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# GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GATHERING IN CHRIST ✝ SHARING HIS LOVE

**THE GLORION**

**JANUARY 2023**

[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**



January, 2023

Happy New Year! May God bless us and give us a great 2023 together as Gloria Dei Church!

Occasionally you might have heard me mention my frustration at the ecumenical scene here in Leesburg. (“Ecumenical” means that relationship between different denominations of Christian churches) Back in New York, and the other places I’ve served – Chicago, Columbus, OH, Pittsburgh – the relationships between churches seemed to be much richer than here. This is unfortunate. When we confess that we believe in “one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church” we’re talking about ALL Christians, not just those ELCA Lutherans.

Every year, there is an ecumenical celebration, or really a call to prayer, that occurs between January 18<sup>th</sup> (the Confession of St Peter) and January 25<sup>th</sup> (the Conversion of St. Paul). It’s known as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Its purpose is to encourage divided Christians to get together to at least pray about our divisions, to discover each other in the spirit of prayer.

The one ecumenical thing that Gloria Dei has been involved in for years is, of course, our own Joining Hands in Food Ministry. As we all know, this is a cooperative (ecumenical!) ministry comprised of members of both Gloria Dei and our neighboring First Presbyterian Church. As such, it’s highly appropriate that we commemorate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity by joining with our brothers and sisters right across the street!

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of January at 5.30pm, we’ve been graciously invited to join at First Presbyterian for a potluck supper, hymn sing and short evening prayer service. Please make every effort to attend. Details will be forthcoming, but Save the Date and time!

“3 making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.”

Ephesians 4.3-6

Pr Ed Barnett

Also.... The season after Epiphany is a GREAT time to have your house blessed. We have a service for this. These services can be quickly done or you can make more of a social event out of them (food, invite friends, etc.). If you’d like your home blessed, please give me a call! (516.610.6676 or call Gloria Dei).

## **Our Saint of our Lutheran Calendar for January is:**

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Löhe (21 February 1808 – 2 January 1872) (often rendered 'Loehe') was a pastor of the [Lutheran](#) Church, Confesional Lutheran writer, and is often regarded as being a founder of the [deaconess](#) movement in Lutheranism and a founding sponsor of the [Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod](#) (LCMS). From the small town of [Neuendettelsau](#), he sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine. His work for a clear confessional basis within the [Bavarian church](#) sometimes led to conflict with the ecclesiastical bureaucracy. His chief concern was that a parish find its life in the [eucharist](#), and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. Many Lutheran congregations in Michigan, Ohio, and Iowa were either founded or influenced by missionaries sent by Löhe. He is commemorated on 2 January by the [calendars](#) of both the LCMS and the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#).

(excerpted from Wikipedia)

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Betty Ann Huebner** died Thursday, **December 15, 2022**. Our thoughts and prayers to Betty Ann's family. Funeral services are pending.

## **RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED**

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in December: Debbie Cassem

## **PRAYERS**

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

- 1/1** Merle & Rita Moritz, Gloria Moulton, Gladys Mull,  
Brian & Karen Mundy, Jim & June Rieb
- 1/8** Ronald & Linda Riikonen, Madalon Ritter, Elizabeth Sanguedolce,  
Alberta Siepiela, Lillian Skilbred
- 1/15** Maureen Skurecki, Donna Smith, Russell Smith,  
Linda Steege, Jeanne Talts, Jon & Marva Tetting
- 1/22** Edward Thompson, Loraine Van Haecke, Nancy Vogel,  
Marilyn Wahl, Bill & Diane Wasser
- 1/29** Joel & Sharon Weinhardt, Celia Wollner, Kenn & Marti Yance,  
Chuck & Joy Yonko, Art Zerbel, Dennis & Jane Zimmerman

## THANK YOU

Dear Gloria Dei Circles,

I am so thankful to still be thought of. The gift basket was wonderful.

Alberta Siepiela

Ladies Circles,

Thank you for the kind gift basket. My granddaughter, Haleigh, is writing this note for me because my hands are a bit shakey lately, but I so appreciate the kind gesture. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Many thanks.

