

# Chimes

The Newsletter of Gary Church and Winfield Community Church  
June 2021



*Living your faith*

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**Sunday Worship**

In person at 9 a.m.  
(limited to up to 60% capacity.  
Pre-registration preferred, but  
walk-ins welcome.)

Livestream at 9 a.m., garychurch.org

Recording online later in the day

**Church Office Hours**

Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.  
by appointment, 630–668–3100



**Gary Church Podcast**  
(sermon, scripture)  
Updated weekly, garychurch.org

**Pastor Brian Podcast**  
(prayers, scripture)  
Updated weekly, garychurch.org

Submissions for the July/August *Chimes* newsletter are due at noon by June 15. Announcements for the Sunday bulletin and weekly enews are due each Tuesday at noon. Send all submissions to office@garychurch.org.

Gary and Winfield Churches use photos and videos of adults taken at events, classes, and worship for use in our printed and online publications and in social media unless an individual directs the church not to do so by completing a form available in the Church Office. We use photos or videos of minors only when their parents or guardians have given permission by signing the Gary Kids or Gary Youth registration forms, available on our website.

# The Season after Pentecost: We All Have Gifts

by Rev. Dr. Chris Pierson

The Apostle Paul, in the twelfth chapter of his letter to the church at Rome, instructs the believers on their new life in Christ. He insists that this new life is to be lived in community with others who believe in Christ and it is to be a life lived in humility. Paul appeals to individual members not to think too highly of themselves, because the life that Christ intends can only be sustained by living together in humility.

Paul's understanding of this new beloved community, created through the power of the Holy Spirit Christ promised his followers, is

## **How might you support our common work of using the gifts we have been given in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit?**

one of an intimacy so profound that Paul could only describe it by comparing it to the human body. "We are one body in Christ," Paul writes, "individually we are members of one another."

Yet, even as we live in humility and in intimate community with one another, Paul reminds us that we all have gifts that differ but they have been graciously given to us by the

Holy Spirit. These gifts of the Spirit then, connect us with God and one another. They are given in order to build up the body of Christ that we might grow that we might be built up in love each doing its part (Eph. 4:16).

It is one of the reasons that I so love Pentecost Sunday and the season after Pentecost. We are reminded that God poured out God's Spirit and gave people gifts and abilities they never had. The season after Pentecost begins with Trinity Sunday (this year May 30) and concludes with Reign of Christ Sunday or Christ the King Sunday (this year Nov. 21). It is the longest season in the Christian year.



"The purpose of this season is to support our common work of using the gifts we have been given in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit."<sup>1</sup> In Romans, Paul lists the different gifts we have been given to be shared in the body of Christ: "If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully" (Romans 12:6b-8).

This past year has been challenging in so many ways as we've all made adjustments during the coronavirus pandemic. However, I think one of the biggest challenges many have faced is how to live our new life in Christ in community and sharing our gifts so that the reign of Christ is known among us. There are so many ways we can use our gifts throughout the year but in the summer we have additional opportunities; especially for those whose busy schedules do not otherwise allow them as many opportunities to share their gifts.

Vacation Bible School, BLAST Camp, Middle School Stay Camp, Family Camp, Class Meetings, Glow Challenge and Immersion Ministry experiences are just a few of the opportunities to utilize the gifts that God has given us and experience the blessing of new life in Christ in ways above and beyond what we might imagine.

Consider this: "In this season after Pentecost how might you support our common work of using the gifts we have been given in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit?"

Together With God,

*Christopher L. Pierson*

<sup>1</sup> What is Pentecost? | The United Methodist Church (umc.org)

# Adult Christian Education and Discipleship

In the year before “social distancing” was a common term and masks were needed to enter grocery stores, Gary’s Adult Christian Education Committee was hard at work drafting a mission statement that would guide the ministry in the years to come. Through



prayer and reflection, the committee determined that the *Adult Christian Education ministry aims to provide a variety of Christian Education opportunities that deepen faith, equip disciples and transform the world.* The ministry was in full swing when the pandemic struck and everything came to a halt. After a period of adapt-

ing to a new normal, the group met to discern a way forward and achieve its mission for the 2020–2021 ministry year.

The first initiative was Worship Talk, an informal online gathering that invited congregants to discuss the morning’s service over a cup of coffee. While the structure was simple, the conversation was robust. **Rev. JoAnne Chase** said, “I truly believe that Worship Talk helped me stay positive this past year, feel connected and not alone, dig into the sermon and find personal meaning, and deepen my relationship with God through scripture and conversation.” Worship Talk met folks where they were (often in their living room) and helped deepen faith.

In addition to Worship Talk, the committee developed a Monday night ministry model on Zoom that would run from September to May. Zoom classes focused on different topics from exploring scripture to engaging in spiritual practices, learning about and participating in works of social justice, supporting Christian disciplines and experiencing fellowship. **Carey Williams Bebar** said, “I loved the Advent Study, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*. Cynthia M. Campbell’s work helped me experience the incarnation from the perspective of each gospel author and truly prepared my heart for the coming Christ child.” The Monday night offerings were designed for church and community members at various stages of their faith journey.

Whether participants were starting their search or maturing in faith, they were able to find their place and grow as disciples.

The Monday night series also bore fruit. In March, **Judy Selby** and **Cathy Mousseau** took their *Power and Challenge of Girls’ Education* class to the next level and led the *Educate a Girl/Change the World* Campaign. For three weeks the congregation read extensively, listened to stories, and raised funds to support girls’ education around the globe. Cathy noted that “together, the entire church helped God to transform the world by funding scholarships for nine girls in Africa and Asia. At the same time, the hearts and minds of our Gary members were transformed, as they learned, planned, and came together to empower our neighbors-in-need.” The Anti-Racist Book Club also engaged in world-transforming work by creating a safe place to learn about systemic racism as well as grow as anti-racists. **Marion Rybarczyk** reflected that “being involved in the Anti-Racist Book Club has been such an inspiration and eye-opening experience.” He said, “I have never considered myself a racist, but being part of this book club has shown me so much about what it feels like to be Black in America.” Other groups, like the Men and Women’s Bible Study, Faith Club, and MOPS continued as integral parts of Gary’s Christian Education ministry.

