



**GLENVIEW
NEW CHURCH**

A NEW CHRISTIANITY

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PARK NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH

May 2024

Pastoral Message

Brood XIII

Life has its struggles, big and small. We might call the big ones “crises” and the small ones “nuisances”. It is a crisis when a loved one dies, when we unexpectedly lose a job, when we have a life-changing injury, or when someone has a deadly illness (amongst other horrible things). These types of crises can take years to process and heal from. Some crises end with a loss so big that the void is never filled. It is like a “living room” missing the “couch” that everyone sat on - the room feels empty, the other furniture feels misplaced, and the carpet that was under the couch stands out a different color and texture. Even more glaring, the indents from where the legs rested for so long in the carpet can’t be vacuumed away, they seem to call out to everyone who can see that something that had permanence is unsettlingly missing. However, even with all that, we find a way to move on knowing that life on this earth will always be without that person or that thing we lost. We know that in the afterlife we will get to see those people we loved, get to use that leg again, and we will get that house or “job” we truly need. Life on this earth is short, even if we live past 100. Can anything prepare us for these big losses?

Maybe it’s the little nuisances in life that prepare us for our big struggles. Imagine how much worse a loss could be if you never experienced a loss at all. Imagine how much harder it would be to get through conflict in your adult years if you had never had any conflict before then. Is there a way we can be thankful, dare I say grateful, for life’s nuisances? These nuisances prepare us, in a way, for the big crises in our lives. They may anger us and take up our time but they also strengthen our emotional “muscles”. Sometimes, inconveniences give us a “nice” distraction from the bigger problems that eat us up. Have you ever thought that the more you can deal with the little things the more you can better deal with the big things? Getting through smaller problems can provide us (eventually) with enough mental information and fortitude to power through the big problems (if we accept what was just stated as true).

Cicadas can teach us about nuisances and crises. Yes, that is right, I am about to use the life cycle of cicadas as a kind of analogy for everything from a hang nail to death. Just like cicadas, nuisances, and crises come up annually, sometimes every 13-17 years, and sometimes all at the same time. The cicadas that come every year are nicknamed “dog day” cicadas because they emerge in the last and hottest days of summer—they mostly have life cycles of 2-5 years (but can reach up to 9 years) and are not necessarily synchronized as are larger broods. Some cicadas come out every 13

Church Calendar

May

- 1 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
7:00 Boys Club/Girls Club
- 2 THURS 7:00 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 3-5 Youth Group Weekend
- 5 SUN 10:00 Worship Service—Sanctuary
- 6 MON 5:00 Women Unwind
- 7 TUE 7:00 Park Dwellings
7:00 Pastor’s Council
- 8 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
7:00 Boys Club/Girls Club
- 12 SUN 10:00 Worship Service—Auditorium
Holy Supper
6:00 Youth Group
- 15 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
7:00 Boys Club/Girls Club
GNCS Dine-Out Fundraiser
- 18 SAT Men’s Breakfast
- 19 SUN 10:00 Worship Service—Sanctuary
11:30 GNC Annual Meeting
6:00 Youth Group
- 22 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
7:00 Boys Club/Girls Club
- 26 SUN 10:00 Worship Service—Auditorium
6:00 Youth Group
- 29 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
7:00 Boys Club/Girls Club

years, and then some cicadas come out every 17 years. The 17-year cicadas we are about to get are called Brood XIII. South of us they are getting an overlap of Brood XIII and Brood XIX (13-year). All of these cicadas burrow up out of the ground, mate, and then the females lay eggs in twigs and such. When these eggs hatch, nymphs drop to the ground and burrow down in the ground to start the 2 to 17-year process all over. And when they burrow back up, boy do they make a lot of noise! At first, it can be annoying...but then don’t we all get kind of used to it? It’s nice that we get the “annual” cicadas to prepare us for the 17-year ones. Imagine if there were only the 17-year ones. That would put people into a panic! Or imagine if we had locusts like that. That would be a true crisis for all of us, causing famine and illness.

