

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

DEI-LY LIGHT



DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

What's your favorite Christmas/Advent Carol? Personally, I love so many. From my early time in Canada, I would pick *Twelve Days in the Moon of Wintertime*. But, you can't go wrong with *O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel*. And finally, I love one that's newer to me, *"Love Has Come."* Speaking of songs, there'll be plenty of opportunities to sing favorite carols.

Our focus for Advent (the 4 week preparation of the Savior's birth) will be on the carols or more accurately, **"Canticles."** We call the four songs at the beginning of Luke *canticles*. *Canticle* comes from another Latin word, *canticulum*, meaning "little song." We use this term to describe hymns in the Bible located outside the book of Psalms. The most famous Canticle is probably *The Magnificat*.

Our theme for the Season of Advent, centering around those Lukan canticles will be: **"The World is About to Turn."** (That's from another great hymn, *Canticle of the Turning*, a paraphrase of *The Magnificat*.)

Invite a friend to worship with you. Instead of turning and spinning in some sort of hectic way, we will hear about the hope that Jesus brings to us, even in the midst of the rush and panic of life.

Here's a verse from *Canticle of the Turning*, which is a paraphrase of Mary's *Magnificat*:

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.*

Your friend in Christ,

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

Pastor David R. Mattson

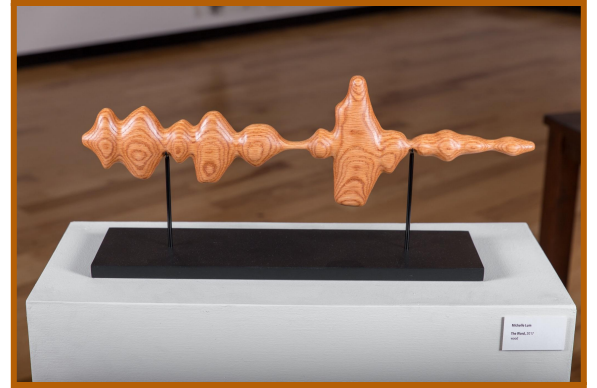
P.S. **Christmas Eve Worship**, Saturday, December 24 will held at 4:00pm, 5:30pm, and 10pm (Holy Communion); **Christmas Day**, Sunday, December 25, we will have one worship service at 10am (Holy Communion); and finally, **New Year's Day**, Sunday, January 1, 2023, we will have only morning services at 8:30am and 10am.



MICHELLE LUM, Minister of Arts and Outreach

In this season of Advent I wanted to share a past artwork of mine. *The Word* is an embodied sound wave of the words “Jesus Christ.” I was thinking of the passage in John 1 where it says that the Word “became flesh.” Of course in the gospel John is talking about Jesus being born, becoming human.

This wooden sculpture is a play on that idea, another way that the words “Jesus Christ” might be made physical. What does it mean for Jesus to be present in our world? We see the wonder of his incarnation, and that’s what we remember and celebrate with Christmas. How has Jesus’ birth touched your life personally? I’ll leave you with that thought. Merry Christmas church family! I look forward to celebrating this Christmas season with you.



Gloria Dei Art Ministry — 2nd Fridays of the month at 6:30pm in Bankson Hall.

December 9th, 6:30pm is our next monthly gathering in Bankson Hall. Come hear a local artist share about their work and celebrate with us as we talk about our finished art installation!



SEMINARY INTERN DANA BECKER

The Christmas season is one of my favorites. I love the lights in the darkest season. They represent hope for the new world, a light that shines even on the longest nights of the year. We wait through the Advent season for our hope in a baby, the birth of Jesus Christ. The waiting is a challenge, but it slows us to reflection and peace in the practice of patience.

This Advent season we will be working our way through the Canticles of Praise in the Gospel of Luke. The Canticles were praises, first sung, and reminders of the Lord’s nativity, the gift of Jesus Christ. Each Cantic points to Jesus in a unique way. In our preparation for Christmas, together we will light the Advent candles each week looking toward the arrival of the light.

