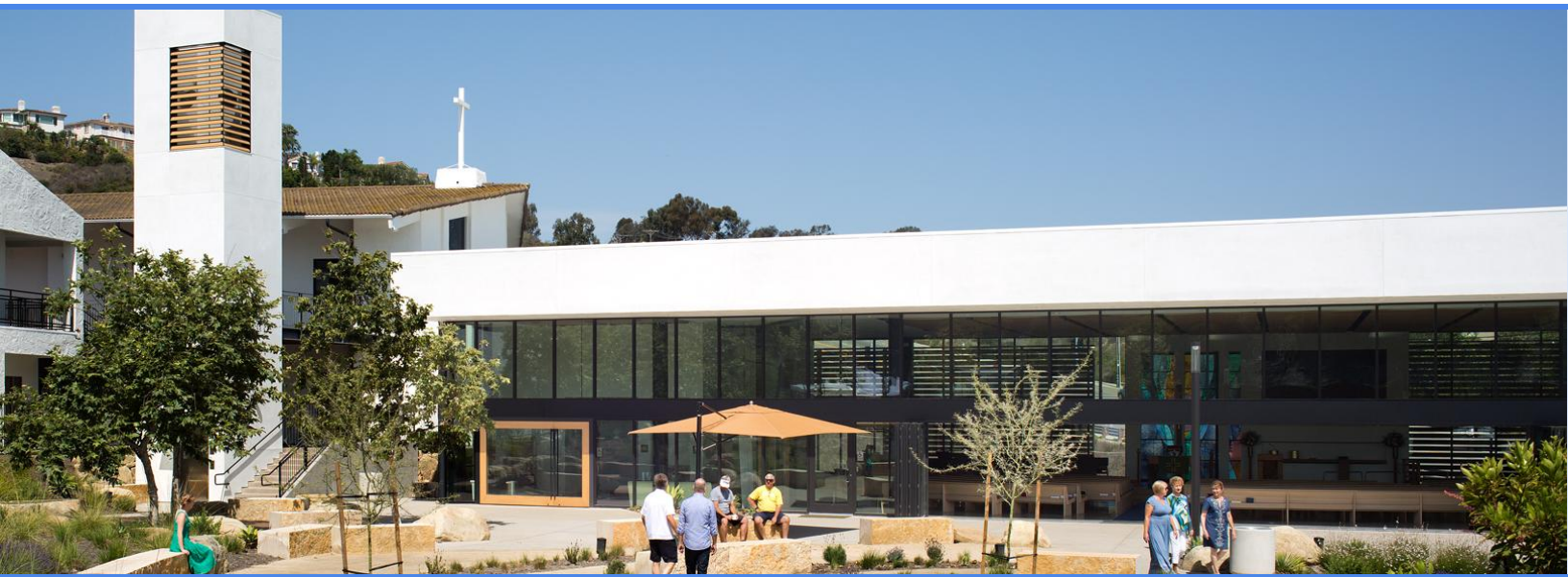


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

The Lenten Season doesn't begin until March, but I'm getting a jump on it. Lent is the 40 day preparation for Easter. The lessons/themes follow Jesus as He travels closer to the cross, and then of course, His death on Good Friday - *"What wondrous love is this..."* Here are the details:

- We will again have **"Lenten Hymn Madness"** as our theme. You will get to fill out a bracket (a la basketball's March Madness tournament) and vote for your favorite hymns to advance. Pick up a Hymn bracket before Ash Wednesday (March 2), fill it out, and follow along.
- The plan is to once again have Lenten soup suppers on Wednesdays, 6pm, with a service at 6:30pm.
- First Communion will be offered for children during this time as well. (The first class will be March 9, 5pm.) Watch the bulletin and look for the sign-up at the Welcome Table.
- On Ash Wednesday, there will be three opportunities to receive the **Imposition of Ashes** - March 2: Drop by for a brief prayer anytime between 8am-9am, or noon worship service with Holy Communion, or come to the pre-concert time at 6:30pm and gather at the Baptismal Font.
- On March 2, Ash Wednesday, 7pm, we will have an amazing opportunity to hear one of the great collegiate choirs in the country, **Concordia College Choir**, MN. Tickets are available at the Welcome Table and by going to mygloriadei.org. This is a "don't miss" event and a great kick off for our Lent.

Yours in Christ,

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

Pastor David R. Mattson

P.S. Members, please join us for the Annual Meeting - Sunday, Feb. 6, immediately after the 10am service.



