We are:

All Different
All Serving
All Served
All Loved

Our Mission: To embody the neighborly love that Jesus teaches us.

THE GLENWORD

The monthly newsletter of Glenwood Lutheran Church

March 2024 edition

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday

March 28

Read Pastor Chris' article on next page for more about the opportunity of joining with Food Not Bombs this afternoon and preparing dinner for neighbors and for dinner church. Check the bulletin, Facebook, or the Website for a start time closer to the date.

Dinner Church at 5 pm

Good Friday

March 29

Meet by 2 p.m. at Toledo Museum of Art

Encountering God through
Visual Art

Worship at 5 pm

at Glenwood

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31

Invite your family and friends to come with you to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

Worship service at 10 a.m.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!



On Sunday, February 11th we were thrilled to welcome some of 'homebound' members to worship: Esther Rochte, Dorothy Harris, and Barb Johnson! (Kaye Weiner is on the far left, and Ruth Arnot is in the middle.)

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church,

On Ash Wednesday (which was also Valentine's Day) we remembered together that just as there can be superficial depictions of romance and the deep, relational work of loving and being loved, so too are there superficial ways of being the church while underneath are the more powerful, painful dynamics of why we need church. When we remembered that 'we are dust and to dust we shall return,' we remembered that we are human and that pain is a part of our story. We also recognized that this humanness and pain is the very reason why we gather as a church: so that God in Jesus can minister to us, forgiving and healing us. That act of God turns us into the kind of people who can be ministers to others.

Lent is the season when we return to our most important reasons for being the church. We need a God who will minister to us when life has broken us and a God who will forgive us (that is, let us go) from the patterns that result in so much suffering. If we weren't living in a painful world, we wouldn't need God. But we are, so we do.

More than that, we are always the cause of some of that pain, as much as we like to think we never cause any. In her book *On Repentance and Repair*, Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg begins with the recognition that, as a human, everyone has caused harm, everyone has been harmed, and everyone has been a bystander to harm. Navigating through these entanglements is the most difficult part of our community life. The most foundational skill of all repentance work, according to Rabbi Ruttenberg and the Lutheran tradition, is confession. The wisdom and humility to admit a mistake. I've slowly discovered that nothing builds trust like admitting to someone that I care about that I made a mistake and caused them harm. If we truly hold that God watches over all of us who are made in God's image, God knows the harm we've caused. Any attempt to 'build a relationship' with God that ignores admitting to harm we've caused is a flimsy and one-sided relationship. During the season of Lent, we focus on this truth-telling as way towards God.

In worship, our entire tone shifts. We're adding a *Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison*, Greek for "Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy." On **Maundy Thursday**, you will have an opportunity to cook together with Food Not Bombs for the benefit of our neighbors and for a shared meal that we will eat during **worship at 5 PM**. Glenwood! Together we will eat together as we remember Jesus' last supper.

Then on **Good Friday**, we will join our coworkers in the Gospel, Grace Lutheran Church, and go to the **Toledo Museum of Art at 2 PM** to encounter God through visual art. Afterwards, we will **worship at 5 PM** remembering Jesus' suffering and crucifixion and learning to sit with such suffering. Then on **Easter Sunday**, we will celebrate Jesus' resurrection, rejoicing in a God who ministers to our suffering, who overcomes everything that separates us from God, and who longs to transform us all into ministers to each other. May the truth of the Gospel set you free, console you, and heal your soul in this season of Lent.

MURAL UPDATE

Frequently Asked Questions:

Is the mural complete? No, not yet! Muralist, Dean Davis, will extend the mural to the edges of the wall. The people of Glenwood have selected the verb 'BELIEVE' and the assembly at the MLK celebration voted on the word 'TRANSFORM' to add to the design. Dean will also include two main characters from the book *Change Sings* to model how a viewer might be inspired by the wall. A Community Day is also currently being planned.



Does Glenwood owe more money for the mural? Not as an organization! We budgeted last year for a contribution to the art itself and we fundraised significantly to repair and prepare the back wall. Thank you for your generosity in making those things happen! However, we continue to seek partners for the project. We're fundraising to complete the mural, to host a Community Day, and to have resources for future projects that activate the wall.

