

FROM THE PASTOR

July, 2020

Grace and peace be yours from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Is it July already? Shouldn't we be on vacation somewhere? Yes, it is July and we should be on vacation or planning one.

But the pandemic has changed a lot of things around in our lives and vacations, especially in Florida, are not what they used to be.

I was able to take a few days of vacation in June, of which several were spent helping my daughter and her children move into their new home. Yes, it was a working vacation and Patti and I got plenty of exercise. However, even though we were around our family and made some great memories with them, the experience fell a bit short of sitting on the ship's pool deck with a good book in a warm, sunny Caribbean port.

As you read this, we will be entering the fifth month of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though we don't care too much for the lifestyle that we've had to endure these past months it reminds me of the way we used to think about moving in the Navy every three years. We didn't like it but we got used to it.

We find ourselves going through two transitions at the same time: the transition from one called pastor to the next and the transition from what used to be before the pandemic and what the world will be like post-pandemic. It's a bit unnerving, to say the least.

Our Pastoral Call Committee is working diligently to complete their part of the transition process, meeting weekly at the church (around an eight-table square with proper social distancing and facemasks, of course!). You will soon be getting a survey which I hope everyone will fill out and return as soon as you can. This will accomplish two goals: 1.) It will give you a voice in what you would like to see in the new pastor and 2.) a timely submission will help the call committee to get us that much closer to calling our next shepherd.



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What will our worship service look like when the council determines it's safe to return? We're working on it and would welcome any suggestions as to how we can gather together safely. When we get ready to return we will make sure you are informed. Please pray for each other, for our church and our world.

See you ~~in church~~ on the internet! *Pastor Jim*

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Ardelle Fish died Saturday, **June 13, 2020** in Vero Beach. Our prayers and condolences to Ardelle's family. Arrangements are still to be determined.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in June: Jan Rudolph, Linda Hide, Madalon Ritter

Please note: When being admitted to the hospital, please indicate "Lutheran" or "Gloria Dei" when asked about your religion. It helps our visitation team members know who is hospitalized so that visits can be arranged.

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

In loving memory of:

My father Rudy Trapiss
Rudy Trapiss, Love Never Ends
To the Glory of God

Mark Trapiss/Memorials
Pat & Doug Bressler/Memorials
Rich & Debbie Cassem/Flowers

PRAYERS

We will pray for the joys, sorrows, and concerns of the following members
July:

07/05 Dotsie Grins, Mary Grissom, Rose Gulbrandsen,
Evelyn Gum, Ralph & Sylvia Hallberg

07/12 Ray & Gerry Haller, Debbye Halligan, Northilt Handwerck,
Kay Hawtin, Dick & Bev Healy

07/19 Rollie & Pat Heimbach, Bernice Heiser, Jean Heitz,
Linda Hide, Jean Hoffman

07/26 Martin & Martha Holleran, Ethel Holmes, Betty Ann Huebner,
Lorraine Hughes, Mary Humphreys

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

07/04	Ray & Gerry Haller	61 years*
07/12	Dick & Beverly Healy	20 years
07/28	Merle & Rita Moritz	13 years

**Special congratulations to these couples that have celebrated fifty or more years of marriage.*

JULY BIRTHDAYS

07/01	Lillian Russo	07/09	Lillian Skilbred
07/11	Joan Davis	07/14	Pat Heimbach
07/14	Merle Moritz	07/15	Jean Baer
07/15	Christine Carlson	07/16	Rose Gulbrandsen
07/16	Paul Proulx	07/17	Ernest Mann
07/20	Charles Yonko	07/21	Milton DeLong
07/21	Debbye Halligan	07/23	Edward Thompson
07/24	Gloria Moulton	07/25	Sylvia Hallberg
07/25	Sue Johnston	07/26	Helen Ames
07/27	Julie Eld	07/30	Carol Figi
07/30	Northilt Handwerck	07/30	Alberta Siepiela
07/30	Kathleen Sorenson	07/30	Ruby Wanland

MEDIA TEAM

CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE AT: www.gloriadeielca.com

Stay current with church events by visiting the website on a regular basis. Help us keep the calendar of events current by sending information about any functions and club events to Mary Beth Morris. Please remember to take pictures of all events and send them to Mary Greer for posting on the website.

