Gloria Dei Lutheran Church DEI-LY LIGHT



SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Dear Gloria Dei family,

"Get on the Bus" RALLY SUNDAY - September 10. We celebrate the kick off of music programs, Sunday school, youth ministry, and much more. We'll also kick off our 2023-2024 reading challenge - **"THE BIBLE YEAR**." Grab your guide at the bus (patio) and join in.

To encourage this all church event, on <u>Thursdays at 6:30pm, beginning September 21</u>, there will be a weekly Bible study on the readings. A light dinner will be served and it will take place in Bankson Hall.

The first study on September 21, I will talk about **"how to"** read/study the Bible. As Lutheran Christians, we read everything in the Bible through the prism of the cross. What does that mean?

- Those troubling passages in Scripture point out our need for God's grace. So those difficult or what we might see as antiquated notions, actually tell us not only about the time in which they were written, but can again, point out all of humanity's need for Jesus.
- As Lutheran Christians, we believe in growing our whole lives long. Martin Luther, a professor at Wittenberg University, kept revising his thinking about scripture his whole life long.
- And the amazing thing, the more you study, new ideas and new understandings appear, because we believe the Spirit continues to work through these ancient words to bring life and purpose.
- Finally, we read because through the word we have the opportunity to meet The Word, Jesus.

Gratefully yours,

David R. Watt

Pastor David R. Mattson

P.S. **Thanks** to all those who helped with our *Raise the Roof* celebration. We've raised over \$104,044.15 towards roof repair. That's wonderful news! The new roofs look amazing.



MICHELLE LUM, Minister of Arts and Outreach

Where is God leading you? I recently went to a kintsugi training and in the days leading up to it, was not feeling excited about it. The hassle of packing and planning out the trip was not much fun. However the experience ended up being much more than I thought it would be. It was a space for learning kintsugi and a reunion with friends made two years ago. The best part of the training—for me at least—was learning the traditional art form of kintsugi. Learning how to mix urushi and how to apply the gold was inspiring in a way that surprised me. I felt energized imagining all the ways I could use this to make new artworks. I did not know what awaited me at this training, but I am so glad God brought me there.

Retrospectively it isn't at all surprising that this training really fed my soul, but I had forgotten about all of these wonderful things until I was there. It's scary how easy it is to miss things that we really need, whether it be a time of rest, time with God, or just some simple encouragement. The wonderful thing about being a child of God is that he takes us where we need to be. I wouldn't have traveled at all this summer except for work and this training. It was not only a rich time of fellowship, but it also allowed me to take a break from my regular routine. Where might God be leading you?

Gloria Dei Art Ministry

- Our monthly art gatherings will start up again on October 13th at 6:30pm.
- On September 30, 1pm, we are doing a watercolor class with Dan Long! Come learn about watercolor techniques as we each create our own paintings. No experience necessary.



SEMINARY INTERN DANA BECKER

This summer has been full of fun things! I started in Minnesota, taking a worship class at Luther Seminary in St. Paul - here's proof I go to school! Then, Darla and I came back to Vacation Bible School, our high school rafting trip, a baptism, and lots of preaching this summer.









This fall, I look forward to continuing classes, getting closer to graduation with my Masters of Divinity in May 2024. This semester, one of my classes includes a trip to Krakow, Poland for the Lutheran World Federation 13th Assembly in September. I'm excited to learn about worship in different cultures and bring some inspiration back for us.



SUSIE BOLAND, CONGREGATIONAL LIFE DIRECTOR

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (Young Children's Ministry)

SUNDAY SCHOOL - We are looking forward to a great new year of Sunday School with a new curriculum and some "big kid" things for the 3-5th graders!

Please grab a registration form on the Welcome Table and return into the Offering Box. Sunday School (Age 4 - 5th grade) is held at 8:30am & 10am services in Knudson Hall. Sunday school attendees leave the church service after the children's message for

class and rejoin their families for Communion. We are on summer break until September 10, 2023. LOOKING FORWARD TO A FUN FALL IN SUNDAY SCHOOL!

