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# GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GATHERING IN CHRIST ✝ SHARING HIS LOVE

**THE GLORION**

**July/August 2022**

[www.gloriadeielca.com](http://www.gloriadeielca.com)

**IN CASE OF PASTORAL EMERGENCY**

**Contact the office during regular office hours:**

**9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

**After office hours contact:**

**Pastor Edward Barnett 516-610-6676**

**Bill Birdsall – 732-773-2680**

**ADDRESS: 130 S. Lone Oak Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748**

**OFFICE PHONE: (352)787-3223**

**OFFICE EMAIL: [gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com](mailto:gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com)**

**WEB SITE: [www.gloriadeielca.com](http://www.gloriadeielca.com)**

**FAX (352)787-7597**

**OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday-9:00-4:00 PM**

**PASTOR: THE REV. EDWARD G. BARNETT**

**CANTOR: CHARLENE CRANMER**

**OFFICE MANAGER: MARY BETH MORRIS**

**SEXTON: TINA JANOSA**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP – 9:30 A.M**





July/August, 2022

I recently completed my first full year as your pastor. It's never what one expects, but it's been a delightful one in many ways. I find myself still in the process of getting to know everyone through one-on-one meetings for coffee. I suspect that this will continue through the rest of the calendar year. As I've said before, I find these meetings very enriching.

I have found Gloria Dei to be a place of many experiences and backgrounds. I have discovered people's openness to each other. I've experienced everyone's love and care for me personally. Just now as I'm writing this, I received a call from Bess King who went on and on about how Gloria Dei so surrounded her with love and care during her recent hospitalization and recovery. Testimonies like hers are why Gloria Dei is a special place. These are the strengths of Gloria Dei. They're what's made it a strong congregation for decades, AND, as far as I'm concerned, these super strengths are and will continue into the future.

When any new pastorate begins, there's a bit of unease throughout the congregation because that relationship is so central to everything. That's why pastors try not to change much during that first year. Believe me, there are many things that I might have wanted to change in the last 12 months which I didn't because I wanted as much stability as possible. Congregational life has also been affected by the many updates and much needed improvements on our physical space that have begun and are continuing. Also, because we're SO tired of Covid we inevitably ignore its conscious and unconscious impact of instability and change. So given all of this, that last year has been amazingly steady.

Part of the reason I was called here was because I'm a pastor that's given to stability. It's something I value in my ministry. I'm not trying to rediscover the Christian Church's proverbial wheel. I want to be part of a venerable 2000-year tradition of the Gospel. That being said, at the same time that the church is eternal and its message unchanging, it is simultaneously evolving and growing. In fact, if it doesn't grow and change it dies. All of this is due to God's action on the church. In John 15 Jesus says, 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.' We are a living vine that God is making more fruitful while at the same time he trims back parts that are less fruitful.

As we move now into the future, the Council and I are very busy dreaming about what Gloria Dei could become. We're looking for the guidance and creativity of the Holy Spirit. I invite you to join us in this prayer. Pray for me. Pray for the Council. Pray that we all might be responsive to the urgings of the Spirit. May those good gifts of God continue here strongly. May those new gifts which God wants to bestow, may we be open to them and receive them with joy.

Pr Ed Barnett

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in June: Debbie Cassem, Leon Ellis, Bess King

### GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

#### In honor of:

To celebrate our grandson RJ.

Ritch & Debbie Cassem/flowers

### PRAYERS

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

#### July

- 7/3** MaryJean Kancel, Nancy Kancel, John & Arlene Kelly,  
Mary Kelp, Bess King
- 7/10** Byron & Crystal Kirkpatrick, Bernadine & Kirk Kirkpatrick,  
Ray & Roseanne Knudsen, Sandy Kolb, Helga La Cava
- 7/17** Joe & Sharon LaHood, Barb & Dock Lias, Jan Liljestrand,  
Judy Lorenz, Sylvia Mackey
- 7/24** Gail Madson, Ernest & Hanna Mann, Dianne & Dennis Marcotte,  
Carol Marshall, Evelyn Matthes
- 7/31** Ray & Arlene McGuire, James, Quiana & Julian Menchaca,  
Andy & Taeko Mincer, Merle & Rita Moritz, Gloria Moulton

