

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

As you know, Easter is a Season in the church and more, every Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection. To that end, we'll be using a synod wide resource after Easter - ***Sharing Our Faith Stories***. Every congregation in the Pacifica Synod of the ELCA will be encouraged to participate.

What is it? Basically it's a Bible study on Evangelism. For some, the word "evangelism" has negative connotations, evoking handing out pamphlets or people judging people - who's in and who's definitely out.

Instead, this study is meant to *"open biblically-based conversations about how to be relational, flexible, and respectful."* It looks at some famous Bible stories and has us thinking about our own faith stories.

At Gloria Dei, we'll be using this as a Sermon Series (with a take home page available for further discussion), various Bible studies (GIFT Group, Heart-Lifters, Women's Bible Study, Men's Breakfast) will all be encouraged to participate, plus you can simply do it on your own, or as a couple, or as a family.

My faith story began as a child. My parents prayed and worshiped regularly. I saw them care for people in desperate situations (Mrs. Johnson, a not-so recovering alcoholic stayed in our guest room often), and they always pointed to Jesus' grace and mercy. I knew their faith was real and important, so it launched my own story of personal discovery.

What about you? Who or what are the details of your following the Risen One?

Yours in Christ,

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

Pastor David R. Mattson



PASTOR VERONICA

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Romans 10:14

In my first week of seminary, I encountered these words while reading *Confessions* by Saint Augustine of Hippo. This was the first of many "Aha!" moments in my seminary journey. It changed my perspective on evangelism forever.

I realized the only reason I knew God, the only reason I had learned to pray or worship or proclaim was that someone else had taught me first. Someone else had taken the first step to share the love of Jesus in words and actions, to make God's love real for me. Actually, there were a lot of "someone else's". Pastors and teachers and family and friends, VBS volunteers, choir directors, a man at a homeless shelter, a stranger who prayed for me at confirmation camp. And so many other people I can never thank enough for giving me the joy and strength of my faith.

And then I got to thinking, who am I to say that I am not able to do the same? Who am I to say that God wouldn't work through me, to bless others as I have been blessed? I suddenly felt free to share my faith with friends, not with an agenda, but because it is something true about me. I felt free to pray with and for people, because I had been blessed by others who did the same for me.

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

DIVINE DESSERTS AND DREAMS - Sunday, May 1, 6pm. Join us in Bankson Hall for dessert and a presentation on Biblical dreams and their interpretation by Dr. Melody Bacon.

MOTHER'S DAY/GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY - May 8: *"Daisy a Day"* song, plus daisies for all mothers and daughters. At 9:30am, we will have lambs and other furry friends to pet between the morning services, for the "good shepherd in all of us" to enjoy. Our Sr. High servers will also be preparing Mother's Day Parfaits! Bring a friend.



TACO 'BOUT RELATIONSHIPS... Tuesday, May 12th, 5-7pm led by Dennis Chernekoff. Tacos will be served at 5pm and child care will be provided. There will also be entertainment happening for young children - more details coming soon. 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 May 1 and May 15 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.myloriadei.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.

THANKS - to the Sr. High servers for preparing a fabulous pancake breakfast for the congregation on Palm Sunday!

MOTHER'S DAY PARFAITS - Sunday, May 8, between services; Sr. High servers will be serving up some yogurt parfaits for our mothers. Come enjoy a treat and some conversation on the patio.



YOUNG ADULTS - FAITH ON TAP - Tuesday, May 31; 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. The April 26 meeting is at Left Coast Brewing Co. in San Clemente & on May 31 we will meet at The Brewhouse in San Juan Capistrano.

KATHY PERSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

- **Sanctuary Choir** had an amazing time celebrating Easter Sunday with the congregation! We look forward to celebrating Easter all of the following Sundays with you and in sharing our stories, too. Listen for early American folk music like "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" featuring Christian Try on flute, classic church anthems like "Shepherd of Souls" for Good Shepherd Sunday, and the 70's jazz influenced setting of "I Am the Light."
- **Bell & Chime Choirs** will keep the good vibes going in May with more special music. We will play "If Ye Love Me" by John Tallis. This famous setting of the text of John 14 was first published in 1565 during the reign of Elizabeth I. We are also working on a beautiful arrangement of "Amazing Grace" that uses the "singing bell" technique.

