



**GLENVIEW  
NEW CHURCH**

A NEW CHRISTIANITY

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# PARK NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH

June 2019

## Pastoral Message

### So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish

So here we are: my last message for the *Park News*. Someone said, "Make it a good one!" My original plan was to make it a terrible one just to change things up, but really, why spoil the streak, right? So what do I want to say to *Park News* readers as my farewell message? What one thing do I want you to take away from my three years of preaching, teaching, leading, communicating and being in community with you all?

Well, one is hard. I have a list of seven things. I strongly believe that if you take these seven tasks deadly seriously, and make them the seven most important things in your life—even for a short period of time—then you will see a powerful net positive result in the lives of the people around you, and maybe even in your own life, too. Here they are:

**Read the Word.** Do it on a schedule. Set aside a regular time to do it. Even if it's a tiny amount of reading, making it a habit to read the Word will lead slowly to enlightenment and to a closer connection with God. Worship the Lord in community with others. Showing up to Sunday worship is good for you. And it's not just about the preaching. There is more power than you may realize in spending an hour with a large group of people in prayer, singing, and worship. And even if sometimes you don't feel like you're getting something out of a particular Sunday morning experience, your very presence is almost certainly useful to others there in the room with you.

**Pray.** This is the one I'd pick if I had to pick only one. Pray regularly, just like reading regularly, and also pray spontaneously. Both planned times of prayer and the habit of quickly turning to the Lord in your heart and mind during times of decision making, stress, anxiety, and fear, will improve your life.

**Repent.** For real, work the steps. Think of a recurring challenge in your life that shows up in multiple contexts. Guess what? It it's not likely to get better without repentance. If you don't periodically look at yourself and honestly confront your own shortcomings, you're not going to improve as a person. And if you don't bring the Lord into that process, you're going to have a miserable time at it. That's just how it is.

**Avoid anything that entices you to do things that aren't loving or to believe things that aren't true.** A big part of becoming a better, healthier, more whole person is slowly transforming things that you enjoy but that are bad for you into things that you actively dislike doing. But until that process is complete, there's going to be some self-denial involved. The technical term for this is "shunning evil".

## Church Calendar

### June

- |    |       |       |  |
|----|-------|-------|--|
| 2  | SUN   | 9:30  | Contemporary Worship Service<br>Family Service |
|    |       | 11:00 | Traditional Worship Service                    |
|    |       | 11:00 | Women's Sermon Discussion Circle               |
| 3  | MON   | 5:30  | Women Unwind (100 Park Drive)                  |
| 4  | TUE   | 7:00  | Park Dwellings                                 |
| 5  | WED   | 7:00  | Pastor's Council                               |
| 7  | FRI   | 10:30 | GNCS End of Year Event                         |
| 9  | SUN   | 9:30  | Contemporary Worship Service<br>Family Service |
|    |       | 11:00 | Traditional Worship Service                    |
|    |       | 11:00 | Women's Sermon Discussion Circle               |
|    |       | 5:30  | Farewell BBQ for Fraziers                      |
| 10 | MON   | 5:30  | Women Unwind (100 Park Drive)                  |
| 13 | THURS | 7:00  | Board of Trustees Meeting                      |
| 14 | FRI   | 6:00  | Spiritual Studies Club                         |
| 15 | SAT   |       | Park News deadline                             |
| 16 | SUN   | 11:00 | Traditional Worship Service<br>Holy Supper     |
|    |       | 4:30  | New Church Day Pageant                         |
| 17 | MON   | 5:30  | Women Unwind (100 Park Drive)                  |
| 20 | THURS | 7:00  | MANC Board Meeting                             |
| 23 | SUN   | 9:30  | Contemporary Worship Service<br>Family Service |
|    |       | 11:00 | Traditional Worship Service                    |
|    |       | 11:00 | Women's Sermon Discussion Circle               |
| 24 | MON   | 5:30  | Women Unwind (100 Park Drive)                  |
| 30 | SUN   | 9:30  | Contemporary Worship Service<br>Family Service |
|    |       | 11:00 | Traditional Worship Service                    |
|    |       | 11:00 | Women's Sermon Discussion Circle               |

Focus on service. Every day. Not just in your "official" occupation, but in the little interactions you have with friends, loved ones, neighbors and strangers. Stop asking, "What's in it for me?" Happiness is not something that comes as a result of pursuing it. Focus on being useful, and trust that the rest will come.

