

JANUARY 26, 2011

Pilgrims Progress

Below is the letter I read at the end of the worship service Sunday, January 23rd announcing my plans to retire.

January 23, 2011

Glenview Community Church 1000 Elm Street Glenview, IL 60025

Dear Friends:

After serious thought, reflection, and prayer, conversations with our children, and long conversations with Peggy I am announcing my retirement effective July 1, 2011. I began my work as your Senior Minister on January 25, 2002 with great energy and enthusiasm, honored by your confidence and trust in me. The welcome and excitement I experienced as I arrived and began my work with you remains one of the highlights of over forty-five years of pastoral ministry. The encouragement and support that so many of you have given has added joy to my life.

For the last several years conflict has been a part of the life of this congregation. The pattern of this conflict predates our time together. The way we have handled the conflict has diminished the effectiveness of our ministry, caused hurt and pain in many lives, and reflected a divided congregation. As this conflict has affected many of you, it also has taken its toll on me. I have not been as effective, creative, and energetic as your Senior Minister as I wanted to be.

During the remaining time we have together I am open to discussing the dynamics of the life and ministry of Glenview Community Church with you. Avenues for these discussions include the Executive Board Meetings, individual board meetings, individual conversations, an exit interview, and of course, other avenues that you may suggest. I want to contribute to improving the effectiveness of this congregation's ministry.

Since it was at the conclusion of the worship service on November 11, 2001 that you extended a call to me to be your Senior Minister, I am using the format of today's worship service to communicate my plans to retire. I have shared this decision in advance with Reverend Pam Keckler and with Lloyd Bettis, our Moderator.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity you have given me to serve as your Senior Minister. I appreciate the wonderful support that so many of you have given me. Peggy and I are grateful for the many friendships that have emerged for us as a result of being part of the life of Glenview Community Church. I look forward to celebrating the remaining time that we have together.

Faithfully yours,

Howard W. Roberts



SUNDAY SERVICES

JANUARY 30, 2011

9:30 a.m. Men's Pilgrim Chorus

and Liturgical Dance

Scripture:

Psalm 148, Luke 15:1-10

Sermon:

"Jesus Had Friends in Low Places" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

Confirmands will join us in worship

FEBRUARY 6, 2011

COMMUNION

Women's Chorus 9:30 a.m. and Harpist

Scripture:

Psalm 112:1-10; Matthew 5:13-16

Sermon:

"Who Are We? What Are We To Do?" Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler

FEBRUARY 13, 2011

4th Grade Bible Presentation New Membership Class at 3:00 p.m. Pasta Luigi at 5:00 pm.

9:30 a.m.

Chancel Choir and **Primary Choir**

Scripture:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, 1 Corinthians 3:1-7

"The Church is People" Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

My Church, My Faith, My Commitment



My introduction to GCC was through a girl I was dating at the time. While I had been active in churches throughout my life, I was not a member at the time and was shopping for a new church home. Looking for a good "fit" in a new church is not easy for a single divorced guy. My first impressions at GCC were very positive...a great choir, organ and music program, a beautiful

facility, a dynamic and insightful minister (Dr. Roberts), very friendly people and, of course, my girlfriend.

Over the next several months I got to experience this new church, which I soon came to know as my new church home. My only disappointment at GCC was that, as a church in a more affluent suburb, there seemed to be a large staff, a huge budget and a lack of volunteers. I was accustomed to churches where financial goals were always beyond reach but volunteers always rolled up their sleeves and got the job done.

I also saw GCC as a very well organized church, more so than most, with a board to manage every conceivable issue, function, asset, event, problem (and the list goes on and on). But the church is not without its share of problems. With any organization, there are differences of opinion as to how things should be done, and GCC is no exception, but that offers challenges and

makes us grow.

So I joined the church, married my girlfriend M-J here, joined the choir and now we both serve on boards and are happy to call GCC our church home. Thanks to the economy, we now have a smaller staff and a smaller budget (I had nothing to do with that). It also appears that many have volunteered and rolled up their sleeves to handle things no longer done by paid staff. That's a wonderful thing.

When we married, M-J and I decided to combine our financial giving. We both felt we should add what we gave as individuals together and have made it a point to increase that pledge each year since. We've also been able to roll up our sleeves and help out a little the way we always had before we met. That's what a church home is all about.

