

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!** I love that enthusiastic response on Resurrection Sunday (Easter), April 4.

Easter does require a response. What do you say/do after hearing the world's greatest news? Some respond with that yell of triumph or others with a "huh" or with a smile or some may respond with a life of service.

At Gloria Dei, we have many similar sorts of responses (Grace changes **everything!**), including our entire liturgy is responsorial. Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!** How will you respond this year?

On Easter, Mary Magdalene ran to share the Good News - her Savior was alive. Some responded to her testimony by investigating, others believed, and others thought it was crazy. Things haven't changed much.

During the Easter Season, beginning April 18, we will respond with a sermon series based on 4DM - *The Fourth Day Movement*. The Apostles' Creed says, "*On the third day, He rose from the dead...*" The fourth day is sharing the world's greatest news. How do we do that in ways that people are receptive to? That's the purpose of 4DM. I'm excited for this series and I hope you will be too. There's nothing more important than reflecting on what's my response to this unimaginable, gracious hope: Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

Yours in Christ,

Pastor David R. Mattson



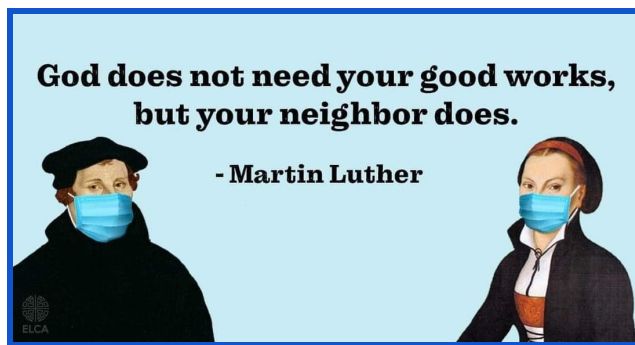
P.S. **Do you have a place to rent?** Do you have a housing connection? We're looking for a studio or one bedroom apartment for a summer college student and seminary intern in the fall. Please call the office.

THE BIG THING

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

HOLY WEEK:

- Palm Sunday with Waving Palms, Processions, and First Communion (March 28).
- Maundy Thursday - Individual prayer experience based on the artwork - *"The Last Supper and the Twelve Tribes"* (April 1). The Sanctuary will be open from 8am-11am and 6pm-7:30pm. Thanks to Jeff Contestabile for creating our Candle Lighting Station.
- Good Friday Tenebrae Worship (noon and 7pm) - The Sanctuary goes slowly darker as we hear the 7 last words of Christ. Your "prayer cards" will be nailed to the cross. Holy Communion will be celebrated. Offering will be received for Lutheran World Relief (World Hunger).
- Easter - Resurrection Sunday (April 4, 6:30am-outside with Holy Communion; 8:30am, and 10am). Lilies. Trumpets. Special Music. Reservations taken for Easter for each service. Call the office to put in your name or fill out a form on Sunday morning and place it in an offering box. Registration forms are also online: mygloriadei.org/easter.



EASTER SEASON:

- **4DM - THE 4TH DAY MOVEMENT** - Beginning April 18, Pastor David will preach on the main points from his book. If you would like a copy, please call the office and we will make sure one is placed at the Welcome Table. This series will be about how we share the Easter hope, in ways that are inviting, impactful, and life-giving. Invite a friend to join you for this time. (in person and live streamed)
- **SPRING MINISTRY EMPHASIS** - Foster All's *"Love Has No Limits"*: Gloria Dei has supported this foster care ministry monetarily, with gifts, and with foster families. Goal: A home for every child in need!
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins April 25 during both morning worship services. (preschool-5th grade)
- **PETTING ZOO** (Good Shepherd Sunday) - April 25, 9:30am-10am.
- **MOTHER'S DAY** - May 9 - Daisies for all mothers and daughters.

LATEST FROM CDC (3/8/2021) recommends that "in public spaces, fully vaccinated people continue to follow guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a well-fitted mask, 6 ft. physical distancing and washing hands".

Vaccinated people visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple households at the same time:

"If the unvaccinated people come from multiple households, there is a higher risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission among them. Therefore, **all people** involved should take precautions including wearing a well-fitted mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, and visiting outdoors or in a well-ventilated space." For more details: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

IN PERSON HAPPENINGS: As Gloria Dei opens the sanctuary (25%) and opens up for other in person gatherings, please continue to follow the regular safety guidelines:

- keeping physical distance, wearing masks, washing hands,
- Staying home if you feel sick, etc.

