

THE LORD
shall be unto thee
AN EVERLASTING
light.

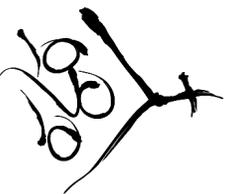


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December 2025 Issue
Mailed November 20, 2025

Glenview
United Methodist
church

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Your Complete Guide to
Advent at GUMCI*

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Glenview, Illinois
Permit No. 30

Dear friends,

Have you seen the Northern lights in your neighborhood recently? I saw it last week right outside my house. It was not as spectacular as others that I saw in Facebook postings, but it was amazing. Just in the neighborhood where we live, we find so much beauty and surprise. A couple of days ago, a bare tree in the church parking lot caught my attention. When it had lots of colorful leaves, I didn't know it had two small bird nests. After all the leaves are gone, the tree reveals its true beauty of straight waist, round shaped big branches, and delicate small branches. Behind that bare tree, the moon looked down at me mindlessly. I love where I live and what I see and experience because God is here. Especially, in this changing season, I think of all of you trying to catch a breath in the midst of all the hard changes.

I am glad that we have Thanksgiving Day right before we move into Advent season. This year Glenview UMC hosts an **Interfaith Community Thanksgiving service on November 25** (Tuesday) at 7:30pm presented by the Glenview Clergy Association. There will be beautiful music, prayers, and messages from different faith traditions. I hope you come and join.

This year we will have Advent devotional gatherings on Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings in-person and via ZOOM. Please read the Advent calendar in this Advent *Visitor* carefully. In the Advent season, God is showing up in different shapes and in unexpected places to surprisingly ordinary people, like you and me. So, we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming Christ. Thanks be to God.

Peace,
Eun-Hye Choi, pastor



Advent Devotion meetings will be on Monday evening at 7pm in-person and online and Wednesday morning at 10am in-person and online, both in the pastor's office, (not the choir room). The content of the Monday group and the Wednesday group will be the same. They are just two options for participation. There will be no Advent meeting on December 10 (Wednesday). The Advent Devotion group will use the book, ***An Unlikely Advent***, by Rachel Billups. The books are in the church office at \$10/copy.

Tis the Season

The Mitten and More Tree!

Share the Gift of Warmth!

The Mitten and More Tree is back for another happy season of sharing the warmth of our congregation with neighbors in need. Our M&M Tree greets us as we enter the sanctuary and sways its boughs in anticipation of our gifts of mittens, mittens and much more than mittens! Choose a favorite bough or two (or three!) and deck them with comfy and colorful mittens, scarves, hats, gloves, woolly socks, slippers, earmuffs, sweaters, blankets, quilts, and whatever else might please a person on a chilly eve. Help deck this year's tree with a multitude of cozy apparel and accoutrements for all ages - from tots through centenarians! Periodically during the Advent and Christmas season, your gifts will be delivered to our sister church Olivet UMC's neighborhood warming ministry and to Care for Real's clients, many of whom are recent migrants to our chilly winter climate and all of whom are facing very challenging times. The Tree will be up through Epiphany Sunday (January 4th). Your donations may also be placed in the collection bins near the Social Hall and the church office.

Whose Birthday Is It Anyway?

We had a wonderful response and all names for all three programs have been taken. The opportunity to bring a wrapped, new toy for our sister church, Olivet UMC, will remain open until our collection of all gifts on December 7th. The deadline for dropping off your gifts is 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 7th. They will be accepted prior to that date in the church office, during regular office hours, M-Th 10-2. Please contact Holly Porrett if you have questions. ed.porrett@sbcglobal.net



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

12/2 Samuel Phillips	12/3 Ellie Ventura	12/6 Trent Houdek
12/6 John Losquadro	12/6 Ismael Rejuso	12/7 Katie Jones
12/8 Lynn Heniken	12/8 Sharlene Willoughby	12/9 Greg Peterson
12/10 David Duback	12/14 Maeve Doherty	12/14 Lauren Ellis
12/14 Rebecca Gedmin	12/16 Richard Espino	12/16 Wanda Frye
12/17 Jessica Vassallo	12/18 Cindy Applebee	12/18 Brielle Doherty
12/18 Gregory Furch	12/20 Emma Ramos	12/22 Holly Field
12/23 Marianne Brackey	12/23 Maggie Johnson	12/24 JoAnn Minear
12/26 Holly Porrett	12/26 Maricar Ramos	12/29 Ryan Tagtmeier
12/30 Diana Berger	12/30 Drew Stryker	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

12/7 Linda and David Vassallo 12/23 Sarane and Bruce Siewerth

Planning ahead....