#### August

- 8/7** Gladys Mull, Brian & Karen Mundy, Clarence & Ples Norris,  
Paul Proulx, Sandy Retz
- 8/14** Jim & June Rieb, Ronald & Linda Riikonen, Madalon Ritter,  
Jan Rudolph, Anne Rusk
- 8/21** Lillian Russo, Elizabeth Sanguedolce, Alberta Siepiela,  
Lillian Skilbred, Maureen Skurecki
- 8/28** Donna Smith, Mary Lou Smith, Russell Smith,  
Elizabeth Snyder, Linda Steege

## **Gloria Dei Women of the ELCA**

July/August 2022

During the summer months, June, July and August the WELCA Board does not meet. The WELCA Board will meet again on September 6, 2022. The Quilters are continuing to make quilts at 9:00 am on the second Tuesday and the fourth Friday of each month at the church.

“SAVE THE DATE” November 11 – 13, 2022 for the FL/BA SWO Fall Gathering at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center in Leesburg. Our theme is “Step by Step” based on Proverbs 16:9 “We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.” All women are invited. If you cannot come for the complete weekend, come join us for a day. There will be Worship, Workshops, Bible Study, Devotions, Fellowship, good food and free time to get reacquainted with old friends and make new friends. The setting by the lake is a beautiful place to have some quiet time or conversation with friends. Registration forms will be on-line very soon. Register early.

The annual Christmas Party is scheduled for December 1, 2022 and is hosted by Mary/Martha Circle. More details will follow. This is a good time for all!! Safe travels and good health. Enjoy your Summer!!  
Peace and Blessings,

Loraine Van Haecke  
WELCA President  
Home: 352-787-1407  
Cell: 407-252-4692  
[Loraine.vanhaecke@gmail.com](mailto:Loraine.vanhaecke@gmail.com)

**RUTH CIRCLE**- Next meeting date Thursday Sept. 1 at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Dianne will provide reading and bring snacks for this meeting. **FALL GATHERING**- Lake Yale Baptist conference center in Leesburg. Please save date Nov 11-13. Dianne Marcotte, Leader

**MARY MARTHA CIRCLE**  
**JULY**

Mary-Martha Circle will meet on the 2nd Tuesday, July 12th, Starting at 9am, we will be quilting all morning. We will also be quilting on Friday, July 22nd, 9:00 a.m. Please come and join us. Carol Marshall 352 787 0435

**AUGUST**

**Mary-Martha Circle** will meet on the 2nd Tuesday, August 9th starting at 9:00 a.m., we will be quilting all morning. We will also be quilting on Friday, August 26th, 9:00 a.m. Please come and join us.

Carol Marshall 352 787 0435

**JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY (JHIFM)**

Many thanks to the 35 volunteers from First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and from around the local community who joined hands on the morning of Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> to distribute 9,951 pounds of nutritious food to 532 individuals from 156 local families. Our client numbers again substantially increased over June last year due to the ever-increasing cost of food, gas, and housing. Kudos to our JHIFM volunteers who, despite the increasing numbers of clients, efficiently distributed in just two hours nearly five tons of nutritious food to every needy family that came to us for assistance.

All JHIFM's volunteers join me in thanking you for your continued support during this difficult economic time. Without your donations we would not be able to assist our neighbors in need. I posted photos of our June 10<sup>th</sup> food distribution and a video by Sue & Irv Johnson at [Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/](https://www.facebook.com/feedinghopenow/). Be sure to "LIKE" and "FOLLOW" us on Facebook.

God Bless you all!  
Ritch

## **JHIFM NEEDS FOOD DONATIONS**

Joining Hands in Food Ministry (JHIFM) needs CEREAL and CANNED FRUIT (of any kind) that we are unable to purchase or procure from other sources due to supply chain issues.

Please help if you can by bringing an item or two to Gloria Dei and dropping it off on Sunday at the greeter's desk or Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at the church office. We are seeing larger numbers of people in need due the rising costs of food, fuel and rent, so please help if you are able. Thank you!

## **MEDIA TEAM**

**CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE AT: [www.gloriadeielca.com](http://www.gloriadeielca.com)**

The church website is where you will find the latest information about church events. The homepage contains the link for our online worship services, pictures of the latest Joining Hands food distribution, and other current information.

The Member Access page is a secure area just for our disciples. Here you can view the church directory, volunteer for Worship Ministries, or make a Worship Donation. The Giving page makes it easy for you to make donations using Tithe.ly, a funds collection application.

These are just a few of the many reasons to visit the website. If you have information or pictures to share, please contact the church office.

