

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

Just the good stuff... So let me tell you some good news, a bit of this and that, things that have me smiling.

Did you know that **Lutheran World Relief and Starbucks** are teaming up? The Starbucks Foundation is giving money to LWR for their work with coffee farmers in Colombia. As a coffee lover, that makes me smile.

Did you know our next **Gen2Gen** verse for 2019 is Psalm 71:18? *"Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come."* Can you relate to the gray stuff? I certainly can!

And did you know, our Gen2Gen Party will be called: **"Cinco de Mágico"**? Mark your calendars now - Sunday, May 5, 5pm. Yes, there will be a magician, games for kids, maybe a cerveza for adults, taco carts, and we will report on what's been accomplished with Gen2Gen and some new programs.

Did you hear about **Lenten Hymn Madness**? Have you nominated a hymn? There will be brackets (ala March Madness basketball). During Lent, we'll focus on the scripture of the hymn. Fill out a bracket! There's a prize for the winner. Seriously, this will be a great 40 day preparation for Easter.

Did you hear the good news that we provided funding to sponsor a new girl at Los Angelitos? Her name is Abigail and she is 16 years old. We will learn more about her soon.

Just the good stuff... Let's celebrate that the Christian faith is about **joy**, love, and hope in Jesus. There are plenty of reasons to mourn, be sad, or even angry, but at the bottom of it all, there's a love that's eternal.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Mattson".

Pastor David R. Mattson



Pastor Sabrina's Dei Light Spiritual Winter

Many people say that we in Southern California don't experience "real" winter. Coming from the East Coast, I have tended to agree. But there are definitely seasons in the OC, just as there are seasons in every other part of the country. For instance, wintertime is darker and often wetter. I am an early riser. By the time my kids wake up, I have been up for hours, working out, walking the dog, making lunches, or whatever else needs to be done. That being said, I usually go to bed right after the kids do because I am not a late night person! Walking the dog in the morning while it is still dark is one of my *least* favorite things to do in the winter.

Add in the rain, and I start to wonder if summer will ever come...

Our faith life also has seasons. Sometimes we go through a spiritual winter when we lose hope or feel farther from God. It can be difficult to continue to worship and affirm our faith and remain positive when we are surrounded by grief, by illness, by loss, or when we feel like our dreams are not coming true and may not even be possible. Yet, God routinely works through the impossible. And God has a much broader view of our lives and of the world than we can ever achieve. It is through this knowledge and truth that we get through those spiritual winters.

Habakkuk 3:17-19 reminds us:

Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, and makes me tread upon the heights.

Sometimes there is a lot of barrenness in the winter. But winter is also a time to plant roots and to have long conversations over warm drinks. In other words, we can always take our concerns, our worries, and our dreams, even those we feel are impossible, to God in prayer and in conversation. We might be surprised what God has in store for us when we are honest with Him and we take the time to listen.

THE BIG HAPPENING...

(The big happening - you don't want to miss out!)

WINTER CARNIVAL OUTREACH (Preschool - 5th grade): Games, snow, refreshments, and all things cold weather will take place in Bankson Hall, Friday, February 22, 5pm - 7pm. Blow-up slide, winter games, snowball fights, and photo ops! Help of all kinds will be needed. Watch for sign-up.

LENTEN HYMN MADNESS - Vote for your favorite song at Welcome Table. We will collect votes and then create a "bracket" (like March Madness basketball). During Lent, the messages on Wednesdays and Sundays will be based on scripture of hymns. Each week certain hymns will "advance." The person who fills out the winning bracket gets a prize. Lent, the 40 day preparation for Easter begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019.

UPCOMING DATES: Vacation Bible School (July 1-5); Jr./ Sr. High Youth Summer Trip to Mammoth (Aug. 3-6).





DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

(Fellowship, Community, Get-Togethers, Support, etc.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL (preschool-5th) - Offered Sunday at 8:30am and 10am. Children are invited to leave with the Sunday School leader after the Children's Message to their classroom and will return for Communion.