Larry Goerke

Dear Pastor Barnett,

Yesterday, December 16, 2022, a Gloria Dei elf (a.k.a. Carol Marshall) delivered to me a large Christmas basket. It contained fresh fruit, candy, cookies and a Christmas card. What an unexpected and wonderful gift. Please express to all of the Gloria Dei Church circle women my THANK YOU. In closing I can only offer to them this old Apache blessing:

“May the sun bring you new energy by day, may the moon softly restore you by night, may the rain wash away your worries, may the breeze blow new strength into your being, may you walk gently through the world and know it’s beauty all the days of your life.”

May God continue to bless all of you.

Russell Smith

Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

We recently received your gift of \$1,000.00 on 11/21/22. Thank you! Thanksgiving is the day we express gratitude for all of God’s blessings, and Christmas is the day we show our love and care for others. As we celebrate this Holiday Season, we also celebrate you and your support of our work.

We are thankful that you have chosen to place your confidence in us through your generous gift, and for your partnership in assisting those in need. With friends like you, we can continue to do our work in areas where it is needed—as long as it is necessary. You play a significant role in The Salvation Army’s mission of meeting human needs, for it is only possible because of your compassion and generosity.

Your gift will help us continue our efforts to provide comfort, hope, and much-needed assistance to thousands of families and individuals this season of *gratitude, love, and care*. As always, we pledge to do the most good with the resources you have entrusted to our care.

*May God bless you as you continue to bless others throughout the Holiday Season.*

Lieutenant Jeremy R. Porter, Corps Officer

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

January 2023

We did not have our meeting in December because some of us could not attend. We will be meeting Tuesday, January 3 at 10:00am.

We hope everyone had a marvelous holiday. The annual Christmas Luncheon at Chesapeake Bar and Grill Restaurant in Arlington Ridge was a huge success. Thanks go to Jane Zimmerman for the beautiful favors and decorations that were given as door prizes. A lovely quilt was donated by Carol Marshall for a door prize. Everything was lovely and enjoyed by all. Many thanks to all that helped with this luncheon, you all did a fabulous job. Thank you and thanks to all of you that attended.

The planning meeting for Pinelands Spring Gathering is scheduled for February 4 at 9am and the Pineland Spring Gathering is scheduled for March 18 at 9am to 2pm. Both events will be held at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Ocala. If you have an interest in attending either meeting contact me or any one on the board.

Christmas baskets were put together and delivered to the homebound by our ladies on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Watch for details on our Spring Fashion Show Luncheon. Details will be coming out very soon.

Our wish for the New Year is that everyone will have a SAFE, HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS and BLESSED NEW YEAR. Peace and Unity in our Communities and Nation.

Loraine Van Haecke, WELCA President

### **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

Church Women United Human Rights Celebration will be held Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am at St. Philips Lutheran Church, 1050 Boyd Drive, Mt. Dora. Please come and help us celebrate how far Human Rights has come. Call Leone Goding 352 223 1925 if you would like more information.

**Ruth Circle** – Next meeting to be held on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship hall. Upcoming event- We will gather together to organize and pack Personal Care kits at some time in January. Date TBA.

Dianne Marcotte, Leader

**Mary-Martha Circle** – will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. 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 January/February *Gather* magazine. If you don't have one, we will share. We will also be quilting on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Please come and join us..

Carol Marshall 352 787 0435

### **SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

Next Social Ministry meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. We will discuss the various agencies that need assistance and wait for Council to advise our budget. Anyone who wishes to help in this ministry, please feel free to join us.

Leone Goding, Chair

### **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)**

Thank you to the 50 plus volunteers from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, and from around the local community who turned out early this foggy December 9<sup>th</sup> morning to distribute 10,858 pounds of nutritious food to 648 individuals from 188 local families! Thanks also to everyone who collected and donated hundreds of boxes of “Little Debbie” snacks in Christmas boxes. And special thanks to Jeremy Couch and Tim Smith of Thrivent Financial that generously provided a post-distribution pizza party for our volunteers.

