

GLORIA DEI

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

THE GLORION

October 2022

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

WEB SITE: 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



October, 2022

When we hear the word “retreat” we generally get a bad impression. “Retreat” is what one does when one can’t go forward. When the army is in battle and they’re met with overwhelming opposition, it tries to avert disaster by pulling back, going in the other direction. Territory is surrendered. Land is sacrificed. This is most generally not a good thing. It usually is a sign that you’re losing the battle, if not the war.

An exception to this of course is a “strategic retreat.” For whatever momentary reason, it means that we go backward, in order that later we might advance and go forward. These are the types of retreats that we like. We’re all for those or at least we should be.

In our Christian life, “retreat” should be a regular part of our vocabulary. To “retreat” in our spiritual life is to take time away, give up some of our daily scheduled territory, in order that we might return to the usual fray with renewed vigor. I find “retreating” to be so central to my ministry that it was included in my Call Document to serve at Gloria Dei. I’m actually on one of my regular retreats as I write this (not even a retreat can save Pr Barnett from a text message from Mary Beth saying “where’s your Glorion article!”). Some people might think these are just a type of vacation, but they’re not. They’re a matter of getting my spiritual batteries recharged in order to better serve the Lord. If you don’t like that, take it up with my boss, he’s the one that modeled this activity.

Jesus often went away from his regular work to retreat, to pray. Luke 5.16 says, “But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.” This indicates that it’s a regular occurrence for him. If Jesus himself needed it, shouldn’t your pastor?? More importantly, shouldn’t YOU?

Maybe you’ve never done a formal retreat. We’re giving you the chance to do that this month. October is FULL of activity for us here at Gloria Dei (and, of course, in your personal lives as well). In the middle of all that, YOU too will have the chance to retreat. After Easter our Congregation Council went on an overnight retreat to the San Pedro Spiritual Center in Orlando. Everyone liked the experience so much, we wanted to offer something similar to everyone. On **Saturday, 15 October**, we will offer a similar, shorter experience for you. This will be a free retreat, inhouse at our church, running from **8.30am to 4.30pm**. We’ll be dealing with our own prayer and worship as well as our spiritual life together as a congregation.

Jesus didn’t do his ministry without retreat. Sometimes whole armies avoid getting wiped out by taking a strategic retreat. Why don’t you sacrifice a Saturday and be renewed just like our Lord. More info will be forthcoming regarding details. Save the date!

Pr Ed Barnett

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Bernice Heiser died Wednesday, **August 31, 2022**. Our condolences and prayers to the Heiser family.

Ernie Mann died Monday, **September 19, 2022**. Our prayers and condolences to Hanna and her family at this difficult time. Funeral arrangements are not known at this time. Hanna's address is: 755 Old Oaks Lane, Leesburg, FL 34748.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in September: Sylvia Hallberg, Arlene Kelly.

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

In loving memory of:

Pastor Marv Oechler

Pastor Marv Oechler

Bernice Heiser, Love Never Ends

Pastor Marv Oechler

Carol Berg

Carol Berg

Taeko & Andy Mincer/1st Impressions

Kenn & Marti Yance/Flowers

Pat & Doug Bressler/1st Impressions

cj & Michael Clarke/Music Dept.

cj & Michael Clarke/Music Dept.

Taeko & Andy Mincer/JHIFM

In honor of:

Our September birthdays.

Ritch & Debbie Cassem/Flowers

PRAYERS

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

10/2 Gayle Bloom, Joyce Brandt, John & Janet Braun,
Doug & Pat Bressler, Craig & Christine Carlson

10/9 Ritch & Debbie Cassem, Ed & Peggy Chandler, Charlotte Christensen,
Josephine Cichoracki, Michael & cj Clarke

10/16 John & JoAn Cleary, Lynn Crane, Charlene & Steve Cranmer,
Richard & Marilyn Czuprynski, Joan Davis

10/23 Milton & Carolyn DeLong, Judy Eads, Jerry & Julie Eld,
Leon & Jeanne Ellis, Martha Ellis

10/30 Fred & Marlene Farris, Carol Figi, Diana Frederick,
Jim & Jayne Gable, Ron Galloway

Gloria Dei Women of the ELCA

October 2022

The WELCA Board had their meeting on September 6. It was good to be together again and discuss our upcoming events. We hope everyone has had a safe and healthy summer. Fall will be here soon (September 22). Maybe some cooler weather!!!

