

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

As I've mentioned, my daughter Emma's playing an online game related to the "*Hallmark Channel*." Basically, you read the title of a Hallmark movie, watch a two minute clip and then write down your prediction of what will happen. The winner is the person who comes closest to actually guessing the plot of the movie. For the most part, these movies are very formulaic, predictable to say the least...

If only life was so easy to script. Sometimes our life takes us down paths we didn't see coming or planning. We thought life would turn out this way, but it's totally different.

But I still think it's important to plan. So, since it's the beginning of 2022, here's a few plans...

- ❖ We will continue with the intern program into 2022 and evaluate all options moving forward.
- ❖ We will pursue a path from the book, "Growing Young."
- ❖ We will attend to major repairs (new roofs) and new ministries under the banner: "*Raise the Roof*."
- ❖ We will look to hire an Associate Pastor in a year and begin this process this year.
- ❖ We will plan to lead our entire Synod in benevolent giving.
- ❖ We will make happen a synod-wide Evangelism (good news) program during the Easter Season.

What are you planning for 2022? A career change. A move. A relationship. An attitude adjustment. Deeper devotion. A new hobby or an old hobby picked up again. Whatever, wherever you walk in 2022, God is with you and for you. I want those words to be for us the first and last words we hear in 2022.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Mattson".

Pastor David R. Mattson



PASTOR VERONICA

In addition to being a preacher, a professor, and a reformer, did you know that Martin Luther had a knack for hosting dinner parties? Along with his wife, Katharina, Luther invited students, colleagues, and other guests to share a meal, conversation, and of course, beer!

This table fellowship was vital to the formation of the early Lutheran church. Around the table, these “protesting” Christians exchanged ideas and built up faith. The book *Table Talk* records

some of their conversations. As always, they had a whole lot to say about grace. Their conversations also related to many contemporary issues, such as ethics, war, vocation, marriage and family, poverty, and the abuse of authority. In other words, they were asking *what does it look like for us to live out our faith in light of God’s grace?*

Today, we are still asking this question. What are the “big questions” on your mind, and how can we bring them into conversation with our faith? Starting in January, I will be hosting our own monthly table talk at a local bar. I’d like to extend a special invitation to the young adults of Gloria Dei! Come, bring a friend, grab a drink, and pull up a chair! If you are interested in being a part of the conversation, please see the sign-up at the welcome table or email me at pastorveronica@mygloriadei.org. Location/Date TBA.

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

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI - Mark your calendars now if you are considering joining the Gloria Dei family. There are two ways to join:

1. You can transfer your membership from another Lutheran church or,
2. attend the Adult Inquiry Class (Jan. 22).

To everyone, there’s a get-to-know-you-brunch, Sunday, January 23, 11:15am.

New members will officially be welcomed during worship on Sunday, January 30.

See the sign-up at the Welcome Table or call the church office if interested.

THANKS from all the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and Preschool Staff for the wonderful Christmas gift from members and friends of the church. It was greatly appreciated by all the staff.

MASK MANDATES STATEWIDE - The state is mandating that masks be worn in all indoor public settings — regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status — for the next four weeks, through Jan. 15, 2022. Since Gloria Dei has already been following this guidance in worship on Sunday mornings, it will now only impact our community groups, Bible studies, etc. Thanks for caring for the community.

ANNUAL MEETING/MINISTRY CELEBRATION will take place on Sunday, February 6, 2022, 11:15am. There will be a light luncheon, a bit of “business” (election of new council members and adoption of budget), and an opportunity to give thanks to God who has brought us through another year.



PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

And here we are...2022! The preschool continues our journey to finish strong; preparing our PreK kiddos for a successful entrance into Kindergarten next fall, achieving milestones like cutting, writing, counting, sorting, toileting, and so much more.

I'm not one to make a resolution or make promises because it's a new year. My goal each year has always been to try and do better in all areas, work hard, be kind, and always be thankful. I pray the holidays were good to everyone, and I look forward to a year of growth, new opportunities, and the constant sound of kids laughing. ♥

To contact Shelli Parajeckas email her at: 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)
during the 10am service.

Sunday school attendees will leave the church service after the children's message for Sunday school instruction in Knudson Hall. Kids rejoin their families

for Holy Communion.

