



**GLENVIEW
NEW CHURCH**

A NEW CHRISTIANITY

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PARK NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH

June 2025

Pastoral Message

Choosing Your Spiritual Influencers for the Upcoming Summer

How many times during a day do you use your internal voice to clearly tell yourself, "I have a choice in this"? How often do you actively contemplate if what you are about to do or say is a good action or an ultimately bad one? How often do you acknowledge that you are never alone in your decision-making?...or do you mostly just do, without much thought?

I would guess that a thought like this, for the majority of people, happens most frequently before adulthood and then slows as a person gets older. As we get older, most of us build lifestyles that avoid confrontation and therefore limit the times our inner voice assists us with our spiritual struggles (because we avoid spiritual conflict, too). On top of that, if we have a spouse or close confidant, they often act as a sort of external/internal voice - instead of contemplating within our minds about spiritual next steps, we can hash it out with our loved one. Better yet, we can argue about how to raise children or how to properly arrange items in the fridge or a drawer like it is a matter of life or death, instead of addressing any internal struggle.

It could be argued that people who have chosen good over evil more than others, may not think "out loud" about what to do as much, because making good choices is second nature to them...or not. People engaging in positive spiritual growth with the Lord do not necessarily experience less temptation or struggle; in fact, their temptations may be deeper and more difficult, because there is good in them worth defending and developing. Over time, as a heavenly self from the Lord replaces their earthly self, temptations diminish and eventually cease (but maybe not until the after-life), because evil has been removed from the center of their being (*Secrets of Heaven* 8968). The existence and persistence of temptation is a sign of spiritual progress and the Lord's work within us, not necessarily a sign of spiritual weakness.

It's possible that people who don't go through much internal dialogue around good or evil are simply avoiding temptation and conflict. This avoidance could be from a simple desire for comfort, a complacent will, for appearances, or a lazy spiritual self. People who fall into these categories are still leaving the roots of evil embedded within them—they will need to uproot these evils in the other world, or these roots will hold them grounded to earthly things and prevent their movement toward heaven.

So, if you haven't been going through a lot of spiritual struggles lately, ask yourself, a la Dirty Harry, "Do I feel

Church Calendar

June

1	SUN	10:00	Worship—Auditorium
2	MON	5:00	Women Unwind
		5:00	GNCS Marimba Concert
3	TUE	7:00	Park Dwellings
6	FRI	10:15	GNCS School Closing Ceremony
8	SUN	10:00	Worship—Sanctuary
		2:00	Lee Synnestvedt Memorial Service
12	THUR	7:00	Board of Trustees Meeting
15	SUN	10:00	New Church Day Service—Auditorium
22	SUN	10:00	Worship Service—Sanctuary
29	SUN	10:00	Worship Service—Auditorium

lucky? Well, do ya punk?" Have you become complacent? Or are you just a really, really good person? Have you really given it your all, or is there, perhaps, one more in the "upper" chamber?

If you think you have some more room for improvement, then here is some info that may help. Every time we make a split-second decision or fight with ourselves over a big juicy spiritual conundrum, we are accessing spirits or angels with us! The degree to which you spiritually struggle (or not) is directly correlated to the depth in which you associate with given societies of heaven or hell. Maybe, if we pray/ask/strive for deeper guidance from "core" angels, we can actually associate with more and more heavenly influencers!

Spirits...or angels acting or speaking with me supposed they were doing so from themselves, when yet it came from others more inward, and still more inward than themselves, who were also given the power to slacken and to tighten the restraints governing the will and the mouth... When I had observed this and told them about it, they were indignant for a little while, but still could not but acknowledge it...(*Spiritual Experiences* 194).

The spirits we are possibly most influenced by are the ones at the periphery of their societies. Good spirits could be "watering down" a message from the most heavenly ones at the "core", to suit our chosen spiritual state. And the lesser evil spirits on the outside edges of their communities, acting as a restraint to the more and more evil spirits at the core of their gang (thanks to the Lord), seduce us into falsities and evils that align with our evil tendencies.

We are not alone in our struggles and joy. There are spirits with us every given second, influencing us. Who have you been hanging out with lately? Do you think

General Announcements

the spirits you're with could get you closer to the Lord? Do they have friends in high places you want to meet? Or are you worried about the company you keep? What is at the core of the societies you visit?