Church Women United – World Community Day on Friday, November 4, 2022 begins at 9:30 with snacks and coffee. Program will start at 10:00. Zion Lutheran, 347 Main Street, Groveland will be hosting. All women of the church are invited to attend.

FL/BA SWO Fall Gathering is November 11-13, 2022 at Lake Yale in Leesburg. Hope to see you there! For further details contact me.

The Quilters are busy making quilts; 99 have been completed to date. Ruth Circle continues to work on Personal Care Kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief. Annual WELCA Christmas Luncheon is going to be held at the Chesapeake Bay Grill in Arlington Ridge on December 1, 2022 at 11:30. The menu consist of Stuffed Cod, Chicken Parm, Cobb Salad, Dessert, Coffee, Ice Tea and Water, tax and tip are included in cost of \$20.00 for your ticket. We will be collecting Little Debbies again for Joining Hands. Save the date and plan to join us, I am sure it will be a good time of fellowship for all.

We discussed plans for the upcoming Spring Fashion Luncheon Show. Watch for details.

If you would like to know more about WELCA or want to join one of our Circles, please contact me or someone on the board. We would love for you to join us.
Love in Christ,

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



WELCA CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held on Thursday, December 1, 11:30 am at Arlington Ridge, Chesapeake Bay Grille. Poster for this event and tickets will be available for sale the 30th of October through November 20th. Tickets will be \$20.00 cash only. This will include Tax, Gratuity, Coffee, Iced Tea, Water with Pumpkin pie for dessert. Soft drinks are not included.

There will be 3 Entree Selections, Baked Stuffed Cod served with Arlington Rice, Chicken Parmesan served over bed of Linguine, Cobb Salad with either Ranch or Balsamic dressing Please advise which entree when purchasing tickets. Please bring "Little Debbie" Christmas treats for JHIFM.

Ruth Circle- next meeting will be held on Thursday Oct 6th at 1:30 in the fellowship hall. Dianne Marcotte, Leader

Mary-Martha Circle will meet on the 2nd Tuesday, October 11th, starting at 9:00 am. We will be quilting until 10:30 am, have snacks & coffee. At 11:00 am we will have Bible Study from September/October *Gather* magazine. If you don't have one, we will share. We will also be quilting on Friday, October 28th at 9:00 am. Please come and join us.

Carol Marshall 352 787 0435

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.

JHIFM (JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY)

THHHAAAAANNNNNK YOOOOOOUUUUUU!!!! To the nearly 50 volunteers from the US Public Health Service, the Florida Department of Health, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, and from around our local community who joined hands on Friday morning, Sept. 9 to feed 588 individuals from 168 needy families nearly 5 tons of nutritious food. Great job hunger heroes! I published 40 photos of this free food distribution at [Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/](https://www.facebook.com/feedinghopenow/). Be sure to “LIKE” and “FOLLOW” us on Facebook for monthly reminders of our free food distributions. Our next monthly food distribution is scheduled for Friday, October 14th. Mark your calendars!

Richard Cassem
Joining Hands in Food Ministry COO

MEDIA TEAM

CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE AT: 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.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

10/04	Jim & Jayne Gable	53 years*
10/22	Milton & Carolyn DeLong	22 years

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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/10	Sharon LaHood	10/16	cj Clarke
10/16	Ronald Riikonen	10/17	Judy Lorenz
10/18	Rita Moritz	10/23	Art Zerbel
10/24	Mary Humphreys	10/29	Dorothy Baehmann

EDUCATION-DEVELOPING DISCIPLES

You are cordially invited to join our Bible study, Women of the Bible, at our new day and time. Starting in October, we will meet on Wednesdays from 2:00 -3:30 pm at church.

