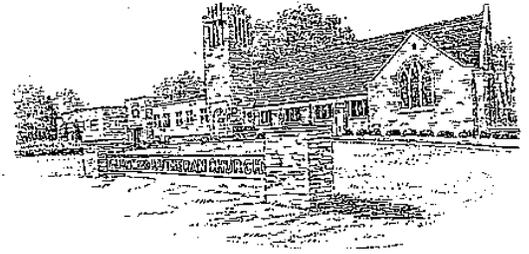


# The Glenword

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 2018



Christmas Eve  
CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICE

**4:00 p.m.**  
**@ Glenwood**

## POINSETTIAS

Red poinsettias will adorn our chancel on Christmas Eve. If you would like to dedicate one in honor or in memory of a loved one, please contact the church office. The cost is \$10.

## NEW DISCIPLES AT GLENWOOD

On December 2nd, five disciples of Jesus will affirm their baptism and pledge to continue growing as disciples at Glenwood. Glenwood will continue moving away from the idea of membership and sponsors, as if the church was a country club, and shifting towards a community where a learner or disciple joins our community of learners with a disciple partner who prays for them and helps to connect them to our life together on Monroe Street.

Before Thanksgiving, Glenwood held one evening of eating together, praying, and growing as disciples prepared by Annelle Donaldson and Jean Emery and led by Pastor Chris. These new learners at Glenwood are **Ruth Arnot** partnered with Jean Emery, **Janice Cospser** partnered with Char Parnell, **Mark Hill** partnered with Brittany Burns, **Del Schmidt** partnered with Ellen Kraft, and **Chad Tate** partnered with Dorothy Harris. Stay tuned for info about these new disciples as we get to know them! Remember, you might be tempted to think of them as new 'members' of something you're already a part of, but the reality is we are *all* learning about our wonderful and mysterious God, so you are a student just as much as they are.

If you are interested in continuing your disciple growth at Glenwood and you are not in this cohort, we will have another new disciple night soon. Please be in touch with Pastor Chris or Ellen



## FROM THE PASTOR

Tis the Season, once again. The cycle of Christmas buying, selling, gifting, and returning is upon us again. Yes, our impulse towards consuming 'takes away' from the 'reason for the Season.' But underneath all of this is something we often do not consider in December.

Our wanting.

We *want* to give good gifts.

We *want* to receive meaningful presents.

We *want* for the events we host to run smoothly and to handle our families with patience.

We *want* to experience the joy of Christmas.

The church has long understood that the season of Christmas is one of wanting. That's why just like it's much more well-known sibling, Lent, Advent is a season of fasting.

We are all inclined to think of fasting as giving up things. 'Giving up' is only one way to pay attention to what we want, and it can be overused and self-congratulatory. I gave up coffee right as finals were rolling around in grad school and I felt sinfully proud at the pain I was causing myself. I didn't learn much about my desire or what I wanted. Fasting is something that can slide into becoming impressed with how stern our discipline is or imagining ourselves as 'better people' for what we can live without.

Our wanting or our longing, though, is something very special about us. We are creatures who experience longing in a way that no other creature does. Dogs get hungry, but that's not longing, that's something that can be satisfied by tipping over the garbage can. Longing is something on-going, a yearning that by definition cannot be finished. Take the example of happiness. You cannot achieve it and stay! You may be happy while you are close to family during the holidays, but I suspect you will long for them when they have left. Your happiness cannot be 'achieved' or completed. The entire season of Advent is oriented around the longing for a leader who will set things right, a longing for God to be close when God has seemed so far off, a longing for joy to finally come after too much sorrow.

So at Glenwood we will do something strange. We will fast. But we will not fast as 'the world' fasts. We will fast as the church fasts. We will fast from Holy Communion. This fasting was actually our sister, Marge Hartkopf's idea, and we will fast in her memory. Rather than going through our usually routine of celebrating at the Lord's table, we will round out the Year of Prayer with a prayerful longing for communion, paying attention to the ways we are longing for God.

May you discover God in your longing and may you celebrate Holy Communion on the Feast of Christmas Eve!

Yours in the Name of the One is to come,

*Pastor Chris*





# TOURS DE NOEL

December 2  
12:30-5 p.m.

Glenwood is once again celebrating being part of the Old West End by participating in the Tours de Noel. Glenwood is offering children's activities, crafts, light refreshments, and a variety of seasonal music: There is no charge to stop by at Glenwood and enjoy the afternoon. Invite your friends, too!