Despite a difficult year, the Adult Christian Education Committee found ways to deepen faith, equip disciples and transform the world. For that, we would like to say “thank you” to each committee member: **Betsy Boyd, Rev. JoAnne Chase, Joyce Fahs, Marion Rybarczyk, Michelle Sweeney, Donna Trieschmann, Fred Wayland** and **Dan Wible**. You have blessed our community and enriched our faith.

If you would like to learn more about Adult Christian Education, please contact **Carey Williams Bebar** through the Church Office.

# ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## MINISTRY

2020-2021

2020-2021	Bible Study		Social Justice		Spiritual Practice	Christian Discipline	Fellowship / Christian Community
<b>Searching</b>	Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes Advent Study		Native American Spirituality & Community		Spiritual Practices for the New Year	Class Meeting	MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)
<b>Growing</b>	Restored Lenten Study	Men & Women's Bible Study	Power & Challenge of Girls' Education	UMW Joy Circle	From Darkness into Light	Marriage Practices in a Pandemic	
<b>Maturing</b>	Judges		Anti-Racist Book Club	Faith Club			Walkers & Talkers

### 2020-2021 Adult Christian Education Year-in-Review

Did you attend a class this year?

- Judges Study (Sept./Oct. 2020, Dr. Michael Graves)
- The Power and Challenge of Girls' Education (Oct./Nov. 2020, Cathy Mousseau & Judy Selby)
- Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes Advent Study (Nov./Dec. 2020, Carey Williams Bebar)
- Spiritual Practices (Jan. 2021, Kimberly Penrod Pelletier)
- Daily Practices for a Healthy Marriage (Feb. 2021, Dr. Chris Mazzarella)
- Restored Lenten Study (Feb./March 2021, Rev. Dr. Chris Pierson)
- Sacred: A two-part series in Native American Spirituality and Community (April 2021, Rev. Adrienne Stricker, Dr. John Derby, JuniKae Randall, Jody Roy, and Pam Silas)
- From Darkness into Light (May 2021, Rev. Dr. Richard Wang and Michelle Sweeney)



Hey parents! Summer is here and we are gearing up for fun and memorable events that share the love of God with children and nurture life-long relationships with Christ Jesus.

### Move-up Sunday

*Sunday, June 6 at 9 a.m. Worship*  
Children and youth will be recognized in worship for moving up a grade. After the service, all are invited to the courtyard for popsicles and fellowship.



### Family Camp

*Friday-Sunday, July 16-18*  
Families will head to *Pine Lake Camp in Westfield, Wisconsin* to draw close to God and one another.

See page 11 for details

### Glow party

*Friday, June 18, 6:30 p.m. at Gary Church*  
We're kicking off our summer "Glow Challenge" with a fun night of glow-in-the-dark games and activities. Grab your neon and let's glow! Register at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org)



### Treasured VBS

*Monday, August 2-Thursday, August 5*  
*9:30-11:30 a.m.*

Embark on an epic quest through hidden ruins, ancient caves and dense jungles. At *Treasured VBS*, kids dig into action-packed, faith-filled adventures. They'll discover God's greatest treasure isn't diamonds, gems or gold—it's them! Register at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org). \$30 per participant. Cost covers a fun VBS shirt, a family CD, snacks, sciency-fun gizmos and so much more.

### Volunteer for Treasured VBS

Help kids discover that they are priceless to God! There are lots of ways to serve at *Treasured VBS*—from being a crew leader to a station assistant and so much more. Volunteer details are on the VBS volunteer registration page at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org). Join the team and join the fun.

### Simply Free to Be: An exploration of mindfulness for Gary Kids & Youth

*Mondays, June 14, 21 & 28 at 1 p.m.*  
*Warrenville Grove Forest Preserve*  
Have you heard about mindfulness? What is it? How can it help you? Can it be fun? Join **Mary Megan Bagnall** in a playful outdoor exploration of mindfulness, offering space where kids and teens are simply free to be. Explore how tuning into the present moment can connect us to our current experience, to ourselves, to each other and to God. Register at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).



## Gary Kids Zoom Party

Sundays June 13, July 11 and August 8, at 10 a.m. on Zoom

Not quite ready to be back in person? Still loving church in your pj's? We feel you and we've got you covered. Join Pastor Carey every second Sunday of summer for a virtual party with actual fun.

Meeting ID: 895 9462 0620

Passcode: GaryKids

## Sundays in the Park

June 27, July 25, & August 29, 10 a.m., Northside Park

A casual summer Sunday School for Gary Kids families.

**June 27** | Join **Nancy Brunner** for fun with bells.

**July 25** | Join **Rev. JoAnne Chase** for puppet stories.

**August 29** | Join **Jennifer Whiting and Mary Ellen Rahn** to make a joyful noise.

## Thank you, Kim Olson and the Craft Kit team

Kim Olson led a Craft Kit Ministry from September 2020 to May 2021. Each month, Kim created 35 craft kits that featured fun lessons and games for 3- to 6-year-olds. Kits were then delivered by a team of drivers to our Gary Kids' doors. Thank you, Kim Olson and the entire Craft Kit team for your commitment to this ministry.



## Kids' Church & Sunday School Fall 2021

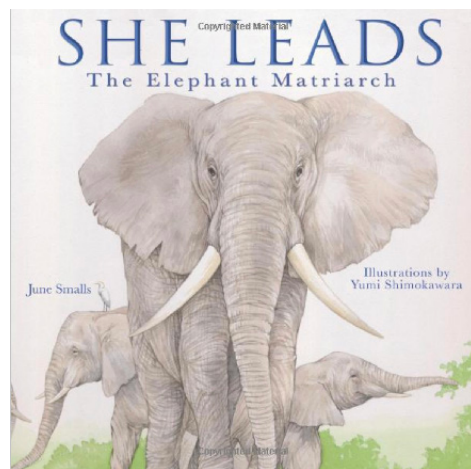
Plans are in the works for a return to Kids' Church and Sunday school this fall. Gary's vibrant children's ministry is only possible through the leadership of volunteers. Please prayerfully consider if you are able to help Gary Kids grow in faith once a month September-May. Contact **Pastor Carey** for more information.