If you cannot follow these guidelines, then please stay home and watch the live-streamed worship and other on-line Bible studies.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - Ministry Celebration - Sunday, June 27, 11am - We'll adapt our annual meeting to make it a wonderful fellowship celebration. Food. Music. Announcement of New Ministry. A wonderful time to gather as a church family and pray/sing: *"Praise God from whom all blessings flow..."*



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

- I'm looking forward to more great music for Spring. Mallory Bacon will play oboe for Good Friday services. Pianist Rachel Ehring will play for morning services April 11th. Sharon Guiliams will play bells. Brass is working on a new set of hymns to perform between services.
- This month we'll be able to view a new video project produced by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. Gloria Dei members joined with musicians from all over the United States will create a virtual ensemble of choir, orchestra, and organ for the hymn *"Jesus Christ is Risen Today."*
- Micaela Lum has been leading our Wednesday Lenten Services, and now, beginning April 11, she leads our music for Sundays at 5 pm.
- **BRASS PRACTICE** - Join us Tuesdays at 4pm. Contact Pastor David for more details. pastordavid@mygloriadei.org
- Fred Johnson, Michelle Lum, Chris Try, and Micaela Lum 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) - Begins again April 25 at both morning worship services. Outdoor story and activity immediately following the children's sermon. They will follow Barb Collins and other teachers out of the Sanctuary and then return to their parents in church, following their Sunday School activity. Facemasks required.

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

FIRST COMMUNION for some of our children took place on Palm Sunday, March 28. Congratulations to Reed Jensen and Landon St. Martin on their First Communion. Pictured is Reed Jensen (making his communion chalice).

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - We will be having a modified in-person VBS this summer! Mark your calendars for June 15th - June 17th (9am -12pm). Volunteers are needed! More information to follow as we finalize the details.

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





YOUTH NEWS JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

FRIDAY APRIL 16, 6:00 PM - Sr. High Game night at the church. We will get together care packages for our shut-ins and then play some games!

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY (6th-8th graders) meets with Youth Director Paige, Children and Family Ministry Director Barb Collins, and Pastor David on the 1st & third Sunday each month. In April, we will only meet on April 18, right after the 10am service in Bankson Hall.

FYI - If for some reason 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.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY - 8th graders get ready! Confirmation Sunday is right around the corner. Mark your calendars for May 23 at the 10 am service! Rehearsal for Confirmation will be Saturday, May 22, 10am. Details to be emailed to 8th Grade parents soon.



PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Just saying this out loud makes me smile. Easter is a joyful time as we celebrate the risen Lord, and Easter is delightful in a child's eyes. Our older students have repeatedly used the resurrection egg kit to learn about the Easter Story.

In April, our students will focus on how springtime is a sign of new life; planting seeds, animals having babies, bears coming out of hibernation, etc.

They will also participate in our Annual Bike-a-Thon fundraiser this month. This is a fun event and a great way to raise money for the preschool. We hope to use the funds to do some landscaping repairs and begin saving for a kitchen remodel.

We only have 2 months of school left. We have successfully run this program during a pandemic; our students have learned and grown so much. They come every day with smiles and giggles that are contagious and make you forget what's happening outside our gates. God is good, and His love and grace and mercy are seen each and every day.

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8

To contact Shelli Parajekas go to preschool@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.

GLORIA DEI COOKING WITH - 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.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 3pm*. The group will meet virtually on March 15th. They will be reading *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. 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*. **They are not meeting in person or online at this time.** Stay tuned for updates. 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, April 10th at 9:15 am**. We will be meeting in Bankson Hall and/or virtual if you are interested in attending. At this meeting we will be scheduling events for the 2021 calendar year. We will keep you posted as events are added to the 2021 Women's Events schedule. Be on the lookout for our new monthly recipe offering, "What's Cooking at Gloria Dei!" We will be including a favorite recipe from our Women's Group starting in May.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY - Join us April 25, 9:30am. We will have lambs, bunnies & other small animals to pet between morning services. A petting zoo for the "good shepherd in all of us" to enjoy!



