



A Monthly
Publication

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www.gloriadeichurch.org

V Gloria Dei VISITOR

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Take Time This Summer

“Summertime, and the livin’ is easy” to quote the lines of an old lyric. It is the time of year when one can slow down and be relieved of all the busy schedules that stress us at other times of the year.

The focus this summer of WELCA’s magazine Lutheran Woman Today is on prayer.

Take some time this summer to really relax, reflect and try your luck at meditation and prayer. Choose a tranquil, pretty place such as a garden, park, lake or perhaps an early morning walk where one can savor God’s presence in creation.



God has something to say to each of us. God is still speaking – it is His nature to speak to us. Open your heart to God’s will and be ready to listen and experience the gifts He has in store for you.



The Rev. Serena Sellers in one of the magazine’s articles says “prayer is a relationship, a way of being with God and with yourself that grows over time.” Take time this summer to relax, reflect, meditate and pray to build that relationship. It gives us life!

Have a wonderful summer!

Women of the **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

Summer Music Help Needed!

I was just looking over the sign-up sheet for Summer Special Music, and am glad to report that many slots have been taken. I am still in need of volunteers for both 8:30 and 10am services on 6/6, 6/20, 7/4, 7/25, and 8/1, and in need of volunteers to play at 10:00 only on 7/18 and 8/22. If you are able to share your music on any of those dates, or even dates that are already signed up for, please get in touch with me via email or phone - greg.ceurvorst@gloriadeichurch.org; 630-968-6231x103. The more the merrier!



Vacation Bible School is coming

August 2 – 6

From the Gloria Dei homepage (www.gloriadeichurch.org), go to our [registration website](#) to **volunteer** as a teacher or helper or to **register** your children.

From the Pastor

Can one person, through word or deed, really make a difference? It's a challenging question in a time of deep outrage, when so much seems out of control. Chicago Tribune columnist Steve Chapman (May 27), beginning with the disastrous oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, expanded to "the larger vein of popular sentiment that this mammoth catastrophe taps. It's one of a series of horrifying, infuriating and preventable debacles that has served to spread disillusionment and disgust with important institutions."

Chapman noted that "the problem has rapidly expanded, as the smart folks in charge turn out to be not so smart, the government is unable to discharge its obligation and ordinary people who had nothing to do with the failure suffer the consequences. ... This is not a new story but a recurring one. It describes the invasion of Iraq. It describes the failures that led to the destruction of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. It describes the financial crisis that led to the worst economic collapse since the Great Depression. It describes the explosion of the federal budget and the government debt in the last two years."

"Is it any wonder that angry populism and dark paranoia now dominate our discourse? Is it any wonder that so many citizens harbor so much distrust for established institutions?" He cites Pew Research Center polling data that reveals our lowered expectations of – and even hostility toward – government agencies, elected officials, financial institutions, large corporations, national news media, the entertainment industry and the scientific community.

This summer in church we're going to focus on the upbeat. Because of your appreciative response last summer, the sermons will again be in the Biblical StoryTelling style. This year, every week you're going to hear a story of how one person made a difference. Specifically – those crafty, sometimes outrageous, always wise Prophets. As often as not, it wasn't what the prophets said that made them memorable, but the way they lived their lives. Instead of spending the whole summer on a single great character (like last year's David story), you'll get a glimpse of a whole bouquet of characters: Elijah, Elisha, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah and Jeremiah.

One common thread in all these characters: they were never intimidated or silenced by the powerful. They never lost sight of right and wrong. Every prophet had a profound courage that didn't come just from themselves. In the midst of the greatest challenges, they found reason for hope.

One person can make a difference. Let summer worship be your opportunity to rebuild your strength and confidence. Sure, there's travel and weekend leisure activity to enjoy during the summer months. But it's also a time for you and your kids to re-charge your spiritual energy. The Word and The Sacrament are the reliable ways God has promised to bring grace into your life.

The Rev. Dr. Michael R. Rothaar
Senior Pastor

Special Father's Day Displays

On Sunday, June 20th, we will again be asking for your participation in exhibiting a Father's Day display in the Gathering Area. Tables will be set up in the Gathering Area (beginning on Fri. June 18th (9-4pm) for you to bring in treasured items including: handiwork, crafts, war mementos, photos, etc. to "tell" about a special father in your life.