Love. Love *actively*. Love isn't a feeling, it's a lifestyle. A mission. Love people that you can't stand. If you have to, pray to love them. Love everyone. Love the Lord, love the Truth as a path to find Him. Love the goodness that exists in every single person you meet, and when you can't find that goodness, look harder. And love fiercely, forgivingly, and courageously.

It's been fun serving the Glenview New Church. Thank you for the last three years. (Mac Frazier)

# General Announcements

## James Reynolds

James Reynolds transitioned into the spiritual world quietly on May 2, 2019. He was 61 years old and had been in a local nursing home, suffering from Wernicke-Korsakoff Syndrome for some time. James was the youngest son of Greta Acton Reynolds (Stahl) and Hunter Reynolds. James grew up in Glenview and went through the church schools. He had worked in the heating and air conditioning field as an adult. James was married to Myriam Goyes and had an adopted son, Dan and a daughter, Jamie. James was a quiet man with a quiet sense of humor. There are many people in the society who knew him and he has several classmates in the area. There will be a service later in June or July after his daughter, Jamie graduates from the University of Arizona, where she is a senior in biology. Our sympathy goes out to his family.

## GNCS End of Year Celebration

Please join us at GNCS's End-of-School Year Celebration on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> starting promptly at 10:30am! Please join us for chapel, then a performance of *HATS* (featuring all GNCS students). The official end of the GNCS school year will be at approximately 11:30am AND you are welcome to stay for lunch afterwards. Please RSVP to Judy Teel if you would like to join us for lunch 847-724-0057x26 or [judyt@glenviewnewchurch.org](mailto:judyt@glenviewnewchurch.org).

## Farewell BBQ for Fraziers

You are warmly invited to a farewell BBQ for the Frazier family on Sunday, June 9, 5:30pm at my and Ellen's home. It will be a potluck event with us providing meat on the grill, drinks, and some red and white wine. If others can bring an hors d'oeuvre, side dish, salad, or dessert, that would be nice. No need to tell us what you're bringing, it always works out. If you have a favorite beer or alcoholic drink, BYO. (Mark Pendleton)

## Spiritual Studies Club

The "Spiritual Studies Club," will meet on Friday, June 14 in the Lake Lounge. Come for yummy hors d'oeuvres at 6pm, a delicious free meal at 7pm, followed by stimulating discussion on spiritual topics at 7:45pm.

## June 19—Our Church's Birthday

This year we will celebrate our church's birthday on Sunday, June 16. There will be a traditional service of worship for adults with Holy Supper at 11am in the Sanctuary, with an outdoor pageant planned for 4:30pm near the courtyard. In the event of rain we will move inside to the Auditorium.

## Combined Park News for July and August

We will have one combined Park News issue for the months of July and August. The deadline to submit items for that issue is Saturday, June 15 at 5pm. Submissions may be sent to [parknews@glenviewnewchurch.org](mailto:parknews@glenviewnewchurch.org).

## Annual Park Lane Block Party

On Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, we will be supplying the hamburgers and hotdogs. Please bring a side dish of any kind to share. There will be music, a firetruck, and more! Hope you can come join the fun! (Brannon and Kara Smith)

## Help the Actons Move In

Elmo and family will be arriving in Glenview the last weekend in June. We are in need of helpers to assist them in moving things into the manse at 2730 Park Lane. Meet there after church on Sunday, June 30. Any questions can be directed to Brannon Smith at 847-529-3700.

## Contributions Committee Update

The Board of Trustees would like to announce that as Erika Horgan's term as the Chair of the Contributions Committee comes to an end, Jill Brickman has agreed to step in and take up the leadership of this committee. I cannot say enough about the work that Erika has done. Over the past five years, through the work of Erika and her committee, contributions to the church have increased steadily year after year. Not only have we met and exceeded our recent contributions goals, as a result of Erika's innovative program of matching new contributors' dollars with contributions from local church-owned businesses, we have grown the pool of active contributors dramatically. This growth in contributing members will continue to pay off long after Erika's time heading the committee is over. Our thanks to Jill who, as a member of this committee, has been instrumental in the implementation of many of the new initiatives. These are some very big shoes to fill but we are more than confident that Jill is up to the challenge!. Anyone interested in serving on this important committee please reach out to Jill or me. We would love to have your help. (Owen Smith, Vice Chair on behalf of the Board of Trustees)

## From the Contributions Committee

As you're filling out your pledge form for the fiscal year that starts July 1st, please remember to complete your contribution for the current year. If you've had a year that allows for it, we're always happy to receive additional donations as well. (Our parent organization, the General Church, is on the same calendar as we are and will also be happy to receive any contributions.)

