

PASTORAL RESIDENCY PROGRAM

On September 10, 2023, GCC will launch a Pastoral Residency Program. The purpose of the program is to provide a learning opportunity for the next generation of ordained ministers within the supportive structure of a teaching congregation. Thus, GCC will become such a teaching congregation – a place where new ministers can begin their careers. GCC long served this function beginning in the 1950s when the Rev. Dr. Robert Edgar developed a multi-staff clergy model known at the "Council of Ministers." This "council" continued for decades including during the tenure of the Rev. Dr. Douglas Runnels who served from 1989 until 2001. We are thus recovering an aspect of GCC's ministry that lasted for half a century. The Pastoral Residency Program is designed to provide the Resident Minister opportunities for intra-personal and interpersonal growth, and for practicing ministry skills and spiritual practices, so that they are well prepared for their next ministry assignment after they leave GCC.

Several UCC churches have had Pastoral Residents for years, made possible in part by seed funding offered by the Lily Endowment. Wellesley Village Church, a large UCC congregation in Wellesley, Massachusetts, has had a successful Pastoral Residency Program since 2001. While the Lily Endowment no longer funds these residencies, we are modeling our program on that of the Wellesley Village Church.

Like medical residents who are trainee physicians, pastoral residents are trainee ministers at the start of their career. Our inaugural Pastoral Resident, who will introduce herself in a letter following this article, is a recent seminary graduate; a minister preparing for her first calling and entry into a local church of the United Church of Christ. The unique qualities of a ministry residency that differ from most first-call ministry positions are the deliberate aspects of mentoring and support offered to the new ministers as a part of the program. As GCC's Senior Minister, I will be our resident's mentoring supervisor and I will intentionally work alongside her to reflect theologically on the practice of ministry, identify teachable moments, provide support, and offer guidance on developing healthy pastoral and spiritual practices that will sustain and enrich the new minister throughout the years to come.

In addition, our pastoral resident will be offered external mentoring and peer support through participation in a community of practice (a clergy peer group).

Structure of Residency:

Our inaugural pastoral resident will be an Assistant Minister of GCC and will participate fully in worship (including preaching and administration of sacraments and rites), faith formation (including confirmation teaching, youth ministry, and adult education), community engagement, pastoral care (including visitation), church administration, and participation in church governance (including Leadership Council). She will have an individualized curriculum of ministry rotations to give maximum exposure to the full breath of pastoral work. She will also have her own ministry initiative planned in consultation with me.

Duration:

The length of the pastoral residency is two years. After this, the resident is expected to secure a settled call at another congregation.

Additional Pastoral Residents:

Funding permitting, we will have a new pastoral resident each year beginning in September. This means that there will be one year where two pastoral residents overlap with one another.

Lay Mentoring Committee:

A Lay Mentoring Committee composed of lay members of GCC appointed by Leadership Council will meet periodically with our pastoral resident to review the progress toward learning goals while offering feedback and support.

Practical Ministry Skill Development:

The residency is designed to give the new minister opportunities to learn and apply practical ministry skills. GCC has five ministry areas: Congregational Life, Faith Formation, Outreach, Resource, and Worship & Music. The resident minister will learn by serving the congregation in ways that will include:

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WORSHIP & MUSIC

- Preaching
- Worship leadership, scripture reading, leading in corporate prayer (invocation, offertory, pastoral, offertory dedication)
- Assisting or officiating at Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation
- Liturgy planning including contemporary forms of worship
- Serving as a team minister or as the sole minister for Sunday services when the Senior Minister is out of area

FAITH FORMATION

- Teaching Confirmation Class
- Leading small groups and bible studies
- Working with youth including mission trips and experience trips

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

- Pastoral care of members (including visitation to homes, hospitals and senior communities)
- Care for the bereaved
- · Planning and officiating at funerals and memorials
- Officiating at weddings
- · Providing counsel and care and making referrals as needed
- Serving as the primary pastoral responder when the Senior Minister is out of area

OUTREACH

- · Participating in the mission activities of GCC in the community
- Welcoming new and potential members and creating an atmosphere of inclusivity
- · Developing and managing one new outreach activity
- Engaging with the wider community at the civic, ecumenical, and interfaith levels
- Engaging in global ministry (such as "Hands of Peace") Resources
- Developing financial management skills (such as budget planning)
- Developing administrative capacity by supporting GCC's operations
- Planning, calendaring, promoting and communicating GCC events
- Developing creative marketing of events via social media

I am excited about this next chapter for GCC. I believe it will bring much needed vitality to GCC's ministry. I hope you will join me in welcoming our inaugural resident on Rally Sunday – September 10, 2023. On the next page, you will learn more about Abigail as she introduces herself to you.