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



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

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 1Corinthians 3:9-11: "For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building".

Cost \$50 for church members; \$60 for non-member; Scholarships available upon request. Sign up packet is at the Welcome Table or online at mygloriadei.org.

GOD SQUAD (3rd - 5th Graders) - Youth CPR Training - April 29, 3:30pm, Knudson Hall. Cost-\$35. Taught by 1st Wave CPR & First Aid Training. Sign up at the Welcome Table or contact the office. Invite a friend!

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Age 4 - 5th grade) during the 10am service only. Sunday school attendees leave worship 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.

FYI - Our wonderful Children and Family Director Barb Collins will be stepping down from this position in June! We will celebrate her and give thanks to God for her work with all our children and families. But she's not leaving! Barb will be around, volunteering, in other areas. Susie Boland (Preschool Teacher and Congregational Life) will slide over into this role. Barb and Susie have already been working together for awhile. Please watch for more details about the ways we will celebrate Barb and her ministry this summer!

SHELLI PARAJECKAS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR



PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

This is the last month of the 2021-2022 school year. Honestly, this has been an amazing year for the staff and our students. We have seen so much growth in all areas of development and it's been a privilege to witness this.

This month we host our Annual Open House; our preschool families tour the entire campus which will be filled with hundreds of photos of our students throughout the year. Individual and class projects will be on display, and we always have a few extra surprises for our parents. Open House is a testament to the dedication our teachers have for our Gloria Dei students. I love this event because I see the joy in the eyes of our parents.

We'll end the month with our Annual Pre-K Graduation. We will be sending 21 students off to Kindergarten this year. Most of these little ones have been with Gloria Dei for 3-4 years; we are deeply proud to have been their first stepping stone in their educational journey. We pray for their continued growth and success!

"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.: ~John F Kennedy

To contact Shelli Parajekas 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 - What a wonderful and joyous April we had, including Lent Soup Suppers, Women's Retreat, Holy Week and finally a beautiful Easter Sunday! We are excited to come together even more as the summer approaches!



WOMEN'S GROUP EVENT - Thank you for all those that joined us for the Women's Retreat! And a special thanks to Michelle Lum for a wonderful presentation and project!



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.

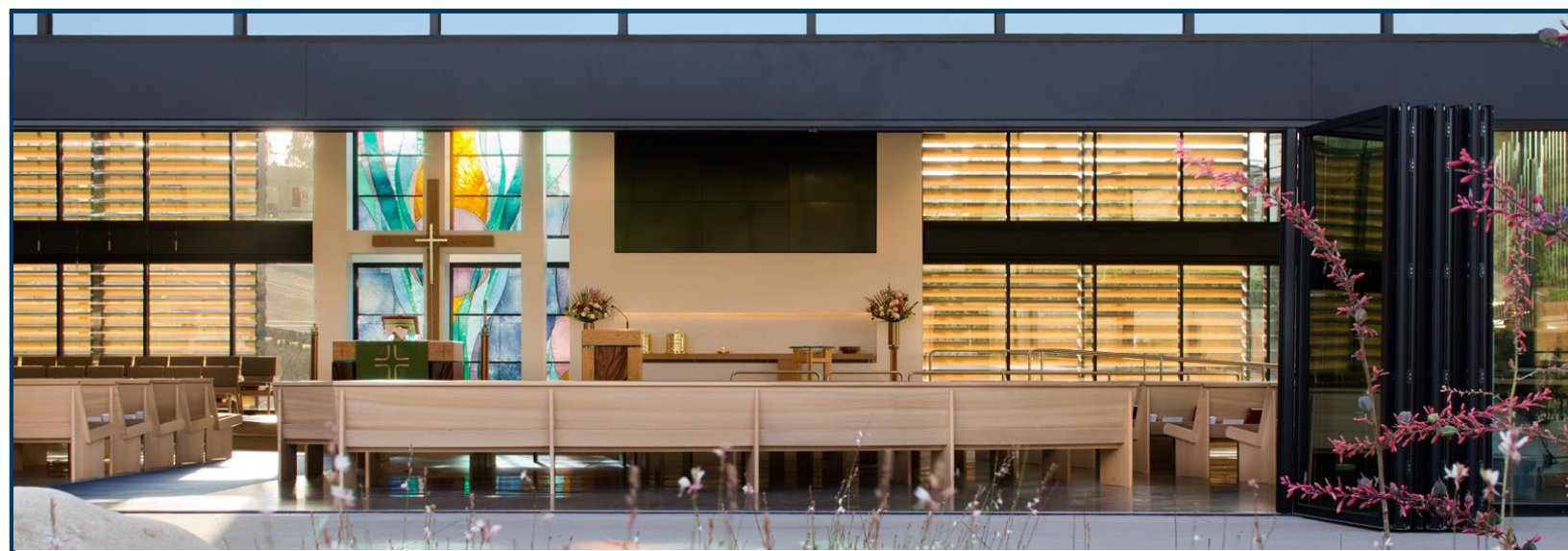
TACO 'BOUT RELATIONSHIPS... Tuesday, May 12th, 5-7pm led by Dennis Chernekoff. Tacos will be served at 5pm and child care will be provided. There will also be entertainment happening for young children - more details coming soon. Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