Are there other ways to support the project other than giving money? Tell your friends and family about the Change Wall, and then come take a picture in front of it, and, if you are so inclined, share it on your social media. Better yet, if you're involved in a Litter League or neighborhood clean-up project, stop at the Change Wall to focus on the difference you're about to make and then go to your neighborhood and help. You can also help curate ideas for a 'help in your neighborhood' link on our website. And don't forget to come to the Community Day celebration!

ADAM MEETS

Abled Disabled Awareness Ministry (ADAM) meets Saturday, March 23rd at 1p.m. here at Glenwood in Bell Chapel. Come enjoy fun, food, and fellowship. All are welcome!



EASTER FLOWERS

Lilies, daffodils, and tulips will adorn our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31. If you would like to dedicate one in honor or in memory of a loved one, please sign the sheet in the narthex or contact the church office. The cost is \$10 per plant.

FEBRUARY - WHAT A GREAT MONTH



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Thank you to all the people who lifted their voices for Black History month! Juanita Hollis and Anna McCarver shared the histories of our hymns of the day, Pastor Rebecca West-Estell returned to preach a powerful word, naming an episode of her marginalization and God's worthiness placed upon each person, Poet La Fe (Ophelia Thompson) shared her art with us, and Ruth Whittle reflected on how she survived her experiences in Drew, Mississippi in the 1950's and 60's. Thank you all for this distinctive witness to what God has done through the culture and witness of our Black siblings in Christ. For anyone who

wants to continue this exploration, please talk to Pastor Chris about Howard Thurman's Jesus

and the Disinherited. He has extra copies!

ASHES ON THE GO

On Ash Wednesday, February 14, Pastor Chris offered "ashes on the go" to patrons of Black Kite Coffee House from 7-9 a.m. Some Glenwood folks came too!

CONGRATULATIONS, ANN! - Many gathered on February 18th for Ann Augustin's Ordination into the Diaconal Ministry of Word and Service – Ann's family participated in the service.







CHILI COOKOFF - WHAT FUN!









The Chili Cookoff on Sunday, February 11th had approximately 32 people sampling chili from nine entries. We realized a profit

of \$450, which included a generous donation. Our winner, **Paul Swartz** was awarded \$20 for the first-place prize. Our three second-place winners – **Michael Crawford, Debby Lange, and John Sachs** - received \$10 each. \$400 goes to Member Care, for the homebound to enjoy birthdays and holidays.

We want to thank all the volunteers who helped make this a successful event. We couldn't do it without all of you. Our special thanks goes to Sharon & David Merritt, Brian Miller, and Paul Swartz for set up; Polly Tate and her daughter, Carol Kanfield, for handling the donations, and our chili makers: Paul, Michael, Debby, and John along with Jean Emery, Sharon Merritt, Eric Hartkopf, Bill Earley, and Julie Navarre. Sharon Merritt delivered the leftovers and decorations to St. Paul's Community Center.

--Kathy Pinkstaff, Polly Tate, & Sharon Merritt

Paul's Chili Recipe

(a variation of Top Secret Recipes Version of Wendy's Chili by Todd Wilbur)

Ingredients:

2 lbs. ground beef 3 medium tomatoes, chopped 1 (29 ounce) can tomato sauce 1½ teaspoons cumin powder 1 (29 ounce) can kidney beans (with liquid) 3 tablespoons chili powder 1 (29 ounce) can pinto beans (with liquid) 1½ teaspoons black pepper

1 cup diced onion (1 medium onion) 2 teaspoons salt ½ cup (or a little less) diced mild chili pepper 2 cups water

¼ cup diced celery (1 stalk) ½ chopped red bell pepper

Directions:

- 1. Brown the ground beef in a skillet over medium heat.
- 2. Drain off the fat.
- 3. In a large pot, combine the beef plus all the remaining ingredients and bring to a simmer over low heat.
- 4. Cook, stirring every 15 minutes for 2 to 3 hours.



