



**GLENVIEW
NEW CHURCH**

A NEW CHRISTIANITY

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PARK NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH

September 2026

Pastoral Message

We Are What We Intend

On August 16, the Sunday message was about Jesus' saying, "Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 5: 20). It was about the key role our intentions play in determining who we are—or we could say, it was a message about "the centrality of intentionality." This article is a follow-up on that message...

Aren't human observation and communication funny things? We see the way someone behaves; we hear the words they speak; we're aware of some of the life choices they make. And so easily—from our limited perspective—we may think, "THAT is the person."

Yet the Lord begs to differ. (In fact, He may *literally* beg us to have a different, deeper perspective.)

What is it that makes you and me who we are? Is it the actions of our lives? Is it the words we speak? Is it the outward choices we make? Yes, of course, all of these things are parts of who we are, and in the name of "personal responsibility" we need to be aware of them in ourselves—in order to make wise life choices—and we need to observe them in people we're responsible for—in order to influence their lives for good.

And yet how often does our own, inner experience of ourselves say that what makes us to be us is something *more* than just our outward behavior? Isn't it what lies *within* us that makes us truly and fully who we are? For example, how often does any one of us try to reach out with a helping hand or a kind word, or to do our daily work well and conscientiously, only to have the aims and intentions of our hearts misconstrued? At times, our best efforts to choose a direction in life, do or say kind things to others, or accomplish a task for their benefit, can be seen by others as the *opposite* of what we intended or hoped for! And if this happens to *you*, how often might you make the same, simple mistake in how you "read" others around you? Isn't it amazing how easily and often we human beings can miss seeing one another for who we are at deeper levels?

In this regard, here are two lovely, meaningful teachings that our theology offers on the topic. What do these teachings say to you? How do they inform you for going forward in relationships you care about? How do they inform you for things you observe in others, and for people you meet in your walk of life? And how do they help you (as it says in the current mission statement of the Glenview New Church)

Church Calendar

September

6	SUN	10:00	Worship Service—Sanctuary
9	WED	10:30	Arcana Class
		7:00	Boys/Girls Club
10	THURS	7:00	Board of Trustees meeting
9/11-9/13			Men's Weekend
13	SUN	10:00	Worship Service—Auditorium
		6:00	Youth Group
14	MON	5:00	Women Unwind
15	TUE	7:00	Park Dwellings meeting
		7:00	MANC Board meeting
16	WED	10:30	Arcana Class
		7:00	Boys/Girls Club
19	SAT	6:00	Open House/BBQ at the manse
20	SUN	10:00	Worship Service—Auditorium
21	MON	4:45	Yoga
23	WED	10:30	Arcana Class
		4:00	GNCS Dine-out Fundraiser—Culver's
		7:00	Boys/Girls Club
26	SAT	10:10	Golf Outing
27	SUN	10:00	Worship Service—Sanctuary
			Holy Supper
		6:00	Youth Group
28	MON	4:45	Yoga
30	WED	10:30	Arcana Class
		7:00	Boys/Girls Club

"meet people where they are, and walk together on pathways toward heaven"? Here are those teachings:

"People are people of such a character as they are in their purpose, intention or end in view, and so they also appear to the Lord and to angels; indeed, so they are also regarded by wise people in the world. For the intention is the soul in all actions...." (*Married Love* 452.3)

"I (Emanuel Swedenborg) have met many spirits who, in the world, had lived like others in outward appearances—dressing grandly, dining elegantly, doing business like others at a profit, attending theatrical performances, joking about the actions of lovers in a seemingly lustful manner, and other like things. And yet angels attributed these things to some as sinful evils, and to others as *not evil*, declaring the former guilty, but the latter innocent. Upon my asking the reason for this, when the people had done the same things, the angels replied that they regard everyone in the light of his purpose, intention, or goal, and make distinctions accordingly, since a goal of good is the goal of all in heaven, and a goal of evil the goal of all in hell. This, too, they said, and nothing else, is meant by the Lord's

General Announcements

words, 'Judge not, that you be not condemned'" (Matthew 7:1). (*Married Love* 453.2, emphasis added)

Happy month of September, everyone, as we get started on a new church year. May all of us be sensitively aware of the good intentions in ourselves and in others whom we meet and interact with. (Mark)

trying yoga for the first time. Chair yoga will also be available, so participants can adapt the class to their own comfort and ability.

The 8-week session begins on Monday, September 21 from 4:45–5:45 PM in the Auditorium. The cost for the eight-week session is \$120 and registration is for the complete session (individual classes cannot be purchased). Classes are open to women and men, ages 18 and over with a maximum of 20 participants. Classes will include breathwork, short meditation, and movement.

To register, please email Jane Enis at jane.enis@newchurch.org. Your registration will be confirmed once the registration/waiver form and \$120 payment has been received. We hope you'll join us as Wellness in the Park gets underway!

Men's Weekend—September 11-13

Our annual men's weekend takes place the weekend of Sept 11-13 at the usual location—Deep Lake Wisconsin. There's still time to RSVP. Contact Brannon Smith at 847-529-3700; brannonkara@hotmail.com. If you need a ride, let Brannon know so we can get one for you.

Cost of the weekend is \$75 for food and other expenses. It helps with cash flow if you send a check in advance. You can send to Gary Edmonds, 39 Park Drive, Glenview IL 60025. Any questions can be directed to Brannon (see above).