With all of the Christmas festivities, I am looking forward to the Christmas cookie exchange on December 4th, 2pm and caroling on the 7th, 5:30pm. No silent nights yet!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

(Young Children's Ministry)

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Age 4 - 5th grade) is held at 8:30am & 10am services in Knudson Hall. Sunday school attendees will leave the church service after the children's message for Sunday school instruction and rejoin their families for Communion. Sunday School will be on break December 25, 2022 & January 1, 2023.



NURSERY - Available for babies to preschool age during both morning worship services. The nursery is located in the preschool classroom directly across from the elevator. Please pick up a pager when signing in with your child.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - Our Sunday School children will be putting on a Christmas Pageant at the beginning of the 10am service on December 11th. We look forward to sharing the story of Christmas with you all!

A BIG THANK YOU! Thank you to all of the student and adult volunteers that helped throughout the year with VBS, Sunday School, and Trick-or-Trunk! It would not be possible without all your help and efforts!

FELLOWSHIP/FRIENDSHIP

(Congregation-wide Social and Friendship Events)

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU THAT HAVE HELPED AT ALL OF OUR FELLOWSHIP EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

EMPTY NESTERS - Christmas party, Friday, December 2, 5 pm at the home of Laura and Jim Bankson. Bring an appetizer to share. Bring 1 ornament per person or couple for exchange. Jim will provide dessert. Address & directions will be at the Welcome Table.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE - For women of all ages on December 4, 2pm, in Bankson Hall. Bring 3 dozen cookies (home baked or store bought) & a Christmas ornament to exchange. Take home 2 dozen cookies & the remaining cookies will be served at the Alzheimer Luncheon on December 7, 10:30am. Please join us to help out at the Alzheimer Luncheon or bring a family member or friend who would benefit from attending this luncheon.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING - We will be Christmas Caroling on Wednesday, December 7th, starting at 5:30pm. We will meet upstairs by Bankson Hall. We will pass out the carol books and maps with our destinations. We look forward to seeing all who are able to join!

WOMEN'S BOARD - This group meets on the second Saturday of the month at 9:15am. They will meet on December 10. Questions, contact Dana Becker at danabecker@mygloriadei.org.

WOMEN'S BOARD GLORIA DEI COOKBOOK - Thank you to Cheryl Swinehart for putting together a beautiful, keepsake of our Gloria Dei Cookbook!



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

- **Sanctuary Choir**

meets on Thursday nights at 7:30pm. Each week of Advent we will have special anthems. Some are carols, some are based on the

canticles. It's a fun time of year to be in choir.

Every week is a different style of music. From

acappella to choir with piano, percussion and strings, we cover it all in a few short weeks. **All voices are needed for this ensemble. Join us!**



- **Bell & Chime Choir** meets Thursdays at 6:30pm. We will play for services on the 18th and the 24th. In the new year we will have seats open for more ringers. We are growing!
- **Sanctuary Choir and Handbells** will play for the 5:30pm service on Christmas Eve
- **Special Instrumental Music** for the season will be provided this month by Mallory Bacon, oboe; Darius Miertschin, guitar; and Ashley Santore, viola.

Do you play an instrument? There is an opportunity for you! Questions? Email Kathy Person:

music@mygloriadei.org.

PAIGE GULCK, YOUTH DIRECTOR



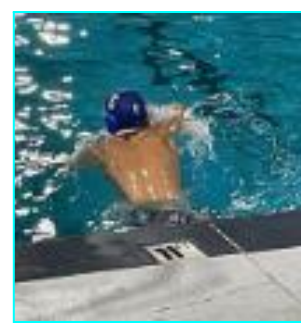
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Confirmation class will be December 4 at 11:15am. Lunch will be provided. For more information please reach out to Pastor David, Pastor Dana, or Paige.

