

JULY, 2026

GLENVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE VISITOR



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Prayer Requests
- Children & Youth News
- Let's Do Brunch
- Off-Campus Opera
- Mission and Service
- Birthdays
- Poetry



Practicing Hope

Romans 5:3-5 NRSV: *we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.*

Greetings to my Glenview UMC family and friends. I am Rosa Lee, and as of July 1, I begin this faith journey with you as your pastor. It is an honor to serve you once again, and I am so grateful and excited to begin this new chapter of ministry together

Our family has finally made it through the move to Evanston from Sterling. If I'm honest, this journey reminded us that even the most hopeful paths can be filled with unexpected bumps. Delays, changes in plans, moments of exhaustion, and countless boxes waiting to be unpacked all became part of our story. At times, it would have been easy to lose sight of the hope that first inspired this new chapter.

Perhaps you've experienced something similar. Life is often like that. Sometimes the bumps are small inconveniences. Sometimes they seem endless. Sometimes they are so large that they leave us wondering how we will ever move forward.

It reminded me, with gratitude, of what we talked about and learned at the Northern Illinois Conference. There, we reflected on "Practicing Hope" as our theme for 2026. Hope is not simply wishful thinking or blind optimism. It is a Christian discipline—something we intentionally practice every day through our lives.

continued on page 3...

"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. Rosa Lee
Doris Stengl
Cindy Applebee
Beth Peterson
Greg Peterson
Michel Agriopoulos
Augustine Tejeda
Susanne Rudolph
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

PRAYERS ARE NEEDED

Let us remember the following members in our prayers.

We are sad to announce the passing of **Don Brackey** on June 8, 2026. Don was a beloved member of this congregation. A service for Don will be held on September 25. Please keep Marilyn in your prayers.

Sadly, cherished member, **Jean Deal**, passed away suddenly on Sunday, June 28 in Ludington, Michigan, at her summer home. She was surrounded by her family. Jean was active member of Ruth Circle. No services will be held. Please keep the Deal family in your prayers.

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

PastorRosa@glenviewumc.org or
Office@glenviewumc.org

NILSON SCHOLARSHIP WINNER!

The Memorials Committee has chosen the winner of the Nilson Scholarship for the year 2026 to be Avery Ellis. She is the daughter of Paul and Dee Ann Ellis. Congratulations to Avery!

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to the friends at GUMC for your prayers and cards. The words on the cards helped me as I was grieving after the loss of my son, Gary, who grew up in this church. This church is so warm and welcoming.

~Kay Harr

NAME TAG TIME!

If you can't find your "old" nametag in your "junk drawer" or in the glove box or console of your car, please let the church office know and we will arrange for you to get a new lanyard "nametag" made. This will not only help each other, but definitely help our new pastor, Rev. Rosa Lee, get to know you.

...continued from the front page.

Bishop Daniel Schwerin reminds us: "As long as we have a relationship with Jesus Christ, we have a relationship with hope." Our hope is rooted in God's grace, our baptism, and the promise that resurrection always follows the cross as the empty tomb reminds us that God continues to bring new life even when we cannot yet see it.

As I begin this new ministry with you, I want to invite all of us to ask: How can we practice hope together? Not only when life is going well, but especially when the road becomes difficult.. How can we continue trusting Christ when the bumps seem endless? How can we become people who help one another keep hoping?

Bishop Schwerin describes the church as a biblical remnant—a faithful community through whom God continues to do new things. I believe that this is who we are called to be together. As your pastor, I want you to know that I am here to walk alongside you as I want to invite you to keep hoping whether your life is good or rough. So, I want to listen to your stories, pray with you, celebrate your joys, and carry your burdens.

So I am asking: What can I do to help you keep hoping in Christ? How can our church become a place where hope is practiced every day for everyone? I believe hope is easier to hold when we hold it together. We were never meant to walk this journey alone.

So, let me ask you: Are you ready to share your story with me? Shall we keep hoping together? I can't wait to get to know you, to learn how God has been at work in your life, and to discover together the new things God has in store for our church. Let us practice hope—together.

Very Sincerely Your Pastor,

Rosa Lee

DINNER AROUND THE WORLD... ACTUALLY IT'S BRUNCH!

The next membership Engagement Dinner Around the World scheduled for the Greenwood Grill at 11:30 on Sunday, July 26 after worship. It's the cute place at 910 Greenwood Road in Glenview. Please contact the church office to place your RSVP.

