



**GLENVIEW  
NEW CHURCH**

A NEW CHRISTIANITY

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# PARK NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH

## May 2025

### Pastoral Message

#### “Freely You Have Received...”

I remember when I was a youth leader at the Carmel Church in Kitchener, Ontario. Christmastime was approaching, and the youth group wanted to do an act of kindness to spread Christmas cheer. So we showed up outdoors at a local supermarket, played Christmas carols on a boom box, and gave away homemade cookies and hot cider. All around the table were signs that said, “Free!”

A man walked up to sample a cookie. One of the youths handed him a cup of cider. “What are you selling?” he asked, a look of mild skepticism painted across his face.

“Nothing,” the youth said, “It’s for free.”

“Ya don’t get *anything* for free these days,” he retorted.

“You do today!” the youth replied.

The man walked away in dubious belief.

Imagine coming to a church for the first time. People greet you with smiles, interact with you, and serve you in any way they can. “I know what these people want,” you think to yourself. “They’re like every other church I’ve visited. They want my body to help fill their pews and my money to help fill their coffers. They want me to attend their services, buy their beliefs, and sign on the dotted line so that they can be assured of their own long-term survival. ...Ya don’t get *anything* for free these days.”

Imagine your surprise as it dawns on you that these things aren’t what this particular church is all about. Over time, as the people get to know you, and as you get to know them, you realize that they aren’t interested in bartering for your attendance or your money. Instead, they seem genuinely interested in who you are as a person, where you’re coming from, how you’re doing, and also your long-term welfare.

Imagine a church like that—one that reaches out to others without a single string attached. That would be a little bit of heaven on earth.

“Freely you have received, freely give” (Matt. 10:8).

Have a nice month, everyone. (Mark)

### Church Calendar

#### May

- 1 THURS 1:30 GNCS Play
- 2 FRI 5:30 GNCS Play
- 3 SAT 2:00 Marylin Wille Memorial Service
- 4 SUN 10:00 Worship—Auditorium
- 5 MON 5:00 Women Unwind
- 6 TUE 7:00 Park Dwellings
- 7 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
- 4:00 GNCS Culver’s Dine-out Fundraiser
- 7:00 Boys Club/Girls Club
- 10 SAT 3:00 Women’s Tea
- 11 SUN 10:00 Worship—Auditorium
- 14 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
- 6:30 Boys Club/Girls Club
- 18 SUN 10:00 Worship—Sanctuary
- 11:15 Joint GNC/MANC Annual Meeting
- 6:00 Youth Group
- 21 WED 10:30 Arcana Class
- 25 SUN 10:00 Worship Service—Sanctuary
- 28 WED 10:30 Arcana Class

# General Announcements

## GNCS Play—May 1 & 2

The GNCS 3rd-6th graders present “Lost in the Woods” by Stephen Murray on Thursday, May 1 at 1:30pm and on Friday, May 2 at 5:30pm in the Pendleton Hall gym. A donation basket will be available to help defray the costs of the play.

## Marylin Wille Memorial Service—May 3

A memorial service for Marylin Wille will take place in the sanctuary at 2pm on Saturday, May 3, the Rt. Rev. Peter M. Buss, Jr, officiating. A reception will follow in the Assembly Hall

## Volunteer Appreciation Sunday—May 4

Sunday, May 4 is Volunteer Appreciation Sunday. In honor of our Glenview New Church volunteers, there will be refreshments and words of thanks following the worship service. We are strengthened by our volunteer participation and appreciate ALL that YOU do to enhance our church community! (Martha Heilman, GNC Volunteer Coordinator)

## Women Unwind—May 5

Our once-a-month get-together will take place on Monday, May 5 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 847-724-0363.

## GNCS Dine-out Fundraiser—May 7

Join us for a night of great food and fun at Culver’s of Glenview, 1727 Waukegan Road on Wednesday, May 7 from 4-8pm and support Glenview New Church School at the same time. Please be sure to mention the fundraiser when you place your order and 25% of sales will go to GNCS! Thanks in advance for your support!