## resource of the month

### A Recommendation from our Gary Kids Librarian, Sarah Kovac

This month Gary Kids will be learning about leadership. To complement this, we recommend *She Leads: The Elephant Matriarch* by June Smalls. This book tells the inspiring story of an elephant who leads her tribe through the wilds of Africa. Simple text is paired with facts about elephants, making this a great book for both older and younger children.



# June Youth Activities



## Middle School:

Wednesday, June 2  
7–8:15 p.m.

at Gary Church  
**Welcome Pack Making**

Wednesday, June 9  
7–8:30 p.m.

at Gary Church  
**Summer Kick-off Party**

Tuesday-Thursday, June 15–17  
11 a.m.–4 p.m.

at Gary Church  
**Gary Youth Stay Camp 2021**

Tuesday, June 22 and 29  
10–11:30 a.m.

at Gary Church  
**Bible Study**

## High School:

Sunday, June 6  
6–7:15 p.m.

at Gary Church  
**Welcome Pack Making**

Sunday, June 13  
6–7:30 p.m.

at Gary Church  
**Summer Kick-off Party**

Tuesday-Thursday, June 15–17  
11a.m.–4 p.m.

at Gary Church  
**Gary Youth Stay Camp 2021**

Sunday, June 20  
No Meeting

**Father's Day**

Sunday, June 27  
8:30–10 p.m.

at Gary Church  
**Bible Study**

## What we're learning

Last month, we had a chance to meet **Jennifer Whiting** and **David Rush**. They taught us that God put rhythm into everything, even our bodies. Music is fun to play on our own, but it becomes a whole other experience when we make music together. Kind of like how the body of Christ works as different body parts, we can make beautiful music by simply playing different beats together. Where do you see rhythm as you go about your day?



## Coming up

Our Gary Youth programming for the school year is wrapping up with the last middle school youth group meeting on Wednesday, June 2 and last high school youth group meeting on Sunday, June 6. Please keep a lookout for our monthly announcements for upcoming summer events. While we have some events locked in, other events are being planned on a monthly basis due to COVID-19 restrictions. Register on [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org) for the following events:

### **BLAST Camp: Mission Olympics**

Monday, August 2–Thursday, August 5, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Location: Winfield Community UMC

For grades 6–8

Cost: \$32 (Scholarships available)

### **Gary Youth Stay Camp**

Tuesday, June 15–Thursday, June 17, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Location: Gary Church, we will be riding on our bicycles to local sites

For grades 6–12

Cost: \$70 (Scholarships available)

### **Gary High School Stay Mission**

Monday, July 19–Thursday, July 22, 8 a.m.–3 p.m.

Location: Gary Church, we will travel to work sites

For grades 9–12

Cost: \$40 (Scholarships available)

### **Schaumburg Boomers Baseball**

Friday, July 23, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Wintrust Field

Open to the entire Gary Church family

Cost: \$9 (Scholarships available)

Note: You are responsible for your own transportation.



## Summer Kick-off Party

We want to kick-off our summer right with a bonfire, hot drink and reflecting on the past year. We will quickly walk together to get a drink at a local coffee shop and sit in the Gary Church Courtyard. We will reflect on our past school year together. We also want to pray for those who are transitioning into Gary Youth, between middle school to high school, and out of Gary Youth. Please bring a lawn chair and meet us in the courtyard. Also, **note that we are extending our meeting time to the full 90 minutes. Youth are welcome to bring any homework you would like to throw in the fire.**



### Gary Youth Stay Camp 2021 (Grades 6–12)

Tuesday, June 15–Thursday, June 17, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Cost: \$70

### Let's go to camp!

Well, kind of. We are still unable to go somewhere overnight, but that doesn't have to stop us from getting to know one another through some fun in the sun. So, we are having a stay camp. Each day, we will meet at Gary Church and ride our bicycles to a place in our local area to spend the day together.

The high schoolers are hosting our middle school youth around town. We have planned everything from mini golf, to archery, to extreme water kickball and so much more. Masks will be required. The cost will be \$70 per person, which will cover lunch, snacks, cost of activities and a t-shirt. We have scholarships available. Register at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org). Please contact **Pastor Dan** with questions at 847-208-8884 or [dlee@garychurch.org](mailto:dlee@garychurch.org).

### Items needed for camp:

- Bicycle with a helmet and lock (If you do not have one, please ask.)
- Swimsuit for Thursday (We will be playing kickball and sliding. Make sure you can be active in your swimsuits.)

## Summer Bible Study

### Middle School

Tuesdays, 10–11:30 a.m., at Gary Church

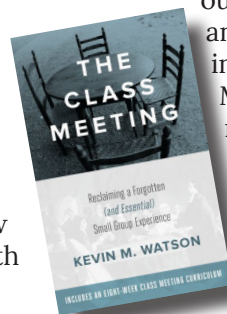
### High School

Sundays, 8:30–10 p.m., at Gary Church



### Small group ministry invitation

You are invited to a “Gathering for Class Meeting” on Sunday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Gary Church Courtyard. Class Meeting is a small group that laughs, prays and encourages each other in Christ. We began our first Class Meeting the year before the pandemic. It was a resounding success, helping people grow in faith and develop deep friendships with others.



It is an especially timely ministry as we come out of the pandemic in that it is nimble and made for small groups where we meet in people's homes or other spaces. Class Meeting has made a profound impact on my life as a Christian and helped me navigate this last year and a half. If you miss the June 6 date, no problem. Contact [bjones@garychurch.org](mailto:bjones@garychurch.org).

**Rev. Brian Felker Jones**

## Men's Chorus welcomes new director, Philip Roberts

After enduring a year of hiatus as well as bidding farewell to retiring director **Mike Krueger**, the Men's Chorus is ready for some good news. We are delighted to announce that **Philip Roberts** will assume directorship of this vibrant group in the fall.

Phil's love for singing traces back to high school, performing with the Alabama All State Choir. He went on to study at Elmhurst College where he majored in voice and minored in theology, an ideal combination for one preparing for music ministry.

He says, "Music soothes, heals, inspires, and uplifts. It is a gift from God. We are to share that gift with others adding our own talent and feeling and expression. We minister to each other while we also give back to God."

Phil served in churches for 35 years, directing children's and youth choirs, adult choirs and handbell ensembles. He says, "Music affects everyone differently, yet I feel it has the ability to speak to everyone's souls like nothing else can."

