Gloria Dei Lutheran Church DEI-LY LIGHT



APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

Reflective, repentful, prayerful - Those are traditionally the words we use to describe the Season of Lent, but this year, I'd also add, fun. I once heard a pastor say for your Lenten discipline, laugh more. All of that comes to mind as I think about Lenten Hymn Madness. Here are a few of the things I've felt joy about:

- Soup suppers again and Members sharing their faith stories through their favorite hymns
- Watching the big board of advancing hymns each week and hearing people's comments
- The music is back Bell Choirs, Sanctuary Choir, Micaela Lum's concert, Concordia Choir

Here's a few more joyful things which will take place in early April:

- Announcing the 2022 Hymn Madness Winner and 2022 favorite hymn selection
- Processing in with an actual donkey on Palm Sunday
- First Communion

And if that wasn't enough joy, fun, and hope - Resurrection Sunday (commonly called Easter) is going to be a celebration! (Sunday, April 17, 6:30am, 8:30am, 10:00am):

- The world's greatest news Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!
- Lilies, trumpets, bells, choirs, special music, refreshments
- Eggstravaganza (Easter Egg hunt at 9:30am)

Invite a friend to worship with you all of Holy Week - They're going to thank you for life!

Yours in Christ.

Pastor David R. Mattson



PASTOR VERONICA

"Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation" (Mark 16:15)

Many of you have been asking about my "next steps" after my internship at Gloria Dei. As a candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the internship year is the final stage before the first call process and ordination. It is a busy and exciting time in my vocational life as I look forward to what God has in store for me.

I can honestly say I have no idea where I will be this time next year, but I know God will guide me wherever I go!

Practically speaking, I will have two important interviews this month, one with a faculty panel from my seminary and another with my candidacy committee in the Sierra Pacific Synod. These interviews will determine my approval for candidacy in the ELCA. Following approval, I will be able to begin conversations with my bishop about the first call process. As I have said before, I am open to wherever God may be calling me.

I hope you all can appreciate the unique gift you give to the wider church when you accompany candidates like myself in our internship journey. I appreciate your prayers and support during this process!

P.S. If you would like to learn more about the candidacy process or the call process in the ELCA, there's lots of information at elca.org/candidacy. And I'd be happy to talk more about it any time!

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

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

- Palm Sunday, April 10. Special palms, processional with a donkey from the patio, youth sponsored pancake breakfast (11am) & more.
- Maundy Thursday, April 14, noon. Reflection on *The Last Supper with the Twelve Tribes* painting (by Hyatt Moore) in our sanctuary.
- Good Friday Tenebrae services on April 15 at 12 noon & 7pm. Tenebrae is a Latin word and means "darkness." The seven last words of Jesus are spoken while the sanctuary grows slower and darker. We give thanks to God for the cross and the "wondrous love."
- Easter Sunday services: April 17, 6:30am (sunrise), 8:30am & 10am. Easter egg hunt, 9:30am. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 6:30am and 10am. Childcare will be available at the 8:30am and 10am services. There will be seating inside/outside and we will also be live streaming this service. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

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". Michelle Lum will be our guest speaker. Cost: \$25 per person-includes coffee, lunch, and project supplies. Sign-up at the Welcome Table!

LATEST HEALTH PROTOCOLS - 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. The pastors will continue to wear one during Holy Communion.



YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT NEWS

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Classes are April 3 and May 1 at 11:15am in Knudson Hall. 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.

PALM SUNDAY PANCAKES - Sunday, April 10, 9am; We are back! After two years of no pancakes, the stars have aligned for us this year and we have the green light for Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast! If your Sr. Higher is available to help make pancakes and set up for our fundraising event for the season, that would be great! Follow-up emails will be sent as a reminder.

YOUNG ADULTS - FAITH ON TAP: Tuesday, April 26; 21+ years of age. This group plans to meet the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm to have discussions which tap into their faith. This month will be at Left Coast Brewery in San Clemente.

BARB COLLINS, CHILDREN AND FAMILY DIRECTOR



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

(Sunday school, Young Children's Events and Ministry)

EASTER CANDY DONATIONS - Needed: wrapped candies in plastic eggs. Place in the large basket at the Welcome Table or bring to the church office.

FIRST COMMUNION - Our upper elementary children have attended classes with a parent or grandparent to prepare for their first Communion. They also made their very own chalice in which they will receive their first Communion on Palm Sunday! Please support them in prayer on Palm Sunday, April 10th, 10am.