October 5 Elizabeth

October 12 The Virgin Mary

October 19 Anna

October 26 The Samaritan Woman at the Well

We hope that this new day and time is a better time for more of you. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Christine Carlson at skauvold.carlson@gmail.com or by phone at (516) 458-7355

THANK YOU

On behalf of my daughter Cyndi and our entire family, I want to thank the Gloria Dei family and beyond for their thoughts, prayers, tears and donations.

I would especially like to thank Pastor for the comfort he provided me and our family over the past months, and the eulogy that so described who my beloved Carol was.

A big thank you to Sue and Irv Johnson who did a wonderful audio/slide projection; and to Pat and Rollie Heimbach and the JHIFM family that served the luncheon and Carol's favorite – a Publix Carrot Cake.

As I write this I know that Carol would want me to, and I hope I am back in your midst when you receive its content.

My Love to all –
Forrest

SOCIAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Social Ministries met on September 7th. Pastor Barnett, Linda Steege and myself were the attendees, therefore a quorum was not met. We have scheduled the next meeting for October 26 at 10:00 am.

If anyone is interested in this wonderful opportunity to help others, please feel free to join us.

Leone Goding, Chair

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

	August, 2022	Year to date 2022
Contributions	\$11,068.43	\$131,342.67
Expenditures	\$21,999.63	\$185,227.20

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	8/01/2022	Donations	Expenditures	Ending 8/31/22
Elementary School	196.47	0	0	196.47
Oak Park Middle	958.22	0	958.22	0
Thrivent Choice \$	4,107.26	42.00	0	4,149.26
Basket Social	282.51	0	0	282.51
Eternal Light	580.00	0	0	580.00
Fellowship	246.01	25.80	177.43	94.38
JHIF	10.00	143.50	153.50	0
World Hunger	0	250.50	250.50	0
ELCA	0	40.00	40.00	0
Flowers	784.98	34.00	235.89	583.09
Altar wine/bread	11.98	0	0	11.98
AV Equipment	4,894.22	0	160.45	4,733.77
Evangelism	370.00	200.00	0	570.00
Choir/Music	500.00	0	0	500.00
First Impressions fund	25.00	110.00	25.00	110.00
TOTALS	\$12,966.65	845.80	2,000.99	\$11,811.46

Council Corner for October 2022

By William Birdsall, Council president

The Gloria Dei Church Council has continued to meet monthly as has the Executive committee. The Council's work has continued into the fall and certain things we implemented, have and are taking place around the church.

I'm happy to report that the second stained glass window has been completed and installed in the Fellowship Hall. The third window, which will go in pastor's new office, is now on the boards and under way. We are hoping to have that window completed and installed by the end of the year. The painting of Fellowship Hall has been completed. The room now is much brighter than before. The Carpet is being installed as I write this report and expect it to be completed by Friday September 23rd. Other work that has been completed includes the replacement of all the switches and receptacles in the Fellowship Hall, choir room and bathrooms. Also, all the ceiling HVAC registers have been replaced in Fellowship Hall.

The cabinets the WELCA uses to distribute quilting Materials and other items has been reconfigured including new tops and Wain's coating side panels. These units have been reconfigured and relocated to make them more accessible as well as multi-functional. All these improvements have been integral to the overall project.

The Church Council awarded a contract to McHale roofing of Fruitland Park to make maintenance repairs to the church roof which have been needed for several years. Also, the HVAC unit that cools the altar and choir failed and it was required to replace the condensing unit located at the rear of the building.

October will be a busy month for all of us with congregational retreat planned for Saturday October 15th and the Stewardship activities that are planned Consecration Sunday, October 30th. Please make plans to attend both important dates.

