

# *Gloria Dei Lutheran Church*

## DEI-LY LIGHT



## OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

### **October - December - *Highlighting Important Ministries***

For the last three months of the year, we are going to lift up, highlight various ministries and service opportunities at Gloria Dei. Gloria Dei already supports these groups with our weekly offerings, but it's important to remember exactly how needed these programs are and ways we can help.

September - Lutheran Social Services. We are almost finished collecting hygiene items for the homeless in Orange County. Thank you for dropping items off!

October - Los Angelitos Orphanage: An anonymous couple would like to ask all who can make an above and beyond, extra gift to Gloria Dei, designated to Los Angelitos Orphanage. They will match every dollar up to \$5000.

November - Lutheran World Relief: All month is about Thanksgiving. We'll not only take an offering for world hunger, but there will be other ways we emphasize the work of LWR.

December - Christmas gifts for local kids/families and for Foster All (Foster Care children).

Gratefully yours,



Pastor David R. Mattson

P.S. How are we doing financially? Ok. Our income is down, but expenses are also down. With fewer people and fewer groups physically present, it does have an impact. However, Gloria Dei is stronger than most ministries because people have always given automatically and online and that keeps us going! Thank you!

# THE BIG THING

(The focus, the main thing, put it on your calendar, a second/third/fourth reminder)

## FALL EMPHASIS

### PHILIPPIANS - *Perseverance & Encouragement*

This fall, Sunday morning messages, weekly Bible studies, and more will all focus on St. Paul's letter to the church in Philippi. There are so many beautiful passages to be learned, taken in, pondered... and many of them have to do with getting through tough times (Paul was in prison) with a sense of purpose and joy.

On Sunday morning, we'll see a different member speak to perseverance via a video interview. My thanks to all the folks helping out with this theme



## STAFFING QUESTIONS

With the departure of Pastor Sabrina Vasta, many people are asking what is the leadership considering and doing for the future staffing at Gloria Dei? Because of the pandemic, there are many things which we cannot do right now or things have been scaled back for the time being, but we are doing at least the following:

- Praying;
- Filling out forms/paperwork for both a seminary intern or an associate pastor;
- Calling on Council members and other leaders to help fill in various roles;
- Renting the church's condo;
- Current staff are helping out in new areas (Pastor David - Confirmation/Eucharistic Visitors; Susie Boland - Women's Ministry)
- The Council will be putting together a Call Committee and/or Intern Committee to help with this process.

## CONTINUED SAFETY PRECAUTIONS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

Please stay home if you are at risk or not feeling well. Watch the livestream service.

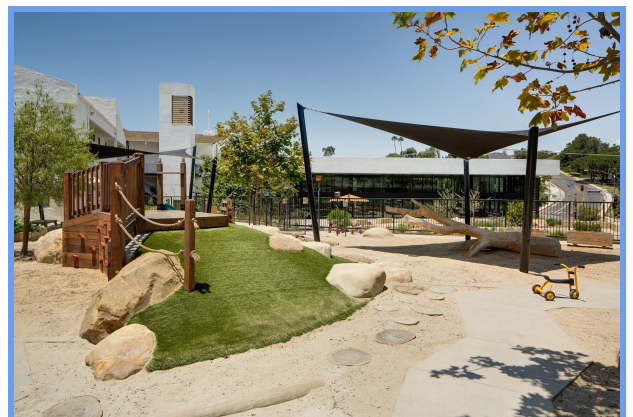
Face masks are required at worship. Thank you for following the direction of the pastor and Council. We always have extra coverings at the Welcome Table, plus hand sanitizer.

At Bible studies, gatherings, please continue to observe a safe distance.

We will get through this, all of us, together!

## FESTIVAL OF SAINT FRANCIS - BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Bring your pet - dogs, cats, birds, pigs, snakes... - Sunday, October 4, 5pm. We will not have our normal 5pm service, but meet out in the courtyard for a prayer and blessing of each pet. Join in!