See you in church, Jim

Rev. Dr. James M. Matarazzo, Jr. Senior Minister



GREETINGS GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH!

My name is Abigail Grace Lutz, and I am excited to be the inaugural Pastoral Resident at GCC!

I grew up on Long Island living with my mom and two older sisters. As my mom took on leadership roles at church, the church building became a second home for all of us. From a young age I was at church three or four nights of the week. I couldn't wait until I was old enough to be in the "youth group", finally able to attend weekend winter retreats and week-long mission trips. When I was a junior in high school this love for church transformed into a sense of call to congregational ministry.

After high school I followed that sense of call to Calvin University in Grand Rapids, MI where I received my BA in Religion with a minor in Congregational Ministry Studies. While at Calvin, I had opportunities to explore ministry in and outside of the classroom. In campus ministry I received the gift that it is to grow in community. Through children's and youth ministry I learned to love the energy and wisdom that young people bring to the church! In bi-lingual Spanish/English worshiping communities I saw the beautiful messiness that church can be when we bring our full selves into worship and community. During an internship in Philadelphia, I fell in love with the energy and collaboration of urban ministry (something I remain inspired by today)!

After Calvin, I moved to Louisville, KY to attend Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. In seminary I had even more opportunities to grow and learn. While working for a semester in hospital chaplaincy I interacted first-hand with the impact that trauma has on our bodies and spirits. I have learned to use my love for writing in crafting sermons and liturgy that speak directly to the context I am in. In my most recent position, working for the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, I had the chance be a part of facilitating a Worship & Music Conference where church musicians and pastors from all over the country came together to learn, experiment, and be encouraged in their ministry. I was lucky to take part in worship that was meaningfully and collaboratively crafted and left encouraged and excited for the future of the church.

All along the way education and ministry experiences have shaped and reshaped my understanding of what exactly this calling means,

Community... in Cl

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All events held on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in GCC's Upper Commons. Use west parking lot and west entrance. Free admission and all are welcome!

SEPTEMBER 13

"Spotlight: Teenage Mental Health," with panelists from Erica's Lighthouse, Family Service Center, Glenbrook South HS, and Youth Services of Glenview-Northbrook.

OCTOBER 11

"Political Extremism Knocking at Our Doors: The John Birch Society in 1960s Glenview" with Susan Johns, President of the Glenview History Center.

NOVEMBER 8

"Why Performance Psychology Matters (and Not Just to Athletes)," with Tom Mietus, Athletic Director at Glenbrook South HS.

DECEMBER 6

"'Tis the Season: Chamber Music for the Holidays," with a trio of performers to be announced.

JANUARY 10

"Welcome to 2024: Information Literacy in This Tricky Time," with Lindsey Dorfman, Executive Library Director of Glenview Public Library.

FEBRUARY 7

"Spotlight: Cook County's United Against Hate Campaign," with County Commissioner Scott Britton.

March 6

"Meet the Neighbors: An Interfaith Dialogue," with Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, GCC's Senior Minister, and a leader from Glenview's Ishmaili Jamatkhana.

APRIL 10

"A Trio of Pairs: Poems, Short Stories, and Old Friends," with Judy Adams and Allan Ruter, longtime teaching colleagues and literary combatants in the vein of Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert





FREE SUMMER CONCERTS ON THE 4TH FRIDAY @ 5: 30 PM

JULY 28 Summer Jazz wth The Kevin Kizer Quartet AUGUST 25 Summer Potpourri with GCC Musicians

Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm Street. Bring a chair and a friend and enjoy the concert on the east circle drive lawn.

A SCOTTISH PILGRIMAGE

This July my cousin and I hiked "Saint Cuthbert's Way," a pilgrimage trail that wends from the center of southern Scotland to Lindisfarne Island on the east coast of northern England. Supposedly this replicates the route taken by Saint Cuthbert when he left Melrose Abbey in Scotland to become prior of Lindisfarne Abbey back in the seventh century.

