



**GLENVIEW
NEW CHURCH**

A NEW CHRISTIANITY

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PARK NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH

October 2026

Pastoral Message

No Time Like the Present

After Jesus is baptized by John, He sees the heavens open up, and the Spirit descends upon Him like a dove. Imagine the beauty of that moment! However, immediately afterward, He undergoes horrible attacks by the hells, for what the gospels say lasts forty days. Our teachings say that Jesus endured the most depraved assaults by evil spirits that have ever happened. It is best we do not try to imagine that but instead be grateful for the evils we inevitably were saved from because of the Lord putting those evils to rest.

Then, as a not-so-subtle nod to the state the world was in at the time, Jesus, while John is in prison, goes to Galilee to preach the gospel, saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15) Jesus is in Galilee, not in the heart of Israel, which is Jerusalem, and John the Baptist is not continuing his ministry but instead in prison. Those who know the story know John will soon be beheaded. The man who prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance is going to be slaughtered like a chicken, all because of the flighty request of Herod Antipas' wife's daughter. John the Baptist was imprisoned because he called out the unlawfulness of Herod Antipas marrying his brother's wife, Herodias. Then, at Herod Antipas' birthday party, Herodias' daughter dances for Herod, and he is so pleased with it that he grants her a wish - her wish (which is really the leveraged wish of her mother) is to behead John. Herod apparently isn't too happy about it but has it fulfilled anyway. What a horrible end for John, and all due to a frivolous request - no court, no trial, no jury of his peers - just the whim of a girl, manipulated by her mother and carried out by a drunken, spineless, impotent ruler. That is how things go sometimes, isn't it...in a split second something horrible can happen, for no sensible reason, and life is changed forever. What a downer. But... that same principle works the opposite way!

In a split second, something wonderful can happen, for good reason, and life is changed forever. Think about how many intentional moments Jesus had where an action of His changed not just His internal state, but the entire world for the better. The time is fulfilled! The kingdom of God is at hand! Repent! Believe! At every moment, a range of good or bad things can happen, whether for no reason or for a reason. At any moment, those things can affect people badly or blessedly. At any moment, we can choose what we do next. There is no such thing as too old, too set in our

Church Calendar

October

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|-------|---------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 4 | SUN | 10:00 | Worship Service—Sanctuary |
| 5 | MON | 4:45 | Yoga |
| | | 5:00 | Women Unwind (100 Park Drive) |
| 7 | WED | 10:30 | Arcana Class |
| | | 7:00 | Boys/Girls Club |
| | | 7:00 | Pastor's Council |
| 8 | THURS | 7:00 | Board of Trustees meeting |
| 9 | FRI | 3:00 | GNCS Scarecrow Walk |
| 11 | SUN | 10:00 | Worship Service—Auditorium |
| 12 | MON | 4:45 | Yoga |
| 14 | WED | 10:30 | Arcana Class |
| | | 7:00 | Boys/Girls Club |
| 17 | SAT | 7:00 | Family Movie Night in the Park |
| 18 | SUN | 10:00 | Worship Service—Sanctuary |
| | | 6:00 | Youth Group |
| 19 | MON | 4:45 | Yoga |
| 20 | TUE | 7:00 | Park Dwellings |
| 21 | WED | 10:30 | Arcana Class |
| | | 7:00 | Boys/Girls Club |
| | | 7:00 | Joint Semi-Annual Meeting |
| 23-25 | Fri-Sun | | Youth Group Weekend in Pittsburgh |
| 25 | SUN | 10:00 | Worship Service—Auditorium |
| 26 | MON | 4:45 | Yoga |
| 28 | WED | 10:30 | Arcana Class |
| | | 7:00 | Boys/Girls Club |
| 31 | SAT | 5:00 | GNCS Halloween Supper |

ways, too late, or too impossible when it comes to spiritual change. There is no evil too much, too heavy, too hard, or too entrenched that can't be stopped if you believe. The Lord holds no one guilty of past actions; He is always forgiving. The Lord looks to each of our hearts and sees where we are right now, at this very moment. Where are you? I mean, where is your soul right now? Can you improve it? Change a perspective of self-hatred into self-support? Stop doing evil and start doing good. Thousands of changes can occur in you at any moment. Choose each moment to be good, to be better. Live out your life intentionally. Work on it. Don't get bogged down by frivolous things gone wrong. As the trees shed their leaves, think about what you can shed within you. There is no time like the present. The kingdom of God is at hand. Believe.

[Things] in a person's spirit are raised on a higher level than the outward ones; and in things that are on a higher level, thousands of changes occur in the same moment that only one does in the outer elements. The changes that take place in the inner qualities are

General Announcements

changes in the state of the will in respect to its affections, and changes in the state of the intellect in respect to its thoughts...Changes in the state of these two life forces or faculties in a person are unceasing, continuing from infancy to the end of his life, and afterwards to eternity; and the reason is that there is no limit to knowledge, even less to intelligence, and still less to wisdom. For there is an infinity and eternity in the range of these, arising from the Infinite and Eternal who is their source.

