



The Visitor

January, 2023

Happy New Year to you!

Dear friends,

We cannot say that the year 2022 was smooth and without challenges. It was a hard year globally with wars and climate changes, nationally with financial fluctuations and gun violence, and individually with physical and mental health issues on top of Covid concerns. On the threshold of moving into the new year, we need to take several deep breaths and remember that we came this far with the support and love of family, friends, and others who care for us. We give thanks to God for them.

Glenview UMC is a place where we share our prayer concerns and joys, listen to each other in circles, study groups, and small groups, put our hearts and hands together to help and reach out to the people of community who are in need, and come to worship our God and to practice trusting in God's provisions, presence, and guidance. While writing this article, I am listening to the hymn, "If the Lord had not been on our side." It is based on Psalm 124, which is about praising God and expressing the trust in him. The psalm ends with saying, "Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!" Truly, our help is in the Lord, the Creator God. So, we give thanks to God!

Our church had many moments of joy in 2022. We more fully came back to in-person worship with joyful music and celebration. We expanded partnerships with

community organizations to reach out to diverse people, including refugees, at risk youth, and the hungry and lonely. I give thanks to God for your concern, empathy, and generosity for our neighbors. I believe "empathy" describes who we are as a faith community. Our church had some challenges too. Some long-time members passed away and left holes in our hearts. Some of you struggled with serious health issues but persevered with the help of people in medicine, care of family and friends, and prayers from fellow Christians. I give thanks to God for that.

If I say one important thing for the year 2023, it is the concern about the hiked utility prices, especially for heating. While we have been able to obtain a new fixed cost contract, our natural gas rate has more than doubled for next year. Our gas expense through the end of December in the year 2022 was approximately \$17,000. Actuals could vary significantly depending on the weather and other unexpected factors, but it is a true concern. While trusting God's provisions we can do our part together. If you are able and willing, please give a special donation for utility. You can write, "gas" or "utility" in the memo line of your check or use electric giving on our website and designate your giving to this specific cause. We know that we will persevere again not only for fulfilling the need of our church but also for helping and loving our neighbors. So, I give thanks to God.

With gratitude,

Eun-Hye Choi, pastor



727 Harlem Avenue

Glenview, IL 60025-4278

Phone – 847/729-1015

E-Mail – office@glenviewumc.org

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January 2023 Issue
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GLENVIEW UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

CHILI COOK OFF

SUNDAY JANUARY 29TH

FREE TO ENTER // \$5 TO TASTE // AFTER WORSHIP

PRIZES FOR MOST ORIGINAL, BEST TASTING, HOTTEST, AND PRESENTATION

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

Members who wish to remain private.

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

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



Long time member, **LaVerne Lundquist** passed away
November 27, 2022.

A *Celebration of Life* was held at GUMC on Friday,
December 9.

Please keep the Lundquist family in your prayers.
May God's love and grace comfort them at this time.

It's a boy! Welcome to James Van Gedmin, born on
November 17, 2022. His proud parents are Becky



and Mike Gedmin of
Arlington Heights. He
is the grandson of
Joanne and Andy
Richter.
Congratulations to
the Van Gedmin and
Richter families.



New Year, New Study!

Lectionary Study Group
Begins January 11 at 10:00
(Wednesday Morning on zoom)

Our worship (music, scripture readings, and sermon)
follows the Common Lectionary cycle since Advent of
2022. This new lectionary study group will read and
discuss each week's scripture readings before
Sunday worship.

At the beginning of the week, the readings will be
emailed to the participants. An optional lectionary
book is available for purchase in the office for \$25 or
you can order it from Cokesbury by searching, "*The
United Methodist Music & Worship 2022-2023*".

You can participate in this study group with or
without the book. You only need a Bible.

Please contact pastor Eun-Hye at
echoi@genvviewumc.org
to receive the readings and the ZOOM link.



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.

Adventures with Beth and Greg

Happy New Year GUMC Families!

Through the Advent and Christmas season focusing on Christ's hope, love, joy and peace, our GUMC families had opportunities to serve, learn, and have fun. GUMYouth did their annual *Supermarket Scavenger Hunt* to benefit the Northfield Food Pantry and volunteered at *Youth Services Holiday gift wrapping*. We are grateful to have been a small part of this community wide effort through which 630 underserved children in our community received their Christmas wishes through the Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook Holiday Gift Program. On 12/11, our Children and Youth presented their version of a *Charlie Brown Christmas*, sharing the story of Jesus's birth and the spirit of love, hope and joy the season brings. Then, it was a night of fun and fellowship at our *GUMYouth Christmas Party* where they "escaped" a London Art Gallery and then got pretty competitive with lots of laughter in Pictionary and spoons. We want to thank all children, youth and parents who participated in any of these events. Your presence and willingness to join in with positive spirit and energy makes GUMC a great place for youth to be.