## Fourth of July Volunteers Needed

Believe it or not, July 4th is just a few weeks away! Brent Smith has agreed to organize the picnic this year and he needs help with food/drink prep and ticket sales. We also need helpers for the flagpole ceremony: parade judges, prizes, flag raisers and sound system. It's a super fun day but we need a lot of help to make it happen. Contact Martha Heilman, Volunteer Coordinator to sign up (847-302-7619) or see our sign-up genius link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0545a5ae2fa7fc1-july>



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## Fourth of July Festivities

Join us for our traditional July 4th festivities in the Park. Independence Day begins with a parade stepping off at 9:30am SHARP from the Church parking lot. Prizes will be awarded to float and bicycle entrants. The parade will be followed by a flagpole ceremony, which will include a patriotic speech. The Village of Glenview parade starts from Jackman Park at 11:15am, heading south on Lehigh, then west on Central, ending at Johns Park. There will be a picnic in the Pine Grove (near the playground opposite the Church) beginning at 12:30pm. The event will include races, softball, and of course, lots of visiting with community members and out of town guests. Most have enjoyed ending the day by watching fireworks. The Glenview Twilight Show concert and fireworks display will be at Gallery Park in The Glen (Patriot and Navy Boulevards). Our congregation tends to be a wonderful gathering place for a lot of people on this important national holiday. Here's to another fantastic celebration!

## Women's Programming

**Women Unwind** – meets weekly for conversation and fellowship on Mondays at 5:30pm at Karen Stoeller's home, 100 Park Drive.

**Sunday Morning Sermon Discussion Circle** – informal weekly drop-in gathering in the Lake Lounge after the 9:30 service to spiritually connect and further discuss the sermon topic.

## Healthy Church Match Closeout Opportunity!

Following the success of the match program for new donors, we now have a one-time chance for ALL contributors to the Glenview New Church and/or MANC to have extra gifts matched. There is a small pool remaining in the Healthy Church Match (HCM) fund from five years ago. For donations beyond pledged amount received by June 30th, the church or school will receive HCM matching funds up to \$6,000. This is an unusual opportunity to double your money. Please consider making a special donation today.

Please be sure to indicate that your donation is for Healthy Church Match on your check, or if paying via credit card on our website, please send an email to [glenviewnctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:glenviewnctreasurer@gmail.com) after you have completed the payment.

## Sunday Volunteers Needed

We need help with early coffee, refreshments, ushering, coordinating and being a part of the song teams. Young people are also invited to sign up. Please take a look at your schedules and sign up where you can. See sign-up genius link to signup: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0545a5ae2fa7fc1-930>.

## Support GNCS Through Amazon.com

Did you know that you can raise money for Glenview New Church School just by doing normal shopping on Amazon.com? All you have to do is shop through smile.amazon.com, and identify the Midwestern Academy as your charity of choice and a certain portion of your pur-

chases goes to MANC. Thank you for supporting GNCS and MANC! (Kendra Paraskevopoulos)

## The Ruth C. Poulsen Scholarship and Education Fund 2019-2020

It is time to apply for financial aid to the Bryn Athyn College of the New Church for the 2019-2020 academic year. This aid is available to present participants, to high school seniors wishing to attend the Bryn Athyn College next year, and to previous high school graduates who may not as yet have applied to that college. Scholarships are awarded in that order if sufficient funds are available. A parent must be a member of the General Church and an active member of the Glenview Society.

The students or parents should write their request to either Jerry Fuller or Bruce Reuter by July 15, 2019. All correspondence will be time and date marked when received. These procedures are kept confidential by the committee. Please call Bruce (847-729-1364) or Jerry (847-729-4642) if you have any questions.