EGGSTRAVAGANZA - Children's Easter Egg Hunt- April 17th, 9:30am **between** the morning services. All ages through 5th grade. Bring a basket! Our Easter tradition will take place in the courtyard - just outside the sanctuary. Join in the excitement.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Age 4 - 5th grade) during the 10am service only.

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

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) - Stay tuned for upcoming events.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) - July 5 - 8, 9am - 12 noon. Save the date! Sign up coming soon.



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

- **Sanctuary Choir** Our membership is growing week by week. Along with it our technique is growing too! It has been an excellent season of music and fellowship. A big thank you to Christian Try for directing the choir for a special version of "lesus, Keep Me Near the Cross."
- **Bell & Chime Choirs** also owe a big thank you to member Ashley Rettig. She supplied the whole group with team t-shirts! Now we have a look as cool as our sound! Thank you, Ashley. Thanks also to Romy Rettig who has stepped up to help manage our growing team. Our chimers are learning to play beautifully. We are also learning how to care for the instruments, how to set up and take down the chimes and bells, and how to work together. The **hand bell** group performed a lovely arrangement of "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" for services during Lent. It was so much fun to listen to their excellent playing. Bells and chimes will join forces with the organ and congregation on Easter Sunday for "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." It will be powerful!
- **Special Music** Steve Wade will play trumpet for morning services on Easter Sunday accompanied by the always awesome Fred Johnson.
- **Thanks** to all the people who helped with hosting the Concordia Choir Concert last month. Well done!

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

SHELLI PARAJECKAS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR



PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

The preschool had a very successful and FUN Bike-a-thon. We begin April with our Spring Break. Our HOPE is for students and teachers to spend quality time with family and friends as we gear up for the last 2 months of preschool.

It has been a very busy year and I'm so proud of the accomplishments our students have made. I love April because the signs of Spring are everywhere. Easter is the epitome of HOPE; Jesus' death and resurrection confirms this.

"Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, it casts the shadow of our burden behind us."

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



DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

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

FELLOWSHIP - (defined) - friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests. We are looking forward to more get-togethers as we move toward the summer and fall, be on the lookout!

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & WORSHIP - Our final soup supper & Lenten worship is Wednesday, April 6 at 6pm in Bankson Hall. Thank you to all those who provided soup & shared their musical talents during Lenten services.

WOMEN'S GROUP EVENT - Thank you so much to Ren Higgins for leading the hike at Strands Headlands! It was a beautiful day!



DIVINE DESSERTS AND DREAMS - May 1st at 6pm in Bankson Hall. Please join us for a fun evening of "divine" desserts and a presentation on the power, interpretation, and Biblical witness regarding dreams, led by Dr. Melody Bacon. Keep an eye out at the Welcome Table for the sign up which is coming soon.

WOMEN'S ONE DAY RETREAT - "I Love to Tell the Story" - keynote workshop by Michelle Lum will focus on faith, fellowship, and fun. April 9, 9am-3pm at the Marina Hills Clubhouse in Laguna Niguel. Sign up at the Welcome Table. Cost: \$25 per person-includes coffee, lunch, and project supplies.

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 April 18. They are reading *Once Upon a Wardrobe* by Patti Callahan. 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 will meet on April 5 (delayed from March 29) to discuss *The Tender Bar*, a memoir by J.R. Moehringer. For information contact Craig Backhus or the church office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) - July 5 - 8, 9am - 12 noon. Save the date! This is a great opportunity to get to know the kids and other members at Gloria Dei in a very casual, festive atmosphere! Our Summer 2022 theme is: Built for THIS! We will explore all the ways God is building us and our communities. Our theme is inspired by 1 Corinthians 3:9-11 "For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. Sign up coming soon.

UPCOMING: May 14 - Women's Tea; June (date tba) Progressive Dinner; September 9 - Bunco.



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 April 11 we are meeting & will study the Synod based faith stories. 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 April 9. Please let Pastor David know that you plan to attend and there will be a place set for you. The study will focus on Holy Week. 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 April 12 & 26 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.

SHARING OUR FAITH STORIES - during the Season of Easter (April/May), the sermons, Bible studies, and more will focus on this synod-wide study. Every congregation in the Pacifica is encouraged to participate and so will Gloria Dei. More details coming, but plan on every group/family/study encouraged to join-in.

