

GLENVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE VISITOR



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Prayer Requests
- Children & Youth News
- Music News
- Bible Study Event
- Book Club News
- Pot Luck Dinner
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- School Supplies
- Birthdays



Journey with God

"For I am convinced that NOTHING will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." — Romans 8:38–39 (NRSVUE– Edited)

Every journey has its unexpected moments. Some days are filled with joy and celebration. Other days bring challenges we never anticipated. Sometimes the path is clear, and sometimes we wonder why the road has become so difficult. Yet through every season, one truth remains unchanged: **Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

That promise is not based on how we feel or how well our journey is going. It is grounded in God's faithfulness. Long before we ever loved God, God loved us. God loved the world so much that God sent Jesus Christ so that we might know forgiveness, hope, and abundant life. That truth has never changed, and it never will.

As followers of Jesus, we are invited to walk intentionally with Christ every day. We grow closer to Jesus through prayer, Scripture, worship, serving others, and taking time to listen for God's voice.

Our relationship with Jesus is not something we nurture only on Sundays or at certain events—it is a daily and ongoing journey of learning to trust Jesus one step at a time. Along the way, let us also celebrate each moment God gives us. Give thanks for small victories, unexpected blessings, meaningful conversations, and simple acts of kindness. We celebrate not because life is smooth, but because God is faithful in every season and each moment.

continued on page 3...

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

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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.

Joan Loyd, Russell Lindley, Pat Glass, Meg Pyterek

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

PastorRosa@glenviewumc.org or
Office@glenviewumc.org

BIBLE STUDY EVENT!

Join Us to Help Shape Our Fall Bible Study

**Wednesday August 19 | 10:00 a.m.
Choir Room**

Our Fall Bible Study schedule is set, but one important piece is still waiting to be discovered—what God is inviting us to study together. We would love for you to be part of that conversation! Join Pastor Rosa for a listening session as we dream, pray, and share ideas for this fall's Bible study. Is there a book of the Bible you have always wanted to explore? A biblical theme or topic you would like to understand more deeply? A question about faith that has been on your heart? This is an opportunity to share what you hope to learn and how you would like to grow in your walk with Jesus. We hope you will be part of this conversation. Pastor Rosa looks forward to hearing your ideas, questions, and interests as she prayerfully prepares a Bible study that reflects what our congregation hopes to explore together. Whether you have participated in Bible study for years or are considering joining for the first time, we invite you to come and help shape this season of growing together in God's Word. If you are unable to attend this session, please send your thoughts to Pastor Rosa at PastorRosa@glenviewumc.org.



MEAL PACK SUNDAY - October 4, 11:30 a.m. Social Hall. Please join in with your family and friends at the Blessing Meal Pack event where we will pack 3,000 blessing bags of rice, soy, dehydrated veggies, and vitamins. Each bag feeds 6 people. With your help we will package meals for 18,000 people! All will be shipped by Midwest Mission to areas where people are desperately in need of food. Sign up information will come out Sept. 1, but save the date now.

...continued from the front page.

And when the journey becomes harder than we expected, we can remember that we are never walking alone. God invites us to come honestly before God—not because God wants our complaints, but because God desires a relationship with us. God is an active listener who welcomes our prayers, our questions, our disappointments, and our hopes. We can pour out our hearts with confidence, trusting that the One who loves us is also walking beside us.

As the new school year begins, many children, students, teachers, parents, guardians and families will be entering a new season. What a wonderful opportunity for us to remind one another of the truth that never changes. In a world filled with uncertainty, people need to hear the good news that God's love is steadfast. People need to know that they are deeply loved by God and that nothing can separate them from God's love. May we be intentional about sharing this hope wherever God sends us—through our words, our encouragement, our compassion, and the way we live each day. A simple conversation, a kind act, an encouraging prayer, or an invitation to worship can become a reminder that God's love is real and present. As we continue our journey with God, may we keep our eyes on Jesus, trust God's faithfulness, celebrate each day as a gift, and boldly share the unchanging promise of Romans 8:

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Dr. Rosa Lee
Pastor

IT'S A POTLUCK!