## Gift for Brian & Gretchen Keith

As many of you know, the Rt. Rev. Brian Keith will retire on June 30 from his position as Executive Bishop of the New Church. Anyone who would like to contribute to a gift for them, or send them off with well wishes can do so in one or both of the following ways:

**Monetary gift:** A monetary gift is being collected that will go toward a travel fund for the Keiths. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you can send a check made out to "General Church of the New Jerusalem" with "Travel Fund, Brian Keith" in the memo line. The gift will be presented to the Keiths on Sunday, June 30. Send your gift to the following address: Barb Bevan, General Church of the New Jerusalem, Box 45, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009.

Financial gifts can also be sent via the [newchurch.org](http://newchurch.org) website—on the giving page (<https://newchurch.org/give/>) with "Tribute gift" checked. Please designate "Bishop Keith" when prompted.

**Good wishes:** An additional effort is being made to collect messages of thank you and good wishes for Brian and Gretchen: a thank you note for their service; a favorite memory of connecting with them; a quip that will make them smile. These can be sent to [kelly.treacy@newchurch.org](mailto:kelly.treacy@newchurch.org). Kelly will see to it that they are printed and put into a binder for presentation to the Keiths. It would be neat to get as many of these as we can. The deadline for receiving messages is June 19.

## ANC Summer Camp 2019

We invite all current 8th and 9th grade students to join us for a week of good old-fashioned fun! We offer a taste of dorm life, many interesting classes to choose from, daily worship to learn more about the New Church, different social activities each evening, our world famous color Olympics, and so much more.

Registration is open NOW! The all-inclusive cost for the

week is \$450. Registration closes June 21st. All class information and registration forms are available at [www.ancss.org/academics-summer-anccamp](http://www.ancss.org/academics-summer-anccamp)

For more information, please contact Emily Adams, Director, [emily.adams@ancss.org](mailto:emily.adams@ancss.org) or 267.625.7009.

## Jacob's Creek Family Retreat

July 21 – July 24, 2019

The Camp is located at the Laurelville Mennonite Church Center in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania. This year's theme is: Sacraments and Rites. Get your registration forms online at: <https://www.jacobscreekfamilyretreat.org/>. Friend us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/JacobsCreekFamilyRetreat/> or you can contact Julie Uber at 412-782-2710 or [jacobscreekfamilyretreat@gmail.com](mailto:jacobscreekfamilyretreat@gmail.com) to receive forms by mail.

## Secretary of Academy Board and General Counsel

The Academy of the New Church organization and its Board invites application for a part-time position of Secretary to the Academy Board and General Counsel. For greater detail please visit [www.ncpeoplevision.org](http://www.ncpeoplevision.org)

## Save the Date

Gathering Leaves 2020, an international event for Swedenborgian/New Church women will be held at the Purley Chase Centre in the UK, Friday, August 28th through Monday, August 31, 2020. The event will comprise divine worship in all its forms, talks, discussion groups, sister circles, circle dancing, country trail walking, meditation, yoga, arts and crafts and a day trip outing. As many attendees will be traveling long distances, extra dates either side of the event have been blocked out at Purley Chase to accommodate travel schedules. Further information to follow, including how to register.

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## Park Patter

A rousing chorus of Pomp and Circumstance should ring out for the 12 students who became alumna of various levels of their education in May and June. Starting with the eighth grade level: Hayden Giannini, Barjona Kaage and Phoebe Tozer; high school: Ryan George, Ella Kaage, Christian Parker, Danny Scheer, Kaylee Smith, and Max Tozer; college: Alessandro Berto, Illinois State University, Kaila Day, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Eva Kossman Illinois Wesleyan University and Dustin Smith, Bryn Athyn College.

Two of the college graduates attended two graduation ceremonies. Kaila Day received a degree in Business and a degree in Engineering, thus requiring two separate mortar board events. Eva Kossman finished her academic work at the mid term in the winter when there was a ceremony

held, but she returned to the bigger show in May because she received Research Honors at the second ceremony.

CONGRATULATIONS to each and every one of the students AND to their parents!

More congratulations are in order for the baptism of Mileena Emmeline, daughter of Elle Acton and Mike Bloom and little sister to Wesley. Reverend Elmo Acton officiated at his great niece's ceremony.