UPCOMING EVENTS: Ministry Celebration - Annual Meeting with brunch/lunch - Sunday, June 27th at 11:00 am

NEW MEMBERS



Maria & Bret Boyd



Dellita & Mike Kobold



Ashleigh, Reed, Easton & Kevin Jensen



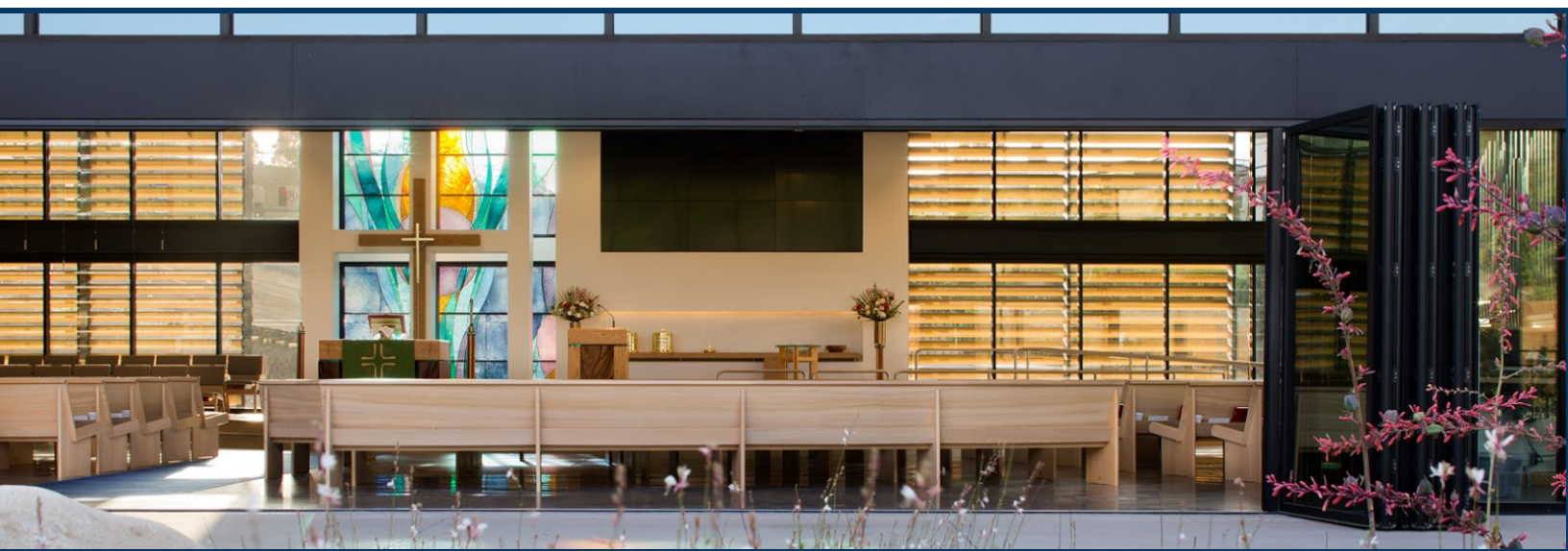
Cathy Savage



Cole, Samantha, Liz & Mark Flippin



Til Dancker



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 UNLESS NOTED, in compliance with most recent safety precautions.

4dm - THE FOURTH DAY MOVEMENT - Beginning Sunday, April 18, Pastor David will preach/teach on sharing the hope of Easter. Each Sunday, there will be a take-home insert for further study/discussion. His book, *4dm* will also be available at the Welcome Table or by calling the church office.

NEW G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER) - Will be led by David & Susan Warneke and held in Knudson Hall on the first Monday of the month, at 6:30pm. **In April, we will meet the second Monday, April 12, in Knudson Hall.** We are studying Ephesians Chapter 1 verses 15-23, lesson #2 in our study guide. 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 April 10.** 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: You can still join in. This study meets every third Tuesday at 7 - 8:30pm for 9 months. **The next meeting is April 20.** 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 - 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (April 6 & 20). Social 6:30 PM; Study 7pm - 8pm. Book: *"Praying with Power"* by Christa Kinde (Amazon & Christianbook.com). To be added to Zoom, contact Ann St. Martin, Daneen Pysz or the office at 949-493-3414 or gloriadei@mygloriadei.org.

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. This group will move to in-person and online beginning in April. Watch for an email/bulletin announcement.

THE BETHEL BIBLE SERIES - Wednesdays, 6:30pm - A two year intensive overview of the entire Bible to learn "the big picture". 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 meet in Knudson Hall on April 3.* 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. April 17* 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 - Los Angelitos orphanage, Tijuana Mexico



The Search continues.....