You may bring in the item(s) anytime on Friday or just prior to a worship service on Saturday or Sunday.

Cards found on the table, should be filled out listing your name and the name of the person who made the item with a short description about the item. Items should be taken home after the service of your choice. Lemonade and cookies will be served.

Special Thank You From LSSI Intern--Emily Dienst

Dear Gloria Dei,

Thank you for all of the help and support during my internship at Gloria Dei. Everyone was warm and friendly and I felt very welcome! Regards, Emily Dienst

(Emily led an adult forum on loss and grief and also led a 6-week Grief Support Group at Gloria Dei. Thank you & God's blessings, Emily.)

Daytime Grief Support Group Continues Throughout Summer

Join Stephen Minister and convener, Pastor Dave Alderfer, from 1:30-3pm Tuesdays, in the Lounge. The group is open to new members at anytime. There is no cost. The meeting format is informal and caring. We focus on the many forms of grief including: loss of a loved one, job, or health concerns. Each session ends with a Biblical insight about how our faith helps us with the grieving process.

Members, friends and community are welcome to attend one or all sessions.

Exercise With Craig

Join leader, Craig Kruse, member and physical therapist on Saturdays from 2-3pm in the Gathering Area/Fellowship Hall (as available). This low impact "Stretch & Tone" Class is free and open to all. Get in shape for a healthier you!

Gloria Dei Blood Drive

Saturday, June 12th
8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

To schedule your appointment, please call Gloria Dei at 630-968-6231 or register online at www.lifesource.org and use sponsor code 496C.

Appointments encouraged – Walk-ins welcome!

Cards for Paul-Silas Wanted

In between posted regular mail letters to prison inmates, there may be an opportunity to spend a little extra postage and send a friendly post card or a greeting card. In a world without e-mail, an old-fashioned post card or greeting card can bring a smile and a word of comfort on a day that may be hot and miserable. If you have any unused post cards or blank greeting cards with envelopes that you would like to donate to Paul-Silas, Gloria Dei's inmate letter-writing ministry, please drop them off at the Church Office. They can be any design, any photograph, any tourist post card, as long as they are unused. Thanks from the Paul-Silas group! If you would like to read our "how-to" booklet on the Paul-Silas pen pal outreach, call Steve at 630-453-1869.



Bengston Death

Pastor C. Luther Bengston passed away April 22 at age 88 in Seattle, where he retired in 1990. For many years he was a staff member at Grace Lutheran Church in LaGrange, the original "parent" congregation of Gloria Dei. Pastor Bengston was often assigned to interim duties here when Gloria Dei was without a pastor. Memorial contributions may be made to the Grace Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, 200 N. Catherine Ave., LaGrange, or to Lutheran World Relief, 700 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21230; (www.lwr.org).

Cancer Research

What if you could personally participate in research that could help determine factors that cause or prevent cancer? What if you could make it so just one family never had to hear the words "you have cancer?"

At the upcoming Relay For Life being held at Downers Grove North High School you will have an unprecedented opportunity to participate in research in our community. The American Cancer Society will be enrolling participants for their newest research study, the Cancer Prevention Study - 3 (CPS-3).

Individuals may choose to participate if they are willing to make a long-term commitment to the study (which involves completing follow-up surveys periodically over the next 20 - 30 years), are between the ages of 30 and 65 years old and have never been diagnosed with cancer. Cancer survivors are asked to help spread the word, and encourage family members and friends to enroll.

Enrollment will be taking place at the Relay at Downers Grove North High School on June 11, 2010 between 5 PM and 9 PM. You do not have to be a registered Relay participant to enroll. Visit www.cancer.org/cps3, call 1-888-604-5888 or email cps3@cancer.org to learn more.

Communications Help Wanted

We continue to seek people willing to volunteer some time to the church. Because we're putting together a website task force, we're especially looking for folks who are experienced in marketing and graphic design. Are you a communicator – either professionally or because of student or volunteer experience? Please give Pastor Rothaar a call at 630-968-6231, extension 101 drop him a note at pastor.rothaar@gloriadeichurch.org.