Back by Popular Demand... Join us for Potluck Around the World!!!

On Saturday, August 8 at 5PM, members, friends, and guests of GUMC will be gathering in the church parlor to join in another popular Potluck Around the World!

This potluck will feature appetizers, salads, and desserts. So...dust off your favorite recipes and come prepared to sample the culinary diversity of our members!



Sign up with the church office by Thursday, August 6 with your name, number attending, and the "Around the World" appetizer, salad, or desert you plan to bring. This will be a fabulous treat. See you there!

The Engagement Team

Children, Youth & Families

Directors

Beth and Greg Peterson
Petersons@glenviewumc.org

Teachers

Susanne Rudolph & Maddie Peterson
Sundayschool@glenviewumc.org

This summer seems to have flown by since July 4th! August is already Back to School month with District 225 high schoolers starting back August 13th and District 34 starting back on August 20. We hold all of our students in our prayers for a happy and safe start to their year!

A few dates to remember and put on your calendars:

Sunday, August 16 will be our *Blessing of the Backpacks*. Students of all ages **and teachers** can bring their backpacks to church for a blessing as they begin their school year!

Sunday, September 13 is Kick Off Sunday! This is the official start of our program year and we will be recognizing our teachers and assistants during the service. We will also be presenting Bibles to those that have not received one yet. Following the service we'll gather for lunch! We hope you can join us!

Music is something we'd like to add this year and the Sunday School kids have just begun working on a Chime Choir piece that they will perform for the congregation at some point in September. Please try to be here on Sunday mornings for Sunday School as that will be when the kids will rehearse.

Beth has spoken with Cindy about starting a GUMYouth Bell Choir for any 6th through 12th grader that may be interested. She'll also be seeking adult ringers/mentors for the youth who would rehearse and perform with them. Please contact Beth if you'd be interested (or she'll find you!) More details to follow!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

See you in Church!
Greg and Beth

BLESSING^{!!!} of the BACKPACKS

August 16 at
10:00 a.m.

School begins on different dates for the local school districts but everyone can bring their backpack or laptop for a blessing for the new year.



THE MUSIC CORNER NEWS—AUGUST

Summer worship has been filled with beautiful music and heartfelt offerings. Thank you to our soloists, instrumentalists, and each who have shared creative gifts. A special thank you to Barb, Lindsay, Beth, Becky, Diana, Brooke, Maggie, Jan, and the GUMC Sanctuary Choir, for their meaningful music/readings, including the special children's tribute for Pastor Rosa. We are also grateful for the voices of our congregation that continue to lift our worship each Sunday. As we move into August, we welcome special music from Ashly, Scott, Dave K., and many more!

A Sneak Peek into September & October Revelation: Worship, Hope & Promise

This fall, the Sanctuary Choir will begin a thought provoking musical and spiritual journey through the Book of Revelation. Together we will explore inspiring choral music—including Revelation 19 and Revelation Song—while discovering that the last book of the Bible is ultimately a book of worship, hope, and God's promise to make all things new.

Each rehearsal will include a brief Scripture reflection and prayer as we prepare not only our voices, but also our hearts. Consider this our first fall sneak peek as we search our hearts and lift our voices with the congregation of GUMC.

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come." — Revelation 4:8

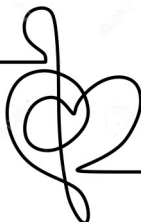
Sanctuary Choir Returns! Everyone is welcome!

First Wednesday Rehearsal: September 2: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (note new starting time)

First Sunday Rehearsal: 9:00–9:45 a.m. September 9th

Can't make every Wednesday? We'd still love to have you sing! Sunday morning rehearsal helps many members stay connected when schedules get busy. And weekly rehearsal tracks are emailed through our GUMC Choir email list to make practicing at home another source of preparation.

As summer draws to a close, we look forward to lifting our voices together once again as the **Sanctuary Choir** returns to lead worship beginning **Sunday, September 13**. Consider joining us this fall!



