

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DE-LY LIGHT



FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

Our theme for the beginning of the 2021 and the Season of Epiphany is *"For Those Who Dream."*

What are your dreams for 2021? Personally, professionally, spiritually? If you're having trouble answering, you're not alone. Maybe because I turned 60, I'm thinking more incrementally. Change is hard!

What are your dreams? Maybe it's about finding a place to step back, step away, listen, pray, read, sabbath. What is a sacred time for you? Does it heal, renew, help you dream?

Once in a while, someone will email/text/call with a complaint about something I said, preached, prayed, or not talked about... on Sunday morning. Honestly, when I look at my phone after worship and see those comments, I never answer. Call me hard headed, pig headed, but that's sacred time. Unless it's a real emergency, that's a time to rest, time with family, watch a game, go for a walk, and sabbath.

Boundaries are important, giving us space to recover and renew. What's a boundary for you? What's a sacred time and place for you? Maybe it's a few minutes in the morning with a cup of coffee and devotional. Maybe it's a time where you get a regular phone call from a family member. Maybe it's... God has ordered our world in such a way (Genesis 1) to give us a pause to breathe, perchance to dream.

Gratefully yours,

Pastor David R. Mattson

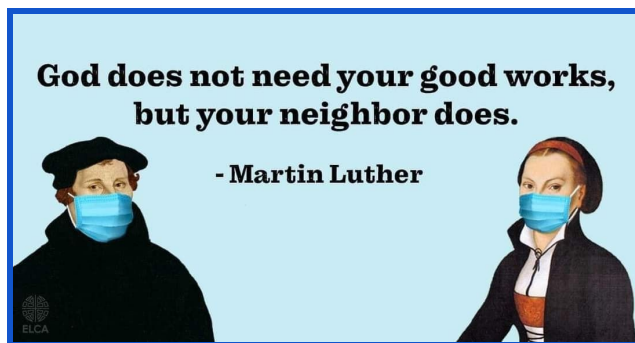


THE BIG THING

(The main thing - put it on your calendar.)

ANNUAL MEETING POSTPONED

The Church Council has approved moving the annual meeting to June 27, celebrating in person the ministry that has taken place in 2020 and the first quarter of 2021.



A new budget and new council will be approved. But the main focus will be on celebrating with a luncheon. More details forthcoming as we get closer. FYI - You will be able to pick up an annual report at the Welcome Table or by calling the church office after January 31.

LENT 2021 begins with Ash Wednesday, February 17. At this point, we will have Imposition of Ashes in three ways: 1) Driveby between 8-9am. Pastor David will wait in the parking lot, meet you at your car door for a scripture reading, prayer, confessions, ashes and you're on your way, or, 2) Noon - a brief service in the courtyard (or inside if advisable), 3) The noon service will be livestreamed and you can then watch it at any time.

"REVEALED" Traveling Art Exhibit will be on display for Season of Lent in Bankson Hall (beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 17). *Revealed* features 23 works of various printmaking techniques and covers the entire story of Redemption—from the Fall in Genesis through the New Creation promised in Revelation. The art, along with the Scripture represented, will be our Lenten emphasis.

LATEST FROM CDC (12/30/2020) recommends that people wear masks in public settings, at events and gatherings, and anywhere they will be around other people (especially when singing!). When selecting a mask, there are many choices.



Here are some do's and don'ts. DO choose masks that: Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric; Completely cover your nose and mouth; Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps



DO NOT choose Masks that: Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breath; Have exhalation valves or vents which allow virus particles to escape; Gaiters & face shields: Wear a gaiter with two layers, or fold it to make two layers; Face Shields alone are not recommended at this time; Find a mask that is made for children to help ensure proper fit.

Check to be sure the mask fits snugly over the nose and mouth and under the chin and there are no gaps around the sides.

CONTINUED SAFETY PRECAUTIONS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC: Please stay home if you are at risk, not feeling well, or for whatever reason cannot follow safety guidelines. Watch the livestream service.

- At the time of writing, we are online and in person outside. Please call the office for the latest.
- Face masks are required at worship. Thank you for following the direction of the pastor and Council.
- Bible studies and other gatherings have now gone "virtual." Please contact the church office to join in.
- We will get through this, all of us, together!
- **CHANGE IS HAPPENING QUICKLY** - Gloria Dei's groups are meeting either online. But please keep an eye on the website for changes to this situation. Thanks for keeping everyone healthy!

KATHY PERSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

- We begin our Lenten journey on February 17th. Much of our service music and special musical offerings will follow the themes of the art of "Revealed."
 - **TGOF** on our Youtube channel brings us more great music with a message. Tune in every Friday to hear Pastor's message and special songs led by Micaela Lum.
- Fred, Michelle, Chris, and Micaela keep the melody going for us every Sunday. I am grateful to work with such talented musicians!

