

JANUARY, 2026

# GLENVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# THE VISITOR



H A P P Y N E W Y E A R

Dear friends,

After Christmas celebrations we take a pause at the threshold of moving into the new year. A new year stretches before us—unwritten, uncertain, and full of possibility. In the Bible and the Christian tradition, beginnings matter. *“See, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”* (Isaiah 43:19).

Our Christian life begins the new year with grace and hope. We believe that every new beginning starts with God—God who creates, redeems, and renews. In Jesus, we are reminded that God is always at work, redeeming and making all things new. So, we start a new year with the stories of Genesis. We will have a winter sermon series and Bible study, *Genesis for Us*. With worship, fellowship, mission outreach and discipleship ministries, we step into this year hand in hand. Some among us carry hope; others carry grief. Some feel energized; others are tired. Yet God meets us exactly where we are. The good news is that new life does not depend on our strength alone. God’s faithfulness carries us toward renewed hope.

May we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit’s leading—trusting that even small acts of faith can become signs of the hope that God’s will, will be done on earth. Wherever this new year finds you, know that you are not walking alone. God’s Spirit breathes new life among us when we walk on the journey hand in hand. This new year is a gift. Let us receive it with open hearts, confident that God’s future is filled with grace and hope.

Eun-Hye Choi, pastor

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Congregational Christmas Card
- Celebrations
- Sermon Series
- Bible Study
- GUMY News
- Mission News
- Chili Cook-Off
- UWF Sunday
- Birthdays/Anniversary
- Book Club

*"Connecting with others through Mission, Music, and Ministry."*

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chris Ferrone  
Jane Furch  
Julie Murphy  
Ed Porrett  
Dick Schweers  
Curtis Corbige

#### STAFF

Rev. Dr. Eun-Hye Choi  
Doris Stengl  
Beth Peterson  
Greg Peterson  
Cindy Applebee  
Janet Ferrone  
Michel Agriopoulos  
Augustine Tejada  
Susanne Rudloph  
Maddie Peterson

#### FINANCE

James Locke  
Annette Johnson

#### BROADCAST TEAM

Ed Porrett  
Patrick Keenan

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday:  
10:00a.m. –2:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
www.glenviewumc.org  
office@glenviewumc.org  
847-729-1015

---

## CELEBRATIONS

---

**Dear GUMC Holiday Helpers:** Thank you so, so much for a great season of love and warmth. The Mitten & More Tree was filled to overflowing throughout the season, even as we removed items to pass on to our partners in service. It's been especially cold throughout these weeks and so our friends at **Olivet UMC** and **Care for Real** are super grateful for all you have done for those in need in their communities. Come back next Advent & Christmastide for another season of decking our tree to provide comfort and joy to friends we may never meet in person, but who will experience the fellowship of our community.

**To All GUMC Cookie Bakers:** A big thank you to all of you who baked for the United Women in Faith Bake Sale. The response was amazing and we are grateful for all the delicious homemade contributions. You all helped make the sale a success. ~United Women in Faith

**Congratulations!** Karen and Scott Daniels wish to announce the wedding of their daughter, Ashley, to Nader Trondavi. The ceremony was performed Saturday, December 13, 2025 at the St. Regis hotel in Chicago. They reside in Redondo Beach California.

---

## PRAYERS ARE NEEDED

---

Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

Susan Urban, Emma Ramos  
Ted Sawicz, Jim Weinstein  
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

---

## WOMEN IN FAITH SUNDAY

---

**Women In Faith Sunday** will be January 25, 2026. Watch for more details on this annual women-led worship event in the Sunday Bulletin and Thursday's *Connections* E-news letter.

# Children, Youth & Families

## Directors

Beth and Greg Peterson  
Petersons@glenviewumc.org

## Teachers

Susanne Rudolph & Maddie Peterson  
Sundayschool@glenviewumc.org

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a joyous start to 2026! Things will seem a bit less hectic as we enter January but that doesn't mean there's not lots going on in Family Ministries!

In **Sunday School** the kids will be learning about Genesis along with the rest of the congregation. We have lots of fun lessons and activities too! We will meet all four Sundays in January.

Our **Confirmands** will meet on Sunday, January 11th at 4pm (30 minutes earlier) until 7pm. Dinner will be included as part of the evening.