You have choices to make this summer, choices that will not only affect you but those around you. Could you find a better "class" of spirits to associate with? Or are you set? Who will you bring with you on vacation and who will be asked to stay with you after the vacation is over?

Blessings,
Rev. Elmo K. Acton

Combined July/August Park News

There will be a combined issue of Park News for the months of July and August. The deadline for information to be included is Monday, June 23.

GNCS at the Glenview SummerFest

GNCS will once again have a booth at the Glenview Street Fair on June 21st from 9am to 3pm in the Kid Zone area. We are keeping with our vision of involvement in Glenview events to increase our community awareness as a top school choice. Stop by and say hello! This is also a great time to send your friends and neighbors over for more information. Current school families receive a "Thank You" worth \$100 for any referrals who enroll! So tell your friends!

Women Unwind—June 2

Our once-a-month get-together will take place on Monday, June 2 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.

Marimba Ensemble Spring Concert—June 2

Come listen to the Glenview New Church School marimba ensemble rock on as they present their spring concert! The time is Monday, June 2 at 5pm, in the Glenview New Church Auditorium. Hope to see you there!

GNCS Year-End Closing Ceremony—June 6

All are invited to join the GNCS students and faculty at 10:15am on Friday, June 6th in the Auditorium for our annual school closing 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, 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.

Lee Synnestvedt Memorial Service—June 8

A memorial service for Lee Synnestvedt will take place in the sanctuary at 2pm on Sunday, June 8, the Rev. Eric Carswell officiating. A reception will follow in the Assembly Hall.

Flowers

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

Join Us for our School & Church July 4th Parade Entry!

GNCS is an "Entertainer Sponsor" once again for this year's 4th of July parade. And with our parade entry, we plan to highlight the long-standing connection between GNCS and the Village of Glenview. This year we are asking the community to march with us.

As a joint effort between school and church, our parade entry this year will include live music and lots of patriotic excitement! We invite families and children to march. As this is in part a school parade entry, we would love to feature children and attract more children to enroll.

If you would like to march with us and/or if you have any experience in building parade floats or have access to materials or vehicles that would be helpful, please email Lisa Philbrick at lisap@glenviewnewchurch.org.

July 4th Festivities in the Park!

The Park Parade kicks off at 9:30am. Everyone is invited to create themed floats and/or decorate bicycles to walk in the parade around the Park Drive circle. Prizes will be awarded to all float, bicycle and pet entrants! Park Parade entries assemble in the church parking lot at 9:15am.

The parade is followed by a flagpole ceremony in the church parking lot that includes the singing of the national anthem and a patriotic speech from one of our Park neighbors. Following the morning festivities, there will be a picnic by the Park Lake at 12:30pm with burgers & dogs from the grill, chips, and drinks. Donations requested for the Boys and Girls Club. We hope to see you there!

2025 Schedule of Events

9:15am – Park Parade entries assemble in the church parking lot

9:30am – Park Parade: flagpole ceremony & speeches, prizes for parade entries!

11:15 am – Glenview Village Parade



12:30 pm – Picnic by the Park Lake: hamburgers & hot dogs from the grill, races, egg and water balloon tosses, softball

We're gearing up for a fun-filled July 4th celebration and we'd love your help to make it happen! Whether you can lend a hand with setup, games, food, or cleanup, every bit of help is appreciated. If you'd like to get involved, please reach out to Martha Heilman, Volunteer Coordinator, at marthah@glenviewnewchurch.org or 847-302-7619. Thanks for helping us make this a great day for everyone!

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. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0545a5ae2fa7fc1-gnicsunday> Thank you in advance! Martha Heilman, Volunteer Coordinator, marthah@glenviewnewchurch.org, 847-302-7619

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 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 james.g.uber@gmail.com or Julie.Uber@gmail.com

Popsicle Pop-Up Event—July 25

GNCS is hosting a Popsicle Pop-Up event on Friday, July 25 from 5-7pm here at the school. It's a free open house and enrollment drive. We'll have popsicles, kids activities and a raffle. Current families are welcome. It will be a great opportunity for curious families to check us out and hopefully

enroll. And remember, current school families receive a "thank you" worth \$100 for any referrals that enroll! So tell your friends!

Park Patter...

Park Patter is on hiatus this month and will return in the July/August issue.



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6-1-2025