Gloria Dei Lutheran Church DEI-LY LIGHT



SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

The excitement is building. So far, so good - Communion, refreshments and fellowship are back; The Preschool is now into the regular year; Senior High Youth, Confirmation, and younger youth activities will take place; Pastoral Intern Veronica Gould has joined us, and there are several new Bible studies, groups coming this fall, besides musical groups planning to begin if they are safe to do so.

The excitement is building. To keep things moving forward, please continue to follow CDC guidance:

• Get vaccinated when you are able; If you feel unwell, stay home; Wear a mask if you haven't been vaccinated; Pray regularly for the health of our community and world.

RALLY SUNDAY is September 12:

• There will be special music; installation of Sunday school teachers and adult education leaders; New Member Orientation/Brunch will take place at 11am; Regular programming and ministries will be back to almost normal. That's the plan anyways.

May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be confident knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us. Amen. (St. Therèse of Lisieux and St. Theresa of Avila)

Yours in Christ,

David & Watt

Pastor David R. Mattson

THE BIG THING

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

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI

For those interested in officially joining the Gloria Dei family, there are two ways to do this:

1) Transfer your membership from another Lutheran congregation (call the church office), or

2) Attend the Adult Inquiry Class (Pastor David teaches this class on the basics of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective) on Saturday, September 11, 9am.

To everyone joining, there is a **New Member Orientation Lunch** (meet staff and others joining and hear about the ministry/programs) on Sunday, September 12, 11am in Knudson Hall. New members will be officially received in worship on Sunday, September 19.

PRAYER LABYRINTH

On Saturday, September 11, a prayer labyrinth will be set up in the courtyard outside of the sanctuary. There will be a pamphlet that guides you through this time of prayer. The labyrinth will be open from 9am-3pm. Watch for the sign-up at the Welcome Table or call the church office. Gloria Dei prays!



PASTOR INTERN VERONICA GOULD

A little bit about her - She was raised Lutheran, a graduate of Williams College and Princeton Seminary. She's finishing her "Lutheran" year at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and began her nine months of learning and ministry on August 17.

Most recently, she has been serving as pastoral resident at Parkview Presbyterian Church in Sacramento since 2018. We had an official welcome on Sunday, August 22 during worship.

NEW HAPPENINGS...

- WEDNESDAY BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY IS BACK! The first and third Wednesday of every month, beginning <u>September 15</u>, 7am at RJ's in the Harbor. It's a great way to start the day! Breakfast and study will be about an hour. To begin, we'll be looking at the Gospel for the coming Sundays and then the group will decide what book of the Bible to study.
- **3RD 5TH GRADE GROUP**: Besides the usual Jr. and Sr. High events and activities, we will continue to rev up this young group. The Children and Family Director will be meeting with children and parents to plan quarterly events. This is a great way for kids to get to know one another and to strengthen the future youth group. (See Children's Ministry announcements).
- **CONFIRMATION** begins with an Orientation on Sunday, September 19, 11:15am. This is for all 6th-8th graders and is the official response to the promise a parent makes at their child's Baptism "to provide for their instruction in the Christian faith." Basically, this group meets the first and third Sunday of each month for class, lunch, and is also involved in service opportunities. To see the schedule, go to the website: https://www.mygloriadei.org/confirmation-program/

SHELLI PARAJECKAS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR





Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

Our school year is off to a full start. We have been able to enroll to full capacity, and we added three amazing, new teachers to our roster.

As we enter September, our students are settling into their routines, and teachers are providing a social and emotional curriculum for now. Our students will be celebrating their grandparents with a special visit day where grandparents will be able to be on campus and join their grandchildren for

chapel. This is going to be a great year for Gloria Dei Preschool!

"With each sunrise we are given a chance for a new beginning!"

To contact Shelli Parajeckas go to preschool@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) - Our Sunday school year will begin on Rally Sunday, September 12th and is available at both morning services. Sunday school attendees will leave the church service after the children's message for Sunday school instruction and rejoin their families for Communion.

Sunday school will be held upstairs in Knudson Hall. Sunday school classes are

divided with four year olds - 2nd grade children meeting in one classroom and 3rd-5th graders meeting in the other classroom. All students and teachers will be masked while indoors.

