephen Minister meets with his or her care receiver once a week for around an hour to listen, care, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual encouragement. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers, and women are matched with female Stephen Ministers. To find out more about how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Ethel Doyle or Damian Neuberger.

**EMAIL and TEXT Scam Alert**

Email scams are an inevitable part of living in a digital age. Like technology itself, the tactics to steal personal information have evolved to new levels of sophistication. In March GUMC and some of its members were the target. First a text was sent from a phone claiming to be Rev. Eun-Hye and asking for gift cards to help her with a problem. The next week an email was sent pretending to offer advice against texting scams from "Glen View UMC". Spotting a fake diamond is hard. Spotting a fake email is easy. The incorrect spelling of the church name was a tip-off that this was not from Glenview United Methodist Church. If you ever receive a suspicious email please do not forward it to the office. Just delete it. Call the office and ask if it was real. If it was, we can always send it to you again. If it was a scam, because you deleted it without clicking on it, you are safe. Please ignore, delete, or hang up, and **DO NOT RESPOND** to any such requests from our Pastor or from this church.

**From:** Glen view UMC <[glenviewumcc@gmail.com](mailto:glenviewumcc@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 12, 2021, 08:07:21 PM CST  
**Subject:** Dear Member 03/12/2021

All this looks like it could be real but the incorrect spelling of the church name and extra "c" and "@gmail.com" are big tipoffs that this is NOT legitimate.



Never click these links.

Hello,  
In response to the recent Gift card Email/Text, we have devised very important safety precautions. Please View/Download.

Glenview United Methodist Church  
727 Harlem Avenue  
Glenview, IL 60025  
847 728 1015

# GUMC TOWN HALL



## Small Group Discussion Notes

### Youth and Family Ministry Small Group

#### Confirmation and Youth:

- Bring back the open mic night once we are able to have more people gathering together.
- Continue with activities like day-long retreats, chili cook-off.
- Build on the Youth Led Service once a month.
- Continue to use outdoor spaces as much as possible.
- In general, continue to have events that reach to more than just our own members and/or that our kids would want to invite friends to.

#### For Pre K - 5th grade:

- When we are able, continue with programming like the Children's Chime Choir
- Continue with fun events like Trunk or Treat.

#### Things we think would make our church be more agile:

- Offer more regular opportunities for Pre K-12 to participate in the worship service, ie. readers, bringing up communion elements, help with sound and recording system.
- Exploring ways to make the beginning of the service when the kids are in worship, more kid friendly.
- Offer a regular music option.
- Do more with our outdoor spaces and/or gym
- Finding opportunities for children/youth to help with church stuff without the feeling of "oh -just have the youth do that"
- Have more events and scheduling that allows parents to get to know each other better. More events that require parent participation.

### The Technology Small Group:

The meeting began with an overview of GUMC technology pre-Covid and during Covid. We then discussed what we would like to see with post Covid technology. The Ideas that were shared are:

- A TV screen in the parlor. The TV screen would be simulcasting worship. It would give people another place besides the sanctuary to enjoy worship and perhaps connect with other people on a more relaxed and friendly basis.
- Screens were also discussed for the sanctuary. Either on the sides or one roll down screen in the front. Pre-recorded messages or music could be shown during worship.
- One suggestion was to show snippets of the service during the week on Facebook.
- Another suggestion was to start a podcast. It could be brief devotion or a thought for the day from the pastor or members who wanted to share. The feeling is that many people use their phone to listen to podcasts while they're on the move.
- One member used a smart phone to listen to our Sunday worship in the drive-through while getting coffee on a Sunday morning.
- The overall consensus is that Facebook live is a great option for Sunday worship.
- People are still looking for ways to stay connected with their church friends and would like a pre-worship fellowship ZOOM before switching over to Facebook Live.

### GUMC Town Hall Notes Continued



### ZOOM Support Group

If you need ears to listen to your griefs, struggles, or hurts please join in GUMC's Support Group. This group meets every Thursday at 2pm on ZOOM.

Please contact Pastor Choi at [echoi@glenviewumc.org](mailto:echoi@glenviewumc.org) to get the ZOOM link.