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 resumes after Christmas break on Sunday, January 9. Join in!

NURSERY - A nursery is available for babies to preschool age during both morning worship services. Please pick up a pager after signing your child in.

THANKS to all children and families for participating in the annual Christmas pageant and to Craig Collins for recording and putting the video together.

GOD SQUAD (3rd - 5th Graders) - LaserLand - Wednesday, January 12th, 4pm.

We will meet at LaserLand (27741 Crown Valley #315A, Mission Viejo) and play for an hour followed by pizza at Sal's Pizzeria. The cost is \$25.00 per hour for LaserLand. Pizza will be provided by the church. Please contact the church office or email Barb Collins if you will be attending. As always, feel free to invite a friend! Any questions, please contact the church office or Barb Collins sundayschool@mygloriadei.org.

KATHY PERSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

- **Sanctuary Choir** will resume Thursday, January 13th. Thank you choir for the carols and anthems you provided for our Advent services!
- **Bell Choir** welcomed new members Ashley, Romy, Charlotte, Hailey, and Carter over the holidays. Rehearsals will resume Thursday, January 13th.
- **Special Music** - Guitarist Darius Miertschin will join us for services on January 9th.

- **Brass Group** meets Tuesdays at 5pm. All levels of ability are welcome!

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW! Concordia College Choir (Moorhead, MN) is one of the finest acapella choral groups in the world. They will be performing at Gloria Dei on Wednesday, March 2, 7:00pm.

PAIGE GULCK, YOUTH DIRECTOR



YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT NEWS

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: Classes are January 9 and 23 at 11:15 a.m. Come ready with a Bible to learn all about the Old Testament. For more info on the program please follow the link:
<https://www.mygloriadei.org/confirmation-program/>

SR. HIGH BOWLING BONANZA - Friday, January 21, 7:00 p.m. Are you ready to be bowled over with laughter? Meet at Saddleback Lanes and join us for one of our favorites!

20 SOMETHINGS - Faith on Tap, 21+ years of age. This group plans to meet the last Tuesday of the month at 5pm to have discussions which tap into their faith. Watch for the meeting location and other details in the announcement section of our Worship bulletins.



DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

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

Welcome 2022! - I hope you all had a beautiful Christmas season and a Happy New Year! We are looking forward to, hopefully, a fellowship event filled 2022! We will keep you posted as we add events and look forward to getting together in faith and friendship!

NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON - Sunday, January 23rd at 11:15 - We will be meeting upstairs for a get-to-know-you luncheon. Look forward to the opportunity to chatting and learning a little bit about each other.

GLORIA DEI WOMEN'S COOKBOOK - Thank you so much for all the submissions for the Gloria Dei cookbook, sponsored by the Women's Board. If you still want to pick up a copy, please contact Carol Weinhardt in the office at Gloriadei@mygloriadei.org or call 949-493-3414.