Like cicadas, you can think you’ve put a loss to rest, only to have it emerge again later. Like Brood XIII, you can almost completely forget how hard certain kinds of loss are until you have to suddenly experience it again. Some struggles seem to cling to you and are so loud, it drowns out all your other thinking. Sometimes the “noise” is so intense you be-

General Announcements

come numb to any help. This is part of life's tapestry. If you stand back from it, you can see there will be an end to what you're going through. Also, standing back, you can see there will be something next. The only way to escape hardship is by finding ways to make it not so hard. One of the greatest ways to avoid the intensity of hardship is by helping each other through it. It is through helping others that we lighten their load, we learn, and we help ourselves. There is a lot of beauty that is created around loss, hardship, and even pesky inconveniences - the beauty of friendship, caring, listening, selflessness, and love... and present with all of that is the Lord and His angels.

Brood XIII visited me when I was 6 months when I was 17, and when I was 34 years old, and now they come again. The drone of these insects in the evenings always brings me back to my childhood (before we all had air conditioners). The noise they made was like listening to waves in the ocean - a lullaby outside my window as I went to bed. My kids will get to experience that now, like so many other things, as a part of life. Sometimes you become so used to a "noise" that you can't "hear" what the world would sound like without it. Then again, sometimes you get far enough away from a life event that you no longer can emotionally reference what it was like to go through it. I guess I'll be experiencing what it was like again, real soon. At least I know it's coming.

Whether life throws us "Brood XIII" or "Dog Day" problems, let's help each other through it all. That will help create purpose, structure, and love where there is chaos.

"Those who see evidence of God at work in the details of nature ponder the obvious yet astounding phenomena in the reproduction of plants and animals." (True Christianity 12)

"Divine providence is present in the slightest details of our thoughts and actions. If divine providence is at work in the slightest details of such trivial and inconsequential matters, what else can we expect in the details of matters that are not trivial and inconsequential?" (Divine Providence 212)

Rev. Elmo K. Acton

Women Unwind—May 6

Our once-a-month get-together will take place on Monday, May 6 from 5-6:30pm at Karen Stoeller's, 100 Park Drive, Glenview. Casual - with wine, soft drinks, cheese, crackers, and conversation. Contact: Sandy Ruch 847-724-0363

Sunday Morning – Volunteers Needed

We are offering refreshments after the 10am worship services as volunteers are available. The usher schedule is also open. Anyone is welcome to sign up and students can earn school community service hours for these and other useful duties. Click this link to sign-up (or send me an email). <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0545a5ae2fa7fc1-gncsunday>
Thank you in advance! Martha Heilman, Volunteer Coordinator 847-302-7619

Midwest Gathering Leaves Virtual Conference for New Church Women—May 11

Women who are members and friends of the Glenview New Church and other Midwestern New Church congregations are invited to join the 2024 Spring Midwest Gathering Leaves Conference via Zoom on Saturday, May 11th from 1-3pm Central Time. The theme of the conference, "Searching for the Feminine in the Divine," will be featured in a presentation by Tirah Keal, a graduate of Bryn Athyn College who is preparing for ministry in the Swedenborgian Church of North America (Convention). Gathering Leaves is a retreat organization for the women of the Swedenborgian New Church to promote harmony among women who are associated with the various Swedenborgian organizations around the world. We come together to connect, enjoy, make new friends and learn from one another as sisters of faith. If you would like to attend the Conference, please RSVP by May 1st using the following link: <https://forms.gle/zN3A7H4Xzs3pgZF8A> or email us at gatheringleavesmidwest@gmail.com Contact: Charlotte Huft

Sunshine Committee Update

During the recent women's renewal day, a lively group of ladies cooked up a batch of bean, kale and lemon soup. So the freezer now has two choices - this soup, and the quinoa chili (both vegan) - as well as plenty of bakery cookies. NEW: On front of the freezer is a clipboard (instead of a calendar), to log whatever you take from the freezer. Contact me or anyone else on the Committee, for the door code, to access the freezer. Thank you to those who have recently donated to our cause! Checks to Glenview New Church, with a memo to the Sunshine Committee, can be sent or dropped off at the church, 74 Park Drive, Glenview, IL 60025.

Building community. No strings attached. We all need it.
Roxanne Junge, RMJunge@aol.com, 847-962-4073

GNCS Dine-Out Fundraiser—May 15

Enjoy some delicious food while supporting Glenview New Church School at Culver's, Glenview from 4-8pm on Wednesday, May 15. 25% of event sales will be donated to GNCS. Dine-in, carry out or drive thru and mention the GNCS fundraiser. Thanks for your support!