In a 27-year career with GIA Publications, he served as music editor and later as editorial production manager, publishing hymns, music resource material, and editions for choirs, handbells and instruments. He also led choral reading sessions and clinics for GIA nationwide. A prolific composer himself, Phil has over 80 published handbell titles to his credit.

A few years ago, he retired from GIA and from his position as Director of Choirs at Community Presbyterian Church in Lombard. He and his wife **Terri Johnson** moved to Warrenville, and they began attending Gary Church. Terri joined the choir, and Phil was "impressed with Gary's dynamic music ministry." He decided to sing with the Festival Choir in 2019. (Phil and Mike were a powerhouse in the tenor section!)

Making the most of his retirement, Phil enjoys playing with their grandchildren, building 1/72 scale military models, and writing a historical novel about a young Polish man's brave journey through WWII and into manhood. Phil's love of history extends to his job at Cantigny where he guides visitors through the First Division Museum.

Phil anticipates good music and fellowship with his singers. He says, "Gary Church is blessed with many excellent musicians and an array of talented ensembles. It's an honor and a privilege to follow the splendid leadership of Mike Krueger. I eagerly look forward to working with the Men's Chorus and joining the fine music staff at Gary Church."



### Calling all musicians

Do you play a mean hurdy-gurdy? Can you play a hymn on the banjo? How about a praise song on the cymbals? OK, that might not work. But we invite you to share your musical talents during our summer services.

We need strings, percussion, keyboards and your unique gifts to help lead us in worship. All ages are welcome to "play skillfully with loud shouts" (Psalm 33).

At the time of this publication, we do not yet know if singing and wind instruments will be allowed indoors, which might rule out that didgeridoo solo. Please check the weekly e-news or reach out to **Jennifer Whiting** for updates on music guidelines at Gary Church.

We have dates open for musicians in June, July and August. Email or call the Church Office or Jennifer today to sign up and make a joyful noise.



## Pine Lake Camp, Westfield, WI

Growing closer to God and each other  
through nature, worship and play

### Itinerary

#### Friday

Check-In, Potluck @ Pine Lake & Campfire Songs & S'mores

#### Saturday

Active Devotion, Free PLAY, Campy Camp Games, Flashlight Hike

#### Sunday

Worship @ Pine Lake, Check-Out

### Activities

Swimming, canoeing, hiking archery, volleyball, basketball, fishing & more!

### Accommodations

#### Retreat Center Room

Hotel style room with private bath including 1 queen bed and 1 twin bed with twin trundle

\$160 per room plus \$30 per person after 2 (Family of 3...\$190, Family of 4...\$220, etc.)

#### Rustic Cabin

Cabins can be shared by more than one family.

\$40 per person

Includes electricity, table and chairs, cold running water and toilet, twin beds, bunk beds, with a shared bath house

### Meals

**Friday** Potluck @ Pine Lake

**Saturday** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

**Sunday** Breakfast & Lunch

Youth and Adults (ages 13+) \$65 per person,

Children (3-12 years) \$40 per person

**Register online at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org)**

### Gary Preschool wrap up, registration, scholarships

Gary Preschool wrapped up their 2020-2021 school year on May 27, and what a year it has been. After the uncertainty and sudden closure in the spring of 2020, we weren't sure what this year would look like. We offered a combo 3s/4s class on Tuesday and Thursday and were joined by 15 joyous children. With an increased focus on sanitation, hand washing and masks, we had a healthy and happy year. While smaller than normal, the preschool burst each Tuesday and Thursday with laughter, smiles, discoveries, friendship and growth. It has been a different year and not without its challenges, but the children have made it all worth it.

Registration to Gary Preschool and Parents' Morning Out continues throughout the summer. Some of our classes are already full. Our Tuesday/Thursday PMO, Tuesday/Thursday 3s preschool, and Monday/Wednesday/Friday PM Pre-K class still have openings. If you or someone you know is interested in preschool, please contact **Kirsten McCluskey** at [preschool@garychurch.org](mailto:preschool@garychurch.org).

Gary Preschool is collecting donations for our scholarship fund. We have been blessed by previous donations to be able to provide for several families during the past few school years and hope to be able to continue supporting the needs of community families. Every donation helps. Donations can be made through the Church Office.



# GARY CHURCH *makes a difference*

## Easter mission collection success

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for our successful Easter collection of food and supplies for Midwest Shelter for



Homeless Veterans, DuPage PADS and People's Resource Center. The hands and feet instrumental to our effort were **Donna and Mike Capra, Joe Davisson, Deb Evans, Fern and Bob Evelhoch, Barbara Holmes, Shelly and Don Kenyon, Mary Landreth, Janet Mathis, Allen Reed and Fred Wayland.** Our greatest gratitude, however, goes out to all of you who donated

your time and treasure to providing gifts for the needs of our neighbors.

~ **Joe Ruth**

Missions coordinator

## ESSE thanks donors and volunteers

ESSE (Ecumenical Support Services for the Elderly) is very grateful to everyone who contributed to the DuPage Giving Days during the April fundraiser. ESSE had many donors and received \$25,499.83. This is our main fundraiser for the year as the annual Pancake Breakfast is cancelled.

We are open and our participants are enjoying many activities, catered lunches and snacks. If you would like to help, they love visitors, pets, pictures, readers and helpers. Please contact either me through the Church Office or the Wheaton site directly for dates and any restrictions due to COVID-19.

~ **Debby Connor**

Gary Church ESSE representative

## You can still contribute to Prescription for Life

If you still have your Prescription for Life bottle with coins and/or checks, please return it to the Church Office. If you contributed already but still have your bottle, we would appreciate it if you would return the bottle. This saves Outreach from having to purchase more.

For all those who have already contributed, thank you so much. The Outreach Community Center has not been able to have some of their fundraising events, so these donations are even more important.

If you have any questions, please contact **Barbara Holmes** through the Church Office.

## NIJFON celebrates 10 years with a capital campaign

Northern Illinois Justice for Our Neighbors celebrates its 10th anniversary with the "More Justice and More Love" campaign. The first decade of NIJFON is full of stories of hope from clients, volunteers and staff who were the first to encounter NIJFON and have made it what it is today. NIJFON has now become the stories of justice and love as they seek a world where immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers are welcomed, supported and able to live without fear. If you would like to support the NIJFON "More Justice, More Love" campaign, you can donate through [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).



