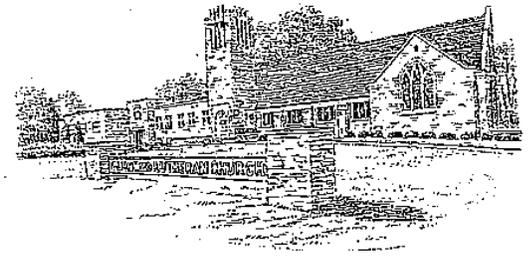


The Glenword

God's purpose for Glenwood Lutheran Church is that we accept all people, share the Good News, and help those in need.



The monthly newsletter of Glenwood Lutheran Church

December 2017

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24

9:45 a.m.

Regular Worship Service
4th Sunday of Advent



4 p.m.
**Christmas
Eve
Service**

POINSETTIAS

Red poinsettias will adorn our sanctuary on Christmas Eve. If you would like to dedicate one, please contact the church office. The cost is \$10 each.

WINTER OFFICE HOURS

December-February

Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

At the special congregational meeting on Sunday, November 19, 2017, the congregation voted to sell the two parcels of land, 809 W. Woodruff and 815 W. Woodruff, to the Toledo Museum of Art at \$50,000 per lot. This is the property across the street from Glenwood where the Glenwood Community Garden is currently located.

THE GIVING STORE

The Giving Store is only open once in December, on Saturday, December 9. Extra help is needed as we will be serving breakfast again this year and also have the Christmas shop. Mark your calendar and volunteer!



Sorting will be on December 6 at 9 a.m. Sorters are on break then until January 3, 2017.



CANCELLATION POLICY

If Lucas County is at a level 2 snow emergency, all activities are cancelled **except** Sunday worship. Sunday worship is cancelled if it is a level 3. Please use your best judgment in deciding whether to come out.



TOURS DE NOEL PROGRAM

Glenwood Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 3, 2017

- 12:00 pm- 6 pm **Building Tours**, including The Giving Store
- 12:00 pm- 2:30 pm **Children's activities** in the Leamer Room:
card making, cookie decorating, picture taking, dancing, and singing
- 12:00 pm **Organ recitals** in Sanctuary
- 12:00, Nancy Russell, Glenwood Lutheran Church
 - 12:20, Jay Jacobs, St Paul's Lutheran Church
 - 12:40, Freda Lang, St Paul's Lutheran Church
 - 1:00, Martha Gregory, Salem Lutheran Church
 - 1:20, Pam Stover, Hope Lutheran Church
 - 1:40, Cheryle Knight, Glendale Presbyterian Church
- 12:30 pm **Handbell Music** in Bell Chapel
- 12:30, Ding-a-lings, Glenwood Lutheran Church
 - 1:00, Glory Bells, St Paul's Lutheran Church
 - 1:30, The Bell Choir, Collingwood Presbyterian Church
- 2:30 pm Sanctuary: **The Young Voices of Greater Toledo**
- 3:00 pm Sanctuary: Young Peoples Concert, **Sono Novo**
See article on next page for more details about this group
- 4:00 pm Sanctuary: **Holiday Song Sing**
Pastor Chris Hanley, song leader; Brittany Burns, accompanist
- 4:30 pm Sanctuary: **Christmas Carol Sing**
Annelle Donaldson, carol leader; Nancy Russell, organist



**All ages are encouraged to come and enjoy the holiday music.
Invite your friends and family.**

Volunteers are needed to work two-hour shifts on that afternoon of December 3: greet, serve refreshments, lead tours of the sanctuary, or help with the children's activities. A poster to sign-up is in the narthex.

SONO NOVO CHAMBER ENSEMBLE TO PERFORM AT THE TOURS DE NOEL



The Sono Novo Chamber Ensemble is a cadre of musicians drawn from across the Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan region. The ensemble was formed after a group of the members began playing regularly together for gigs at Trinity Episcopal Church in Toledo. What emerged was a group of artists playing for the love of playing; making music for the love of making music. The focus of the ensemble is the chamber repertoire, music for smaller ensembles which rarely is played in larger symphonic settings. Each of the individuals here is a highly respected musician in their own musical communities, and in this venue, it is the love of the art itself which draws these players together.