If you would like a box of 2026 Offering Envelopes for your church giving, please call or stop by the church office and you will be given one right away!



Sunday, November 30: First Sunday of Advent

Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.

Advent Candle lighting - Johnson family

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 7:1-11 & 16 Gospel: Luke 1:5-25

Sermon: Giving Up on Your Dreams

Hanging of the Greens

Monday, December 1: Advent Devotion

7:00 p.m. In-Person and via Zoom in pastor's office.

Advent candle lighting, music, and prayer

An Unlikely Advent, by Rachel Billups, chapter 1.

Contact Pastor Eun-Hye for ZOOM link

Wednesday, December 3: Advent Devotion

10:00 a.m. In-Person and via Zoom in pastor's office.

Advent candle lighting, music, and prayer

An Unlikely Advent, by Rachel Billups, chapter 1

Contact Pastor Eun-Hye for ZOOM link

Saturday December 6: Children's Rehearsal

9:00 am - 10:30 am Please meet promptly at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Sunday, December 7: Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.

Advent Candle lighting - Kent and Kyle Smith

Children's Nativity Performance. All children promptly

arrive at 8:45 for a final run through. Program starts at

10:00 in the Sanctuary. Invite family and friends!



**WHOSE BIRTHDAY IS IT, ANYWAY?
GIFTS DUE TODAY BEFORE WORSHIP BEGINS.**



Continued...Sunday, December 7: "Whose Birthday" Gift Collection and Toys For Olivet UMC -Collection TO DAY before worship.

Monday, December 8: Advent Devotion

An Unlikely Advent chapter 2

In-person in pastor's office and on ZOOM 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to the Advent Devotion.

Wednesday, December 10: Advent Devotion

There will be no Advent Devotion this day.

Sunday, December 14: Third Sunday of Advent

Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.,

Advent Candle Lighting - Susanne Rudolph and Robin Woitesek

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Join us for a morning of sacred beauty and celebration as choir, brass, strings, flute, handbells, and congregation join in the timeless story of the birth of Christ.



Featuring:

O Magnum Mysterium - Tomás Luis de Victoria

The Work of Christmas - Dan Forrest

En So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come - Paul Manz

Joy to the World - John Rutter

The Wexford Carol - Traditional Irish

Ding Dong! Merrily on High - arr. Mack Wilberg

Brass · Strings · Flute · Handbells · Sanctuary Choir



Cookie Sale at 11:15 a.m., Kitchen Window by Social Hall

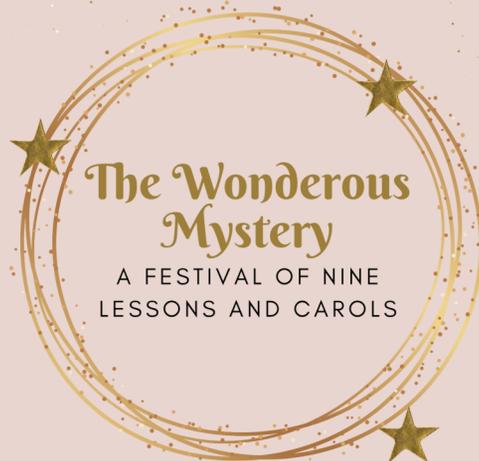
Need some treats for the holiday season? Stop by the kitchen window across from the social hall to after worship and visit the United Women in Faith's Cookie Sale.

Purchase a variety of pre-packaged holiday cookies for your family and friends. Proceeds benefit Missions. \$10 per box. Reserve your box with any dietary restrictions by contacting the church office.

Confirmation Class: 5:00-7:30. (Please note new start time)

Sunday, December 14, 2025 · 10:00 a.m.

Brass · Strings · Flute · Handbells · Chancel Choir



Monday, December 15: Advent Devotion

An Unlikely Advent chapter 3

In-person in pastor's office and on ZOOM 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to the Advent Devotion.

Wednesday, December 17: Advent Devotion

An Unlikely Advent chapter 3

In-person in pastor's office and on ZOOM 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to the Advent Devotion.



Friday, December 19: Youth Christmas Party

We will meet in the parlor at 5:00 p.m. and head out for some caroling! After we return from caroling we will have dinner, dessert and games to wrap up the evening. Feel free to invite a friend to join you!

Sunday, December 21: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.

Advent Candle lighting

Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-18

Sermon: A Herod in Us All

Monday December 22: Advent Devotion

An Unlikely Advent chapter 4

In-person in pastor's office and on ZOOM 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to the Advent Devotion.