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Please see the sign-up list at the Welcome Table. We are so appreciative to have your help!

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.

FELLOWSHIP/FRIENDSHIP(Congregation-wide Social and Friendship Events) If you have questions or ideas for fellowship events, contact Susie Boland at fellowship@mygloriadei.org.

LAZY, HAZY DAYS OF SUMMER PICNIC







RALLY SUNDAY - We look forward to seeing everyone and enjoying an "Out of the Box, Cereal Bar" with many different cereal options, as well as, a couple different types of milk options. Come take a look at the Welcome Table for different activity sign-ups and volunteer options!

WOMEN'S BOARD - This group meets on the second Saturday of the month at 9am. *They will meet on September 9 at 9am*. Questions, contact Dana Becker at <u>danabecker@mygloriadei.org</u>. Women's Board upcoming events:

- Bunco (September 8, 6pm)
- OC Arts Museum and Private Tour of Segerstrom Hall (November 4)

ISRAEL TRIP - Pastor David will lead a group to the Holy Land, October 22 - Nov. 2, 2023. This popular trip is full.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Festival of Saint Francis/Pet Blessing (October 1, 5pm); Art Ministry Gathering (October 13, 6:30pm); Oktoberfest (October 14, 5pm); Stewardship Sunday (October 15); Israel Trip (October 24 - November 2); Reformation Sunday (October 29); Trick or Trunk (October 29, 4pm).

THE BIG THING

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI - Two ways to join: 1) For from a non-Lutheran background, attend the Adult Inquiry Class, September 9, 10am OR 2) Transfer your membership from a Lutheran church. To all joining (new & transfer), there will be a New Member Orientation , Sunday, September 10, 11:15am. New members will be received in church on Sunday, September 17. Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

KATHY PERSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR



DEI-LY WORSHIP

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

Sanctuary Choir -

Choir rehearsals begin Thursday, September 7th at 7:30 pm. All voices are welcome and are needed for this ensemble! Join us for rehearsal on

the season. We will sing both services on Rally Sunday (September 10th, 8:30 & 10:00).

Handbell Choir - Bell rehearsals begin Thursday, September 14th at 6:30 pm. If you can read music, you can ring!

Questions? Email Kathy Person: music@mygloriadei.org.

the 7th for social time and a fun warm up for

PAIGE GULCK, YOUTH DIRECTOR



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2024: JULY 16 - 20 - Coming off summer and thinking about the next one already? This youth gathering happens every 3 years, but due to COVID, there hasn't been one since 2018. Sign-ups for kids start in early September and registration closes in early November. Incoming 9ths graders (those leaving 8th grade in 2024) and graduating seniors (those leaving 12th grade in 2024), and everyone in between, are welcome on this awesome trip. Please reach out to Paige

at <u>youth@mygloriadei.org</u> for details.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN SUNDAY OCTOBER 1 - Classes will take place following the 10:00am services on the first and third Sundays of the month. Classes run 3 years and are for 6th graders - 8th graders. Classes are usually an hour long. Please see Pastor David, Pastor Dana, or Paige if you'd like to enroll your child in these classes.

PIZZA PLANNING PARTY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17 11:30 AM - AlL right Sr. High - we are back to school and ready for the year. Let's plan our adventures for the coming year over some pizza at Beach Pizza in Dana Point.

LOCAL OC YOUTH EVENT (LOCY) SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 6:00 PM - We are continuing our monthly meets up with Community Lutheran and Our Savior Churches this year. This group meets on the 4th Sunday of the month from 6-9pm. Our Savior is hosting this month.



SHELLI PARAJECKAS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

PRESCHOOL Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!

School has been in session for a few weeks now. The kiddos are settling in and adjusting to their new routines. We are excited for a year filled with learning and laughing.

This month we will celebrate our preschool grandparents by hosting a morning with coffee and muffins, a tour of the classrooms, and end with a joyful chapel

time. This is a very sweet event because our preschoolers love to show off their classroom and the art they've done so far this school year.

Gloria Dei IS the place where children play and pray!