## June Missions Focus

June will find Missions encouraging your support of both Justice for Our Neighbors and the Chris Hays Mission. It seems like only yesterday that we blessed the Hays family as they set off to their mission in Columbia, but it has been seven eventful and successful years for Chris and Michelle, as well as their children Judah, Asher and Zoe.

Chris is held in high esteem by members of his organization (United World Mission and the Theological Education Initiative). His immediate colleagues describe him as “disciplined, productive, energetic, reliable, provocative, loyal, steadfast, brilliant and life-giving.” In addition to his teaching duties of seven years, including the difficulties of teaching during Columbia’s continuing pandemic, he has been important in curricular development. He worked on securing the continued academic accreditation of the undergraduate seminary program and accreditation of a developing master’s degree in biblical interpretation. Further, he has joined in the thesis supervision of doctoral students. He is also integral in advancing a Faith and Displacement program to foster the mission within the Columbian Church for victims of violent conflict in northeastern South America.

As if Chris has not been busy enough, he continues with academic research, publishing numerous articles and book chapters in biblical interpretation, theology and church and society. His writing and appearances at conferences have helped create international recognition for his work. He has also built valuable relationships with Islamic theologians.

All in all, we should be proud and happy to have been offering continued support to the Hays family work in a difficult part of the world. Let’s continue to provide support for Chris’ work and family. If you would like to contribute to this mission, go to [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org) or contact the Church Office.





## Celebrating YOU: Gary Church educates nine girls

Educate a Girl/Change the World

Through the generosity of more than 100 Gary Church members who shared their time, talents and treasures, the “Educate a Girl” campaign far exceeded its original goal of supporting six education scholarships for girls across the world. Together, you raised \$10,581, more than twice our campaign goal.

Our “Educate a Girl” team is using the funds to support scholarships for these girls and women:

- Two young Kenyan students attending primary school (see “Meet Angel & Gloria!” article for details)
- Six Cambodian teenagers in middle school and secondary school
- One college student at Africa University (one full-year scholarship plus part of the next year)
- The remaining \$1,469 of campaign funds will be held in reserve for future scholarship opportunities for girls.

Thank you, Gary Church, for making a difference!

~ **Cathy Mousseau**  
Co-Chair of Educate a Girl



**You have become part of a needy child's world. You have opened the door to opportunity. You have also become a friend to the child's family, a valued helper to their community, and our partner in this wonderful ministry called sponsorship.**

**– Ginger Palm,  
President and CEO of Kenya Children's Fund**

## Meet Angel & Gloria

Educate a Girl/Change the World

Angel and Gloria are primary school students at the Kinyago-Dandora School (KDS), located in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya. The school is supported by the Kenya Children's Fund, based in Minnesota. Gary Church is sponsoring full-year scholarships for the two girls covering the 2021-2022 academic year.



**Gloria turns 6 years old on June 26 and will begin kindergarten at KDS beginning in late July.** She is an only child who lives with her grandmother, in a three-room concrete house. Gloria's grandmother sells vegetables for a living.

**Angel will begin third grade this summer and will turn 9 years old on Sept. 3.** She lives with her parents and three siblings in a two-room, rented home. Her mother and father are casual laborers.



Angel and Gloria are just two of the 592 students enrolled in primary classes (pre-school through grade 8) at KDS. Academically, KDS is one of the top schools in the district with a pass rate of 85% and students who often win local music and sports competitions. Angel, Gloria and their classmates have the opportunity to matriculate to the Kinyago-Dandora Secondary School. A scholarship fund

supports the many Kingayo-Dandora graduates who continue their studies at universities across Kenya.

During the school year, Kenya Children's Fund will share news about our students' academic progress, and the children will also send us letters. We look forward to updating you on Gloria and Angel's progress through the *Chimes*.

Gary Church members also have a wonderful opportunity to correspond personally with the two girls. Ginger Palm, the President and CEO of Kenya Children's Fund, shares this:

"As you begin to learn more about your sponsored children, you will be blessed by this new friendship. What may seem like a simple relationship with a child is really the beginning of something much bigger. Sponsorship is more than sharing resources. It is about bringing hope to a child of God (and) her family, as well as their community."

**If you—or perhaps a Sunday School class or youth group—would like to send Angel or Gloria an email, birthday card, letter, or holiday card with encouraging words, please contact me.** Kenya Children's Fund asks that we only send items that fit into a flat, standard-sized envelope or card. Some ideas include stickers, bookmarks and photos—the children love to "see" their scholarship sponsors. Please note that it typically takes several weeks for the girls to receive our cards and letters. I can help direct you on how to send your correspondence.

We have directed a small amount of funds from our "Educate a Girl" campaign to provide birthday gifts (food, clothes and toys) and holiday gift and food baskets to the girls and their families. The food helps to meet the family's nutritional needs and can elevate their status in the community, as it allows them to share food with their neighbors.

**Gary friends, let us pray for Angel, Gloria and their families.** Please ask that they stay healthy and safe from violence, which occasionally erupts in their community. We can ask God to help the girls to grow up to become strong, self-sufficient and community-minded young women.

Stay tuned for our next "Educate a Girl" article in the *Chimes*, where **Judy Selby** will share about the UMCOR scholarships that the Gary congregation is also supporting in Cambodia and at Africa University.

**~ Cathy Mousseau**  
Co-Chair of Educate a Girl

# “Prayer is where the action is.”

–John Wesley

Sometimes the prayers are thankful and praising. Sometimes they ask for help. Maybe if the words don't come, one finds comfort in the Lord's Prayer. Some times the prayers are long. Sometimes they're very, very short. One thing they all have in common—the *pray-ers* we spoke with pray anytime, anywhere, and they say you can too.

We asked people from Gary Church's prayer chain—those who receive the prayer list every week and pray for people here and around the world—why they pray and how they pray.

## Podcast for praying

For more than a year now, the Pastor Brian Podcast has helped people connect with God through prayer. The Pastor Brian Podcast has had 197 guests take part in more than 214 episodes.