## **EDUCATION-DEVELOPING DISCIPLES**

The study about Women in the Bible. If this is a study that will interest you, please contact me at [skauvold.carlson@gmail.com](mailto:skauvold.carlson@gmail.com) or call me at (516) 458-7355. If I do not pick up, please leave a message so I can get back to you.

We generally meet on Tuesdays at 1:00 PM in the vestry. However, please check the weekly schedules in our worship folders for any changes due to scheduling conflicts.

We pray that you will consider joining us in this study.  
Chris Carlson

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to everybody for your prayers, cards, phone calls and concerns. These are the things that helped me get well that medicine could not. I really appreciate it and hopefully, I will be in church very soon.

Love, Bess King

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

07/12	Dick & Beverly Healy	22 years
07/26	Jon & Marva Tetting	47 years
07/28	Merle & Rita Moritz	15 years

*\*Special congratulations to those celebrating 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	Christine Carlson
07/16	Rose Gulbrandsen	07/16	Paul Proulx
07/17	Ernest Mann	07/18	Dianne Marcotte
07/20	Charles Yonko	07/21	Milton DeLong
07/21	Debbye Halligan	07/23	Edward Thompson
07/24	Gloria Moulton	07/25	Sylvia Hallberg
07/26	Helen Ames	07/27	Julie Eld
07/30	Carol Figi	07/30	Northilt Handwerck
07/30	Alberta Siepiela		

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

08/13	Fred & Marlene Farris	17 years
08/13	Joe & Sharon LaHood	62 years*
08/14	Dennis & Jane Zimmerman	46 years
08/23	Ralph & Sylvia Hallberg	64 years*
08/28	Ron & Linda Riikonen	51 years*
08/30	Charles & Joy Yonko	53 years*

*\*Special congratulations to those celebrating fifty or more years of marriage.*

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

08/04	Roseanne Knudsen	08/07	Josephine Cichoracki
08/07	Jon Tetting	08/16	Janet Braun
08/16	Ed Chandler	08/19	Evelyn Matthes
08/23	Jacqueline Goding	08/24	Peggy Chandler
08/24	Brian Mundy	08/25	Jan Liljestrang
08/28	Jane Kunde		

## **SOCIAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE**

### **School Supplies Needed for Leesburg Kids**

**Do you ever feel that you can't make a difference in the scheme of things? Here's your chance to make a difference to "that one", if you remember the starfish story...**

It's time to collect school supplies for Leesburg Elementary and Oak Park Middle School. Our liaisons at each school have provided lists of supplies for each school. Social Ministries Committee will have a drop site for each school in the Fellowship Hall during July. As you are shopping, stop and pick up items to donate. If you don't have time to shop, consider ordering on Amazon, Target or Walmart and having the supplies delivered to the church. It only takes a few minutes and a few dollars to make a huge difference in the lives of these little ones.

Leesburg Elementary is also collecting clothing and shoes for the homeless kids. Remember that first day of school, with your newly-sharpened pencils and your new outfit? Imagine that you have no shoes or underwear. This is a big need for these kids. Backpacks are needed as well and are fun to shop for.

Here's the list for Oak Park Middle School: spiral notebooks, pencils, index cards, ear buds.

For Leesburg Elementary: Anything Crayola (Crayons, colored pencils, erasable markers), small box of tissues, #2 pencils (no other size for these little hands), composition notebooks, spiral notebooks WIDE RULE ONLY, gallon and quart size bags, pink erasers, EXPO brand dry erase markers (no other brand), WIDE RULE paper, back packs of any kind for boys and girls, folders with prongs and pockets (must have prongs inside), scissors.

For the homeless kids: clothing (sizes 6-18 boys or girls), shoes (kids size 11 – adult size 9 1/2), socks, underwear. The biggest need is shoes.

Leesburg Elementary adds: "We can use whatever we can get. Thank you so much."

Social Ministries Committee is dedicated to helping our Leesburg school kids. We appreciate every item you can donate to make "Back to School" easier and more fun.

