



# **The Glen Ellyn Reporter**

*Newsletter of First United Methodist  
Church of Glen Ellyn, Illinois*

*March/April 2025*

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## **Pastor's Pen**

Dear Church Family & Friends,

Have you noticed the days getting longer? We will soon be springing our clocks forward an hour on March 9 and getting even more needed sunshine. AMEN?? March 9 will also be our Second Sunday program, and we will once again feature Anima—Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus for our 6 p.m. concert with a Barone's dinner to follow. Anima performed a FANTASTIC concert for our February celebration of Black History Month, and we are so fortunate to have them back for March. They will include songs that focus on our Lenten season as we move towards Easter.

Speaking of Easter, our Lenten season begins on March 5 with the Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. in our sanctuary. Other Lenten events to add to your calendar:

- Palm Sunday - April 13, 10:30 a.m. service with a brunch following
- Good Friday - April 18, 7 p.m. Tenebrae service
- Easter Sunday - April 20, 10:30 a.m. service with an Easter egg hunt to follow

We will also have a pulpit exchange with other local United Methodist churches on April 6, and I have invited a few of these churches to join us for some of the events listed above. If you happen to find somebody new sitting in your pew, please extend a hand of friendship and welcome them to First UMC Glen Ellyn.

Blessings this Easter Season!

Pastor Dave

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The congregation is invited to a special Charge Conference meeting after church on March 9 to vote on and discuss an addendum to the Permanent Endowment articles and to move forward in gathering information about our building project. Both issues were passed unanimously at the February Ministry Council meeting.

# Children & Youth Ministries

**Our ASP (Appalachia Service Project) Fundraiser Flower Sale is coming to an end!** Order forms are available at church or you can find the link online at <https://www.geumc.org/asp>. The final day to order your plants is Tuesday, March 4, and they will be available for pick-up the morning of Saturday, May 3. Every year, the quality of these plants and flowers is impressive, and the proceeds go to help cover the costs of our youth participation in our Appalachia Service Project summer mission trip to repair homes in Appalachia. Thank you for your support!



On **Friday, March 14**, 5-6:30 p.m., we will join with friends from Faith UMC Lombard to volunteer at **Feed My Starving Children (555 Exchange Court, Aurora)**. Please RSVP to Pastor Laura as soon as possible as we only have a few spots remaining.

**On Sunday, April 20**, we will hold our annual **Easter Egg hunt** immediately following worship in the courtyard. If you would like to volunteer to stuff plastic Easter eggs with provided prizes and candy, please email Pastor Laura.



**Community Vacation Bible School registration is now open** for congregants of the host churches. VBS will be M-F, June 23-27, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Glen Ellyn. Please follow the link below to sign up. It is the same link for participants and volunteers.

We LOVE our volunteers! If you can help out, even one day during VBS or doing craft prep or shopping before VBS, we'd appreciate that too!

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VXwPXJ3-HuMmAhK\\_hCDUyzfraHHfPU0-UJO6u1r5db8/edit?ts=679d3edf](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VXwPXJ3-HuMmAhK_hCDUyzfraHHfPU0-UJO6u1r5db8/edit?ts=679d3edf)

**ASP Registration is open!** Our joint **ASP (Appalachia Service Project) Summer 2025** trip in collaboration with St. Mark's and now First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn is confirmed for **June 14-21, 2025**. If you are ready to register, follow the link below and enter group number: 15901

<https://apps.skycog.com/reg/APPSERV/Join.asp>



## United Women in Faith

Women who come together to support one another, our local church, our worldwide church, and missions near and far... that's United Women in Faith! All women are welcome – no one has to be a member or a regular attender of this church to participate.

### **A Spiritual Growth Retreat: All women are invited!**

Instead of having a Soul Care Retreat this spring at our own church, we will join other women of the Northern Illinois Conference for a **Spiritual Growth Retreat** on Saturday, March 22, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at First United Methodist Church, 418 West Touhy Avenue, Park Ridge. Experience a deeper sense of the holy, time and space for breathing, plus opportunities for movement, conversations, fellowship, and sisterhood.