Sunday school instruction includes music, bible lessons and games. If you are interested in teaching Sunday school, please contact Barb Collins via email at <u>sundayschool@mygloriadei.org</u> or call the church office.

NURSERY - A nursery is now available for young children to preschool age during worship. Please pick up a pager after signing your child in.

<u>3-5th Grade</u> - Next event will take place in October. Look for details in upcoming bulletins. Any questions, please contact the church office or Barb Collins <u>sundayschool@mygloriadei.org</u>.





S'mores fun this summer! Some more fun coming this October!



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

• **Sanctuary Choir** has a full season of music planned for worship! While we wait for the "go ahead" to begin rehearsals, you will see us in the congregation helping with the hymns. We invite you to celebrate the good news in song with us. Choir is for everyone!

Bell Choir returns this month. Welcome new ringer Brenda Gaumer! Our first rehearsal will be Thursday, September 9th at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. We have room for more musicians. Contact music@mygloriadei.org

- **Summer Concerte** Theoly you to all whe attended our Wednesday secuel concerts **N**
- **Summer Concerts** -Thank you to all who attended our Wednesday casual concerts. More to come next summer. Thank you for supporting Music at Gloria Dei!

Do you play an instrument? There is an ensemble/opportunity for you! Questions? Email Kathy <u>music@mygloriadei.org</u>

PAIGE GULCK, YOUTH DIRECTOR



YOUTH NEWS JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: Confirmation begins with a first class and parent's orientation on **Sunday, September 19, 11:15am** in Bankson Hall. Lunch is served. Confirmation for Junior High will take place the first and third Sunday of each month. Go to for details: <u>www.mygloriadei.org/confirmation-program</u>.

CONFIRMATION SUMMER EXCURSION: Incoming 6th graders through 8th graders got together this summer for an escape room adventure. Given one hour to find clues on how to escape the room, the group did a great job at finding pieces of the puzzle, but didn't quite get out in time. It was everyone's first time, and given another chance to escape, this smart group of kids could definitely do it!

SR. HIGH SUMMER TRIP: While the whitewater evaded us, the group still had a great time paddle boarding, kayaking, inner-tubing, and rock jumping in the rain!

SENIOR HIGH PLANNING PARTY: Come help plan your year of FUNdraising and activities. Meet at Beach Harbor Pizza in the Harbor, **Sunday, September 26 at 11:30 a.m.** to plan the year ahead.

COLLEGE CLUB: For those 18-23 year olds out there who are staying local for college, we'd like to start a group just for you! Join us for coffee and chat at Coffee Importers in the Harbor on **Saturday, September 25 at 4:00 p.m.**







DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

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

Hope you all had a relaxing summer! We are looking forward to enjoying some fellowship as we hopefully continue to be able to come together in faith and friendship!

BEACH PARTY - Doheny State Beach, Sunday, September 19, 4pm. Hot dogs and s'mores will be provided by the church. Bring a drink and a side dish to share. Details & a sign-up sheet coming soon.

WOMEN'S EVENTS -

• WOMEN'S GROUP SUCCULENT PLANTING EVENT - Saturday, September 25th at 10:00am (outdoor event) - We will be providing the planters and all the plants to make a beautiful arrangement. Sign up at the Welcome Table. Payment due day of event. \$35.00 cash, check, or Venmo - @GloriaDei-DanaPoint.



 GLORIA DEI WOMEN'S COOKBOOK - We will be creating a Gloria Dei Cookbook and would love to begin collecting recipes. Email recipes you would like included to fellowship@gloriadei.org.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 2pm.* The group meets in Knudson Hall. Their next meeting is September 20. They are reading *The Doctors Blackwell* by Janice P. Nimara. 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 meeting in person on September 28 at O'Neill's Bar & Grill (26772 Avery Parkway, Mission Viejo/Arroyo Trabuco Golf Course). They will be reading *Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes. For information contact Craig Backhus or the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS -

Trick or Trunk - Sunday, October 24th at 5pm-

Decorate your trunk and come ready to pass out some candy or treats to passing-by ghosts and goblins! Games and a costume contest will complete the evening! We will also have the In-N-Out Burger Truck serving up dinner!

JULY & AUGUST HAPPENINGS...



3RD - 5TH GRADERS HAVING S'MORE FUN!