First school day smiles...

















Summer Fun Events...































GROWING TOGETHER!

(All things related to learning, Bible study, small groups, G.I.F.T. groups, education, Table Talk, etc.)

"**THE BIBLE YEAR**" (2023-2024 Bible reading challenge!) - To encourage this all church event, on <u>Thursdays at</u> <u>6:30pm, beginning September 21</u>, there will be a weekly Bible study on the readings. A light dinner will be served and it will take place in Bankson Hall. Bring your Bible and join in! This will be led by Pastor David.

G.I.F.T. (GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER) BIBLE STUDY - Led by David & Susan Warneke & held in Bankson Hall, on the first Monday of the month, at 6:30pm. We are studying *1st & 2nd Samuel*. Then we will meet on September 11 to study the Overview & Lesson 6 (Overview Part 2: 2nd Samuel A Kingdom in Crisis, The Chosen King Enthroned). To join, contact the church office 949-493-3414 or <u>gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u>, so we can add you to the group.

HEART LIFTERS WOMEN'S STUDY - Bible Study for all interested ladies, on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday/month, 6:30pm. It is a social and informative gathering. *Their next meeting* is *September 12* & they will be studying *A Life Beyond Amazing* by Dr. David Jeremiah. The study guide can be purchased at christianbook.com or Amazon for \$10. *It will be at Donna Combe's home.* Carpool from Church. Contact: Ann St. Martin or Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (949-493-3414) for details.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Every Wednesday, 10am - Gloria Dei women (and friends) meet in Knudson Hall. Study led by Pastor David or Associate Pastor Dana Becker. *Their next meeting is September 13.* All women are invited to join in!

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY meets the *second Saturday of every month at 8:30am in Bankson Hall. Their group starts up again on September 9.* Please let Pastor David know if you plan to attend and there will be a place set for you. All men are welcome.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 2pm.* The group meets in Knudson Hall. The next meeting is September 18. They are reading *Francisca's Destiny* by Pastor Ron Baesler. If interested in the book club, contact Diane Kelly or contact the office at 949-493-3414.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm* at members' homes. *They will be meeting again on September 26.* For information contact the church office.

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.* Their next meeting is September 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.* September 16 are the next volunteer opportunities. 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. *This Fall (starting September 11), they will meet on Monday & Thursday mornings 10am - 12pm in Knudson Hall.* Interested in volunteering, contact gloriadei@mygloriadei or 949-493-3414. For more information, email Sharon Miller at esldanapoint@mygloriadei.org.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY - It's a Family Affair

We invite you to join us in the important ministry of caring for the children at Los Angelitos Orphanage. The Bible encourages us to *"take up the cause of the fatherless"* and to *"look after orphans"*.

There are many ways to get involved. Here are a few ideas:

- Join us on our next visit scheduled for September 23rd. We have spaces available.
- Please help with trip logistics without going to Mexico.
- Donate needed supplies for us to bring (we have a list). No need to travel.
- Bring a craft or art project, supply food for lunch, sports activities, games, etc.
- Help driving please.



There are many other ways to get involved. Contact Susan or David Warneke.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY - Thanks to those who are involved in meeting with shut-ins, homebound, hospitalized and bringing the Lord's Supper. Thanks to Student Pastor 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

ATTENDANC	E (In-Person/	Livestream)		
7/2: 174	7/9: 206	7/16: 184	7/23: 220	7/30: 214
8/6: 230	8/13: 219	8/20: 237	8/27: 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.

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 eleven families. 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: <u>www.mygloriadei.org/donate</u>. 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, 55 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.)

RAISE THE ROOF - Thanks to the many people who have given to this effort! To date, we have raised \$104,044.15 for the Bankson and Knudson Hall roofs! Knudson Hall roofing is completed and roofing on Bankson Hall is currently in progress.

Dear Friends at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donation! Your generosity & commitment ensure Pacific Lutheran Seminary can better serve our students & assist them as they transform lives and help equip leaders for the church & world. With appreciation - Raymond Pickett, Rector

THANK YOU so much to all the VBS volunteers who helped make this week-long camp, fun, exciting & WILD ABOUT GOD!