Find it on [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).

“I pray to stay in relationship with God and nurture my Christian faith. I use prayer to praise God and also present concerns for others and myself. During these trying times of a pandemic, expressing my sadness and fears gives me relief and hope.”

–Penny Gillen

“I pray because I can't not. I know that I can't go this way alone. It's a comfort and a privilege to be in contact with God. I do it imperfectly, but I do it. And I am sure that God understands.”

–Barbara Garlinger

“Sometimes prayer is simply hard work, and other times it seems to flow. I chalk this up to my own human condition, changing emotions and fluctuating faith. When I doubt the Lord, it is hard to pray. When I am experiencing love and light, prayers come more naturally.”

–Jennifer Whiting

“I think the value of prayer is the gentle nudge I may feel when I hold someone in my heart. Prayer motivates me to do what I can to help the individual or situation I am praying for. Write a letter, donate or just listen.”

–Karen Binkerd

“Prayer shows me that I'm not alone. I am part of something much larger. I am heard. I feel much calmer.”

–Heather Jewell

“I lost my husband to cancer many years ago and it was a very tough time for about three years. I discovered one night tossing and turning, that when I looked out the window, the streetlight down the block shone like a cross! It was such a comforting revelation; I would look toward it every night. I am a great believer in finding the small miracles that happen frequently in our day-to-day lives. To me they are living proof of being held in the palm of God's hand!”

–Mary Landreth







Penny Gillen often prays when she walks her dog, Michael.



Karen Binkerd writes many of her prayers in a notebook.



Heather Jewell says she can't glance at Gary Church without giving a word of thanks.

They all agree that prayer is a conversation, and **Heather Jewell** says to “be open to an answer, a hint, a guide.” **Barbara Garlinger** says her best prayers are the ones with no words. **Jennifer Whiting** observes the discipline of “listening prayer” when she seeks direction. **Karen Binkerd** says her constant prayer is, “Lord, I need you.”

If you have a prayer need or if you'd like to be part of the prayer chain and receive the prayer requests each week, please contact the Church Office.

If you know of someone who is living their faith in a wonderful way, please contact **Janet Mathis**, [jmathis@garychurch.org](mailto:jmathis@garychurch.org).

# Lights, Cameras, Action!

Sunday mornings during COVID-19 have found many of us sitting on our couches, comfy in our pjs, coffee in hand while attending church online. Have you ever wondered what it takes to stream Gary's Sunday church services to your home? I'm sure you won't be surprised to hear that it takes a lot of people, each doing their specific part, to make it happen. Here's a summary of what is involved each week.

**AV Team  
volunteers wanted**  
If you would be interested  
in joining the AV team,  
please contact the Church  
Office.

An **Order of Service** document is created each week by **Deb Hafner** that somewhat resembles the Sunday bulletin we each received when attending church in-person. Each part of the service is listed along with who is the participant; where in the Chancel they will be located or if it is a video; and if it is a musical performance, the name of the piece and author, along with the length of the song, and if any special equipment might be needed like extra microphones. This document is reviewed by **Jennifer Whiting** and **Janet Mathis**, and when everything is verified and correct, it is published on Box, our online document storage site.

Next comes **Type Setting** by **Tony Venezia** using Adobe software. Every week Tony creates a PowerPoint file that includes all the slides and videos displayed in between sections of the service. He collates information from the Order of Service; art work from **Becky Lemna** (seasonal slide backgrounds) and **Pam Keller** (announcements); and videos of Scripture Reading or Children's Time. When a new liturgical season begins, Tony animates Becky's artwork, and that is used at the beginning and ending of each service. Any of the wonderful photo montages you've seen is also Tony's handiwork. The PowerPoint file is also reviewed by Jennifer and Janet, and when correct, it is placed on Box.

A **Production Rundown** is the next document created, and this is my part in the process. Using the Order of Service and the PowerPoint file, I list what microphones, camera and camera shot, and what slides are used for each part of the service. Then instructions are provided for the AV team as to when microphones are turned on and off, when camera shots and slides are changed, and when to show a camera shot or PowerPoint slide/video to you on the video stream. I also modify the PowerPoint file to add automatic advances of slides to make it easier for the AV Team. For example, all the opening announcements, opening animation and prelude slides advance by themselves after being viewed on the stream for 15 seconds. The Production Rundown and revised PowerPoint file are loaded to Box, and the process continues.

**AV Teams**, made up of two members of a family so they can safely work less than six feet apart, can begin their work now. They will print and review the Production Rundown, making any creative changes they'd like as far as camera shots go. The PowerPoint file is downloaded from Box to a thumb drive and then loaded to the laptop on the AV desk located in the balcony of the Sanctuary. Most teams do this on Saturday so they can run through the service and practice on the equipment, which provides a good understanding of the flow of the service. One team member runs the sound board, turning on and off microphones and adjusting volume levels; and the camera controller, changing what shot the cameras show. The other team member runs the video switcher which directs camera one, camera two or the laptop to the stream, and advances the PowerPoint slides/videos on the laptop.



Finally, it's **Sunday morning** and at 8 a.m., all church service participants meet in the Sanctuary for a final run-through of the service. Transitions from one part of the service to the next and final camera shots are refined. At 8:50, the live stream begins and the service commences. The AV team also records the service using two different devices onto a thumb drive and a SD card, which Tony comes to collect after the service. At home he does his editing magic by reducing pauses, zooming in on shots, fixing any AV mistakes and prettying up the service in general. When he's done, the service is loaded to Vimeo and accessible to the congregation. In order for the service to stream live, **Mark Binkerd** schedules the broadcast and sends a code to **Becky Lemna** who posts it on the church website, so you can view it. On Monday, the whole process will begin again!

We are so blessed to have three technical professionals in our congregation that have made this whole process possible. **Mark Binkerd** and **Dave Mann** have spent untold hours helping to set up and test all the electronics necessary for this streaming process. Dave designed the production rundown spreadsheet, set up the standards for the camera shots and held many training sessions to get the novice AV Teams comfortable with running all the equipment. And **Tony Venezia** created the whole service himself when COVID originally shut down all church functions and participants sent him videos of their portion, and later he produced amazing Christmas Eve and Holy Week services. Anytime there is a problem, these guys drop everything and run to the church to assist.