And finally on January 25th, GUMYouth will be hosting the **Annual Chili Cook Off!** This deliciously fun event will take place immediately following the worship service in the social hall! Our chili "chefs" will be cooking up their favorite chilis, and vying for the best chili in one of four categories: Best Presentation, Hottest, Most Original and Best Overall! This is a GUMC favorite event that you do not want to miss! Cost is only \$10 per person with all proceeds going towards GUMYouth summer service/learning programs.

See you in Church!

Peace,

Greg and Beth

---

## CONNECT

Coffee Fellowship is an ideal opportunity to come together to renew existing relationships and to form new ones. Please consider providing treats one Sunday this year. Sign-up in the social hall or call the church office to request a date. Coffee and paper goods are supplied.

We invite our congregants and guests to commemorate a special occasion, such as a birthday, anniversary, or a child's special achievement by hosting **Alter Flowers** on Sunday. Sign up for a Sunday in the social hall or call the church office. The arrangement is yours to take home after worship. Cost per arrangement is \$50.00

---

## SPREAD SOME SUNSHINE

During the cold winter months, please consider spreading a little sunshine to those in our church family who are homebound, in assisted care, or suffering. Perhaps you'd like to send a cheery greeting to them to let them know you are thinking of them. If you need an address, please contact the church office.

Marianne and Don Brackey

Joy and Bill Forman

Mariann Randle

Jean Deal

Lynn Heniken

Chuck and Ellen Schaden

Bob Deme

Joyce Hosler

Marilyn Stowell

Pat Fawcett

Judy and Damian Neuberger

Connie Wiggins

# Mission & Service Committee

All loose coins and singles in the offering plates will go to **CARE FOR REAL**.

Care for Real is helping their neighbors in Edgewater and Roger's Park. They provide food, clothing, referrals and additional needed services. They do this with compassion to improve the wellbeing and health of the low income residents. They depend on 950 volunteers to help distribute food 5 days a week to those who are facing food insecurity. Care for Real is fostering a healthier, more equitable, and stronger community.

**Volunteer Opportunity:** Care for Real , 5840 N. Broadway, Chicago to help distribute food to the poor. GUMC goes 3rd. Wednesday of each month, carpooling from GUMC at 7:30 a.m. back by 1:30. If interested, contact Ethel Doyle 847-975-0361. Care for Real has many other volunteer needs most days at their Chicago location and Thursdays in Roger's Park. Go to the Care for Real Website to learn how you can serve. [www.careforreal.org](http://www.careforreal.org)

## Martin Luther King, Jr. Volunteer Day – January 19, 2026

Glenview United Methodist Church has been invited to partner with First United Methodist Church of Arlington Heights. FUMCAH will be hosting a service day on Monday, **January 19, 2026** in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Anyone in the community is welcomed to join us! We'll have a number of family-friendly projects at FUMCAH, 1903 E Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights, from 10:00 to 11:30 AM including things such as making Linus Blankets, UMCOR Health kits, dog biscuits for The Buddy Foundation, Night Ministry meals, Valentine cards for The Pinta Pride Project and more! **Off-site activities are available** at Feed My Starving Children both in Schaumburg 9:00-11:00 and Libertyville 9-10:45 as well as Bernie's Book Bank in Lake Bluff 1:00-3:00.

Questions: Ethel Doyle (with GUMC) [lareth@aol.com](mailto:lareth@aol.com) or Sharon Noah (with FUMCAH) [snoha123@gmail.com](mailto:snoha123@gmail.com)

Here's the link to sign up: <https://glenviewumc.org/current-events/mlkdayofservice/>

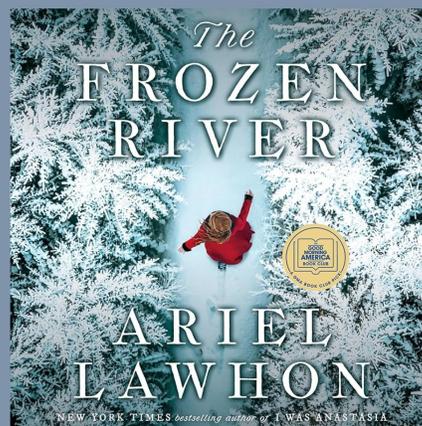
Hope you'll consider making the 19th a "day on, versus a "day off"!

---

## JANUARY BOOK CLUB

---

Join in the Book Club discussion of *A History of Burning* by Janka Oza on January 6 at 7p.m. Start reading *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon for February.



## Book Club

Discussion:  
February 3

7:00 p.m., parlor

Everyone is  
Welcome!

