THE CHRISTIAN ECHO

Glen Echo Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Telephone: (515)274-9124; Email: glenechocc@msn.com June 2020 Volume 64, Issue 6



Drive-In Church continues to draw members and visitors to Glen Echo as we worship God on Sunday mornings *(above)*. Newer member Carmon made masks that were shared with the congregation *(right)*. Flags and flowers decorated the top of the retaining wall on Memorial Day Weekend *(below)*.





Minister's Moment

When I was a child, our family traveled a great deal. Road trips were regular parts of our summer schedules. During these trips, someone in the car invariably asked, "When will we get there?" The inquirer was typically bored, impatient, and tired of the time that it took

to make forward progress. One of our parents usually responded by saying, "In a little while," and then they distracted us by commenting on the landscape and offering us a snack.

I confess that this question has come to mind as I've watched the news and noted the high number of new COVID-19 cases reported in Iowa each week: 2,712 from May 10-16; and 2,499 from May 17-23. Fresh outbreaks have occurred nationwide at churches, nursing homes, and community celebrations. I've wondered when the coronavirus will be fully contained. When will it reach the end of its road? When can vulnerable people venture from their homes without fear of infection? When will we get there?

When I prayed about these concerns, images of another road trip came to mind. This road trip was extremely long - it took 40 years to complete. The travelers were the Hebrew people as they made their way through the desert to the Promised Land. We read in Exodus that they complained incessantly to God and Moses about the conditions in which they traveled. They were impatient and tired of the time that it took to make forward progress.

The Exodus travelers were so focused on their complaints that they failed to appreciate God's provisions on the trip: manna every morning; quail every evening; water from a rock; a cloud to guide them during the day; and a pillar of fire to light their camp at night. God's provisions never ceased, regardless of the people's responses.

I sensed through these images the communication that God is present with us and making provisions for us during this journey. Food is being found, and rain is replenishing the water necessary to wash away the disease. God is giving guidance each day to scientists and shining light in the darkness when people are tempted to give into despair. God travels with us on the road.

Our gracious God goes with us on this journey with COVID-19, and we will get there. In some parts of our country (such as Medford, Oregon), weeks have passed without any new cases of infection. It takes time to make forward progress. But through the grace of God, the dedication of scientists and essential workers, and continued mitigation efforts, we will reach the Promised Land. Blessed to be on this journey with you,

Pastor Dawn

JUNE PREACHING SCHEDULE						
D ATE	First Lesson	Second Lesson	SERMON TITLE			
JUNE 7	Psalm 8	Matthew 28:16-20	"Ready, Set, Go"			
JUNE 14	Exodus 19:2-8a	Romans 5:1-8	"Eagles' Wings"			
JUNE 21	Psalm 86:1-10, 16-1 7	Romans 6:1b-11	"Dominion"			
JUNE 28	Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18	Matthew 10:40-42	"Welcome & Reward"			
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DRIVE-IN CHURCH CONTINUES



We communicated in the last issue of *The Christian Echo* that Drive-In Church Services would be held through the end of May, and the Board would evaluate at that time whether or not it was safe to return to the sanctuary. Because 8,502 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Iowa from May 1 - 25, the Board has decided to continue to hold services

outside until the number of new cases decreases drastically. Many of our members belong to high risk categories and/or have compromised immune systems, and they cannot worship safely in the building in the current circumstances.

When the weather gets warmer, folks will have the option of sitting on the lawn (while maintaining safe distances from each other) and listening to services on their portable radios (or smart phones that have FM apps). Lawn sitters will be encouraged to wear masks, as droplets can be dispersed when people sneeze, cough, and sing (up to 20' for the last item in this list). People are welcome to remain in their cars, which is the safest option.

Pastor Dawn will continue to record sermons and post them to the church's website.

In the meantime, we have new visitors each week at our outdoor services, and we've even gained a new member! God is good, and the Holy One is with us as we continue to share the Good News beyond the church walls.

FATHER'S DAY COLLAGE

Father's Day is Sunday, June 21nd, and we will design a collage to honor these men in our lives.

Please send a picture of your father to the church by June 14th. There are several ways to send the picture:

- Email a digital photograph of him to the church office;
- 2) Mail a printed picture of him through the U.S. Post Office;
- Put his picture in a waterproof bag and place it in the offering tub at Drive-In Church.

Pictures that are received by June 14th will be formed into a collage and included in the June 21st bulletin.

WITH A MOO-MOO HERE AND A MOO-MOO THERE...



Julie painted more chairs that will be ready for children when we resume worship in the sanctuary.



We will receive the Pentecost Offering May 31st and June 7th. Half of what we give stays in our Region to support and sustain new churches near us. The second half helps to train, equip, assist, and nurture leaders across the United States and Canada through New Church Ministry programs. To support this work, please write "Pentecost Offering" on the memo line of your check, or donate online to https://disciplesmissionfund.org/give.



Directory Updates

Dennis joined Glen Echo Christian Church on Sunday, May 3rd, through transfer of membership. Dennis is in the process of moving, and his new address will be published when the move is finalized. Dear Family,

Thank you for all the kind cards & gifts this month. It's hard to believe it's been 20 years but not hard to recognize the wonderful, loving family you are to me.

> With much love & appreciation, Patty

SENSE OF VALUE

April 2020 Financial Figures:

3/31/20 Balance	\$ 4,716.84
April Receipts	14,428.00
April Expenses	(10,838.75)
Transfers	100.00
4/30/20 Balance	\$ 8,406.09

Thank you for your continuing support.

Terri Lockard, Stewardship Chair



\$15,1<mark>56 has been collected</mark> so far for the Cool-Aid Campaign.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Ruth Marlene Disasters around the world, including COVID-19 Colleen's daughter DeeAnn Virginia Christie Bill Sandy Marilyn George Donna Mary Essential Workers during COVID-19 Pat Dorothy Pleasantville Christian Church Galdino Krista Monica Sally Randy Bill

FROM OUR RESIDENT POET

You may wonder if my inspiration for poems is a bottomless pit Actually, I may have started something I can't quit Even when the Cool Aid fund raiser has succeeded The need for rhyming humor will probably not have receded There will always be a cause for us to get behind And I will look for appropriate poems in my mind. -- Joel

		U	UNE	202	0	
1 CA	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes	4 2:00 Prayer	5	6
7	8 8	9	10	11	12	13
10:15 Drive-in Worship			7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes	2:00 Prayer		
1 4 10:15 Drive-in	15	16	17 7:30 PM	1 8 2:00 Prayer	19	20
Worship			Encouraging Echoes			
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
0:15 Drive-in Worship			7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes		6:00 Meyer Hall (Tentative)	
28	29	30				
0:15 Drive-in Worship						
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Glen Echo Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

4323 Douglas Avenue Des Moines, IA 50310



SERVING SCHEDULE								
June 7	Drive-In Worship at Glen Echo Christian Church's Parking Lot	<u>June 14</u>	Drive-In Worship at Glen Echo Christian Church's Parking Lot					
<u>June 21</u>	Drive-In Worship at Glen Echo Christian Church's Parking Lot	<u>June 28</u>	Drive-In Worship at Glen Echo Christian Church's Parking Lot					