



GLORIA DEI

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

THE GLORION

MARCH 2023

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

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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



March, 2023

This is the month of my Silver Jubilee. I will be entering my 26th year of ordained ministry here at Gloria Dei Church. It's a privilege and an honor to be with you currently. In the Providence of God, I never could have dreamed that this would be where I would end up.

As I recall that day many years ago, many memories flood my mind and emotions. The people first of all: the place, my family and friends, all the clergy. The musicians: I had two organists and about a 40-voice choir in addition to a small Schola from a chant choir from Heinz Chapel in Pittsburgh. On and on these memories go. The party (even though it was Lent!): my parents hosted a dinner dance at the hall across from the cathedral.

One thing is certain, is that my perception and understanding of ministry and Church is not the same as it was 25 years ago. I think that is as it should be. Some would call that maturing or aging (by that I mean as a good wine would). There is one thing that hasn't changed in my mind. That is that what was conveyed to me then is much bigger than myself. It probably is the central message I would love to convey to you in my ministry. We're about something much grander and more overwhelming than we realize. In our limitations we think that it's about Barnett and Gloria Dei. No. That's not what our Christian Faith teaches us. It's about faith, hope and love, yes, but not merely in the here and now. It's not simply about how that happens at 130 South Lone Oak in Leesburg. We're part of a Story that spans from the beginning of time, right through the Cross of Christ, right up to the present time. It will be with us as we're with Christ in the coming Kingdom.

Thanks for being with me at this stage in my, and our, journey. With much love.

“Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm.” Song of Songs 8.6a

Pr Ed Barnett

St Jonathan Edwards – 22 March 4, 2023

Many of us know Jonathan Edwards because we were required to read his “Sinners in the hands of an angry God” in school. English teachers have their own reasons for assigning that, because it’s clearly not one of his greatest works. Edwards has been called the greatest American theologians. Born in 1703 in Connecticut, he ministered throughout the Northeast in the 18th century. A remarkable intellect, he worked hard at synthesizing a Reformed (Calvinist) understanding of God’s sovereignty and the phenomenon of human emotions in conversion. Often forgotten too, is his understanding of the place of beauty in the Christian faith. In 1757, Edwards accepted the presidency of the College of New Jersey (later called Princeton University) then undergoing a smallpox epidemic. Although he was inoculated, he suffered a secondary infection and died on March 22nd 1758, age 54.

His Collect Prayer is: Almighty God, you gave to your servant Jonathan Edwards great gifts to understand and to teach your majesty and your grace: Grant that by his teaching your church may know you in your gentle and holy majesty and serve you in love and gratitude; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Saint Bonus (almost – and from last month – 27 February 2023)

I loved this posting I saw on Facebook from one of our parishes in Connecticut:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - Torrington, CT

Today we remember Fred Rogers, pastor, who died this day in 2003.

“Listening is where love begins: listening to ourselves and then to our neighbor.”

Fred, commonly known as “Mister Rogers” was an American television host, author, producer, and Presbyterian minister. He was the creator, showrunner, and host of the preschool television series Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, which ran from 1968 to 2001.

It’s strange at first to think of someone we grew up watching on TV or may have met in person as a saint, but it does us good to celebrate the lives of those renewers of society whose faith in Christ motivated their desire to spread love, gentleness, humility, and understanding.

(St Jonathan Edwards cont'd)

Fred wanted to address the human need to love and to be loved and to help people love others. Talk about “specialness” was meant to encourage—“to put courage into” — children such that they could grow safely and securely into adults who could come to love others. Or, as Fred said, “As a child is loved, he loves in return.”

As a child, Fred suffered from severe asthma, scarlet fever, and was relentlessly bullied for being shy and overweight. “I cried to myself whenever I was alone,” he once shared in an interview. Such experiences gave him a tuning fork to what people needed. As an adult he provided friendship and affirmation to children who were lonely and advocated for the importance of families having time together, even testifying to congress that funding for public television was a service that was important for families. He dealt with difficult subjects like prejudice, bullying, illness, death, but with everyday questions as well.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in February: Ralph Hallberg, Sue Anderson, Crystal Kirkpatrick, Jan Liljestrang,

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

In honor of:

My wife Christine Carlson Craig Carlson/March Wine & Candle

In loving memory of:

Emma, Allen and Helen Weber Nancy & MaryJean Kancel/March Wine

PRAYERS

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

3/5 John & Jo An Cleary, Lynn Crane, Charlene Cranmer,
 Richard & Marilyn Czuprynski, Joan Davis

3/12 Milton & Carolyn DeLong, Judy Eads, Jerry & Julie Eld,
 Martha Ellis, Freddy & Marlene Farris

3/19 Carol Figi, Diana Frederick, Jim & Jayne Gable,
 Margi Geiger, Jacki Goding

3/26 Leone Goding, Larry Goerke, Barbara Goins,
 Bill Grese, Dottsie Grins

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

03/03	Irvin & Susan Johnson	40 years
03/08	Jim & June Rieb	54 years*
03/09	Byron & Crystal Kirkpatrick	30 years

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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

03/01	Arlene Kelly	03/03	Helga La Cava
03/06	Carol Marshall	03/08	MaryJean Kancel
03/09	Donna Smith	03/15	Elizabeth Sanguedolce
03/17	Patricia Bressler	03/17	Jerry Eld
03/21	Pastor Barnett	03/22	Byron Kirkpatrick

Gloria Dei Women of the ELCA

The WELCA Board met on the 7th of February. There was discussion about our past events and the services that have been accomplished by our congregation and our surrounding community. Prayerfully we can all continue to serve with love and unity.