We continue to search from coast-to-coast for a suitable 15-passenger van for the Los Angelitos Orphanage. The Orphanage needs the van to transport the orphans in a safe and legal manner.

While our generous congregation raised around \$15,000, we have not been able to find a

lower-mileage, relatively newer model vehicle, especially considering sales tax, licensing and export fees.

We are considering our options moving forward including changing expectations, using the funds for another project, or raising additional money for a van.

If anyone can help find the 'right' van, we would be most grateful. Please contact Dave & Susan Warneke or the church office if you have any connections to help us secure an appropriate van for Los Angelitos Orphanage.





DEI-LY DETAILS

ATTENDANCE and LIVESTREAM VIEWS

3/7: 339 3/14: 275 3/21: 322 3/28: TBD

GEN2GEN GIVING: \$430,547.00 (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”, 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, 45 niches and 2 memorial plaques have been purchased and each niche holds 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.

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 fulfill our mission of equipping leaders for the church and world.

APARTMENT NEEDED

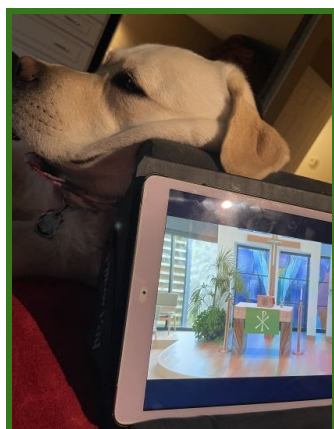
Gloria Dei will be in need of a studio/1 bedroom apartment for our seminary intern and summer CLU ministry student. If you have a connection or own an apartment near the church, please call the church office. Thank you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

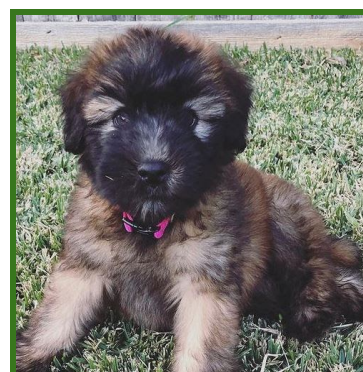


Grace Changes Everything composed by Fred Johnson
Fred Johnson, piano; Kathy Person, viola; Micaela Lum, Michelle Lum & Christian Try, vocals

GLORIA DEI PUPS



Cliff & Kathi Anderson's pup



Mattson Family's pup, Signe

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, Debby Campominosi, Mary Lou and Denny Walters, Jean Meinholtz, Anne Siminuk, Kay Hendrickson, Jeri Steck, Gwen Layritz, Joann Groon, Gerd & Lars Talstad, Virginia Anderson, Linda Friend, Sharon Grady and Ingrid Schuller.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT - Prayers for Julie Vlahos and family as they mourn the loss of Tom Vlahos. Also prayers of comfort for Susan Warneke & family as they mourn the loss of her mom, Bette Hopkins. Also, prayers of comfort for Jean Meinholtz on the death of her husband Harry. Prayers of comfort for Terry Anderson & family as they mourn the loss of his sister, Patricia "Patty" Anderson.

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"* (April - June 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



APRIL 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. **We will be sending out a new volunteer calendar for May - August.**

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.

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 Parajekas 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

APRIL 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				Maundy Thursday 7am - AA Men 8am - Candle Lighting 6pm - Candle Lighting 6:30pm - Bell	Good Friday 12pm - Good Friday 7pm - Good Friday	9am - Prayer Shawl
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Easter Sunday 6:30am - Sunrise 8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice	7am - AA Meeting 8am - Recycled Water 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell	8am - Men's Bible 9:15am - Women's	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 5pm - Worship	6:30pm - GIFT Group	7am - AA Men 2pm - Memorial 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - Heart Lifters 7pm - Church Council	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell	6pm - Sr. High Event -	8:30am - Serra's
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 11:15am - Confirm. Ed. 5pm - Worship	2pm - RIOT Book Club	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 7pm - The Shack Group	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell		Confirmation service 9:30am - Quilting
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Good Shepherd Sunday 8:30am - Livestream 8:45am - Sun. School 9:30am - Petting Zoo 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 5pm - Worship	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - Heart Lifters	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6:30pm - Bethel Bible	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell	4pm - Staff Happy Hour		

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

