

Broadcaster

Glenview Community Church

April 15, 2009

A Pilgrim's Progress

I suspect each of us had some emotional deflation following our Easter celebration. We left the Easter service excited, emotionally high, uplifted, feeling life was grand and we could face and deal with anything that came our way.

But now, just a couple of days later, many of us have a "let down" feeling. Our lives feel like they are at low tide. We are not alone and not the first people to experience this. Actually, this has been the emotional experience of people from the very first followers of Jesus. We have a comrade, a colleague, and a fellow struggler in Thomas.

Thomas has gotten a bad rap through the years. Because he raised questions and was unwilling to take the other disciples words as first hand experience for himself, Thomas has been identified by many as a doubter. Actually doubt is a helpful and healthy approach because it causes us to examine things closely and carefully. As one person has stated, "Doubt is the mother of faith."

I have found Thomas to be a wonderful role model of faith. A week after the resurrection when Thomas met with his fellow disciples, they were excited and energized because they said, "We have seen the Lord." But Thomas couldn't celebrate because what they were telling him was not real to him. Thomas had enough integrity not to say he believed something when he didn't. Thomas did not argue with his fellow disciples. He simply stated that he would not believe until he had seen Jesus for himself. What was it that Thomas would believe if he saw and touched Jesus? Was he saying he will believe that Jesus is alive? Had the very foundation of his life been so shaken that he doubted God and only by seeing and touching Jesus would he believe in God again? Maybe he was saying that life had lost its meaning and to see and touch Jesus would give him the opportunity to believe in life itself.

A week later when Thomas saw Jesus, Jesus instructed him to do exactly what Thomas

said he would have to do in order to believe. There is no indication that Thomas did that. All that is recorded is Thomas' exclamation, "My Lord and my God!"

For Thomas, seeing was believing. Jesus said that even happier are the people for whom believing is seeing. Has that ever happened to you? Has believing ever led to seeing for you? Many parents have had the experience of believing in a child, believing strongly enough and long enough until they saw in the child what they had believed was there all along. Teachers believe in students until they see students bloom. Coaches believe athletes have talent that will develop. God believes in us even when we don't believe in ourselves. And we believe in one another. Our belief in one another brings out the best in them and us and the believing becomes seeing. Believing Thomas not only leads to our seeing, but also leads to our recognizing what a wonderful contribution Thomas has made to the faith with his questions, his struggles, and his open, honest inquiry. Believing Thomas has enabled me to question, search, learn, and grow. Believing Thomas has led to seeing, to seeing glimpses of truth God has for me. I commend Thomas to you. You'll find him to be a kindred spirit.

Howard

A Prayer:

When we say:

"Unless I see the marks,
I will not believe,"
make this moment
a mark of faith.

Lead us to the touching points,
where doubt and belief mingle;
the places of exile within and without,
where paths meet,
and we see your face in that fear
and find a home in you, O God.
Amen.

SUNDAY SERVICES

APRIL 19, 2009

Are We There Yet?

8:30 a.m. *Voices of GCC & Primary Choir*

10:30 a.m. *Voices of GCC & Primary Choir*

Debby Shellard, *Children's Choir Director*
Rev. Sally Iberg

APRIL 26, 2009

8:30 a.m. *Pilgrim Wind Ensemble*

Confirmation Sunday

37 eighth graders will be confirmed

10:30 a.m. *Chancel Choir, and Pilgrim Wind Ensemble*

Scripture:

Proverbs 22:1-6

Sermon:

"Discerning Gifts"

Rev. Dr. Howard Roberts

MAY 3, 2009

Church Music Sunday

8:30 a.m. *Pilgrim Wind Ensemble*

Scripture:

Colossians 3:12-17

Sermon:

"Music: One Faith Expression"

10:30 a.m. *Chancel Choir and UIC Choir*

CMA Annual Spring Meeting

May 2 is the date and Christ Church of Chicago is the location of the Annual Spring Meeting of the Chicago Metropolitan Association. Registration forms are in the church office. If you can attend and are willing to serve as a delegate, please let Dr. Roberts know.