WOMEN'S CHOCOLATE AND CHAMPAGNE SOIREE- Just in time for Valentine's Day, join us for a chocolate and champagne tasting event on Friday, February 8 at 6:30pm in Bankson Hall. Bring something chocolate to share. Champagne, non-alcoholic drinks and tea will be provided.

AMAZING GRACE THROUGH ART CO-OP - Typically meets on the 3rd Saturday each month at 10am in Bankson Hall. *However, their next meeting will be February 2, in lieu of their typical meeting.* Presentation of **Fiber Art collection** by Julie Vlahos! Mimosas will be served, and home baked cake! All are welcome. If you have supplies, please bring them. Explore your creativity and meet new friends! Details: Jane Zeiger 949-235-4359.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday each month at 3pm* and they'll be meeting next on February 18. They will be reading *Love and Ruin* by Paula McLean. If you are interested in joining the book club, please contact: Diane Kelly (949-493-9632).

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm* at different host's homes. For more information go to the website: Gloriabc.com or contact Bob Gillespie at gillespierm@gmail.com.



YOUTH NEWS JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

CONFIRMATION - Confirmation class will take place on Sunday, February 3 from 11:00am-1:00pm in Knudson Hall. Lunch provided.

SR.HIGH YOUTH - Friday, February 22, 5pm. Our senior high youth will be helping at the Winter Carnival. Please come enjoy the "cool" evening of winter fun & festivities! RSVP to Paige @ youth@mygloriadei.org or (949) 449-7143.

UPCOMING - August 3 - 6: Jr. & Sr. high retreat to Mammoth.



DEI-LY WORSHIP

(All things related to worship, music, altar guild, choirs, singing, praise, etc.)

Sanctuary Choir returned to Thursday 7:30pm rehearsals. Get ready for new songs, some new faces in the choir, and beautiful accompaniment by Fred and special guest instrumentalists.

Handbell Choir is back at work on a great hymn from South Africa called "Sanna, Sannanina" or "Lord, Most Holy." In this arrangement there is a long section of suspended bells-- a really cool effect that is both fun and challenging to learn.

New Music Group - Gloria Dei Recorder Ensemble

After a short break recorders resumed with a new batch of music to learn together. We continue to play favorite hymns but we also are learning some renaissance style songs and some music arranged especially for recorder ensembles. Dilly, dilly!

Upcoming special musical events at Gloria Dei:

- The Wartburg College Choir will be in Concert at Gloria Dei on Saturday, April 20, 2019 and then they will sing for Easter Services. This is one of the premier college choral groups in the world. To hear them, visit: www.wartburg.edu/choir-in-germany



PRESCHOOL

(All things related to the Gloria Dei Lutheran Preschool)