The Member Access menu is just for our disciples. Here you can view videos of sermons and Temple Talks, the church directory, and volunteer for Worship Ministries or make a Worship Donation.

FELLOWSHIP

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, all events at church have been cancelled until further notice. Hopefully we will be able to resume our normal schedule, which will include our after-church fellowship and coffee hour.

FAITH FORMATION **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

All classes have been cancelled during the virus emergency and will resume when the emergency is ended.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Greetings to all of Gloria Dei members from the Social Ministries Committee. We miss our face to face contact with you and each other. We pray all goes well with each and everyone.

As you know, we have not been meeting face to face but have kept in contact through the internet. Many in our community are experiencing day to day challenges and on behalf of Gloria Dei members we have made the following contributions.

\$1,000 was donated to JHIFM for the monthly food purchases helping area families.

\$500 was donated to Salvation Army as they provide food, counselling services, assistance for those seeking housing, and other daily necessities.

We will continue to look for chances to assist locally and regionally. In addition, we are watching and waiting to see what happens with the two local schools in our area. We will keep you informed as we learn more.

Again we pray for you and your families and look forward to seeing you soon.

Pat Bressler, Pat Heimbach, Diane Wasser, Gayle Bloom, Linda Steege, Joe LaHood, Charlotte Christensen, Ruby Wanland, Elizabeth Sanguedolce, Donna Tarnok, Leone Goding and Joyce Brandt

JHIFM (JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY)

Thank you to the approximately 30 volunteers who gathered June 12th to distribute 11,254 pounds of nutritious food to 556 individuals from 164 local families in need. This was a 34.3% increase over the 414 individuals we fed in June 2019. I have posted photos of today's food distribution on JHIFM's Facebook page which you can access by typing [Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/](https://www.facebook.com/feedinghopenow/) in the address bar of your computer's internet browser. Just click on "Posts" on the left side of the screen. Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook!

Ritch Cassem

Who We Are: Gloria Dei's History-by Mary Greer

This is the fifth installment in the series about Gloria Dei's interesting and colorful history.

2000's

"The Purpose Driven Church" seminar, which is a structured approach to change and a new identity, was conducted and attended by over 100 church members.

Communicants are given the choice of receiving communion wafers or bread. The newsletter receives a new name: *The Glorion*. The name signifies that the Glory of this House of God will go on for many generations to come.

Gloria Dei has its first website and the church continues to fund scholarships for seminarians. A Nursery/Wee Worship for small children is instituted during worship. The church sound system is updated.

In 2001, Gloria Dei begins a year-long 50th anniversary celebration that kicked off with a sermon delivered by the Bishop of the Florida-Bahama Synod and an anniversary dinner at Silver Lake Country Club.

New doors at the entrance to the church were installed and painted red. A series of piano and organ and choral concerts continue to be offered and are well attended by the congregation.

An Altar Guild was established in 2001 and has the responsibility of maintaining the main altar in the sanctuary as well as the altar in the Columbarium. A Fellowship Committee was formed to organize social events throughout the year.

The Memorial Garden was renovated and a memorial stone was installed. It is inscribed with the names, dates of birth and death of persons whose cremains are placed in the Memorial Garden.

Pastor Thomas S. Church accepts the call to become pastor of Gloria Dei Gloria Dei in 2002.

Gloria Dei once again participated in building several houses in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity. Members raised money and gave hours of labor to these projects.

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Gloria Dei approved a new shorter mission statement: “Gathering in Christ...Sharing His Love,” which is printed on the inside cover of the *Glorion* monthly newsletter.

