

GLENVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE VISITOR



♥ *hello* ♥
→ **FEBRUARY** →



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends,

It is already February of the new year! I hope you all are doing well in this cold winter. For me, February starts with celebrating the Asian New Year's Day with Korean traditional food and some games. Festivals and celebrations make special marks on our daily mundane life and bring us joy. I believe that the Super Bowl game on February 9 between Chiefs and Eagles is a big festival for many of you. I heard that Super Bowl Day is the second biggest food consumption day in our nation after Thanksgiving Day. Gathering with family and friends around the game with fun food is exciting because we experience a community in it.

As a Christian church we are still in Epiphany season remembering and celebrating God's appearance in our daily mundane lives. We may encounter God in an ordinary moment of looking at our children, nature, or friends, as well as praying or singing at church. How we mark when we encounter God's presence can be different according to our personalities and gifts. For me, I celebrate epiphany moments by writing poems or reading Psalms in the Bible. It can be singing praise songs in...

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ADVENTURES WITH BETH AND GREG

Spring 2025 - Fall 2025, GUMYouth will be joining the Northern Illinois Conference in its HEAL Well Ministry. From the NIC Newsletter "HEAL Well is a new NIC ministry that supports work to assist food-insecure communities in Chicago and to improve tree cover in areas considered heat islands." It's an opportunity "to work toward works of mercy and piety by addressing food insecurity and health disparities in a meaningful way." HEAL Well is co-chaired by Amania Drane, Project Manager/Implementation Consultant for the NIC and Lisa Rogers, Director of Children and Youth Ministries at the First United Methodist Church in Elmhurst...

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

Greg Furch
Sheri Staten
Romeo Gimeno

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

Be Kind!

February 9-15 is
random acts of
kindness week.
Random Acts of
Kindness Day
February 17, 2025.



Check out their website at
www.randomactsofkindness.org

The Glenview Notes



As we embark on the
Lenten season, we invite you to become a part of our vibrant Sanctuary Choir and Bell Choir!
Experience the joy of rich harmonies, deepen connections with fellow musicians, and explore music
and opportunities. Whether playing guitar, flute, bass, keyboard, brass or have a joyful voice to
share, we want to hear from you! This is your invitation to bring unique talent to the GUMC
community.

Rehearsals Begin:

Date: Wednesday, February 5th

Sanctuary Choir: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (February 5, 12, 19, 26)

Bell Choir: 6:00 – 7:00 PM (February 5, 12, 26 – no rehearsal 2/19)

Join the countdown to Lent and beyond with weekly rehearsals, including dedicated sessions for
vocal ensemble and bell choir. (Check the calendar for specific rehearsal details).

10 Rehearsal Weeks to Palm Sunday

11 Rehearsal Weeks to Good Friday and Easter Sunday

These weeks will be filled with reflection, harmony, and preparation. Rehearsals go beyond the
preparation of music; they foster community bonding, friendship, commitment, worship, prayer, and
individual and church spiritual growth.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice.

*Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. **Philippians 4:4-5 NRSV***

...From the Pastor, Continued from page 1

Nature, writing in journals, talking to your pets, sitting in silent prayer, or playing music for you. When I look around you on Sunday mornings at worship my heart is always filled with joy, gratitude, and awe thinking about the privilege of making a faith community together.

Our nation is in a big discussion on immigrants and refugees deciding who are in and who should be out. As a first generation of immigrant, I believe that immigrants are not the burden but the contributors to innovating the nation's spirit, enhancing work force, and broadening the cultural and spiritual landscape of our nation. I believe we may have different experiences and opinions on this same issue, but we shouldn't forget that we are making a human community together as God's beloved children. I share a statement on immigration from the Council of the UMC bishops in this newsletter. Please feel free to share your thoughts with me, also!

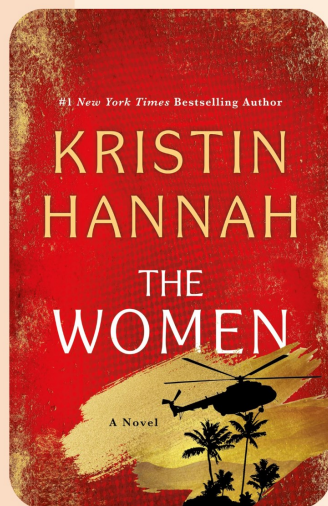
May God's light shine on your face!
Eun-Hye Choi, pastor

February 4th will be the discussion on **March** by Geraldine Brooks. Everyone is welcome to attend the discussions at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.

Book Club

March 13, 7:00 p.m.

Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.



Discussion will be led by
Donna Kwiatkowski



BOOK

Club

April 1

7:00 p.m.