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 April 2. 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.* April 16 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 meet on Monday & Thursday

mornings 10am - 12pm. Interested in volunteering, contact gloriadei@mygloriadei or 949-493-3414.



LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY Los Angelitos orphanage, Tijuana Mexico

There are two properties that are part of the orphanage. The primary residential facility, located in the city of Tijuana, and the 'ranch', a 6-acre property, located in a more rural setting on the out-skirts of town.

Currently there are 20 children, ages 3 – 16, living at the orphanage, including a family of 9 that arrived about 1 year ago. Marilu Rodriquez is the orphanage administrator at the primary residence in Tijuana and she is doing a great job. Los Angelitos recently hired a cleaning lady, and they are in search of an additional full-time live-in care worker.

In addition to basic needs like food, clothing, utilities and healthcare, they have been doing house repairs, such as outdoor lighting, electrical repairs, creating room dividers for upstairs bedrooms, installing new security doors, roof repairs, installing fencing and more. Plans are in process to replace the roof this Spring.

Los Angelitos is very excited for the prospect of obtaining a replacement van from Gloria Dei as their current van is in very poor condition. This is an ongoing project as quality used vans continue to be difficult to find.







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

3/6: 369 3/22: 383 3/20: 369 3/27: 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.



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 Gloria Dei Family,

Thank you for sending me a care package with cookies. It was very kind of you to think of me. I have really been enjoying college thus far. I am majoring in electrical engineering, and I have been learning a lot. My classes have been challenging, but I have met some really great people who I have been able to study with. I am also currently in baseball season, and I am loving college baseball. It is definitely a step up from high school baseball, and it has been a great way to give me a break from studying during the day. Thank you again for thinking of me, and wishing you all the best!

God Bless, Garrett Knuf

Thanks to Terri Litzkow for arranging our Pupparazzi Family Pictures...

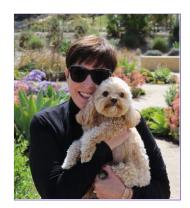














DEI-LY PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

"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, Joan Sorge, Ingrid Schuller & Megan Ramirez.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT for Cheryl Swinehart & family as they mourn the passing of Mike Swinehart.

PEACE AND SAFETY for all our service men and women now serving around the world. We also pray for peace and help in the Ukraine.

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



APRIL 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

<u>Church Office</u>: (949) 493-3414; Fax: (949) 493-6479;

Preschool: (949) 493-3414 x209

Website: mygloriadei.org;

Email: gloriadei@mygloriadei.org

Facebook Page: Facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint

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

Carol Weinhardt gloriadei@mygloriadei.org

Shelli Parajeckas preschool@mygloriadei.org

Paige Gulck vouth@mvgloriadei.org

Barbara Collins sundayschool@mygloriadei.org

Susie Boland <u>fellowship@mygloriadei.org</u> Kathy Person <u>music@mygloriadei.org</u>

Fred Johnson organist@mygloriadei.org

MARCH EVENTS IN PICTURES ... Men's Retreat











...God Squad







APRIL 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	58	30	# m	-	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 9:15am - Women's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
60	4	9	9	7	8	
Concordia Irvine Bell	Preschool Vacation					/am - AA Men Meeting
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 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 7pm - Men's Book Club	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 12:30pm - Pacifica Synod' 6pm - Lenten Soup 6:30pm - Lenten	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7pm - Alanon Coed	5	8am - Men's Bible study 9am - Men's work day at 9am - Women's Retreat 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
10	T T	12	13	14	15	19
	10am - Literacy Group	7am - AA Men Meeting	7am - AA Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting	Good Friday	7am - AA Men Meeting
8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11am - Pancake 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Alanon		10am - Women's Bible 7:30pm - 12 Step	9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 12pm - Maundy 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting	12pm - Good Friday 7pm - Good Friday	8:30am - Serra's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Easter 6:30am - Easter 8:30am - Easter 10am - Easter Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 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 - Al Anon Meeting 7pm - The Shack Group	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 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		7am - AA Men Meeti 9am - Adult Inquiry 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - New 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Alanon	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 5:30pm - Faith on Tap 6:30pm - Heart Lifters 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 7pm - Men's Book Club	7sm - AA Meeting 9sm - Reptile Show 10sm - Women's Bible 7:30pm - 12 Step	9:30am - AA Women 10am - Literacy Group 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7pm - Alanon Coed 7:30pm - Sanc. Choir		7am - AA Men Meeting 11am - Dean Frasche 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting

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