SIGN UP Spring Small Groups

We have great small groups for the spring. Rev. Pam Keckler will facilitate two small groups on Biblical Women: Mirrors, Models, and Metaphors on four Wednesday mornings (9:30 to 11 a.m.) and Wednesday evenings (7 to 8:30 p.m.) beginning on 4/29. Kelly Golding and Nina Fockens will facilitate a small group using the book "Three Cups of Tea", on Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. beginning on 4/30. Information and registration materials are in the church office.

Adult Education Sundays 9:30 am in the Chapel

Ron Miller will present: "The Search for the Historical Jesus" on April 19 and 26.

MAY 3 May is Older Americans Month...

In honor of Older Americans Month, Wendy Thornton will share with you the "Good News-Bad News". A story that illustrates how to create a long-range plan to allow an aging parent or spouse to receive care at home and postpone or prevent the need for care in a nursing home.

Ideas, suggestions for future Adult Education programs? E-mail Chris Calandra at ccalandra4@comcast.net

Rachel Barton Pine in Concert

Celebrate the Spirit-An Interfaith Dialogue in Word and Music is a concert and conversation intended as an expression of new ways of being in the world. Sponsored by Chicago Theological Seminary, April 19, 7 p.m. at the Music Institute of Chicago in Evanston, this is an opportunity to hear renowned violinist Rachel Barton Pine who played for our worship service in August 2008. Tickets are \$35 and may be secured by contacting Kim Johnson at 773-332-0223 or visit the website www.ctschicago.edu. Young people in high school and college are being offered free tickets. Call or go on line to secure your tickets.

GCC CAREER NETWORK



"We may not have it all together, but together we have it all."

Author Unknown

We had our first meeting on April 6 with a total attendance of 11 plus the two leaders and a minister. If you are unemployed, returning to work or considering a job change, please join us! We will share experiences, resources, job openings, hear speakers and support one another.

We meet every other Monday at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m. for about 1 1/2 hours. Our next meeting will be on April 20 in the Parlor. Just show up and bring a friend or neighbor. Members also have access to a Yahoo! Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GCCCareerNetwork>) to get resources, share information and be alerted of opportunities.

Contact Alek & Renee Jablonski at 847-922-6870 or Rev. Pam Keckler at 847-724-2210 for more information. All are welcome to attend.



60 Plus

On April 21 at 12 noon in the PLYMOUTH Room Dr. David Beigler, Chief Section of Orthopedic Trauma North Shore University Health System and Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, will join us for lunch and then after lunch present on "Anterior Approach Total Hip Replacement". Dr. Beigler has been specifically trained in this procedure and operates at Glenbrook Hospital. He will explain the benefits of this procedure along with a video and handouts. Afterwards we will have time for questions and answers. All are invited. Those younger than 60 yrs old are encouraged to attend the program session which will begin at approximately 12:45 pm.

Any questions, please call Marilyn Belleau, RN. BSN Advocate Health Care Parish Nurse at 847-724-2210 ext. 30.

Save The Date

A President's First 100 Days
THURSDAY APRIL 30 AT 10 AM

A Presentation by JOYCE SCHRAGER. Ms. Schrager is a well known, highly respected and popular current events lecturer. Plan to attend this historical perspective on President Obama's first days in the White House. In the aftermath of the presidential election, all are watching and anticipating "change" in this current time of crisis. Joyce, a dynamic speaker, is an expert on past and present political events.

FOLLOWED BY A BUFFET LUNCHEON
TICKETS \$15 for the program and luncheon
\$10 for the program only

The Chapter 8 members of GCC Women's Association are sponsoring this Spring program. We think the venue will appeal to both men and women of all ages. Tickets will be sold during fellowship hours and in the church office .



