

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

May 2019



FROM THE PASTOR

On March 31st, the people of Glenwood voted in favor of selling 62% of the back parking lot to the Toledo Museum for \$325,000. Council leaders, the people of Glenwood, and I prayed for over a year on this decision. We gathered information, we rejected the idea of selling the entirety of our back lot, we explored how much parking we might need in the days ahead. We finally decided, as a people, not unanimously but decisively, to let go of asphalt, parking, and land that we rarely use. What are neighbors are wondering and what you are likely wondering as you read this is: what does this mean?

Bishop Daniel warned us that when we read the Bible every day, we may start to think in terms of Bible story. I was skeptical of this claim and of the usefulness of reading the entire Bible in one year, but as I consider our relationship to the Toledo Museum of Art, I have begun to think 'Biblically.'

We have a long history with the Museum, some moments painful, others beautiful. What is the most faithful way to tell the story of the relationship between church and Museum for right now? Several stories come to mind.

In 2014, when the (in)famous article "TMA in talks to buy church" appeared in *The Blade*, I am reminded of the book of *Kings*. You have told me about this painful chapter when it appeared that the Museum wanted to purchase our whole property or when a Master Plan for Toledo included churches as green space. *Kings* tells the story of the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah who could never seem to get their act together and eventually got snuffed out by huge, neighboring empires. As the prophetic voice of the writer declares, these kingdoms lost their faithful purpose, and the LORD abandoned them to their fate. At times, it seems that Glenwood has felt like one of these once glorious kingdoms, praying to a God who seems upset and waiting for the 'inevitable' to happen.

Another story that comes to mind, though: *Nehemiah*. What if, actually, the threat was over? What if we had time to rebuild if we could focus ourselves and get on the same page? Nehemiah lives inside a differently-oriented empire, the Persian empire, and asks to go home to

rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, the land of his ancestors. A small group of people have rebuilt a temple and begun to worship the LORD, but they need help so Nehemiah gets a grant from the King to protect his ancestral home. Maybe our story is a 'rebuilding' story.

Last, a story that has carried special meaning for me recently is *Joshua*. When I read, *Joshua* for the Year of Scripture, I began to notice how little 'battle' *Joshua* contained (compared to, say, Season 8 Episode 3 of Game of Thrones.) While the violence in *Joshua* cannot be ignored, the book centers on a leader and a people wondering if they have the courage to make a new home. In the first chapter of *Joshua*, the LORD speaks to Joshua, Joshua speaks to the elders, and they all speak to the people. In order for this people to make the shift from wandering ex-slaves into thriving community, they are asked to faithfully practice the spiritual traditions of their ancestors in order to discover God's presence.

I have been with Glenwood for two years this month, and I have been praying that the LORD will guide us. The LORD drew me into the repeated phrase told to Joshua and then to the Council and to the people, "Have I not commanded you: be strong and courageous?! Do not be terrified or dismayed, for with us is the LORD your God, wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9, translation by Everett Fox in *The Early Prophets*.) What I hear in this story is God asking me as your leader and you as God's people to be courageous in a new world, vastly different from the world in which you learned about the church.

Which of these stories is the most faithful to where Glenwood is today? Which is true? The story that you tell about Glenwood will carry assumptions about what this parking lot sale means. If we are still in *Kings* then the Museum has taken the city of Lachish and Jerusalem is next. If we are in *Nehemiah*, then we will have new resources to use faithfully to rebuild. If we are in *Joshua*, we are entering a new story in which we need to be suspicious of all our assumptions, because our imaginations have been confined by a painful past. As you read the Scriptures, as you read this newsletter, I ask you to pray and ponder the story that speaks to our situation.

For the rest of the Year of Scripture, we will live inside the Bible together. Next year, the Year of Mission and Vision, we will write the story that God is calling us into, with more resources than we realize.

Pastor Chris



EASTER 2019
A glorious celebration
of Christ's resurrection

HISTORY AND THE BIBLE

Year of Scripture

Adult Forum

May 19th at 11 a.m.

What is the story of the ancient Middle East? Where does Israel fit into it? Using evidence available and agreed upon by history-tellers, Pastor Chris will outline the story of the biblical world. Then we will consider together, where does the Bible fit and its stories fit into this picture? If you were not able to attend the previous Adult Forum, the Art of Interpretation, go to our webstie, glenwoodlc.net for a full text of the talk. The concept of interpretation -- seeking understanding in an event, a piece of art, or the Bible and having a conversation to explore the meanings we discover-- will be very important for our understanding of history.