Wayne F. Anthony, the Artistic Director, is a long-time Toledo resident who has actively been involved in the area arts scene. He is currently on the faculty of Owens Community College where he teaches classes in Music Theory and Applied Piano. He serves as the Classical Music and Dance Correspondent and the Classical Music Critic for the Toledo Blade Newspaper. He is an accomplished composer having received several distinguished awards including the Prix de Nadie Boulanger from the American Academy of Arts in Fontainebleau and was recently a semi-finalist in the American Prize for Composition.

CELEBRATING DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Melody Brewer
- 6 - Rick Parrish
- 6 - Louise Steele
- 7 - Linda Kraft
- 7 - John Miller
- 8 - Kathy Stover
- 10 - Kyle Rutherford
- 13 - Skyler Fields
- 14 - Randy Scarborough
- 23 - Mildred Allred
- 23 - Ruth Arnot
- 25 - Alie Hartkopf
- 30 - Paul Swartz
- 31 - Mark Pawlaczyk Jr.



Louise Steele celebrates her **101st birthday** on December 6. If you would like to send her a greeting, her address is Glendale Assisted Living, 5020 Ryan Rd, Room A107, Toledo OH 43614.

NEWEST ARRIVAL

Jeffrey Alan Ryan Miller was born November 2, 2017 to John "JW" Miller and Brittany Brauer. Faith Miller is the happy grandmother. Congratulations!

THANK YOU

Kathy Pinkstaff thanks everyone for their cards and prayers. She is still awaiting some surgery, but is doing well.

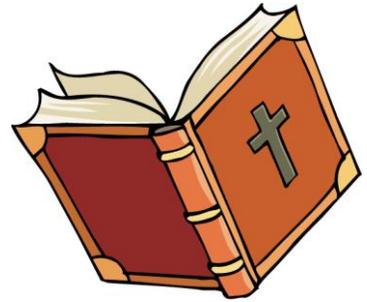
FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION



Non-perishable food items are being collected for the Feed Your Neighbor program at Augsburg Lutheran. Donations can be brought to Glenwood and placed in the designated container in the narthex during the month of December.

Dear Friends in Christ,

We Christians are lifelong learners. For this reason we call ourselves 'disciples' or students of Jesus. At Glenwood this past fall, a group of disciples continued learning by reading the book of Ephesians over eight weeks and working through a study guide prepared by our Bishop, Daniel Beaudoin. As I look back and reflect on what I learned throughout the course of this study, I keep returning to the same verse: "the gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors, and some teachers." (Ephesians 4:11) I noticed as I studied this text that I am tempted to try performing all these tasks rather than pay closer attention to who *else* has been given these gifts! Christ gives these gifts to a variety of people for the building of the church.



December and our journey through Advent will be an opportunity to notice the gifts God gives us. On December 17th, we will have a special opportunity to welcome Nora Sloan Fields, Julie and Mike Navarre's granddaughter, to the community of people who have been washed by Jesus and baptized in the name of the triune God. We will promise to grow her and support her while she discovers her gifts. We will also formally welcome people who wish to continue their journey of discipleship at Glenwood and affirm their baptism. They each bring their own unique gifts and stories of how they have lived out their baptismal callings. One of these fellow disciples, Brittany Burns, has already borrowed and read three books from my library! Becoming curious of about the role and presence of women in the early church, she conducted an independent study and collected her thoughts in an essay. Rather than rely solely on my thoughts and gifts as a theologian, let us *all* give thanks to God for the rich gifts of teachers, pastors, and evangelists which God has given to Glenwood. As you peruse *The Glenword* this month, explore the presence of early Christian women with Brittany, consider reading or rereading Ephesians to grow as a disciple, and if the Spirit moves you towards new questions and towards new ways to witness Christ, my library will be open. You might wind up in *The Glenword*!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chris Hanley

PS: Keep an eye out for an Advent Letter, offering a theme for Advent for us to focus on!