Richard Cassem  
Joining Hands in Food Ministry COO

## JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY, Inc.



**130 South Lone Oak Drive  
Leesburg, FL 34748**

December 9, 2022

SUBJECT: "Little Debbie" Christmas Snack Donations

Joining Hands in Food Ministry would like to express a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who donated "Little Debbie" snacks for the December 9<sup>th</sup> food distribution. We received over 300 boxes which enabled us to hand out one boxes to each family with enough left over to distribute more in January.

A huge THANK YOU to Loraine Van Haecke and the WELCA ladies who got the ball rolling at Gloria Dei. Also, a huge THANK YOU to everyone at First Presbyterian Church who jumped right on the bandwagon, and in a big way. Special thanks to Thora Korolowicz and the Arlington Ridge Ladies Golf Association, who collected more than 50 boxes for us, as well as canned goods and \$420 in cash & checks. Marva Tetting also collected Little Debbies at Arlington Ridge. Also special thanks to Linda Young and the employees at Anthony's Ladies Wear for donating over 50 boxes of Little Debbie snacks. These two churches and our community are simply amazing. All you have to do is ask and it is done, and with such joy!

I hope these Christmas treats we were able to provide brought as big of a smile to our clients' faces as it did to ours when we handed them out.

THANK YOU everyone and Merry Christmas! 🎄 🎄 🎄



## **BECOME A THRIVENT ASSOCIATE MEMBER AND GET IN ON THE ACTION!**

There are many benefits to becoming a Thrivent Member including the ability to start a Thrivent Action Team. Action Teams are designed to help Christians to live generously. Approved action teams receive promotional resources and seed money to jump-start your fundraiser, educational event or service project. Your team provides the people power to bring it to life. As an associate member, you are eligible to host an Action team event once a year. Approved Action teams receive a \$250 gift card to purchases needed supplies for your event.

You can become a member by purchasing a qualifying product from Thrivent Financial or by paying an annual fee of \$19.95 to become an Associate Member. All adults and children sixteen years old or older who are Christians seeking to live out their faith, or spouses of Christians seeking to live out their faith are eligible to become an Associate Member and start an Action Team.

**SUGGESTION:** Instead of donating \$20 to Joining Hands in Food Ministry please consider joining Thrivent as an annual associate member instead. You will be entitled to one Thrivent Action Team each year and your \$19.95 will allow JHIFM to purchase \$250.00 of food. 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.

## **JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

N/A

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

## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

01/02	Kay Hawtin	01/04	Margi Geiger
01/05	Charlotte Christensen	01/09	Bess King
01/10	Jeanne Talts	01/10	Dennis Marcotte
01/11	Ray Knudsen	01/11	Dennis Zimmerman
01/12	James Menchaca	01/15	Nancy Kancel
01/20	Ray McGuire	01/27	Bev Healy
01/30	Irv Johnson	01/31	Ronald Galloway

## **EDUCATION-DEVELOPING DISCIPLES**

You are cordially invited to join our Bible study, Women of the Bible. We meet on Wednesdays from 2:00 -3:30 pm at church.

We will be continuing to study Matthew, Mark, Luke and John for stories about Jesus and women in need.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Christine Carlson at [skauvold.carlson@gmail.com](mailto:skauvold.carlson@gmail.com) or by phone at (516) 458-7355

## **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

	November, 2022	Year to date 2022
Contributions	\$13,345.33	\$180,757.29
Expenditures	\$27,572.78	\$270,401.94

### RESTRICTED FUNDS

	11/01/2022	Donations	Expenditures	Ending 11/30/22
Elementary School	196.47	25.00	85.88	135.59
Oak Park Middle	0	0	0	0
Thrivent Choice \$	4,149.26	269.00	734.50	3,683.76
Basket Social	282.51	0	0	282.51
Eternal Light	600.00	0	0	600.00
Fellowship	83.67	79.30	14.00	148.97
JHIFM	0	171.00	171.00	0
World Hunger	0	208.00	208.00	0
ELCA	0	40.00	40.00	0
Flowers	327.09	51.00	0	378.09
Altar wine/bread	36.98	25.00	0	61.98
AV Equipment	4,733.77	0	0	4,733.77
Evangelism	570.00	90.00	0	660.00
Choir/Music	550.00	0	0	550.00
First Impressions fund	20.00	0	0	20.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$11,549.75</b>	<b>958.30</b>	<b>1,253.38</b>	<b>\$11,254.67</b>