And some more congratulations go to Marilyn Wille who became a nonagenarian on May 6. The occasion was marked by the arrival of Marilyn's sisters, Gwen Asplundh and Judy Hyatt and son Kurt Wille from Bryn Athyn. Cedric and Craig were also among the celebrants and then the last of the McQueen Mohicans, Bennet, came east from Spokane, WA to finish off the festivities. Best wishes to Marilyn from all the rest of we Glenviewites, too.

Venita Smith migrated from Florida to Illinois via a Smithmobile. She piloted Bob and Naomi Smith's car up here while they flew (as migraters usually do) to the northern nest. Venita took a few days of R and R before flying home.

More Smith safaris: Brannon and Kara Smith drove to BA for their son Dustin's graduation and to return Dustin and all his possessions to Glenview. They accomplished this just before the Force XXX tornadoes tore through Pennsylvania. Since they are so good at this type of trip, they'll get the wonderful opportunity to do it all over again when Kaylee graduates and they beat the weather again. It was deja vu all over again!

How many people does it take to drive the school van with the Youth Group (approx. four) to Kitchener, Ontario, Canada? More than you would think. Cindy and Keith Parker were the designated drivers until Keith had to go from Kitchener to Rome, a slight change of venue. So Amanda Tozer threw herself into the breach and helped return the happy students—they had a great time visiting the school and society there—back to the GNC parking lot.

Another interesting drive—Gordon McClarren and his cat drove up to Hazelhurst for most of the month of June. When he was asked about driving all that way by himself, he replied. "Oh, I'll let the cat drive." So, yes that was a cat you saw buzzing along up Rt. 51 in car with a USN license plate holder.

Woodard wayfarings—Dan and Joan started off in early May by Rving down to East Peoria where Glenn and Carrie and the boys reside, for the grandsons' band concert. A bonus was that Kyle, a senior in high school, received a Louis Armstrong jazz band award. Then D and J dived into a flooded campground in East Peoria, which spurred them to move on to Effingham, IL to a dry campground where they could enjoy nature and go kayaking on the nearby lake. (What? You hadn't had enough water?) Next, they returned to Peoria for Kyle's outdoor graduation, which was only slightly damp; also, congratulations to Kyle, who graduated with



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honors. Now D and J packed up and traveled up to Hazelhurst to begin opening the Fuller cabins for the summer. One of the first duties is to turn on the water—easier said than done! Dan opened up the hatch to the underground area where the water pipes and the turn-on are located and lo, and behold—a block of frozen ice and mud obscured the vital pipes. Now we're back to water again—trips to town to provide the life giving liquid until Ken and Alaine York arrived bearing a heat gun (think large hair dryer) and melted the frosty ground. See how much fun these things can be?

Aixa Chen stayed around home but had a fun adventure with her parents. They went off to one of the local casinos and spent a fun day feeding the slots. Aixa cleaned up on that— she came out way ahead in the game with a profit of \$2.50 (or did she say \$2.30?)

Fauna Fables as a finale—Sue Holmes opened her window and threw up the sash when what to her wondering eyes did appear but two fairly large deer in her backyard? They wandered next door to the east and then back through the yard toward the west (without a driver lively or quick). What they really needed was a GPS to help them find their way to safety bypassing Lake Avenue!

Meanwhile, up the way a bit, Mama Raccoon was busy rescuing her brood (at least four) from the Chin's backyard to the Wood's yard. To do this, Mama had to scale a fence into the Chin's yard (over alone and back over with a mouthful of baby) through Bruce and Valerie's backyard and over through Wood's yard.

Mama was escaping the flood plain that was rising steadily in her nesting place. And they say women can't do heavy lifting!

Now at the other end of the intelligence scale we have Daffy and Ditsy Mallard who have been enjoying Lake Synnestvedt in you-know-who's backyard. They waddle out in the broad daylight and munch around the spilled bird seed that falls from the sky (or more likely the bird feeders) without a care for the fact that Wiley Coyote regularly trots across the yard on his way to Junges, Parkers, Reuters, Woods, etc. IF Daffy and Ditsy are startled by a noise, they fly up into the trees in the back corner by Lake Synnestvedt and land in them. A question: how do ducks hold on to tree limbs with webbed feet?