The beginning of the New Year gives us time to recover briefly before we dive into 2023. Sunday School and Confirmation begin at 10:00 am on 1/8. Our Sunday School lessons will focus on the life and ministry of Jesus and the early church. Our Confirmation students continue their study of Methodism with a couple students preparing to be confirmed this spring. GUMYouth's focus will be planning for this *summer's mission trip* to the Appalachian region to volunteer with ASP. This year's theme - Love Strong - is based on Luke 10:27 "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and Love your neighbor as yourself.*" Our work begins in January with planning and hosting the *Annual Chili Cookoff* to be held on January 29th! Money raised will help fund our 2023 ASP trip. ASP volunteers and youth, look for information about dates, costs and fundraising in your email inbox. Any youth interested in participating and anyone interested in being an adult chaperone for ASP, please reach out to petersons@glenviewumc.org.

May the hope, love, joy and peace of Advent and Christmas carry you through 2023!

Beth and Greg Peterson

Coins and singles in the offering plate January, February and March:



World Relief is a global Christian humanitarian organization that brings sustainable solutions to the world's greatest problems—disasters, extreme poverty, violence, oppression, and mass displacement. They partner with over 6,000 local churches and community leaders in the United States and abroad to bring hope healing and transformation to the most vulnerable. They are bringing help and comfort to asylum seekers throughout the world. For more information go to worldrelief.org.

Please donate on line at www.glenviewumc.org/donate-online and click on "Loose Coins", or you can mail a check to the church with "Loose Coins" in the memo area.

You may pick up your box of 2023 offering envelopes in the office during the month of January. These will not be mailed. Thank you!



Cookie Sale News!

The United Women of Faith sold 70 boxes of cookies, for a total of \$700.

Many thanks to all of you... the helpers who baked, those who boxed, and those who bought!



A Support Group for Anxiety and Grief: (Thursday Evenings on Zoom)

There is a revolutionary approach to understanding and healing the impact of loss by connecting anxiety and grief. This Support Group is for people who had a loss of a loved one recently or a long time ago and experience anxiety since the loss. This Support Group will meet with the book, "Anxiety: The Missing

Stage of Grief " by Claire Bidwell Smith who is a hospice grief counselor. This support group will follow the contents and suggestions of the book to begin the healing process. The book will be in the church office for \$18/ copy or you can order it online. The group will start on January 12 (Thursday) at 7pm on zoom. Please share this with anyone you think may benefit from this support group. Unaddressed or prolonged grief can cause anxiety, panic attacks, and other emotional hardships. Please contact pastor Eun-Hye by echoi@glenviewumc.org to get the zoom link.

REFUGEE UPDATE - Volunteer Opportunities

The Glenview UMC has committed to sponsor a refugee family for 6 months. World Relief, a refugee resettlement agency, will set up an apartment for them. A team of 3-6 volunteers from GUMC would be needed to help the family assimilate into their new homeland; There are various needs a volunteer can help with; i.e. help them learn English, take them shopping and doctor's appointments, etc. Training is provided. If interested in volunteering please contact Ethel Doyle, 847-975-0361.

Help Feed Homeless and Poor Volunteer Opportunity

A JUST HARVEST, a restaurant style soup kitchen in north Rogers Park, (by the Howard Street L) has need for volunteers to help serve meals. We have partnered with Trinity UMC, Wilmette, and serve from 11:30-2:00 the third Fri. of every month. Some guests come for a sit-down meal, some do take out. We carpool and leave GUMC at 11:00 a.m. and leave AJH about 2:15, after cleanup. If interested, contact Ethel Doyle, 847-975-0361.



"Later" can be too late. Don't delay having your will drawn. Make sure your estate plans are in place so that your wishes will be carried out to benefit your family. Gifts you plan for GUMC through your will can help GUMC continue to minister and serve.

Gift Distribution from the Alice E. (Lib) Nightingale Mission Fund:

Upon her death, Lib Nightingale, a devoted long-time member of GUMC, bequeathed to the Missions & Service Ministry Committee a generous amount of her estate to be managed by the committee. The funds are invested in the United Methodist Foundation, and the committee prayerfully distributes a portion each year to a representation of missions—local, national and international. For 2022, the selections are as follows: \$1,000 to the Black College Fund; \$3,000 to GUMC Apportionments; \$2,000 to each of the following: Native American Ministry of Presence, Justice for Our Neighbors, and Care for Real; \$4,000 each to UMCOR for Ukraine and to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center; \$500 to Curt's Cafe; and \$2,500 to the Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

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

1/1 Creed Kowski	1/1 Joanne Richter	1/5 Samantha Welter
1/7 Jim Gernady	1/8 Barbara Cordell	1/9 Fulton Vasquez
1/10 Korey Holzhuetter	1/11 Ken Welter	1/12 Pat Glass
1/12 Judy Neuberger	1/14 Renelle Agriopoulos	1/16 Ethel Doyle
1/17 Priscilla Nutt	1/18 Julie Radman	1/19 Cathy Stryker
1/19 David Randle	1/19 Tom Tobin	1/21 Howard Tweddle, III
1/22 Jacob Risley	1/25 Nicole Potter	1/27 Grace Murphy
1/29 Barb Galarza	1/29 Sarane Siewerth	1/31 Melanie Cummings

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

1/18 Judy and Damian Neuberger	1/22 Joanne and Larry Brand
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