## **Council Corner for November 2022**

### **By William Birdsall, Council president**

The Gloria Dei Council met in December as did the Executive Committee. The focus of the Council this month was the budget. We again labored over the numbers and made more reductions and cut where we could. We are looking at alternatives to our present phone system to save money and at the same time upgrade our present outdated system. We have been notified by Church Mutual our insurance carrier that our renewal policy will contain a wind and hail exclusion. We also learned that our renewal premium could increase as much two to three times our current premium. Because of a large shortfall in the giving this year, approximately \$100,000.00, these cuts in the Budget were necessary in order to present a budget that is very lean and hopefully will be supported through your giving.

Pastor Barnett has moved into his new office/Vestry and the work to transform his office into a storeroom has been completed. Temporarily the quilters supplies will be moved down to the new storeroom and work will begin immediately on transforming the present quilters room into the new administration office with the goal to have it completed by mid-February.

The Fall Yard Sale was a success for everyone, and the church tables raised \$240.00 which was split between the Evangelism and fellowship committees. This was a great opportunity for committees to raise money. We are also looking for committees to sponsor and run Pancake breakfasts and Spaghetti dinners as fund raisers. Also, the next Car show will be Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 2:00pm. Again, opportunity awaits your committees as a Pancake breakfast would fit right into the program.

Pastor and I attended the December Chamber of Commerce breakfast and found it very beneficial. There were over 100 people in attendance. We established some new contacts and found that there are opportunities for us to promote Gloria Dei in the Leesburg community.

Remember to look your best on Sundays this month as pictures for the new directory will be taken. God Bless.

*Bill*

## JANUARY CALENDAR

<b>Sun.</b>	<b>1/1</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/3</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. WELCA Board Meeting</b>
		<b>4:30 p.m. NO CATECHISM</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>1/4</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples</b>
		<b>4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/5</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Executive Committee Mtg.-Zoom</b>
		<b>1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/6</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist Svc/Potluck</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>1/8</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
		<b>Directory pictures after worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/10</b>	<b>ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE</b>
		<b>9:00 a.m. Quilting/Mary Martha Circle</b>
		<b>4:30 p.m. Catechism</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>1/11</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples</b>
		<b>4:30 p.m. NO Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/12</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Eucharist/Council Meeting</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/13</b>	<b>8:30-10:30 a.m. JHIFM</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>1/15</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering</b>
		<b>Directory pictures after worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/17</b>	<b>4:30 p.m. Catechism</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>1/18</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Social Ministries Meeting</b>
		<b>2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples</b>
		<b>4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>1/22</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
		<b>Directory pictures after worship</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/24</b>	<b>4:30 p.m. Catechism</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>1/25</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. NO Developing Disciples</b>
		<b>3:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>
		<b>4:00 p.m. Hymn Sing/Potluck</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/27</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Quilting</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>1/29</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-followed by</b>
		<b>Annual Congregational mtg.</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/31</b>	<b>4:30 p.m. NO Catechism</b>

# JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

## Assistant Ministers

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

### 9:30 a.m.

<b>1/1</b>	R=Steve Cranmer += C= A=Arlene Kelly	<b>1/8</b>	R=Art Zerbel += C= A=Arlene Kelly
<b>1/15</b>	R=Jim Gable += C=Jayne Gable A=Arlene Kelly	<b>1/22</b>	R=Linda Hide += C= A=Arlene Kelly
<b>1/29</b>	R= += C= A=Arlene Kelly		

## Ushers

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

### 9:30 a.m.

<b>1/1</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick	<b>1/8</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick
<b>1/15</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick	<b>1/22</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick
<b>1/29</b>			

### **Altar Guild for January:**

1/1 Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick  
1/8  
1/15  
1/22  
1/29