—Elizabeth Sanguedolce, Secretary  
Social Ministries Committee

## JULY CALENDAR

<b>Fri.</b>	<b>7/1</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>7/3</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b> <b>Temple Talk-Altar Guild, Crystal Kirkpatrick</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>7/4</b>	<b>JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> HOLIDAY</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>7/5</b>	<b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Study</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>7/7</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. Zoom Executive Committee Mtg.</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>7/8</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b> <b>9:30-11:30 a.m. JHIFM</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>7/10</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>7/12</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Quilting</b> <b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Study</b> <b>1:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee Mtg.</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>7/13</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Social Ministries Meeting</b> <b>1:00 p.m. First Impressions Task Force</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>7/15</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>7/17</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>7/19</b>	<b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Eucharist/Council Meeting</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>7/22</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b> <b>9:00 a.m. Mission Quilting</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>7/24</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>7/26</b>	<b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>7/29</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>7/31</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>

### VACATION

I will be on vacation from the Florida summer heat July 8-July 31. The office will be covered by Linda Hide, Bev Healy and Linda Riikonen on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-noon. I will have my computer with me and will be checking emails daily, so please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

Mary Beth Morris

## AUGUST CALENDAR

<b>Tues.</b>	<b>8/2</b>	<b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Study</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>8/5</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8/7</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>8/9</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Quilting</b>
		<b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Study</b>
		<b>1:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee Mtg.</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>8/12</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b>
		<b>9:30-11:30 a.m. Joining Hands in Food Min.</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8/14</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>8/16</b>	<b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>8/17</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Social Ministries Mtg.</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>8/19</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8/21</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>8/23</b>	<b>1:00 p.m. Developing Disciples</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>8/26</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill</b>
		<b>9:00 a.m. Quilting</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8/28</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>

## JULY WORSHIP LEADERS

### Assistant Ministers

Legend: R-Reader, +=Crucifer, C-Communion Assist., A-Liturgy Assist.

<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	
<b>7/03</b>	R=MaryJean Kancel +=Leone Goding C=Taeko Mincer A=Patricia Bressler
<b>7/10</b>	R=Art Zerbel +=Leone Goding C= A=Arlene Kelly
<b>7/17</b>	R=Jim Gable +=Leone Goding C=Jayne Gable A=Arlene Kelly
<b>7/24</b>	R=cj Clarke += C= A=Patricia Bressler
<b>7/31</b>	R=Linda Hide += C= A=Arlene Kelly

### Ushers

**If you are able to serve or have any questions, please contact Crystal Kirkpatrick at 552-3983.**

<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	
<b>7/03</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick MaryJean Kancel
<b>7/10</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Bill Birdsall Kathleen Birdsall
<b>7/17</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick
<b>7/24</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick
<b>7/31</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick

**Altar Guild for July:** Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick

**Post Worship Secretary for July:** Helga La Cava

**Greeters**

**7/3**

**7/10**

**7/17**

**7/24**

**7/31**

**Fellowship**

**7/3**

**7/10**

**7/17** Craig & Christine Carlson

**7/24**

**7/31**

**Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.**

**7/3** Jeanne Talts & Linda Riikonen

**7/10** John & Janet Braun

**7/17** Diane Wasser & Pat Heimbach

**7/24** Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly

**7/31** Arlene Kelly

## AUGUST WORSHIP LEADERS

### Assistant Ministers

Legend: R-Reader, +-Crucifer, C-Communion Assist., A-Liturgy Assist.

#### 9:30 a.m.

**8/07** R=Art Zerbel  
+=  
C=  
A=Patricia Bressler

**8/14** R=MaryJean Kancel  
+=Leone Goding  
C=  
A=Arlene Kelly

**8/21** R=Jim Gable  
+=Leone Goding  
C=Jayne Gable  
A=Arlene Kelly

**8/28** R=Byron Kirkpatrick  
+=  
C=  
A=Patricia Bressler

### Ushers

**If you are able to serve or have any questions, please contact  
Crystal Kirkpatrick at 552-3983.**

#### 9:30 a.m.

**8/07** Crystal Kirkpatrick  
Byron Kirkpatrick

**8/14** Crystal Kirkpatrick  
Byron Kirkpatrick  
Bill Birdsall  
Kathleen Birdsall

**8/11** Crystal Kirkpatrick  
Byron Kirkpatrick

**8/28** Crystal Kirkpatrick  
Byron Kirkpatrick

**Altar Guild for August:** Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick

**Post Worship Secretary for August:** Debbie Cassem

### **Greeters for August:**

**8/7** Madalon Ritter

**8/14** Madalon Ritter

**8/21** Madalon Ritter

**8/28** Madalon Ritter

## **Fellowship**

**8/7**

**8/14**

**8/21**

**8/28**

## **Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.**

**8/7** Jeanne Talts & Linda Riikonen

**8/14** John & Janet Braun

**8/21** Diane Wasser & Pat Heimbach

**8/28** Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly

## **DISASTER PLAN**

As a way of protecting members of Gloria Dei congregation, stewarding our property and as requested by our Bishop Pedro Suarez, members of Gloria Dei are gathering information to put together a Disaster plan specific to our church.