Renovations continued to take place with changes made to the kitchen, Fellowship Hall, and the conversion of the former choir room to a vestry for the pastor and assistant ministers to robe.

A bronze Living Memorial was installed in May 2004 and is located to the left of the center doors leading into the sanctuary. A gift of \$1,000 per name on the plaque is invested in the Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. These funds are used to begin new missions in the ELCA.

Pastor's Report for May 2020

During May 2020 I:

- ✚ Prepared and preached 4 sermons
- ✚ Scheduled personnel for 4 video recording sessions
- ✚ Developed scripts for 4 video recording sessions
- ✚ Held one tech session for video recordings
- ✚ Upgraded the church's One License copyright license to include podcast/streaming.
- ✚ Made one home visit including home communion (Rapatas)
- ✚ Finished one year of service as Gloria Dei's interim pastor
- ✚ Recorded 4 Sunday services
- ✚ Coordinated and led the Council Zoom meeting
- ✚ Edited 4 bulletins
- ✚ Contributed articles to and edited the June Glorion.
- ✚ Attended one Executive Committee meeting
- ✚ Presented check to JHIFM at their May food distribution. This was the \$2,500 that I raised through the ELCA World Hunger Daily Bread grant program
- ✚ Participated in one Interim Ministers conference call
- ✚ Attended 4 Zoom synod interim minister's COVID-19 conferences
- ✚ Made numerous phone calls and wrote numerous emails.
- ✚ Worked a total of 21.5 days.
- ✚ Coordinated the inclusion of Bishop Eaton's Trinity Sunday sermon in the video for June 7.
- ✚ Coordinated the first Call Committee meeting (Zoom with Connie Schmucker from the Bishop's office) including several training sessions for individuals who are new to Zoom. Coordinated webcam loan.
- ✚ Travelled 666 miles commuting and visiting parishioners. (mileage is approximately one-half of normal month because I worked from home 2 days a week.)

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. James F. Young, Interim Pastor

FINANCIAL CORNER

GENERAL FUND

	May, 2020	Year to date 5/31/2020
Contributions	\$17,858.19	\$100,399.02
Expenditures	\$17,108.72	\$ 91,832.19

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Beg. 5/01/2020	Donations	Expenditures	Ending 5/31/20
Elementary School	358.36	0	0	358.36
Oak Park Middle	812.22	0	0	812.22
Coffee Project	394.58	0	0	394.58
Thrivent Choice \$	4,667.04	0	0	4,667.04
Basket Social	282.51	0	0	282.51
Eternal Light	515.00	0	0	515.00
Fellowship	295.21	0	0	295.21
JHIF	50.00	70.00	120.00	0
World Hunger	0	159.00	159.00	0
ELCA	0	155.00	155.00	0
Flowers	(275.00)	150.00	0	(125.00)
Quilt shipping	0	0	0	0
Altar wine/bread	107.79	0	0	107.79
TOTALS	\$7,207.71	534.00	434.00	\$7,307.71

Notes (in case you're wondering)

The hunger offering collected on the 4th Sunday each month is split 50/50 between Joining Hands and World Hunger. The amounts shown above are different because additional donations are made by our members at other times in the month.

Council Corner for July 2020

By William Birdsall, council president

In 1918 a worldwide outbreak of the Spanish Flu was running rampant killing millions. But as did the Spanish Flu finally end so will Covid 19. With those thoughts in our mind you should know that our church council is working hard preparing to eventually resume our regular Sunday services. The council has awarded contracts for the cleaning and sanitizing of the church's seven HVAC systems. The council also awarded a contract for the cleaning and sanitizing of all the carpets and pews in the Narthex, Fellowship hall and sanctuary. We have purchased infra-red thermometers to monitor those entering for church service. These things are all being done for your safety.

