



The Visitor

February, 2023

EYE

This article by pastor Eun-Hye was published in October 2022 issue of The Christian Century.

In the first church I served, there was a big stained-glass Eye of Providence symbol over the communion table in the dark, Gothic-style sanctuary. The Eye, in its triangular frame, never blinked. On my first Sunday, when I sat in the pastor's chair behind the pulpit in a new clergy robe (which was so uncomfortable), the Eye looked down at me, inspecting me and how I moved, what I said and how I said it. The Eye looked nervous to me then—as did the parishioners, who were nervous about their new Korean woman pastor with a strange name that was hard for them to say.

The ministry at this first church was not easy. I had to learn everything on the run without much trust in me from anyone, including myself. I shed many tears and lifted many prayers in that empty sanctuary after painful evening meetings, while the Eye just watched in silence.

I met my husband, who grew up in that church, under the Eye's unblinking watch. The Eye watched as we made our marriage vows to each other, he in Korean and I in English. The Eye heard the joyful news of our first pregnancy and the heartbroken news of the loss of it.

Through 25 years of ministry, 23 years of marriage, and 17 years of parenting, sometimes I hoped the Eye would shed some tears with me, like Jesus at Lazarus's tomb, or laugh with me, like Sarah at the good news of her pregnancy. I have preached that God has the full range of feelings and emotions as the Lover, Friend, and Mother as well as the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. I have preached that God sometimes changes God's mind, regrets God's own decisions, and rests on the sabbath. I have wished the Eye could be more like that.

But the Eye has been a constant presence as I walk through the dark valleys and cold wilderness like Hagar, who experienced El Roi, God who sees, in her wilderness journey. The Eye of El Roi opens my eyes to find water in the wilderness and to see beauty and hope beyond the pain and sufferings of humanity. I now truly believe that the Eye of God saw everything God had made and said, "It was supremely good."

Eun-Hye Choi, pastor



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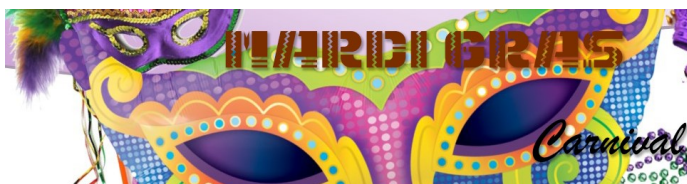
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February 2023 Issue
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February 19 • 10:00 a.m.

Few Christians today know that Mardi Gras began as a religious holiday, when Pope Gregory XIII added it to his reformed calendar in 1582 as the day before Ash Wednesday. The observance originally was known as "carnevale," loosely translated from medieval Latin meaning "to remove meat." The idea was to use up all the rich foods such as meat, butter, eggs and other savories before the fasting season leading up to Easter. Mardi Gras' official colors have faith-based symbolism: purple for justice, green for faith, and gold for power. Mardi Gras encourages us to enjoy the richness of creation that God lavishes on us.

Join in the celebration on Sunday, February 19. at 10:00 a.m. with special music and the story of Jesus' transfiguration.

Wear your purple, green, and gold colors, beads and hats, and stay to enjoy New Orleans style fellowship hour!



FEBRUARY 22

Ash Wednesday is an inside-out act of worship. We come and confess and are reminded of both our sin-

fulness and our mortality. And yet we are given a visible mark in the imposition of ashes, a way of letting the world know that we are people of faith. Our hope is that such a symbol is a welcome sign, a sign of acceptance and hospitality. Indeed, our pledge to God is that we will live in such a way that we bring honor to the name of God and glory to Jesus Christ. We live outwardly the inner beliefs that we hold.

Come the to sanctuary at 7pm for a short message, choir music and ash imposition. Also, there will be a personal ash imposition from 11am to 1pm in pastor Eun-Hye's office. Fee free to share any prayer concerns and joys with the pastor before getting ashes.

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

Geary Larrick, Burton and Marianne Randle, Barb Galarza, Connie Wiggins, Judy Neuberger, Linda Kleckner, Michel Agriopoulos.

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

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



In Memoriam

Howard Lacina passed away December 31. He was 92 and had been in declining health for some time. He was in a nursing care center, Judy Stoltzfus, his daughter, was with him.

Former member, **Char Moneyhon**, passed away on January 8, in Wisconsin. There are no services planned.

Please keep these families in your prayers. May God's love and grace comfort them at this time.



On Sunday, January 15,
GUMC held the Sacrament
of Holy Baptism of Gavin
Russell Williams, the

beloved son of Alan and Sarah Williams and
grandson of Sheri Staten. His sponsors are Hannah
Russell and David Williams. We rejoice in his baptism
and welcome him into the family of God.



The first day for our Bishop Dan Schwerin, as assigned Bishop of our Northern Illinois Conference, was January 1. He looks forward to being in ministry with us in Northern Illinois. He is working diligently to learn who and where we are and believes a good way to do this is to meet with clergy and laity in our individual districts. Bishop Schwerin will visit our Lake North District on Monday, February 13.

You are personally invited to join in a time of introduction, reflection, and conversation with our Bishop.