Topics will include Hurricane Preparedness, Fire Safety and Active shooter safety. Handouts on various topics will be available over the next few months as part of overall plan.

If you have an interest in this topic or a suggestion of what you would like to see included in a disaster plan, please speak with Dianne Marcotte 508-723-2073. Your input is welcomed and important.

## FINANCIAL CORNER

### GENERAL FUND

	May, 2022	Year to date 2022
Contributions	\$19,360.63	\$90,566.97
Expenditures	\$21,552.33	\$115,455.58

### RESTRICTED FUNDS

	5/01/2022	Donations	Expenditures	Ending 5/31/22
Elementary School	196.47	0	0	196.47
Oak Park Middle	958.22	0	0	958.22
Thrivent Choice \$	4,706.26	0	599.00	4,107.26
Basket Social	282.51	0	0	282.51
Eternal Light	580.00	0	0	580.00
Fellowship	50.97	26.00	6.99	69.98
JHIFM	0	191.50	191.50	0
World Hunger	0	241.50	238.50	3.00
ELCA	0	55.00	55.00	0
Flowers	653.00	196.00	26.90	822.10
Altar wine/bread	11.98	0	0	11.98
AV Equipment	5,692.74	420.00	568.52	5,544.22
Evangelism	215.00	155.00	0	370.00
Choir/Music	500.00	0	0	500.00
Ukraine Disaster Relief	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$13,847.15</b>	<b>1,285.00</b>	<b>1,686.41</b>	<b>\$13,445.74</b>

### AMAZON SMILE

Just a reminder to use when shopping on Amazon. **Login: smile.amazon.com.** You access your account in the same way you normally do and then can designate a charitable organization. Gloria Dei and Joining Hands in Food Ministry are registered as recipients.

## **2022 First Impressions Task Force Report**

### **Meeting Wednesday, June 08, 2022, at 1 PM**

In Attendance: Kathleen Birdsall, Pat Bressler, Arlene Kelly, Crystal Kirkpatrick and Linda Steege, Pastor Barnett & Elizabeth Sanguedolce were out of town.

1. Arlene delivered a word of prayer for team guidance
2. Council has given the First Impressions Task Force the go-ahead and approval of the following work to be done in the Gathering Hall. The items below are the bare basics that will be completed by September.
  - Replacement and installation of more efficient and improved lighting and fans
  - Painting ceiling and walls in main room, hall, vestry, and restrooms
  - Carpet will be replacement with carpet tiles
3. We still haven't found a carpenter to repurpose the extra pews that sit in this space. As that was not part of the approval from council at this time, we still have time to find someone.
4. We have a doner who will contribute the labor, material and equipment for a small media center which will take the place of sign-up sheets and brochures that are now tacked on the walls. This was on the wish list and will be put into motion when all the basic needs list is completed.
5. The sacristy cabinet is now moved and has a new countertop doing double duty as a buffet table. The painting crew will put a new coat of paint and new hardware and we will have accomplished a first step in the makeover.
6. Arlene brought up the idea of a cross wall where a members can participate and be a part of this project. We will discuss this idea in the future to clearly define the guidelines for this visual in the gathering hall.
7. The task force will be still looking at options on accessories to complete the project upgrade.
8. Next meeting July 13, 2022, at 1:00 PM
9. We closed with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted  
Kathleen Birdsall, Chair

## **Minutes of the Gloria Dei Congregation Council**

Thursday, 26 May 2022, 11:00 am

We opened with an Ascension and Eucharistic service by Pastor Barnett.