Sincerely,

Susie Boland and the whole Gloria Dei Family











Thank you to Micaela & Michelle Lum for leading a fun Disney Sing-along!





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 - Blaine Johnson, Alice Anderson, Mary Lou & Denny Walters, Jean Meinholtz, Gwen Layritz, Gloria Roberts, Christina Simpson, Gerry Grady, Joan Sorge, John Burns, and Carol Clisby.

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

PRAYERS OF COMFORT - Please keep Marty Ficken & his family in your prayers as they mourn Nancy Ficken's passing. Also, include Mary Murphy in your prayers as she & her family mourn the loss of her husband, Wiley Hall. We also pray for Nancy Hudson's family as they mourn her passing.

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" (July - September 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 <u>gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u>).

DEI-LY DUTIES



SEPTEMBER 2023 VOLUNTEERS

The second half of the time & talent schedule was sent out on August 4, 2023, primarily via email & mail to those without an email. If you haven't received your assignments, please call Carol Weinhardt at the office: 949-493-3414

For other time & talent opportunities that don't happen weekly, we will reach out to you as needed. In addition, please watch for happenings in the bulletin or opportunities listed at the Welcome Table.

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; <u>Preschool</u> : (949) 493-3414 x209 <u>Website</u> : mygloriadei.org; <u>Email</u> : gloriadei@mygloriadei.org <u>Facebook Page</u> : Facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint	Pastor David R. Mattson <u>pastordavid@mygloriadei.org</u> Seminary Intern Dana Becker <u>danabecker@mygloriadei.org</u> Administrative Assistant Carol Weinhardt <u>gloriadei@mygloriadei.org</u> Preschool Director Shelli Parajeckas <u>preschool@mygloriadei.org</u> Minister of Arts and Outreach Michelle Lum <u>michellelum@mygloriadei.org</u> Youth Director Paige Gulck <u>youth@mygloriadei.org</u> Congregational Life Director Susie Boland <u>fellowship@mygloriadei.org</u> Music Director Kathy Person <u>music@mygloriadei.org</u> Organist/Planist Fred Johnson <u>organist@mygloriadei.org</u> 5pm Worship Leader Micaela Lum
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SEPTEMBER 2023

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6 7am - AA Mon Monting 5 7am - AA Monting 6 7am - Alanon Monting 7am - AA Monting 7am - AA Monting 6 7pm - Alanon Monting 7pm - Alanon Monting 6pm - Masion Hospital Alumni AA
11 12 13 10am - South Coast Literacy 7am - AA Mon Meeting 7am - AA Meeting 13 6:30pm - Alanon Meeting 6:30pm - Haart Liffers 9am - Surfacte Quiffer's Guidd 16am - Komen's Bible Study 6:30pm - GIFT (Growing in Faith 6:30pm - VFW Auxiliary 10am - Conference at 11:30am - Conference at 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 11:30am - Conference at 11:30am - Conference at
18 19 20 10am - South Coast Librardy 7am - Ad Mon Meeting 7am - Ad Meeting 2pm - RIOT Book Club @ 33501 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 9am - Surfaide Quiller's Guild 2pm - RIOT Book Club @ 33501 7pm - Al Anon Meeting 9am - Surfaide Quiller's Guild 2pm - Nianon Meeting 5apm - Mission Hospital Alummi AA 5.30pm - Alanon Meeting 6pm - Mission Hospital Alummi AA
25 26 26 27 10am - South Coast Literacy 7am - AA Men Meeting 7am - AA Meeting 7am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Alanon Meeting 6:30pm - Heart Lithers 10am - Women's Blabe Bludy 7am - AA Meeting 7pm - Alanon Meeting 7pm - Alanon Meeting 7am - AA Meeting 7am - AA Meeting 7pm - Alanon Meeting 7pm - Maria Robert Club 7:30pm - 12 Step Couples Group 7:30pm - 12 Step Couples Group

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