# GUMC TOWN HALL



## Small Group Discussion Notes

Continued

### Mission and Community Outreach Small Group

The meeting began with the overview of all mission activities of our church in our community. Our new partnership with *The Debra Gelfand Children's Foundation*, an organization providing numerous support services for District 34 students who are low income or experiencing emergency circumstances was introduced. They have been actively supporting families during the pandemic with rent assistance to prevent eviction.

#### The ideas that were shared are:

- Consider the support our Stephen Ministers might offer community members to relieve the stress and anxiety caused by the pandemic.
- We need better publicity in general, for what missions does.
- Look for ways to make our projects open for others outside the church to participate/donate.
- Provide a sign-up sheet for our community garden.
- Two-minute videos could be made to post in the online newsletter.
- There are 72 different languages spoken in the district. The largest percentage, in descending order: English, Spanish, Mongolian, Polish, Korean. While the children receive services in the school to help them learn English, their parents are often very challenged to learn English for a variety of circumstances: no transportation to classes, no funds to pay for classes, work during the day, would need childcare for classes in the evening.
- There is a good connection between the library and the schools. GUMC could become a part of that connection.
- Could we adopt one family and support their needs?

### The Generosity (Stewardship) Small Group:

This group discussed what motivates us to be generous and to give.

- We like to give because we grew up in poverty and know the needs of the poor.
- We give because we are blessed to earn money.
- We are raised to believe that the more we give the more we receive.
- We need to learn about the needs of our community on social media.
- We give generously when we know the specific needs of others for example, "Whose Birthday it is, anyway".
- We give more generously when we know what and where our money goes.
- We like to hear the stories of the need and the stories of the generosity.
- We need different stories of generosity for different generations: for people who give out of loyalty or obligation, for people who want to see the value of what their giving does, or for people who enjoy spending (they think giving is wise spending).
- We also talked about what charity organizations we give to in addition to church.
- Hunger oriented charities, animal rights, anything for children, Veterans, and scholarships.

**Earth Day April 22, 2021:** From [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org) here are a few things you can do now. You don't have to wait till Earth Day!

1. Tune into our Earth Day Live series to learn first hand from experts about our campaigns and ways that you can help from a grassroots level all the way up to your state officials office.
2. Unsubscribe to catalogs and donate to The Canopy Project to save the trees! For every \$1 that is donated, one tree is planted!
3. Enjoy spending time outside? Support the Great Global Cleanup and pick up trash while enjoying your outdoor activities. It is a great way to save that plastic bottle cap from the landfill while you are on your morning walk!

## Weed'em and Reap!

As the weather begins to be more Spring-like, here is a reminder that we will begin to work the church garden again this year. Last year we grew over 200 lbs. of vegetables that we donated to the Northfield food pantry. We will announce a planting session during this coming May to which you are welcome. You are welcome to come by all summer to weed, water, and tend to the plants whenever you want. If you would like to be more involved in the planning, or any other aspect of the garden, please let me know at [mnetherland@crateandbarrel.com](mailto:mnetherland@crateandbarrel.com). Experienced and unexperienced equally welcome.



# venture with beth and greg

Happy Easter! Christ the Lord is Risen Today! Hallelujah! It could not come at a better time, the hope and the optimism as we enter this Easter season carries over to the hope and optimism we have of our lives returning to a sense of normalcy, as we come out from this long year of Covid. Seeing people back in the sanctuary for worship, hosting in-person Confirmation and youth group, seeing the joy that this brings, being back together safely. We missed all of it!

As we move into April with Confirmation and GUMYouth, we will continue to meet in person on Sunday afternoons at 4:30pm. One thing is certain a little time for recreation at the end makes the kids happy, so it's staying! And after a one month hiatus because of Spring Break we will host our monthly Youth-led worship service on the last Sunday in April that will be the 25th at 4:30pm.

In March, both our Church Council and Staff met with members of the congregation via Zoom, to give an overview of what we have been doing in our ministries during Covid to make GUMC more "agile". We also had the opportunity to break out into smaller more ministry specific groups to get feedback on what seems to be working well within Children, Youth and Family Ministries and sharing ideas and vision on what we see moving forward. All with the ultimate goal of making GUMC a church community that is focused on being a larger presence in our larger community through each of our core ministries. Speaking for Beth and I, it re-energized us and gave us new confidence in the future of GUMC. Your church leaders are fully committed to making GUMC better than ever even during this challenging time.