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 11:50 am by President Bill Birdsall.
- II. **Roll Call:** - Present: - Pastor Edward Barnett, Bill Birdsall, Craig Carlson, Linda Hide, Arlene Kelly, Crystal Kirkpatrick, Linda Riikonen, Linda Steege, Loraine VanHaecke, Diane Wasser, Disciple Guests: Dick Healy, Dianne Marcotte
- III. **Promise** - The Covenant Promise was recited by the Council.
- IV. **Adoption of Agenda** – The agenda was reviewed and revised to add Item D under New Business – Discharge of Paityn Miller. Motion to accept the revised agenda by Crystal, second by Bill. **Motion carried.**
- V. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Minutes of the 21 April 2022 meeting were reviewed and revised to change the wording in Old Business, Item E – Building Use Fees from “request” to “suggest”. Motion to accept the revised minutes by Arlene, second by Linda Riikonen. **Motion carried.**
- VI. **Correspondence** – Nothing to report.
- VII. **Pastor’s Report** – Pastor Barnett distributed his report prior to the meeting. Pastor Madson did some work for the congregation prior to Pastor Barnett’s arrival regarding congregational conflict. This report will be republished.
- VIII. **Unfinished Business** –
  - A. Council Retreat Update – Bill reported that the retreat was a great success. He proposes a similar one-day retreat for the entire congregation on a Saturday in October at church, to include a catered lunch.
  - B. Space Allocation Study – Bill read his letter to the quilters and will send it out.
  - C. Bars on Pastor’s Windows – The contractor, Belew’s Welding, is waiting on materials. The project is expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

- D. Roof Repair – Bill reported that he and Craig met with ACRI Roofing. They inspected the roof and found the same problems that Eustis Roofing found. They declined to provide an estimate for the repairs as they are not metal roof contractors. Bill will contact other roofers for inspection and estimates.
- E. Covid Update – Bill reported that cases and hospitalizations have been rising. The filters in the sanctuary are changed every six (6) months.
- F. Financial Advisor – Pastor reported that Synod has referred us to Scott Pinkerton of FourThought Private Wealth. They have a division that works with non-profits, including a number of churches.
- G. Web Master – We are still working on hiring a new web master.
- H. Evangelism – Bill reported that this committee is meeting twice monthly. Since the Strategic Planning Committee's (led by Forest Berg) has been completed, Bill moved to have this work continued by the Evangelism Committee, second by Linda Steege. **Motion carried.** Arlene reported that she has given all her files from the Strategic Planning Committee to Nancy Vogel for the Evangelism Committee
- I. Disaster Preparedness - Pastor has reached out to Rabbi Karen Allen from Congregation Beth Shalom in Leesburg regarding Active Shooter preparation. Dianne Marcotte reported that she is working on Disaster Preparedness (response for disasters, hurricanes, medical, fires, active shooter) for Gloria Dei. Dianne will give a temple talk to the congregation. Craig is also working with local law enforcement on active shooter response.
- J. First Impression Task Force – Bill reported that the task force would like to begin the work on the electrical, painting, and carpeting. The total cost for these projects is approximately \$35,000. Linda Hide reported that there is over \$400,000 in the estate gifts accounts (discretionary spending) and it is not necessary to go to the congregation to request these funds. We still need to explain to the congregation where these funds are coming from. A motion to proceed with the task force's projects by Diane, second by Linda Riikonen. **Motion carried.** A letter will be sent to the task force informing them of this decision. The task force is also requested to prepare a status report for the congregation.

- K. Guest Cards – Pastor will have these cards prepared and put in the pew racks. Crystal will work with Mary Beth on this.
- L. Synod Assembly – Pastor reported that no one has volunteered to attend the assembly as voting members. Pastor will attend alone.

#### IX. **New Business** –

- A. Stewardship – 12-Month Plan – Arlene and Linda Riikonen will work with Gail Madson to hold monthly Temple Talks.
- B. Member Recognition – Dick Healy made a proposal to honor Crystal and Byron Kirkpatrick for their many years of faithful service to Gloria Dei. Dick suggested a certificate of appreciation. After some discussion, it was decided to table this until our June meeting.
- C. Members Leaving Congregation – There was some discussion regarding members leaving because the services are “too catholic”. Members need to discuss this with Pastor Barnett.
- D. Discharge of Paityn Miller – Linda Hide reported that she has composed a letter to Paityn. A motion to discharge Paityn by Crystal, second by Arlene. **Motion carried.** Linda will send the letter to Paityn.
- E. Robo Calls (Added after Agenda Approval) – Bill proposed this to communicate to members who do not have e-mail.