Bill

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sun.	10/2	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Tues.	10/4	10:00 a.m. WELCA Board Meeting 12:00 noon Eucharist Svc.-St. Francis Day 1:00 p.m. Evangelism/Scheduling Mtg. 4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	10/5	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	10/6	1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle
Fri.	10/7	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
Sat.	10/8	11:00 a.m Madson funeral/lunch follows
Sun.	10/9	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Tues.	10/11	9:00 a.m. Quilting 11:00 a.m. Mary Martha-Conference Room 11:30 a.m. Heiser funeral service 4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	10/12	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	10/14	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill 8:30-10:30 a.m. JHIFM
Sat.	10/15	9:00-4:00 p.m. Congregational Retreat
Sun.	10/16	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering
Tues.	10/18	Healing Service-St. Luke 4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	10/19	1:00 p.m. First Impressions Task Force 2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	10/21	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
Sun.	10/23	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Tues.	10/25	4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	10/26	10:00 a.m. Social Ministries Meeting 2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	10/28	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill 9:00 a.m. Mission Quilting
Sun.	10/30	9:30 a.m. Consecration Sunday Followed by a luncheon

October 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

OCTOBER WORSHIP LEADERS

Assistant Ministers

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

9:30 a.m.			
10/2	R=cj Clarke += C= A=	10/9	R=Steve Cranmer += C= A=
10/16	R=Jim Gable += C=Jayne Gable A=	10/23	R= += C= A=
10/30	R=Byron Kirkpatrick += C= A=		

Ushers

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

10/2	9:30 a.m. Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick	10/9	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick
10/16	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick	10/23	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick
10/30	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick		

Altar Guild for October:

10/2 Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick
10/9 Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick
10/16 Leone Goding
10/23 Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick
10/30 Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick

Post Worship Secretary for October: Lillian Skilbred

Greeters

10/2 Taeko & Andy Mincer
10/9 Sandy Kolb
10/16
10/23
10/30

Fellowship

10/2
10/9
10/16
10/23
10/30

Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

10/2 Jeanne Talts & Linda Riikonen
10/9 John & Janet Braun
10/16 Diane Wasser & Pat Heimbach
10/23 Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly
10/30

Minutes of the Gloria Dei Congregation Council

Thursday, 25 August 2022, 10:00 am

We opened with a Eucharistic service by Pastor Barnett.

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:35 am by President Bill Birdsall.
- II. **Roll Call:** - Present: - Pastor Edward Barnett, Bill Birdsall, Craig Carlson, Linda Hide, Arlene Kelly, Crystal Kirkpatrick, Linda Riikonen (excused), Linda Steege, Loraine VanHaecke, Diane Wasser, Charlene Cranmer (disciple guest)
- III. **Promise** - The Covenant Promise was recited by the Council.
- IV. **Adoption of Agenda** – The agenda was reviewed and revised to add Item G under New Business – Endowment Committee Members. Motion to accept the revised agenda by Arlene, second by Craig. **Motion carried.**
- V. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Minutes of the 19 July 2022 meeting were reviewed and revised to remove the Strategic Planning Task Force. Motion to accept the revised minutes by Linda Hide, second by Arlene. **Motion carried.**
- VI. **Correspondence** – Nothing to report.
- VII. **Pastor's Report** – Pastor Barnett distributed his report prior to the meeting.
 - Pastor discussed reestablishing the Morning Glories to answer phones on Mondays and Fridays when Mary Beth is out.
 - Pastor discussed Pastor Young filling in while Pastor Barnett is out in September.
 - Pastor discussed Consecration Sunday on October 30.
 - Pastor reported that the Mutual Ministry reviews are not yet complete. Mary Beth will schedule reviews.
 - Pastor reported on the ELCA Assembly.