In other business we are moving forward with the permit process for a garden shed to house lawn equipment for maintaining our grounds. We are also researching upgrades to the audio/visual system in the sanctuary to allow for the projection and live streaming/recording of the worship service. This comes from the most recent recommendations from the Florida Bahamas Synod.

As you may or may not know, the Call committee is meeting weekly and working very hard and diligently on the call process. The Church council is ready to provide any information that they may need and stands ready to do whatever is necessary to assist their mission.

Lastly, I would like to say that, with the alarming rise in Covid 19 cases over the last 10 days, the council is not looking to resume services any time soon. We all realize that the government is anxious to reopen businesses, but we are not a business, and we will not reopen until we feel it is safe for our congregation to return to church for Sunday services.

THANK YOU LETTERS FROM LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF TO GLORIA DEI

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift of a brick for the Good Samaritan Quilt Plaza at Lutheran World Relief's headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland! Your brick supports LWR's Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund, helping to get these vital items into the hands of people who need them.

Last spring, a shipment of Quilts as well as School, Personal Care, Baby Care, and Fabric Kits traveled to Peru. LWR staff working with Peruvian communities distributed the quilts and kits, and mountain-dwelling families especially welcomed the warmth of quilts as winter temperatures set in.

To learn more about how your gift make a difference, and specifically about this community in Peru, watch our brand new quilt and kit video at lwr.org/videos/quilt-kit-pipeline.

We anticipate your engraved brick will be installed in the fall. If you have any questions, please contact Janel Johnson-Momanyi at (410)230-6701 or jjohnson-momanyi@lwr.org. To stay informed about LWR's Quilt & Kit Ministry and how your donations are making an impact, please visit lwr.org/kits.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry, and for making your faith active in love through your generous gift to LWR. God bless you!

Many Blessings, Daniel V. Speckhard, President & CEO

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Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund.! Your donation ensures that LWR Quilts & Kits get into the hands of a person who needs it.

With your help, we have delivered Quilts & Kits to families in Mozambique whose communities were utterly ravaged by Cyclone Idai. For refugee families, your gift means so much. A School Kit can make the difference between getting an education or missing out. A Personal Care Kit helps families provide for basic hygiene needs, freeing up precious resources. Quilts help families through cold winter nights.

Please stay in touch! During this time of social distancing, we want to continue to bring you closer to the work you are doing around the world and we'd love to show you more examples of your gift in action. Go to LWR.org and sign up for E News to receive the latest updates. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the LWR staff at 800-597-5972 or lwr@lwr.org.

On behalf of LWR, our partners and those we serve together, please accept my heartfelt thanks once more for your gift and all that it will do.

Warm regards, Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.), President & CEO

2020 Call Committee News

The Call Committee is meeting weekly to prepare everything needed in order to call our next pastor.

The call committee is:

Kathleen Birdsall, Chairman

Christine Carlson, Chaplain

Pat Heimbach, Computer Chair

Elizabeth Sanguedolce, Communications Chair

Sharon LaHood, Member

John Braun, Member

Art Zerbel, Alternate Member

We now need your ideas. What are you looking for in a pastor? To compile the ideas of **all the congregation**, the call committee has prepared a survey. We are sending the survey to your home address and we need you to complete it and return it by July 17. Make your voice heard! We are listening!

Look for your survey to arrive shortly. Thank you for doing your part to call a pastor for our church.

NOTE FROM NANCY VOGEL

Pastor Jim, Mary Beth, Paul, Worship Team,

Thank you so very much for all that you do to bring worship into our homes during this pandemic. Your extra efforts and sacrifices you are making are truly appreciated. It will be wonderful to be together once again, but for now, thank you for keeping us together virtually! Blessings and Stay Safe, Nancy.

(bottom of the card)

GOD'S PREPARED YOU
FOR THIS TIME OF YOUR LIFE
AND HAS GIVEN YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED
FOR ALL HE'S CALLING YOU TO DO.

THINKING OF YOU TODAY

