



CONNECTING OUR GCC COMMUNITY SINCE 1941

OCTOBER 2023
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WHEN CALLINGS COLLIDE

Being at Glenview Community Church is something of a dream come true.

It has been over seven years since a mentor of mine first asked, "Have you ever thought of being a pastor?" The answer was no. In fact, I had a whole list of reasons why I could never be a pastor. Nevertheless, I started to think about being a pastor and simultaneously working through my list of reasons one at a time. Eventually, I became comfortable with pointing myself in the general direction of "ministry," but I continued to struggle to say out loud that God was calling me to be a pastor. What a bold thing to claim! Instead of courageously claiming where I thought God was calling me, I would deflect when people asked me about my plans. "I am not quite sure yet," or "...wherever God leads me," I would say. But the truth was, time and time again, I felt called to the church. Each time that I found myself working in a church I felt energized by the community, worship, and mission. I even found long tedious church meetings invigorating and would jump at any opportunity to spend time with church members. In each new city I lived in, my church community quickly became like family.

Over the past few weeks since starting work at GCC, I have called a number of friends and family members who have walked with me over these last seven years, and we have laughed and reminisced on the call journey that brought me to where I am today. "Do you remember when I first started thinking about being a pastor?" I asked my childhood best friend on a phone call. She remembered, of course. "Do you remember when we would talk about church while working cleaning crew?" I asked a friend from college. She remembered, of course.

You see, there are a million touches, moments, interactions, people, and experiences that led me to GCC.

There are a million touches, moments, interactions, people, and experiences that make me the person and pastor I am today.

At the same time, there are a million touches, moments, interactions, people, and experiences that have made Glenview

Community Church the church that it is. It is a beautiful and dynamic thing when all those touches come together to give us the church community that we worship with on a Sunday morning or the community that we care for in leadership council meetings, or the youth programs that we pour our time and energy into. There are so many ways in which GCC has been called and shaped in years past that have led to where it is today. There are so many people that come together to make this community what it is.

Theologian Fredrick Buechner defines vocation or "calling" as, "the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." While I appreciate the sentiment, I find the idea a little daunting. Of course, my singular calling cannot meet the world's deep hunger. But we are not only called as individuals, but we are also called within and in union with community. My calling to be here at GCC joins with the church's call to be a community of acceptance and welcome for all God's people. My calling to be here joins with Chris Calandra's call to lead a vibrant children's ministry. My calling to be here joins with Julie Evans' calling to create a safe space for our middle and high school students. My calling to be here joins with Tara Call's calling to lead a meaningful confirmation class for our seventh and eighth-grade students. My calling to be here joins with all in our church community who are called in their own unique and exciting ways!

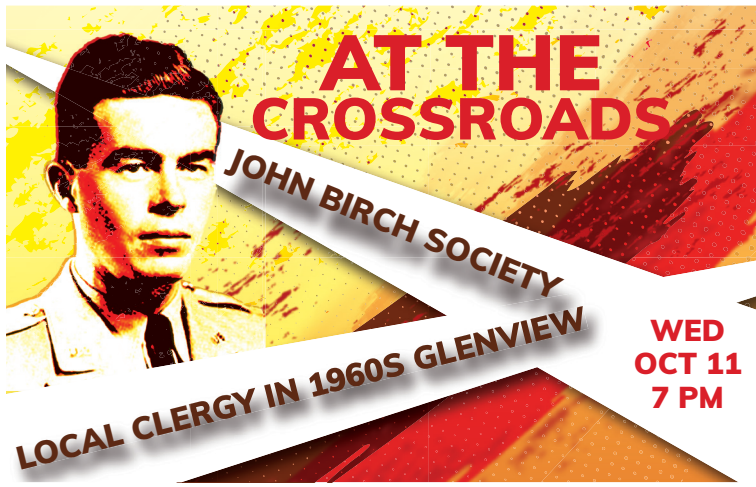
We are called in community.

When our callings collide, then we begin to meet the deep hunger of our community and the world around us.

I so look forward to spending more time at GCC and hearing more about where you feel called within and outside of our church community.

From my calling to yours,

Abigail Lutz
Pastoral Resident
Glenview Community Church



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 7 PM, UPPER COMMONS

Late in 1964, the John Birch Society—a well-funded, national, anti-Communist political action group—established its Midwestern headquarters in Glenview. Over the next several months, multiple local clergy publicly expressed opposition to the “Birchers,” as they were known. Meanwhile, national news media including The New York Times exposed this hometown conflict to an American audience divided by Cold War politics. Join Susan Johns, co-creator of the GCC Archives and President of the Glenview History Center, for a presentation based on primary sources and archival artifacts telling a fascinating but little known tale of local history. Since the coffee makers will be brewing, come several minutes early to grab yourself a cup before settling in for the evening’s main event!

LOOKING FOR A QUICK AND EASY WAY TO MAKE A BIG IMPACT?