2019 MEMORY VERSES

NW Ohio Synod's

***Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path"***

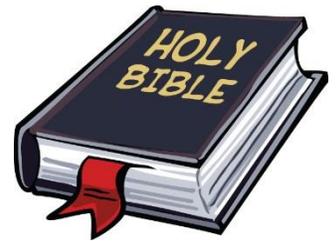
Psalm 119:105

Glenwood's

***"And beginning with Moses
and all the prophets, Jesus
interpreted to them in all the
scriptures the things
concerning himself."***

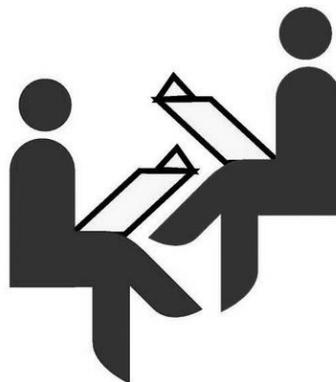
-Luke 24:27

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE?



Our display case stands at the top of the stairs when you enter the parish building. In December, it holds nativity scenes. Last year, it had a display of crosses. This year, being the Year of Scripture, we would like to feature your favorite Bible verses.

What Bible verse(s) do you turn to for encouragement, comfort, inspiration, or guidance? Please submit those passages that speak to you. You are welcome to add comment about what it means to you or just cite the verse. Either way, we want to hear from you – phone, email, mail...it doesn't matter which way. We would like your favorites by the end of May.



READING PARTY

Congrats to Ruth Arnot, Janice Cosper, Delano Dancy, Juanita Easley-Hollis, Jean Emery, Paulette Johnson, and Pastor Chris for reading the entire Gospel According to Mark! With two hours of reading and an hour of set-up, snacking,

and clean-up, we were in and out in three hours. Huge thanks go to Pastor Christine Palmer from our cohort, Collingwood Presbyterian, for bringing some delicious snacks, to the Black Kite coffee shop for hosting us, and to everyone (25 or so at its height!) who came to enjoy the reading!

Our next reading party will be a "**Psalm Slam!**" Read or recite your favorite Psalm. The date is yet to be determined, but it will be sometime in June or July. Contact Pastor Chris if you would like to host!

**Growing
Together
in Faith**

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

April 4, 2019 Meeting

Glenwood has a deficit of \$16,000 for the first three months of the year. Our line item "Other Income" is up 22% than projected.

Pastor Chris is acting as part time chaplain at Toledo Hospital. His two year synodical review is complete. He is planning more Adult Forums.

A second draft of the Building Use Policy was distributed.

Glenwood will sponsor a party at Genacross Lutheran Home on Seaman Street for residents having a birthday during a month assigned to us. Volunteers are needed.

The Giving Store will have an independent Board.

Glenwood joined Lutheran Ministry of Mercy.



Fred Henning
Council Secretary

LET US KNOW

If you are hospitalized, please have a family member or friend contact Glenwood's church office and let us know. Many

times the hospitals do not contact us when people are admitted, even if they ask you.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING STUDENTS IN LESOTHO

Our special Lenten offering this year was directed for school supplies for students in Lesotho who Luopu Malakpa is working with through the Peace Corps. This special gift totaled \$395. Volunteers will shop for the desired items in the next couple of weeks and we will send the supplies soon with our blessings.

COUNCIL NOMINEES NEEDED

It is that time of year again – time to think about serving on Glenwood's council. Will you choose to step forward to serve on Council for a two-year term? We ask each member to pray for the future leadership, and search your hearts to step forward and serve.



Dear friends at
Glenwood,

Just a note to let you know that you remain in my thoughts and prayers. God has blessed me richly through my many years at Glenwood, and you'll always be in my heart!



Happy Easter!
Nancy Malone

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Our Homebound

Dottie Cupps
Lillian Henning
Quentin & Marilyn Huebner
Virginia Klotz
Al & Loretta Kraft
Thelma Moore
Lenore Mortemore
Eileen Pratt
Jack Russell
Essie Smith
Madeleine Smith
Louise Steele
Carol Uhlman
Erv Wenzlaff

For health and wholeness

Bonnie Ahrendt
Georgia Ardner
Brittany Brauer
The Decker family
Tom Dellinger
Annelle Donaldson
Rob Donaldson
Doris Ann
Steve & Sandy Drake
Helen Green
Karen H.
Dennis Johnson

For health and wholeness

Marty Knight
Barbara & Dick Miller
Faith Miller
Nilila Jean
Kathy Pinkstaff
Charles & Mary Roberts
Mary Robertson
Mary Root
Makalah Sande
Simo
Jim Sprang
Pam Wingo
Mason Zeh

CELEBRATING MAY BIRTHDAYS

7 – Paul Hollinger
9 – Juanita Hollis
10 – Donna Riley
14 – Ruth Whittle
16 – Taylor Brown
David Tran
18 – Carol Uhlman
19 – Charlotte Parnell
21 – Quentin Huebner
23 – Courtney Stacy
25 – Greta Briggie
Renee Tran
26 – Judy Johnson
Claire soucek



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Al & Loretta Kraft celebrate their 64th wedding anniversary on May 20th. Congratulations!