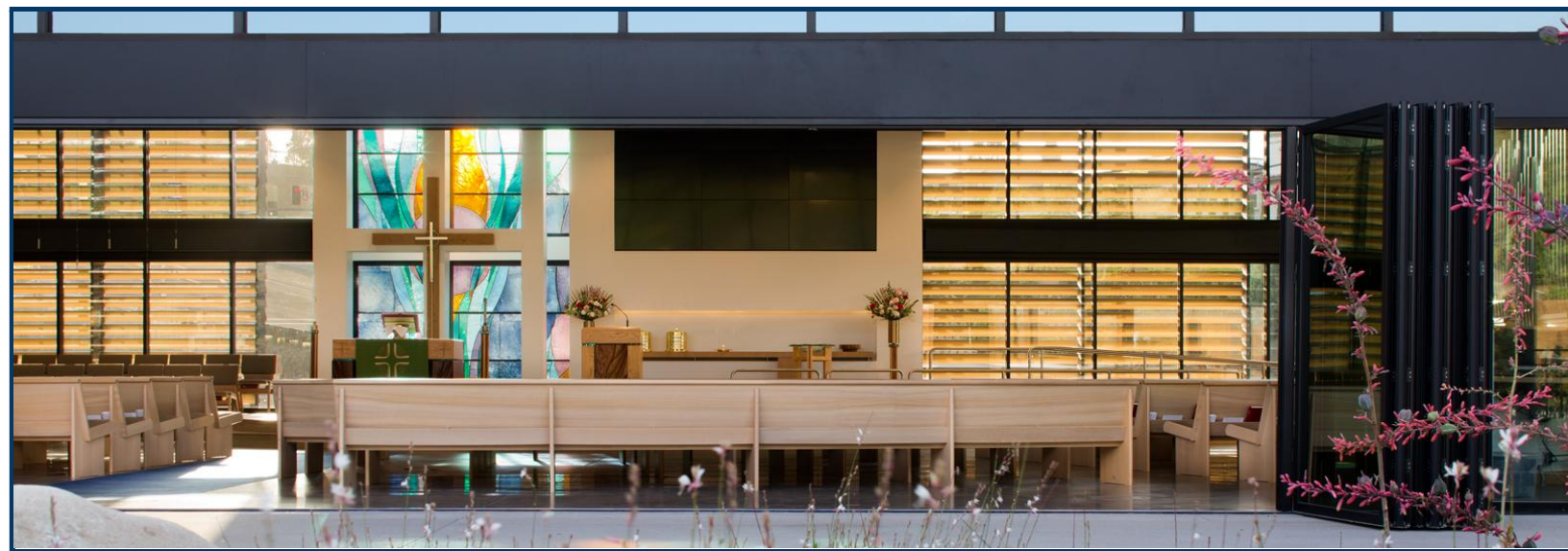
WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 2pm*. The group meets in Knudson Hall. Their next meeting is January 17. They are reading *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley. If you are interested in joining the book club, please contact Diane Kelly or contact the office at 949-493-3414.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm*. They are meeting in person at O'Neill's Bar & Grill (26772 Avery Parkway, Mission Viejo/Arroyo Trabuco Golf Course). They are reading *The Night Portrait* by Laura Morelli & will meet on January 25. For information contact Craig Backhus or the church office.

MEN'S SPRING TRAINING RETREAT is scheduled for March 4 - 6, 2022. The rooms at the Embassy Suite in Tempe have been reserved, tickets for two ball games have been purchased, and now all that needs to happen is for the Major League Baseball lockout to be over!

Preschool Christmas Pageant





GROWING TOGETHER!

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

G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER) - Led by David & Susan Warneke is typically held in Knudson Hall, in the Sunday School room, on the first Monday of the month, at 6:30pm. On January 10 we are studying Ephesians 6:1 - 6:9, lesson 11. 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 in Bankson Hall*. This group will meet on January 8. Please let Pastor David know that you plan to attend and there will be a place set for you. They are working through 1 Thessalonians. All men are welcome.

HEART LIFTERS WOMEN'S EVENING STUDY - 2nd & 4th Tuesday/month. Social 6:30 PM; Study 7pm - 8pm. In January, we will meet on January 11 & 25 at Ann St. Martin's home and will study "*Praying with Power*" by Christa Kinde. Questions: contact Ann St. Martin, Donna Combe or the office at 949-493-3414.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Every Wednesday at 10am, Gloria Dei women (and friends) will meet in the Sanctuary. We reconvene on January 5, 2022, following our Christmas break. This study is led by a pastor. All women are invited to join in! Watch for an email/bulletin announcement regarding gathering.

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*. In January, they will meet on the 8 (second Saturday) instead. 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*. January 15 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. They will meet on Monday and Thursday mornings 10am - 12pm. They resume meeting on January 3, 2022. If interested in volunteering, contact the office gloriadei@mygloriadei or 949-493-3414.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY Los Angelitos orphanage, Tijuana Mexico

We miss you.



We pray for you.



Remember us in your prayers.



Until we meet again...



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

12/5: 359

12/12: 336

12/19: 342

12/24: TBD

12/26: 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.



venmo

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, 49 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.

THANKS

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

Thanks to all who helped set up the Christmas tree! We also look forward to helping dismantling it on Tuesday, January 4 at 11am. Please contact the office if you can help us.

Dear Prayer Shawl Ladies, Thank you for your very kind and generous gift. The shawl is already so cherished and loved in our home. Reed and Easton snuggle it each night. Kevin rests a little easier while he is away knowing I have a church home filled with so much support.

