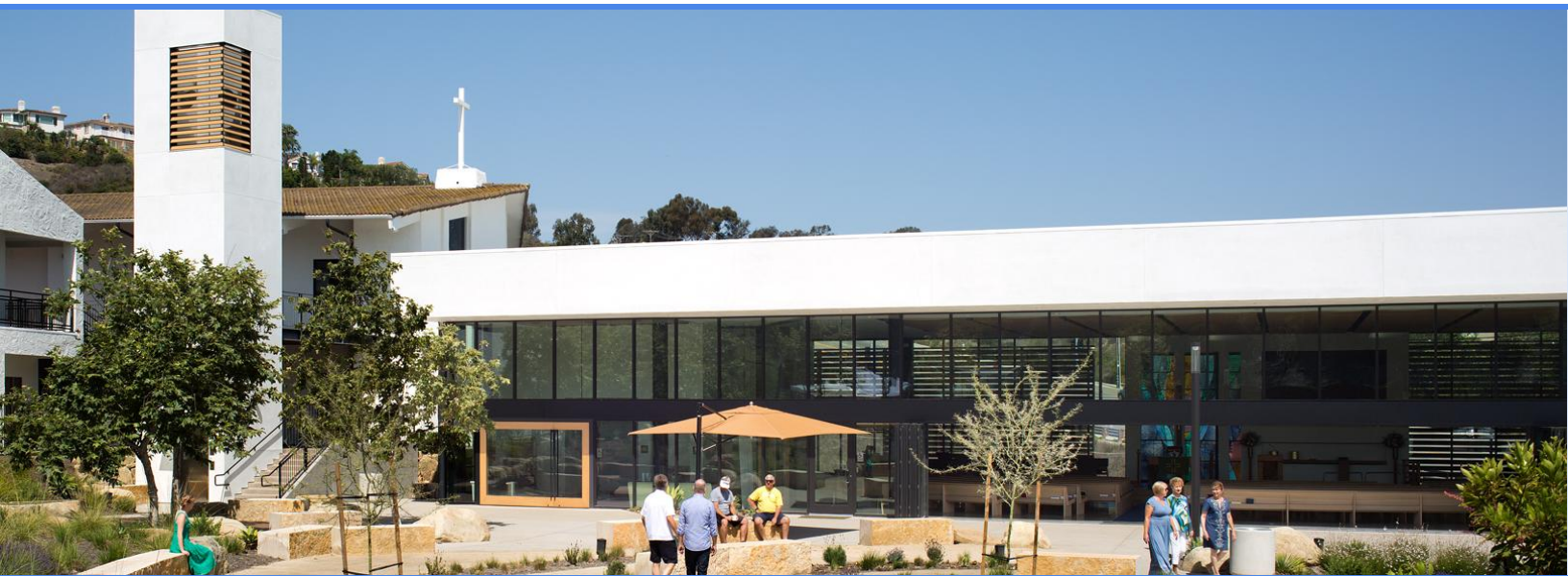


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

"Nimble" has been my word for the last two years. Thanks for being nimble, adaptable, ready or at least willing to change. We've worshiped completely on-line, hybrid, outside, inside and outside... And now...

If you are fully vaccinated, no mask is required inside. Of course, you are welcome to continue to wear a mask, even if fully vaccinated. I will continue to wear one during Holy Communion, at least for a time.

A few additional comments:

- This is the honor system--no checking of vaccination cards. This is between a person and God.
- The most important thing, if you're coughing, feeling at all sick, please stay home and watch the service online. This was, is, and will be about protecting our most vulnerable people.
- We will continue to place bulletins at your place to sit and spread out a bit from others.
- We are so blessed to have fresh air like no other worship space.
- We will have hand sanitizer and additional masks at the Welcome Table.

Will things change again? Of course, that's life. Will we make mistakes? Of course, that's being human. Will we start over? Yes, because we will be empowered through Word and Sacrament.

Speaking of Sacraments, I am very excited to have our friend in Christ, **Michelle Lum** speak at morning worship on March 27. She will speak on Holy Communion and also show her artwork related to this subject.

We celebrate the real presence of Jesus in the sacrament and more than just His mysterious presence, but that He is *Deus pro nobis* - God for you. Never forget! Celebrate! Give thanks!