IN OUR PRAYERS

Becky B., Jerry Bell, Karen Billings, Ginger Bopp, Tom Dellinger, Annelle Donaldson, Steve & Sandy Drake, Barbara Eckenroth, Helen Green, Dave Heath, Lillian Henning, Paul, Dennis Johnson, Mildred, Barbara & Dick Miller, Parker, Joseph Parnell, Jr., Kathy Pinkstaff, Jack Russell, Kurt Seibenick, Madeleine Smith, SuAnn Snider, Jeff Stang, Samuel Williams, and Tom Wright.



COUNCIL HAPPENINGS – November 8, 2017

Council approved calling a Special Congregational Meeting to vote on the sale of two lots on Woodruff, to the Toledo Museum of Art, for \$50,000 per lot.

Rental agreement with Social Service for the Arab Community for use of office space is being finalized.

Stewardship, Consecration, and Budget will help council to prepare for 2018 as we approach Ministry and Mission.

The resignation of Sue Brzezowiez was accepted.

MONTHLY UPDATE

	WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	OFFERING	ACTUAL EXPENSES
Oct. 1	57	\$2,045	
Oct. 8	48	\$2,589	
Oct. 15	59	\$2,245	
Oct. 22	47	\$1,782	
Oct. 29	64	\$4,792	
TOTAL	275	*\$13,453	\$22,782

Difference between Income and Expenses for the Month: \$9329

* Does not include gifts to Dedicated Accounts (Memorials, Benevolence, etc.)

WE MOURN

Carl N. Plumadore, age 83, died October 31, 2017 at the Parkcliffe Memory Care Community. Born in Toledo, he was co-owner/president of Industrial Electronics Lab., Inc. He is survived by 4 children, 12 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren. Pastor Chris conducted his funeral on November 5th.

We offer our condolences to Korpo Malakpa upon the death of her sister.

May Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort, graciously tend those who mourn.



**Reformation Sunday
October 29, 2017
Pastor Chris portrays Martun Luther.**

EARLY CHRISTIAN WOMEN.....Brittany Burns

Last month, I went to a cousin's wedding in Detroit. The bride was beautiful, my cousin (the groom) stole the show by crying more loudly and openly than anyone else, and the minister officiating the ceremony delivered remarks based on Ephesians 5:22-31. For those of you who, like me, have no trouble recalling inconsequential details of a random October day in fourth grade but have a woefully deficient memory for practical matters, here's that text (NIV):

²² Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.²⁹ After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—³⁰ for we are members of his body.³¹ "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

This passage, along with similar ones in Colossians and 1 Peter, plus admonitions against women speaking or teaching men in church (1 Timothy 2:12), have rankled me for years. I was raised in the ELCA tradition, so as a child I saw women lay readers, altar guild members, Sunday school teachers, and, yes, pastors (commence pearl-clutching!). I grew up thinking it was normal, so by the time in awkward tween-dom I read these verses that seemed to place women in a subordinate role, I felt a deep sense of "wrongness" about them. Did John 3:16 say "For God so loved men...?" Was any ignorant man's interpretation of scripture automatically superior to that of a woman who might've studied and considered the subject for years? If I got married, would I have to do whatever my husband told me to? (As a natural contrarian, I was terrified by this prospect in particular) What if these teachings were wrong? What did that mean about the Bible, its authors, and the God they claimed to serve?

I packed these questions up in boxes, put them in a corner of my mind, and surrounded them in caution tape, with a sign that said "This doesn't seem consistent with what I know about God." And there they stayed. In college, for the first time I talked about these questions with people who believe that God really does want women to take a subordinate role in the church and in their families. (The trope is that youth usually go off to college and experiment with all sorts of radical liberal ideas--for me it was the opposite!) I was told that yes, women are supposed to submit to their husbands, but the husband actually has it harder, because he has to be like Christ to her! And yes, women shouldn't teach men because the men will probably be overcome with lust, but that doesn't mean women can't teach children, which will prepare them better for motherhood anyway! For some reason, these arguments did not sway me.

That was an excessively long and self-centered introduction, but anyway, this fall, I finally decided to spend some time really studying where these teachings about women came from, and frankly, trying to figure out if I'm "womaning" right as a follower of Christ. Here's part of

what I concluded, after reading books until my eyes couldn't focus anymore and following dozens of internet rabbit holes and generating enough ideas for future study to keep me busy until the Great Intergalactic War of 2050 breaks out.

