

THE BROADCASTER

CONNECTING OUR GCC COMMUNITY SINCE 1941

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INTRODUCING OUR 2024 STEWARDSHIP SCRIPTURE AND THEME

2 Corinthians 9:8~ And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

“More Than Enough: *Celebrating Glenview Community Church’s Past, Present & Future...*”

How does a church measure success? Is it by the number of bodies in the pews? Is it by the number of pledges collected? Is it by the size of a building or the number of staff? How does a church measure success? Is it by the vitality of its programs? The quality of its music? The outreach that it does? The amount of money that it gives away? How does a church measure success? This is not just a rhetorical question. It is a question that we should ponder. One that I don’t know the answer to. I want to believe that a church’s success is none of these things. Perhaps we should measure a church’s success by something more spiritual. Are those who are engaged in the church drawn closer to God, each other, themselves, and creation? Are those who are engaged in the church sent out empowered each week to live like Christ in the world?

I wonder if when we start looking for ways to measure the success of a church, we are looking for the wrong thing. Perhaps the goal of a church was never to be “successful” but to be an embodiment of heaven on earth, to be a sacred space, a space set apart, where things are done differently, where love abounds, where success is not measured in the way we might be tempted to measure it.

How does a church measure success?

People often point to Acts 4:32-35 to describe the vision of the church, “Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed

private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.” There is a reason this passage is referenced again and again. While “church” as we know it was nowhere on the apostle’s radar, it is a beautiful description of the potential of community. Even this passage though, I don’t think was intended to be a benchmark to measure success.

I am convinced that the abundance we have is simply not measurable. We at Glenview Community Church have “More Than Enough”. This is true, NOT because of the physical assets we have, or the monetary reserves we have, or the pledge benchmark we do or don’t reach. It isn’t even true because of the AMAZING community we have of talented and dedicated individuals. Our *Abundance*, our *Plenty*, our “*More Than Enough*”, comes from a divine, unconditional love and grace poured out freely for each and every one of us and for all those who surround us (including those who may never step foot inside our church building). This is *The Plenty* that we have to celebrate at GCC. We can celebrate the *More Than Enough* of our Past, Present, and Future. It is an unchanging abundance that comes from a source much more consistent than any measurement of success.

I have loved celebrating, and look forward to continuing to celebrate, this abundance with you.

In gratitude and love,
Rev. Abigail Lutz

CONFIRMATION CLASS INTERFAITH TRIP TO ISMAILI CENTER

The 7th and 8th grade students of Glenview Community Church's confirmation class, along with students from Glenview United Methodist Church, were warmly welcomed to the Ismaili Jamatkhana ("Community Space") on February 4. Confirmation class is a chance for our students to learn more about what it means to be a Christian, the process ends with students "confirming" their faith and officially joining the church as members. At our church we believe part of understanding Christianity is understanding that we live in a world and in a community with many religious traditions. Talking with our students about how we engage with people of different faiths and modeling a posture of understanding and learning is a crucial part of our two-year curriculum.

We received a tour of the building and learned about the many programs that happen in the center. We ended our morning together by taking off our shoes to enter the sacred prayer room. After exploring the room on our own we gathered in a circle in the center of the room and sat on the carpeted floor to learn more about what happens in this sacred space, how prayer works, and some of what defines the Ismaili faith. We learned about the role that Glenview Clergy played in supporting the building of the center when there was some push back against it. We are thankful to have relationships with the many faiths that worship, gather, and build community in Glenview.

For our students, learning about different religious traditions is important in helping us reflect on our own faith. We were looking, not for differences, but for what unites us.



CONFIRMATION BAKE SALE

Generosity and service is an important part of being a member at Glenview Community Church. This is why each year our Confirmation students pick organizations to support through service work and fundraising. As our students learn about faith, the church, and what it means to be a church member, we want them to understand and experience the importance of giving back! This year our confirmands chose to focus on homelessness. This month they supported organizations that do work around homelessness by baking and selling baked goods after worship. It was an extra SWEET morning at GCC! Our students and their families baked and donated a ton of delicious treats which they sold to raise over \$800 for Connections for the Homeless and The Night Ministry.

Thank you to the Confirmation Class for putting this together and thank you to all who were (and continually are) generous in your support of our youth and their service projects!



GCC TAKES ON TRIVIA NIGHT!

The Congregational Life Ministry is always looking for fun ways to build community at GCC! At the end of January, they invited GCC folks to show up for Trivia Night at Ten Ninety Brewing Company. A big crew showed up and had a fun night together of trivia and fellowship. Keep your eyes out for more ways to get connected through events sponsored by Congregational Life!



HEALTHY HINTS

Welcome to “Healthy Hints” for March! To reach the proverbial Pot ‘O Gold at the end of the Rainbow in health, I thought we might touch upon the many benefits of “Eating the Rainbow.”

Our plant-based-foods naturally come in a variety of colors, not just to be aesthetically pleasing. These different colored fruits and vegetables serve a purpose in our diets by containing essential phytonutrients for optimal health.

Here are a few health benefits from each food color category and some food examples:

Red – Improved inflammation, lower risk of heart disease, improved brain function (eggplant, beets, radishes, red onion, tomatoes, cranberries, pomegranates, rhubarb, watermelon).

Orange – Hormone regulation, reproductive health, skin, hair and vision health (carrots, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, winter squash, apricots, cantaloupe, mango, oranges).