Yours in Christ,

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

Pastor David R. Mattson



PASTOR VERONICA

Last month I shared some reflections on joining a swim team for the first time since high school. I was amazed at how many people read my article and shared their own swimming stories with me! There's power in sharing stories— stories connect us, they give us common ground, and they are a way of sharing part of ourselves with another person. Perhaps that's why storytelling has such a central place in our faith. Before the scriptures were written down and compiled into our Holy Book,

they were shared by word of mouth. Sacred stories, told around tables and campfires between family and friends. Stories that tell us who we are and who God is.

At Gloria Dei, we often say "Grace Changes Everything". What a powerful proclamation of God's love and power in our lives! I wonder if you have ever had the opportunity to share your own "Grace Changes Everything" story. Or have you had the opportunity to listen to someone else's story? We can find so much strength and encouragement in sharing our faith stories. That's why our Women's Retreat will be focusing on the theme of faith stories. We will spend the day getting to know each other, reflecting on our own walk of faith, and learning how our stories can help to empower others in the church.

Save the Date! April 9, 2022, 9am - 3pm, Women's One Day Retreat at Marina Hills Clubhouse in Laguna Niguel, CA. The theme is *"I Love to Tell the Story"*.

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

LENTEN HYMN MADNESS - Fill out a bracket (a la basketball's March Madness tournament) and vote for your favorite hymns. Pick up a Hymn bracket before Ash Wednesday (March 2), fill it out, and follow along. There will be Lenten soup suppers on Wednesdays, 6pm, with a service at 6:30pm. (Beginning March 9)

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. At 7pm, one of the great collegiate choirs in the country, **Concordia College Choir**, MN in concert. 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.

MEN'S SPRING TRAINING RETREAT in Tempe, Arizona on March 4-6, 2022. Baseball will not happen, but golf, hiking, an NBA game, fellowship & spiritual reflection will occur instead. Questions, speak with Pastor David (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org).

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.

WOMEN'S ONE DAY RETREAT is scheduled for April 9, 2022, 9am - 3pm. It will be held at the Marina Hills clubhouse and lunch will be provided. The theme is *"I Love to Tell the Story"*. Sign-up sheet coming soon at the Welcome Table!



YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT NEWS

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Classes are March 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 go to:

<https://www.mygloriadei.org/confirmation-program/>

SR. HIGH MINISTRY IN MOTION - We are trying something new March through May this year. In addition to our monthly get together, Pastor Veronica and I plan to come out to support your child in their school activities. Whether it be sports, theater, or academic league - we want your kids to know we love and support them no matter where or what they are doing. I will be reaching out to parents to get schedules for the kids' activities. We plan to also invite anyone in the congregation who may be interested in coming out to support via the weekly bulletin.

PUPPARAZZI EVENT - Saturday, March 19, noon - 2pm - Sr. Highers are asked to volunteer at this event. Friends and pets are welcome!

20 SOMETHINGS - FAITH ON TAP: Tuesday, March 22; 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 Docent Brewery in San Juan Capistrano.



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) DOHENY BEACH WHEEL FUN RENTALS - March 4, 2022, 3:30pm. 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** We are preparing music for the Lenten Journey as well as special music for Easter. During the month of March, listen for the song "Everyday God." It will be used in different places and in different ways throughout Lent. Every verse describes daily life and ends in asking God "come be with us."
- **Bell Choir** will play for services in March and April. We are excited to combine with our new Chime Choir for special massed rings that use "all hands on deck" playing both handbells and chimes. It is truly a joyful noise!
- **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. Look for us in March with our first solo called "Tranquil Chimings."
- **Special Music** - Do you have your tickets for the **Concordia College** concert yet? In addition to online purchases we have tickets available at the welcome table on Sundays.

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.

CONCORDIA CHOIR - We welcome the "world renowned" Concordia Choir on March 2, 2022 at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

MEN'S SPRING TRAINING RETREAT in Tempe, Arizona on March 4-6, 2022. Baseball will not happen, but golf, hiking, an NBA game, fellowship & spiritual reflection will occur instead. Questions, speak with Pastor David (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org).

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & WORSHIP - Soup supper gatherings on Wednesdays at 6pm, followed by Lenten worship at 6:30pm in Bankson Hall. They will occur March 9th through April 6th.

