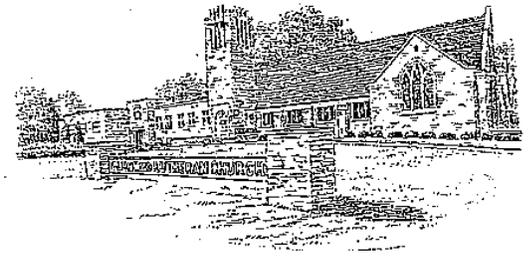


The Glenword

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

August 2018

MEN'S CHORUS WALKS WITH GOD



Sunday, July 15, fourteen male members of the choir, family, congregation, and cadre of singing friends joined voices and opened the service with a stirring rendition of "I'll Walk with God", theme song of Hollywood's

"The Student Prince". Glenwood choristers - Fred Henning, Ed Bloedow, John Kern, Delano Dancy, Ken Schumaker, Dave Heath, and Pastor Chris came together with congregation, family members, and special friends: Phil Klunk, David Taylor, Paul Swartz, Rob Donaldson, Jeff Horvath (Collingwood Presbyterian), Richard Martinez (Christ Presbyterian) and Gene Borton (Salem Lutheran) for this special chorus, creating beautiful song. We appreciated each and every voice and thank them for sharing their musical gifts.



GIVING STORE BACK-TO- SCHOOL COLLECTION

During August, The Giving Store is asking for donations of children's socks, underwear, and backpacks. Items can be left in the container in the narthex.

BIBLE STUDY

Each Tuesday at noon in the Leamer Room, Pastor Chris leads this study of the upcoming Sunday lectionary.





Dear Friends in Christ,

Next door to us we have a visual presentation of 'life in death.' At the Toledo Museum, artist Rebecca Louise Law has installed a piece of art called 'Community' into the special exhibit area. I needed to learn the word 'undulating'

in order to appreciate what has been created here (rolling in a wave-like motion.) Flowers and plants hang, fold, unfurl, undulate across the entire space down from the ceiling. The piece of art makes two points that speak to the mission of the church.

First, the title of this piece is 'Community.' The artist named this installation 'Community' when she witnessed how Toledo came together to make this project happen through its community partners, volunteers, and gardens who offered their plants. This hanging garden took thousands of hours of work, mostly by Toledoans, and it speaks to the power of what we can do together as an active community, united to make something beautiful happen. In the church we have language for this: a community empowered by the Spirit of God. Whether we become co-creators in beauty or gardeners and caretakers of the creation we share, we can either act as a community or fail to do so, alienating the power God has given us in our neighbors. The question for every church becomes 'who is our community?' The Toledo Museum considers us part of their community; they gave us flowers identical to ones used in their exhibit that now live next to our sign in a bright blue planter on Monroe Street.

Second, when Rebecca Louise Law reflects on the presence of life in death in her art, I hear echoes of baptism. In Romans 6, St. Paul writes that we have been buried with Christ in baptism. Every one of our senses seems to confirm that finitude and death are the end of every life on earth. But we proclaim Christ crucified and raised, thereby affirming the invisible presence of a force working towards life inside of us made noticeable by simple water in baptism. Like the slowly drying flowers next door to us, what we see is slowly dying and yet underneath what we see is the on-going, enlivening of baptism as all things are gathered into God. (Ephesians 1:9) Martin Luther writes on this topic, "We are not now what we shall be, but we are on the way. The process is not yet finished but it is actively going on. This is not the goal but it is the right road. At present everything does not gleam and sparkle, but it is being cleansed."

Who is our community and how are we witnessing to life in death? If you need inspiration, I recommend you visit our next door neighbor's special exhibit. (N.B. this exhibit costs \$10 unless you are a museum member, so an alternative reflecting place might be a Metropark or even your own backyard where life in death is happening constantly.)

Grace and peace,
Pastor Chris

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

July 5, 2018

Pastor Chris reported that the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston was a good experience and thanked council for allowing him the time to attend.

The result of council elections:



Carol Ardner – President
Polly Tate – Vice President
Fred Henning – Secretary
Fritz Hartkopf – Treasurer

Council continues to have conversation with the Toledo

Museum of Art regarding the museum's interest in purchasing Glenwood's back parking lot.

A council retreat is being planned for the near future.



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Month of June

Average Sunday attendance: 47

Finance Report

Income: \$14,891

Includes \$4,702 from Foundation

Expenses: \$17,252

Year to Date

Average Sunday attendance: 54

Finance Report

Income: \$80,454

includes \$9,404 from Foundation

Expenses: \$99,023

A RESPONSE TO 'WHO IS GOD'?.....By Susan Martyn

I thank Fred Henning for prodding me to consider how I envision and experience God. I hope you will add your voice to ours in subsequent newsletters.

I have identified with all of the images Fred mentioned at various times in my life. But I no longer see them as sufficient in how I understand God. I have trouble envisioning God as remote or manipulating. I see God as judging our selfish behavior, but also as redeeming and restoring us to carry on. Mostly, I experience God as the ultimate multifaceted power that accompanies me throughout my life journey.

Just as I glimpse the face of God in the life and death of Jesus, I experience the real presence of God through the Holy Spirit in each person. In other words, I believe that the face, voice, and spirit of God resides incarnate in each of us. And all of these countless incarnations offer me the experience of God's power and presence in a multitude of ways.