Congregational Health Needs Assessment Results Summary

On behalf of the Wellness Cabinet, we appreciated the 148 completed survey forms that were returned, and thank the congregation members for their thoughtful answers and comments. All of the comments and recommendations that you have made in filling out the surveys were considered seriously by the Cabinet and very much valued. Although the economy is still in a downturn, we are optimistic due to the general support for the ministry. Of the surveys returned, 74 % felt that health and healing should be important parts of our church's ministry or mostly agreed. Another 20% agreed but needed more information. Out of those who completed the survey, about half were willing to lift up the ministry in prayer. Slightly more than a quarter of respondents were willing to provide financial support and a quarter of respondents were willing to volunteer their time and talent.

Based on the survey results the Wellness Cabinet Goals include:

1. Publishing articles & educating the congregation through the *Visitor* and the *Sunday Visitor* regarding Wellness Ministry and Parish Nursing.
2. Exploring funding options for the eventual hiring of a Parish Nurse at Gloria Dei.
3. Continuing to expand programming specifically using the top five responses for health events as guidelines:
 - A. Flu Shot Clinics
 - B. Blood Pressure Monitoring
 - C. Health Fairs
 - D. Blood Drives
 - E. Vision/Hearing

4. Communicating progress with the council, pastors and the congregation.

Anyone who has further questions or comments about the survey may contact a member of the Wellness Cabinet to discuss these.

2010 Gloria Dei Wellness Cabinet Members:

Barb Chang, Coordinator	Gloria Parker, Recording
Pastor Kral	Rich Bertenshaw
Maren Huber	Ellen Hilsabeck
Bob Mitchell	Joanna Roman
Clarence Smith	

More Armchair Traveling

For some people, summer is travel time, and it would be great to visit Scotland.

But you don't necessarily have to buy a plane ticket to experience it. Visit the Gloria Dei Memorial Library and read the works of some great authors!

Many books by Liz Curtis Higgs are set in Scotland. Try *Thorn in My Heart* (F Hig LS1), the first in *The Lowlands of Scotland* series, and see how people lived in Scotland in the 1780's. Higgs has also written *My Heart's in the Lowlands* (F Hig), an account of her 10-day trip to the Scottish Lowlands. Or check out *Legend of the Celtic Stone*, by Michael Phillips (F Phi C1) and learn about Scottish history as you watch Andrew Trentham try to solve the mystery of a theft from Westminster Abbey and figure out his place in the world.

The world is a big place! Experience some of it from the comfort of your own armchair.

Supply Drive for Refugee Assistance Program

JUNE 19 - 27

One of the programs under the umbrella of LOVE Christian Clearinghouse is the "Helping Hands"



Refugee Assistance Program. There are hundreds of African and Burmese families living in the western Chicago suburbs. While the families that are in touch with Helping Hands are always in need of food and supplies, of late the usual contributors have dwindled, so Gloria Dei has agreed to help this month. Items can be placed in the gathering area shopping carts the last two weekends in June.

Wish list: *most needed

- *Dish detergent
- *Laundry soap, bar soap
- *409 cleaner
- *Windex
- *Paper towels
- *Toilet paper
- Ziploc bags
- Tupperware containers
- *Deodorant, shampoo, feminine products
- *Diapers

Food Needed:

- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Rice (small bags)
- Cereal
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Vegetable Oil
- Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, tomatoes)
- Canned fruit (peaches, pineapple, mandarin oranges)
- Ramen Noodle

Please- no cleaners with bleach. No large laundry detergent containers

Helping Hands program includes weekly meetings for English practice, daily living skills, and referrals to community resources, with a goal of parents becoming self-sufficient in their new home surroundings.

Thanks so much for your help
Mission & Justice Committee

Labor of Love

Our last meeting of the season will be June 15 at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

We will continue to tie and pin layers of quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Our current total is already above what we finished last year! This will help replenish all the quilts given out to this year's disaster areas. Come join us for fellowship while contributing to this worthy cause.

This is also a reminder for those of you who signed up last month – bring your dish for our luncheon afterwards. See you there!

WELCA Board Meeting

The WELCA Board will meet June 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at Carol Richter's home. We will work on the WELCA book for the 2010-2011 year.

Changes for the Church Directory

Baptisms

Hadley Paige Hodson

Thank You's!

Thank you to everyone who donated to our April Christian Action Project, Family Shelter Services. Sarah Circle delivered 2 packages of 36 pampers size 3, 2 packages of baby wipes, 1 Enfamile baby formula, 3 packages of Ziploc bags, 2 rolls of Bounty paper towels, and 1 Lysol toilet bowl cleaner. Articles for their resale shop were delivered by various circle members during April.