So, you see, it takes a dedicated team of AV volunteers, church staff and participating congregants to bring a church service to you on your couch every Sunday morning. I'm thankful to all the amazing folks at Gary Church that make our online worship services possible!

~ Nancy Brunner



**Gary AV Team Members:** Tony Venezia, Mark Binkerd, Dave Mann, Alyn Mann, Chase Mann, John Brunner, Nancy Brunner, Paul Calderwood, Sam Calderwood, Marty Keske and Melinda Keske.

# CROP Walk 2021 exceeds goal

The 2021 CROP Walk was a resounding success thanks to the many donations and walkers who participated this year. Over 60 people walked to raise awareness of the continued need for food security in our own neighborhoods and around the world. Many of our walkers started at Gary; following a prayer by Pastor Dan, we embarked on a 2-mile trek around Wheaton. Our Gary spirit showed in our numbers, our T-shirts and our End Hunger signs.



We also exceeded our financial goal by raising more than \$5,600, which will be distributed to food supply organizations in Wheaton, Glen Ellyn and around the world. We were very blessed by excellent weather but even more blessed to be with our Gary friends as we took action to help our neighbors.

Thank you to all who walked together, who walked separately and who walked with us in spirit.

~Judy Selby  
Gary Church's CROP Walk Organizer





## Thank You

### Gary's Easter collection makes a difference

Hello and thank you all so much for the wonderful donation your congregation made. The items have already made an impact to our veteran community, and we wanted to share their appreciation as well. We are honored and humbled by your generosity and are very blessed to have you in our community.

*Many blessings,*

**Josh Taylor**

Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets

### Dear Rev. Dr. Pierson,

Your congregation's generosity means even more to us during these unprecedented times. Many of our clients have lost their jobs or have had work hours cut back during the economic turmoil. You are helping Bridge families achieve their goals and get on a path to self-sufficiency.

*With appreciation,*

**Karen S. Wells**

CEO, Bridge Communities, Inc.

### Dear Gary United Methodist Church,

You are such a blessing. Your gift to Feed My Starving Children is providing 6,604 meals to those around the world who need it most. Every gift matters to a hungry child. You're saving lives. You're providing hope. Thank you.

*May God bless you,*

**Mark Crea**

Executive Director/CEO, Feed My Starving Children

### Thank You Gary Church Medical Equipment Closet

I was able to borrow a walker from your closet a few months ago. It was wonderful not to have to buy one. Thanks for the many ways you support the community.

**Margaret K.**

At Gary Church, we do have a limited supply of medical equipment for loan. If you are in need of an item, please contact the Church Office to ask about availability.

## Congratulations

Mary Landreth on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Joanna Elaine Maher, on April 26.

Mike and Donna Capra on the birth of their grandson, Julian Luca Powles, on April 27.

Bettye Montgomery on the birth of her great-grandson, William Michael Montgomery, on May 10.

## June birthdays\*

Happy (90+) birthday to:

*June birthdays*

John Wesley, founder of Methodism  
June 28, 1703–March 2, 1791

## June anniversaries\*

Happy (50+) anniversary to:

George & Linda Masek  
Gary & Jeanene Fowler

## Our sympathy

Kathy Hughes on the death of her husband, Tom Hughes, on April 5.

The family of Rev. Thomas Walker, former Gary pastor from 1970–1976. Rev. Walker passed away on April 9.

The family of Pat Kuiper, former Gary member. Pat passed away on May 4.

Carey Williams Bebar, Maggie Bebar and Ben Bebar on the death of Carey's brother, Nathan Williams, on May 16. Also, our sympathy to Carey's parents, Rev. Steve Williams and Rev. Jamie Hanna Williams.

## Happy 75th anniversary to Jim and Geri Smith

Their advice for a long marriage? "It is important to work out your disagreements." And, "Be sure to hold hands."



\*If we've missed your special day, please contact the Church Office. We'd love to include the date in our records.

# Getting together (in person!)

## Gary Church visits BridgeBuilders

On Saturday, May 1, nine Anti-Racist Book Club members traveled to Woodlawn for a day of experiential learning with Sunshine Gospel Ministries BridgeBuilders program. BridgeBuilders helps to connect people from different backgrounds to promote a shared understanding of the challenges facing inner-city communities. This special day trip featured a tour of Woodlawn and examined the relationships between systemic racism and poverty through a Christian lens. Participants also enjoyed a delicious dinner from a local chef whose personal story inspired hearts and minds.

Thank you to all who were able to attend.



## Gardening help and donations appreciated

We hope that you have enjoyed our spring gardens and planters. Would you be able to join our Gary gardener team and help keep our church garden beautiful? Contact the Church Office to join our team. Your financial donations would be appreciated as well. Donations can be made through [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org) or by mailing a check to the church.

We will have a workday in June. Check the e-news and Facebook for details.

Thank you,

**The Gary Gardener Team**



Bob and Virginia Isgren work in Gary's gardens

## Practicing biblical hospitality

I want to extend many thanks to all the Gary folks serving on our Welcome Team following our return to in-person worship. Thank you for sharing God's love with our members and visitors through your generous hospitality. Last month I attended a virtual conference, "The Art of Hospitality," to learn more about how we can continue to create a warm and welcoming environment here at Gary as we move into a "new normal" following this past year. We are called to practice biblical hospitality as an outgrowth of the love of Christ. I look forward to sharing more with you in the coming months. If you are interested in sharing God's radical, life-transforming welcome with others, please prayerfully consider joining the Welcome Team. Thank you for making Gary Church a place where all can grow, serve and belong.

To join the welcome team or learn more, please contact the Church Office.

~ **Jennifer Castino**  
Welcome Ministries



The Finance Committee would like to thank you for your continued generosity and support during these unusual times. We would like to provide you with an update on our current financial position. Our giving through April 2021 is down about 14%, from both our 2021 budget and from giving through April 2020. Our expenses are also down from our budget, but only by about 6%. While we did start the year with some surplus, given the PPP loan we received a year ago, we still want to make sure we are able to continue to fund all of the wonderful programs and worship opportunities at Gary. Please continue to support our church as you are able this year.