KATHY PERSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR



## DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

**Thank you** Fred Johnson, Chris Try, Michelle Lum and Micaela Lum for the great music every Sunday!

We'll have more special music this month from Sharon Guilliams on handbells. Julia Wood returns for the day to lead us in singing at morning services on the 18th.

**Handbell Choir** rehearsals continue on Thursdays each week at 6:30 pm. We will meet in reduced numbers and observe safety recommendations. We're already busy preparing music for Thanksgiving and Advent.

**Recorder Ensemble** will continue creating digital collaborations. New music is on the way.

**Brass Ensemble** is preparing to play for Reformation Sunday (between morning services). Pastor David leads this group.

**Do you play an instrument?** There is an ensemble or solo opportunity for you! Email Kathy at [music@mygloriadei.org](mailto:music@mygloriadei.org)

Questions? Email Kathy [music@mygloriadei.org](mailto:music@mygloriadei.org)

PAIGE GULCK, YOUTH DIRECTOR



## YOUTH NEWS JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 11:00 AM** - Confirmation classes begin in Bankson Hall and continue twice a month, with lunch provided by the church. Don't forget your Bibles as Pastor David, Barb Collins, and Paige Gulck lead the sessions this year.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 6:00 PM** - Get ready Sr. High Youth...Pumpkin carving time! BYOP and join in on our own little socially-distanced Halloween party in Bankson Hall.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17** - Confirmation kids and mentors will be taking a trip to the San Diego Zoo. Tickets are \$60 and we will depart from the church at 8am on October 17. Please let Paige know if your child plans on attending this event. If you'd like to enroll your 6th grader in confirmation class, please email Pastor David at [pastordavid@mygloriadei.org](mailto:pastordavid@mygloriadei.org).

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25** - It's finally here! Confirmation for our graduated 8th graders will be at 10am service.

## 20-SOMETHING GROUP

Calling all 20-somethings! Please email Paige at [youth@mygloriadei.org](mailto:youth@mygloriadei.org) with any activities you'd like to participate in during COVID times.







## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

(Sunday school, Young Children's Events and Ministry)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** (Age 4 - 5th grade) - Although we are not meeting in person for Sunday school, children will receive a monthly "family activity" via the mail. Online content will also be available on our website [mygloriadei.org](http://mygloriadei.org) under the "Ministries" tab - Children/Sunday School. Please let us know if you have not received any mailings by contacting the church office or email [sundayschool@mygloriadei.org](mailto:sundayschool@mygloriadei.org).

**FIRST COMMUNION** has been postponed until November 1st. Stay tuned for more details via the church website & in the weekly bulletin announcements. Congratulations to those four students who will receive their First Communion on this special day!

**ADVENT** - Sunday, November 29, 2020. Our Advent theme this year is "*A Wonderful Life in Christ*". You will receive Advent related activities in the mail!

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** - Sunday December 13, 2020 (8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.). We are in the planning stages for our pageant and will provide more details as we finalize them! Know that it will be a video production, following COVID 19 safety protocols.

SHELLI PARAJECKAS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR



## PRESCHOOL

*Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!*

I welcome fall with open arms. The heat, the fires, and being restricted from places and people have challenged many of us, but it also draws us closer to God to seek peace in our world.

The preschool students are welcoming the season with apple tasting and graphing, pumpkin experiments, and even some yummy cooking activities. Their chapel time is focused on the "*Fruits of the Spirit*", honing in on kindness and goodness. Our students will have Halloween celebrations on campus, as well as a parade, but we will modify it to be done safely.

The teachers are creating activities and centers which promote development in all areas of learning. Gloria Dei teachers will be conducting Parent-Teacher conferences this month to share data and observations collected. They will collaborate with parents to set goals for their child to achieve this school year. We continue to grow, learn, and be challenged with new licensing and health department guidelines; however we are a strong and resilient group, and we will get through this together.

*"Sometimes good things fall apart so better things fall together."*

To contact Shelli Parajekas go to [preschooldirector@mygloriadei.org](mailto:preschooldirector@mygloriadei.org).



## DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE DIRECTOR** - Susie Boland can be reached at [fellowship@mygloriadei.org](mailto:fellowship@mygloriadei.org) or at the office at 949-493-3414.

Here we are, already in October! We are so sad to not be able to have our Annual Trick-or-Trunk event, however, we are planning a Pre-carved (at home) Pumpkin Contest to be held after each service on Sunday, October 25th. We look forward to seeing all of those wonderful jack-o-lanterns! And please always remember... although we are not able to gather as a large group yet, or even hug or shake hands, a wave and a thumbs up, even a wink, speak volumes. Grace changes everything!

**ATTENTION ALL MASK MAKERS** - Presley Boland & many of our quilters, directed by Donna Combe, have been making masks and will have some available in the church office for those in need. If you are also making masks and would be interested in donating for church members in need, please drop off to the church office. If the office is closed, please slide them through the drop slot in the office door.

**WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP** - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 3pm*. **The group may meet virtually or in person on October 21.** Diane Kelly will send out an email with the details once decided. They will be reading *The Underground Girls of Kabul* by Jenny Nordberg. if you have a little time on your hands & want to read. If you are interested in joining the book club, please contact Diane Kelly at 949-212-1890.

**PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST** - Bring a carved pumpkin for display in the church courtyard during services, **Sunday, October 25th!** We will have the following categories: **Most Creative, Most Challenging, Scariest, Best Classic/Traditional and Overall Favorite!** Winners will be announced for each category. We can't wait to see all of Gloria Dei member's creativity!

**MEN'S BOOK GROUP** - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm* at different hosts' homes. **They meet again on October 27 in Knudson Hall.** For information on the books they are reading go to their website: [gloriabookclub.com](http://gloriabookclub.com) or contact Bob Gillespie at [gillespierm@gmail.com](mailto:gillespierm@gmail.com).

**WOMEN'S EVENTS** - The Women's Ministry at Gloria Dei had a wonderful time, while staying socially distanced, at the wine & painting event last month. The Women's Board will meet in October & November to plan future outings or activities, including their next event on December 12, 10am, to create a holiday craft. More details coming soon.

**ANOTHER SMALL GROUP?** If you would like to begin another small group, speak with one of the pastors.

### UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

- Date tbd, Movie Night (stay tuned for details).