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Remembering Carla—May 18

Many of us are still pondering the unexpected death of our dear friend Carla Holmes. How could we not? There is a quiet void that her departure leaves in our lives. She was connected to so many people in the community. The lovely celebration of her life held at the Glenview New Church, and connections in person and on social media, have been a helpful way to begin to process her passing. Yet for some of us, the abruptness of the loss still lingers.

Rev. Theresa McQueen-Uber has graciously agreed to host a Zoom meeting on Saturday, May 18, from 7-8pm Central time. This is an opportunity where we can gather, share our hearts, listen to each other, and remember Carla. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Theresauber@icloud.com. Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82403180500?pwd=bHlqcWxlMFByTFZRMnhldjBZa2lMz09>

Annual Meeting—Sunday, May 19

The Annual Meeting of the Immanuel Church of the New Jerusalem (Glenview New Church) in the Auditorium of the Glenview New Church at 11:30am on Sunday, May 19.

This will be an in-person meeting. We will be acting on the proposed budget, discussing what we hope to accomplish in the next fiscal year, presenting the BOT Recognition Award and electing new members to the Board of Trustees. More details will be available as we get closer to that date.

GNCS Year-End Closing Ceremony—June 6

All are invited to join the GNCS students and faculty at 10am on Thursday, June 6th in the Auditorium for our annual school closing and graduation ceremony (FYI: a YouTube link will be provided). As part of this event, each student will be honored for his/her unique talents, there will be a year-end chapel service centered on this year's school theme, there will be an 8th-grade graduation, as well as a fun slideshow to cap off the event. Following the slideshow, all in attendance are invited to the gym for lunch. Please join us and celebrate the achievements of all our students as they get started on their summer. Thanks in advance for your support of GNCS.

Rummage Sale Fundraiser—June 8

The Rummage Sale is back – Saturday, June 8th 9am-1pm in the Pendleton Hall gym (74 Park Drive). Clean out your basements, garages, closets, and attics, and help the Theta Alpha Guild raise money to support the church and school.

Items to donate: Clothes and shoes in good condition, furniture in good condition, small working appliances, purses, toys, household items, small tools, children's books, records, costume jewelry, hats, lamps, kitchen items, etc.

NO: TVs, computers, exercise equipment, large appliances, sofas, or adult books.

Drop-off times: Thursday, June 6th 4-8pm and Friday, June 7th 9am-4pm

Please consider VOLUNTEERING—we REALLY need your help as follows: setting up on Thursday beginning at 1pm, all day Friday, and Saturday starting at 8:30 am.

If you would like to rent a table to sell your items, the fee is \$50. Please contact Sue Lee for details, to volunteer, or with any questions at 224- 324-6389 or sueflee614@gmail.com

From the Board of Trustees

Please note that we have a party interested in the church-owned property at 12 Park Drive in Glenview. If you are interested in this property, please reach out to any member of the BOT by May 15th. (Jordan Overeem)

With Thanks

The Holmes family would like to thank all the people who supported us in so many ways after Carla's recent passing. From the notes that were sent, the meals that were shared, and the help with the distribution of her treasures, we appreciate you all. So many precious memories and retold stories brought us a measure of comfort and peace. The warmth and love shown to us will never be forgotten.

Contributions Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Easter offertory match. With your support, the church received \$9,500 through this program. That's a big push toward meeting our offertory goal for the fiscal year which will end June 30th. Please continue to give at church and online (<https://glenviewnewchurch.org/about/donate/>) and we'll hit our shared target. As always, your help is critical to the church's ongoing efforts. (Keith Parker, Treasurer glenviewnctreasurer@gmail.com) and Jill Brickman, Contributions Chair (brickmanjill@gmail.com).

Park Spaces Fundraising Opportunity

The entranceway off Glenview Road onto Park Drive in Glenview and the grounds surrounding our Church and School are special places. It is a privilege for those who are fortunate enough to live here, or to attend church or school here, to play on the fields and walk the paths. Several years ago, we hired Abbie Acton on a part-time basis to tend our gardens and flowering spaces. In that time, she has done some amazing work. To provide for this ongoing work and purchase plant materials we are organizing a fundraising effort so that Abbie can continue to make our spaces even more beautiful. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please send a donation to the Immanuel Church/ Glenview New Church earmarked for flowers and landscape materials. Thank you for considering. (Karen Stoeller authorized by the Church Board of Trustees)

Items For Sale

Freezer, like new—approx. 32x32x20—\$75
Pro-form 8.0 EX Exercycle, like new —\$100
Contact Sue Holmes 847-724-5980.