The cost is \$15 per person, which includes refreshments and a light lunch.

Register through the web site [www.uwfaithnic.org](http://www.uwfaithnic.org) or find a registration form on the women's bulletin board at church. You can register up to March 15, but space is limited, so don't wait. Contact Cheryl Peters if you would like to carpool to this event.

### **Other news:**

We are still **collecting plastic** for Kids Above All – clean plastic you can stretch or push your finger through: newspaper wrap, grocery bags, wrapping for paper goods, bubble wrap, etc. – but only until March 21. (The people attending the retreat on March 22 will take the accumulated donations with them.) Look for a container outside the Great Hall near the Forest Avenue entrance.

**Save the date!** We're planning to have a **general meeting** on Monday, May 12 at 6 p.m. Stay tuned for details.

### **Circle Meetings**

United Women in Faith Circles are small groups of women that meet regularly. Circles welcome all women interested!

#### **Hannah Circle**

Tuesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Laura Price, 1604 Wilmette, Wheaton

Tuesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Holland, 10 Lakewood Circle, St. Charles

If you need a ride to a Hannah Circle meeting, contact Barb Doppelt (630-272-7577 or [b.k.doppelt@gmail.com](mailto:b.k.doppelt@gmail.com)).

#### **Ruth Circle**

Thursday, March 20, 1:30-3:00 p.m. at the home of Dolores Koopman, 540 Kensington, Glen Ellyn. Devotions will focus on understanding the season of Lent.

Thursday, April 17, 1:30-3:00 p.m. at the home of Sally Grenzow, 2283 Hiram Dr., Wheaton. Devotions will focus on the meaning of Holy Week and Easter.

#### **Martha/Sarah Circle**

Wednesday, March 26, 10:00 a.m. in the Dining Room at church

***We are love in action. We are United Women in Faith.***

## **UWF—Prayer and Self-Denial**

United Women in Faith continue to help women around the world and we can use your help too. During the Lenten season we are encouraging you to put aside some money each week for this year's Prayer & Self-Denial offering. One hundred percent of your donation will support international endeavors, including economic development & microenterprise projects, job training, and life skills. Funds raised will have a direct impact on improving families & communities.

For example, some concerned women in Peru wanted to make sure all females were allowed to study beyond third grade. They worked with schools and universities so women & girls could attend school. Methodist schools in Peru promoted education, starting with literacy classes. Women & girls are being taught handicraft skills, financial literacy, and small business skills.

In addition, this offering will support Regional Missionaries who serve in Africa, Asia, & Latin America. These missionaries are women who help females in these countries improve their ability to support a family with the help of schooling and community gatherings.

Please use the envelope found in your bulletin on March 9 for your offering. If you write a check, please make it out to either UW in Faith or UMWomen. Check out the poster and information posted on the hall bulletin board.

Thank you very much for your support as we help women and children around the world!

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## **Green Team Ministries**

Would you like to stop receiving unwanted mail, such as catalogs? Go to [Catalog Choice](#) and sign up with this organization that can help stop some of that mail. Catalog Choice continues to lead the way as the only free, industry-independent tool for direct mail opt-outs in the U.S. And because Catalog Choice stops mail at the source, all those catalogs and coupons never get printed, delivered, trashed or recycled – keeping an estimated thirty million pounds of CO2 out of the atmosphere. This is one more small way you can save some trees and help our environment!

Operated by The Story of Stuff Project, Catalog Choice is able to remain a free service thanks to generous, year-round contributions from their users. If you are interested in donating to this important initiative, you will find more information on their website, <https://www.catalogchoice.org/>.

