

July, 2023

Glenview United Methodist Church **THE VISITOR**



From the pastor

Dear friends,

I hear more and more people saying, “I don’t go to church since the pandemic started and I now don’t know why I go back to church. I still believe in God. Isn’t it enough?” The pandemic surely changed many things in and around our lives. I believe one of the hidden benefits of the pandemic was that it pushed the reset button of the whole world, and we now see what is going on after the reset. During the pandemic many people had to close their business or lost their jobs. They re-evaluated their goals and changed their direction. One pastor I knew for a long time re-evaluated the purpose of her life and ministry during the pandemic, and she decided to go to abroad as a missionary.

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Adventures with Beth and Greg

Earlier this summer, GUMC families were invited to help plan Family Ministry events for the 2023-2024 program year. Our goal was to be responsive to the needs of our families while increasing the effectiveness of our scheduled events and education in order to maximize participation. Many good ideas and multiple perspectives were shared that allowed us to hopefully plan more effectively for all of our Family Ministry programs.

A few key takeaways from our July meeting:

- In general, it was shared that we should not have programming over 3-day weekends as many families travel those weekends and/or many of the travel sports

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727 Harlem Avenue
Glenview, IL 60025-4278

Phone – 847/729-1015

E-Mail – office@glenviewumc.org

“Connecting with others through Mission,
Music, and Ministry.”



August 2023 Issue
Mailed July 27, 2023

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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Glenview, Illinois

Permit No. 30


ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ANNUAL

Blessing

OF THE


Backpacks



August 20

School begins on different dates for the local school districts but everyone can bring their backpack to church for a blessing of the new school year. Don't start the year without your blessing!!

School Supplies Collection



WE'RE COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE CHILDREN OF WEST GARFIELD PARK. PLEASE PICK UP SOME SUPPLIES AND PUT IN THE COLLECTION BINS BY AUGUST 26TH. THANKS!

... *From the pastor* continued:

Now she is a UMC missionary in Jerusalem. One other pastor moved to Colorado to be a part time pastor, part time hiker and part time writer. Another pastor retired earlier than she planned to be with her aging parent. Sometimes I reflect on my life and ministry since the pandemic reset button came back on. I am changed. Before the pandemic I was busy in the morning preparing myself to go to church, to check the calendar and to-do list, driving Tim to school, and trying to balance between work and family. Once the pandemic started, my morning became so quiet outwardly, but anxiety filled inwardly. I developed morning habits of going to the beaches of the Lake Michigan, watching flowers, trees, and birds closely, listening to K-pop music, watching Korean movies and dramas, reading more books, and writing anything other than sermons. I still keep these morning rituals and I am more connected with myself, my roots, and my faith. Now I believe I connect with God and others more freely and authentically.

The pandemic taught me about why church, why worship, and why stay in local church ministry: Christ opened his church to all ages, nations, and races. As Christ intended, we need to stay open; open to the Spirit, open to ourselves, open to strangers, and open to changes. We are invited again and again to participate in his body, the church, through all kinds of changes. I am grateful that we build a body of Christ in this small corner of the world as Glenview United Methodist Church. I believe the pandemic has changed you too. I hope you give yourself a time to reflect on the changes that happened to you, especially, relating to church. If you haven't been in church, why don't you come back with an open mind and attitude? Your church has been changed because you are changed. But it is the same body of Christ. We are called to be the disciples of Jesus Christ. Without you, the church, the Body, is weaker than before. Also, without the church community, we may still believe in God, but we can't be his disciples. Discipleship starts and ends with Jesus' community, and we belong to it together. Thanks be to God.

With gratitude,
Eun-Hye Choi, pastor

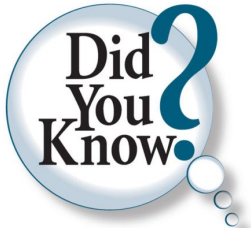


IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened to announce the passing of **Delores Volkman** on July 10, 2023. A memorial for Delores was held at N. H. Scott Funeral Home on July 15. Deloris has been a member here since 1959. She was also a teacher at Wesley Childcare for many years.