Discussion will be led by
Marilyn Robb

The daughter of formerly enslaved parents, Mary McLeod Bethune refuses to back down as white supremacists attempt to thwart her work. She marches on as an activist and an educator, and as her reputation grows she becomes a celebrity, revered by titans of business and recognized by U.S. Presidents. Eleanor Roosevelt herself is awestruck and eager to make her acquaintance. Initially drawn together because of their shared belief in women's rights and the power of education, Mary and Eleanor become fast friends confiding their secrets, hopes and dreams—and holding each other's hands through tragedy and triumph.

Adventures with Beth & Greg

... Continued from page 1

Our youth may remember Lisa as she, along with a few youth from her congregation, joined us last summer for our *Climate and Faith Youth Summit*.

To help prepare us for the collaboration this spring and summer, I have participated in online sessions learning from Dr. James Miller, a retired internal medicine physician, who discussed how living in a food desert relates to health and the benefits of proper nutrition as it relates to environmental injustice and Chamika Moore, an urban farmer from the Austin Garden Collective. Both sessions were both informative and inspirational.

Let us know if you are interested in attending any of the upcoming online learning sessions. In addition to the online learning sessions for church leaders (parents and students included) and a site visit this March, there are 12 volunteer Saturdays from May - September. The goal is to have youth (parents are encouraged to join us) volunteer for 3 Saturdays, planting trees and working in the community gardens. Stay tuned for more information about dates and times to continue our work towards being climate optimists while helping to reduce food insecurity and urban heat islands.

February Calendar:

February 2 - GUMY Gathering at 4:30 - 6:00pm Focus: Can we improve our Recycling at GUMC? and Introducing a new GUMY game. Are you smarter than a 5th grader? How about a celebrity? How about...are you smarter than Greg? You will need to be there to find out.

February 9 - Confirmation Class from 10 am - 11 am Focus: Prayer and Souper Bowl of Caring collection for the Northfield Food Pantry

February 16 - GUMY Gathering 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Focus: Can we compost at GUMC? And of course fun and games.

February 23 - Confirmation Class from 10 am - 11 am: Salvation

See you in Church!

Peace,
Greg and Beth

Dinner Around the World!

Join members of our congregation and guests Saturday, March 8 at 6PM for a fun evening at *Iron Age Korean Barbeque*, where we'll be celebrating great food, fantastic company, and unforgettable moments! It's an event you won't want to miss, filled with delicious dishes, drinks, and delightful company. Come hungry and ready to enjoy the best of what Iron Age Korean Barbeque has to offer! Please let Doris in the Church office know if you're able to attend by Sunday,

- March 2, 2025.
- Event: "Dinner around the World"!
- Date: Saturday, March 8, 2025
- Time: 6PM
- Location: Iron Age Korean Steak House, 4513 W Lake Ave, Glenview, IL 60025
- Cost: \$29 per person for the all-you-can eat option, plus more for beverages, tax, and tips. The typical cost is approximately \$50 per person
- RSVP: Email or call the Church office by Sunday, March 2, 2025.

Wine Tasting!

Join us for Wine Tasting!

GUMC Members, Guests, and Friends are cordially invited to the 2025 GUMC Wine Tasting Event! Gather at *Lynfred Winery*, located at 971 N. Milwaukee in Wheeling, Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 6:00PM. A variety of wines will be provided for members to taste and enjoy along with charcuterie. Below are the details:

- Where: Lynfred Winery, 971 N. Milwaukee in Wheeling
- When: Thursday, February 27, 2025, 6:00 – 7:30 PM
- Cost: \$25 per person

Enjoy the evening with your fellow GUMC members and friends. Bring a guest! Register by email or in person at the Church Office by Wednesday, February 17, 2025. See you there!

Scott Daniels, Ministry of Member Engagement,
January 6, 2025

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
2/3 Cindy Carlson
2/6 Tom Johnson
2/12 Vince Curkov
2/14 Maya Depies
2/17 Nick Depies
2/22 Nolan Tagtmeier
2/25 Chris Ferrone

2/2 Leigh Dierbeck
2/4 Avery Ellis
2/9 Bill Forman
2/13 Sue Acer
2/14 Matthew Holzhuetter
2/18 Emerine Cummings
2/24 Tim Lankford
2/26 Leslie Schroeder

2/2 Sally Villaflor
2/4 Olivia Rowlands
2/12 Ben Campbell
2/13 Lauren Locke
2/15 Troy Conlin
2/20 Matthew Chorvat
2/24 Darlie Rejuso

A red, stylized graphic that says "Happy Birthday" in a cursive font. The word "Happy" is on the top line and "Birthday" is on the bottom line. There are three small stars above the "y" in "Happy".

Delicious!