IN OUR PRAYERS

<u>Homebound</u>: Dottie Arman, Jerry Bell, Dottie Cupps, Marilyn Huebner, Barbara (Morgan) Johnson, Thelma Moore, Lenore Mortemore, Esther Rochte

For health, wellness, peace, comfort: Deborah A. and child, David Ash, Austin & the Martin family, Carol, Paul Barnes and family upon the death of Diane Barnes, Amy C. and family, Darlene, Tom Dellinger, Desiree and family, Annelle Donaldson, Leslie Donaldson, Rob Donaldson, Chris Donatini, Feed Your Neighbor clients, Ron & Peggy Gould, Jeff Greer, Bobby Griffin, Dorothy Harris, Juanita Hollis, Therene Hollis & family, Joseph P., Jacintha and her family, Joseph P., Jason Kiefer, Leonard, Lisa B., James Martin, Max, Mack McCarver, Paul McKaig, Keith Miles, Jamal Nelums Sr., Nilila Jean, Bobby Nix, Dorothy Penske, Carol Rae, Linda Swanson, Terri & Tom, Lois Tester, Steven and Donna Walker, Walter, Lloyd Whittle, Pr. Ellis Young

CELEBRATING MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 - Lloyd Whittle12 - Jason Kiefer23 - Jeremy Moody3 - Dakota Skeens12 - Liz Rutherford26 - Carol Stacy5 - Becky Hansen13 - Jerry Bell29 - Carolyn Metcalf7 - Cindy Findlay16 - Wil Hartkopf30 - Eric Hartkopf

8 – Nicole Willard 21 – Laramie Atkinson

11 – Diana Tavernier 22 – William Earp

CARING FOR THE ELDERLY

In our milestones and through listening to our homebound members, our community is recognizing that we have persistent challenges to contend with regarding inclusion and aging. **Dr. Tina Williams from the Area Office on Aging will visit our congregation March 10th**. She'll present ways that the Area Office on Aging is caring for our neighbors around the city, and she will stay through coffee hour to answer questions. The Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio promotes the health, well-being, and safety of older adults, persons with disabilities and family caregivers to foster independence.

GERRYMANDERING IN OHIO and AN AMENDMENT IN THE WORKS

On **March 17th** following worship, Nancy Gurney, a long-time Glenwood member, will provide a brief presentation on a proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution that will reduce gerrymandering in Ohio. There will be a description of gerrymandering and the harm it causes. The "*Citizens, Not Politicians*" amendment will create a 15-member Citizens Commission made up of 5 Republicans, 5 Democrats and 5 Independents. Politicians, lobbyists, and large money contributors will be banned from the group. When passed, it will be unconstitutional to draw maps that favor any political party or politician. Anyone wishing to sign the CNP amendment will have the opportunity that morning.

TWO WAYS YOU CAN AMPLIFY YOUR GENEROSITY:

<u>Thrivent Choice Dollars</u> - In 2023, Glenwood received \$2063 through Thrivent members who directed their Thivent Choice Dollars to Glenwood. If you are a Thrivent Financial member, **you have until March 31, 2024 to direct your 2023 Choice Dollars**. The process is simple. Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.) A client service professional will work with you to direct Choice Dollars. It takes only a few minutes.

<u>Kroger Community Rewards</u> – If you shop at Kroger, the Kroger Community Reward program lets you select a favorite nonprofit to receive donations based on your shopping activity. Glenwood is one of those nonprofits which benefits. There's no extra cost to you, and it's as easy as 1-2-3. Directions are available on our website or if you are here on Sunday, Alie Sachs or Eric Hartkopf can assist you.

Thank you to all who direct their Kroger Community Reward points to Glenwood. For the three-month period (November-January), Glenwood received \$90.56 through 31 households.

GLENWOOD LUTEHRAN CHURCH 2545 MONROE ST TOLEDO OH 43620



GLENWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Glenwood is a Reconciling in Christ congregation



Phone: 419-255-0886 Email: glenwoodlc@gmail.com

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Glenwoodlutheranchurch.org

Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.Also available on Facebook

STAFF

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Barry Ramlow.....Financial Manager
Del Schmidt.....Custodian
Dean Tartaglia.....Music Minister

CHURCH COUNCIL

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