A little Bylaw business... And A LOT OF MAGICAL FUN!





WELCOME PASTOR INTERN VERONICA!















GROWING TOGETHER!

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

ALL STUDIES WILL BE IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL

G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER) - Led by David & Susan Warneke is typically held in Knudson Hall on the first Monday of the month, at 6:30pm. On September 13, we are studying Ephesians 4:1 - 4:16, lesson 7. To join, contact the church office 949-493-3414 or <u>gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u>, 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 in person* with Pastor David leading the study. This group will meet on September 11. Please let Pastor David know that you plan to attend and there will be a place set for you. They are working through the Gospel of Mark. All men are welcome.

HEART LIFTERS WOMEN'S EVENING STUDY - 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month. Social 6:30 PM; Study 7pm - 8pm. They will meet again on September 28 at Donna Combe's home. This first in-person meeting will be strictly social. When they meet in October, they will study *"Praying with Power"* by Christa Kinde (Amazon & <u>Christianbook.com</u>). For more information contact Ann St. Martin, Donna Combe or the office at 949-493-3414 or <u>gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u>.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Every Wednesday, 10am, Knudson Hall, beginning September 15. This study is led by a pastor. All women are invited to join in! Watch for an email/bulletin announcement regarding gathering.

WEDNESDAY BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY - 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7am-8am, meeting at RJ's restaurant in the Harbor. Led by a pastor. The first study will be on September 15.

THE BETHEL BIBLE SERIES - A two year intensive overview of the entire Bible to learn "the big picture" may be started in the fall depending upon the interest level - If you are interested in exploring this option, please contact Pastor David at pastordavid@mygloriadei.org.

DEI-LY SERVICE

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

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - This ministry invites people of all ages to join their group. They meet the *first Saturday of the month at 9am in Knudson Hall.* THeir next meeting is September 4. 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.* September 18 is the next volunteer opportunity. Please join us to help with this important outreach.

THE QUILTING GROUP continues preparing all the quilts from home. The quilts made by this group are provided to our newly Baptized infants & children. If interested in helping, please call the office or Donna Combe.

SOUTH COAST LITERACY COUNCIL - this is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization, whose mission is to assist adults in south Orange County to acquire English language skills. In September, they will continue to meet

Thursday mornings 10am - 12pm. If interested in volunteering, contact the office gloriadei@mygloriadei or 949-493-3414.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY - Los Angelitos orphanage, Tijuana Mexico

Ed Perry (Founder and Executive Director of Los Angelitos) asks his friends at Gloria Dei to keep the children of Los Angelitos, and Ed himself, in fervent and consistent prayers.

Covid in Tijuana is still at a fever pitch due to its large population (around 2 million people) living in crowded conditions, its poor sanitation, lack of social distance and health care infrastructure.

The children are still in 'lock-down' and not allowed any activities outside the home or to participate in group social interactions. All school learning is through State sponsored educational TV programs or limited zoom-style computer courses. The kids are a bit stir-crazy to say the least, but are remarkably adaptable and making the best of it.

The orphanage has recently taken in 4 additional children: two 5-year-olds, a 6-year-old and a teenager. This was a big commitment because times are very lean at the orphanage, but these kids were in a tough spot and are a real blessing from God.

Ed shared that the financial situation is difficult right now. The orphanage is relying on the monthly gifts from Gloria Dei and on the gifts from some of our members to meet expenses.

The children at Los Angelitos send their love and gratitude to their Gloria Dei family.

For more information regarding Los Angelitos, orphanage ministry, call the church office to contact David or Susan Warneke.





DEI-LY DETAILS

ATTENDANCE and LIVESTREAM VIEWS 7/4: 335 7/11: 326 7/18: 351 7/25: 316 8/1: 322 8/8: 294 8/15: 307 8/22: 308 8/29: TBD

"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: <u>www.mygloriadei.org/donate</u>. 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, 46 niches and 4 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.

MGD (Men of Gloria Dei)

















THANKS

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

To the Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Thank you very much for the beautiful prayer shawl. It is so well made and also one of my favorite colors. I will keep it with me through all of my college years.

Thanks again, Nico Pysz

Thanks to Paige, Emma and the other staff & congregation members who helped make our Sr. Youth river rafting trip to the Kern River possible this past summer. We had an amazing trip in "God's country"!