When I need it most, I find God is with me by accepting, suffering, creating, challenging, reassuring, prodding, celebrating, questioning, encouraging, correcting, and caring. I experience God's embrace in all of these ways, whatever my current mood or situation. I am awed, guided, and inspired by these various presences, and I thank you for all of yours.



CELEBRATING AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Brian Bokesch
- 3 – Nancy Bell
- 4 – Joel Hansen
Arianna Pawlaczyk
- 8 – Dawn Skeens
- 10 – George Sommerfield
- 14 – Jacob Tavernier
- 15 – Kiara Jordan
- 16 – Clif Arman
- 20 – Eric Knaggs
- 22 – Jade Brown
Ernie Emery
Nora Fields
- 23 – Lindsay Navarre
Jean Sites
- 31 – Kelly Schmidt

CONGRATULATIONS!

We offer our congratulations to grandparents, Leslie & Norm Uhlman and Great-Grandma Annelle Donaldson upon the birth of Liam Michael Sande on July 19.

OUR SYMPATHY

We offer our condolences to Polly Tate upon the death of her sister.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Jerry Bell | Mildred |
| Karen Billings | Barbara & Dick Miller |
| Eric Decker | Nililah Jean |
| Tom Dellinger | Joseph Parnell, Jr. |
| Annelle Donaldson | Kathy Pinkstaff |
| Rob Donaldson | Eileen & Bud Pratt |
| Doris Ann | Charles & Mary Roberts |
| Steve & Sandy Drake | Jack Russell |
| Barbara Eckenroth | Simo |
| Helen Green | Madeleine Smith |
| Karen H. | Terri |
| Dave Heath | Leslie Uhlman |
| Lillian Henning | Mary Uhlman |
| John | William |
| Dennis Johnson | |
| Mary Knight | |
| Lori Lockwood | |



MULTI-FAITH PICNIC

The Multi-Faith Council of NW Ohio invites you to their annual family potluck picnic on Sunday, August 19 from 3-7 p.m. at the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo's new pavilion, 25877 Schneider Rd., Perrysburg. Tableware, lemonade, water, and kosher/hilal hot dogs will be provided. Activities include good



conversation, outdoor games, board games, and a playground. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy fellowship with old and new friends. The picnic is free and everyone is

welcome!

ZION YOUTH TO COME

On August 26th we will be joined by the five youth from Zion Lutheran Church whom Pastor Chris accompanied to the Youth Gathering in Houston! They will share their experiences through word and picture and express their appreciation to Glenwood for supporting them.

LITURGY—PART 4 SONG.....by Annelle Donaldson

Based upon Gabe Huck's book, "How Can I Keep From Singing?"



The German theologian, pastor and martyr, Dietrich Bonhoeffer posed an answer to the question "Why do Christians sing when they are together?" His reply:

"The reason is, quite simply, because in singing together it is possible for them to speak and pray the same word at the same time; in other words,

because here they can unite in the Word. It is the voice of the church that is heard in singing together. It is not you that sings, it is the church that is singing, and you, as a member of the church may share in its song. Thus all singing together serves to widen our spiritual horizon, makes us see our little company as a member of the great Christian church on earth, and helps us willingly and gladly join our singing, be it feeble or good, to the song of the church." *Life Together* (New York: Harper and Row, 1954), 59.

"How can I keep from singing?" Bonhoeffer further states that those of us who have cast our lot with the church through Baptism can't! We have practiced our ritual song as a rehearsal for life when we come to church. Singing is what we do. Quakers have a ritual of silence, but our tradition needs music – processions, acclamations, refrains, hymns, moments that have nothing to do with silence or the speaking voice. (Huck p. 39)

How do we approach our musical liturgy? It is not something simply added on to fill up moments between speaking or movement. Often we act as if we do know how to "keep from singing", and singing seems to become the challenge.

If our liturgy, however, is what we that are baptized do each week because it forms us into what the baptismal plunge proclaimed, then it must be sung because it is all we have! (p.40)

Bonhoeffer would say that singing is the only way to act together to be the church and not so many individuals.

We go against our cultural grain when we assemble at a certain place at a certain time, expecting to do and not to watch. Some song may become an extra, but if we come to do, then song is central to the whole undertaking, for the task to be done can't be done except in song. (p.41) We go against the grain when we put everything into the liturgy, but expect nothing from it. We have found it easier to enjoy liturgy when we make liturgy a spectator sport with a star or some sort of spectacle, and the music is cute or catchy.

Face it, this isn't about making people feel good or holy or even kind. This is basic training in living like a baptized person. Huck admonishes us to "Cut the frills and get down to the business of singing the liturgy." (Huck p. 42)

To conclude this series next month: Silence and Peace...

Glenwood Lutheran Church
2545 Monroe St.
Toledo OH 43620



GLENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Phone: 419-255-0886

E-mail: glenwoodlc@gmail.com

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

FAX: 419-255-5030

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

glenwoodpastor@gmail.com

Staff

Annelle Donaldson, Director of Music

Ellen Kraft, Office Manager

Barry Ramlow, Financial Manager

Nancy Russell, Organist

Del Schmidt, Custodian

Council

Carol Ardner, Pres.

Jerry Brucksieker

Sarah Gulch

Fritz Hartkopf, Treas.

Fred Henning, Sec.

Eric Knaggs

Harold Morgan

Ken Schumaker

Carol Stacy

Polly Tate, VP