We remind you of the opportunity to make your contributions through electronic giving at [garychurch.org/give](http://garychurch.org/give). If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office.

~Suzanne Marra  
Finance Committee

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## Gary Church follows Safe Sanctuary policies

The congregation of Gary United Methodist Church is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all who participate in the ministries and activities sponsored by the church. It is part of our baptismal covenant to those who have been commended to our care.

The following policy statements reflect our congregation's commitment to preserving Gary Church as a holy place of safety and protection for all who would enter and as a place in which all people can experience the love of God through relationships with others.

- No adult who has been convicted of child neglect or abuse of any kind should volunteer or be hired to work with children or youth in any church-sponsored activity.
- All adult volunteers with children or youth of our church must have been involved in the congregation for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment.
- Adult volunteers and ministry staff for children should observe the "Two Adult Rule" at all times so that no adult is left alone with children or youth on a routine basis.
- Adult volunteers for children shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding child abuse.
- Adult volunteers and ministry staff shall immediately report to their supervisor any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

On a regular basis, we ask those within our congregation who interact with our children, youth and vulnerable adults to complete a form agreeing to abide by these statements. Being the inter-generational congregation that Gary Church is, nearly everyone falls into this category. If you need to update your form, or need to complete a form for the first time, please visit [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org) or contact **Deb Evans** through the Church Office.



Reducing the Risk of Abuse in the Church for Children and Youth



# Improvements around Gary Church

Thank you to **Mike Capra** for painting Gamon Hall. Workers have refinished the doors to the Courtyard. Roofers did some detective work to find where leaks were coming in. And workers patched spots in the parking lot. If you would like to help the Trustees manage upcoming projects, please contact the Church Office.



## Save the dates

Golf outing to benefit Gary Youth, *Sunday, August 15*  
Worship in the Park, *Sunday, August 22, 9 a.m., Memorial Park*

### Super friends wanted

Gary Church is looking to find “Gary Facebook Super Friends.” These are people who do more than look at and like posts, they share and comment on them. They also send us ideas for posts they’d like to see. If you would like to be part of this fun group, either simply make yourself known on Gary’s Facebook page, or please contact **Janet Mathis**, [jmathis@garychurch.org](mailto:jmathis@garychurch.org).



### Need steps? Need sunshine? Want to help?



Winfield Church needs volunteers to help with the mowing of the church lawn. Please contact the Winfield Church office or **John Taylor** to lend a hand.

## Enjoy an old-fashioned hymn sing

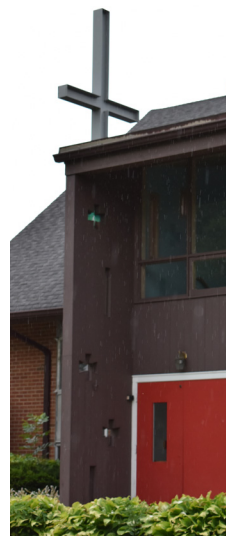
by **John Taylor**

All members and friends of Gary Church and Winfield Church are invited to an old-fashioned hymn sing on *Thursday, July 8, starting at 7 p.m.* The Village of Winfield is celebrating its Centennial Year in 2021, and Winfield Community United Methodist Church is sponsoring the Centennial Hymn Sing on their grounds. Winfield Church is located at 0S347 Jefferson (corner of Jefferson and Sunnyside) in Winfield.



The hymn sing will be outdoors at the church’s new gazebo, so please bring a lawn chair. We will be socially-distanced for this one-hour hymn sing extravaganza. The hymn sing will be led by

**Melinda and Marty Keske** and accompanied by **Olive Aliga** on the keyboard with the hymns selected by those in attendance, so join the fun and help select and sing your favorite hymn. Light refreshments will be served and everyone is invited.



# WinChimes

Winfield Community United Methodist Church  
An Affiliate of Gary United Methodist Church



## Faith or Fear?

By Rev. Bruce Anderson

*For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline*  
2 Timothy 1:7, NIV

We are finally starting to come out of a year that has caused much fear and timidity for many reasons. The first, and most obvious, is the COVID-19 pandemic. There was fear of sickness, death, isolation and the unknown, and there was good reason to be fearful with about 580,000 deaths from COVID-19 in the U.S. alone. Then there was the isolation caused by the pandemic which further increased our fear and frustration due to the number of everyday activities that we were not able to take part in, such as eating out, visiting friends and attending church in person. Then there was the economic fall-out as jobs were lost or incomes were reduced.



Along with our fear of COVID-19, we also saw an increasing fear of immigrants, the fear of refugees and the fear of people of color; a fear that comes from those we perceive as different because we don't really know them. Let's face it, most of our families came to this country from elsewhere. Only the Native Americans are original to this country. (My family is from Western Europe.) All the people who have come, and are coming, to these shores are looking for the same things my family did—freedom and a better way of life.

Diversity of race, ethnicity and culture strengthens the U.S., not weakens it. We are all the same in God's sight—errant children in need of grace and love. All of us Gentiles (non-Jews) are incorporated into the body of Christ by faith as the culmination of God's covenant with Abraham and his descendants through the Messiah, not by skin color or works. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ who are called to live into the spirit of love, power and self-discipline.

**We are all brothers and sisters in Christ who are called to live into the spirit of love, power and self-discipline.**

As we are more and more free to resume getting out and about, let us reach out and embrace all of our brothers and sisters in God, and work for the good of all as we seek to return to something like normal. Let us not conform to the fearful spirits of this world but “be transformed by the renewing of our minds, so that we may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2). Let us live into the possibilities that this reboot of our lives brings to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly as the people of God, while cutting each other some slack as we continue navigating these uncharted waters.



**Winfield Community United Methodist Church**  
OS 347 Jefferson St. Winfield, IL 60190 • 847-815-3846

**Rev. Bruce Anderson**, Pastor  
**John Wiggins**, Church Administrator  
**Olive Aliga**, Music Director



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A photograph of a large, light-colored stone church building with a prominent steeple and a cross on top, set against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The image is slightly faded to serve as a background for the text.

# *Welcome to Sunday worship*

- Increased in-person capacity at 9 a.m.
- Pre-registration on [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org) preferred, but walk-ins welcome
- Livestreamed and recorded on [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org)

*Look inside for more in-person opportunities*