## BAPTISM OF NINA COWAN (Barb & Craig Collins' great niece)



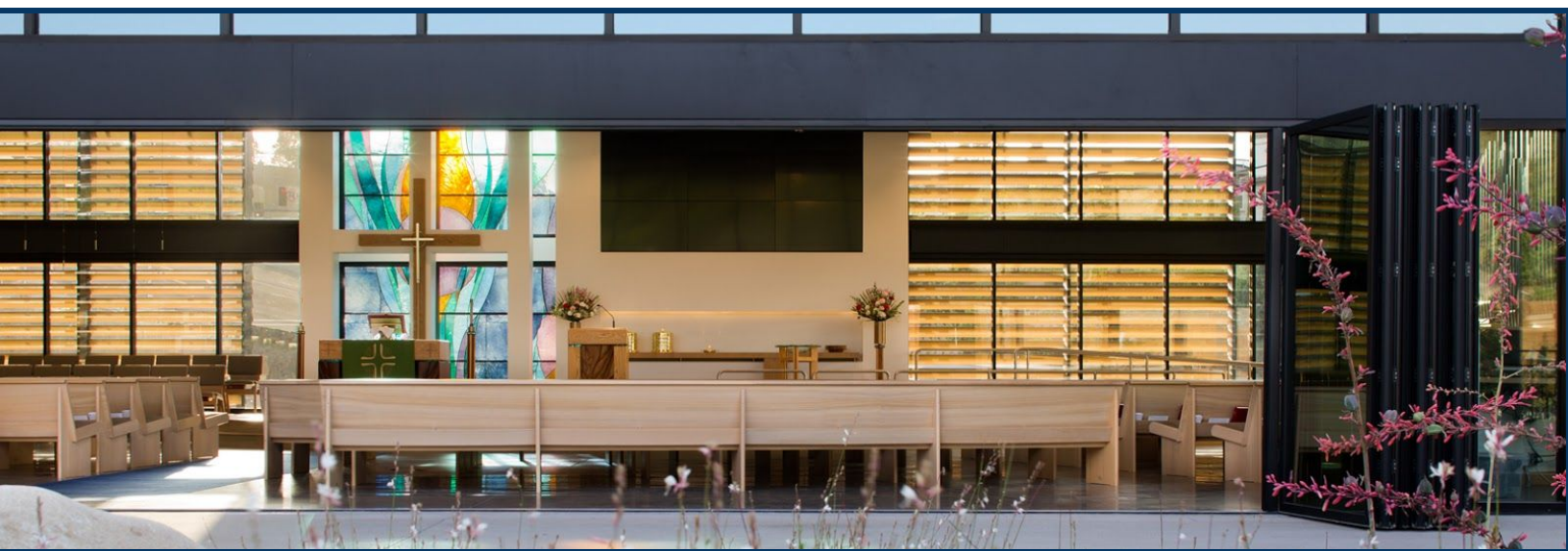
## YOUTH SERVICE & MOVIE NIGHT



Many thanks to Paige and our Sr. High Youth for preparing **"sack lunches"** for those needing assistance, who stop by the church. After their service project, they enjoyed watching *"The Shack"* on the big screen.







## GROWING TOGETHER!

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

**G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER)** - David & Susan Warneke's home (25262 Barque Way, Dana Point, Phone: 203-952-5657) They meet on varying Monday nights, once per month, at 6:30pm. **They are taking a break in October, so their next meeting is November 2.** David Warneke will send an email out to this group regarding the status of how they will conduct their study. They are studying Ephesians.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY** meets the *second Saturday of every month at 8:00am in Knudson Hall* with Pastor David leading the study. **This group will meet again October 10.** If you would like to participate in the next study, please email him at [pastordavid@mygloriadei.org](mailto:pastordavid@mygloriadei.org). All men are welcome.

**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. 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). **They will continue meeting via Zoom on October 6 and 20.** Study is open to all women.

**WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** continues meeting **in person and online each Wednesday** in October. This Bible study meets each Wednesday at 10am and is led by a pastor.

**THE BETHEL BIBLE SERIES** - Continues on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. It is a two year intensive overview of the entire Bible designed to learn "the big picture" of scripture. This group is now **closed** as it began the first week of October 2019. This group continues their meetings every Wednesday in October in the Sanctuary.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - This group meets the third Sunday of each month in Knudson Hall at 11am. During this period of "sheltering at home", this group will not be meeting. Stay tuned for when they will reconvene. For more info, contact the church office 949-493-3414.

# 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. They will meet October 3.* If you know of someone in need of a shawl or would like more information, call Peggy Johnson at 949-363-8714.

**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. October 17* is the next volunteer opportunity. Please join us to help with this important outreach.

**THE QUILTING GROUP** is **preparing all the quilts from home** during the COVID-19 pandemic. The quilts made by this group are provided to our newly Baptized infants & children. If interested in helping, please call Donna Combe at 949-338-5327.

## LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY

Our mission trip is December 5, 2020. This trip is “Pending – based on circumstances in God’s control”.



The children are all well and healthy. They are isolated inside the house and fenced yard at the orphanage home in Tijuana. They are not allowed to venture out of the property due to the Coronavirus risk.

Since so many children in Mexico do not have access to computers, the Mexican government broadcasts all school classes over national television unlike the on-line classes we have in California. While this provides consistency of curriculum there is an absence of student/ teacher interaction. Educational supervision at the orphanage is provided by caregivers and older children.

On September 16th, the kids had a big fiesta for Mexican Independence Day out at the Ranch. They enjoyed a traditional meal of Pozole along with lots of fresh air and activity – beneficial for body and soul. We thank God for the Ranch.