Pinelands Conference Spring Gathering is coming up on the 18th of March, 8:30 to 9:00 for registration. The theme for the day is “Let Your Light Shine” based on Matthew 5:16. A Continental Breakfast is provided by Ascension Church. The program begins at 9:30 with opening prayer and devotion. The love offering for the day will go to the SOZO kids. There will be a Bible Study by Irene Brissel and our special speaker will be Deacon Shirley Rice of St Matthews speaking on Ministry of Hope. Lunch is provided by St Matthews. This will be fun and great Christian fellowship. The cost is only \$10.00 cash. Deadline for reservation is March 12. We will be carpooling from the church. Please contact me with your response and your \$10.00 by the 12th. Hope to have a great group from Gloria Dei.

Next event now planned is our Annual Spring Fashion Salad Luncheon on April 18th. All guests bring a salad to share, desserts and drinks will be provided. Watch for more details!! SAVE THE DATE!!

Peace and Blessing to all.
Loraine Van Haecke, WELCA President

Ruth Circle - Luke 1:45 Blessed is she who believes the Lord would fulfill his promises to her.

Pinelands Spring Conference- to be held on Saturday March 18th at St. Matthews in Ocala. 9am to 2 pm with breakfast and lunch served in addition to programming cost \$10. For further information or to RSVP please see Loraine VanHaecke.

Lenten Soup Supper- Ruth Circle members will be providing soup and crackers for the Weds. March 8th lenten supper after service.

Personal care kit project for LWR- Ruth Circle Lenten project will once again be collecting items to benefit Lutheran World relief. These items are to provide a small measure of comfort to folks who have suffered the tragedies of war, poverty and natural disasters. Items to be collected are Thin lightweight towels, Bar soap individually wrapped, toothbrushes individually wrapped, Sturdy combs and nail clippers. Collection boxes will be in Narthex during lent, during the rest of the year, items can be dropped into box in Narthex marked Personal Care items. From Oct 2021 to Sept 2022 Lutheran world relief provided 94,060 personal care kits to 12 countries in the world including places in Africa, the Middle East and Ukraine. Items collected at Gloria Dei during 2022 provided enough to make 63 kits.

WELCA Spring Fashion Show - mark your calendars Tuesday April 18th at 11:30.

Next Ruth Circle meeting- March 2 at 1:30 pm at church.
Dianne Marcotte

Mary-Martha Circle - Beginning in March 2023 Mary Martha Circle will meet on the 4th Friday of the month for Bible Study out of the Gather Magazine. Quilting time will be announced at a later date.

Carol Marshall, Leader Phone 352-787-0435.

Lutheran World Relief

150 quilts at 512 pounds
10 baby care kits at 30 pounds
63 personal care kits at 90 pounds
111 school kits at 331 pounds
The Free will offering was \$330.00
Thank you all that supported this.
Leone

THANK YOU LETTERS

Esther House Reentry

Leone and Ladies,
Thank you for your generosity – you have been quite a blessing on “the least of these”. May the Lor richly bless you for your blessings upon others.
Blessings and Love,
Judi Courter

SoZo Kids

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your generous donation in helping children who live in rural poverty. It is because of people like you, that children will be able to receive food, hygiene, clothing and mentoring towards an education. We assure you that your donation will be exhausted to ensure a fighting chance for the future of the children of the forest. Below is a total of your donations to our organization for 2022 (\$500). If for any reason you have any concerns about the accuracy of this amount, please contact us in order to change the amount immediately. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you to help the children in the forest. Once again, thank you for what you do for SoZo Kids.

David Houck, Director of Services

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Dear Friends of LIRS,

I'm incredibly pleased to present your congregation's LIRS 2022 giving summary—an outstanding record of your kindness and compassion. Last year, your generosity supported refugee and immigrant families fleeing violence, persecution, and unspeakable hardships in search of a better life.

Because of you, we truly made a mark! Through your generous support, we welcomed and cared for newcomers and ensured they had the resources they needed to thrive in their new homes, so thank you!

Your compassion helped reunify separated families, provided cash assistance to people in need, cared for asylum seekers released from detention, protected unaccompanied children, and enabled us to make immense strides in our advocacy for those we serve.

And your generosity helped resettle thousands of people fleeing violence and persecution in Afghanistan, Ukraine, and many other places worldwide. (That's just a few examples of the work you made possible!)