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Rebuilding Together Day 2024

On Saturday, April 27th, a group of church volunteers met at a residence in Northfield. We met to do yardwork and clean up a property that needed some attention and help. We teamed up with members of the Glenview and Evanston Lions Clubs to clean up the property of a friendly homeowner. From major tree work (generously donated by Horigan Tree) to assistance from Brannon and Wade Smith from Horticultural Services, there was plenty of work to be done. Owen Smith was our team captain and he met with the homeowner several times to build a relationship and coordinate the event. From weeding to mulching, trimming to hauling, there was something for everyone to help with. Naomi Smith very kindly shopped for our lunch and even baked cookies for the workers. Jersey Mike's sandwiches were provided, and workers went home feeling full and satisfied at being able to be of service to someone in need.

Many thanks to all who helped put energy into helping out this homeowner. We look forward to helping another homeowner in need next year.

Volunteers/Helpers on this project: Owen Smith – Team Captain, Elmo Acton, Claudio Berto, Sarah Berto, Amy Bonczkowski, Jill Brickman, Horigan Tree, Benjamin Parker, Cindy Parker, Keith Parker, Phil Parker, Mark Pendleton, Mari Scheer, Brannon Smith, Evelyn Smith, Kara Smith, Naomi Smith, Wade Smith

A Big Easter Egg Hunt Thank You!!

A huge thank you to all who volunteered their time to help at the GNCS Easter Egg Hunt! The timing of Easter this year meant that a lot of folks would be out of town—helpers and attendees alike. As it turned out, we had enough helpers from this wonderful community. It was touching to see people pitch in. I can't thank them enough. And in the end, the Golden Eggs weren't the only prize—the school was able to fundraise successfully! And it couldn't be done without the School and Church community. Thank you! (Lisa Philbrick, GNCS Admissions and Marketing)

Park Patter

If there's a marathon to be run in, Colin and Sue will find it. They went to England so Colin could run in the London Marathon. And run he did; but there was a 'crunch up' at the finish line caused by a runner wearing a cardboard replica of Big Ben that got literally got stuck at the finish line because it was too tall, causing some of the runners' times to be messed up. Ask the Coles if this ruined Colin's winning. To make up for that, Sue, Colin and Erika and Wade Herrera ran a half-marathon in Champaign, IL to prove they were still ambulatory.

A couple of family gatherings —too small and brief to be reunions, but all lots of fun and frivolity.

Hayley Gunther came from BA and Cam Synnestvedt came from Atlanta and met up with Barb (mom) and Matt (brother) and Jeanette Krause and Sue Lee (cousin) for their usual loud-with-laughter gatherings.

The Henderson boys—Norman, Edwin, Robert and Dean—spent time with their mom, Thelma, for an equally entertaining get-together with some added attendees also included.

Moving experiences...

Connie and Willard Smith moved from 38 Park Drive to 32 Park Drive to stay with Kevin and Monika Smith until they move to BA to a new house that's not quite ready for them. AND Monika's parents, the Wuwers from Germany are revisiting Kevin and Monika, too. A good time was had by all.

There's more to come on this odyssey, so keep your maps of the Park handy.

Lucinda Fuller joined Dr. Sharon Junge for a two-week Road Scholar trip to Japan in April. They hiked on the southwestern island of Kyushu, visiting many ancient Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines, seeing beautiful mountains, farmland, and waterfalls, and eating delicious and occasionally puzzling food. (The tour members got so used to eating unusual vegetables that their guide had to stop several from consuming inedible garnishes.) Delightful hot spring mineral baths are widespread in Kyushu—the perfect end to a hiking day. The trip took a surprising turn on the final day's hike when Lucinda slipped on rain-soaked rocks and fell off Mount Yufu, subsequently gaining unexpected knowledge of Japan's excellent emergency room system. She returned home bloody but unbowed with many scalp stitches and a broken finger.

Here's some humor...

They guy who invented the door knocker won a no-bell prize.

What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind? Maybe

Sign on a plumber's truck: We repair what your husband fixed.



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5-1-2024