WOMEN'S GROUP EVENT - March 12, hike at Strands Headlands with Ren Higgins 10am. Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

PUPPARAZZI EVENT - Pupparazzi, professional photographer, will be taking "Family & Furry Friends" pictures at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Saturday, March 19, 12pm - 2pm. Details & sign up coming soon.

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 March 21. They are reading *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. 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 members' homes. They are reading *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles & will meet on March 29. For information contact Craig Backhus or the church office.

UPCOMING: April 9 - Women's One Day Retreat, 9am-3pm; May 14 - Women's Tea; September 9 - Bunco

SHELLI PARAJECKAS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR



PRESCHOOL

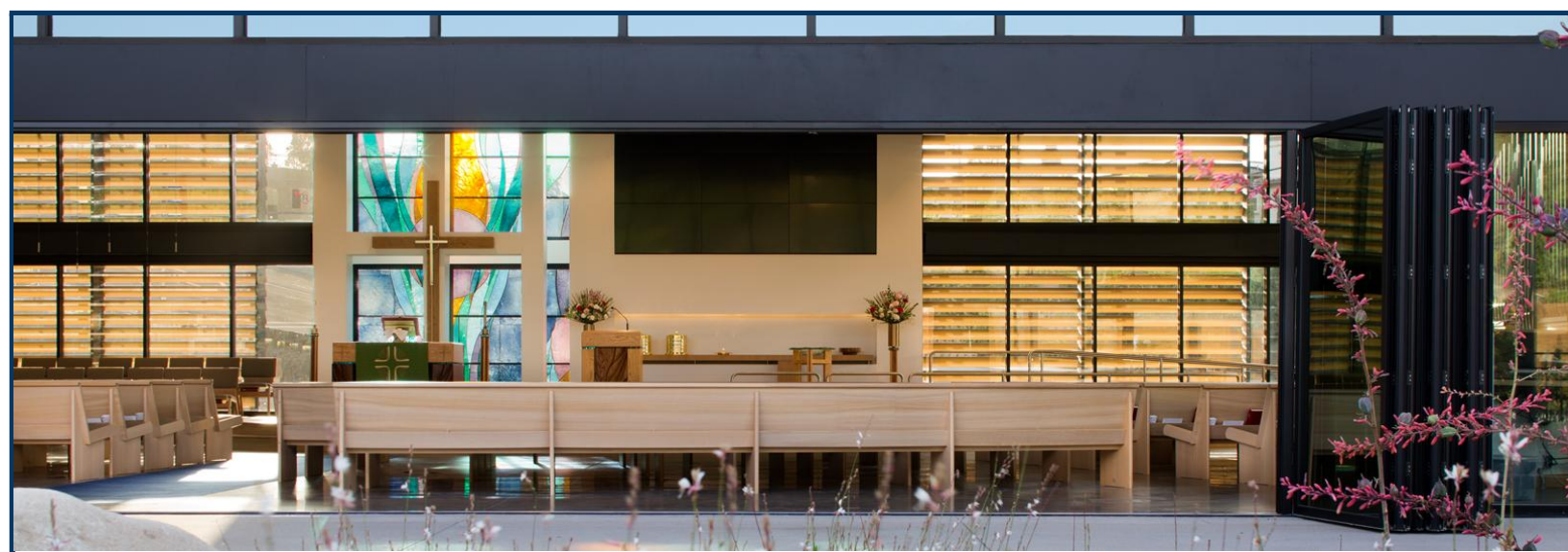
Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

Preschool is in constant motion. This month we will celebrate the amazing books of Dr. Seuss; parents and teachers will read them throughout this month. We will designate a week with special days in honor of our favorite stories like crazy socks for *Fox in Socks*, *Wacky Wednesday*, and wear red and blue like Thing 1 and Thing 2!

Our favorite fundraiser is on March 24th: Annual Bike-a-thon. Our students will bring their bikes from home and we will turn the upper parking lot into a bike trail. This is such a fun event for our students and their families to raise money for classroom materials.

My HOPE in March is for everyone to find a joyful moment in each day, and to count your blessings instead of woes.

To contact Shelli Parajekas email her at: preschool@mygloriadei.org.