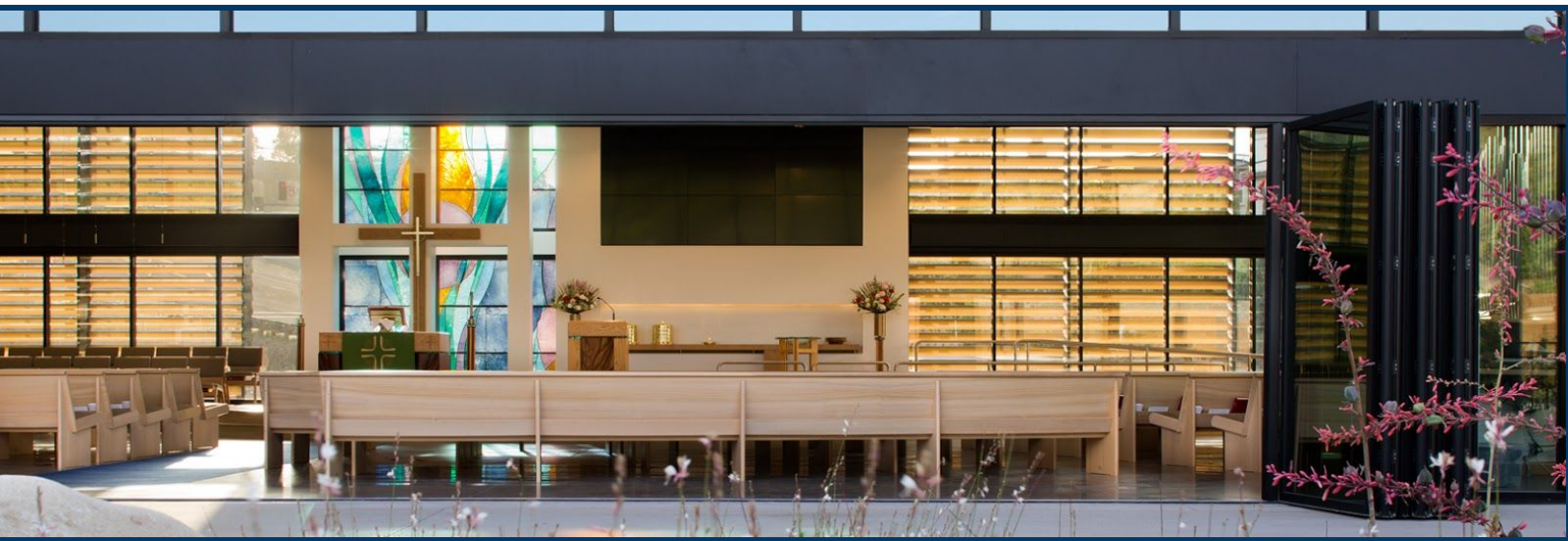
Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

It's February, a month when Valentine's Day seems to be the focus. We like to show our "love" for our hometown heroes by thanking those who serve in our community. Those who are in service jobs like the postman, doctor, nurse, dentist, fire, and police. We expect several of these folks to visit the preschool throughout the month to show our students what they do. It's a fun time for the

children to see their uniforms, tools, etc.

We are also looking forward to the "Winter Carnival" on February 22nd. We will have a "cool" night playing games, drinking hot chocolate, and just having some family fun.

"At the end of our life, we will not be judged by how many diplomas we received, by how much money we made, or how many great things we did. We will be judged by 'I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in'". Mother Teresa



GROWING TOGETHER!

(All things related to learning, Bible study, small groups, G.I.F.T. groups, education, Table Talk, etc.)

L&L (LUNCH & LEARN) meets Sunday, February 3, 2019 at 11am. Dr. Frank Rogers of Claremont Theological Seminary presents *"How We Can Love People Even When We Don't Like Them"*, the connections between spirituality and compassion. L & L will be held in Bankson Hall.

UPCOMING L&L OPPORTUNITIES IN 2019 - March 3 - Dr. Craig J. Sloan from the Bonhoeffer Foundation. April 3 - David Warneke will lead a Bible study on the Babylonian Captivity. May 5 - Cinco de Magico (an intergenerational event!).

G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER) - David & Susan Warneke's home (25262 Barque Way, Dana Point, Phone: 203-952-5657) They will study Proverbs 30-31 on Monday, February 11 at 6:30pm.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY meets the *second Saturday of every month at 8:00am in Knudson Hall* with Pastor David leading the study. Their next meeting is February 9th.

HEART-LIFTERS WOMEN'S EVENING STUDY meets on the *2nd and 4th Tuesday each month*. Refreshments and social time: 6:30pm; Bible Study: 7pm - 8pm. The location alternates monthly between the homes of Donna Combe (45 Belleza, San Clemente; 949-369-5382) and Ann St. Martin (29845 Hiddenwood, Laguna Niguel; 949-933-3906). *On February 12th and 26th, they meet at Donna Combe's home*. All women are welcome to join.

TABLE TALK: Discussion/Chat around the table, the last Friday of the month. Next meeting on February 22 at noon, at the new Gloria Dei Conference Room. Soup/Coffee provided.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY meets in Knudson Hall, every Wednesday in February at 10am to continue the study on The Book of Revelation. This Bible study generally meets weekly September - May, and is led by a pastor.