Cynthia Applebee - Music Director

School Supplies & Undie Collections for Olivet...Time is Flying!

"Every child deserves to start the school year feeling their very best and ready to learn!"

Can you believe it is Already AUGUST? With the calendar rolling along as it is this year, the first collection Sunday in August (8/2) will already be over by the time you are reading this Visitor article! But fear not! There is Good News, and more Good News!

Good News 1: Our collection bin has already begun filling up with some scholarly supplies, sturdy backpacks and un-used undies.

Good News 2: Our official deadline for collection is Sunday August 9th ! You've got one more Sunday to bring in your donations!

And for those of you wanting to donate but who can't make it to church, left the bag on the kitchen table again, or fell victim to the scourge of shoppers and scholars: Pro-cras-tin-a-tion, there is Good News 2.5 : Diana Berger can come to your house to pick up your items through Friday August 14th !

If you need her assistance or want to join her in helping at Olivet's Back-To-School- Celebration Block Party on Saturday, August 15th : contact her ASAP at! (773-640-7812; palilaberger@sbcglobal.net).

BOOK CLUB!

Our book group, originally started by Pastor Eun Hye, has continued to grow as we enjoy reading and discussing a wide variety of genres together.

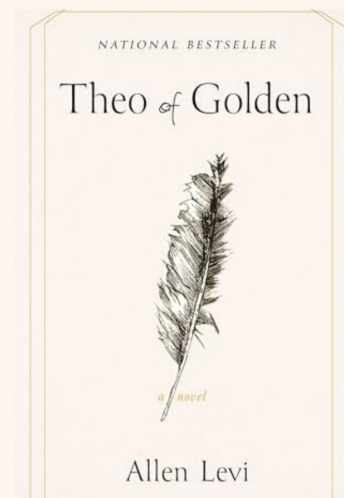
To accommodate those who prefer not to drive at night during the winter, we are introducing a morning meeting option. Moving forward, we will offer two meeting times each month, and you are welcome to attend either or both:

- Evening Group: First Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- Morning Group: First Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

Both groups will read the same books for the September and October meetings.

Please keep reading *The Visitor* for future updates. We look forward to seeing you in September to discuss Theo of Golden by Allen Levi.

BOOK CLUB



THEO OF GOLDEN
By Alan Levi

September 1 at 7:00 p.m.
September 3 at 9:30 a.m.

One spring morning, a stranger named Theo arrives in the small Southern city of Golden. He doesn't explain much about where he came from or why he's there—but when he visits the local coffeehouse, where pencil portraits of the people of Golden hang on the walls, he begins purchasing them, one at a time, and giving each portrait to the person depicted. In exchange, he asks only for the person's story. And so portrait by portrait, person by person, secrets are revealed, regrets are shared, and ordinary lives are profoundly altered.

A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, Theo of Golden is an unforgettable novel about the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder.

187th Session of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference

A YEAR OF PRACTICING HOPE

Leadership: Bishop Dan Schwerin

umcnic.org/ac2026

Summer Greetings from GUMC delegates, Donna Kwiatkowski and Joanne Richter. We joined the wider Northern Illinois Conference for a time of prayer, worship, discernment, and mission, as well as voting on NIC legislation and budget.

The 2026 session began on June 14th and focused on the theme **Practicing Hope**. "Hope" is being held with great importance throughout the Conference in conversations, in prayers, in worship and in song, and so GUMC is also being asked to listen for and explore our call to practice hope:

- Where might the Holy Spirit be asking you to place your hope?
- When can you bring forth Christian neighborliness so others can experience this hope-filled community?
- What will we pass on through our church life that will renew our community of faith?

Milestone Anniversaries:

- 70 years of full clergy rights for women
- 50 years of UM Volunteers in Mission
- 40 years as a Reconciling Ministries community
- 30 years since the establishment of deacons

United Methodist Men Update:

The General Commission on United Methodist Men has launched a new brand and website, UnitedMensMinistry.com, and many men in our conference are now using the new "United" app.