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 March 7 we are having a social gathering this month. 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 March 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 March 8 & 22 at Ann St. Martin'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.

500th ANNIVERSARY OF LUTHER'S TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE - This Fall, there will be new Bible studies to celebrate, plus a church-wide whole Bible reading program. Watch for detail. We will celebrate the power of Scripture.

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 March 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*. March 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. 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.



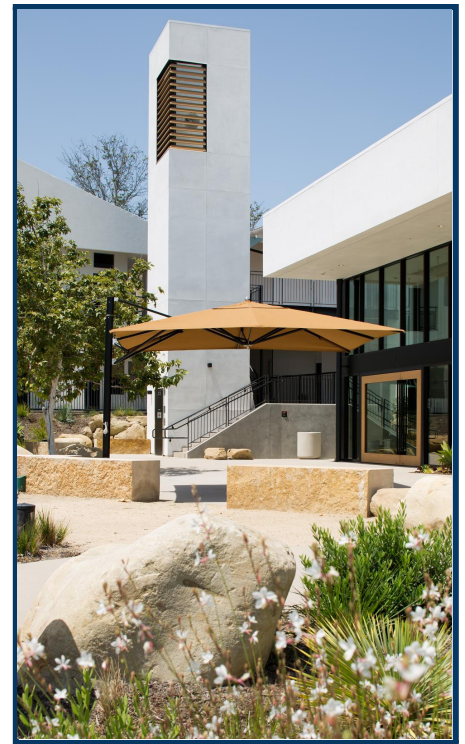
Remember us in your prayers.



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

2/6: 293

2/13: 316

2/20: 325

2/27: 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, 50 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 Pastor Mattson,

My heartfelt thanks to you and your congregation for the warm welcome as an associate member of your church. I also appreciate the delightful gift!. I feel honored to be part of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

Yours in Christ,
Ruth VandenBergh

From: Los Angelitos Orphanage
To: Mis amigos de iglesia Gloria Dei Lutheran

Dear amigos - Thank you for being part of this family. We wish you a happy New Year! We love you...hugs and kisses!

Alan, Angel, Carlos, Carmen & Isabella Gemelas, Dana, Kayla, Alejandro, Luis, Yadira, Omar, Ricardo, Bianca, Mildred, Iris, Sahayan, Sheccyd & Yuliana



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 & 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 Bunic family as they mourn his passing of Corinne Bego. Prayers also for the Ross family as they mourn the passing of Dave's brother.

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"* (April - June 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



MARCH 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 have begun. 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.

If you are a newer member & turned in your time & talent information, we will work you into the current schedule as a substitute and/or add you into the schedule for the 2nd half of the year.

To assist, you must practice current Covid-19 guidelines. Thank you for your help in 2022!

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
		7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	Ash Wednesday 7am - AA Meeting 8am - Ash Wednesday 10am - Women's Bible 12pm - Ash Wednesday 12:30pm - Pacifica Synod 5pm - Concordia Dinner	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7:30pm - Sanc. Choir	9am - Preschool Vision	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 9:15am - Women's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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 6:30pm - GIFT Group	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Church Council	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 5pm - First Communion 6pm - Lenten Soup 6:30pm - Lenten 7:30pm - 12 Step	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 10am - Women's Hike 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon	Bounce House Day Preschool 7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 5pm - DHHS Baja 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - The Shack Group	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 5pm - First Communion 6pm - Lenten Soup 6:30pm - Lenten 7:30pm - 12 Step	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		7am - AA Men Meeting 8:30am - Serra's 12pm - Spring Family & 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - Conf. Class 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	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 - Men's Book Club	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 5pm - First Communion 6pm - Lenten Soup 6:30pm - Lenten 7:30pm - 12 Step	Preschool Bike-a-thon 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
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
8:30am - Worship 9:55am - Baptism 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 6pm - Lenten Soup 6:30pm - Lenten 7:30pm - 12 Step	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7:30pm - Sanc. Choir		

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

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW GLORIA DEI FAMILY MEMBERS!



Mark, Cyndi, Kayla & William Dyas



John & Tami Engel



Pat & Barbara McKinley



Ruth VandenBergh



Donna Sandidge



Kyna & Niko Shnayderma



Ingrid Johnson

**Tamara Stenerson
not pictured.**