THE BETHEL BIBLE SERIES - This in-depth, two year overview course on the Bible, led by Pastor David, meets on *Thursdays at 6:30pm*. The Bethel Group is in their second year and they are studying the New Testament. Bethel meets throughout the month of February.

DEI-LY SERVICE

(All things related to service, ministry, helping others, compassion, caring, loving, serving “the least of these”, etc.)

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - This ministry invites people of all ages to join their group. They meet the *first Saturday of the month at 9am in Knudson Hall*. Their next meeting is February 2. If you know of someone in need of a shawl or would like more information, call Peggy Johnson at 949-363-8714.

THE QUILTING GROUP meets the *4th Saturday each month at 9:30am, in Knudson Hall*. Their next quilting group meeting will occur February 23, 2019. Quilts are provided to our newly Baptized infants & children. If interested in helping, please call Donna Combe at 949-338-5327.

SERRA'S PANTRY - This local volunteer opportunity, in San Juan Capistrano, provides food to those in need. Interested Gloria Dei members serve at Serra's Pantry *every third Saturday of the month at 8:30am*. February 16th is the next volunteer opportunity. Contact Paul Dubow at 949-248-8865, if interested.

COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE - Gloria Dei has submitted an application to the City of Dana Point, requesting permission to install columbarium niches in the Outdoor Chapel and Contemplation Garden area. Members of the Columbarium Committee have met with City planning staff, and it is anticipated that the application will be scheduled for a public hearing later this year.

A growing number of local churches provide or plan to provide columbarium niches on their grounds. People increasingly choose a local columbarium because of a strong desire to be laid to rest on the grounds of the church they loved and served. Proximity makes it convenient for loved ones to visit and remain connected. The cost of columbarium interment is also considerably less than the cost of burial at a cemetery.

Please keep this effort in your prayers and look for another update soon!

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY - 2019 trips: February 23, May 25, August 24, and November 2
James 1:27 “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress...”

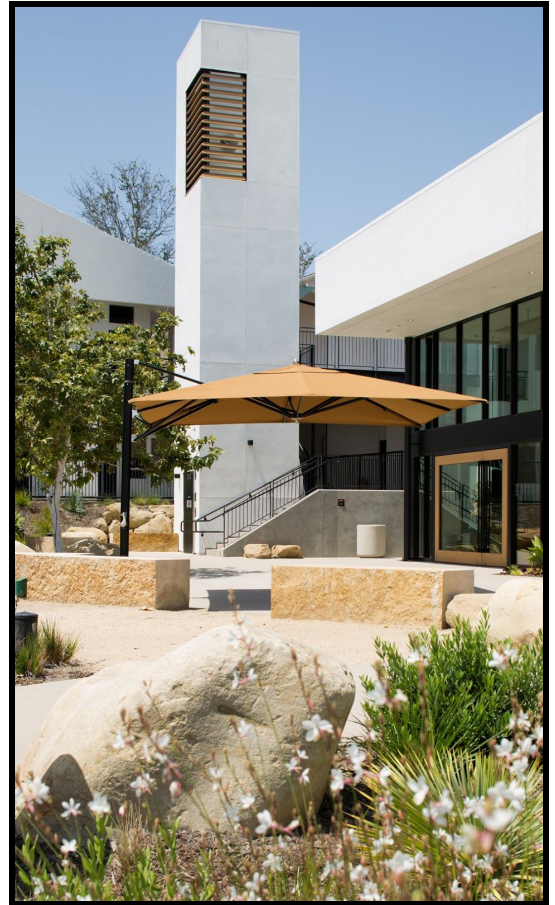


Julianna is 7 years old and lives at the Los Angelitos Orphanage with her two older siblings: Sheccyd, age 11 and Sachayan, age 9. They have been at Los Angelitos for more than 3-years and have no known parents or family.