Glenview Community Church Nursery School is hosting their 4th Annual SPRING BOUTIQUE! Please join us on Wednesday, April 22nd from 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. and prepare to shop for some great spring and summer items. You'll also be sure to find unique gifts for Mother's Day, graduation, end-of-the-year teachers' gifts, summer fun and barbecues, and much more. Contact Michelle Langenbach at (847) 729-3217 with any questions or visit the web site at www.gccns.com/springboutique.

TRIVIA NIGHT!!! Potluck Dinner & Quiz Night

Sunday, April 19, 2009
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Please join the GCC Women's Association, Chapter 7 for food, fun, fellowship and prizes.

Last name A-M: Bring an entrée
Last name N-Z: Bring a salad or side dish
Drinks and dessert will be provided.

Please bring a non-perishable food or cash donation. Proceeds will be shared between the Iglesia San Lucas UCC and Northfield Food Pantry.



Mission Moment

Our next Mission Moment will be presented by a representative from Interfaith House at both services on Sunday, April 19. Interfaith House helps homeless adults recover from illness and injury, and it is the only agency of its kind in Illinois, and one of only a handful nationwide. Please join us on Sunday, April 19, to learn about the important work that Interfaith House does, partly through the support of GCC and our missions giving. (10% of GCC's collected pledges is used to support a variety of benevolent agencies, including Interfaith House.)

Thanks from your friends on the Missions Outreach Board.



Hymn Fest IV

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

4:00 p.m.

A festival of hymns and anthems celebrating Easter and The Resurrection through song!

Paul Leddington Wright, guest conductor
Tricia Melzer-Swaydrak, soprano

Hymn Fest IV- He is Risen! a festival of grand and glorious hymns and songs of the Easter season will be presented on Sunday, April 26 at 4:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary. Guest Conductor, Paul Leddington Wright (Coventry Cathedral and BBC Songs of Praise) will lead us all in an old fashioned sing-along hymn fest. The GCC Chancel Choir will be joined by choirs from other churches and hundreds of congregational voices singing wonderful hymns both old and new, along with organ, handbells, brass and timpani. It is a FREE concert and open to the public, so mark your calendars and bring your family and friends to join us in this uplifting afternoon of song.



Mitzvah Day, May 17, is coming soon! In preparation we are collecting items that will help various projects. Please donate any of the following items: hotel toiletries (small soaps, shampoo, conditioner, hand cream, toothbrushes/paste) for health care kits for the homeless, old eye glasses for organizations that distribute glasses to those in need, used printer cartridges that will be recycled, old athletic shoes without metal eyelets (Nike recycles shoes into playground surfaces). Labeled bins for these items will be located near the church office and in the Narthex. Thanks for your help!!



HANDS OF PEACE

Hands of Peace, the unique interfaith program that brings together American, Israeli and Palestinian teenagers for two weeks of dialogue, friendship and fun each summer in the northern Chicago suburbs, is still accepting applications for participants and host families.



Hands of Peace needs your help!

We're recruiting families to host Israeli and Palestinian teens during the two-week program this summer (7/17/09 -- 8/3/09). If you'd like to get involved, fostering new and very meaningful relationships, please apply today! Whether or not you have a teen or young children at home, we would welcome your application. More information and applications can be found online at www.hands-of-peace.org/host.html. Contact Gail Tatsuda with any questions (847)559-0599. We look forward to hearing from you!

Confirmation

8TH GRADE

Your last class is April 19. You will have a brief visit from PYF. Any final worship reflection sheets and service project reports are due in Rev. Keckler's mailbox in the office. Don't forget to pick up your robes and also turn in your health form and check. Extra forms are on the bulletin board by the Youth Room.

Regular class for **7th grade** and closing prayers on April 19.