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 May 16. They are reading *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. 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 May 27 to discuss *The Midnight Library*, by Matt Haig. For information contact Craig Backhus or the church office.

LUNCHEON FOR PASTOR VERONICA - Sunday, May 29th at 11:15am. We will be celebrating her birthday (it's the next day) and thanking Pastor Veronica as she will be concluding her time with us in early June. We will meet upstairs in Bankson Hall and enjoy lunch together from Guicho's Eatery.

UPCOMING: Women's Tea (June 18); Progressive Dinner (date tba); Church Picnic (July 3rd); Bunco (September 9).



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 May 2 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 May 14. Please let Pastor David know that you plan to attend and there will be a place set for you. The study will focus on our faith stories. 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 May 10 & 24 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.

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 are coming, but we encourage every group/family/study to join-in by sharing our faith stories.

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. Several Seminary and College professors are lined up to do presentations for us. Watch the bulletin and future bulletins for more details.

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 May 7. 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*. May 21 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

Road Trip - Check Your Calendar!



Gloria Dei is planning its first group visit to the orphanage after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. For our initial visit we're planning on one van with up to 8 people. It will be a one-day trip, leaving from Gloria Dei on **Saturday June 11, 2022 @ 7 am** and returning the same day @ around 6 pm. Passport required. We need a volunteer(s) to help with driving.

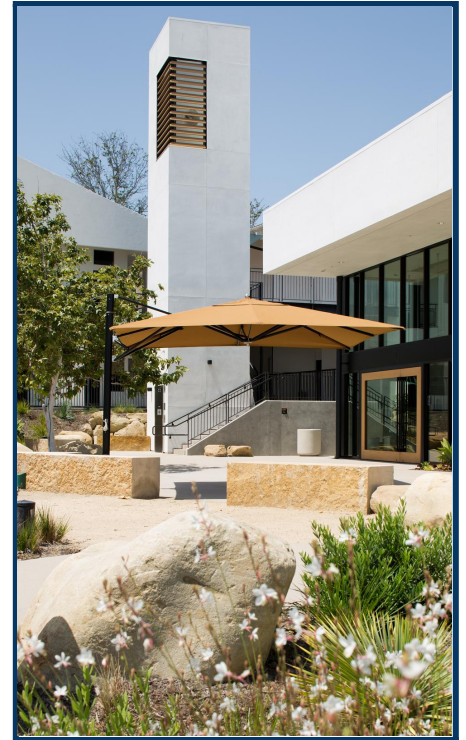
It's "Back to School" Time!

Onsite school has finally re-started after two years of lock-downs with very limited home schooling. The children are so happy and relieved to get out of the house and see all their friends and classmates.