Her favorite food is Mole (Mo-lay). Mole is a savory sauce that typically contains a mixture of chilies, nuts, seeds, and vegetables and sometimes includes unsweetened chocolate, tomatoes, and raisins. It is served over turkey, chicken, pork or beef.

Julianna is in 1st grade and Spanish is her favorite subject. She loves to draw and when she grows up she wants to be a doctor.

Julianna and her siblings are very grateful to Gloria Dei for its generosity and support.



If you can't attend a trip to Los Angelitos, but want to help, we have suggestions. Please contact David & Susan Warneke 203-952-5657 or 510-967-3211.

THANKS

(Weddings, memorials, outreach, education, community service, etc.)

To the many folks who helped make the Advent and Christmas seasons so special: Alzheimer service, sanctuary beautification, Sunday school & Preschool Christmas Plays, concerts & Advent readers.

Dear Pastor Mattson & Pastor Sabrina,

On behalf of the OC Alzheimer's Interfaith Outreach, the care facilities, their residents and caregivers, we extend our sincere appreciation to you for hosting the wonderful special service. The Christmas carols led by Matt Sears were so joyful and the little angels from the preschool were such a very special treat! We also thank Diane Kelly, the Women's Bible Study group and any other Gloria Dei members who prepared lunch, served and hosted this lovely service. We hope you had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

OC Alzheimer's Interfaith Outreach

Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

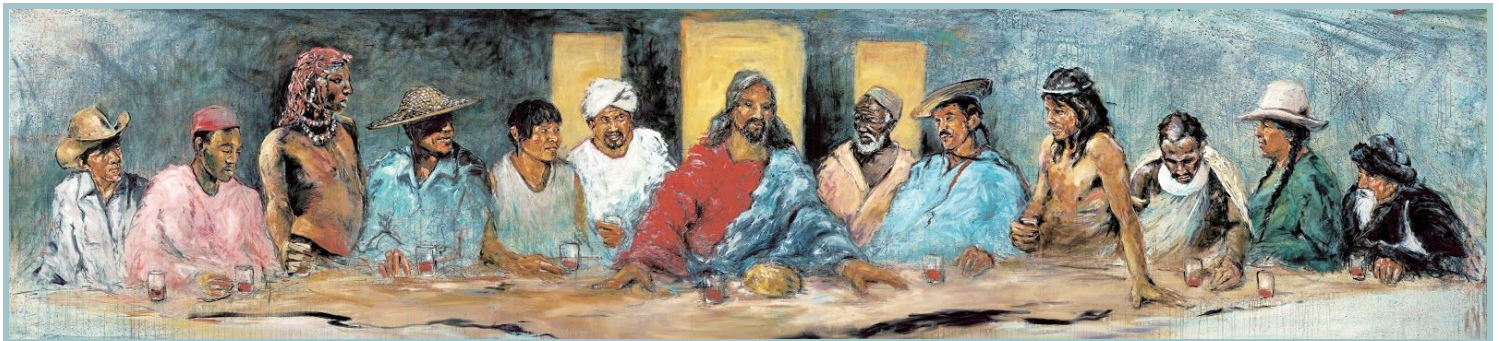
The one who receives should never forget the person who helped him. Many thanks for changing my life, for giving me a purpose and for showing me that family exists. Many blessings from the bottom of my heart.

We love you mucho,

The children and staff of Los Angelitos Orphanage

THE LAST SUPPER AND THE 12 TRIBES

The painting below, "The Last Supper and the 12 Tribes" by Hyatt Moore was recently purchased anonymously by members of the Gloria Dei. Our thanks to them for their generosity and making this amazing painting available to us all.