Thanks for the welcome you've given me.

Ed Detwiler

From Heifer International to the GCC Congregation





Thank You for your generous leadership resulting in such a generous gift to peoples around the world. As a result of your contributions and the organizing of the 2010 Heifer Quilt Auction, more families than ever will be reaping the benefits of the Heifer livestock and training they will receive. What a joy it will be for parents to know that they will be able to provide for their children without worry. Sustainable livelihoods are one example of the profound impact of your support

of Heifer International is having on the lives of impoverished families around the world.

Together, we are making a difference in the lives of families once trapped in the cycle of hunger and poverty.

Sincerely, Charles O. Stewart, Interim Chief Executive Officer



NEW MEMBER CLASS

The next New Member Orientation Class is scheduled for February 13 from 3-5 p.m. This is a great opportunity not only to learn more about the ministry of Glenview Community Church but also to meet others who are exploring membership. You may register for the class by sending an email to jane.payne@gccucc.org or calling Jane at 847-724-2210, ext. 25.



Please bring your cookies to the kitchen by Sunday, January 30th. Plainly mark them for the Night Ministry. For those ladies attending the Retreat, bring the cookies on Friday.

Our cookie gifts mean a great deal to the folks who receive them. Our church members bake the cookies and the PYF and 678 Club put them into packages of 3 and deliver them. Thus, this is an all church hands-on project.

You can never bake for a more worthy cause. **Home-made cookies are always greatly appreciated**, but if you buy cookies, OREOS are preferred.

Questions: Call Dori at (847)724-4453 or Rev. Dr. Pam Keckler at church, (847)724-2210.

In Sympathy

We offer our prayers to the family of Archie Gainey who died on December 22 in Peoria. Archie was a long time GCC member before moving to California and later to Peoria.

We also received word of the death of Ron Aines. His son, Marshall was a member of the Singing Stones. We give our sympathy and prayers to the family.

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to Rev. Bob Warskow and family on the death of Bob's sister, Marian Hardy who died January 13.

SAVE THE DATE

MEN'S ROUNDTABLE Tuesday, February 15 7:00 p.m., Founders Room

Men's Ministry is hosting a winter round-table discussion, Spiritual Strength: How do you get it? How do you nurture it? How can you pass it on? Insights into how Jesus, Brother Lawrence, Brother Charles de Foucauld, Thomas Merton, and Henri Nouwen lived these questions will be provided, but contemporary interpretation will depend on the shared experiences of those participating in the discussion. Please plan to attend and join in the discussion.

If you have questions or wish to attend, please contact John Miller by phone (847) 687-6953 or by e-mail, *john.miller@scottforesman.com* or Dave Aki by phone (847)657-0139 or *dave254@comcast.net*.



Colleen Kisel, founder and CEO of the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation, clearly recalls February 15, 1993 – the day her seven year old son, Martin, was diagnosed with cancer. For the next three years, she witnessed her son and other young patients undergo painful procedures in treatment. One day Colleen gave Martin a new toy immediately after a spinal tap, which provided him with a comforting and calming distraction. When she realized the helpful effect of this simple gift, she began a letter writing campaign seeking donations of toys and monetary gifts.

Today more than 7,300 children choose a gift each month from freshly restocked treasure chests in 38 hospitals in 13 different states. As we learn to love our neighbors as taught in the parable of the Good Samaritan, the Sunday school students are collecting new toys or \$5 gift cards to contribute to the treasure chest warehouse to cheer toddlers, young children, and teenagers. Your help is appreciated.

"January's Song"

There is rumor on the streets that Christmas is over.
Lights and ornaments are packed away, trees dragged to the curb, people back to business as usual.
We're no longer in the party mood; the humbugging is back in vogue.

This is January...
How can Christmas be over?!
The Child is just newborn,
the song of Peace and Goodwill
still rings in our ears.
The shepherds and sages still kneel
to this One who is born to us...
just born to us!

How can Christmas be over??
The story of the gospel is just beginning.
We who saw the Star now live in its Light.
We who saw and heard now believe.

Christmas is not over.
We're just beginning
to follow this One who calls us now to
live in the Light of Love.
Christmas is not over.
It's just beginning
and this is January's song!!

Ann Weems From Advent's Alleluia to Easter's Morning Light

Confirmation

January 30

We will attend worship as a class and dialogue with Dr. Roberts after the service. February 6 is regular class.