Looking for a quick and easy way to make a big impact? Altar Flower delivery could be for you! Altar Flowers are delivered to members in need and those unable to attend Sunday Worship.

For just a short trip to someone’s house after Sunday worship approximately once a month, you can make someone’s day and feel great doing it!

We are looking for new volunteers – men, women, families, confirmation students and parents, PYF members, high school and college students, nursery school parents and anyone who has transportation.

Please sign up on this **Sign Up Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A45A4AC2EA75-altar>**

If you cannot access the link, please contact Laura O’Mera at 847-814-1565 or lauraomera@gmail.com.

Thank you from the Congregational Life Team.

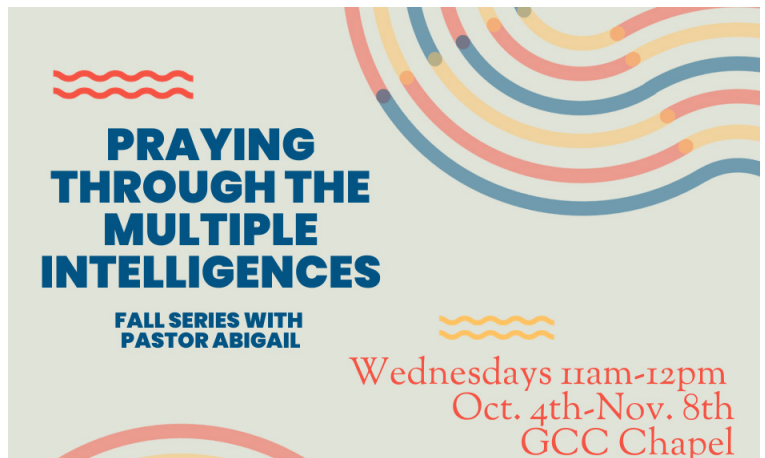
HEALTHY HINTS

Welcome to “Healthy Hints!” In this new column, we will touch on health topics that GCC members and friends can use in daily life. For starters, health is bio-Individual. In other words, what may work for one person may not always work for another person. Health is also multidimensional. It is comprised of four dimensions: mental, physical, emotional and spiritual. Here are a few tips to keep your health in balance:

- Eat whole, healthy non-processed foods
- Exercise regularly – walk, run or practice yoga
- Surround yourself with a community or friends and loved ones
- Feed your creativity - practice creative hobbies like playing music or gardening
- Maintain a spiritual practice – spend time in nature, meditate or attend church services

Our Health Team is looking for professionals and health enthusiasts to join us in bringing new wellness ideas and programs to our GCC community.

If you are interested, please contact Laura O’Mera at 847-814-1565 or lauraomera@gmail.com.



FALL SERIES WITH PASTOR ABIGAIL: PRAYING THROUGH THE MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., October 4 -November 8 in the GCC Chapel. Join us for a six-week series on prayer; we will spend time praying together and discussing how we engage different intelligences in our worship and prayer lives. Optional: bring a bagged lunch to eat afterwards in the Upper Commons. Sign up after worship in the Upper Commons or by emailing Pastor Abigail at abigail.lutz@gccucc.org.



VOICES OF GCC IS BACK!

All children in grades 2-8 are welcome to sing in our choir this year! We will rehearse every Sunday from 11:15-12:00 after worship in Room 201. Our first rehearsal was Sunday September 17. We can't wait to see you! Please contact Interim Children's Choir director Katelyn Ornduff via email katelyn.ornduff@gmail.com with any questions.

SPIRITUAL LIFE TEAMS

We are looking to form new Spiritual Life teams this fall. Spiritual Life teams are groups of 4 - 8 people who gather monthly for one hour. These groups will embark on a journey together to awaken their spiritual selves, recognize God's actions in their lives, and share their spirit with others. Our own, Rev. Bobbie McKay, Ph.D., has crafted a safe and accessible way to deepen our daily relationship with God. Join us!

We are also looking for any past participant who would like to experience a Spiritual Life Team again as well as anyone who would like to be a Spiritual Life Facilitator.

If interested, contact debbyshellard@gmail.com

MYRA LORIS

Educator, Myra Loris, provides lectures that focus on current social, political, and economic issues of critical importance to our nation and looks through the lens of history to understand the significance of such issues to our present and future.

November 7, 2023, Myra Loris presents.....REALLY?! Things I Learned While Recuperating.

This program looks at recent trends in the news, both negative and positive, and at the history that expands and explains these current issues. The question of whether, as a nation, we are moving ahead or receding into the past will be explored by looking at such critical issues as child labor, gun control, environmental breakthroughs, and much, much more.

Refreshments: 1:30 p.m.
Program: Lecture from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Community Room, Glenview Community Church

COST: \$15
Questions: berylbills@comcast.net



KIDS CORNER

ATTENTION EVERYONE!

The church school is in desperate need of adults to be weekly classroom teachers and substitutes. Our current group of dedicated folks need back-up for the weeks that they will be absent. Any person 18 or over is eligible to teach—we provide the curriculum and supplies, you pre-read the weekly lesson and work with your class on Sunday morning. Please consider helping GCC provide Christian Education for our children. Thank you!