# Mission & Service

## Missions of the Month

Thank you for going beyond your regular giving and supporting the monthly missions. Each Mission of the Month organization is featured throughout their respective month on the bulletin board outside the library and in eNotes, as well as in the mission moment during worship.

## March Mission of the Month

**Glen Ellyn Walk-in Ministries:** FUMC has been the host site after being started by its pastor in 1994. The Ministry is an ecumenical partnership of 15 congregations whose purpose is to assist Glen Ellyn residents, members of any Glen Ellyn church, or DuPage PADS clients who are in a financial crisis. A volunteer from FUMC serves regularly to help clients in need.

## April Mission of the Month



**Midwest Mission Distribution Center:** Midwest Mission is the non-profit organization that is highlighted for April. This organization is located near Springfield, IL with a second site recently started in Iowa. Staff and many volunteers do a variety of tasks that help people by providing items (sewing machines, bicycles, hospital gowns, kits for those recovering from floods & tornadoes, etc.) in the U.S., South America, and Africa. A mission trip is planned for April 13-16 to the Illinois site. Talk to Martha Blumer about your willingness to be included in the team. More information is available online at <https://www.midwestmission.org/>.

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## CROP Walk

We can soon get out and enjoy the beautiful weather that spring affords us. The CROP Walk is May 4. Please consider walking or sponsoring a walker. Money goes to Church World Service, as well as the Glen House Food Pantry, People's Resource Center, and the DuPage Senior Citizens Council. So, put on your walking shoes and join us! More information will soon be available about registration, as well as how to donate to the walk.



# Church & Social Action Committee

We meet monthly by Zoom on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. We would love to have you join us to work on social justice issues.

To join the Zoom meeting, please visit <https://www.zoom.us/join> and enter the following login credentials:

Meeting ID—895 8199 1832; Passcode—190535

## Lost Friends

On Sunday February 16 during worship, Bob Anderson presented information about "Lost Friends." After the Civil War, emancipated slaves searched for loved ones from whom they had been separated. Thanks to Alison Hayes for researching and writing the piece. We thought you might want to take a closer look at some of the newspaper ads written in hopes of finding family members.

**Lost Friends.**

NOTE.—We receive many letters asking for information about lost friends. All such letters will be published in this column. We make no charge for publishing these letters from subscribers to the SOUTHWESTERN. All others will please enclose fifty cents to pay for publishing the notices. Pastors will please read the requests published below from their pulpits, and report any case where friends are brought together by means of letters in the SOUTHWESTERN.

DEAR EDITOR—I wish some information about my two brothers and one sister—Dolphus, Francis and Carrie Troidie. My brother and one of my sister's sons, James Troidie, was taken from Rutherford Co., N. C. They formerly belonged to Squire Bob Troidie. They were left in 1865. Address me at Hillsboro, Coffee Co., Tenn., in care of F. R. W. Summerhill.

ALFRED TROIDIE.

DEAR EDITOR—Mr. Ed. Denton, a son of Capt. John B. Denton, and my mother's brother (white), it is supposed, left Texas some twenty years ago. It was my mother's last request that I should find out where he was and whether he was living. He has many relatives here in Texas who want to know his whereabouts. If he is living he will confer a favor that can never be repaid by addressing his nephew at Denison, Texas.

P. SULLIVAN BROWN.  
California and Oregon papers please copy.

I desire to inquire for my brother, Allen Gillam. When last heard from he was at Liberty, S. C. He is the son of Samuel and Zilphia Gillam. There were twelve children in all, four of which are dead. Those alive are George, Malinda, Allen, Simon, Amanda, Isaac, Samuel and Robert. When we heard from him last he was then a steward in the M. E. Church at his home. His mother still lives and desires very much to know of his whereabouts. Any information concerning him will be thankfully received. Write in the care of Rev. G. J. Dobson at Abbeville, Miss.