## Concert Program in Glenwood's Sanctuary

- |            |  |  |
|------------|--|--|
| 12:30p     | Martha Gregory, organist                                 |  |
| 12:45p     | Dan Boyle, organist                                      |  |
| 1:00-2:00p | Handbells, Family and Friends                            |  |
|            | <i>Savior of the Nations Come</i>                        | Handbells, percussion: Rob & Rachael Donaldson   |
|            | <i>In the Bleak Mid-Winter</i>                           | Handbells , clarinet: Amy Donaldson              |
|            | <i>The First Noel</i>                                    | Harp: Greta Briggie                              |
|            | <i>Away in the Manger Trilogy</i>                        | Handbells, violin: Rachael Donaldson             |
|            | <i>Fum, Fum, Fum</i>                                     | Handbells, percussion: Rob and Rachael Donaldson |
|            | <i>Away in a Manger</i>                                  | Harp: Greta Briggie                              |
|            | <i>Bohemian Air</i>                                      | Harp: Greta Briggie                              |
|            | <i>Sonata in A Minor</i>                                 | Oboe, Ed Bloedow                                 |
|            | <i>The Little Drummer Boy</i>                            | Handbells, snare: Rob Donaldson                  |
|            | <i>We Three Kings</i>                                    | Handbells  |
| 2:00p      | Piano Trio   |  |
| 2:20p      | Moody Flutes Plus One                                    |  |
| 2:45p      | Cheryle Knight, pianist                                  |  |
| 3:00-4:00p | Little Hog Creek Dulcimers, Lima OH                      |  |
| 4:00p      | Nancy Russell, organist                                  |  |
| 4:20p      | Carol sing-a-long with Nancy Russell, organist           |  |
| 4:40p      | Secular Holiday sing-a-long with Brittany Burns, pianist |  |





# **A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

**Sunday, December 16**

**Lunch at 11:30**

**with program following around 1 p.m.**

## ***Togetherness***

Quite a few years ago when I was teaching elementary school music, I often began each year with "The More We Get Together", this wonderful song for children of all ages. I have no idea who deserves the credit for it, and hope that ASCAP will forgive me for any copyright infringement. The text goes: "The more we get together, together, together; the more we get together the happier we will be. For your friends are my friends, and my friends are your friends. The more we get together the happier we'll be."

This past Sunday afternoon, we had the first rehearsal for a group of choristers from seven different churches who are preparing a Festival of Lessons and Carols scheduled for Sunday, December 16. That special day Glenwood has invited the pastors, congregations and choirs of fellow central city churches to join together at Glenwood for soup, fellowship and song. We had a good rehearsal, a great time, and made some new friends. Happy was the operative word as we left, brought about by singing together (plus a few of Esther's cookies).

In thanking our visitors, I took the liberty of expressing my concern for the lack of choral programs in so many main line churches. One of our tenors, Kurt Meyer, a retired pastor, echoed my feelings. Over the past year or so he has served 42 churches on different Sundays, and found only 10 that still had choirs.

Congregational participation was one of Martin Luther's concerns as the Catholic service available to German speaking congregations was delivered in Latin. He took some of the familiar folk (and bar) tunes of the time, set them with German sacred text, and gave worshippers a voice. Corporate worship must include a participatory time of prayer, scripture and song. Perhaps I could paraphrase my opening song: "THE MORE WE SING (PRAY, WORSHIP) TOGETHER, THE HAPPIER GOD WILL BE."

Set aside Sunday, December 16. We'll meet in Jones Hall after church, share some homemade soup and lots of fellowship. Then with full tummies and hearts, we will head for the sanctuary to sing together.



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 14, 2018

Barry Ramlow, finance manager, and Fritz Hartkopf, treasurer, attended the meeting at Carol A's request to help the Council better understand our finances. Barry answered specific questions about line items using his ledger. When asked about the most significant number, he noted that when he arrived at Glenwood in 2004 he could not believe how much money we borrowed from the Foundation to pay our bills. He said this remains a serious issue to our overall health, and yet compared to other churches, our situation is par for the course. Fritz challenged the Council to take our weekly deficit more seriously and put plans in place to get advice from a realtor about how we might be able to rent space at a fair market value to offset the step cost of our building. Pastor Chris agreed that Glenwood as a community has not taken this issue of annual shortfall seriously enough and that it causes more anxiety than we acknowledge.

Pastor Chris and other attendees at the October 28th gathering after church with Brian Kennedy and Adam Levine from the TMA reported back to the rest of the Council. Carol A. noted with disapproval the lack of notice to the whole congregation for this rescheduled meeting. Fred observed that in his conversations with folks nearly everyone rejected the idea of selling the entire back parking lot and were more interested in further discussion about selling a portion of this lot. We agreed that the next step was determining exactly what portion of this lot we would like to sell, sending this information to the Museum, and then if they are still interested, sending an invitation to discuss this as a community to everyone who is part of Glenwood. Carol S. advised that we send with this invitation the relevant details of the discussion so that everyone had written information about the negotiation up to this point.