February 13

Confirmation Chaos from 9-10:30. This will be our final "Chaos" of the year.
Come to the youth room for snacks, gym time, program and closing prayers.

PYF

January 30, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Mission Project Night Ministry Cookies

The My Faith, My Church, My Commitment

We had hoped to be able to conclude our My Faith, My Church, My Commitment pledge campaign by this time as we must give the Finance Board the final pledged amount the generous members of GCC have made. Currently we are more than \$25,000 below what we need to match our ministry needs for 2010 and at least an additional \$50,000 to cover additional expenses in 2011. The Stewardship Board is placing phone calls hoping that we will be able to encourage all church members to participate in this critical fund raising effort.

The Finance Board is in the process of preparing a preliminary budget and needs your response ASAP. At this point the funding requests for 2011 from the various Boards exceed the pledge response by over \$75,000. We requested the final commitment by January 17, however, the Finance Board has agreed to continue to revise the budget right up to the Executive Board meeting on January 25. They will also take additional pledges into account prior to the vote at the Congregational Meeting in February in order to allow all pledge commitments to be counted. If you have not pledged, please do so right away. If you have pledged and can increase your generosity a bit more, please let Dale Wittenberg know dale.wittenberg@gccucc.org.

We extend our sincere thank you to the following people who have responded to the 2011 Stewardship Campaign with their generous financial support for our beloved church and its good work. We thank you for your love and commitment to Glenview Community Church.

The 2010-2011 Stewardship Board

Jim & Mary-Lou Aagaard Sam & Cathy Ach Karen Aeschlimann David & Melissa Aki Barbara Aldrich Janet Aldrich Tom & Karen Aldrich Gloria Amin Mary Beth Amoruso Tom Amos Wayne Andersen & Sheila O'Brien Val Anderson Willard Anderson Carolyn Ashbrook Pamela Asplund

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Paul Kunkel & Stephanie
Cesna
Jerry Kurz & Kathryn Hall

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Kate Zarish Julie Zylke Joyce Zylke



GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

1000 Elm Street

Glenview, IL 60025-2897

Phone: (847) 724-2210 Fax: (847) 724-2213 E-mail: gccucc@gccucc.org

OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 p.m.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts, Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Pamela Keckler, Minister for Spiritual Formation

DIRECTORS:

Marilyn Belleau, RN, Health Ministry Kathy Lifton, Children's Ministry Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini, Youth Ministry Debby Shellard, Children's Choirs Gary Wendt, Organist, Instrumental Music Andrew Lewis, Adult Choir

AFFILIATES:

MON 1/31

Marcia Kiraly, *Director, GCC Nursery School* **Barbara Thewis,** *Manager, Resale Shop*

Return Service Requested

At A		9:00 am 12:30 pm 7:30 pm	Resale Shop open until 5:00 pm, Plymouth Rm Musical Revue, Choir Rm and Mayflower Rm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	TUE 2/1
FRI	1/28	9:00 am 11:30 am 8:00 pm 8:00 pm	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm Daisy Girl Scouts, Founders Rm & Rm 8 AA Mtg., Parlor Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201	WED 2/2
SAT	1/29	9:00 am 9:00 am 9:00 am	Resale Shop open until 1:00 pm, Plymouth Rm Men's Open Gym, Gym CSA Pinewood Derby, Mayflower Rm	
SUN	1/30	8:45 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 10:45 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	Voices of GCC Rehearsal, Rm 201 Worship Service, Sanctuary Confirmation joining Worship Service, Sanctuary Sunday School, Various Rms - start in rm 201 Fellowship Hour, Mayflower Rm Adult Education, Chapel PYF, Youth Rm Voices of GCC, Rm 201	

No meetings scheduled

Broadcaster Deadlines:

4:30 pm Hebrew School, Various Rms7:00 pm Children's Board Mtg., Rm 201

8:00 pm Venture Crew, Rm 210 and Gym

7:30 am CSA 156 Committee Mtg, Founders Rm

7:00 pm BSA 156 Troop Mtg., Gym, Mayflower Rm

7:30 pm Confirmation Youth Board Mtg., Youth Rm

Submit articles by 9:00 a.m., Wednesday to Tania McCarthy via e-mail at <u>tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org.</u>

Nonprofit Organization

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