MARGARET STADLER REMEMBERED

A memorial service for Margaret Stadler will be held here at Glenwood on Saturday, May 25 at 2 p.m. A time of fellowship and light refreshments will follow the service. If you would like to help the reception, please contact the church office.

To all my dear friends at Glenwood, It touched my heart to receive my "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" Easter greeting card, signed by every one of you. It has raised my spirit as well. I wish to thank all of you and hope that each one will have a brilliant "Happy Easter!" With the love of Jesus,

Lenore M. Mortemore

The words "Thank You" are written in a large, elegant, green cursive font. The letters are interconnected and have a soft, glowing effect.

VOLUNTEER AT THE FESTIVAL!

Pastor Chris is asking everyone at Glenwood to consider volunteering during the Old West End Festival, on June 1st and June 2nd. The way the Word of God reaches our neighbors is through friendly relationships with *you*, examples of what someone forgiven by Jesus looks like.



Places to Volunteer:

House Tours - Shifts are just over three hours. Stand up and sit down positions available, scripted and non-scripted parts. Training will be provided. A complimentary ticket will be given to you at the end of your shift, allowing you to tour all the other homes for free.

Beer Pavilion - We're asking for a 3 hour commitment and need people for checking IDs, giving out wristbands, selling beer tickets and, pouring beer at the beer trucks. (21+ only, please, for like obvious reasons.) Volunteers will get a free drink after their shift.

How to Volunteer:

Get in touch with Michelle Keller, Volunteer Coordinator

Phone: 419-261-530 or Email: owevolunteers@gmail.com

OR go to **ToledoOldWestEnd.com**, find the "Festival 2019" column, and click on the link.

Volunteer with friends!

And... if you volunteer you may rent a Golf Cart!



PLANTING DAY

Old West End Commons Big Planting Day, Saturday May 18th at 9:00 AM
Breakfast provided by the Women of the Old West End.
Commons is located on Bancroft and Robinwood.

BIRTHDAY PARTY AT THE LUTHERAN HOME

On Tuesday, April 30th, Glenwood hosted the birthday party at the Lutheran Home for those residents celebrating April birthdays. We thank Sarah Gulch for organizing Glenwood's participation and for all those who helped with the event.



EASTER REFLECTIONS!

Easter 2019 was memorable from our Lenten journey on Wednesday evenings, through the joyous celebration of the assurance as we praised our risen Lord!

Having participated

- Palm Sunday in reading of the Gospel of Mark at the Black Kite Coffee Shop
- Maundy Thursday in the stripping of the Altar, after the congregation washed each other's hands and shared community communion
- Good Friday noontime, in walking around the Lucas County Court House lifting up social justice for all with people from many different faiths,
- Good Friday evening, in listening to Jesus' last words,
- Easter, the joyous celebration, receiving the reassurance "Christ has risen, Halleluiah!"- "He has risen indeed!"



I am renewed!

Through all the preparation for Holy Week, I want to share memories. My adventures started helping to clean the brasses. In doing so I had wonderful memories flow forward while savoring new memories with the newly educated "Master Polishers".

Pastor Chris asked if we could move the back altar forward. We did. The joy in that task was the concern by several men who wondered if the Easter flowers would fit in. As we moved the acolyte benches to the steps, I felt the presence of all the youth who had knelt on those benches. The black candelabrum was brought out for Good Friday. Years ago it was on the church altar at many weddings, including those of my two sister in laws.

Washing and pressing the fair linens, I remembered the instructions of Nelda Hansen, Myrla Bunting, and Ruth Hood. Then it was time to change the dorsal curtain from the senior tapestries to the beautiful white curtain tapestry for Easter.

Faith strengthened and restored and the darkness lifted as we work together creating the future direction and impact of Glenwood Lutheran Church. Thank you for our past, for those members who have moved us to where we are, and to those who will move us to yet more adventures in the future. Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

Jean Emery

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GLENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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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.

Rev. Christopher Hanley.....Pastor
glenwoodpastor@gmail.com

Annelle Donaldson..... Director of Music

Ellen Kraft..... Office Manager

Barry Ramlow..... Financial Manager

Nancy Russell..... Organist

Del Schmidt..... Custodian

Council

Carol Ardner, Pres.

Harold Morgan

Jerry Brucksieker

Ken Schumaker

Sarah Gulch

Carol Stacy

Fritz Hartkopf, Treas.

Polly Tate, VP

Fred Henning, Sec.