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT EVENT

You're Invited to a One-of-a-Kind Puppet Show! Opera in Focus!
Saturday, July 18 | 3:30 PM , 3000 Central Road, Rolling Meadows

Experience something truly rare: a professional rod puppet performance — the only show of its kind in the world. Unlike traditional string puppets, these masterfully crafted characters are operated from beneath a specially built stage, creating a breathtaking illusion of a live opera and Broadway production.

The repertoire blends beloved popular favorites with operatic classics. After the one-hour performance, guests are invited backstage for a behind-the-scenes demonstration of how the puppets work, with a look at the mechanics and characters from other productions.

Tickets: Adults — \$14.00, Seniors (60+) — \$12.00, Children (under 12) — \$8.

Arranged by GUMC Membership Engagement Committee, **this is a private performance for GUMC members and friends**, with seating limited to 60 guests. Reservations are required. To reserve your spot, contact Ethel Doyle at 847-975-0361

Children, Youth & Families

Directors

Beth and Greg Peterson
Petersons@glenviewumc.org

Teachers

Susanne Rudolph & Maddie Peterson
Sundayschool@glenviewumc.org

Did you know the American flag has an interesting history? When America was still a British colony, the flag included the British Union Jack in the corner. After declaring independence, the founders kept the colors red, white, and blue partly because they already had cloth in those colors. In 1782, the Continental Congress officially decided what these colors would represent:

Red = Courage

White = Purity, Integrity, and Decency

Blue = Justice

What makes the American flag unique is that it contains no religious symbols—no crosses, crescents, or Stars of David. Instead, it is built on ideals and values that people of any faith can believe in. The founders wanted to create a nation based on shared ideals rather than a royal family or state religion. This commitment to freedom is exactly why we can practice Methodism today.

... continued on page 5

Children, Youth & Families

... continued from page 4

To reflect on the colors of the flag from a Christian perspective, consider the following passages:

Courage (Red): Matthew 14:27 and John 16:33

Purity, Integrity, and Decency (White): John 8:32 and Matthew 5:37

Justice (Blue): Luke 4:18 and Matthew 25:31-46

As a family, think about what your family flag might look like and create it together!

Sunday School continues to meet every Sunday throughout the summer, including July 5th. Students explore their faith while making meaningful connections through art and music. This July, the group is working on special songs and children's chime choir pieces that will be performed during future worship services. The children are doing an amazing job, and we look forward to sharing their creations with everyone.

In June, GUMY had an exciting geocache hike at the Skokie Lagoons. The group ventured off the main trails to find hidden treasures, and one youth said it felt just like the movie *Stand by Me*. Along the way, the group discovered interesting items in addition to their successful geocaches. These included a decommissioned fire hydrant made in Traverse City, Michigan, presumably in the early 1900s, and some animal bones. Fortunately, the group did not find what the Gordie Club kids discovered in the movie. Nonetheless, it was a memorable adventure!

Be sure to send your "60 Hikes in 365 Days" recommendations and pictures to petersons@glenviewumc.org.

GUMYouth meets on three different Sundays in July:

July 12th: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

July 19th: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

July 26th: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Although June featured much more storm watching than stargazing, the group will continue to seek stargazing opportunities in July and August. Stay tuned for updates!

Whether you are interested in exploring your faith through art and music, going on adventures with friends, or creating something meaningful as a group, there is a place for you in our summer activities. If you are interested in participating in worship in July and August as a reader, acolyte, or by sharing a musical talent, please let us know. We look forward to seeing you at Sunday School or GUMYouth!



Loose Coins and Singles

Loose Coins and Singles in the offering plate this quarter will go to: *Immigration Law and Justice for Northern Illinois* ILJ of Northern Illinois advocates and provides free or low-cost legal services to all people who have come to the US seeking freedom, safety, and opportunity. ILJ provides counsel, advocacy, and support services. In the past 12 years they have helped over 59,000 immigrants and their families from around the world reunite, escape violence, obtain work authorization and become naturalized US citizens. UMCOR established the ILJ Network in 1999.

POETRY

What About Angels?

The beach sand is hard beneath my feet as I walk lost in thought
There's no one here but me and my young son to see
We see the blues of sky and lake collide on the horizon
In my head, flesh and spirit mesh in the puzzle that is my life
Do I have a guardian angel who follows me like this shadow to my right?
Are you there and have you known me my whole life I ask?
Like these incoming waves I'm just following nature, unsure of forces acting on me

Today I am in stress again and I remember back three years when it was the same
Father, recall how I prayed, how familiar I became with those prayers
Each time I said them, something new came to me
You answered my prayers, you opened a door for me and I rejoiced
My happiness was complete
Had I been an angel I would have sung in a gifted voice
Don't forget me now I pray, I need you again

My young son appears on the concrete pier up ahead
He shouts and waves for me to come see
He reminds me I must live for this moment, not the situation that wants to freeze my mind
His laughter collapses my somber mood and suddenly I'm running toward him
The glory that is this day is our backdrop as we spin out our living in it
He is my young angel and an aspect of God greeting me
Putting aside my stress, I breathe in the excellence this day has provided
I cannot know how it will all turn out, as I go from where I am now

Michel Agriopoulos
February 12, 1998



Ambulance Sent to Honduras to Help Save Lives.