Ava, Carter, Connor, Erik, Garrett, Presley & Scott



Dear Pastor Mattson,

Thank you for conducting Ken's interment in the columbarium. It was a blessing to be able to honor his desire to have his ashes interred there. Your time and comforting words are much appreciated.

Sincerely, The Anderson Family

Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,



This day we are celebrating Bianca's birthday. She is now 16 years old. With your support, everything is possible!

Thank you & Blessings, Los Angelitos Orphanage

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 for 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 and Frieda Avery, Blaine Johnson, Alice Anderson, Debby Campominosi, Mary Lou and Denny Walters, Jean Meinholtz, Kay Hendrickson, Jeri Steck, Gwen Layritz, Joann Groon, Gerd & Lars Talstad, Virginia Moore, Ingrid Schuller, Gini Sherwood, Sue Swenson

PRAYERS OF COMFORT - We pray for Hilma Patterson's family, as they mourn her passing; We pray for Gene Rathbun and family on the death of Gene's wife, Annie.

PEACE AND SAFETY for all our service men and women now serving around the world. We also pray for peace and help, especially in Afghanistan. Prayers for the Haitian people as they recover from their recent natural disasters. Also peace and safety for our frontline emergency and healthcare workers treating those infected with the Coronavirus and other ailments.

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 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 <u>gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u>).

DEI-LY DUTIES



SEPTEMBER 2021 VOLUNTEERS

We are requesting help for altar guild, coffee prep/clean up, communion assistants, lectors, ushers & welcome center greeters. We sent out a volunteer calendar for May - September. If you would like to be added to the next volunteer schedule, please contact Carol Weinhardt at the office. The October 2021 - January 2022 schedule will be distributed during September.

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

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: gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u> <u>Facebook Page</u>: Facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint

Pastor David R. Mattson <u>pastordavid@mygloriadei.org</u> Pastor Intern Veronica Gould <u>pastorveronica@mygloriadei.org</u> Carol Weinhardt <u>gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u>; Shelli Parajeckas <u>preschool@mygloriadei.org</u>; Paige Gulck <u>youth@mygloriadei.org</u>; Barbara Collins <u>sundayschool@mygloriadei.org</u>; Susie Boland <u>fellowship@mygloriadei.org</u>; Kathy Person <u>music@mygloriadei.org</u>; Fred Johnson <u>organist@mygloriadei.org</u> **SEPTEMBER 2021**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	5 5 7 7 7	1 7am - AA Meeting 12:30pm - Pacifica 7pm - 12 Step Couples 7pm - Covid Long Haul	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 7pm - AA Men Meeting	R	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
5 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	6 5:30pm - Alanon 7pm - Alanon Meeting 7pm - Alanon Meeting	7 7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - Al Anon Meeting	7am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Teacher 7pm - 12 Step Couples	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting	1	7am - AA Men Meeting 7am - AA Men Meeting 8am - Men's Bible 9am - Adult Inquiry 9am - Prayer Vigil- 9:15am - Women's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
12 Rally Sunday 8:30am - Worship 8:45am - Sun. School 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sunday 10:15am - Sunday 11am - New Member 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - GIFT Group 7pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - Alanon Meeting	14 7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Preschool 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 7pm - Church Council	7am - AA Meeting 7am - Breakfast Bible 9am - Grandparents 10am - Women's Bible 7pm - 12 Step Couples	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Saddleback 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting	21	7am - AA Men Meeting 8:30am - Serra's 11am - Memorial Bruce 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
19 New Members received 8:45am - Worship 8:45am - Sun. School 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sunday 11:15am - Conf. Orient. 4pm - Beach Party 5pm - Worship	20 2pm - RIOT Book Club 5:30pm - Alanon 7pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - Alanon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - Al Anon Meeting	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 7pm - 12 Step Couples	23 7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting	24	25 7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - Quilting 10am - Succulent 2pm - ACA Meeting 4pm - College Club 7pm - NA Meeting
26 8:30am - Worship 8:45am - Sun. School 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 6:30pm - NA Meeting	27 5:30pm - Alanon 7pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - Alanon Meeting	28 7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 7pm - Men's Book Club	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 7pm - 12 Step Couples	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting	-	2

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