## Opening Night Baseball Outing—May 9

Join a Glenview New Church group and get FREE jersey and baseball cap!! Friday, May 9 season opener at 6:30pm for the Chicago Dogs Baseball. Only \$20 for adults! Call or text Wade Smith for details or to reserve a spot! (847) 323-2004.

## New Date: Women's Spring Tea—May 10

You’re invited to join us for an afternoon of tea, treats, and meaningful conversation on Saturday, May 10 from 3-5pm in the Lake Lounge as we welcome spring together. Our topic will be: “What Brings You Joy?” We will share stories, laughter, and inspiration. Please let Martha Heilman know if you’d like to attend virtually. If you would like to help by bringing refreshments, please reach out to Sue Lee at 224-324-6389. For general questions, contact Martha Heilman. 847-302-7619 We hope to see you there!

## Sunday Morning Volunteers Needed

We are offering refreshments following the 10am service, 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 a text/email. Thank you in advance! Martha Heilman, Volunteer Coordinator, [marthah@glenviewnewchurch.org](mailto:marthah@glenviewnewchurch.org) 847-302-7619

## Annual Meeting—Sunday, May 18

The Joint Annual Meeting of the Immanuel Church of the New Jerusalem (Glenview New Church) and the Midwestern Academy of the New Church will take place at 11:15am on Sunday, May 18, 2025, following our regular worship service. Among other things, we will be acting on the proposed budgets of both organizations, and electing new members to the Boards. Feel free to contact me with any questions. (Mark Pendleton)

## GNC/MANC 2025-2026 Pledge Packet

It has come to our attention that our current print option by an outside vendor is no longer available. At the same time, the GNC treasurer says that printing and mailing the pledge packet comes at a significant cost (\$800 - \$1,000) and that the number of printed pledge forms that get returned is fairly low. He therefore suggests (and the two boards, in consultation with our two contributions chairs, have agreed) that we shift gears and save the church a chunk of money each year by “going digital” on the pledge packet. Nothing will change as far as content is concerned; only the distribution method will be different. (We will, of course, produce a number of hard copies in house, and send them to people who don’t have e-mail addresses. We will also have a handful of hard copies available in the assembly hall after Sunday worship services.) Thanks for your attention on this, and for your ongoing support of the Glenview New Church. If you have any thoughts or reflections, feel free to reach back to Keith Parker or me at any time ([glenviewnctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:glenviewnctreasurer@gmail.com), [markp@glenviewnewchurch.org](mailto:markp@glenviewnewchurch.org)). (Mark)

## Boys Club/Girls Club

Regular meetings will be held on May 7<sup>th</sup> (7-9pm) and May 14<sup>th</sup> (6:30-9pm). May 14<sup>th</sup> will be the last meeting of the year until September. Don’t forget summer camp in Deep Lake, Wisconsin July 20th-26th!

## Midwest Youth Retreat Weekend

This year’s Midwest Youth Retreat weekend in Somerset, Michigan will take place May 9th-11th. Teens from all around the Midwest and more come together to worship, learn, and have a lot of fun...and still get back in time for a late Mother’s Day dinner on Sunday.

All 7th grade to senior year students from the Glenview area are invited. Contact Rev. Elmo Acton at [elmoa@glenviewnewchurch.org](mailto:elmoa@glenviewnewchurch.org) for more information.

## Flowers

If you have noticed over the last several years, we have been improving the look of our church and school campus



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by engaging the professional gardening talents of Abbie Acton. Abbie has been adding new color and variety in key places on our grounds. We would like to continue this work, and Abbie has just started up again for the season. If you like what you see and would like to contribute toward this work, please direct any contributions to Judy Recht at 74 Park Drive, Glenview, IL 60025.