**Post Worship Secretary for January:** Gayle Bloom

### **Greeters**

1/1  
1/8  
1/15  
1/22  
1/29

### **Fellowship**

1/1  
1/8  
1/15  
1/22  
1/29

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

1/1 Jeanne Talts & Arlene Kelly  
1/8 John & Janet Braun  
1/15 Diane Wasser & Pat Heimbach  
1/22 Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly  
1/29 Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly

## **Annual Reports**

Please note the change in the deadline for the 2022 Annual Report. It is due to Mary Beth Morris by **Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**, since the Annual Meeting is January 29, 2023. Please email them to her at **[gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com](mailto:gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com)**. If you have any questions, please call Mary Beth at 352-787-3223.

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

Thursday, 15 December 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 (excused), Crystal Kirkpatrick, Linda Riikonen (excused), Linda Steege, Loraine VanHaecke, Diane Wasser
- III. **Promise** - The Covenant Promise was recited by the Council.
- IV. **Adoption of Agenda** – The agenda was reviewed and revised to add item 8J – Security. Motion to accept the revised agenda by Linda Steege, second by Craig. **Motion carried.**
- V. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Minutes of the 9 November 2022 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes by Arlene, second by Bill. **Motion carried.**
- VI. **Correspondence** – Nothing to report.
- VII. **Pastor's Report** – Pastor Barnett distributed his report prior to the meeting.
  - Need to boost internet/WiFi on main floor.
  - Dick Healy and John Tetting have agreed to participate on the financial committee.
  - Pastor presented a rough draft for the Annual Congregation Meeting in January.
  - Pastor proposed holding a medical ethics preparedness and potluck for the purpose of thinking through health care and how we approach it.
  - Pastor proposed having a potluck/hymn sing jointly with 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian for the Week of Prayer (18-25 January) for Christian Unity.
  - Discussion regarding inviting people to serve as greeters and ushers.
  - Praying about God's will in relation to Gloria Dei; pray for spiritual revival.
  - Pastor requested feedback from council regarding the past year at Gloria Dei:
    - o It's been a learning experience and stressful at times, this has been a year of change, one-sided changes.
    - o Progressive and moving forward, more cohesiveness in services.
    - o Bring back monthly healing service.
    - o Congregation needs to be more flexible; several members have left.



- We need more volunteers to serve as worship assistants.
- Many improvements have been made.
- Worries about loss of congregation membership; lack of enthusiasm in congregation.
- Financial situation is not good.
- Council needs to be an inspiration for congregation.

## **VIII. Unfinished Business –**

- A. Update on Pastor's Office, electrical work and storeroom –
  - Bill reported the electrical work needs to be completed.
  - A new router is necessary for better WiFi throughout the building. Bill will talk to Irv about this.
  - Pastor will move out of downstairs office. This space will be used for storage.
  - Linda Hide reported she will need a desk.
  - Bill is requesting donations for shelving units.
- B. Covid Update – Bill reported that there are currently no new issues at Gloria Dei.
- C. Disaster Preparedness Letter Response – Craig will look into a security presentation by law enforcement.
- D. Chamber of Commerce – Pastor and Bill attended a meeting with 100 people in attendance. This will be a good way to promote Gloria Dei activities and JHIFM.
- E. New Directory – Linda Steege and Bev Healy will begin taking pictures in January. Bev Healy will update the on-line directory.
- F. New Council Candidates – We are working on several people to join council. We need additional males to serve on council.
- G. Meeting with JHIFM – The council will meet with JHIFM in January.
- H. Sound System – We need a new microphone for the sound system. Bill will talk to Irv about contacting a sound technician for information.
- I. 2023 Budget – Linda discussed several items in the budget. Numerous items will need to be reduced or eliminated.
  - 6050 – Stewardship – Reduce from \$750 to \$500
  - 6071 – Advertising – Reduce from \$2,000 to \$1,000
  - 6072 – Evangelism – Remove from operating budget
  - 6083 – Flowers – Reduce from \$750 to \$250
  - 6084 – Communion Supplies – Reduce from \$500 to \$250

- 6086 – Remove security
- 6090 – Remove Social Ministry from operating budget– Add new line item for Camperships (\$1,000)
- Bill and Linda Hide will look into eliminating the telephone land line and switching to internet.