Sincere sympathy to **Barb Galarza** and her family as they grieve the loss of Barb's brother **Frank** on July 18.

Please hold these families in your prayers. We grieve for their loss and hold them close to our hearts. -- May God's love and grace comfort them.



Consider making a gift to GUMC to fund an endowment in memory of a family member or special friend. Feel free to discuss with Pastor Choi, or any other appropriate church leader, any special programs or projects you would like to be supported by this endowment.

... *Adventures with Beth and Greg* continued

take advantage of those weekends. Therefore, attendance would be very low to none on those dates.

- ⇒ Sunday School and Confirmation will be held on Sunday mornings during the worship service time. This scheduling helps with families who have children in both Sunday School and Confirmation.
- ⇒ It was suggested that Confirmation and GUMY gatherings should be on alternating Sundays/weekends or back to back on the same Sunday. This scheduling helps with families who have children in both Confirmation and GUMY so that they are able to attend both. Typically, with family schedules, they are not able to get to church or church activities twice on a Sunday.
- ⇒ Some Family Ministry and GUMYOUTH events will be scheduled on Saturdays based on shared availability.
- ⇒ Some service projects and events will be offered to families and/or GUMYOUTH on Sundays immediately following worship or on Saturdays.
- ⇒ Current scheduling of Family Ministry Events, as well as, calendar updates can be found on the Family Ministry 2023-2024 google calendar. Contact petersons@glenviewumc.org if you want the link!
- ⇒ Families suggested that a text reminder/weekend update may be more effective than an email weekend update. Therefore, starting in August, the weekend update will be via group text app.

Important dates for August and September include:

8/13 GUMY Goes to Lunch (6th-12th graders)

8/20 Blessing of the Backpacks (k-12th)

8/26 Feed My Starving Children Family Service Event (4:30 - 6:15, meet at church at 3:30, dinner at Culvers to follow)

9/10 Kick-off Sunday (formerly known as Rally Day)

9/17 First Official Sunday School and Confirmation - bible presentations to 3rd graders and new Confirmation Students during worship.

A very special thank you to all who attended our Family Calendar meeting! Your input was very valuable in planning! We look forward to another great year with you!

Peace,

Beth and Greg



On July 8th, ambassadors from GUMC left Glenview, Illinois and headed to southeastern Kentucky. Carrie in Knott County was the site for their Appalachia Service Project mission trip/ Of course there were stops at Big Boy for breakfast and Miguel's for a pizza lunch on their way. After arriving in Carrie, KY, Lindsay Kleckner, Andrew Duback, Kayt Ribordy, Maddie Peterson, Spencer Peterson, Tim Walters, Linda Kleckner and Beth Peter-

son spent their week working for a family whose home had been damaged by the floods that hit the Appalachian region during the summer of 2022. Repairs made to the home included putting in new floors in two bedrooms, repairing a railing on the front porch steps, removing cabinets and flooring in the kitchen, putting in castle blocks with 4 x 4 supports under the house, installing 6 joists for the kitchen floor and laying down insulation in the kitchen to prepare for the next crew that would install the subfloor. Though ASP is known to be a relationship building ministry with some construction on the side, this group did quite a bit of construction while still making connections with the family and their pets, Burrito the cat and Puppies the dog. We would like to thank our ASP support team: Dave Kleckner, Linda Duback, Eileen Ribordy, Eun-Hye Choi, Chris Walters, Ed Porrett, Susanne Rudolph, Greg Peterson and Bill Murphy who helped us load the vans for departure (including snacks) and clean them up upon return. Thank you for all who contribute not only this year, but each year through your donations and support that make continued ASP mission trips possible.



Our Kick Off Sunday will be on Sunday, September 10 and we will have a picnic afterwards out in our parking lot. We will also recognize our Sunday school Teachers.