Do you play an instrument? There is an ensemble or solo opportunity for you! Email Kathy at music@mygloriadei.org

Questions? Email Kathy music@mygloriadei.org

BARB COLLINS, CHILDREN AND FAMILY DIRECTOR



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Age 4 - 5th grade) - Sunday school age children will continue to receive a monthly "family activity" via the mail.

Online content will also be available on our website mygloriadei.org under the "Ministries" tab - Children/Sunday School.

FIRST COMMUNION classes for children (age 10 or younger at discretion of parent/pastor) is three Wednesdays - March 3, 10, 17 - 4:30pm. For more information, email: gloriadei@mygloriadei.org. First Communion will take place on Palm Sunday, March 28.

If you would like your child to be added to the mailing list please contact the church office or Barb Collins sundayschool@mygloriadei.org.

PAIGE GULCK, YOUTH DIRECTOR



YOUTH NEWS JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5, 6:00 PM - Help Spread the Love! Valentine making and writing in Knudson Hall. Valentines are for all those who are homebound in our congregation.

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY (6th-8th graders) meets with Youth Director Paige, Children and Family Ministry Director Barb Collins, and Pastor David on Sundays - February 7 and 21, right after the 10am service. Last month, they met virtually. FYI - If for some reason, either technology difficulty or other - you miss out on a meeting, you can make it up by going to the Gloria Dei website, click on the Confirmation tab and all the lessons are there.

WHALE WATCHING - Meet at Dana Wharf Whale Watching on February 27 12:30pm - 2:30pm. We encourage our mentors and Confirmation kids to join us for this seasonal outing, Catch some fresh air, enjoy playful dolphins & with any luck we will get a solid sighting of whales migrating!

Contact Paige by February 10 if you plan to attend; Paige will make a group purchase of the tickets. Adults \$56/Kids \$30. Masks required for this event. youthdirector@mygloriadei.org

SHELLI PARAJECKAS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR



PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

We are gearing up for Fall 2021. Registration is this month. Relying on hope for change and growth, our goal is to fill our classrooms with growing, thriving students. I am beyond thankful for a lengthy waiting list. If you have an interest in enrolling your child, please contact the preschool office (949-493-3414).

Our students will have a few parent visitors who represent our local heroes. Some of our parents are doctors, nurses, firemen, and police officers. Following safety guidelines, these parents will share with our students what they do to protect us and help us.

Valentines is also a fun time for our preschoolers as they make cards and pictures for their peers and loved ones. With so much going on in our nation, spreading love and kindness at this time is priceless.

*"Life is better when you are happy, but life is best when other people are happy because of you.
Be an inspiration, give peace, share your smile." ~Author Unknown*

To contact Shelli Parajekas go to preschooldirector@mygloriadei.org.



DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE DIRECTOR - Susie Boland can be reached at fellowship@mygloriadei.org or at the office at 949-493-3414.

Although we are still in a "stay at home order" living environment, we are beginning to see light at the end of the tunnel! Here's praying that you all stay healthy and that the vaccine rolls out successfully! Looking forward to us all getting together for fellowship soon! Grace changes everything!

GLORIA DEI COOKING WITH - Ken and Barbara Rohde, 5:30pm on Friday, February 5th, 2021.

They will be sharing and making a French meal, "*Fish en Papillote*". (They said chicken can be used in lieu of fish if you desire.) Ken and Barbara have included, "only French wines permitted."

Please email or call the church office to be included on this fun cooking Google Hangout! We will be continuing with a regular cooking LIVE monthly event over Google Hangout. If you are interested in getting on the schedule, please email Susie Boland at fellowship@mygloriadei.org.

LENT SOUP SUPPER, AT-HOME, RECIPES - We would love to highlight some simple soup recipes that church members could make at home, in-lieu of being able to meet in person. If you have a soup recipe that you would like to share, please email it to fellowship@mygloriadei.org.

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 will meet virtually on February 15th. They will be reading *The Truths We Hold, An American Journey* by Kamala Harris. 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 or contact the office at 949-493-3414.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm* at different hosts' homes. They will meet it again on February 23 in Knudson Hall, provided the "stay at home order" has been lifted. For information on the books they are reading, contact Paul Dubow or the church office.

WOMEN'S EVENTS - Women's Group Meeting is on Saturday, February 13th at 9:00 am. We will be outside on the preschool playground and/or virtual if you are interested in attending. At this meeting we will be discussing plans for the 2021 calendar year. We will keep you posted as plans arise for the 2021 Women's Events schedule.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Many thanks to Kristina Mayfield, Jim Bankson, Jim Doorn and Craig Backhus, our outgoing council members, who helped guide us these past few years.