#### X. **Reports** –

- A. Pastor – Pastor Barnett reported on numerous items throughout the meeting as noted in the minutes as well as distributing his report prior to the meeting.
- B. President – Bill reported on numerous items throughout the meeting as noted in the minutes, as well as emailed his report prior to the meeting.
- C. Vice President – Arlene emailed her report prior to the meeting.
- D. Treasurer – Linda Hide emailed the financials prior to the meeting. She reported that expenditures are up slightly due to outreach, camperships, new copier and insurance premium increase. The investments in the stock market are unpredictable at this time. Giving is still slightly lower than normal.

Craig reported that he would like to clean out the closets in the narthex. He is also working on estimates for the leaking gutters. Craig reported that a new water main is being installed on Lone Oak Lane.

**IX. Committees/Task Forces –**

1. Evangelism/Technology and Communications/Webmaster – Bill Birdsall
2. Fellowship –
3. Finance – Linda Hide
4. Property – Bill Birdsall
5. Social Ministry – Linda Steege
6. Stewardship – Arlene Kelly
7. Worship and Music – Crystal Kirkpatrick
8. Christian Education/Faith Formation – Linda Steege
9. Mission Endowment – Linda Hide
10. Liaison to JHIFM and GD Office Staff –
11. Strategic Planning Task Force – Arlene Kelly

**Who Does What?**

- Bill will send the space planning letter to the quilters.
- Bill will obtain another roof inspection/estimate.
- Dianne Marcotte will give a Temple Talk on Disaster Preparedness.
- First Impression Task Force will prepare a status report for the congregation.
- Crystal will work with Mary Beth on Guest Cards.
- Arlene and Linda Riikonen will work with Gail Madson on Temple Talks for Stewardship.
- Linda Hide will send discharge letter to Paityn Miller.
- Bill will look into Robo Calls.
- Craig, Bill, Crystal to clean out closets in narthex.
- Craig will work on having the leaking gutters repaired

Next Meetings – Executive - Thursday, 9 June 2022, 11:00 am via zoom

Council – Thursday, 23 June 2022, 10:00 am at church

Arlene moved to adjourn, second by Crystal. **Motion carried.**

We closed at 2:00 pm with a prayer by Pastor Barnett.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Wasser, Secretary

**GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CONTINUING RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_**  
**GLORIA DEI LUTHER CHURCH RULE OF LIFE**



**RULE OF LIFE**  
**Living in Community at Gloria Dei**  
**Gathering In Christ ~ Sharing His Love**

A Rule of Life does for our spiritual journey what a trellis system does for a grapevine - it creates a framework for growing in a consistent direction through our faithful response to God.

"Those who [have no intentional Rule] are like wild, untamed grape vines. They will produce some fruit, but they probably won't be as abundant as they could be. Instead, they become more vulnerable to things that threaten their spiritual vitality. However, those who are intentionally reflective, prayerful, and attentively responsive are like cultivated vines... Our lives will produce an abundance of fruit for the glory of God." - from "Crafting a Rule of Life" by Stephen Macchia.

**LIVE FOR THE LORD - Follow**

**Love one another** - Set example – show others how to live

As a developing disciple of Jesus Christ and a member of the Gloria Dei Faith Community, we continually, actively, and intentionally live our lives for the Lord by loving one another and by setting the example for others in the world of how to live in that love through the following commitments.

**PRAY**

We pray intentionally, daily setting aside a time and space.

We pray continually, aware of our deep need for the promise of God's continuing presence with us.

We offer prayers of:

**ADORATION, CONFESSION, THANKSGIVING, SUPPLICATION**

**WORSHIP**

We worship God regularly in love.

We worship God individually and communally, joyfully participating with others in singing, praying, touching, listening, sharing, and communing at the Lord's Table.

## **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS**

We intentionally welcome others and continually build relationships by: spending time together, listening without judgment, understanding without agreement; and always forgiving one another.

## **STUDY**

We intentionally and continually read Scripture for faithful understanding through sharing with others by thinking, discussing, believing, and applying Jesus' teachings to our daily lives.

## **CONTRIBUTE /SERVE**

We serve our Lord continually, intentionally, regularly, actively – seeking the passion God instills in each of us towards the least by contributing our time (volunteering, helping, serving), our talents (gifts and skills), and our treasure (our financial possessions.)