Women Unwind—September 14

Our once-a-month get-together will take place on Monday, September 14 from 5-6:30 PM at Karen Stoeller's, 100 Park Drive, Glenview. Casual - with wine, soft drinks, cheese, crackers, and conversation. Contact: Sandy Ruch 215-266-3063.

Open House/BBQ—September 19

You are warmly invited to an open house/BBQ to celebrate the start of a new church and school year. It's happening at the main manse (73 Park Drive) on Saturday evening, September 19, starting at 6 PM. Children are invited. Feel free to invite friends from the neighborhood as well. We will provide a base of burgers and dogs on the grill, plus non-alcoholic drinks and some wine and beer. If others of you (and any invited friends) can bring a main course, side dish, soup, salad, or dessert, that would be great! If you have a favorite alcoholic beverage beyond beer & wine, feel free to BYO. RSVPs (affirmative only) would be helpful so we know how many to prepare for. We hope you can come. (Mark & Ellen)

Yoga in the Park – All Are Welcome!

Our Wellness in the Park Team has been hard at work, and we are excited to announce our first 8-week yoga class beginning Monday, September 21! We are delighted to welcome Lynn Connery as our yoga instructor. Lynn brings more than 25 years of experience in yoga, meditation, breathwork, fitness, and wellness. . Lynn's classes focus on body awareness, mindful movement, breathwork, and meditation, helping participants slow down, tune in, and become more aware and confident in listening to their bodies. No previous yoga experience is needed. All levels are welcome, from experienced yoga participants to those

GNCS Dine-out Fundraiser—September 23

Take a night off from cooking and enjoy delicious food while supporting Glenview New Church School at our first dine-out fundraiser of the year. Join us at Culver's, 1727 Waukegan Road, Glenview from 4-8 PM on Wednesday, September 23. Be sure and mention the GNCS fundraiser and 25% of sales will go to GNCS. Thanks for your support!

Golf Outing—September 26

It's that time of year! This year's outing will take place on Saturday morning, September 26. Once again, we'll be playing at the Glenview Park District Golf Course on Shermer Road, just down from the church. Tee times will start at 10:10 AM. As always, we'll have participants of all types – beginners and pros (almost), men and women, young and old. The \$130/pp fee includes 18 holes of golf, an electric golf cart, a gourmet (sandwich and a pop) lunch, and a donation to the Glenview New Church. For more information, call or email Owen Smith (630-327-1966, owen@abbeyco.inc). This is always a lot of fun. Please join us!

GNCS Scarecrow Walk—October 9

Come enjoy the fall feels at this year's Scarecrow Walk on Friday, October 9th from 4-6 PM. Bonus for church and school families - there will be a preview from 3-4 PM for you. Explore the scarecrows and enjoy the beauty of fall over apple cider and popcorn. Hitch a hayride to view and discover the wonder of the changing of seasons. This year we are planning to have a pumpkin carved right before our eyes for all to enjoy. The scarecrows will remain up through October 31st so people can take a walk on our beautiful campus and celebrate the season.

Sunday Morning Worship Volunteering

Whether you're a longtime volunteer or new to helping out, you are welcome! Our worship services are made possible by volunteers who greet and usher, help with hospitality, offer music, support children's programs, and assist



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Glenview New
Church
74 Park Drive
Glenview, IL 60025

9-1-2026

with special events. Students are welcome and may earn school community service hours.

Please review the online schedule or email/text Martha to sign up where you would enjoy serving: [Glenview New Church: GNC Sunday Morning Volunteers - 2026/27](#) Thank you! Martha Heilman, GNC Volunteer Coordinator 847-302-7619
MarthaH@glenviewnewchurch.org

July 4th Festivities Recap

Our annual parade kicked off as usual at 9:30 AM with a trip around Park Drive. Then the Flagpole ceremony began with Nico Paraskevopoulos, Theo Kruger-Sanders, and Mo Acton raising the flag. Master of Ceremonies Rev. Elmo Acton led the pledge of allegiance and Bonny Lundin-Scheer and Wade Smith led everyone in the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner. This year we were treated to a wonderful speech from Randy Gyllenhaal! The festivities wrapped up with parade judges Vera Junge, Ryan Haberman, Christy Wood and Jane Enis awarding prizes to all participants.

Special thanks to Sue Lee for shopping and gathering all the fun prizes! Festivities were followed by a yummy BBQ picnic around the Park Lake hosted by Team Brent and Brannon Smith and the Girls and Boys Club. Wade Smith organized the games and races, including the popular dunk tank! A fun time was had by all! THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this year's 4th of

July celebration happen. (Martha Heilman, GNC Volunteer Coordinator)

Save the Dates!

You might not yet have a 2027 calendar, but here are two important events to make note of:

TRIVIA NIGHT 2027—MARCH 13

Never too early to get a team together. This year we will do trivia, a few games while sheets are graded, and then award prizes. This will allow people to leave earlier if they wish. For the rest we will have music and mingling and maybe one more game.

LAURA BARGER RETIREMENT CELEBRATION!

Calling all former students, colleagues, and friends! Please save the date to celebrate **Laura Barger** and honor her 39 incredible years of teaching!

Date: Saturday, April 10, 2027

Location: Glenview New Church Auditorium

Age: College-age and up

Formal invitation with time and RSVP details to follow. We hope to see generations of former students there!