We offer a warm welcome to our new incoming members & those who will also return to serve another year on Gloria Dei's church council. Below are our newest council members or those who have accepted a new position within Church Council.



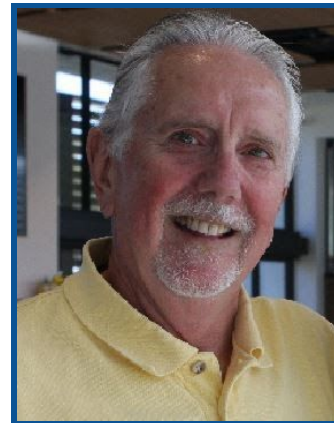
Matt Dubow - President



Mark Schroeder - Vice President



Christian Asis - Financial Secretary



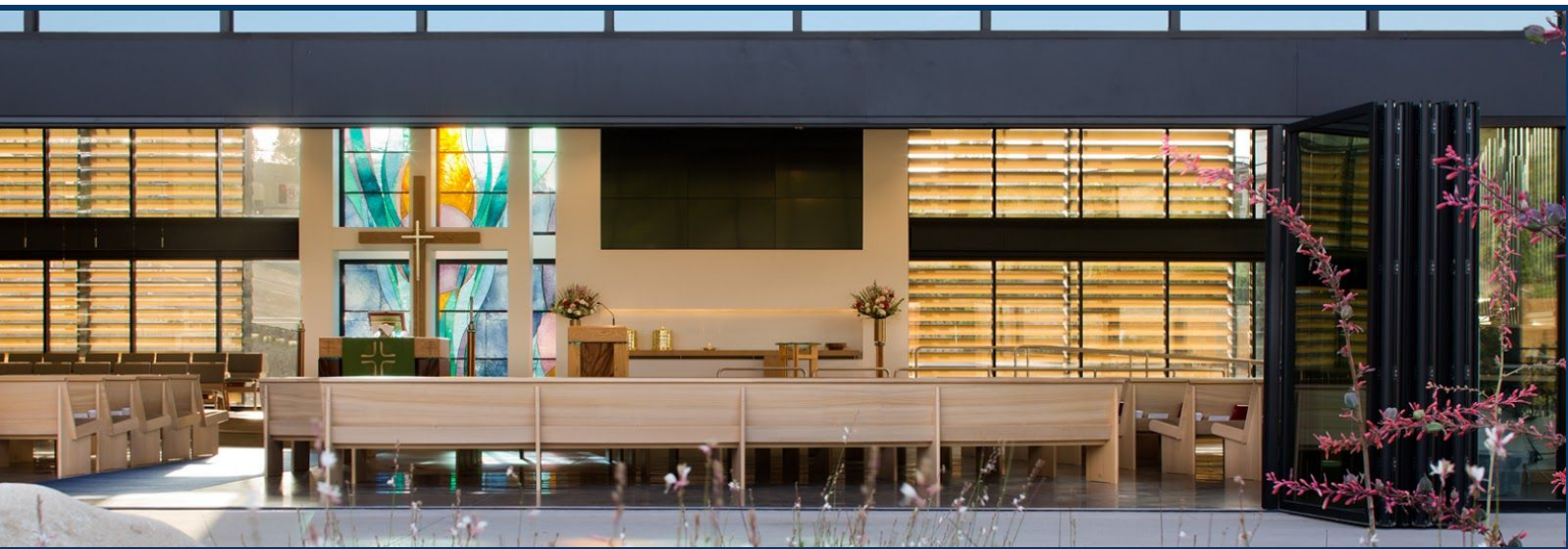
Tim Boyd - Member at Large



Julie Hettmann - Member at Large



Chelsea Weiss - Member at Large



GROWING TOGETHER!

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

ALL STUDIES WILL BE VIRTUAL AT THIS TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, in compliance with most recent safety precautions.

NEW G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER) - Will be led by David & Susan Warneke and will be held virtually on the first Monday of the month, at 6:30pm. **We will not meet in February, but hope to meet again in person on March 1.** We are studying Ephesians. To join, contact the church office 949-493-3414 or gloriadei@mygloriadei.org, so we can add you to the group.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY meets the *second Saturday of every month at 8:00am.* *This month will be a virtual study* with Pastor David leading the study. **This group will meet again February 13.** Stay tuned & Pastor David will update whether this study will be online or meet outside, in person. If you would like to participate in the next study, please email him at pastordavid@mygloriadei.org. All men are welcome.

THE SHACK - Virtual Prayer Study Group just began & you can still join. This study meets every third Tuesday at 7 - 8:30pm for 9 months. **The next meeting is February 16.** This study will be led by Jim & Neta Wenrickl. Interested? Contact the office for information on which study guide to purchase and for the ZOOM link.