*Silent Night
at the*

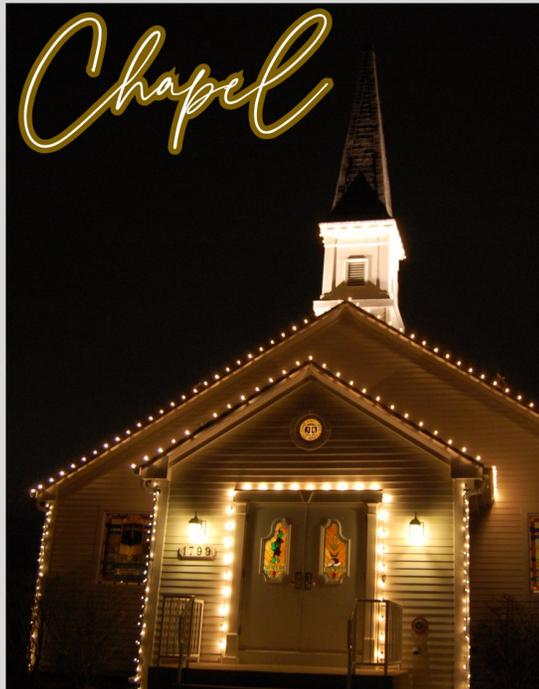
A Christmas
Tradition in
Glenview!

Schram Chapel

DECEMBER 17

7:00 P.M.

In the midst of this busy season, this service will offer an opportunity to get together with the community just to celebrate. You won't forget singing "Silent Night, Holy Night" with candlelight in this beautiful chapel!





CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Wednesday December 24 Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service at 4 p.m.

Special Music, Christmas message for children

Advent Candle lighting - Sharp family



MAY THE LORD GRANT YOU
AND ALL YOUR LOVED ONES PEACE,
JOY, AND GOODWILL.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

December 28: First Sunday after Christmas

Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.,

Book Club!



*A History of
Burning
by
Janka Oza*



A History of Burning is an unforgettable tour de force, an intimate family saga of complicity and resistance, about the stories we share, the ones that remain unspoken, and the eternal search for home.

Book Club
Discussion: January 6
7:00 p.m. parlor
Everyone is Welcome.

Ready to read for January? Then check out our next book: *A History of Burning* by Janka Oza.

Discussion: January 6 at 7 p.m.

Missions & Service Ministry

Save
the
Date

MLK, Jr. Volunteer Day - January 19, 2025.

GUMC is partnering with FUMC Arlington Heights. Events include: Feed My Starving Children both in

Schaumburg and Libertyville, Bernies Book Bank, Lake Bluff, At FUMCAH we'll be doing Linus Blankets, Night Ministry meals, Placemats for Wheeling Township Home Delivered Meals (Valentine themed), Dog Biscuits for The Buddy Foundation, and Valentine Cards for a reconciling ministry. If you have other ideas, please let me know. (Ethel Doyle 847-975-0361, lar-eth@aol.com.)

Stay posted for sign up information starting in mid December.



UPDATE

Meal Pack Information Update

Thank you again for your help, October 5, in preparing 2000 meal packs that will feed 12,000 people. Midwest Mission (MM) has informed us that they have been sent to Ukraine. This was prior to the hurricane that has devastated Jamaica and to where they will send a large meal pack shipment before the end of the month.



The Message of Christmas 2004

Looming up through the past comes Jesus
Like a lighthouse beacon as constant as the north star
Did it go out this Christmas?
Free will, free will, everything with a life of its own
Even the earth, free to act, immune to it's Creator
And then one day it does and a Tsunami is born
Rolling an ocean of water
Over the cries of people no longer here
Down come buildings, down come families
The world collapses and there is no guiding light

Reports flash across screens, we hear the unbelievable
Wall Street stops momentarily,
We swallow against the lump and think:
Glad it's not me
Marveling at the destruction, we want to help
For the first time in a long time we seem like brothers
Like sisters, armies put aside rifles and hurry to help
Muslims, Buddhists and Christians struggle with God
The Tsunami of water is dwarfed by the Tsunami of grief

What could God possibly say?

*I am God and you are all within God
Peace will come when your love knows no bounds
I have given everything a life of its own
Even the power to take life
Look deep and go beyond yourself, beyond what you think you know
And when madness is about to take you, ask me
I am there, I will be there, I am the light of comfort you seek
I have endured all insults, all ridicule, all anger, and I exist still
There are things I will do and others I will not
You must understand even though it is hard:
Earth is not Heaven*

Michel Agriopoulos
January 9, 2005