



**GLENVIEW
NEW CHURCH**

A NEW CHRISTIANITY

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PARK NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH

December 2025

Pastoral Message

The Lord Is Everything in Everything

As we're about to turn the corner between Thanksgiving and Christmas, I'm thinking of a phrase from scripture which describes the Lord. He is said to be "the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

When you stop to think about it, that's a pretty big statement. And when the theology of the New Church reflects on it, it says (many times over) that the Lord is the "all in all" (or the "everything in everything") of heaven and of the church on earth. In one place it says that to the angels of heaven, the Lord is "their all in all" (or, the Lord is "their everything in everything").

When you stop to think about it, that's a mind arresting teaching—the Lord is "everything in everything" of heaven and the church on earth. What does that mean? What is it saying? Is *that* what the Lord is to you and me – the everything in everything? And what are the implications for our daily choosing, and for our relationship and spiritual walk with Him?

One of the things this teaching reminds me of is the fact that the Lord is the source of all goodness and truth, all love and wisdom in marriage and relationships, all help and power in spiritual choosing, etc. He's even the one who fights our spiritual battles for us in times of spiritual conflict. The idea that the Lord is the everything in everything of heaven and the church seems to underscore how much we need to be looking to Him for everything we need, everything we receive in life, and every success we enjoy – spiritually, naturally, even physically.

As we turn the corner from Thanksgiving to the Christmas season, I invite you to ponder this teaching, and to realize that the little baby who was born in Bethlehem was and is the everything in everything of creation—the everything in everything of your life and mine.

I hope to preach on this topic sometime during the Christmas season. Happy Christmas to all. (Mark)

Church Calendar

December

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|----|-------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | MON | 5:00 | Women Unwind (100 Park Drive) |
| | | 7:00 | Choir Rehearsal |
| 3 | WED | 10:30 | Arcana Class |
| | | 7:00 | Boys Club/Girls Club |
| 4 | THURS | 7:00 | Tableaux Rehearsal |
| 7 | SUN | 10:00 | Carols Sunday—Auditorium |
| | | 11:30 | Theta Alpha Guild Christmas Class |
| 8 | MON | 7:00 | Choir Rehearsal |
| 9 | TUE | 7:00 | Tableaux Rehearsal |
| 10 | WED | 10:30 | Arcana Class |
| | | 7:00 | Boys Club/Girls Club |
| 11 | THURS | 7:00 | Tableaux Rehearsal |
| 13 | SAT | 2:00 | Tableaux Rehearsal |
| 14 | SUN | 10:00 | Christmas Story—Sanctuary |
| | | 4:30 | Tableaux |
| 15 | MON | 7:00 | Choir Rehearsal |
| 17 | WED | 10:30 | Arcana Class |
| | | 7:00 | Boys Club/Girls Club |
| 19 | FRI | 10:00 | GNCS Christmas Concert |
| 20 | SAT | 6:00 | Manse Open House |
| 21 | SUN | 10:00 | Christmas Holy Supper—Sanctuary |
| 22 | MON | 7:00 | Choir Rehearsal |
| 24 | WED | 5:00 | Christmas Eve Festival Service |
| | | 10:00 | Candlelight Service |
| 25 | THURS | 11:30 | Christmas Day Worship Service |
| 28 | SUN | 10:00 | Worship Service—Auditorium |

General Announcements

Women Unwind—December 1

Our once-a-month get-together will take place on Monday, December 1 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

December Worship Services

For quick reference, here are the worship service details:

- Sunday December 7, 10am, Carols Sunday
- Sunday, December 14, 10am, Christmas Story Service
- Sunday, December 14, 4:30pm, Tableaux
- Sunday, December 21, 10am, Christmas Holy Supper
- Wednesday, December 24, 5pm, Christmas Eve Service
- Wednesday, December 24, 10 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service
- Thursday, December 25, 11:30am, Christmas Day service

Come and sing with us for Christmas Eve!

Come raise your voices in song for the 2025 Christmas Eve choir! No matter what your experience level, we would love to have you sing in the choir with us. We will be performing at the Christmas Eve service at 5pm on Wednesday, December 24. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings from 7-8:30pm on December 1, 8, 15, and 22, and on Saturday, December 20 (if needed) at 1pm. To join us please contact Bonny Lundin-Scheer at 847-452-0670 or bonnys@glenviewnewchurch.org. We hope you will be with us!

Silhouette Nativity

The silhouette drive-through nativity on Park Drive will be up and lit at night throughout December. Spread the word!

Theta Alpha Guild Christmas Class—December 7

You are invited to kick-off the Christmas season with the Theta Alpha Guild Christmas Class Sunday, December 7th at 11:30am in the Lake Lounge (following the 10am Carols Service). The program includes a talk by Rev. Elmo Acton and discussion followed by refreshments. All are welcome! (Sue Lee, TAG President)

Christmas Tableaux—December 14

Don't miss our annual Christmas Tableaux/Pageant, Sunday, December 14 at 4:30pm, featuring still life scenes from the Christmas story portrayed by actors & actresses on stage, and including background music and readings from that story. As with last year, Christmas gifts from the church

for children will be given out at this year's Christmas Eve service. See you at both events!