ACOLYTING AND ADVENT READING - For the Season of Advent, the Confirmation students will once again be lighting the candles and also reading the Advent reading. Thanks to them for helping out and assisting in worship!

SR. HIGH CHRISTMAS @ DANA POINT BOAT PARADE - Friday, December 9, 6pm - 9pm: Boats, boats, boats! We'll meet at Beach Harbor, grab some pizza and then watch the Boat Parade.

SR. HIGH MINISTRY IN MOTION - Does your kid have a high school football game? Or a play? Or a cross-country meet? Whatever your kids are doing, that's what we will be doing! If your kid has an event they would like a cheering section for, email Paige at youth@mygloriadei.org.





PRESCHOOL

Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

December comes so quickly and will pass us before we know it. The holidays bring so much excitement for a child, yet can be one of the busiest and even most stressful months for parents. The holiday isn't just for kids, it's for us too.

It's important for all of us to take time to simply breathe; we all can use more "self-care" during the holidays. I tell my preschool parents not to sweat the small stuff and find joy in the midst of any storm.

Patience, kindness, and forgiveness are what we do as Christians, however, we need to model this, especially during the holiday season. Nothing in life is perfect except for Jesus, so let go of the mucky details and choose joy during this Christmas season. May your family be blessed this season with laughter, kindness, joy, and peace.

South Coast Literacy Council Halloween Haunts...

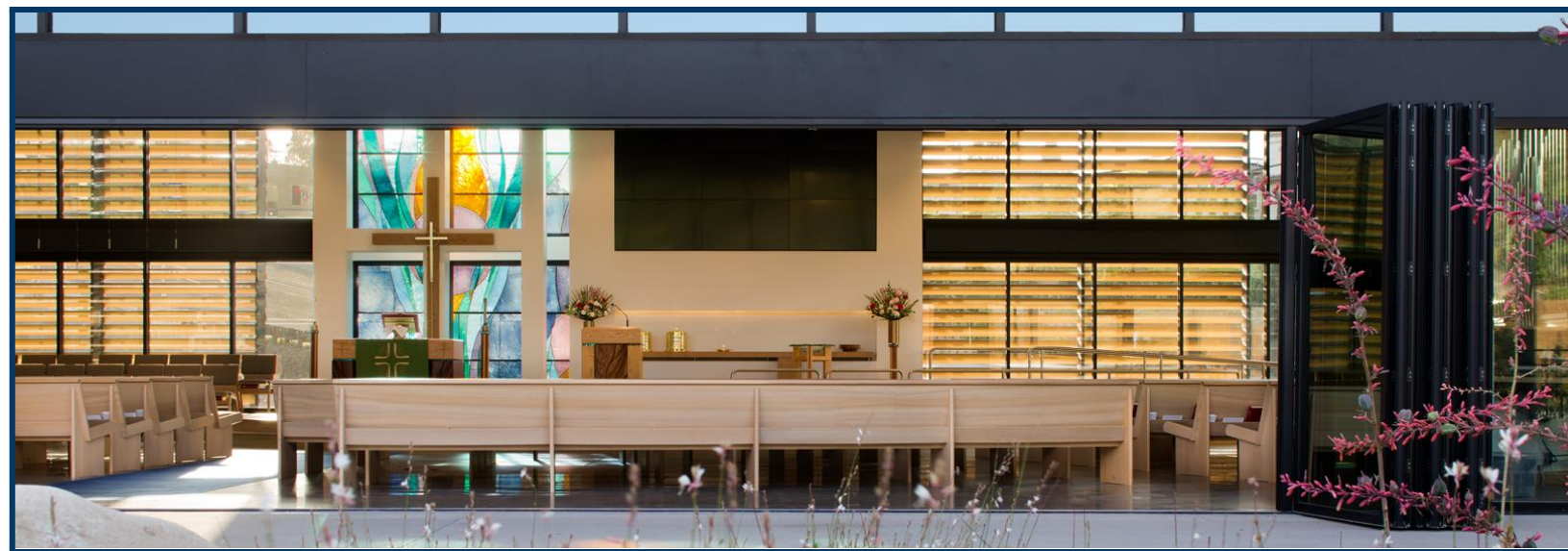


Trick or Trunk Fun...