See you in Church!  
Greg and Beth

## Coins and singles in the real and *virtual* offering plate April, May & June: An Opportunity to Help in the Community

It is the dream of GUMC to become more involved and helpful within the Glenview community. Sometime ago Pastor Eun-Hye heard that help was wanted for Glenview's District. 34 children and families in need. In following through on this endeavor, we learned that the Debra Gelfand Children's Foundation (DGCF) is set up for that mission and, to do so, needs help and support in a variety of ways. One such need is space to store items so that the social workers of each school can have a centralized location for resources. Janet Ferrone and Michel Agriopoulos from the GUMC staff reviewed room usage and identified that the nursery room is rarely used. They moved the nursery furniture into a section of the toddler room and put shelving into the former nursery room for Dist. 34. Representatives from Dist. 34 and the Gelfand Foundation came to see the space and were very pleased. The social workers, under the auspices of the Gelfand Children's Foundation, have begun to move some of their supplies in. They are excited and we are happy that we can be of help in this way. We anticipate that this partnership will grow and take other forms of assistance for Dist. 34. Janet Ferrone graciously stepped forward to serve as the GUMC contact person and organizer in working with the Gelfand Foundation for Dist. 34.



The Gelfand Foundation, a non-profit organization, is currently helping Dist. 34 families experiencing hardship with food, household items, rents to prevent evictions, and other types of assistance. The Foundation relies solely on donations. At this time, Second Quarter, Coins & Singles will go to the DGCF. Please donate generously to this new partnership between our church and this resource to those most needy in our community. You can donate online or write a check to GUMC, memo to Gelfand Foundation. Other types of donations and volunteers may be needed periodically; we'll keep you posted. To learn more about the Debra Gelfand Children's Foundation, visit: [www.debragelfand.org](http://www.debragelfand.org)

Their work for Dist. 34 children, families, and the community is very impressive. We are happy to be in partnership with them in that endeavor.

Missions & Service Ministry

**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 2020 as a full time student in a 4-year college or university. Your entry for this award 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.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

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

4/1 Mary Lou Neininger

4/3 James Rejuso

4/4 Julie Murphy

4/5 Juanita Smith

4/6 Jan Jeffery

4/11 Barry Putman

4/14 Dawn Denzel

4/16 Emily Naber

4/17 Matt Jones

4/22 Gabriel Velez

4/26 Larry Doyle

4/29 J Anderson

4/2 John Curkov

4/4 Jack Curkov

4/5 Brian Conlin

4/5 Cheryl Tweddle

4/8 Cori Mohr

4/13 Emma Porrett

4/16 Nathaniel Brand

4/17 Kristin Daniels

4/18 Becky Houdek

4/25 C. J. Berg

4/28 Dee Cooper

4/29 Claire Rowlands

4/2 Marilyn Stowell

4/4 Ken Houdek

4/5 Joey Roth

4/5 Xander Vasquez

4/11 Ann Barnes

4/13 Danny Suhadolnik

4/16 Caryn Granzow

4/17 Marie Hoffman

4/22 Matthew Kowski

4/25 Joyce Fridell

4/29 Jan Alexander

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

4/8 Eun-Hye Choi and Chris Walters

4/12 Susan and David Slaght

4/21 Sue and Ken Ready

4/29 Jennifer and Ross Adams

## Church Mice

Karl Zorowski

But the angel said to the women,  
'Do not be afraid; I know that you  
are looking for Jesus who was  
crucified. He is not here; for  
he has been raised, as he said.'

~ Matthew 28:5-6





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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)



**GOOD FRIDAY**

**Friday, April 2**

**7:00 p.m.**

Worship in the sanctuary and online.

Bring Your Focus to the Cross.

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

**Saturday, April 3**

**10:00 a.m.**

Begin in the social hall.

Bring the kids, and a basket, and join us for a short story.

Afterwards, the egg hunt will be spread out across our campus. Kids will turn their eggs in for a goodie bag. Parents should attend along with their children.

**EASTER RESSURECTION**

**Sunday, April 4**

**10:00 a.m.**

Worship in the sanctuary and online.

**Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
 Special Music Event**

*Due to the large number of attendees, please RSVP to attend worship. Signup link can be found at [www.glenviewumc.org](http://www.glenviewumc.org) or you can call the church office.*