Come on Sunday, September 17 when we will have our **Bible Sunday** when we give out Bibles to our 3rd Graders and our Confirm-

ands and Sunday school starts. After worship, we will celebrate with cinnamon cider fellowship.

Women's Wellness Weekend is finally back!! We are so excited to let the women of the congregation know that we will be back at our beloved Camp Edwards this fall, the weekend of Sept. 29 – Oct. 1. It will be wonderful to have a full weekend together up in nature and with many friends. Please mark this time on your calendar! We will be giving you more specific information later in the summer for sign up in August.

Women's Wellness Mini Event: There will also be a ½ day Women's Wellness event in GUMC parlor on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 9 am – 1:30 pm.

On July 9, 2023 GUMC celebrated 35 years of music ministry with Tom Tobin. Below is a poem written specifically for Tom and his retirement.

*Tom Tobin has been here for 35 years!
No wonder his departure is leaving us in tears!
We've had so many good times;
you know it's true..
With our music, and laughs and camaraderie with you.
When we stood up to sing, here's the warning we heard...
From our director, "I can't understand the words."
In choir we always gave Tom our attention,
Especially to those eighth notes he frequently mentioned.
All of us here at GUMC
Thank you for your musical legacy.
The beautiful anthems, the ensembles you directed,
Thrilled us beyond even what we expected!
Your talents have enriched us in so many ways,
May good times and experiences fill up your days!*

Wanda Frye
Glenview United Methodist Church
July 9, 2023.

Parsonage Open House: August 6 after worship.
The Trustees have been hard at work making structural repairs and updates to the parsonage. Come and take a look at the work that has been done. (Be sure to read the *Letter from the Trustee Committee* in this issue.)

Jun and Alice Ramos will have a video presentation of the Philippine Water Project mission trip in the parlor after worship on August 20. Listen, see and taste the Philippines during fellowship

Mystery Event!

**COMING
SOON**

Saturday, October 21! Mark your calendar now.
It's a secret so stay tuned for the big announcement!



Bill and Joy Forman
Homestead of Morton Grove
6400 Lincoln Ave., Apt. 306
Morton Grove, IL 60053

A.J. and Matthew Kowski
1112 N. Elmhurst Road,
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056



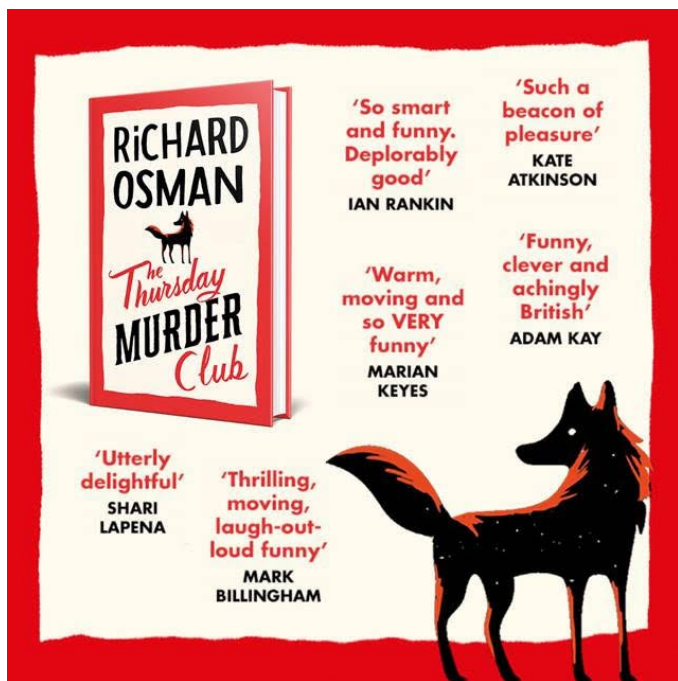
On Sunday, July 23 we celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Congratulations to **Colten Ray Tagtmeier**, beloved son of Ryan and Ralene Tagtmeier. Colten's sponsors were Stephan Sarver and Sharon Arnowitz.
Congratulations to **Brook McCarron** and daughter, **Maggie Grace McCarron**. Sponsors for Brook and Maggie were Ian and Robyn Moncrief.