PYF Stock Sale

It's that time again! Time to support our PYF Youth who are going on workcamp this summer from June 14-19. This year we've chosen to go to a Native American Reservation at Cass Lake in Minnesota. This is sponsored and led by YouthWorks. The youth will do several work projects which may include painting, insulating homes, caulking windows, cleaning, building wheelchair ramps or yard projects. Part of the week is also spent helping at Kids Club, which is a ministry for the community children. Later on we'll be sharing various mission projects or supplies that are desperately needed in this community for the children. The list will be available at coffee hour. Stock sales will begin on Sunday, April 19 and continue for three weeks, although you can support the youth at any time. Cost is \$10 a share. The youth look forward to talking to you about their upcoming mission trip at coffee hour on April 19, 26 and May 3 as well as on Youth Sunday, May 31. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

PYF Topics and Events

April 19, 4 - 6 pm Youth Room

"Relationships for the Journey - Taking Time" Join us for good discussion, & fun fellowship. I have found some great new games for us to try as a group.

April 26, 4 - 6 p. m.

"Service to the Church" Join us for the April service project that lets us give back to the church. Wear comfortable clothes.

May 3

Mini Trip to Chicago

We will take the train downtown and head to Millennium Park for a Photo Scavenger Hunt and sight seeing. We will meet at the church at 1:15 p.m. to walk over and catch the 1:39 p.m. train and be back at church by 6:15 p.m. Come and join us for this outing. Fun, snacks and adventure - RSVP would be helpful.

Glenview COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Not for profit Organization
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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*

Rev. Sally Iberg, *Minister for Mission and Ministry*

Directors:

Marilyn Belleau, *RN, Health Ministry*

Kathy Lifton, *Children's Ministry*

Elizabeth Ciccolini, *Youth Ministry*

Debby Shellard, *Children's Choirs*

Gary Wendt, *Organist, Instrumental Music*

Andrew Lewis, *Adult Choir*

Affiliates:

Marcia Kiraly, *Director, GCC Nursery School*

Barbara Thewis, *Manager, Resale Shop*

At A Glance

Thurs 9:00 am Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 5:00 pm
4-16 6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Bell Rm
6:30 pm N. Suburban Fam Day Care Assn., Rm 201
7:00 pm Troop 156 Patrol Leader, Founders Rm
7:00 pm HOP Committee Mtg., Parlor
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm, Sanctuary

Fri 9:00 am Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm
4-17 5:30 pm Voices of GCC & Primary Choir, Sanctuary
6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Night, Mayflower Rm
8:00 pm Al-Anon Mtg., Rm 201
8:00 pm AA Mtg., Parlor

Sat 9:00 am Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm
4-18 9:00 am Men's Open Gym, Gym
9:00 am Voices of GCC & Primary Choir, Sanctuary
1:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, Choir Rm

Sun 7:45 am Voices & Primary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
4-19 8:30 am Children's Choir Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:30 am 8th Grade Confirmation Class, Assigned Rms
9:30 am 7th Grade Confirmation Class, Assigned Rms
9:30 am Adult Education, Chapel
10:15 am Confirmation Closing Prayers, Plymouth Rm
10:30 am Children's Choir Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:30 am Leadership Committee, Rm 201
11:30 am Confirmation/Youth Board, Youth Rm
3:30 pm Art & Faith, Chapel

Sun 4:00 pm PYF Gathering, Youth Rm
4-19 5:30 pm Family Quiz Night Potluck, Mayflower Rm

MON 12:00 pm Career Networking, Plymouth Rm
4-20 7:00 pm BSA 156 Committee Mtg., Parlor
7:00 pm Career Networking, Plymouth Rm
7:00 pm Personnel Task Force, Rm 201

Tues 12:00 pm 60 Plus Luncheon, Mayflower Rm
4-21

Wed 9:00 am Resale Shop, Plymouth Rm until 1:00 pm
4-22 6:30 pm BSA Troop 156, Gym
7:00 pm Planned Giving Committee, Library
7:00 pm Venture Crew, Rm 210
7:15 pm Heifer Update, Parlor

Broadcaster Deadline

Please submit all articles by 9:00 am, Wednesday, one week in advance to publishing via e-mail at tania.mccarthy@gccucc.org