### **Healthy Responses to Disagreements and Conflicts**

As disciples of Jesus, we embrace the following:

Five keys to healthy response to disagreements are: (based on Matthew 18:15-17)

1. We speak to each other, not about each other behind their backs.
2. If someone complains to you about another person, we ask them to speak to the person first and tell them it is so important that you follow up in a week to see how the conversation went.
3. We don't respond to anonymous comments or letters.
4. We don't carry other people's mail. Ask, "What would you like me to do with your comment? You can come to council/meeting yourself or I can bring your comment with your name attached."
5. We explain each other's actions in the best possible light. We check with the person quoted or referred to for accuracy before we repeat the comment. (Luther's explanation to 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment)  
Disagreements happen in any organization, including churches.  
Using healthy responses can stop the disagreement from spreading and engulfing the whole organization.

Thank you for practicing healthy responses and encouraging others to do the same.

**Approved by Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Council June 21, 2018.**

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to the members of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Leesburg from the Florida-Bahamas Synod of the ELCA. In grateful appreciation for giving \$10,160 for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and churchwide ministries of the ELCA.

The Rev. Pedro M. Suarez  
Synod Bishop, ELCA

Elizabeth Eaton  
Presiding Bishop, ELCA

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you! Your generosity and support for our shared mission in the Florida-Bahamas Synod of the ELCA is valued.

Your commitment through giving to mission support, allows us to be a church together for the sake of the world and helps us to be a church that is committed to the Good News of the Bible, igniting people's faith and passion for Christ, and doing the work of justice and peace in the world.

Because of your missions support dollars, we continue to be church locally and globally. It is a joy to witness the ministry of our congregations and companion churches and to learn from their example as they spread the message of the Good News and make disciples.

We are excited for the vitality process as we explore new ways of connecting to God and each other after a pandemic. How do we connect today with our neighborhoods for the sake of being vibrant communities of faith that bless people with hope and peace? There is so much possibility!

Your financial commitment makes mission happen. Together we are empowering congregations to be redevelopment sites and starting new churches and mission centers where people are experiencing God's love. Together we can do more and be more.

Thank you! We ask that you continue to live and bless those around you for the Glory of God and the goodness of Christ's Church.

Rev. Khader El Yateem  
Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA

Rev. Robert S. Carlson  
Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA

## THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$500.00 to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

Because of your support, we can continue to provide much needed help to refugee and migrant families and our ongoing work in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Likewise, we wish you and your congregation well and pray for your health and sustained ministry today and in the future.

Your congregation's gift is providing life-sustaining care for migrant and refugee families both as they arrive and during the time it takes to build a new life. Thanks to you, children who were separated from their parents have been reunited with their loved ones and given the resources and connections needed to recover from trauma. You're also helping us advocate with a firm resolve for ending shameful policies that tear families apart and prevent newcomers from finding refuge here.

You have shared a vitally needed voice of hope in a world too often filled with violence, a nation too often filled with hate.

Since LIRS began, congregations like yours have helped more than 500,000 migrant and refugee men, women, and children rebuild their lives in welcoming communities across the country. And even now, as the legacy of welcome is threatened, we are standing united in hope. Together, we are welcoming families and advocating for people who've suffered so much.

By helping LIRS welcome the stranger, you are sending a powerful message of hope conquering fear. The critical support and sustaining relationships your congregation's gift provides truly make a life-changing difference. I am eternally grateful for your congregation's compassion and I know the families you help extend their gratitude too. Thank you so much for your gift!

Together in faith,

Krish O'Mara Vignarajah, President and CEO

July 2022						
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August 2022						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### **2022 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pastor	The Rev. Edward G. Barnett	516-610-6676
President	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Vice President	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
Secretary	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
Treasurer/Financial Secy	Linda Hide	253-740-3063
Fellowship		
Stewardship	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
Property	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
	Craig Carlson	352-504-3138
Worship & Music	Crystal Kirkpatrick	352-552-3983
Social Ministry	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
Evangelism/Technology	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
& Communications/Webmaster		
Christian Education	Linda Steege	815-222-6195
Mission Endowment	Linda Hide	253-740-3063
Strategic Planning	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
Task Force		
	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692
	Linda Riikonen	734-637-9727

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Worship & Music	Crystal Kirkpatrick	352-552-3983
Evangelism/Technology/	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
& Communications/Webmaster		
Social Ministry	Leone Goding	352-223-1925
Property	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Fellowship	Pat Heimbach	610-737-0333
Stewardship		
Church Staff Liaison	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
Joining Hands Liaison	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
WELCA	Loraine Van Haecke	352-787-1407
Strategic Planning	Forrest Berg	352-267-2200
Task Force		