VIII. **Unfinished Business** –

- A. Space Allocation Study and Update on First Impressions – Bill reported that the Vestry is cleaned out and ready for painting and new floor.
- B. Covid Update – Bill reported that things have quieted down. Crystal reported that guests are signing in the book with emails.
- C. Financial Advisor – Bill reported this is currently on hold.
- D. Web Master and Tech Support – Bill reported there is nothing new. He will contact a candidate.
- E. Evangelism – Pastor reported that the next meeting is on 4 October.
- F. Disaster Preparedness – Bill Reported that he is working with Dianne Marcotte on the plan. The police presence is working well.
- G. First Impressions Task Force – Kathleen Birdsall emailed a report prior to our meeting. Painting in the fellowship hall, Vestry, bathrooms, and choir room will begin on 29 August.
- H. Congregation Retreat – The retreat will be held on Saturday, 15 October at Gloria Dei. Pastor Eberhardt will facilitate; coffee and donuts for breakfast; pot luck for lunch.
- I. Chamber of Commerce – Mary Beth will handle.

IX. **New Business** –

- A. Resolution by Bill to hire McHale Roofing to make roof repairs. Motion by Linda Hide, second by Linda Steege. **Motion carried.**
- B. New Directory – Bill reported that the current directory is 4 years old. The Scheduling Force will address this.

- C. Tim Smith Presentation – Tim Smith from Thrivent requested to make a presentation to the congregation. It was decided this was unnecessary.
- D. Stewardship Luncheon – The luncheon will be held on Consecration Sunday, 30 October and will be catered. Arlene reported the new program has begun with temple talks.
- E. Music Programs – Charlene reported on a hymn sing and music program with First Presbyterian to be held in February.
- F. Car Show – This has been moved to 5 November. JHIFM will hold a bake sale and food drive at the show. We will also hold a bingo in the fellowship hall during the show.
- G. Endowment Committee – Mary Grissom is president; Pat Heimbach and Art Zerbel have also joined this committee. Motion to accept new members by Bill, second by Craig. **Motion carried.**

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 emailing 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 giving was up in July, but down in August. Thrivent Core Fund has been moved to the Endowment assets. Thrivent Choice \$ will be used for the Stewardship luncheon on Consecration Sunday. Thrivent Choice \$ should not be used to operating expenses.

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 –

Who Does What?

- Mary Beth will schedule staff reviews.
- Mary Beth will set up Scheduling Task Force meeting.
- Charlene will work with organist from First Presbyterian on a date in February for the music program and hymn sing.
- Craig will contact roofer to make repairs.
- Bill will contact a webmaster candidate.

Next Meetings – Executive – 8 September 2022, 10:00 am via zoom.
Council – Thursday, 29 September 2022, 10:00 am at church

Arlene moved to adjourn, second by Linda Hide. **Motion carried.**

We closed at 12:00 noon with a prayer by Pastor Barnett.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Wasser, Secretary

Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Governing Board Chairperson,

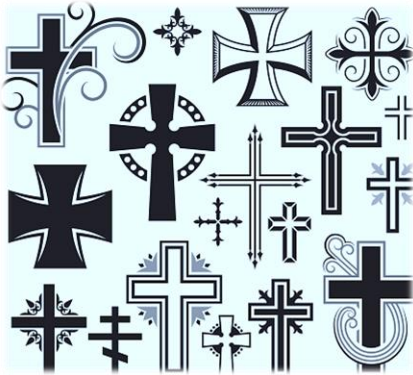
2022 First Impressions Task Force Report

Meeting Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 1 PM

In Attendance: Kathleen Birdsall, Crystal Kirkpatrick, Linda Steege & Pastor Barnett
Pat Bressler & Arlene Kelly personal time and Elizabeth Sanguedolce out of town till
October