**THE NEXT VISITOR DEADLINE
IS TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2010.
DISTRIBUTION WILL BE
JULY 14, 2010.**



GLORIA DEI
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Michael R. Rothaar
Senior Pastor
Rhonda Kral
Associate Pastor

Gregory F. Ceurvorst
Director of Music Ministries

Kate Huron
Director of Youth
and Family Ministries

Carol Gentes
Director of Cherub & Bell Choirs

Sue Scharping
Director of Kids of the Kingdom Choir

Becky Granat
Nursery Supervisor

Deb Cerny, Joyce Pauly
Administrative Staff

Vernon Tittle
Custodian

Ella Heflin
Visitor Editor

630-968-6231
gloriadeichurch.org

July 2010																												
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday																								
4	Worship/Communion 7:30, 8:30 & 10:00 AM	5 7:30 - 9:00 PM Bty. Scout/FH1	6 12:00-9:00 PM LSSI Counseling/SSI Office 7:00 PM AA Mtg/12-113 7:00 PM Dennis Chong Dennis Bassett Group/11 7:00 PM Baptismal Consultation/203	7 1:30 PM Program Staff Mtg/203 7:30 PM Stephen Min/202	8 8:00-9:00 PM LSSI/SSI Office 7:30 PM Coats-Army/mtg/12-113	9 12:00 PM AA Mtg/111 8:00 PM Nasa/Reformational Retreat/11 8:00 PM AA Mtg-Wk Ave./12-113	10 8:00 AM - Noon Bty Scout Car Wash 3:30 PM Nasa/Reformational Meeting 8:00 Worship/Communion	11 Worship/Communion 7:30, 8:30 & 10:00 AM	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13 12:00-9:00 PM LSSI Counseling/SSI Office 7:00 PM AA Mtg/12-113 7:00 PM AA Mtg/12-113 7:30 PM Evangelism Comm/201	14 9:30 AM Carre Card Meeting/201 1:30 PM Program Staff Mtg/203	15 7:00 - 8:00 PM LSSI/SSI Office 7:30 PM Coats-Army/mtg/12-113	16 12:00 PM AA Mtg/111 5:00 PM Nasa/Reformational Retreat/11 6:00 PM Sorcerer/Thesis Retreat/11 8:00 PM AA Mtg-Wk Ave./12-113	17 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Saturday Women's Group/201 3:00 PM Sorcerer/Thesis Meeting 8:00 Worship/Communion	18 Worship/Communion 7:30, 8:30 & 10:00 AM	19 12:45 PM Mike Book Club/203 2:30 PM Communion @ Pella's House 5:30 PM Wispood Conns. Bldg/12-113 7:30 - 9:00 PM Bty Scout/FH1	20 12:00-9:00 PM LSSI Counseling/SSI Office 7:00 PM AA Mtg/12-113 7:00 PM AA Mtg/12-113 7:30 PM Evng. Comm/203	21 VISITOR MAILED 7:00 PM Communion @ Individual 3:00 PM Ft.4 Staff Mtg/203 7:30 PM Sorcerer Mtg/202	22 12:00 - 9:00 PM LSSI/SSI Office 7:30 PM Coats-Army/mtg/12-113	23 12:00 PM AA Mtg/111 8:00 PM AA Mtg-Wk Ave./12-113	24 2:00 PM Exercise with Craig/FH 8:00 Worship/Communion	25 Worship/Communion 7:30, 8:30 & 10:00 AM	26 7:00 PM Colerene Colery/12-113 7:30 - 9:00 PM Bty Scout/FH1	27 12:00-9:00 PM LSSI Counseling/SSI Office 7:00 PM AA Mtg/12-113 7:30 PM Council Mtg/202	28 1:30 PM Program Staff Mtg/203	29 12:00 - 9:00 PM LSSI/SSI Office 7:30 PM Coats-Army/mtg/12-113	30 12:00 PM AA Mtg/111 6:00 PM Jesus/Chong Reformation/11 8:00 PM AA Mtg-Wk Ave./12-113	31 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM Chgo Metro Synod Relational Evangelism Workshop/FH 3:00 PM Jesus/Chong's Wedding 8:00 Worship/Communion