



THE CHRISTIAN ECHO



Glen Echo Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Instead of gathering physically for this year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Glen Echo folks connected in spirit and made pancakes at home. These are some pictures of the fabulous flapjacks. *(clockwise from upper right)* Julie displays a dishful of delectable delights. Turkey sausages sizzle next to sugar-free syrup at the Ingrams' home. Shirley's celebration occurred a few days later on her birthday when she treated herself to a Pancake Party.



MINISTER'S MOMENT

One year ago this month, Glen Echo temporarily suspended worship in the sanctuary to ensure the safety of the congregation during COVID-19. Twelve months later, as vaccines are being distributed, we are making plans to resume Drive-In Church and services in the sanctuary. (More information about these plans can be found in this newsletter.)

Have you found that your professional and personal habits have changed in the past year? Mine have. Radio broadcasting and video editing experiences were acquired. Masks, gloves, and disinfectant wipes found a new home by the front door of our apartment. Spur of the moment jaunts to stores were reduced as I considered, "Is that new decorative pillow or _____ (fill in the blank) worth the risk of contracting COVID-19 and infecting the people who I love?"

The question, "Is it worth it?" helped to define my priorities in 2020. Worshipping our generous God is worth it. I am thankful that services continue through Glen Echo in various forms. Patty, Dennis, the Elders, Dave, and Josh are invaluable partners in the facilitation of Drive-In Church and online services.

Taking care of my family is worth it. Wearing masks, washing hands — and not purchasing decorative pillows — are small prices to pay to keep them healthy. Quality connections are maintained as we play board games and watch each others' favorite shows.

And you are worth it. The members and friends of Glen Echo Christian Church are worth the efforts required during the pandemic. You are worth the evolving learning curve and brain-storming sessions to find new ways to move forward. You are an endearing family of faith, loved by God, whose faithful witness in the past continues to bear fruit in the present. (See "We've Got Mail.")

"Is it worth it?" helped me to define my priorities. The question also resulted in an awe-inspiring realization this Lent. John 10:18 informs us that no one forced Jesus to give his life for us. He had the authority to choose whether or not "to lay it down" on behalf of humanity. Jesus chose to make the extra efforts, to take the additional steps, and to submit to the cross so that we could move forward in our relationships with the Creator. Our Savior did not withhold himself from us: **He thought that we were worth it.** This understanding resulted in a deeper desire to give more of myself to him — because he is worth it.

Blessed to be on this journey with you,

Pastor Dawn

MARCH PREACHING SCHEDULE

DATE	SCRIPTURE LESSON	SERMON TITLE
MARCH 7	John 4:5-26	"Living Water"
MARCH 14	John 9:1-25	"A New Game Plan"
MARCH 21	John 11:1-45	"Moving the Stone"
MARCH 28	Mark 11:1-11	"Hosanna in the Highest"



Drive-In Church will resume Palm Sunday morning, March 28th, at 10:15. Please bring your own communion, and tune your radios to 87.9 FM. Bulletins will be mailed and posted online. Palms will be passed out, and a parade will occur afterward.

A service for Maundy Thursday, April 1st, will be uploaded to YouTube.

Please call the church office to sign up to pray for an hour (at home) on Good Friday, April 2nd, between 6 AM & midnight.

A masked Easter Egg Hunt will occur on the front lawn after church on Easter Sunday, April 4th.





REENTRY COMMITTEE

Glen Echo's Reentry Committee met online to discuss procedures to return to worship in the sanctuary. This will occur when the number of new coronavirus cases declines for four consecutive weeks — and the rate of new infections in Polk County falls to 2%. On March 1st, Polk County had 11,925 positive tests per 100,000 people, which is 11.9%. (<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/pages/case-counts>)

As the vaccine is distributed and the positivity rate falls, we will move into the Yellow Phase of our Reentry Plan. Some guidelines are listed below:

1. Members will be encouraged to come to church only if they are symptom-free, and thermometers will be available to take temperatures.
2. Masks will be required.
3. Ushers will seat and dismiss attendees to maintain safe distances between family groups.
4. Singing and responsive readings will be limited.
5. Folks are welcome to bring their own communion elements or pick up pre-packaged servings at the church.
6. Bulletins will be placed on designated pews where people sit.
7. Offerings can be put in plastic tubs located inside the building.
8. Attendees will need to exit the building immediately when the service ends.