Women's Ministry Fashion Show & Luncheon...





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) BIBLE STUDY - Led by David & Susan Warneke is held in Bankson Hall, on the first Monday of the month, at 6:30pm. On December 5 we are meeting to discuss the Book of Acts, Lesson 6, *Tradition Challenges*. 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 next meets on December 10. Please let Pastor David know if you plan to attend and there will be a place set for you. They are studying the Lord's Prayer this year. All men are welcome.

HEART LIFTERS WOMEN'S EVENING STUDY - Bible Study, for all interested ladies, on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month. It is a social and informative gathering to study *Meeting The Spirit*, by Douglas Connelly. In November, there will only be one meeting on December 13th at Ann St. Martin's home. Carpool from Church. Contact: Ann St. Martin or Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (949-493-3414) for more details.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 2pm*. The group meets in Knudson Hall and their next meeting is December 19. They are reading *Two Old Women* by Velma Wallis. If you are interested in joining the book club, please contact Diane Kelly or contact the office at 949-493-3414.

G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER) BIBLE STUDY VIRTUAL STUDY - Led by Jim & Neta Wenrick on the 3rd Tuesday each month at 7pm. The group is studying *Meditative Prayers: Entering God's Presence*. Their next meeting is December 20. To join, contact the church office 949-493-3414 or gloriadei@mygloriadei.org, so we can add you to the group.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm*. They are meeting in person at members' homes. They will not be meeting in December but meet again on January 31. For information contact the church office.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - This group meets every Wednesday at 10am - Gloria Dei women (and friends) meet in Knudson Hall. However, they will help host the Alzheimer Lunch on December 7, meet for Bible study on December 14 and be on Christmas break through January 4. This study is led by a Pastor David or our Seminary Intern, Dana Becker. 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 December 3. If you know of someone in need of a shawl or would like more information, call Peggy Johnson.

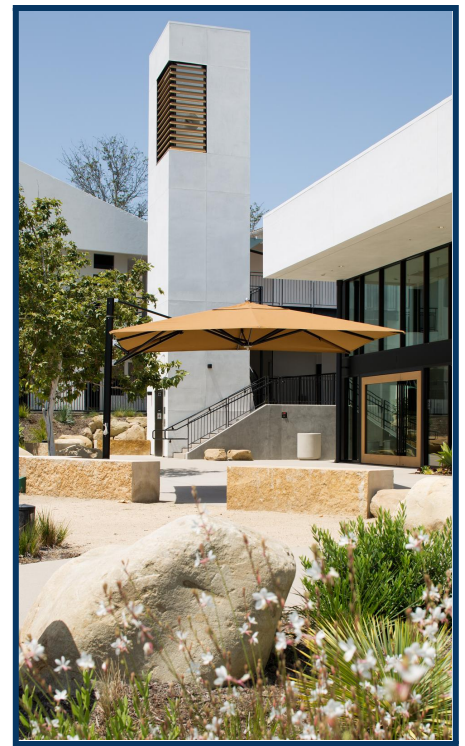
SERRA'S PANTRY - A volunteer opportunity in San Juan Capistrano provides food to those in need. Interested Gloria Dei members serve at Serra's Pantry *every third Saturday of the month at 8:30am, year round*. December 17 is the next volunteer opportunity. Please join us to help with this important outreach.

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 in Knudson Hall. They will be on vacation December 19 - January 5. Interested in volunteering, contact gloriadei@mygloriadei.org or 949-493-3414. For more information, email Sharon Miller at esldanapoint@mygloriadei.org.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY - "Dinner and a Movie for 23!"