**Join us for an evening of conversation
at 7:00 pm at Glenview UMC.**

The Bishop looks forward to meeting as many brothers and sisters as possible. Please plan to attend!

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**



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

The year goes by so quickly and it is hard to believe that Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent will be here towards the end of February. That also means Transfiguration Sunday, Mardi Gras, and Shrove Tuesday. So what is the connection between church and Mardi Gras? Well...

Medieval Christians developed “carnevale,” loosely translated from medieval Latin “carnelevarium” meaning “to remove meat.” But not just meat - the idea was to use up all the rich foods such as meat, butter and eggs before the fasting Lenten season. In some cultures, carnevale begins on Epiphany Sunday or Three Kings Sunday and ends on Mardi Gras or Transfiguration Sunday. Traditionally, Mardi Gras (French for “Fat Tuesday”) was observed on the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday before Lent started on Ash Wednesday. According to one medieval English source, after people were to eat and celebrate, they would then go to their confessors and be absolved, or “shriven,” for their sins (“shrove” being an old English term for “repent”). Hence the name of Shrove Tuesday. Each Sunday on our Epiphany Journey through Transfiguration Sunday (Mardi Gras Sunday), Sunday School and Confirmation children will receive a Holy Listening Stone or Prayer Stone. The Prayer stones will each have a symbol on them that represents the scripture reading for that Sunday. Whether you call them listening stones or prayer stones, they are a tool that children and adults alike can use to help put feelings, insights, thoughts, and concerns into words and prayer.

Speaking of prayer, our Confirmation students, in their journey of understanding what it means to be Methodist, are also learning that the Bible gives us many examples of how to pray. Though we may think of closing our eyes and folding our hands to pray, there is no right way to pray. From standing with hands in the air looking up to the heavens to kneeling with your head below your heart, and everything in between including holding a prayer stone in your hand to help focus your thoughts and attention, to writing a poem or singing a song of praise ...it can all be prayer. Sometimes, for our younger Christians, it is hard to think of what to say in a prayer, so our Confirmands also learned about the ACTS model of prayer: Acclamation (celebrating God), Confession (saying I'm sorry), Thanksgiving (being grateful) and Supplication (asking for our needs or the needs of others). Try it!

Finally our youth have started to prepare for ASP 2023. Our trip is scheduled for July 9 - July 15th. Though our location has not yet been determined, we look forward to our mission trip. Our Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser was a great success with over a dozen different chili's to taste. Thank you to all who made chili and who tasted chili! Your support of our GUMYouth and ASP mission trip is greatly appreciated!

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.”

Coins and singles in the offering plate 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.

Dear Glenbrook Crop Walk walkers, donors, and volunteers,

We thank you for your generous support of our 2022 walk, held at Northfield Community Church on October 16th. We thought you might want to know what you accomplished. Forty-eight walkers raised \$28,395.12. On-line donations were \$22,095.12 and checks were \$6,300. For the mathematically inclined, if you assume the actual walk takes one hour, each walker averaged an astounding \$591 per hour! That's a great thing! A big thank you to NCC for all the work that went into making the walk such a success.

As you know, 25% of our donations go to local agencies---here's what they were given

Northfield Township Food Pantry	\$4,187.03
Hunger Resource Network	\$1,396.68
A Just Harvest	\$1,395.68

We were also part of national Crop Walk effort which raised \$3,307,680 last year, with 2,710 teams around the country, and over 42,000 online gifts.

As you know, Church World Service takes our donations and transforms them into projects that improve people's lives all over the globe...we encourage you to read about them on their site---
<https://cwsglobal.org/stories/>

Once again, thank you all for your spirit of giving, which creates so much. If you or anyone you know would like to join our committee, we could use the help. We will be in touch later this year with the information for the 2023 walk.

The Glenbrook Crop Hunger Walk Committee,
Christy Bobart, Shelley Phillips, Jim Hutten, Adrienne and George Miller

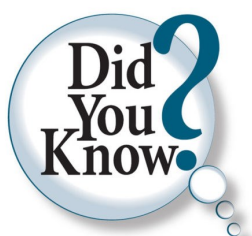
HANDS OF PEACE



Hands of Peace (HOP) is an interfaith organization that works with American, Israeli, and Palestinian youth to become agents of change. Each summer, Hands of Peace brings participants to their sites in Chicago (Glenview, IL) and San Diego for a three-week dialogue-based program that is just the first step in a greater journey.

This year, the flagship Summer Program will take place July 12-31, 2023. HOP is currently looking for American teens, ages 15-17, to apply. Students do not have to be experts on Israel-Palestine, but rather interested in international relations, peacebuilding, and/or dialogue, as well as open to having a transformative summer experience. The due date for applications is March 1, 2023. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and are followed by an interview. HOP is also looking for local families to apply to host 1-2 Israeli or Palestinian participants or staff in their homes during the duration of the Summer Program. Host families provide a safe "home away from home" for the participants and staff, as well as help build community around the pursuit of peace. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and are followed by a home visit and background check.