S. M. Gilliam.

**Information Wanted.**

Information is wanted as to the whereabouts of two colored women, who, when children, were known by the names of Harriet Stewart and Fannie Stewart, and belonged to Larkin Stewart, who lived about 7 1/2 miles from Greensboro, Alabama, on Brush Creek. About thirty years ago they were sold or swapped off to a speculator in slave property, and it is thought they were re-sold again in Marengo County.

Their mothers' name was Rose Stewart, and they had an older sister named Charity; also, two brothers called John and Charles.

Harriet was a bright mulatto, while Fannie was quite black. Harriet's age now is about 45; Fannie's about 40. Any information as to their present place of abode will be thankfully received by their brother, who has not seen or heard of them for thirty years.

CHARLES STEWART,  
Demopolis, Alabama.

DEAR EDITOR—I wish to make some inquiry about my uncle, John Pinkard. I left him in Bradley Co., Arkansas, in 1865, on the Saline river. Mother's name was Betsey Pinkard. She belonged to Tom Pinkard, was brought to Texas in 1863 and died in 1864. Address me at Groesbeck, Limestone Co., Texas.

B. F. PINKARD.

**Lost Friends.**

We make no charge for publishing these letters from subscribers. All others will be charged fifty cents. Pastors will please read the requests published below from their pulpits, and report any case where friends are brought together by means of letters in the SOUTHWESTERN.

Mr. Editor: I wish to inquire for my uncle, David Applewhite. He was taken off to the war with Mr. D. Applewhite, his young master. His mother is named Polly. My mother, named May, is his sister. He left them here in Bossier parish, La. Andrew Lawrence was our owner. Any one having information as to his whereabouts will please address me.

MRS. AMANDA TOLLIVER.  
Shreveport, La., P. O. Box 100.

# God's Garden

Once again, our church will be gardening at the Village Green garden plot located on Lambert Road. The garden opens on April 28. If you enjoyed all the fresh vegetables that we harvested, please consider helping this year. We need people to plant and water the garden. Last year, we gave \$1550 to the Glen House Food Pantry as well as hundreds of pounds of food. Help us continue to support this project. More information will be coming soon. Please see Lynne Nakashima for any questions or to volunteer.



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## Second Sunday—March 9



Please join us for our Second Sunday Service on March 9 at 6 p.m. featuring Anima—Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus.

We expect a large crowd, so please be sure to RSVP on our website at <https://www.geumc.org/events>. We'll see you there!

# Finance Committee

We are grateful for the following generous donations that further the mission of our church:

- The Johansen Family Fund of DuPage Foundation
- The Luginbill Family Fund of DuPage Foundation
- The Johnson Family Charitable Fund

## January 2025 Year to Date Financial Recap

<b>General Fund</b>		
Balance January 1, 2025	\$0	
Offerings and other income	\$36,342	
Expenses		\$37,574
<b>Fund Balance January 31, 2025</b>		<b>-\$1,233</b>
<b>Debt Reduction (Mortgage) Fund</b>		
Balance January 1, 2025	\$0	
Offerings	\$5,416	
Mortgage payments		\$9,202
<b>Fund Balance January 31, 2025</b>		<b>-\$3,786</b>

## Mission of the Month Donations \*\*

<b>January</b>		
<i>** \$200 per month is added to donations by a Permanent Endowment grant</i>		
January	People's Resource Center	\$415
<b>Year to date Donations</b>		
	Glen House Food Pantry	\$10
	PATH	\$75
	UMCOR Disaster Relief	\$50
	Kids Above All Christmas gifts	\$110
<b>Thank you for your faithful and generous support of all of our ministries!</b>		

Have you tried giving through our online portal? It is a quick, convenient way to make either a one-time or recurring donation. We have a variety of funds set up in the portal, such as the General Fund, Building Fund, and ASP, making it very simple to designate where you want your donation allocated. The QR code to the right makes it even easier! Just open the camera app on your smartphone, scan the code, click the link that pops up, and your browser will route you to the portal. Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our church and ministries!