PASTOR VERONICA

...and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. Hebrews 12:1b-2a

I recently joined a swim team for the first time in over a decade. Believe it or not, in high school, I was a lifeguard and varsity swimmer. My events were the 200-meter and 500-meter freestyle. If you aren't familiar with competitive swimming, the "500 free" requires swimming twenty consecutive lengths of the

pool. It requires pacing, endurance, and a whole lot of practice. Suffice it to say, I haven't exactly jumped back into swimming this race, but I have enjoyed challenging myself to recommit to my old discipline of team swimming. It's a lot easier to accomplish my goals when I know I'm not alone. I'm swimming alongside seasoned athletes and first-time team members. I wanted to share a few reflections about faith inspired by swimming.

- **Discover the people who are on your team.** Who is journeying with you in your race of faith? How can you encourage one another?
- **Commit to showing up to every practice.** What spiritual practices are you committing to in this season of life? What is helping you to grow in faith and love?
- **Repetition, repetition, repetition!** We say the same liturgy, pray the same prayers and read the same scripture over and over so we will know them by heart and they become second nature.

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

ANNUAL MEETING will take place on Sunday, February 6, 2022, 11:15am.

All members are encouraged to attend. There will be the election of new council members, the adoption of the 2022 budget, highlighting ministry opportunities for the new year and primarily an opportunity to give thanks to God who has brought us through another year.

MEN'S SPRING TRAINING RETREAT in Tempe, Arizona is scheduled for March 4-6, 2022. This is a very popular event and is a "first-come-first-served" sort of sign-up. The men attend a few spring training ball games (Go Angels!), enjoy great fellowship, and spiritual reflection. If you have not signed-up already, please check to see if there's room and join in. There will be a meeting on February 13, between morning services (9:30am) for all those attending. Questions, speak with Pastor David (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org).

WOMEN'S ONE DAY RETREAT is scheduled for April 9, 2022. The theme is *"I Love to Tell the Story"*. Stay tuned for more information. We plan to host our retreat at the Marina Hills clubhouse. Speaker & other details TBA!

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 February, 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.



PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

As our focus is on learning and achieving milestones, our teachers have opportunities to grow as well. All of us renewed our CPR/First Aid certification this month, and will also complete professional growth hours through Orange County Department of Ed.

Health and safety seem to be the buzz words lately as the pandemic lingers. While our students have a general health check each morning when they arrive, we will also go deeper this month with vision screening by the Elks Project. We also had Sheriff Alin from *Permanent Impressions* on site. Sheriff Alin does fingerprinting and facial imaging, creating an Identity Kit for parents. While none of us ever want to think about worse case events in our children's lives, it's important to be prepared. These kits are for parents to give authorities the minute a child goes missing.

February is Preschool Registration month. Our current families will register for next Fall on February 20th. If you or someone you know are interested in preschool, now is the time to contact the preschool office.

I am filled with hope every day by surrounding myself with my family, good friends, terrific staff, amazing kids, and those who share the same faithful hope.

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. All students and teachers will be masked while indoors.



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.

GOD SQUAD (3rd - 5th Graders) -February 16, 2022, 3:30pm

DOHENY BEACH WHEEL FUN RENTALS - We will meet at Doheny State Beach Wheel Fun Rentals at 3:30pm for an hour long biking excursion! This is a great way for kids to exercise, release energy, & socialize in a safe outdoor environment! Food, beverages & bikes are provided by the church. Sign up at the Welcome Table. Bring a friend!



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

- **Sanctuary Choir** has a full schedule of anthems to prepare for the Lenten Season. Listen for a new (to us) piece called "Let Us Hope" with this great text by David Beebe: "Faith shall see and trust its object; hope shall set its anchor sure; love shall bloom in Love eternal. Faith and hope and love endure."
- **Bell Choir** is working on a bunch of pieces, some new to us, and some old favorites. Coming up in March we'll play an arrangement of "What Wondrous Love is This" for morning services.
- **Chime Choir** This new group meets on Thursdays at 6 pm. We will learn the basics of reading and ringing using choir chimes, which are a new and beautiful addition to our handbell program.
- **Special Music** - We continue to be blessed with amazing musicians in our congregation. Cellist Annika Krafcik played unaccompanied Bach for our services in January. We look forward to more musical offerings in February. Thanks to all our congregation and staff who share their musical gifts!

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



"... you **MUST** see this choir – it's an unforgettable experience."
– Eric Whitacre

THE CONCORDIA CHOIR

Michael Culloton, Conductor

CONCERT

**Wednesday, March 2
7 p.m.**

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
33501 Stonehill Dr.
Dana Point, Calif.

*Tickets available at the door
or at **ConcordiaTickets.com***

Masks will be required for all performers,
staff, and audience members





DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

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

Although we are on a slight hiatus on our Fellowship events, we are looking forward to starting up again as soon as this flare up settles down. Good health and happiness to you all until we can get together for Fellowship again. We look forward to the Concordia Choir on March 2 at 7:00p.m. and then to beginning our Soup/Supper Gatherings on Wednesdays for Lent, beginning on March 9th through April 6th.

