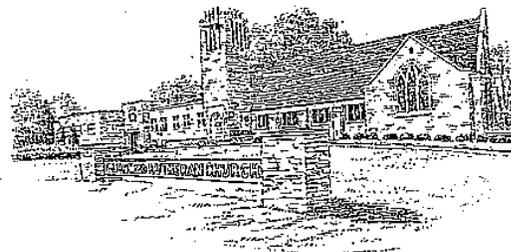


The Glenword

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

March 2020



NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR!

Christian Longberry has been hired as our music director. He will officially begin on March 15. In next month's *Glenword*, look for an introduction to Christian and, choir, stay tuned for an invitation to rehearse!

DISCERNING GOD'S MISSION in Glenwood History

Following worship on March 15th we will hold our third History Forum. We will explore the more recent years, 1990-present. Come and share your memories and insights. Twenty people attended the forum on the 50's-80's! Look in the April *Glenword* for a write-up on that forum, exploring the way Glenwood answered the question, what kind of church *is* Glenwood (English) Lutheran Church?

WEDNESDAY LENTEN PRAYER

Potluck Dinner – 5:45 p.m. in Jones Hall

Evening Prayer – 6:30-7 p.m.

We will quiet ourselves, pray for our Mission, and sing together using the 'Holden Evening Prayer' service designed by Marty Haugen.

If you would like to experience this service before trying it yourself, check out 'Holden Evening Prayer around the World' on YouTube (or just Google 'Holden Evening Prayer.')

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH at GLENWOOD

As we have been learning in our History Forums, Glenwood has a rich history of valuing and being led by women's ministry when most other churches in Toledo did not have formal women leaders. Sister Alma, a trained Lutheran Deaconess, cared for the people of this parish alongside Dr. Bell, as did many other women in leadership roles that our histories do not always record.

This month we will get the opportunity to hear from women in our congregation in many and various ways, including preaching and proclaiming the Gospel!

3/1 Deaconess Rebecca West-Estell

3/8 Jean Emery

3/22 Brittany Burns

“For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.” -1 Corinthians 2:2

A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR, “Australia, Black History, and the Theology of the Cross.”

In February I had the amazing opportunity to travel with my mother to Australia. After what the pilot called a ‘quick fourteen and a half hour flight’ we landed in Melbourne, we drove along the coast to Philip Island, we took a weekend trip to Sydney (home to a rather iconic opera house), and we returned to drive along a breathtaking route west of Melbourne called the Great Ocean Road. Before I travel I typically like to immerse myself in the history of a place, so I started reading and listening to a few things, like the story of Ned Kelly, an Australian Robin Hood/Jesse James figure. When I told St. Paul’s pastor, Pete Bowmer, an Aussie, what I was reading,



he said, “Ah, white Australian history. Why don’t you look at our history through the eyes of aboriginal people?” This suggestion led me into a long and tangled history between people who had been living on that continent for over 40,000 years and Europeans who arrived within the last three hundred. Both sides were actors in this relationship, both sides made decisions about how to interact, and how to navigate this encounter. History telling, however, at times rendered aboriginal people in Australia as just waiting to be oppressed or being so ‘backward’ that they could not survive without European aid. I doubt the Wurundjeri people, whose land I enjoyed while I was in Melbourne, would narrate the story that way.

History matters.

The way we tell a historical story changes how we see people. Were they victims awaiting European guns, germs, and steel? Or was this people responding to an enormous challenge with creativity, flexibility, and courage?

Which story do you think Christ might be found in? The story told by the powerful to justify their mighty deeds or the story told by a people whose ‘back is against the wall’ trying to live in spite of domination? I believe the story of a Galilean peasant murdered by Roman authority with the blessing of religious authority shows us where Christ might be found. When God says on the mountaintop, “Listen to him,” God is saying “Listen to my child, the victim.” When God raises Jesus from the dead, God is saying, “Listen to my child, the victim.” When Christ utters the first words to his gathered disciples who abandoned him, he says, “Peace be with you.” He sends them out to tell a new history, the story from the eyes of the victim, the crucified One. If we understand all things through Christ, if we interpret Scriptures through Christ, then we must also look at history through the eyes of Christ, through the eyes of a victim.

For this reason Black History belongs in church. Black History is more than a segment at the end of a US history textbook chapter, and it’s more than a list of firsts for African Americans, as important as those heroes are. Black History is a witness to God working through a people surviving oppression. Black History is a crucial corrective to a story that downplays racism and tries to justify sin rather than redeeming sinners. I was not taught Black History in school. God had to reveal Black History to me through people who trusted me enough to share their wounds with me, like Ruth Carter Whittle.