1) Women played instrumental roles at all levels of the early church, but male church leaders intentionally sidelined them, not because God demanded it, but rather for reasons related to the particular circumstances of the time. These reasons included: a) to avoid rocking the boat with the civil authorities more than they had to, b) to differentiate the Jesus movement from pagan cults, many of which were woman-driven, and c) because early Christian theologians were influenced by the Greek and Roman philosophy and culture in which they were immersed, both of which cast men as logical and dominant, and women as emotional and weak-minded. Luckily as modern Americans we've moved past that outdated worldview now and--[oh. Hmm.](#)

2) The so-called "household codes" (the Ephesians passage above, Colossians 3:18-4:1, and 1 Peter 2:13-3:7) are the result of a combination of those same historical circumstances.

3) There's nothing in the Gospels to suggest that Jesus viewed women as inferior to men in terms of worth or faith. Instead, over and over, we see Jesus taking the time to acknowledge women--not just in an incidental "Hey, there, how 'bout this weather?" kind of way, but in a personal, transformational way. Think about the Samaritan woman. Jesus chose to strike up a difficult yet compassionate conversation with her at the well, and through her faith many in her town believed. Or think about the bleeding woman. Jesus was literally on his way to save a dying little girl. There wasn't a moment to lose! I can easily imagine the crowd scoffing in disbelief and shuffling their feet impatiently when Jesus stopped to talk to a poor, sickly-looking woman. And then he healed her and praised her faith for all to hear. Then there's the Canaanite woman and the poor widow...examples of faith according to no lesser authority than Jesus Himself! (Apparently the Gospel writers didn't know these women's names, but I'm sure Jesus did!)

Mary and Martha's brother Lazarus may often steal their thunder, what with having been raised from the dead and whatnot (just try competing for attention around the dinner table in *that* family), but look again: We are told that "Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus" (John 11:5). I feel like we, like the onlookers of the story, often emphasize how much Jesus loved Lazarus (see John 11:36). But the writer clearly tells us Jesus was moved by His love for the sisters as well! Moreover, Martha is said to be the one who "opened *her* home" to Jesus and his disciples (Luke 10:38, italics mine), and in John, she makes a stunning declaration of faith: ".../ *believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world*" (John 11:27). Mary anointed Jesus with expensive perfume as He was on His way to Jerusalem, and Jesus defended her over Judas's objection. To say nothing of the women who gathered at the foot of the cross when the male disciples had scattered, and Mary Magdalene, the first to see the Resurrected Lord. Through their words *and* actions, women in the Gospel showed faith in Jesus, while The Twelve frequently seemed too focused on internal squabbles and prosaic circumstances of life to find their way out of a wet paper bag, let alone grasp who Jesus was. Jesus recognized and honored the faith and the worth of these women 2000 years ago, and there's no reason to think He'd do any differently today.

So if women are equally worthy and faithful in Jesus' eyes, why should they be otherwise in the Church's or anyone/anything else's eyes?

Glenwood Lutheran Church
2545 Monroe St.
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GLENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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FAX: 419-255-5030

Website: <http://www.glenwoodlc.net>

Sunday Worship at 9:45 a.m.

Home of the Giving Store

Second Saturday of each month

Worship 9:45 - 10 a.m.

Store is open 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Doors close at 12:30 p.m.

Fourth Wednesday of each month
except Nov. & Dec.

Worship 1:45 - 2 p.m.

Store is open 2-4 p.m.

Doors close at 3:30 p.m.

Rev. Christopher Hanley, Pastor
glenwoodpastor@gmail.com

Staff

Annelle Donaldson, Director of Music

Ellen Kraft, Office Manager

Barry Ramlow, Financial Manager

Nancy Russell, Organist

Del Schmidt, Custodian

Council

Jerry Brucksieker

Jean Emery, Pres.

Sarah Gulch

Fritz Hartkopf

Eric Knaggs

Kelly Schmidt

Carol Stacy, VP

Polly Tate