If you are interested in applying, please feel free to share with them the Hands of Peace website and or reach out to Emily at ekenward@handsofpeace.org.
www.handsofpeace.org



Be sure that your estate planning documents are properly prepared. A homemade will "might" work, but unless it is properly written it might cause unnecessary expenses and delays — and worst of all, it might not accomplish what you want to happen. The writing of your will is a job for which you need your attorney's assistance.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

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

2/2 Claire Cummings	2/2 Leigh Dierbeck	2/2 Sally Villaflor
2/3 Cindy Carlson	2/4 Avery Ellis	2/4 Olivia Rowlands
2/6 Tom Johnson	2/9 Bill Forman	2/12 Ben Campbell
2/12 Vince Curkov	2/13 Sue Acer	2/13 Lauren Locke
2/14 Maya Depies	2/14 Matthew Holzhuetter	2/15 Troy Conlin
2/16 Anna Ortiz	2/17 Nick Depies	2/18 Emerine Cummings
2/20 Matthew Chorvat	2/20 Luke Ferri	2/22 Nolan Tagtmeier
2/24 Tim Lankford	2/24 Darlie Rejuso	2/25 Chris Ferrone
2/26 John Scannell	2/26 Leslie Schroeder	2/28 Sue Schnackenberg

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

No anniversaries to celebrate in February.



Please accept my sincere thanks to all of you who participated in the "Whose Birthday is it, Anyway" program in December. Your generosity provided gifts for twenty youth from Methodist Youth Services, thirty-five seniors from Glenview Terrace, twenty-four children in the Inspired Youth Tutoring Program, and over fifty children in the Olivet UMC neighborhood.

So many people helped to make this program a success. A special thank you goes to Sheri Staten, Helen Jo Ellis, and Judy Keenan for helping with check-in and packaging the gifts for delivery, Doris Stengl and Janet Ferrone for accepting the gifts early in the office and managing the publicity, Ethel Doyle for delivering gifts to Inspired Youth, Ed Porrett for delivering gifts to Glenview Terrace, and Diana Berger for coordinating the gift pickup with Olivet UMC.

If there is any doubt that your generosity is truly appreciated, the thank you note (below) from the Activity Director of Glenview Terrace should ease your mind.

~Holly Porrett

"I just wanted to send an email to thank you and the amazing Methodist church team who donated blankets, shirts, pants, sweaters, tops, bed spread, paints socks etc. for our residents here at Glenview Terrace. Our residents couldn't stop talking about how much they love it. They love the softness, the color, and the fact that the dedicated and caring team took time to select something for them. Please thank the wonderful team on behalf of the residents and me, your gesture lit up our residents with joy. Have a wonderful holiday. God bless you abundantly."

Jollamma Abraham
Activity Director



COINS & SINGLES FOR CURT'S CAFE

Thank you for your coins, singles and designated checks totaling \$616.32 to help support Curt's Cafe during the 4th. Qtr. of 2022. Curt's Cafe gives at risk youth hope and opportunity.

Continue to support them by enjoying their menu items at: 2922 Central, Evanston or 1766 2nd. St., Highland Park. Hours: 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Tues - Sat., Closed Sun. & Mon. See their web site for more information and menu.

Thank you for caring.
Missions & Service Ministries

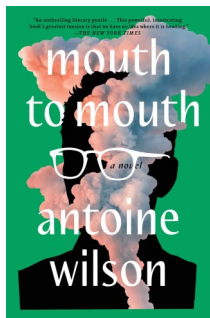


START SAVING!

Preparations for the GMC Rummage Sale have started! Drop your rummage off between March 26th-March 30th. The sale will be March 31st and April 1st.

All of your donations are needed, and ask your friends and family start saving too. We also need lots and lots and lots of volunteers. Sign ups will be starting in February.

Thank You!
Janet Conlin and Becky Netherland



Book Club News

Next meeting is Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00pm in the Parlor.

Sharon Gernady will be leading the discussion of *Mouth to Mouth* by Antoine Wilson. This is a short book

- about 175 pages- and promises to be an interesting discussion. As a side note, this book made Obama's list of best books for 2022!

Everyone and anyone is welcome to this discussion.



Soup and Substance will be held on Wednesday evening at 6pm starting on March 1 with the theme, "Food and Jesus." While sharing soup and bread, we will explore the stories of Jesus' table fellowship in the Bible and

share our stories and reflections on "Food and Jesus."

Save the Date

♥HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY♥

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; Office@glenviewumc.org; 847-729-1015



Sunday After Worship Coffee Fellowship

There is something special that happens during coffee fellowship:

1. After-church fellowship provides members and guest an opportunity to get to know one another better.
2. After-church fellowship provides the opportunity for connections to be made along, not just spiritual lines, but also along lines of common interests.
3. After-church fellowship is where relationships are built and maintained—especially if we don't get to see one another during the week.

If you would like to provide treats and juice after worship on a Sunday please call the church office and schedule a Sunday . The coffee will be made, and the tables will be out.

Thank You!

Thank you for your prayers, calls and cards. They all mean the world to us.

~ Burton and Mariann Randle