This year at Glenwood, we combined both the season of Epiphany, the appearance of Christ, with an anticipation of Lent by participating in Black History month. We heard from a powerful voice in Black History, Frederick Douglass. We heard Paul speak to the Corinthians about where God is revealed, only ever on the cross. We watched the leaders of our church, Bishop Eaton and the Church Council of the ELCA make an apology to people of African Descent for Lutheran silence and Lutheran support of slavery and racism. We watched Pastor Lamont Wells receive this apology and accept it as the beginning of repentance. When I pray for the mission of God at Glenwood, I see the connection between the repentance that Pastor Wells demands and our ongoing question about what kind of church we share and what kind of welcome we offer. Glenwood is a deeply loving place and, as we are discovering in our history forums, has a long history of surprising and great love. Rather than assume it or rest on our laurels, how will this generation of Glenwood participate in God's welcome?

I hope that our liturgical embrace of Black History month has been a part of that repentance. I hope it was a step towards making us an even more loving place. I want to know what it was like for you. What would you like to see in Black History month for next year? I imagine it was uncomfortable at times. It was for me. And it also felt like we were following Christ.

Your coworker in the Gospel,

Pastor Chris

P.S. You can continue learning about Black History throughout the year! These are some resources I drew upon in 2020.

* *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, written by Himself*

* *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus: Harlem Renaissance Theology and an Ethic of Resistance* by Reggie Williams. This book details Bonhoeffer's transformation in Harlem where he gained the theological insight needed to stand up to Nazi racism.

* *The School is Not White* by Dorreen Rappaport and *Silver Rights* by Constance Curry. These are the books about the Carter family, the story of Ruth and her brothers and sisters integrating a school in Drew, Mississippi, empowered by the courage of their parents and the love of God.

P.S.S. Thank you, Gene for sending me your memories of Glenwood's history. If others of you, have reflections or memories that you would like to share, please send them. I am eager to hear them.



Friends in Christ, we need to make sure that everyone is counted and know that they count. The 2020 Census will determine where 675 billion dollars of Federal funding gets spent, not to mention determining the number of representatives allocated to each state in the House of Representatives. Churches have a role to play in ensuring that we have a complete count for the 2020 census. As institutions whom many people trust, we can dispel some of the mistrust and uncertainty around the census. For example, the citizenship question is *not* on the census and the individual, personal data cannot be accessed for 70 years by *any* organization. The 2020 Census will be conducted primarily online. Glenwood and other churches and the libraries

will be places where people who do not have or use computers can come to be counted. Through a generous donation from Owens Illinois, we will receive several laptops to help people be counted during our Fill-A-Bag Thursdays. We will also keep track of who has completed the Census at Glenwood. The first mailing for the census will come between March 12th and March 20th. On **March 29th**, we will have a '**Census Sunday**' joining churches and other places of worship around the country. If you have *any* questions about the census, please email Pastor Chris.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Sarah Gulch led us in a devotion about being good stewards of our time and balancing our multiple commitments with intention.

Christine Palmer, Director of Operations at Collingwood Presbyterian, joined us to walk us through her ministry of building stewardship at Collingwood. She has been empowered to rent out all available space, bringing in \$70,000 in revenue annually. She described the ins and outs of this practice and walked Council through our building to offer ideas about rentable space. "All I did was put a 'space for rent' sign outside," she said, "And people have not stopped calling."

Sarah Bania-Dobyns introduced Council to the idea of a weeklong Shakespeare Camp at Glenwood this summer.

Pastor Chris reviewed the Music Survey from our Annual Meeting with Council, and will also share results with Nancy and Christian.

Council hired Christian Longberry as our music director, based on the recommendation from the Music Director Search Committee.

Carol Ardner announced that several Lutheran ministries will hold their annual meetings this spring. Of these the most important will be the Genacross meeting at Hope Lutheran Church on April 2nd. There Genacross will hold a vote about whether to join Benedictine Healthcare in a strategic move to strengthen its ministry. More information about this is available on the bulletin board by the Council minutes in the Leamer Room.