The results are in. It was a tough match up of 15 chilis but this year's standouts are:

Best Overall : *The Ribordys*

Hottest: *The Macwans*

Most Original: *Dave Kleckner*

Best Presentation: (tie) *The Rudolph and Doherty families.*



We would like to thank all the chefs who participated! Linda and Dave Kleckner, Curt Corbige, Jan and Tom Hutchins, Holly Field, Chris Field, the Doherty family, Barb Galarza, Tim Walters, Karalee Robb, The DeBaker family, The Macwan family, Eileen and Mike Ribordy, Mike and Gina Vilches, Susanne Rudolph and Robin Woitesek, and the McCarron family.

But the real winners are the youth! GUMYouth earned over \$950 for their programs! (Read about their summer plans in this *Visitor*). Thanks to all who cooked and ate! This is a great GUMC tradition that gets better every year.

New Address

Sheri Staten
811 E. Central Road,
#548
Arlington Heights, IL
60005



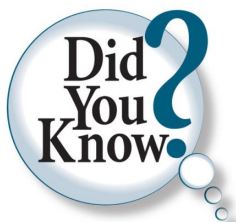
Poetry!

Puzzling Over The Plan

I feel the pull of the spirit world
Invoked with memories of my roots
The many people populating those ties to our
past
Favorite uncles, each one special and dear
Patriarchs and matriarchs I wish I'd known better
History in the making, some good, some bad,
some miraculous
Then I wonder how my own spirit will fit in
Wishing for that conversation with Jesus
Yearning to answer those age old questions
Discovering Him within me as much as around me
The paradox between good and evil which we
witness too often
Wondering how this could ever be called God's
plan
When it seems free will; runs away with it
The two seem opposed and incompatible
If we are free, then we decide the path to follow
It seems right, if faith is to be the keystone
We find spiritual links in kindred souls
Perhaps we sense God's harmonic resonance,
There since time began
The transcendence of God inviting all who search
We seek answers, but once a spirit, it is all
resolved
Making it no less urgent to wonder how well faith
will sustain us

Michel Agriopoulos

February 18, 2023



Some corporations have programs to match gifts (dollar for dollar) that are made to charities by their employees and retirees. This

is a way of greatly increasing your gift to the



Pastoral Letter Addressing the Plight of Migrants, Immigrants and Refugees in the US Epiphany 2025

Jesus said, "When you welcome the stranger, you welcome me...." Matthew 25:35

At no time has the church in the US had a greater opportunity to welcome Jesus among us as he journeys with migrants, immigrants, and refugees than today. We your bishops are clear that the situation these beloved of God face as the Trump Administration comes to power threatens their humanity, livelihood, and basic human rights.

For decades, a broken immigration system in the U.S. has kept migrants, immigrants and refugees in this country living in the shadows of society in a state of perpetual fear. They have come to the U.S. under forced circumstances fleeing extreme poverty, hunger, political and religious persecution, war, cartel and gang violence, and the severe impact of climate change. Some are actively recruited by large U.S. companies who need their labor. Yet migrants, immigrants and refugees help to sustain the U.S. economy, serve our families caring for our children and our elderly, cleaning our homes, landscaping our properties, building our roads and the houses we live in, and cultivating and picking the crops that feed our families. They are our neighbors, our friends, and members and pastors of our churches.

Deplorably, racist, xenophobic, nationalistic, and anti-migrant hate speech has become standard rhetoric for many US politicians, including President-elect Donald Trump. He has stated that under his administration he will order the mass deportation of the 11 million undocumented migrants who live and work in the U.S. He has threatened to use military and law enforcement at all levels for this mass deportation. If allowed, this mass deportation of migrants will cause further racial profiling, the separation of families, the undermining of communities and congregations, the weakening of the economy of this country and its democratic systems of law and justice. President-elect Trump has also threatened to end birth-right citizenship, dismantle Refugee resettlement in this country and further strip away the possibility of the U.S. welcoming Asylum Seekers onto this land.

We are living in a dark time that more than ever calls us to be the light of Christ, people of faith who take our baptismal vow to "resist evil in all its forms," with utmost seriousness.

As United Methodists we have firmly declared through our Social Principles that we are called to actively welcome the migrant, immigrant, and refugee among us.

- Affirming the dignity, worth and rights of migrants, immigrants and refugees.
- Recognizing that displaced people are particularly vulnerable as their in-between status often provides them with few protections and benefits, leaving them open to exploitation, violence and abuse.
- Urging one another to welcome migrants, refugees, and immigrants into our congregations, providing concrete support, to them including help with navigating restrictive and often lengthy immigration policies, and assistance with securing food, housing, education, employment and other kinds of support.
- Opposing all laws and policies that attempt to criminalize, dehumanize or punish displaced individuals and families based on their status as migrants, immigrants or refugees.
- Decrying attempts to detain displaced people and hold them in inhumane and unsanitary conditions.
- Challenging policies that call for the separation of families, especially parents and minor children.
- Opposing the existence of for-profit detention centers that are used for the purpose of detaining migrants, immigrants, and refugees including minor children.

(Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, The Political Community Basic Rights and Freedoms, Section G. Migrants, Immigrants and Refugees)

We your bishops call upon the people of The United Methodist Church to pray for migrants, immigrants, and refugees among us and to welcome them with the fullness of Christian love, remembering that as we welcome these, our brothers, and sisters, we welcome Jesus our Lord.

Bishop Tracy S. Malone
President - Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church



Missions & Service Ministry

Ambulance & Fire Engine Donations

Do you ever wonder how the giver feels about the donation they give to the church or other people or organizations? The official boards of trustees of the villages of Glenview and Niles voted unanimously to approve their fire departments' recommendations to donate a fire engine (Glenview) and an ambulance (Niles) to the Midwest Mission through our church. This was a five month project of the *Mission and Service Committee* of our church resulting in the vehicles going to desperately needed villages in Guatemala. We of the church rejoice with gratitude to the generosity of our villages. We also discovered what the two fire departments thought of their donations. Here are their thoughts:

Glenview Fire Dept., Chief Tony DeRose – response to donation sent from Glenview to Midwest Mission November 14, 2024

The village of Glenview and Glenview Fire Dept bid farewell to one of our trusty fire engines this morning, but it is not the end of the story for this reliable truck. The Village partnered with the Glenview United Methodist Church and the Midwest Mission to ship the engine to Guatemala where it will be put into service by the Order of Malta, one of the oldest humanitarian organizations in the western hemisphere. After serving Glenview these past two decades, this tried and true engine will help respond to natural disasters, wars, and famine overseas. Thanks for all you have done for Glenview old friend. And thanks to Glenview United Methodist Church and Midwest Mission for giving new life to this mission.

Niles Fire Dept., Chief Marty Feld – response to donation of ambulance sent from Niles to Midwest Mission December 10, 2024

We are honored to donate an ambulance to Midwest Mission who will arrange its transport to Guatemala where it will continue to serve. Thank you to the Glenview United Methodist Church for blessing the ambulance and for organizing its transportation overseas. We hope this ambulance continue to provide care and assistance for many years to come.



Missions & Service Ministry

On behalf of our four participating agencies, please accept my sincere thanks to all of you who participated in the "Whose Birthday is it, Anyway" program this past December. This was our thirty-ninth year of GUMC participation in this program. Your generosity provided gifts for twenty-five youth from Methodist Youth Services, thirty seniors from Glenview Terrace, twenty-five children in the Inspired Youth Tutoring Program, and over fifty children and teens in the Olivet UMC neighborhood. Your gifts provided a day of hope and joy to over 130 members of our surrounding communities. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for so generously sharing your blessings with others.

So many people helped to make this program a success. A special thank you goes to Helen Jo Ellis, Judy Keenan, and Sheri Staten 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.

I once again share with you a few words from the thank you letter we received from Glenview Terrace. Please know your generosity during the holiday season is truly appreciated.

Holly Porrett

Missions and Service Committee

"...Your kindness reflects the true spirit of Christmas, and it reminds us all of the power of compassion and giving. These gifts have not only met practical needs but have also made our residents feel cared for and valued during this special time of year. Thank you for being such a blessing to our community. Your support means more than words can convey, and we are truly grateful for your partnership in spreading hope and joy."

Jollamma Abraham

Glenview Terrace

Activity Director



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 Glenview, IL 60025-4278
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 E-Mail - office@glenviewumc.org



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 Mailed January 30, 2024

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Save the Date
Rainbows, Resistance and Reconciliation
 A Celebration of our Intersectional Pride
 Saturday, February 15th, 2025 -- 9am-3:30pm (Registration Required)
 Sunday, February 16th, 2025 -- 10:30 am Worship
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 516 Church Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201
<https://faithfirst.org/rainbows-resistance-and-reconciliation/>

A Convocation Celebrating
 Reconciling Ministries

- to gather LGBTQIA+ persons, allies and seekers
- to inspire,
- to educate
- to strengthen our justice ministry

For further information please contact by email:
 Pastor B. J. Birkhahn-Remmelfanger
bjbrpastor@gmail.com








**50 BAGS IN 50 DAYS
 DECLUTTERING
 CHALLENGE!**

Our 62nd Annual Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29. We will begin accepting donations on March 24. That means you have 50 days to get your 50 bags of quality rummage ready to donate. Places to look: kitchen, family room, foyer, front closet, bedrooms, dining room, basement, attic, garage, toy room, office.

Some items we can't take: mattresses, computers, lawn equipment with gasoline. Items should be clean and sellable. Sweaters with holes are great to get rid of... but not at the rummage sale. Those need to go in the trash.

Our volunteers are looking forward to the fun and unique items you will be donating. Any questions, contact the church office.