Van Donation

We have renewed our efforts to procure a passenger van for a donation to Los Angelitos. The kids desperately need safe and reliable transportation to go to church, school, and to the 'ranch' , for doctor appointments and other important errands.





DEI-LY DETAILS

ATTENDANCE and LIVESTREAM VIEWS

4/3: 354

4/10: 375

4/14: 48

4/15: 306

4/17: 607

4/24: 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

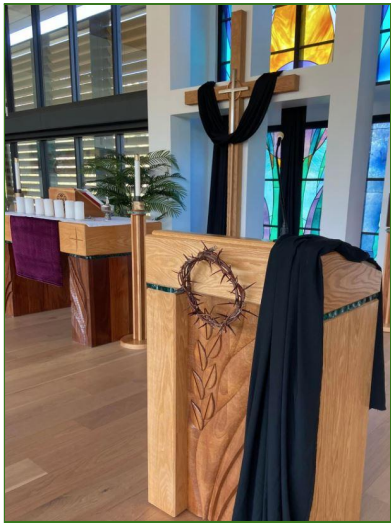
TEXT YOUR OFFERING - It is simple and safe ("text to give", through Vanco) - text \$ amount you want to give to 949-356-5326. You will receive instructions on how to complete registration via a return text.

SANDSTONE BENCHES have now been etched with the names (and scripture) of people who gave during the Gen2Gen over \$10,000 gifts. Thanks to these eight families. Several more will be etched this summer. If you would like to be a part of this fund (which reduces our mortgage), please contact Pastor David about details.

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.

HOLY WEEK IN PICTURES



THANKS

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

Thanks to all who donated lilies to beautify the Sanctuary & easter eggs for our Eggstravaganza hunt on Easter Sunday!

Hello Pastor!

Just a note to thank you for all you have done since the pandemic lightened up, to enrich our lives with music again!! We have so enjoyed the Concordia Choir, Micaela's concert, the Bell Choir & Church Choir performances under Kathy's leadership too. We are so blessed to have your dedication and commitment to hard work.

Lora & William

Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger in January 2022.

Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA are bringing the promise of renewal and hope to your neighbors around the world. Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States.

You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy.

In Christ,
The Rev. Robin K. Brown
Director, Congregational Generosity

Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

The Children of Los Angelitos thank you for your continued generous support and donations. Together we are accomplishing great things and giving orphaned children a chance of a better life. We can continue to meet the children's needs because of your kindness.

Very truly yours,
Jeff Hubbard, President of Los Angelitos Orphanage Foundation



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 Barbara Keim & family as they mourn the passing of Randy Keim.

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



MAY 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).

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
New Member Sunday 8:30am - Bethlehem 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - Conf. Class 5pm - Worship	10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon 6:30pm - GIFT Group	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 7:30pm - 12 Step	7am - AA Men Meeting 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 9am - Prayer Shawl 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
Good Shepherd Sunday 8:30am - Worship 9:30am - Sr. High 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 6:30pm - Heart Lifters 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Church Council	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible 12:15pm - Preschool 5pm - Preschool 7:30pm - 12 Step	7am - AA Men Meeting 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 8am - Men's Breakfast 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	10am - Literacy Group 2pm - RIOT Book Club 5:30pm - Alanon	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 5:30pm - Taco 'bout 7pm - AI 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	Pacific Synod Assembly @ Irvine Marriott 18000 Von Karman Ave, Irvine, CA	7am - AA Men Meeting 8:30am - Serra's 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
8:30am - Worship 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 5pm - Preschool 6:30pm - Heart Lifters 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Men's Book Club	7am - AA Meeting 9am - Blood Drive 10am - Women's Bible 7:30pm - 12 Step	7am - AA Men Meeting 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 2pm - ACA Meeting 7pm - NA Meeting
Baccalaureate Sunday 8:30am - Worship 10am - Worship 10:15am - Sun. School 11:15am - 11:15am - Pastor	No Preschool 10am - Literacy Group 5:30pm - Alanon	Preschool Teacher Appreciation Week 7am - AA Men Meeting 5pm - Brass Practice 5:30pm - Faith on Tap 5:30pm - Pastor 7pm - AI Anon Meeting				

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