All the children at Los Angelitos Orphanage had the rare experience of a field trip into town for a walk around the mall, dinner and a movie...all made possible by the generosity of a family from Gloria Dei. After completing loads of red-tape, required by the government, permits were issued for the children to get out of the orphanage for the day.



The teens and 5 adults supervised and held the hand of every child. The 18 children and their chaperones all piled in the passenger van, donated by Gloria Dei, drove to the mall for a stroll and enjoyed their favorite meal: Chinese food. Then on to the Cinépolis theater where they watched the animated film: *DC League of Super Pets*. A fabulous and memorable day was had by all. God is Good.

Remember, you DO NOT need to go to the orphanage to make a difference in the lives of these children. Contact David or Susan Warneke to see how you can help at 203-952-5657 or 510-967-3211.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY - Thanks to those who are involved in meeting with shut-ins, homebound, hospitalized and bringing the Lord's Supper. Thanks to Intern Dana and Daneen Pysz for leading this ministry. If you are interested in helping in this area, please call the office at 949-493-3414.



DEI-LY DETAILS

ATTENDANCE and LIVESTREAM VIEWS

11/6: 317 11/13: 318 11/20: 305 11/27: 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.

SANDSTONE BENCHES have now been etched with the names (and scripture) of people who gave gifts during the Gen2Gen of over \$10,000. 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. Each niche holds two urns. Currently, 50 niches and 4 memorial plaques have been purchased. To reserve a niche for yourself or a loved one, please contact the church office, 949-493-3414. For more information, please see our website: mygloriadei.org/columbarium.

THANKS

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

Thanks to Kayla Carlson for creating our Tropical Thanksgiving Altar!



Pastor David and Carol,
Thank you so much for your help and generosity in accommodating our shredding event on Saturday, November 5. It was a pleasure getting to meet some of the church community. From the sounds of it, you all are doing some wonderful ministry there!
Thank you again,
Roy Schenkenberger and Lisa Hosinski

THANKSGIVING "FRIENDSGIVING" GATHERINGS...



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 Avery, Blaine Johnson, Alice Anderson, Mary Lou & Denny Walters, Jean Meinholtz, Gwen Layritz, Gloria Roberts, Christina Simpson, Lars Talstad, David Warneke and Joan Sorge.

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

FOR OUR MISSIONARY - Please keep Dorcas in your prayers for strength and peace.

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 2023), 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



DECEMBER 2022 VOLUNTEERS

2022 Time & Talent assignments will extend through January 2023. During January we will be sending out the new schedule for Time & Talent, beginning February 2023.

THANK YOU to all who have completed their 2023 Time & Talent and Pledge!

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
Seminary Intern Dana Becker danabecker@mygloriadei.org
Administrative Assistant Carol Weinhardt
gloriadei@mygloriadei.org
Preschool Director Shelli Parajekas
preschool@mygloriadei.org
Minister of Arts and Outreach Michelle Lum
michellelum@mygloriadei.org
Youth Director Paige Gulck youth@mygloriadei.org
Congregational Life Director Susie Boland
fellowship@mygloriadei.org
Music Director Kathy Person music@mygloriadei.org
Organist/Planist Fred Johnson organist@mygloriadei.org
5pm Worship Leader Micaela Lum

DECEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
8:30am - Worship/Sunday School 10am - Worship/Sunday School 11am - Christmas Pageant 11:15am - Confirmation (6th-8th) 2pm - Women's Cookie Exchange 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	10am - South Coast Literacy 5:30pm - Alanon Meeting 6:30pm - GIFT (Growing In Faith) 6:30pm - South Coast Singers	7am - AA Men Meeting 11am - Saddleback Pastors 1pm - Staff Meeting 6:30pm - South Coast Singers 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Meeting 10:30am - Alzheimer's Service & 12:30pm - Pacifica Synod Deans 5:30pm - Christmas Caroling 6pm - Mission Hospital Alumni AA 7:30pm - 12 Step Couples Group	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women Meeting 10am - South Coast Literacy 5:30pm - Alanon Coad 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7:30pm - Sanctuary Choir	9am - Art Installation 10am - Decorate Christmas Tree 10am - Preschool Choir 1pm - Art Installation 5:30pm - Empty Nesters Event -	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 10:30am - Betty Nies Memorial 11:30am - ACA Meeting 1:30pm - Ukrainian School of 7pm - NA Meeting
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30am - Worship/Sunday School 10am - Worship/Sunday School 11am - Christmas Pageant 11:15am - Confirmation (6th-8th) 2pm - Women's Cookie Exchange 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	10am - South Coast Literacy 5:30pm - Alanon Meeting 6:30pm - GIFT (Growing In Faith) 6:30pm - South Coast Singers	7am - AA Men Meeting 11am - Saddleback Pastors 1pm - Staff Meeting 6:30pm - South Coast Singers 7pm - AI Anon Meeting	7am - AA Meeting 10:30am - Alzheimer's Service & 12:30pm - Pacifica Synod Deans 5:30pm - Christmas Caroling 6pm - Mission Hospital Alumni AA 7:30pm - 12 Step Couples Group	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women Meeting 10am - South Coast Literacy 5:30pm - Alanon Coad 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7:30pm - Sanctuary Choir	9am - Art Installation 10am - Decorate Christmas Tree 10am - Preschool Choir 1pm - Art Installation 5:30pm - Empty Nesters Event -	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 10:30am - Betty Nies Memorial 11:30am - ACA Meeting 1:30pm - Ukrainian School of 7pm - NA Meeting
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am - Worship/Sunday School 10am - Worship/Christmas 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	10am - South Coast Literacy 5:30pm - Alanon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 6:30pm - Heart Lifters 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Church Council 7pm - South Coast Singers	7am - AA Meeting 9am - Surfside Quilter's Guild 10am - Women's Bible Study 6pm - Mission Hospital Alumni AA 7:30pm - 12 Step Couples Group	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:15am - Preschool Christmas 9:30am - AA Women Meeting 10am - South Coast Literacy 5:30pm - Alanon Coad 6:30pm - Bell Choir 7pm - AA Men Meeting 7:30pm - Sanctuary Choir	10am - Preschool Choir 4pm - Christmas Staff dinner	7am - AA Men Meeting 8:30am - Sorra's Pantry 11:30am - ACA Meeting 1pm - Rixiang Huang Student 1:30pm - Ukrainian School of 7pm - NA Meeting
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am - Lessons and 10am - Lessons and 5pm - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	2pm - RIOT Book Club 5:30pm - Alanon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 1pm - Staff Meeting 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Meditative Prayers GIFT	7am - AA Meeting 9am - Surfside Quilter's Guild 10am - Women's Bible Study 6pm - Mission Hospital Alumni AA 7:30pm - 12 Step Couples Group	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women Meeting 5:30pm - Alanon Coad 7pm - AA Men Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 11:30am - ACA Meeting 4pm - Christmas Eve Service 5:30pm - Christmas Eve Service 7pm - NA Meeting 10pm - Christmas Eve Service	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 10:30am - Betty Nies Memorial 11:30am - ACA Meeting 1:30pm - Ukrainian School of 7pm - NA Meeting
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10am - Worship 6:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Alanon Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 5:30pm - Faith on Tap 21+ Group 7pm - AI Anon Meeting 7pm - Men's Book Club	7am - AA Meeting 10am - Women's Bible Study 6pm - Mission Hospital Alumni AA 7:30pm - 12 Step Couples Group	7am - AA Men Meeting 9:30am - AA Women Meeting 5:30pm - Alanon Coad 7pm - AA Men Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 11:30am - ACA Meeting 1:30pm - Ukrainian School of 7pm - NA Meeting	7am - AA Men Meeting 9am - Prayer Shawl 10:30am - Betty Nies Memorial 11:30am - ACA Meeting 1:30pm - Ukrainian School of 7pm - NA Meeting

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