Please continue to remember Ed Perry and the orphans in your giving and in your thoughts and prayers.

For October, a Gloria Dei member is going to match any gift given to Gloria Dei for the orphanage, up to \$5000. If you are able to make an extra gift of any size, it will be matched.

To learn more about our orphanage ministry, contact David (203-952-5657) or Susan Warneke (510-967-3211).







## DEI-LY DETAILS

**ATTENDANCE and LIVESTREAM VIEWS (Collective)**

**9/6: 318**

**9/13: 337**

**9/20: 311**

**9/27: tbd**

**GEN2GEN GIVING: \$378,677.00** (This three year program runs 2018-2021. Goal is \$600,000.)

**"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 contact the church office at 949-493-3414 or [gloriadei@mygloriadei.org](mailto:gloriadei@mygloriadei.org).

**ELECTRONIC GIVING THROUGH VENMO** - download the app on your phone and make your donation to **@GloriaDei-DanaPoint** (with a picture of our stained glass window overlooking the altar). Add where you want it applied in the Venmo required "memo" section.

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

**GLORIA DEI ENDOWMENT FUND** - More and more people are requesting information about the Endowment Fund. Call the church office and speak with Pastor David for details, or visit our website: [www.mygloriadei.org/donate](http://www.mygloriadei.org/donate). There you will find the brochure. *"What legacy will you leave?"* 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.

**THE COLUMBARIUM** - The Columbarium is located in the upper canyon area in the Memorial Garden. Please stop by to see it at your convenience. Several of our members are now interred in the Columbarium and the ceremonies were beautiful family gatherings. Currently, 43 niches and 1 memorial plaque have been purchased and each niche will hold two urns. To reserve a niche for yourself or a loved one, please contact the church office, 949-493-3414.

For more information, please see our website: [mygloriadei.org/columbarium](http://mygloriadei.org/columbarium).

# THANKS

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

Dear friends,

We continue to be astoundingly grateful for your regular, first-fruits giving to PLTS and its mission. Students have returned to campus (most of them) and classes are beginning! Although all of the classes are online for this semester, there exists a kind of socially distanced fellowship within the apartments and in the city of Berkeley. Students come with the intention to study with certain fine professors, and they are not disappointed! We are about to launch a Center for Climate Justice and Faith, which will include emphases and certificates, which will unleash the power of gospel thinking to address this most important planetary issue. And Founders Day, September 16<sup>th</sup> this year, will include a keynote lecture by world-renowned environmentalist Bill McKibben. Registration is on our website, [plts.edu](http://plts.edu).

Best wishes to your congregation in your own restrained regime. The Holy Spirit is among us.

Yours, Brian Stein-Webber, PLTS

Dear Gloria Dei,

We are so grateful for your support of our family... for helping us create our future and for teaching us the love of family. We love you and hope we see you soon.

God bless you,

The children and staff of Los Angelitos Orphanage

THANKS so much to the prayer shawl knitters for continuing this important Daily Service! The Doorn's are most appreciative of your handiwork & prayers. We at Gloria Dei also want to thank the Doorn's for their generous donation toward yarn for this wonderful ministry.



Dear Pastor David & Gloria Dei Congregation,  
Thank you for blessing our sweet Baby Nina  
and welcoming her to a life of faith.  
Sincerely,  
The Cowans



Thanks so much to Donna Combe & her sewing (quilting) team! They have made 200 masks they are sending to Lutheran World Relief. We are so blessed to have such talented, giving members at Gloria Dei.



# 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, Don Bolick, Blaine Johnson, Bette Hopkins, Debbie Campominosi, Mary Lou and Denny Walters, Harry and Jean Meinholtz, Anne Siminuk, Kay Hendrickson, Jeri Steck, Gwen Layritz, Joann Groon, Jane Wittich, Joyce Jensen, Jimmie Burke, Marlys Lano, Gerd & Lars Talstad and Erika Mills.