J. Security – Bill reported that the police officer presence on Sundays will be eliminated at the end of December.

## **IX. New Business –**

- A. Annual Meeting Agenda - Pastor distributed a rough draft of the Annual Meeting agenda which also includes “Respectful Communication Guidelines”.
- B. Three Kings Day/Epiphany Service and Potluck – 6 January 2023 – Arlene and Loraine will co-host. Pastor will announce in church.
- C. Replace Kitchen Range, Freezer and Refrigerator – These appliances need to be replaced. Bill will look into kitchen supply company to purchase old appliances. Bill suggested holding a fundraiser, i.e., spaghetti dinner to raise funds.
- D. Fundraisers – Bill suggested holding pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, potlucks to raise fund for committees, i.e., Social Ministry, Evangelism.
- E. Medical Awareness Presentation with Potluck – Bill waiting for response from Advent Health.
- F. Men’s Breakfast – These breakfasts are typically held at HP Grill. Pastor suggested holding a men’s breakfast on Monday, 6 February 2023 at Perkins to revive men’s group and attract more members.

## **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 – Nothing to report.
- D. Treasurer – Linda Hide emailed the financials prior to the meeting. She reported in item VIII-I during the meeting. Linda reported that giving in November is down (\$13,345). She also reported that the mission and in-faith accounts have increased by approximately \$11,000.

Craig will have the steeple cleaned.

***Annual Reports are due to Mary Beth by 10 January 2023.***

**XI. 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?**

- Bill will check with Irv about a new router.
- Craig will look into a security presentation.
- Bill will talk to Irv about a sound technician for information on a new microphone.
- Bill and Linda Hide will look into eliminating the telephone land line and replacing it with internet.
- Arlene and Loraine will co-host the 6 January pot luck for Epiphany.
- Pastor will announce Epiphany and pot luck in church.
- Bill will look into kitchen supply companies to purchase old kitchen appliances.
- Bill waiting to hear from Advent Health regarding medical awareness presentation.
- Craig will look into having the steeple cleaned.

Next Meetings – Executive – Thursday, 5 January 2023, 10:00 am via zoom.

Council – Thursday, 12 January 2023, 10:00 am at church.

Linda Steege moved to adjourn, second by Craig. **Motion carried.**

We closed at 1:00 pm with a prayer by Pastor Barnett.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Wasser, Secretary

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

### ***Meeting Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 1:00 pm***

Due to the busy holiday season for church as well as for the task force members a December meeting was not scheduled. The work for the Cross Wall will begin in January.

Respectfully submitted  
Kathleen Birdsall, Chair

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The 2023 sign-up forms for Worship Assistance, Greeters, Altar Guild, Post Worship Secretary, Ushers, Altar Wine, Candles, Flowers, Fellowship, etc. are on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Please volunteer for these opportunities to enhance Gloria Dei Church.

### **Offering Envelopes**



### **STATUS OF 2023 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES**

Please be advised that the 2023 contribution envelopes are still in the process of being printed and it looks like they won't be done until the end of January. Therefore, please use the small white envelopes in the pews as your contribution envelope for now. **BE SURE TO PUT YOUR NAME ON IT.** If you know your envelope number, you can put that on too. Don't worry if you do not know your number. The counters have the list of numbers. Thank you. Mary Beth Morris



Don't forget, starting in January, Gloria Dei will be updating our online directory called Instant Church Directory. Linda Steege and Bev Healy have graciously volunteered to be our photographers. They will be taking new pictures of our members after each Sunday service beginning January 8th and continuing through January 29th. They will also be collecting any information that may have changed within the last 3 – 4 years, including mailing addresses, email addresses, birth date (month and day) and phone numbers.

**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 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.**

### **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	Linda Steege	815-222-6195
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		
Stewardship		
Church Staff Liaison	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
Joining Hands Liaison	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
WELCA	Loraine Van Haecke	352-787-1407