Please find more details of the meeting in the official minutes.

## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2019 will be available for pick up in the narthex in December. If you would like yours mailed to you, please contact the church office. Thank you!

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## CONSECRATION

If you have not yet returned your Consecration card for 2019, it's not too late. You can drop it in the offering plate on Sunday or mail it to the office.

Also if you would like to know where your contributions currently stand in comparison to your 2018 Estimate of Giving, please contact Ellen in the church office.

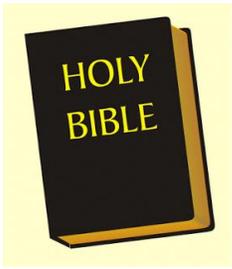
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## CANCELLATION POLICY



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.



## THE YEAR OF SCRIPTURE

The Bishop presented us with an incredible challenge when he visited Glenwood for the first Fall Gathering. He called upon the disciples of the Northwestern Ohio Synod to read the entire Bible in 2019. This will not be easy. As he pointed out, however, this will only take about twenty minutes a day, about the length of one TV episode. There are also ways to listen to the Bible if you would prefer to 'read' on your commute. This month, we invite you to pray whether you would be willing to attempt this feat. Look for a Connection Card to sign-up for a reading list!

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## LITURGY WALKTHROUGH RECAP

Scriptures we act out in worship

- Confession: Mark 1:15 (among others)
  - Greeting: 2 Corinthians 13:13
  - Reading Scripture and Sermon: Nehemiah 8:8
  - Gospel Acclamation: Nehemiah 8:6
  - Peace: 1 Corinthians 16:20 (among others)
  - Holy Holy Holy: Isaiah 6:3 and Mark 11:9-10
  - Holy Communion: Mark 14:22-25 and 1 Corinthians 11:
  - The Lord's Prayer: Matthew 6:9
  - The Priestly Blessing: Numbers 6:23-27
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## CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

Over the next few weeks, Glenwood will host a Community Book fair featuring children's books. There are books for kids of all ages! Highlights include a 'see and find' collection of Bible stories, Grit and Grace: Heroic Women of the Bible, The World of Jesus, and a book on grieving called The Memory Box. Orders received by December 8<sup>th</sup> will definitely come by Christmas. Please talk with Pastor Chris if you would like to help host this table after worship or during the Tours de Noel!

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### Month of October

Average Sunday attendance: 58

Finance Report

Income: \$8,578

Expenses: \$18,332

### Year to Date

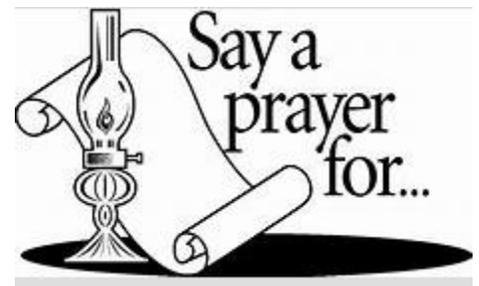
Average Sunday attendance: 54

Finance Report

Income: \$126,184 including  
\$14,106 from Foundation

Expenses: \$166,906

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

## YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

Following the conversation concerning the back-parting lot with the Toledo Art Museum, I began thinking... Yesterday-there were three homes there, GLC gradually purchased all the property, The Bokesch Family was sponsored by GLC to come to America and be employed by Glenwood. They raised their family and prospered beginning in one of those homes.

Today-on Sunday there are few cars in the back-parking lot. During the week, employees from TMA park. Oh, we fill both lots when there is a wedding or funeral.

Tomorrow-that is the question. Like so many congregations, we are searching for direction. As our faith teaches, is it not time to ask God for his direction? Afterall, the Art Museum came to us. As you pray, give thanks to God, asking Him for direction.

Jean Emery

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### CELEBRATING DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

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### YOUTH SUNDAY

December 30<sup>th</sup>

On December 30<sup>th</sup>, worship at Glenwood will be done by and for our youngest disciples. If you have a young person in your life who might be interested in contributing please let Ellen know. Mark your calendar now! More details to come.



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### CHRISTMAS AT THE GIVING STORE

December 8

9:45 worship  
10 a.m. Shopping

Volunteers are needed. Continental breakfast will be provided for volunteers and shoppers.

Glenwood Lutheran Church  
2545 Monroe St.  
Toledo OH 43620



Pastor Chris' foster dog  
Is ready for Tours de Noel.

**GLENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Phone:** 419-255-0886

**FAX:** 419-255-5030

**E-mail:** [glenwoodlc@gmail.com](mailto:glenwoodlc@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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.