We rejoice in the baptism of Colten, Brooke and Maggie and welcome them into the family of God.



Welcome! On Sunday, July 23, GUMC welcomed **Ryan and Ralene Tagtmeier, Brooke McCarron, Lydia and Geary Larrick and Sharlene Willoughby** into our church family. Glenview United Methodist Church is blessed to have these new members join our family of faith.



September Book Club Selection

Discussion: September 5 @ 7:00 p.m.

The Thursday Murder Club

by Richard Osman

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club.

When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case.

As the bodies begin to pile up, can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer, before it's too late?

Loose Coins and Singles - August - September

Midwest Mission Distribution Center opened in Chatham, Illinois in 2000. Since then everything has been done with donations of time, money, and needed items. These have come from individuals, churches, groups, and volunteer labor. It has shown God's love in practical ways through the distribution of education, health, micro-business and disaster relief supplies meeting basic needs here and around the world. Our church is a drop-off location for this area. Midwestmission.org #50000150



Loose Coins and Singles

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 "MMDC" in the memo area.

ENJOY SEWING,
KNITTING, OR
CROCHETING?



Midwest Mission Distribution Center can use your talents to make baby and small children's items, e.g.: layettes, sweaters, boys & girls outfits, one handle school bags and more. For patterns go to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center website or ask Ethel Doyle, 847-975-0361. Put your creations in the collection bins marked MMDC. Thank you!!

GOT USABLE BIKES
TO DONATE?



The GUMC asylum seeker family can use, and would appreciate, good condition bicycles. Frame sizes: Isaac is 6 ft. tall, Natasha needs an adult women's/step through, Sergio is 12 yrs. and Amelia 10 yrs. old. Can also use helmets and locks. Contact Ethel Doyle, 847-975-0361. Thank you!

Update from the GUMC Trustee Committee:

Jane Furch and myself took over the Co-Chairmanship of the GUMC Trustee Committee in August of 2022. Since that time, the trustees committee, facilities manager, Michel Agriopoulos and treasurer, Jim Locke, have made numerous repairs, upgrades and improvements to our church campus. We have a very dedicated committee and their level of detail, commitment and understanding of the church's needs allows for the committee to make informed decisions in a fast-paced manner, with limited resources at our disposal.

I would like to thank the other GUMC committees who have indulged us and cooperated with our suggestions on various issues we needed to resolve here on campus and within GUMC. This was a team effort of highly skilled members within our church who came together to make tough decisions concerning the church and its current and future needs. Our accomplishments make the trustees proud of what has been done in the last 12 months. Some are small, and some are large, but all were needed to make our campus and church, safer, more functional and more business like in how we conduct ourselves. The following is a list of work that has been done (in no particular order):

- 1). toilet repairs (2) to the parsonage (pastor's home)
- 2). electrical repairs to the parsonage
- 3). a new kitchen floor for the parsonage
- 4). a new concrete garage floor to the parsonage to realign the sagging foundation. This corrected the closing and locking of the garage doors.
- 5). new central A/C with upgraded electrical service to the A/C. to the parsonage. The upgrade to 220 service should result in substantial electric bill savings.
- 6). a new fire suppression system for the church kitchen. The system had been out of service since 2020.
- 7). roof repair over the parlor near the men's washroom
- 8). we now require full insurance from all of our shared space partners, along with annual proof of insurance to limit the church's liability.
- 9). a rework of the memorial giving / gift submission form releasing the church from losses and liability while still providing many ways to memorialize loved ones at GUMC.
- 10). reorganized our relationship with the Boy Scouts to limit liability
- 11). we are finalizing a safety plan and emergency plan for the campus and schools
- 12). a new social hall entrance roof and ceiling, along with painted columns. (to be completed soon)
- 13). repaired several security doors at Wesley and Glenview Methodist Preschool (GMPS)
- 14). installed a magnetic security door at sunshine way
- 15). finalizing major boiler repairs and upgrades (to be completed by November 23)
- 16). developed and executed a plan to lock all building doors during school hours which aligns us with the Glenview School District policies
- 17). made numerous lighting improvements and repairs in the rotunda, GMPS and Wesley
- 18). removed abandoned electrical outlets from the rotunda fountain
- 19). added a new french drain on the west side of church office (thanks Curt!)
- 20). collected \$1800.00 in energy fees from GMPS and Wesley
- 21). assisted in the planning and placement of the new GMPS bike track
- 22). several drywall repairs within the church parlor and rotunda
- 23). replaced numerous door closers and locks throughout the building
- 24). participated in the drafting of a security grant from the state of Illinois for the church, GMPS and Wesley. This was awarded to the church and the schools for security upgrades and improvements.