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 and Ann St. Martin. **They will meet via Zoom for fellowship on February 9 and 23.** Study is open to all women.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY resumes meeting **online each Wednesday.** Bible study meets each Wednesday at 10am and is typically led by the Pastor David.

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.

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 prepare shawls from home in February.* If you know of someone in need of a shawl or would like more information, call Peggy Johnson.

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

THE QUILTING GROUP continues 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.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY - January 2021 update- Los Angelitos orphanage, Tijuana Mexico



All the children at the orphanage are healthy. There has been no Covid-19 diagnosis of children or staff. Glory be to God.

A few of the children are now being allowed to attend school although most are still being home-schooled at the orphanage. It has been challenging for the children to be 'locked- down' inside the orphanage in Tijuana and unable to venture outside except in their small front yard. Some would say stir-crazy, so they have been spending more time than usual at the 'ranch' where the kids can safely run around and play outside.

The children look at us as family & really miss our regular Gloria Dei visits. They are looking forward to a time when we can once again spend time with them. Please remember to faithfully pray for these children, the orphanage, and for Ed Perry and the other caregivers at Los Angelitos.

To learn more about our orphanage ministry, contact David or Susan Warneke.



DEI-LY DETAILS

ATTENDANCE and LIVESTREAM VIEWS

1/3: 282

1/10: 295

1/17: 299

1/24: 281

1/31: TBD

GEN2GEN GIVING: \$419,457.00 (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.

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. 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.

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI: If you are planning or have already begun the process of making Gloria Dei your church home, please join Pastor David on Wednesday, February 10, (virtually), 7pm.

- Pastor David will go over details of membership.
- Other staff members will discuss various ministries at Gloria Dei.
- The goals and future of Gloria Dei's ministry will be celebrated.

Contact the church office for details. Members will be officially received on Sunday, February 28.

THANKS

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

Dear Friends at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donation! Your generosity and commitment ensure Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary is able to better serve our students, faculty and community members. We are grateful for your gift, which is transforming lives and helping us fulfill our mission of equipping our leaders for the church and world.

With appreciation,
Raymond Pickett, Rector

Dear Gloria Dei Church,

We are so grateful to have you in our family. We pray to God everyday for you and your family and hope to see you again soon. God bless you today and always. We love you mucho!

The children of Los Angelitos Orphanage

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, Bette Hopkins, Debby Campominosi, Mary Lou and Denny Walters, Harry and Jean Meinholtz, Anne Siminuk, Kay Hendrickson, Jeri Steck, Gwen Layritz, Joann Groon, Gerd & Lars Talstad, and Tom Vlahos.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT - Please pray for Terry Seibert and family as they mourn the loss of his son-in-law, Chris Mertz. Also pray for Greg Person and his family as they mourn the death of his father, Richard Person.

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 a smooth and successful distribution of the Covid-19 vaccine.

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"* (January - March 2021), 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).

DEI-LY DUTIES



FEBRUARY 2021 VOLUNTEERS

We are requesting help each week for lectors, ushers & the welcome center. We are also requesting help once or twice monthly for Altar Guild & communion assistant. **We have sent out a three month volunteer schedule through April 2021** to help fill each of these volunteer opportunities.

To assist and to attend, you must practice Covid-19 guidelines (wear a mask, remain physically distanced, be healthy, etc.). Many of these volunteer responsibilities have changed to promote safe social distance ie. no passing offering plates or physically handing out bulletins, etc.

Until we resume a more consistent church schedule, the 2021 'back to basics' volunteer schedule will be formulated & distributed on a quarterly basis, beginning in February,

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;
Email: gloriadei@mygloriadei.org
Facebook Page: [Facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint](https://www.facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint)

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

FEBRUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:30pm - GIFT Group	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 7pm - Small Group - The	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men	8am - TGOF - Thanking 6pm - Youth Group -	9am - Prayer Shawl
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 11:15am - Confirm. 5pm - Worship	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - Online Heart 7pm - Church Council 7pm - Small Group - The	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men	8am - TGOF - Thanking	8am - Men's Bible 9am - Women's Board
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30am - Livestream 9:45am - Baptism 10am - Worship 5pm - Worship	3pm - RIOT Book Club	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 7pm - Small Group - The	7am - AA Meeting 8am - Ash Wednesday 10am - Women's Bible 12pm - Ash Wednesday	7am - AA Men 7pm - Prayer Study	8am - TGOF - Thanking	8:30am - Serra's
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 11:15am - Confirm. 11:15am - Memorial 5pm - Worship	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - Online Heart 7pm - Small Group - The	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6pm - Lenten Soup 6:30pm - Lenten	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6pm - Lenten Soup 6:30pm - Lenten	7am - AA Men	8am - TGOF - Thanking	9:30am - Quilting 12:30pm - Whale
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
New Member Sunday 8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 5pm - Worship						

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