1. Arlene wrote a prayer for discernment & guidance as the Gathering Space Project is getting closer to completion: prayer delivered by Kathleen
2. Work completed and in progress:
 - The electrical: all new fixtures (lights & fans) for the gathering space completed 08/05/22 by Hughes Electric. All switches & outlets were replaced & previous makeshift wiring removed when possible, labor & material supplied by Bill Birdsall.
 - Painting: Productive Painting LLC, started work August 29, the ceiling and walls of the gathering space, choir room & hallway were completed September 9th intime for the Berg Funeral. Bathrooms, with a lot more cut-in work, and vestry will be completed September 13th. Again, thanks to Bill for installing the new replacement vents. We were glad to get a lot of helping hands to help with moving table & chairs out of the space so the painters could put scaffolding up to work on the ceiling.
 - Carpet tiles/hard surface tiles: Great Lakes Carpet & Tile will be installing the flooring on September 21st & 22nd. Again, we will have to ask for help from the congregation to move furniture to defer extra costs.
3. Dean Grimes, furniture designer & cabinet maker had a workspace issue that has been resolved and is ready to proceed on the redesign of pews and cost involved and will get back with us before the next meeting.
4. A Cross Wall as a focal point in the Gathering Space before you enter the sanctuary will have a display (possibility changing every so often) of interest. Arlene has put together the guidelines for this project. An announcement of the project will be put in the Glorion and weekly bulletin for the months of October and November inviting members of the congregation to participate in this project.
5. Crystal has done research on trash receptacles that fit in to the new décor of the gathering space and reasonably priced. The old receptacles have now replaced the new ones.
6. The committee will meet September 15th at 11 AM to clean out all non-essentials in the two narthex closets. We are desperate for space, so we don't fall into accumulating clutter again in the gathering space again. Next month we will pick another area to clean out.
7. Next meeting October 19, 2022, at 1 PM
8. We closed with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Birdsall, Chair



ATTENTION GLORIA DEI CONGREGATION

The first impressions task force would like your help with a project for our updated fellowship hall.

We are looking to make a collage designed wall of crosses and crucifixes. We would like each family to donate one or more special cross or crucifix of their choice to be mounted on this wall.

The cross should be in good condition, as it will be on long term display.

The dimensions of the cross should be approximately 12” tall and 9” wide. It should be able to just about fit on a standard sheet of paper, however we are looking for various sizes and would consider larger crosses (or smaller) if they would fit into the overall artistic design. If we receive a very large number of crosses we may not be able to use them all and if that is the case, we would return any unused crosses to the donated family.

Please designate your cross with your family name and year you joined Gloria Dei on the back of the cross. Also, please make sure that there is a way to hang your cross, preferably on the back of it.

The crosses will be collected on the 4 Sundays in November. There will be a collection station in the narthex. Please wrap them to avoid any damage to your cross or others, bearing in mind that the wrapping (towel, cloth, etc.) will not be returned to you.

Thank you for your help with the beautification of our Gloria Dei fellowship hall area!

THE FIRST IMPRESSIONS TASK FORCE



Choir Kick-Off Dinner

On Wednesday, September 7, members of the Gloria Dei Choir and their families, along with Pastor Ed Barnett and Church Administrator Mary Beth Morris, met at the home of Charlene and Steve Cranmer, to enjoy a meal to kick-off the choir year. Members of the choir contributed side dishes, such as coleslaw, potato salad, tossed salad, pea salad, and Hawaiian rolls. Desserts included key lime pie and home-made baclava. Steve and Charlene's son, Steve Jr. made the smoked brisket, pulled pork and turkey breast. Everyone brought their own drinks. After the dinner, discussions were held regarding the service music and rehearsals for the upcoming year. Everyone in attendance had a wonderful time and expressed their enthusiasm for the music at Gloria Dei Leesburg.

**GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONTINUING RESOLUTION # ____
GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN 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 will 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 8th 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.

IF THE REFORMATION WERE TRIED TODAY.



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 & Communications/Webmaster	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Christian Education	Linda Steege	815-222-6195
Mission Endowment	Linda Hide	253-740-3063
Strategic Planning Task Force	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692
	Linda Riikonen	734-637-9727

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Worship & Music	Crystal Kirkpatrick	352-552-3983
Evangelism/Technology/ & Communications/Webmaster	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Social Ministry	Leone Goding	352-223-1925
Property	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Fellowship		
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 Task Force	Forrest Berg	352-267-2200