We will be taking a break from meeting for the month of August. We will see you back on the campus in September. We hope you all see what has been accomplished by this very special group of people. We thank the congregation for your faith in us and your generous financial gifts to support these efforts. None of this could have been completed without you!

Jane Furch and Chris Ferrone

Co-Chairs of the GUMC Trustees



Prayer Shawl Ministry: The Prayer Shawl ministry is a small group effort with a valuable mission at the church. We provide prayer shawls that are soft, lightweight and full of comfort and prayer. Each shawl is prayed over and dedicated to the receiver. Prayer Shawl group will meet Tues., 8/1 at 7 am in the parlor. Everyone is welcome.



The Methodist Churches in the Northern Illinois Conference are asked to help arriving refugees through World Relief, Chicagoland, a Christian help agency. Many people are arriving in Chicagoland weekly and donations to help them get settled are needed. World Relief has significant need for household items, new or like new condition. Welcome Kits lists are at the

collection bins or go to their website: <https://worldrelief.org/chicagoland/donations/>. Or you can also send Welcome Kit items through this Amazon Wishlist. (<https://worldrelief.org/chicagoland/donations/>)

Gift cards to Amazon, Aldi, Goodwill, Target, or Walmart are also very helpful to purchase groceries, medicine, and basic needs for families arriving across the Chicagoland region. They DO NOT accept: clothes (except winter gear), toys or mattresses. Put your donations in the collection bins near the Social Hall or the Church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

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



8/2 Sue Ready
8/7 Scott Furch
8/8 Florence Labbe
8/9 Linda Duback
8/11 Colten Tagtmeier
8/13 Amy Doherty
8/14 Peter Cummings
8/15 Christopher Stoddard
8/18 Sarah Russell Williams
8/20 Elaine Rechel
8/22 Bob Rowlands
8/24 Rob Frame
8/26 Kelly Schroeder
8/28 David Vassallo
8/31 Vito Ferri

8/3 Ayden Gwozdz
8/7 Russell Lindley
8/8 Bryan Phillips
8/9 John Kwiatkowski
8/12 Aidan Conlin
8/13 Christine Miskovic
8/14 Susan Duback
8/16 Trevor Cummings
8/20 Fiona Doherty
8/21 Eun-Hye Choi
8/22 Sheri Staten
8/24 Emily Phillips
8/27 Dave Kleckner
8/29 Karen Daniels

8/6 Sharon Gernady
8/8 John Hillis
8/9 Joanne Brand
8/11 Skylar Read
8/12 Wesley Villaflor
8/13 Ellen Schaden
8/14 David Rowlands
8/18 Don Brackey
8/20 Hugo Ortiz
8/22 Jane Furch
8/23 Kristin Phillips
8/25 Janella Vasquez
8/28 Chris Ernst
8/29 Abigayle Phillips

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

8/1 Dawn Bode and Tim Chorvat
8/4 Sherry and Kent Smith
8/6 Cindy and Chris Berg
8/15 Betsy and Dick Schweers

8/4 Anne and Leigh Dierbeck
8/5 Marianne and Don Brackey
8/13 Becky and Ken Houdek
8/25 Renelle and Michel Agriopoulos