- Married Love 185

Rev. Elmo K. Acton

Church on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 7pm. The meeting will be a hybrid format with both in-person and online attendance options originating at the Glenview New Church Auditorium, Glenview, Illinois. (Stay tuned for further details.) The purpose of the meeting is to review the financial health of both organizations, discuss plans for the coming year, and transact other business as may come before the meeting. (Mark Pendleton)

Youth Group Weekend—October 23-25

Pittsburgh New Church will be hosting our fall Youth Group Weekend from October 23rd-25th. If you know a teen between 7th grade and senior year of high school who would like to go, email me at elmoa@glenviewnewchurch.org. Topics throughout the weekend will be about learning how to personally approach the Lord. If you are a parent of a teen and would like to join us, also let me know. Thank you. (Rev. Elmo K. Acton)

GNCS Halloween Supper—October 31

Join us for the annual Halloween Supper! Dinner (hotdogs, veggie burgers, mac and cheese, carrots, chips, and apple cider) served between 5-5:40pm in the Pendleton Hall gym and followed by a small costume parade, and trick or treating around Park Drive, Park Lane and Gladish Lane. Cost is \$5/child, \$8/adult, maximum of \$23/family. Looking forward to seeing those who can make it!

GNCS Dine-out Fundraiser—November 4

Take a night off from cooking and enjoy delicious food while supporting Glenview New Church School at our second dine-out fundraiser of the year. Join us at Chipotle, 2341 Willow Road, Glenview from 4-8 PM on Wednesday, November 4. Be sure and mention the GNCS fundraiser and 25% of sales will go to GNCS. Thanks for your support!

Sunday Morning Worship Volunteering

Whether you're a longtime volunteer or new to helping out, you are welcome! Our worship services are made possible by volunteers who greet and usher, help with hospitality, offer music, support children's programs, and assist with special events. Students are welcome and may earn school community service hours.

Please review the online schedule or email/text Martha to sign up where you would enjoy serving: [Glenview New Church: GNC Sunday Morning Volunteers - 2026/27](mailto:GlenviewNewChurch:GNCSundayMorningVolunteers-2026/27) Thank you! Martha Heilman, GNC Volunteer Coordinator 847-302-7619

MarthaH@glenviewnewchurch.org

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

Women Unwind—October 5

Our once-a-month get-together will take place on Monday, October 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 215-266-3063.

GNCS Scarecrow Walk—October 9

Come enjoy the fall feels at this year's Scarecrow Walk on Friday, October 9th from 4-6 PM. Bonus for church and school families - there will be a preview from 3-4 PM for you. Explore the scarecrows and enjoy the beauty of fall over apple cider and popcorn. Hitch a hayride to view and discover the wonder of the changing of seasons. The scarecrows will remain up through October 31st so people can take a walk on our beautiful campus and celebrate the season.

Family Movie Night in The Park - October 17

Bring your low outdoor chairs, warm blankets, family, and friends! Everyone is invited to an outdoor movie night on October 17th in the field by the preschool playground and Park Lake (It will be held inside the Pendleton Hall Gym if the weather isn't conducive). Movie to be announced (any suggestions need to be emailed to me before October 7th). The movie will start around 7 PM on a 20-foot screen with high-performance speakers so all can hear and enjoy. Popcorn, drinks, and snacks will be sold. Donations towards the rental of the movie equipment will be accepted.

This activity is part of our Church Renewal initiative and is open to the public. Please invite friends, people you know, and neighbors. Let's see some new faces!

Would you like to help out that night or have suggestions? Reach out to me at elmoa@glenviewnewchurch.org

Joint Semi-Annual Meeting—October 21

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Immanuel Church of the New Jerusalem (dba the Glenview New Church) will be held jointly with the Midwestern Academy of the New



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A NEW CHRISTIANITY

Glenview New
Church
74 Park Drive
Glenview, IL 60025

10-1-2026

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 Friday, December 4th.

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)

Save the Dates!

TRIVIA NIGHT 2027—MARCH 13

Never too early to get a team together. This year we will do trivia, a few games while sheets are graded, and then award prizes. This will allow people to leave earlier if they wish. For the rest we will have music and mingling and maybe one more game.

LAURA BARGER RETIREMENT CELEBRATION!

Calling all former students, colleagues, and friends! Please save the date to celebrate **Laura Barger** and honor her 39 incredible years of teaching!

Date: Saturday, April 10, 2027

Location: Glenview New Church Auditorium

Age: College-age and up

Formal invitation with time and RSVP details to follow. We hope to see generations of former students there!