**PRAYERS OF COMFORT** - Please pray for Sally Manville and the family of Glenn Sels who mourn his passing. We also pray for Judy Skraba's family as they mourn her death.

**PEACE AND SAFETY** for all our service men and women now serving around the world. Also peace and safety for our frontline emergency and healthcare workers treating those infected with the Coronavirus and other ailments. We also pray for race relations between people in the world to flourish in loving & compassionate ways.

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

**DAILY DEVOTIONAL** - *"Christ in our Home"* (October - December, 2020), is available for pick up at the Welcome Table on Sunday or at the church office. If you would like to pick one up or have one mailed to you, please call or email the church office (949-493-3414 or [gloriadei@mygloriadei.org](mailto:gloriadei@mygloriadei.org)).

## DEI-LY DUTIES



### OCTOBER 2020 VOLUNTEERS

We are requesting help each week for lectors, ushers & the welcome center. We are also requesting help once monthly for Altar Guild & communion assistant. We are using the original volunteer schedule as a rough guideline to help fill each of these volunteer opportunities at the varying services, but are making plenty of changes to the schedule as needed, so we will not be printing it at this time. **To assist and to attend, you must practice Covid-19 guidelines** (wear a mask, stay physically distanced, be healthy, etc.).

Due to the pandemic, many of the guidelines for each of these volunteer opportunities have changed to promote safe social distance ie. no passing offering plates or physically handing out bulletins, etc.

## GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

33501 Stonehill Drive, Dana Point, CA 92629  
Church Office: (949) 493-3414; Fax: (949) 493-6479;  
Preschool: (949) 493-3414 x209  
Website: [mygloriadei.org](http://mygloriadei.org);  
Email: [gloriadei@mygloriadei.org](mailto:gloriadei@mygloriadei.org)  
Facebook Page: [Facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint](https://www.facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint)

Pastor David R. Mattson [pastordavid@mygloriadei.org](mailto:pastordavid@mygloriadei.org)  
Carol Weinhardt [gloriadei@mygloriadei.org](mailto:gloriadei@mygloriadei.org);  
Shelli Parajeckas [preschool@mygloriadei.org](mailto:preschool@mygloriadei.org);  
Paige Gulck [youth@mygloriadei.org](mailto:youth@mygloriadei.org);  
Barbara Collins [sundayschool@mygloriadei.org](mailto:sundayschool@mygloriadei.org)  
Susie Boland [fellowship@mygloriadei.org](mailto:fellowship@mygloriadei.org);  
Kathy Person [music@mygloriadei.org](mailto:music@mygloriadei.org);  
Fred Johnson [organist@mygloriadei.org](mailto:organist@mygloriadei.org)

# OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 5pm - Pet Blessing				7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell Choir	8pm - AA Men's	7pm - NA Meeting
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 5pm - Pet Blessing	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass rehearsal 6:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - All Church	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass rehearsal 6:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - All Church	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell Choir	8pm - AA Men's	8am - Men's Bible 9am - Women's Board 7pm - NA Meeting
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 5pm - Worship	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass rehearsal 6:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - All Church 6:30pm - Online Heart 7pm - Church Council	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass rehearsal 6:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - All Church 6:30pm - Online Heart 7pm - Church Council	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell Choir	6pm - Sr. High 8pm - AA Men's	8am - San Diego Zoo 8:30am - Serra's 5pm - Henri Nurminen 7pm - NA Meeting
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 2pm - South County 5pm - Worship	3pm - RIOT Book Club	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass rehearsal 6:30pm - Alanon	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell Choir	8pm - AA Men's	1pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - NA Meeting
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Reformation 8:30am - Livestream 9:30am - Pumpkin 10am - Confirmation 10am - Worship 11am - Pumpkin 5pm - Worship		7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass rehearsal 6:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - Online Heart 7pm - Men's Book Club	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell Choir	8pm - AA Men's	7pm - NA Meeting

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