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 February 21. They are reading *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. 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 Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles & will meet on February 22. 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!

WOMEN'S GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS -

These are the events we have planned, God willing, with Covid changes.

APRIL 9TH - WOMEN'S ONE DAY RETREAT

MAY 14TH - WOMEN'S TEA

SEPTEMBER 9TH - BUNCO

UPCOMING - Pupparazzi, professional photographer, will be taking pictures at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Saturday, March 19, 12pm - 2pm. Details & sign up coming soon.

PAIGE GULCK, YOUTH DIRECTOR

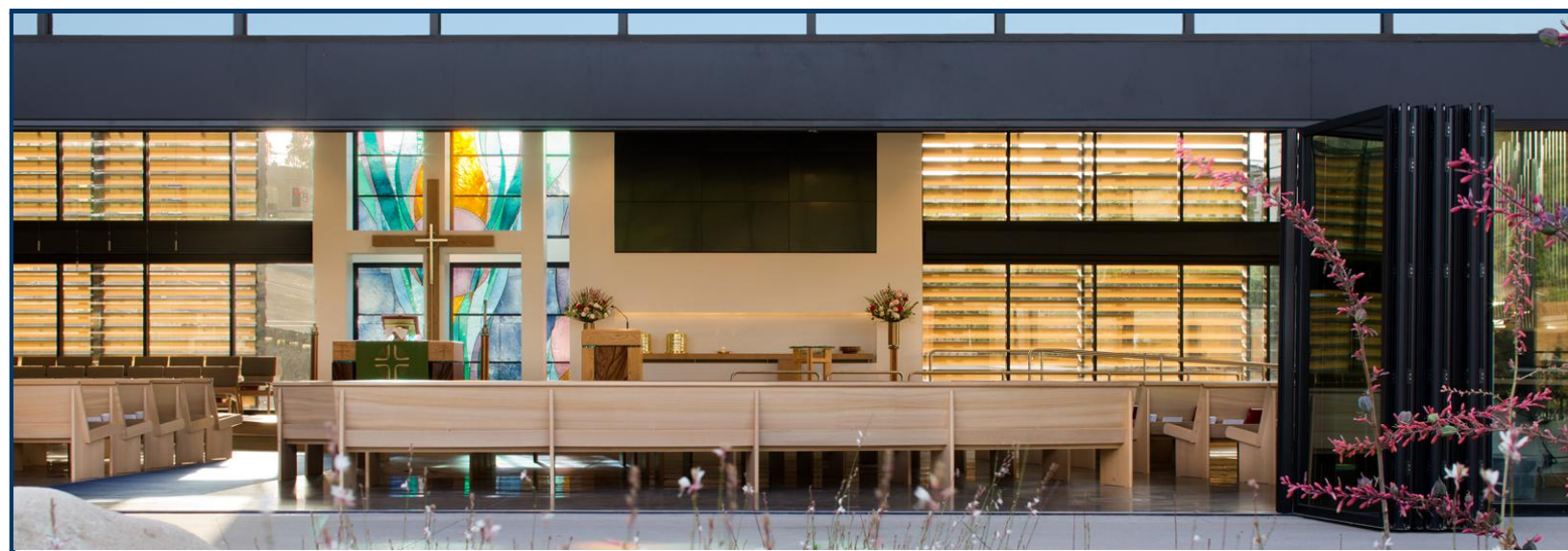


YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT NEWS

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: Classes are February 6 and 20 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/>

SPREAD THE LOVE - Friday, February 11, 6:00 p.m. Come to Knudson Hall to make Valentines to send to our shut-ins. Friends are welcome!

20 SOMETHINGS - FAITH ON TAP - Tuesday, February 22, 5pm; 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. This month will be at Project Social in Dana Point.



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 February 7 we are studying Ephesians 6:10 - 6:24, lesson 12. 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 February 12. 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. We just began our study on *"Royalty and Loyalty; Women Who Loved the Lord"* by Daneen Pysz. \$10/book and books are available at the Welcome Table. This group next meets on February 8 & 22 at Donna Combe's home. 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. 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*. They will meet on February 5. If you know of someone in need of a shawl or would like more information, call Peggy Johnson.

SERRA'S PANTRY - This local volunteer opportunity, in San Juan Capistrano, provides food to those in need. Interested Gloria Dei members serve at Serra's Pantry *every third Saturday of the month at 8:30am*. February 19 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. In February they will take off February 21, 2022, in observance of President's Day. If interested in volunteering, contact the office gloriadei@mygloriadei or 949-493-3414.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY Los Angelitos orphanage, Tijuana Mexico

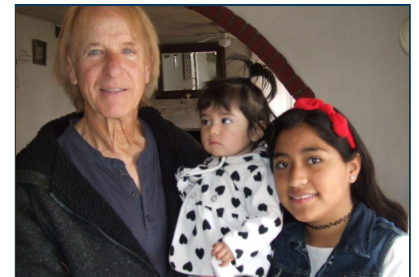
We miss you.