Clever, layered, and subversive, Ariel Lawhon's newest offering introduces an unsung heroine who refused to accept anything less than justice at a time when women were considered best seen and not heard. *The Frozen River* is a thrilling, tense, and tender story about a remarkable woman who left an unparalleled legacy yet remains nearly forgotten to this day.

---

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARYS

---

1/1 Creed Kowski  
1/8 Barbara Cordell  
1/12 Pat Glass  
1/14 Angela Koenigs  
1/19 Cathy Stryker  
1/22 Jacob Risley  
1/27 Grace Murphy  
1/31 Melanie Cummings

1/1 Joanne Richter  
1/9 Fulton Vasquez  
1/12 Judy Neuberger  
1/16 Ethel Doyle  
1/19 David Randle  
1/24 Izzy Janke  
1/29 Barb Galarza

1/7 Jim Gernady  
1/10 Korey Holzhueter  
1/14 Renelle Agriopoulos  
1/18 Julie Radman  
1/21 Howard Twedde, III  
1/25 Amber Potter  
1/29 Sarane Siewerth

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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



### SUNDAY SERMON SERIES

Genesis is our origin story as a people of God, but we often read it wrong, such as, putting it against science (evolution), or treating it as pieces of ancient stories. Genesis is a sequence, and this sequence is an articulation of a complex statement about reality that we struggle with both faith and doubts. This sermon series has six parts. You are invited to read Genesis following designated theme of each week.

1. Perfect God and Imperfect World (Genesis 1 – 5) on January 4.
2. How Evil Works (Genesis 6 – 11) on January 11.
3. Abraham is Chosen (Genesis 12 – 22) on January 18.  
*Women in Faith Sunday.* January 25
4. Faithful but Imperfect Isaac (Genesis 23- 28) on February 1.
5. Wrestling Jacob (Genesis 29 – 36) on February 8.
6. God's People is Saved (Genesis 37-50) on February 15.

---

## BIBLE STUDY IN CONJUNCTION WITH SERMON SERIES

---

The graphic features a background of a colorful, swirling rainbow. The text is centered and reads: 'JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY' in a white serif font, followed by 'GENESIS FOR US' in a larger, bold white serif font. At the bottom, it says 'WEDNESDAY MORNING | CHOIR ROOM OR VIA ZOOM' and '10:00 A.M.' in a white sans-serif font.

JOIN US FOR  
BIBLE STUDY  
GENESIS  
FOR US  
WEDNESDAY MORNING | CHOIR ROOM OR  
VIA ZOOM  
10:00 A.M.

Hope you have  
a lovely Christmas  
Diana Berger

Merry Christmas!  
THE "NEW" Johnson's

Blessings to all  
The Trap Family

Merry  
Christmas  
-The Granz  
family

Merry Christmas!  
The Dubacks

A Very Blessed  
Christmas to you all!  
Doris Stengel

Merry Christmas and Peace be with you!  
Chris W

Wainly Robb  
Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas  
The DeBakers!



John  
John

Best to all of  
you this holiday  
season!

Merry

Helena + Steve

Blessings to all  
Ethel

The Hutchins  
Blessings to our  
Church friends. "God  
Bless Us, Everyone!"

merry, merry!  
The Murphys

Merry Chru  
Guy + Liza

Merry Christmas  
Paeb Halaya ☺

Merry Christmas  
Love,  
Rick & Sue Kreit

Merry Christmas  
a fabulous  
2026  
to you all!

Peace  
Love  
John & Sharon

Merry Christmas to  
all!  
Jan Jeffery

Merry Christmas to  
all!  
God Bless!  
The Panosig

Merry Christmas  
Love,  
Garry & Lydia Landa

Merry Christmas  
to all,  
Joyce Fridell

Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
The Janke



Christmas

Christmas  
Mylanen

Blessings  
The Furch  
Family

Merry Christmas!  
- The Cummings

Merry Christmas!  
Tom & Bennette  
Johnson



January 2026 Issue  
Mailed December 18, 2025

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Glenview, Illinois

Permit No. 30

727 Harlem Avenue

Glenview, IL 60025-4278

Phone - 847/729-1015

E-Mail - office@glenviewumc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**GLENVIEW UNITED METHODIST YOUTH**

# CHILLI COOK OFF

**SUNDAY JANUARY 25TH**

**FREE TO ENTER // \$10 TO TASTE // AFTER WORSHIP**

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

Made with PosterMyWall.com