Conference Laity Session Emphasis:

Six young adult panelists shared their ideas for church leadership. On questions surrounding joy, areas of growth, signs and ways to offer hope, and envisioning the future of UMC, responses for practicing hope included scripture and music, for example, as being preferred daily devotion. Being light-hearted, "We can never have too many jobs in the church," this youth panel was clear about being both UMC's joyous present and future and extended prayers for the youth with a sense of positivity. The youth panel shared having added stress in present times, particularly around relationships and education, but believes there being no other place that offers what the church does.

Ministry Services:

Bishop Dan Schwerin commissioned, with laying of hands upon the shoulders of each of the nine persons: two as deacons and six as doing the work of elders, also recognition was given to five newly licensed local pastors, and Abby Savannah Holcombe became an ordained elder in full connection and also received the passing of the mantle from retiring Rev. Norval Brown.

Memorial Service:

We paused to remember “the saints triumphant,” UM clergy, their spouses, and lay members to AC, with songs of reflection and blessing being symbolic of their labor and care. Remembering this great cloud of witnesses included Rev. Donald White of Olivet UMC.

Retirement Service:

Honoring 17 retirees, with Pastor Eun-Hye Choi being present in those recognized, Bishop Schwerin shared thanksgiving for a life changed through faithful witness and service, for the courage shown and the steps of faith taken when seas were rough and the way unclear, and for continuing to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Services had live musical performances by NIC praise teams.

Legislative Sections, Nominations, Appointments, Historical Documents:

The conference considered legislation voting to approve, reject, or amend each one. Legislation results can be found on the NIC 2026 website at <https://www.umcnic.org/AC2026Docs>

PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION:

As a visible expression of the UMC commitment to loving our neighbors, the Conference Commission on Religion and Race invited members and guests to participate in a peaceful demonstration on Meacham Road in Schaumburg, witnessing, and advocating for, just policies toward immigrants, including abolishing family separations and detentions and providing housing, health care, and education.

GIVING:

Northern Illinois Conference members and churches gave generously to three opportunities at 2026 Annual Conference. Giving totals as of June 16th include:

Bishop’s Appeal so far has raised \$30,960.52 for Education in Central Conferences. These gifts assist two key initiatives: a high school in Tanzania, led by NIC missionary Young Seon (known as Christina) Kim, and scholarships for ministry students in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. individuals may still give until Sept. 30.

Missions Challenge, which collects items needed by Midwest Mission received almost 7,000 pounds of goods (requiring two trucks)! Donations included home-care kits, personal dignity kits, sewing machines, crutches.

From Celebration of Ministry, the Ministerial Education Fund received an offering of \$2,561; 25 percent remaining with the NIC, 75 percent supporting the 13 United Methodist theological schools in scholarships and faculty/staff salaries and benefits for those who prepare UM students for ministry.

With a joyful ceremonial passing of the baton from Sally Vonner, UWF, back to Bishop Schwerin, the next Annual Conference is scheduled for Monday, June 14 to Wednesday, June 16 in 2027 at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center.

BIRTHDAYS

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.



Contact the church office to receive the list



September 13, 10:00 a.m.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



PASTOR ROSA'S

Summer 2026 ICE CREAM Challenge!

EAT ICE CREAM.
MAKE MEMORIES.
SUPPORT GUMY!

Visit 6 local ice cream or dessert drink spots,
enter the date you visited, and
get your entry initialed.

FOR EVERY
COMPLETED ENTRY,
\$10
WILL BE DONATED
TO GUMY!

TURN IN YOUR COMPLETED SHEET TO
BETH OR GREG PETERSON BY AUGUST 31, 2026.

**VISIT
6 SPOTS**
Explore and enjoy
6 local ice cream
or dessert drink
locations!

**ENTER THE
DATE VISITED**
Write the date you
visited each location
on the challenge
sheet.

**GET YOUR
ENTRY INITIALED**
Have your sheet
initialed and keep
the sweet adventures
going!

**MAKE AN
IMPACT**
For every completed
entry, \$10 will be
donated to GUMY!