CELEBRATING MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Lloyd Whittle
- 3 – Dakota Skeens
- 5 – Becky Hansen
- 7 – Cindy Findlay
- 8 – Nicole Knaggs
- 11 – Diana Tavernier
- 12 – Jason Kiefer
Liz Taylor
- 13 – Jerry Bell
- 16 – Wil Hartkopf
- 23 – Jeremy Moody
- 26 – Carol Stacy
- 29 – Carolyn Metcalf
- 30 – Eric Hartkopf



If your birthday has been omitted, we apologize. Chances are that we do not have your date of birth in our records. Please let us know so we can include you.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS



If you have investments with Thrivent Financial, you can designate Glenwood to receive your Choice Dollars. It's easy!

Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "**Thrivent Choice®**."

Press 1 to **direct Choice Dollars** When prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.

A representative will work with you to **direct Choice Dollars**.

The deadline for designating your 2019 Choice Dollars is March 31.

DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON?

If you go to smile.amazon.com you can now put Glenwood Lutheran Church as your designated non-profit! We get a few cents on every Amazon transaction and that adds up.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our Homebound

Dottie Cupps
Virginia Klotz
Al & Loretta Kraft
Thelma Moore
Lenore Mortemore
Eileen Pratt
Madeleine Smith

For health and wholeness

Bonnie & Gene Ahrendt
Georgia Ardner
The Ausmus family
Jerry Bell
Melody Brewer
Shannon Crandall
Danny
Annelle Donaldson
Rob Donaldson
Doris Ann
Steve & Sandy Drake
Megan & baby Durbin
Eric
Pr. Rich Ferne
Teri Hanenkrath
Dorothy Harris
Louise Holder
Therene Hollis & family
Juanita & Julie
Karen H.
Jason Kiefer
Robert Lee
Paul McKaig
The McKelvey family
The family of Nancy Meyers
Nilila Jean
Mike Pinkstaff
Mary & Charles Roberts
Tedra Smith
Howard Sommers
Denison Sevens
Allison Swin
Terri & Tom
Missy Tolson
Norman Uhlman
Floyd Ward
Kaye Weiner
Dave Wehmeister
The West family
Mason Zeh



EASTER FLOWERS

Lilies, tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths will adorn our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 12. If you would like to dedicate a flower, a sign-up sheet is in the narthex or you can call the church office. Cost is \$10 a plant.

ARE YOU WONDERING?

If you would like to know more about finances, attendance, or council actions, information is *always* posted on the “Council Notes” bulletin board in the Leamer Room. Ask a Council person to walk you through the minutes and the financial report if anything is unclear!

COME FOR LUNCH AND FUN

ADAM (AbleD Disabled Awareness Ministry) invites you. RSVP to 567-225-9308 if you would like to enjoy lunch and fun with a diversity of people on the fourth Tuesday of each month at noon in Bell Chapel. Mark your calendar for March 24th.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN INVITES YOU TO...

Vintage Tea – Saturday, March 7 at 11 a.m. We will offer a three course tea inspired by our vintage apron collection. Cost is \$25 per person and seats go quickly. Reservations required.

Pieces and Poetry” exhibit at HeART Gallery features six privately-owned art pieces accompanied by original poetry written by local Honors English students describing their interpretation of the art through verse. A Mardi Gras themed Lunch & Learn will be held on Thursday, March 19 at noon with chicken gumbo, spinach salad, corn bread and King Cake for dessert. Honor National Poetry month by focusing on the verse of these high school students paired with exceptional art pieces. Lunch is by donation, but reservations appreciated.

Beethoven 250 – Sunday, March 22 at 4 p.m. We celebrate the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birthday with a concert of instrumental, vocal, piano, organ music, multi-media, and drama. A rousing hymn sing of Beethoven tunes concludes the performance. A reception follows.

St. Paul’s is located at 428 N. Erie St., across from the courthouse. To make reservations for events, email kate@stpaulstoledo.org.

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

Sunday Worship at 9:45 a.m.

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.

Fill-a-Bag Event
Every Thursday from 10 a.m.-noon
In the gym

Staff

Rev. Christopher Hanley.....Pastor
glenwoodpastor@gmail.com
Ellen Kraft.....Office Manager
Christian Longberry.....Director of Music
Barry Ramlow..... Financial Manager
Nancy Russell..... Organist
Del Schmidt..... Custodian

Council

Carol Ardner, Pres.	Mark Hill
Bill Earley	Harold Morgan
Cindy Findlay	Ken Schumaker
Sarah Gulch, Sec.	Rodney West-Estell
Fred Henning, VP	
Fritz Hartkopf, Treasurer	