Love Ashleigh, Kevin, Reed & Easton Jensen



Dear Gloria Dei family, Thank you so much for the prayers, calls, cards and meals following my fall. Blaine and I appreciate it all so much. It is wonderful to be part of such a loving family.

With love,

Peggy Johnson

Dear Pastor David, Thank you to Gloria Dei for helping me through COVID and it's isolation this past year or so. My home church is trying to rebound from COVID with a new pastor & some other changes. I am grateful your service remains online and I will continue to tune in periodically online to watch my sis yodel away in the choir, to listen to the sermons and to take Communion. In closing I want to share a short song I sing when I can no longer tolerate the news, the anger and intolerance and all the divisions:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of this earth Will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.
Grace changes everything!

Wishing you all at Gloria Dei a blessed Christmas!

Bonny Bartlett



Dear Gloria Dei: We are grateful to God and to you in this month of thanksgiving. We are so happy to be a part of your family. We love you and God bless you!
The children of Los Angelitos Orphanage

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent generous donation to Lutheran World Relief given through Pacifica Synod ELCA. Your donation helped purchase an emergency announcement system to warn families living on the banks of the river to move their family & livestock to higher grounds prior to flood waters arriving. The donation has also enabled them to learn new farming techniques like growing food on rooftops or in hanging baskets, so their vital crops don't wash away in floods. Now the families along the riverbank can rest easier at night knowing their crops and futures are more secure. Thank you for your generosity! We are proud to carry your love, and God's love, to the places it's needed most.

Warm Regards,

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard, President & CEO for Lutheran World Relief

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 & Peggy Johnson, Alice Anderson, Debby Campominosi, Mary Lou & Denny Walters, Jean Meinholtz, Kay Hendrickson, Gwen Layritz, Lars Talstad, Virginia Moore, Ingrid Schuller, Marj Knudson, Susag family.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT for the family of Joann Groon as they mourn her passing. Prayers also for Bret Boyd & family as they mourn his mother's passing. In addition, prayers for the Weinhardt family as they mourn the passing of Carol's mom, Jeri Steck. Please add prayers for Len Michel's family as they mourn his passing.

PEACE AND SAFETY for all our service men and women now serving around the world. We also pray for peace and help in so many parts of the world with political unrest, posing safety issues on a daily basis. 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"* (January - March 2022), 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



JANUARY 2022 VOLUNTEERS

We will work from our 2021 time & talent schedule through January 31, 2022.

Please pray on it & complete your 2022 time and talent, which was part of the stewardship packet. Sign up to help out...there are so many ways to lend a hand! The new time & talent assignments will be sent out in January & will begin in February 2022. Please contact Carol Weinhardt if you have any questions.

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.

JANUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Preschool Christmas Vacation						
						7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 2pm - ACA Meeting
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Preschool Christmas Brass Play 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	Preschool Resumes 10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon	7am - AA Men Meeting 11am - Undecorating 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Meeting 12:30pm - Pacifica Synod 7pm - 12 Step Couples 7pm - Covid Long Haul	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7:30pm - Sanc. Choir		7am - AA Men Meeting 9:15am - Women's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - Conf. Class 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Meeting 9am - Bubblemania 10am - Women's Bible 4pm - God Squad Laser 7pm - 12 Step Couples	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 11am - Virginia Lee 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting		7am - AA Men Meeting 8:30am - Serra's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	Preschool Holiday 10am - Literacy Group 2pm - RIOT Book Club 5:30pm - Alanon	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - The Shack Group	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 7pm - 12 Step Couples	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Internship 6:30pm - Bell Choir	7pm - Sr. High Bowling	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Adult Inquiry 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Concordia Irvine Bell 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - Conf. Class 11:15am - New	10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon	Preschool 7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Men's Book Club	Preschool Vision 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 7:30pm - Sanc. Choir		7am - AA Men Meeting 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
New Member Sunday 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:30am - Hilma	10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon					

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

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

<p>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</p>	<p>Pastor David R. Mattson pastordavid@mygloriadei.org Pastor Intern Veronica Gould pastorveronica@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</p>
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