While we appreciated the history of the area, we mostly relished being out of doors in beautiful terrain, which went from small villages and farmland to woodland preserves, open meadows, moors, and high hills with 360-degree views.

This was a self-guided tour, meaning we were on our own to get from one day's destination to the next. Averaging nearly twelve miles a day for nine days, the two of us hiked the entire way and fit in a few side trips, most of them intentional. The path varied from blacktopped farm lanes to barely visible indentations on rocky hillsides or in thick grass. We were quite ready to offer a prayer of thanksgiving at Lindisfarne for a walk of a lifetime.

Page 1 masthead is a 360 view from on top of a high hill. More images of the trip are on page 4.



A weir on the River Tweed near Dryburgh. Fortunately, there was a suspension bridge nearby.



We saw very few other hikers, but we had plenty of ovine companionship.



This narrow path follows an old Roman road and is misleadingly called 'Dere Street.'



It's a small country: golfers must share space with the local cows.



The border between Scotland and England is somewhere around here...



The pilgrimage trail leaving a woodland preserve for open, flower-filled meadows.

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but time and time again I feel pulled towards the church. I know that GCC will be the perfect place to nurture that calling while continuing to learn and discern. I am looking forward to taking all these experiences with me to Glenview, offering my gifts and energy to the work of the church and most importantly, getting to know you!

Although I don't consider it to be exactly separate from this ministry journey I have been on, when I am not doing explicitly "churchy" things, I am most likely chatting on the phone with friends or family members (if I don't have the pleasure of being with them in person). I also enjoy writing, running, walking, hiking, traveling, and opening my home to host dinners or parties for guests.

Until I see you in September! *Abigail*



Founding Artistic Director Lydia Lane Stout and **common pulse vocal ensemble** invite you to our 2023 performances of **Rest**. We consider rest to be a human right. When we are rested, our spaciousness and healing bear fruits of creativity and freedom dreaming, allowing us to imagine a better world and take action in service of collective liberation. We invite you to join our artists in a deeply restful experience, an immersive presentation of music, meditation, and poetry. Through presence and intention, collaboration and support, we will imagine relationships, systems, and practices that are more just and more loving. Find tickets and more information about us at **commonpulse.net**.

CALENDARS AND CARDS

The collection box for calendars and blank cards has been returned to outside the parish office. You may deposit these items now instead of waiting for November when Christmas cards will be collected. The calendars will be going to Restore Justice Illinois. Any questions, please contact Jane Marmet at 847-724-5196

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Please sign up to volunteer to serve at Sunday Fellowship Hour or to bring cookies, brownies, cake, coffee cake, fruit, donut holes, cheese and crackers (or be creative). Sign up by contacting JoAnne Peters at **jo.gramma.peters@ gmail.com** or the sign up link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040445a5ac2eabfe 3-fellowship1#/. Thank you from the Fellowship Team:

Ann, Dina, Holly, JoAnne, Laura, Marion and Sally.

KIDS CORNER

SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL

- August 6 September 3—no church school, childcare for infants and toddlers available in Room 107
- September 10—Rally Day—church school resumes

Our Sunday procedures and class locations: Children ages 3 years and under may go to Childcare in room 107. Children aged preK-5th grade will meet in a "one-room-schoolhouse" format. They will start the morning in the sanctuary with their families and then, after the Children's Message, convene for class in the Youth Room on the lower level. Parents may pick up their children in the Youth Room at the end of the church service.

Fall Church School resumes on Rally Day, September 10. We are excited about the upcoming year and look forward to welcoming everyone back after summer vacations. Online registration forms will be sent soon with a link to share with friends, family, and neighbors. If you are interested or have questions please contact Chris Calandra, Director of Children's Ministry at *chris. calandra@gccucc.org*





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SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, Jr.

BROADCASTER DEADLINES

August 23, 2023 by 9:00 AM Email your article to Tania McCarthy at **tania.mccarthy@** *gccucc.org* by 9:00 AM on the deadline date.

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Image by Lucinda Fuller

LOOKING DEEPLY AT LIFE AS IT IS IN THIS VERY MOMENT, THE MEDITATOR DWELLS IN STABILITY AND FREEDOM BUDDHA