We pray for you.



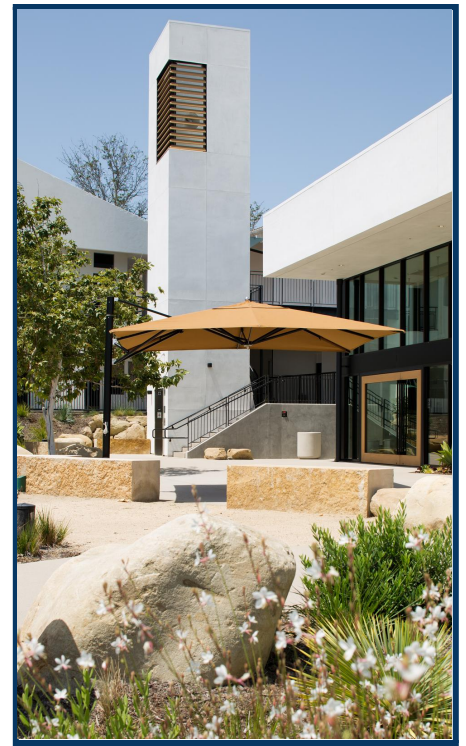
Remember us in your prayers.



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

1/2: 335

1/9: 304

1/16: 327

1/23: 315

1/30: 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.)

Dear Ladies (RIOT Group),

Wow! What a surprise for the boys and I to open such a generous and thoughtful gift. I was really at a loss for words. Thank you for thinking of us; it means more than you know. Kevin was so happy to hear of it too. It brings him comfort while he is away knowing we have a church family. (P.S. We love Pete the Cat!)

Ashleigh, Reed & Easton

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



Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

Thank you for supporting us all these years. We wish you a merry Christmas & Happy New Year! May God bless your home and your family. We love you.

Los Angelitos Orphanage - Alesandra, Mildred, Yadira, Sahayan, Angel, Omar, Luis Jahir, Michelle, Dana, Carlos, Ricardo, Alan, Stephany, Sheeyd, Bianca, Iris, Yuliana, Karla, and Isabella & Carmen Gemelas.

(This Christmas card came right after we had printed the January newsletter, hence the delay in printing.)

Hi Pastor David,

I am wowed once again by Gloria Dei's generosity towards Niko. Once I really looked at the beautiful blanket given to me for Niko's previous baptism, I realized this very soft, beautiful, blue blanket was handmade! What a loving gesture! Please pass on our gratitude for the amazing baptismal quilt & this ever-so-soft blanket. People are so kind & it is really great to see.

Kyna & Niko Shnayderman

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 & Megan Ramirez.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT for the family of Joe Wyson as they mourn his passing. Prayers also for Tim & Denise Boyd's family as they mourn the passing of his mother, Barbara Boyd.

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



FEBRUARY 2022 VOLUNTEERS

New time & talent assignments were sent out on January 14, 2022, primarily via email (although we mailed physical copies to those without an email address). **New time & talent assignments will begin in February 2022.** If you didn't receive your copy, please check your spam folder & if it is not there, please contact Carol Weinhardt at 949-493-3414 or gloriadei@mygloriadei.org. Thank you for your help in 2022!

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.

FEBRUARY 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|----------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Carol vacation | 7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - AI Anon Meeting | 7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 12:30pm - Pacifica Synod 6pm - DHHS Baja 7pm - 12 Step Couples | 7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting | | 7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting |
| 8 | 7 | 7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - AI Anon Meeting | 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 | Free Trimming on 6pm - Sr High Spread | 7am - AA Men Meeting 9:15am - Women's 11am - Blue & Gold 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting |
| 13 | 14 | 10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - GIFT Group | | | | |
| 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - Annual 11:15am - Conf. Class 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting | | | | | | |
| 13 | 14 | 10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon | 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 - AA Men Meeting 7:30pm - Sanc. Choir | Preschool Holiday | 7am - AA Men Meeting 8:30am - Serra's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting |
| 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - Conf. Class 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting | | | | | | |
| 20 | 21 | Preschool Holiday 2pm - RIOT Book Club 5:30pm - Alanon | 7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 5pm - Faith on Tap 21+ 6pm - DHHS Baja 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Men's Book Club | 7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 7pm - 12 Step Couples | | 7am - AA Men Meeting 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting |
| 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - Conf. Class 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting | | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon | | | | |
| 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:30am - Interment 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting | | | | | | |

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRACTICED MAKING HOUSES ON ROCKS. Exercise on how it is not always easy to make God the rock of our lives!



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
Pastor Intern Veronica Gould
pastorveronica@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