OCTOBER 1
The Chief Priests--Matthew 21:23-42

OCTOBER 8
Parable of the Vineyard—Matthew 21:33-46

OCTOBER 15
The Wedding Banquet—Matthew 22: 1-14

SPECIAL NOTE

There are welcome cards in the pews that visitors may complete with their names, emails, phone numbers, etc. If you would like to receive email notifications about upcoming church school events, please complete one of the cards and place it in the offering plate. We will add your information to our mailing list. If you are interested or have questions please contact Chris Calandra, Director of Children's Ministry at chris.calandra@gccucc.org.



GLENVIEW
FIND YOUR COMMUNITY
CHURCH

1000 Elm Street
Glenview, IL 60025-2897
Phone: (847) 724-2210
Web: gccucc.org
Facebook: facebook.com/
GlenviewCommunityChurch/

SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, Jr.

BROADCASTER DEADLINES

October 18, 2023 by 9:00 AM

November 15, 2023 by 9:00 AM

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

Inspired by Christ.

Enriched by Faith.

Committed to Inclusivity.

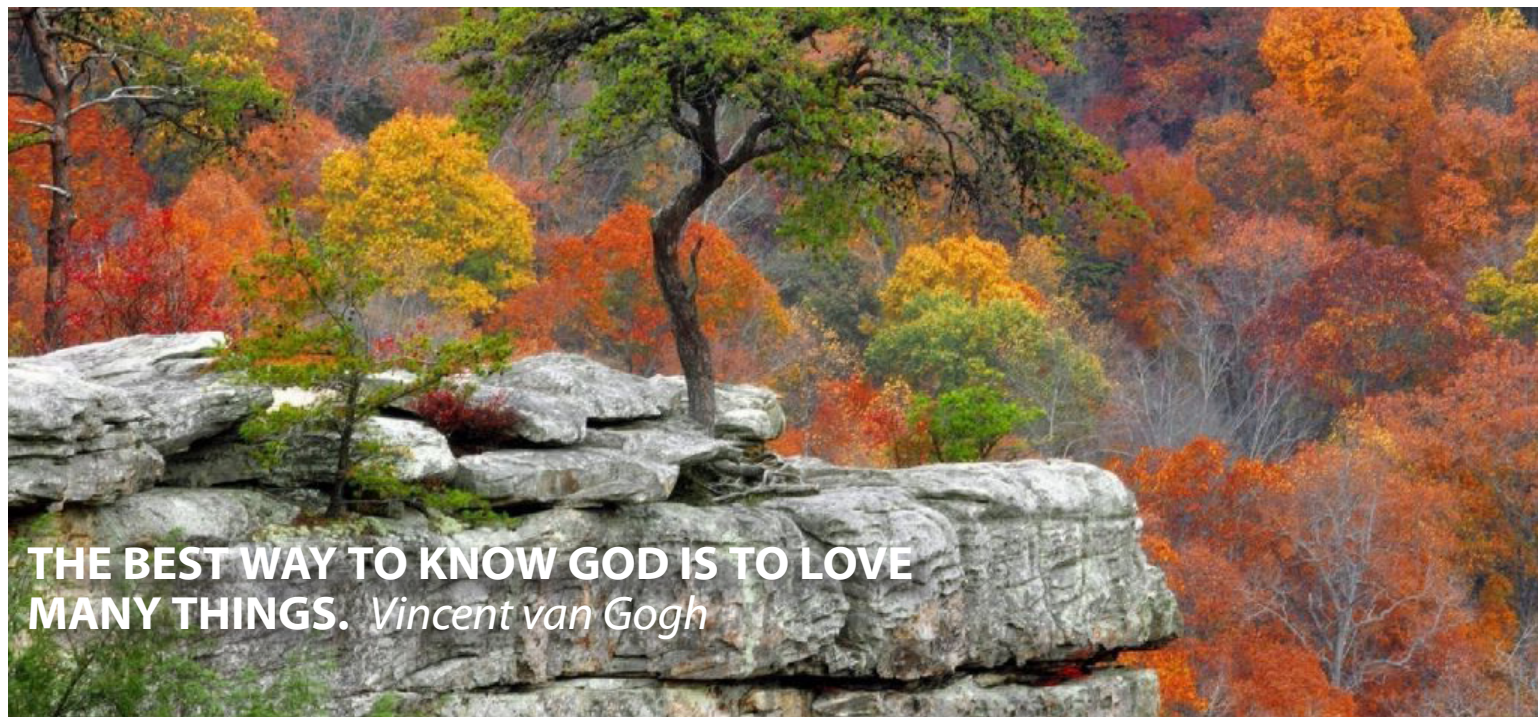
**We Serve God as Advocates
for Justice, Compassion,
and Peace.**



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**THE BEST WAY TO KNOW GOD IS TO LOVE
MANY THINGS.** *Vincent van Gogh*