

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

A year ago, MGD (Men of Gloria Dei) had just gotten back from Spring Training in AZ and everything shut down. A year later, let me mention a few things I've learned, or relearned:

God is good. We cling to the cross, which means God's love. We've lost loved ones this past year and yet, God will find a way. My year long refrain has been from Lutheran pastor and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer: *...we shall remember all the days we lived through, and our whole life shall then be yours alone.*

The church is never closed. We're slowly coming through this and in ways stronger - baptisms, weddings, first communions, new ministries, confirmations, giving, new members - all this took place. Live-streaming services, use of our courtyard will continue.

Dreams are still happening. We'll be making announcements about future plans ("Growing Young") and staffing. Much of this will happen at our Ministry Celebration (a.k.a. Annual Meeting) in June.

Keeping on. We'll keep wearing masks, caring about everyone's health and we'll keep singing. By the way, very few churches are singing. It's because of our setting and people wearing face coverings.

Holy Week will be a bit different this year. For Easter, we'll be taking reservations, but we will celebrate, pray, rejoice, sing like our lives depend on it. It will feel that good and feel that important.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor David R. Mattson

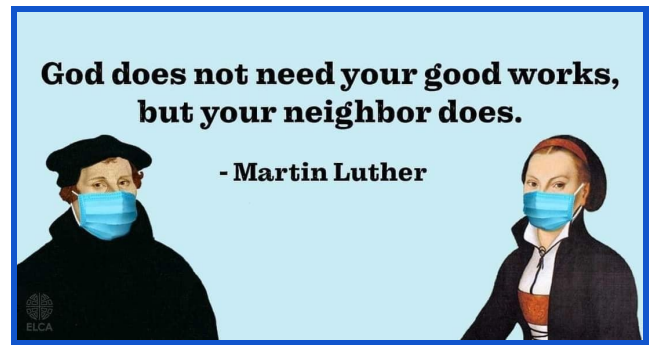


THE BIG THING

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

LENT 2021 focuses on scripture and works of art which illustrate it. Every Wednesday services are being held at noon. 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. *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.



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). Thanks to Jeff Contestabile for creating the Candlelighting 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.
- Easter - Resurrection Sunday (April 4, 6:30am-outside; 8:30am, and 10am). Reservations will be taken for Easter for each service so that there's room for everyone. Call the church office to put in your name and number or fill out a form on Sunday morning and place it in an offering box. Registration forms will also be online at mygloriadei.org.

LATEST FROM CDC (2/22/2021) recommends that people will need to continue to wear masks even after receiving vaccinations. "It's important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Experts are also looking at how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities. We also don't yet know whether getting a COVID-19 vaccine will prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to other people, even if you don't get sick yourself."

Wear masks in public settings, at events and gatherings, and anywhere they will be around other people (especially when singing!).

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.

And, 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 am excited for the many musical offerings we will receive this month!

- The bell choir will play for Holy Week and Easter
- Our section leaders will sing Fred Johnson's arrangement of "Love Changes Everything."
- Choir members, section leaders, handbell musicians, string and wind ensemble members will represent Gloria Dei this month in the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Easter Celebration. 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 leads our music for Wednesdays during Lent. Join us for this short service of testimony and hymns--an excellent midweek recharge. 12 noon.
- **TGOF** on our Youtube channel brings us more great music with a message. Tune in every Friday to hear Pastor's prayers and special songs led by Micaela Lum.
- **BRASS PRACTICE** - Resumes each Wednesday at 4pm starting March 2nd. 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!
- Thanks to Sharon Guilliams, Jim Bankson, and other members for singing and playing during this time

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.

First Communion participants will design and paint their own communion chalices at All Fired Up in San Clemente (143 Avenida Granada San Clemente (949) 498-3929). Chalices are available now and need to be completed by March 20th - just let them know you are from Gloria Dei Church. The studio is open everyday from 12:00 -6:00 pm. If you have any questions please contact Barb Collins.

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 MARCH 12, 6:00 PM - A year after our bowling night was cancelled due to COVID, let's try our luck again shall we? Bowling at Saddleback Lanes here we come! Contact Paige if you'd like to attend.

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY (6th-8th graders) meets with Youth Director Paige, Children and Family Ministry Director Barb Collins, and Pastor David on Sundays - March 7 and 21, right after the 10am service. We will be meeting in person on March 7. 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.

VALENTINES CARDS - Thank you to all who helped make valentine cards for our shut-ins. You helped spread love to all!



PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

We wrapped up our 2021-2022 registration and the preschool is full. This is good news considering the year we've all had.