DEI-LY DUTIES



FEBRUARY 2019 VOLUNTEERS

ACOLYTE (month)
COMMUNION ASST
(month)

8:30am
L. Chernekoff

C. Backhus
S. Hall
P. Weiss
J. Adams
G. Enright

10:00am
D. Henry

L. Brodrick
B. Griffin
L. Schultz
F. Hettman
P. Kramer

USHER (month)

LECTORS

2/3
2/10
2/17
2/24

8:30am
D. Boyd
P. Weiss
T. Boyd
J. Doorn

10:00am
M. Atkinson
R. Bacon
R. Easton
B. Griffin

5:00pm

G. Boicey
J. Contestabile
B. Mesa

REFRESHMENTS

2/3
2/10
2/17
2/24

K. Desmond
D. Boyd
K. Dickinson
K. Martino

Gloria Dei
J. Hettman
J. & S. Grady
L. Flippin

ALTAR GUILD

B. Cummings
S. Miller
P. Weiss
L. Mers

WELCOME CENTER

2/3
2/10
2/17
2/24

C. Weinhardt
B & B Gillespie
K. Desmond
D. Kelly

M. Bacon
A & J St. Martin
G. Sherwood
V. Anderson

FOUNTAIN CARE

MARCH 2019 VOLUNTEERS

ACOLYTE (month)
COMMUNION ASST
(month)

8:30am
J. Chernekoff

H. Nurminen
G. Rightmire
K. Chernekoff
C. Backhus
C. Collins

10:00am
Beau Michalis

D. Combe
J. Combe
R. Grefsrud
L. Mers
S. Miller

USHER (month)

LECTORS

3/3
3/10
3/17
3/24
3/31

8:30am

G. LaBelle
K. Doorn
S. Guilliams
J. Hollowell
L. Fettis

10:00am

R. Higgins
S. Miller
J. Easton
A. Brodrick
L. Schuller

5:00pm

J. Moyer
B. Ramsey
C. Simpson
M. VanNess
G. Boicey

REFRESHMENTS

3/3
3/10
3/17
3/24
3/31

G. & D. Blanda
M. & V. Frost
J. Cox
D. & S. Caskey
B. & B. Gillespie

Gloria Dei
D. & J. Combe
D. & D. Pysz
V. Anderson
M. Atkinson

ALTAR GUILD

M. Delgado
K. Gray
M. Dubow
G. Rightmire
D. Pysz

WELCOME CENTER

3/3
3/10
3/17
3/24
3/31

J. Skraba
D. & T. Boyd
B. & B. Gillespie
S. Manville/G. Sels
G. Rightmire

D. Warneke
S. Behnke
C. Clisby
L. Schultz
P. Kramer

FOUNTAIN CARE



DEI-LY DETAILS

(Anything that has no other place, volunteer lists, prayer requests, special announcements, numbers, and figures, a veritable potluck of stuff, jokes...)

ATTENDANCE AND GEN2GEN OFFERING

1/6	324
1/13	301
1/20	312
1/27	358

2018 GEN2GEN GIVING: \$262,364.00

"SIMPLY GIVING" - Gloria Dei offers electronic giving, which allows you to make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. You can make "one time", special donations electronically as well. Choose to donate from your checking account or by using your credit card, so you can accrue miles, etc. Applications are available at the Welcome Table or church office.

TEXT YOUR OFFERING - It is simple and safe (through Vanco) - text \$ amount you want to give to 949-356-5326. You will receive instructions how to complete registration via a return text.

GLORIA DEI ENDOWMENT FUND - "What legacy will you leave?" Brochures are available at the Welcome Center! Have you considered putting Gloria Dei in your will? If you would like to leave a lasting gift to your church, please consider doing so.

FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
8:30am - Worship/Sund 10am - Worship/Sunday 11am - Confirmation 11am - Lunch & Learn 5pm - Worship 7pm - AI Anon	7pm - ACA 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 2pm - AA Seniors 7pm - SCCS Choral	9am - Preschool 10am - Women's Bible 6pm - DHHS Baja	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 6pm - Recorder Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Bethel Bible 7:30pm - AA Meeting 7:30pm - Sanct. Choir	10am - AA Men 11:30am - AA Women 6:30pm - Chocolate & 8pm - AA Men Meeting	9am - Prayer Shawl 10am - Fiber Arts 10am - O/A Group 11:30am - Allen 7pm - NA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am - Worship/Sund 10am - Worship/Sunday 11am - Confirmation 11am - Lunch & Learn 5pm - Worship 7pm - AI Anon	7pm - ACA 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 2pm - AA Seniors 7pm - SCCS Choral	9am - Preschool 10am - Women's Bible 6pm - DHHS Baja	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 6pm - Recorder Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Bethel Bible 7:30pm - AA Meeting 7:30pm - Sanct. Choir	10am - AA Men 11:30am - AA Women 6:30pm - Chocolate & 8pm - AA Men Meeting	8am - Men's Breakfast 9am - Adult Inquiry 9am - Women's Board 10am - O/A Group 7pm - NA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30am - Worship/Sund 9:30am - Men's Spring 10am - Worship/Sunday 12pm - New member 5pm - Worship 7pm - AI Anon	6:30pm - GIFT Group 7pm - ACA 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 2pm - AA Seniors 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - Heart Lifters 7pm - SCCS Choral	10am - Women's Bible 7pm - NAMI Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 6pm - Recorder Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Bethel Bible 7:30pm - AA Meeting 7:30pm - Sanct. Choir	10am - AA Men 11:30am - AA Women 8pm - AA Men Meeting	8:30am - Serra's Pantry 10am - O/A Group 11am - Ray Schuller 7pm - NA
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
New Members 8:30am - Worship/Sund 9:30am - Los Angelitos 10am - Worship/Sunday 5pm - Worship 7pm - AI Anon	3pm - RIOT Book Club 7pm - ACA 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 2pm - AA Seniors 7pm - Church Council 7pm - SCCS Choral	10am - Women's Bible	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 6pm - Recorder Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Bethel Bible 7:30pm - AA Meeting 7:30pm - Sanct. Choir	10am - AA Men 11:30am - AA Women 12pm - Table Talk 5pm - Winter Carnival 8pm - AA Men Meeting	7am - Los Angelitos 8am - Biola University 9am - Mentor 9:30am - Quilting 10am - O/A Group 2pm - Holzkamp 7pm - NA
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
8:30am - Worship/Sund 10am - Aria Reynolds 10am - Worship/Sunday 5pm - Worship 7pm - AI Anon	7pm - ACA 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 2pm - AA Seniors 6pm - DHHS Baja 7pm - Heart Lifters 7pm - SCCS Choral	10am - Women's Bible 7pm - NAMI Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 6pm - Recorder Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Bethel Bible 7:30pm - AA Meeting 7:30pm - Sanct. Choir		

(See Calendar on Website: <http://www.myloriadei.org/calendar-2/>)

DEI-LY PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

"Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs..."

HEALING - Tom Avery, Blaine Johnson, Debbie Campominosi, Jack Doerr, Ingrid Schuller, Lorraine Cryer, Mary Lou and Denny Walters, Vera Williams, Emmy Quinn, Gwen Layritz, Gunther and Jane Wittich, Rick Mesa, Ann Siminuk and Mike Swinehart

PRAYERS OF COMFORT - Prayers for the Bergman family as they mourn the loss of Allen. Prayers also for the Schuller family as they mourn the loss of Ray.

PEACE AND SAFETY for all our service men and women now serving around the world.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST - To place a loved one on the Prayer Chain, call the church office at 949-493-3414.

CONTACT INFORMATION

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

33501 Stonehill Drive, Dana Point, CA 92629

Church Office: (949) 493-3414; Fax: (949) 493-6479; Preschool: (949) 493-3414 x209

Website: mygloriadei.org; Email: gloriadei@mygloriadei.org

Facebook Page: Facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint

Staff Email Addresses:

Pastor David R. Mattson pastordavid@mygloriadei.org

Pastor Sabrina Vasta pastorsabrina@mygloriadei.org

Carol Weinhardt gloriadei@mygloriadei.org; Shelli Parajekas preschool@mygloriadei.org;

Paige Gulck youth@mygloriadei.org; Barbara Collins sundayschool@mygloriadei.org

Kathy Person music@mygloriadei.org; Fred Johnson organist@mygloriadei.org