We are seeking donations of the following supplies to help with cleaning when we reopen: Lysol spray, Clorox-type wipes, hand sanitizer, and masks. We will also need additional people to serve as greeters and ushers on Sunday mornings. Thank you, in advance, for your help!

Dear Pastor Ingram,

Winter greetings from Christian Theological Seminary. I hope that the new year has brought you and your congregation renewed strength to face the ever-changing and challenging world in which we are living. The work of CTS faculty and students has not been dismayed despite the pandemic. One of the stabilizing forces on which we have relied to sustain this important work is the scholarship support of Glen Echo Christian Church through the Ben and Irene Williams Memorial Church Endowed Scholarship Fund. Your continuous generosity reinforces the aspirations of many students who, without your steadfast investment, would not be able to attend seminary.

In a time when we have witnessed a division in society that brings us to our knees, we look to our church leaders for guidance and understanding. In his most recent book, *Talking About God When People Are Afraid: Dialogues on the Incarnation the Year That Doctor King and Senator Kennedy Were Killed*, CTS alumnus and emeritus faculty member, Dr. Keith Watkins, shares the messages of four preachers during the 1960s as they endeavored to help the people in their church make theological sense at a time when optimism and fear were intermingled. We are pleased to share a signed copy of Dr. Watkins' book with your church family and hope that it will give you inspiration for the year ahead and help guide you as you shepherd your congregation through this turbulent time.

Thank you for your partnership. Your dedication to CTS and its students is an integral influence in our ongoing commitment to theological education.

With gratitude,

Kristin Champa, D.M.A.
Vice President for Advancement

(The book has been placed in Glen Echo's library.)

Our family would like to donate \$25,000 to Glen Echo Christian Church in memory of: George; Hazel; George, Jr.; and Ann.

Our wish is for this money to be placed in the General Fund or an appropriate fund to be used for help in paying bills and other needs of Glen Echo for the perpetuation of Glen Echo rather than being used for any outreach programs.

Respectfully,

Denny



Dear Dawn,

I attended Glen Echo with my family up until I went away to college. My parents, Rex and Daisy, retired in Texas where they passed away many years ago.

The Sunday School Teachers and Youth Group Leaders had their work cut out for them. However, the persistence of Sandy, Dorothy, Betty Rose, and Lona got me shaped up. There was some folklore that I may have kicked Sandy during my introduction to Sunday School — It should be beyond the statute of limitations by now.

I checked the website to see how GE is doing and caught up with your newsletter. It is great to see the activities with families. COVID has been a disruption and it looks like the church's budget has a gap — which I would like to help with.

Best Wishes for a great 2021 at Glen Echo!

Jim

(Jim sent a generous check that compensated for the 2020 deficit.)

SENSE OF VALUE

*The January 2021 Financial Report is below.

12/31/20 Balance	\$ (1,366.12)
January Receipts	6,718.00
January Expenses	10,410.28
Payroll Protection Program	17,757.50
1/31/21 Balance	\$ 12,699.10

Please continue to support Glen Echo with your tithes and offerings.

COOL-AID CAMPAIGN



PRAYER REQUESTS

Ben's family and friends
Jim
Dave
Marlene
Disasters and illness around the world
Tammy
Garland; Jeff; Abby; Fletch; Jo
Geri
George
Donna; Beckett
Allison
Ione's family and friends
John Park Winkler's family and friends
Chuck
Tristan
Bill
Tara
Cindy, Joanne; Dan

WORSHIP VIDEO VIEWS (ONLINE & DVDs)

February 7	70
February 14	75
February 21	61
February 28	47 (to date)

March 28 and April 4, 2021

Easter Offering

a special day offering of
Disciples Mission Fund



supporting general ministries of the
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



MARCH 2021

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes	4 2:00 Prayer	5	6
7 10:15 Online Worship	8	9 7:00 PM Zoom Board Meeting	10 7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes	11 2:00 Prayer	12	13
14 10:15 Online Worship	15	16	17 7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes	18 2:00 Prayer	19 7:00 PM Reentry Committee	20
21 10:15 Online Worship	22	23	24 7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes	25 2:00 Prayer	26	27
28 Palm Sun. 10:15 Drive-In Church & Palm Parade	29	30	31 7:30 PM Encouraging Echoes			

**Glen Echo
Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

**4323 Douglas Avenue
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We will “spring forward” at 2:00 AM, Sunday, March 14th. Please set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on Saturday night.