You can tell Spring is in the air; the kids are very active physically and vocally. The screams, the laughter, and the active imaginations are in full bloom. We're starting this month off by celebrating the books of Dr. Seuss. Parents are signing up to come read a favorite story to their child's class. We will also celebrate God's greatest creatures by having "stuffed animal" day, and a visit from the Lizard Wizard (an all time favorite here!). I suspect a mischievous leprechaun will make a mess in the classrooms on St. Patrick's Day, and we'll end the month with our favorite Easter activities. All good things are in Gloria Dei Preschool!

"When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you, till it seems as though you could not hang on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn."

~Harriet Beecher Stowe

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.

LENT SOUP SUPPER, AT-HOME, RECIPES - Here are some wonderful soup recipes that were shared by our church members. Thank you so much!

Tomato Fennel Soup -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HGQSFUpC8uz3_2eruMHGRvYkGFAEoVpiGLBd83joi14/edit?usp=sharing

Butternut Squash Soup -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xQHSOQPX8afCfZQ6Kpla3LR6FCFSxxnGFhBqdGSa5VU/edit?usp=sharing>

Chunky White Bean Soup -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eay9RtlxrtzfOCdqUh64I3EL5_Idq46HJDdglhzTZBU/edit?usp=sharing

Lasagna Soup -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/11hexqBEUKMIG5VpWJ5ALFSrDFtZJnW7Lb4OED-R3XG0/edit?usp=sharing>

Potato Leek Soup -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oKzGUVzDBLy8_Hb0tennCQ0q7hiY8O2wRy4J9IzUHaE/edit?usp=sharing

Turkey Vegetable Soup -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nkA16W_pvYnjN1QUhHeoSM8oxEX3puRrBD16FU5YvJo/edit?usp=sharing

Tortellini Soup -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SGovr3YVSC8oGFNV-eDi8eSIC0jIRsQ5nZxHC-sL_SA/edit?usp=sharing

Tomato and Roasted Red Pepper Chimichurri Soup -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F7KGWxMaZsQaVT5qEZ0-iu1EaheLKFAfrusz0vIxRMw/edit?usp=sharing>

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 Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes. 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*. **They will resume meeting again on March 23 in Knudson Hall.** 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, March 13th 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.

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

NEW MEMBERS



Maria & Bret Boyd



Til Dancker



Dellita & Mike Kobold



Ashleigh, Reed, Easton & Kevin Jensen

Mark, Liz, Cole & Samantha Flippin not pictured.



Cathy Savage

BAPTISMS

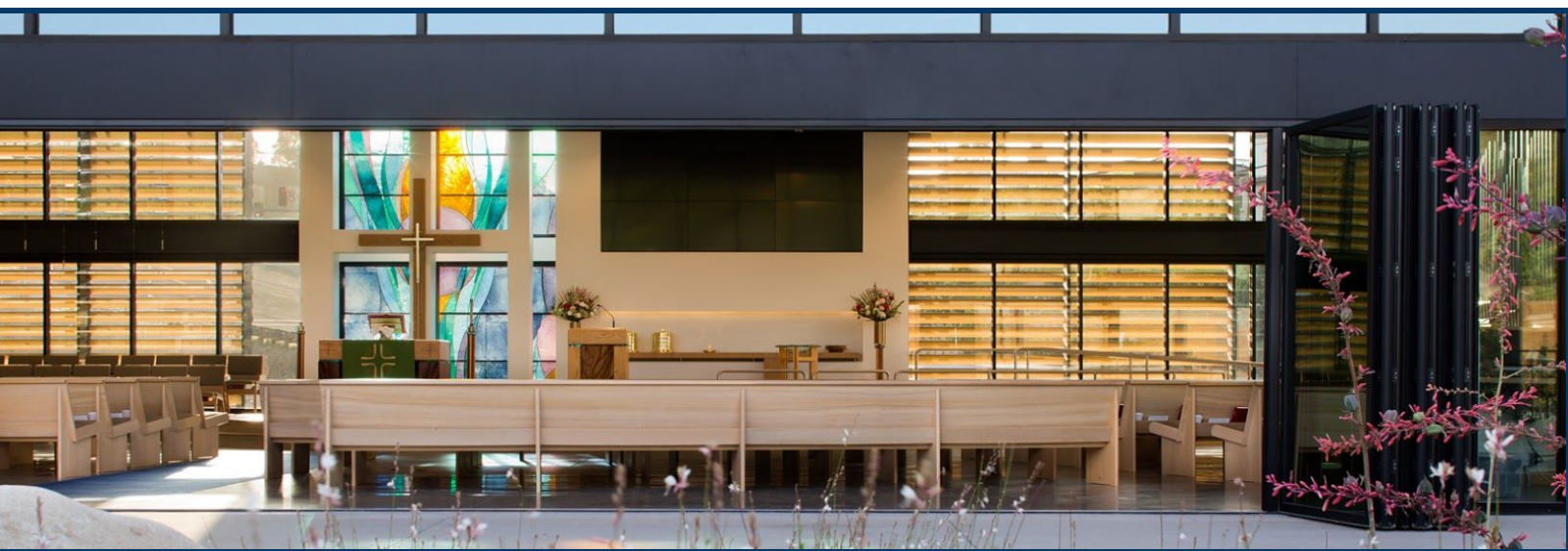


Palmer Masciorini (Connie Masciorini's Grandson)