Wednesday was an exciting day at Midwest Mission as we sent off an ambulance that will support emergency responders in Honduras.

This ambulance was generously donated by the Maine Township Fire Department and MABAS District in Northern Illinois. The donation came through relationships built by Midwest Mission Ambassadors at Glenview UMC in Glenview, Illinois, who have been instrumental in raising awareness about the ongoing need for fire and emergency gear and equipment.

One of those Ambassadors Rev. Marilyn Tobb, helped connect Midwest Mission with the Glenview and Niles Fire Departments last year, resulting in both a fire truck and ambulance being sent to Guatemala. Remembering the impact of that previous donation, Chief Greiner of the Main Township Fire Department looked at the ambulance sitting unused in his log and decided it could make a greater difference elsewhere.

After learning how this vehicle could support emergency response efforts in a developing country, Chief Greiner with IK from the district chose to donate it to Midwest Mission.

The ambulance will be sent to Midwest Mission's partner, CEPUDO, in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. CEPUDO works alongside local emergency responders to distribute donated gear and equipment so firefighters and emergency personnel can respond more safely and effectively.

During a visit to Honduras a few years ago, we witnessed firsthand the challenges many departments face. Funding is often available for personnel, but critical equipment and emergency resources remain limited.

Donations like this help bridge that gap.



Every piece of emergency equipment sent represents more than supplies — it helps equip first responders to protect their communities and return home safely to their own families.

Want to help?

There is a huge need for fire gear in departments in Guatemala and Honduras. Talk with your local fire department about donating fire gear or emergency equipment that is unused or "expired." Visit www.midwestmission.org to learn more and share the opportunity.

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

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

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 7/1 Anna Parry | 7/3 Tita Gimeno | 7/3 Kay Harr |
| 7/4 Paula Stoddard | 7/4 Valerie Tweddle | 7/6 Paul Ellis |
| 7/6 Susanne Rudolph | 7/7 Bill Murphy | 7/7 Tracy Tweddle |
| 7/8 Emma Yonkers | 7/9 Melissa Gwozdz | 7/9 Jim Locke |
| 7/10 Tom Hutchins | 7/13 Diann Campbell | 7/14 Scott Daniels |
| 7/17 Betsy Schweers | 7/18 Jim Glass | 7/19 Layla DeBaker |
| 7/23 Susan Krcik | 7/23 Beth Peterson | 7/24 Rey Ramos |
| 7/24 Tim Walters | 7/25 Ryan Ellis | 7/25 Joan Loyd |
| 7/26 Jason DeBaker | 7/26 Helen Jo Ellis | 7/26 Maggie McCarron |
| 7/28 Jean Losquadro | | |



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7/2 Katie and Matt Jones | 7/3 Romeo and Tita Gimeno |
| 7/5 Dee Ann and Paul Ellis | 7/6 Sharon and Richard Espino |
| 7/9 Beth and Greg Peterson | 7/11 Annette and Tom Johnson |
| 7/12 Alisha and Chuck Potter | 7/15 Helen Jo and Stephen Ellis |
| 7/24 Rey and Emma Ramos | 7/25 Linda and Dave Duback |
| 7/25 Ann and Bob Rowlands | 7/26 Patty and Daniel Stryker |
| 7/28 Joy and Bill Forman | 7/30 Kathy and Ted Sawicz |



Save The Date

Please reserve October 4, 11:30 a.m. to assist with a Meal Pack in the Social Hall for Midwest Mission. We will be packaging 3,000 bags of food product that will feed & nourish 18,000 people! 5 yrs and olde are welcome.



Adult Mission Trip Opportunity

A rewarding and informative trip to Midwest Mission, Pawnee, IL, near Springfield, to help assemble kits, work on bikes, school desks, etc. is arranged for July 12-14, 2026. Includes 2 nights in their housing quarters. Will car pool. Cost: Approx. \$130.00, For more info, contact Ethel Doyle 847-975-0361.



July 2026 Issue
Mailed July 1, 2026

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



Pastor Rosa is here! Meet
her on July 5 at 10:00 a.m.