### **Maple Leaf Camp—July 5-11**

All high schoolers are invited to Maple Camp in Canada with Rev. Elmo Acton from July 5th-11th. Contact Rev. Elmo Acton at [elmoa@glenviewnewchurch.org](mailto:elmoa@glenviewnewchurch.org) for more information.

### **Jacob's Creek Family Retreat—July 24-27**

This year's Jacob's Creek Family Retreat will be held July 24-27, 2025, in Western Pennsylvania with the theme: Faith – An Internal Acknowledgment of Truth.

Retreat Pastor, the Rev. Matthew L. Genzlinger, says in an open letter of invitation: According to the Heavenly Doctrine, many people don't even know what real faith is. Faith is not a blind belief or acceptance of Church News 188 something that you cannot understand. Rather faith is 'an internal acknowledgment of truth.' (Faith 1)

"How do we obtain this kind of real truth? For starters we need to understand that genuine faith can only be had by someone who is in charity. When we choose to approach the Lord, shun evils as sins, and receive charity from the Lord, only then can we receive the gift of genuine faith as well.

This year's pastoral staff will include the Revs. Calvin B. Heinrichs and Jared J. Buss, and others. Directors will be Jamie and Julie Uber, with the help of many volunteers. Early registration is urged because camp attendance will be capped at 150. For information, please contact: [matthewgenzlinger@gmail.com](mailto:matthewgenzlinger@gmail.com) [james.g.uber@gmail.com](mailto:james.g.uber@gmail.com) or [Julie.Uber@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.Uber@gmail.com)

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## **Park Patter...**

### **Backward, turn backward, oh, time in thy flight...**

Colin and Sue Cole went skiing in Colorado and then Sue went to California to visit her parents.

Kevin and Monika Smith went to Greece (and back).

Brannon Smith went to O'Hare Airport and back four times in one day! (Now that's what you call FUN!)

Somewhere around this calendar time, some fabulous fowl news hit the Park. Our horned owls were back (they had lost their favorite nest tree when it broke down during the winter weather) and they just moved two trees down and set up housekeeping and egg laying there—to finish this year's story they had three owlets—one more than usual—

and the three muskateerlets have fledged and are ready to move on! Well, when Mom quits providing them rabbit rarebit every day, they will fly away...maybe.

Since we're in the neighborhood, Gladish Lane had some in and outs—Hayley Gunther and Cam Synnestvedt spent Easter hopping around their mom Barb Synnestvedt's place and catching up with family and friends. In fact, they enjoyed it so much they decided to come back SOON, whenever that is...

Up on the top of the Lane, Nick and Susan Heath welcomed their second child, William David. Big brother James Philip was pleased because he (being a year older) got to open all gifts for the newie.

Across the street, Jill Brickman spent Easter in Linden Hills with cousins Steve and Julie Brickman and just a few houses down on the other side of the Lane, Keith and Cindy Parker headed for Hilton Head for Spring Break.

When was the last time you sang "Oh, My Darling, Clementine"? About a week ago, at about three o'clock, the whole school had disappeared. By some clever detective work, they were discovered in the Auditorium, along with some school staff, some parents there to pick up kids after school and some lucky walkers from off of Park Drive. It was a delight to hear poetry readings from Elmo Acton's after school enrichment class as well as ukelele and guitar playing and singing from Bonny Lundin-Scheer's first through sixth grade music classes. All the drop-in adults and staff participated, too. So do you remember what Clementine's shoes were made of and what size they were? Just for fun, no prizes awarded.

The Park is a burgeoning, blossoming beauty at this moment! Everything is either just finishing or just beginning to produce colors and sizes that makes a stroll around the ring an extremely delightful occupation! See you out and about!

### **Here's something to giggle about while you're walking...**

Picture this: older woman standing on bathroom scale, fully dressed; her husband is standing behind her with his left foot pushing down on the scale. Title: Dead Man Walking

The first French fries weren't cooked in France—they were cooked in Greece.

I never use my turn signals. It's nobody's business where I'm going!



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**5-1-2025**