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 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 in Knudson Hall on the first Monday of the month, at 6:30pm. **We will meet March 1 in Knudson Hall.** 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 March 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 March 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 every 1st & 3rd **Thursday** of the month. Social 6:30 PM; Study 7pm - 8pm. Book: "PRAYING WITH POWER" by Christa Kinde is available on Amazon & Christianbook.com or contact Ann St. Martin, who has 3 copies. To be added to the Zoom link, please 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.

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 meet in Knudson Hall on March 6.** 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*. **March 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 - Los Angelitos orphanage, Tijuana Mexico



Dear Gloria Dei Church,

We are grateful to God to have a big family like you supporting us. We pray everyday that you are happy and have good health. Hope we can see you soon. We love you mucho!

The children of Los Angelitos Orphanage

To learn more about our orphanage ministry, call the church office to contact David or Susan Warneke.





DEI-LY DETAILS

ATTENDANCE and LIVESTREAM VIEWS

2/7: 256

2/14: 275

2/17 (Ash Wed.): 198

2/21: 325

2/28: 313

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 ", 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.

THANKS

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

Dear Gloria Dei Youth,

Thank you so very much for making Valentines cards for our “shut-in” members of Gloria Dei. Pastor David and I received many calls of thanks and gratitude from the folks who received them & wanted to be sure to share their thanks with you via the newsletter. Your time and effort in sharing God’s love really makes an impact!

Carol Weinhardt
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Administrative Assistant

Dear Friends,

Thank you for taking action to love your neighbor through your recent gift to Lutheran World Relief, given through Pacifica Synod. Here is an example re: how your support makes a difference.

When Ebola broke out in the Democratic Republic of Congo, few organizations could reach the most at-risk communities. Deep poverty and ongoing violence have isolated these neighbors and made them afraid of outsiders. This distrust fueled the spread of the deadly virus.

But, because of your generosity, neighbors like Katembo Mastaki Barnabas got the treatment they needed to overcome Ebola. Thanks to you, our long history of service in these communities has created a legacy of trust, enabling us to go door-to-door in vulnerable communities to educate families on symptoms and prevention. This early intervention spared countless lives.

Love can truly change the world and for families like Banabas’s your love looks like a trusted friend, a skilled doctor when you’re sick and a clean bill of health. Thank you!

Ambassador Daniel Speckhard
President and CEO of Lutheran World Relief

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 leaders of the church and world.

With appreciation,
Raymond Pickett, Rector

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, Tom Vlahos, Betsy Dubow, Virginia Anderson and Ingrid Schuller.

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



MARCH 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 <u>Church Office:</u> (949) 493-3414; Fax: (949) 493-6479; <u>Preschool:</u> (949) 493-3414 x209 <u>Website:</u> mygloriadei.org ; <u>Email:</u> gloriadei@mygloriadei.org <u>Facebook Page:</u> 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
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MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:30pm - GIFT Group	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 12pm - Lenten Worship 4:30pm - 1st Comm.	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell	8am - TGOF - Thanking	9am - Prayer Shawl
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 11:15am - Confirm. Ed.		7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - Heart Lifters 7pm - Church Council	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 12pm - Lenten Worship 4:30pm - 1st Comm.	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell	8am - TGOF - Thanking	8am - Men's Bible 9:15am - Women's
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship	Preschool Obstacle Course in Top Parking Lot 2pm - RIOT Book Club	7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 7pm - The Shack Group	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 12pm - Lenten Worship 4:30pm - 1st Comm. 6pm - DHHS Baja	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell	8am - TGOF - Thanking	8:30am - Serra's
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship 11:15am - Confirm. Ed.		7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - Heart Lifters	7am - AA Meeting 8am - Preschool Reptile 10am - Women's Bible 12pm - Lenten Worship 1pm - Ken Anderson's	7am - AA Men 6:30pm - Bell	8am - TGOF - Thanking	9:30am - Quilting
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
First Communion 8:30am - Livestream 10am - Worship		7am - AA Men 2pm - Staff Meeting 4pm - Brass Practice	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible			

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