Yellow – Digestive health, metabolism (fermented cabbage, garlic, ginger, turmeric, yellow peppers, bananas, peaches, pineapples, lemons, grapefruit).

Green – Heart health, circulation (artichokes, arugula, asparagus, broccoli, celery, avocado, green grapes, honeydew, kiwifruit, limes).

Blue/Purple – Brain health, mood support (black olives, eggplant, purple cabbage, purple cauliflower, blackberries, blueberries, purple grapes, Acai, black currants).

“Eating the Rainbow” is an easy way to be intentional about including more phytonutrients in your diet. Have fun with it and ask your grocer where to find certain foods if you need help.

For all questions or complimentary Health Coaching, please contact Laura O’Mera, Integrative Health Coach, at 847.814.1565 or lauraomera@gmail.com. This article was adapted from “Eat the Rainbow,” from The Institute for Integrative Nutrition HCTP, October 2022.



SCOUTING SUNDAY

Worship was buzzing on the morning of February 4 thanks to the presence of Troop 156! It was a joy to have them help lead us in worship, serving in coffee hour, and even taking down our Christmas trees! Thank you to Troop 156 for all you do for our church. We are so lucky to have a connection to such an active group of Scouts!



KIDS NIGHT OUT

The Faith Formation Ministry put on a special event just for kids in February! The valentine themed night was complete with games, bingo, pizza, crafts, and cookie decorating! Kids from our own church school as well as kids from GCC Nursery School came together for a night of fun! Thank you to the adults who showed up to make this night fun for all, and thanks to the kids who bring so much joy and life to our church community!



VOICES OF GCC

GCC's Children Choir sang in worship on February 11. We are thankful for the joyful song they brought us in worship. Thank you to Katelyn Ornduff for leading them and thank you to each of the kids who give their time and energy to singing in Voices of GCC.



CHICAGO MASTER SINGERS NEXTGEN CONCERT PACKED GCC

Glenview Community Church is thrilled to be home to the Chicago Master Singers (CMS), and the concert on Friday, February 23 was a true gift to the community. CMS presented a new initiative to support the next generation of composers and singers and kicked off this initiative with their first NextGen concert. Composer Elaine Hagenberg's works, including her new major work, *Illuminare*, was beautifully performed by CMS with the Metropolis Symphony Orchestra. 70 students from Lake Zurich and Fremd High School choirs joined the 90 voices of CMS to present this extraordinary concert to a full house of about 500 attendees. The Chicago Master Singers will return to their stage at GCC on Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19 for a French- and American-themed choral program in advance of their summer concert tour to Paris and Normandy. Tickets are available at chicagomastersingers.org.

MOM'S DAY AT GCCNS

Our on my own students showed their moms around the classroom, did a special craft, and played.



SERVING IT UP AT YOUTH SERVICES

Members of the Women's Association Chapter 7 enjoyed a night of giving back to the community by preparing and serving a meal at **Youth Services** as part of YSGN's Study Buddies program. This was Chapter 7's third time at YSGN and they are excited to sign up again. Other WA chapters and other groups from GCC have also served in the past and YSGN is in need of additional help. They rely on organizations like GCC to volunteer to provide dinners to 70-80 1st-8th grade students and their study buddies so the children are better able to focus and succeed. This is an easy and fun service activity. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jennifer.Fitch@ysgn.org.



LOOKING AHEAD

April 14: Bells Before Brunch (Bell performance in Commons following worship) & Chili Cookoff

April 21: Thank You Brunch for Pledging Community

April 28: Confirmation Retreat and Family Dinner

May 5: Confirmation Sunday and Fourth Grade Bible Presentations



GALENTINE'S DAY BUNCO

Galentine's Day Bunco! Thanks for Coley Callero, Susan Hanzlovic, & Lindsay Schwartz for hosting this fun event!



Lent & Easter Calendar

Ongoing on Thursdays (12:00pm) Gospel of John Bible Study with Pastor Jim

Monday Nights, February 12-March 25 (7:30-8:30pm) Lenten Book Study with Pastor Abigail

Wednesday, March 6 (7:00pm) Speakers Forum: "Meet the Neighbors: An Interfaith Dialogue"

Sunday, March 10 (7:30am-12:30pm) Troop 156 Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast~ (3:00pm) Concert For Peace: Home

Sunday, March 17 (after worship) Inquiring Members Brunch

Tuesday, March 19 (11:30am) Senior Luncheon

Sunday, March 24 (10:00am) Palm Sunday Worship

Thursday, March 28 (7:00pm) Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 29 (7:00pm) Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 31 (9:00am & 11:00am) Easter Worship Services. An Easter Egg Hunt for kids and youth will take place between services from 10:15-10:45.

Sunday, April 7 (10am) "Second Easter": Beatles Sunday!

Wednesday, April 10 (7:00pm) Speakers Forum: "A Trio of Pairs: Poems, Short Stories, and Old Friends"

FIND YOUR **GLENVIEW**
COMMUNITY
CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, Jr.

BROADCASTER DEADLINES

April 2024 Broadcaster - March 15th
May 2024 Broadcaster - April 19th
June 2024 Broadcaster - May 20th
July 2024 Broadcaster - June 21st
August 2024 Broadcaster - July 26th
September 2024 Broadcaster - August 23rd



Le Grand Noyer in Éragny, automne, Camille Pissarro (1830–1903)



Community... in Christ