GNCS Christmas Show—December 19

Please come to the Glenview New Church School's Christmas Show on Friday, December 19 at 10am in the Auditorium. This year, it will be a lovely mix of music, poems, and other Christmas-related entertainment put on by the students and teachers at GNCS. The show will be about an hour in length and will be followed by refreshments.

Open House—December 20

You are warmly invited by the pastoral team and their wives to a Christmas Open House at the main manse (73 Park Drive) on Saturday evening, December 20th, college age and up, starting at 6pm. We will provide a base of chili plus non-alcoholic drinks and some wine and beer. If others of you can bring a main course, side dish, soup, salad, or dessert, that would be great! If you have a favorite alcoholic beverage beyond beer and wine, feel free to BYO. We're sure to have Christmas music in the background. RSVPs (affirmative only) would be helpful so we know many to prepare for. We hope you can come. Christmas love and cheer to all! (Mark & Ellen, Elmo & Abbie)

Ushers Needed!

We are looking for Ushers for the 5pm Christmas Eve Family Service. Please let me know if you can serve. Thanks!

We're also rebuilding our usher team at the Glenview New Church. Ushers help greet, post hymn numbers, and assist during the 10am Sunday service. No experience needed - just a friendly smile! High school age & up (great for service hours). Interested? Contact Martha Heilman at marthah@glenviewnewchurch.org or 847-302-7619.

You can also use this Sign-Up Genius Sunday Morning Volunteers link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0545a5ae2fa7fc1-gncsunday>

Church Offertory

Thank you to everyone who responded so willingly to our Thanksgiving offertory match program.

This year we will continue our tradition of making the Christmas Eve offertory a gift to our pastors. Please plan accordingly. If you're not attending the Christmas Eve festival service at 5pm, please send your gift to the treasurer at 74 Park Drive, Glenview, IL 60025. This is a great way to express appreciation to Mark and Elmo for their service throughout the year. Donations can be made via check marked "Christmas Eve" or on the church's website: <https://glenviewnewchurch.org/about/donate/> and then choose "online giving" and then "donate with Pay Pal button".

As a reminder, charitable contributions for both the Glenview New Church and the Midwestern Academy that are



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mailed are deductible in the year in which the contribution is postmarked, regardless of when it is received by either organization. A check that is mailed and postmarked at the end of December 31, 2025 is tax deductible in 2025, and will be included in the contribution report mailed to contributors in early 2026 for 2025 contributions.

Pajamas for Christmas – Financial Help Needed!

I'm excited to let you know that once again, we are going to help approximately 45 children who reside at Lydia Home in Evanston have a brighter Christmas morning by providing each child with a new pair of pajamas, slippers, and a blanket! Some of you will recall that we have done this for several years, and it's become a great tradition here at GNCS and I'm confident we can count on your support again this year! Over the years, people have let me know that they appreciate having GNCS do all of the purchasing, and so I ask you to help by either writing a check payable to GNCS or by giving cash. (For your reference – it costs about \$45 for each child to receive pajamas and slippers and \$55 for each child to receive pajamas, slippers, and a blanket.) It would be very helpful, if you would be so kind as to send in your donation to GNCS no later than Wednesday, December 10th.

The GNCS students will wrap and label each child's pajamas and then the packages will be delivered to Lydia Home before Christmas. Once again, I'm excited that we have this opportunity and thank you in advance for your support.
(Phil Parker, Principal)

Sunshine Freezer Update

Good news! There is now a fresh batch of lentil chili in the Sunshine Freezer! Who around you needs a lift? A pick-me up? A nourishing meal, to show they are cared for? If you want to pick up a container of frozen soup (or two) and/or a bag of cookies, contact me for the Sunshine door code, or go to the school during school hours. The Sunshine Freezer is in the large storage room off the Auditorium and Assembly Hall. There are gift bags and cards on top of the freezer, too.

This is totally FREE and is for anyone who needs it. If you know someone on SNAP whose benefits ended due to the government shutdown, this is something you can do for them. Roxanne Junge, RMJunge@aol.com, 847-962-4073 Building Community. No strings attached. We all need it.

Celebration of Life

On October 18, 2025, Kaila Day and Deirdra Day hosted a lovely and lively Celebration of Life at Hackney's in honor of their mother, Mary Flannery-Day who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in late September. Joining the celebration was Mary's twin sister Ann from Florida and brother Dr. Terry Flannery from New York. Also present were Day family relatives Stoellers, Curcios, Rechts, Salvatos, Teels, friends and co-workers of Mary's from school district #225, and many friends of Kaila and Deirdra. Mary and Dwight Day (Whitey O'Day) were married in the Glenview New Church in 1993 by Rev. Eric Carswell. Deirdra and Kaila were baptized as infants by Rev. Carswell. With mom and dad

both in heaven we are fairly certain they are the chief guardian angels keeping watch over their lovely girls. Deirdra and Kaila both live and work in Chicago. As Whitey O'Day would sing at the close of his 'gigs' each night, "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You until We Meet Again."
(Mary's family)

Park Patter...

With a new year comes new Park Patter...stay tuned! In the meantime, please stay warm and safe! Merry Christmas!



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12-1-2025