From resettling refugees to providing basic needs and community connections to supporting welcome centers and programs that offer vital resources like education and workforce assistance, your charitable giving of \$1,000. last year did so much good!

Sincerely, Andrew G. Steele, V.P. for Development and Mobilization

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)

Thhhhhaaaaaannnnnnnk Yooooouuuuuuuuu to the over 40 volunteers from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Lake County Florida Department of Health, and from around the local community who joined hands this morning to distribute 10,577 pounds of nutritious food to 625 individuals from 178 local families. Special thanks go to Esther, Charlie, Omie and Helyn from FEMA who distributed information referring families to agencies that can assist with various issues. Also, many thanks to Priscilla and Mildred from the Lake County Florida Health Department who administered COVID, Flu, Hep-A, and Tetanus/Diphtheria vaccines to dozens of individuals. Finally, thank you to all the people who donated items for personal care kits to send to Lutheran World Relief. What a wonderful community in which we live. I posted photos of today's food distribution at Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/.

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 Tithely, a funds collection application.

These are just a few of the many reasons to visit the website.

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. In March, we are continuing our study of Acts.

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

FINANCIAL CORNER

GENERAL FUND

	February, 2023	Year to date 2023
Contributions	\$15,652.52	\$31,020.49
Expenditures	\$22,466.97	\$44,613.07

MARCH CALENDAR

Wed.	3/1	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:00 p.m. Vespers/Soup Sup-WELCA Board 5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	3/2	1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle
Sat.	3/4	9:00-2:00 p.m. Pancake Breakfast, Car Show, Bingo, Lunch
Sun.	3/5	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Lent 2
Tues.	3/7	10:00 a.m. WELCA Board Meeting 4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	3/8	12:00 noon First Impressions Meeting 2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:00 p.m. Vespers/Soup Supper-Ruth Circle 5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	3/10	8:30-10:30 a.m. JHIFM
Sun.	3/12	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Lent 3
Mon.	3/13	11:00 a.m. Pastor Barnett's Silver Jubilee Svc Followed by dutch lunch at Lakeside Inn Mt. Dora, FL
Tues.	3/14	4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	3/15	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:00 p.m. Vespers/Soup Supper-Mary Martha 5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Sun.	3/19	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering
Tues.	3/21	4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	3/22	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 3:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting 4:00 p.m. Vespers/Soup Supper-Choir 5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	3/24	9:00 a.m. Mary Martha Circle
Sun.	3/26	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Lent 5
Tues.	3/28	4:30 p.m. Catechism
Wed.	3/29	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples 4:00 p.m. Vespers/Soup Supper-Council 5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	3/30	10:00 a.m. Exec Committee Meeting-Zoom

MARCH WORSHIP LEADERS

Assistant Ministers

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

9:30 a.m.

3/5	R=Jon Tetting += C= A=Patricia Bressler	3/12	R=Jim Gable += C=Jayne Gable A=Patricia Bressler
3/19	R=Vaikke Talts O'Grady += C=Taeko Mincer A=Patricia Bressler	3/26	R=Art Zerbel += 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.

3/5	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick John Kelly Craig Carlson	3/12	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick John Kelly Craig Carlson
3/19	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick John Kelly Craig Carlson	3/26	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick John Kelly Craig Carlson

Altar Guild for January:

3/5	Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick
3/12	Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick
3/19	Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick
3/26	Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick

Post Worship Secretary for March: Carol Marshall

Greeters

3/5

3/12 Madalon Ritter

3/19 Madalon Ritter

3/26 Madalon Ritter

Fellowship

3/5 Jim & June Rieb

3/12 Mike & Bunny Wagner

3/19 Bev & Dick Healy

3/26 Dianne & Dennis Marcotte

Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

3/5 Jeanne Talts

3/12 John & Janet Braun

3/19

3/26 Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly

2023 First Impressions Task Force Report
Meeting Wednesday, February 08, 2023, at 12 PM

In Attendance: Kathleen Birdsall, Linda Steege, Pat Bressler, Arlene Kelly,
Elizabeth Sanguedolce absent Crystal Kirkpatrick

1. Arlene opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Message board is up on the west wall of gathering hall. This board will be cleared off at the end of each month.
3. Cross wall will be installed March 6th and crosses attached the same week.
4. Tabled after some discussion was the subject of working up Guide Lines for accepting Gifts-in-Kind. Committee believes council needs input on what should and shouldn't be accepted as gifts to the church.
5. Items remaining in the punch list for the gathering space. We will continue to look for some helping hands to help us to complete this list.
 - Trim (1/4 round) to go around the gathering hall baseboard.
 - Install shawl rack
 - New EXIT sign over sanctuary door
 - Artifacts previously on display to be cleaned/restored and relocated.
 - The two small pews to be repurposed for continued use.
6. WISH LIST: a few computer tablets to be used for time & talent sign-up in the media center on the west wall of the gathering space.
7. Next meeting March 8, 2023, at 12 PM. This meeting will be completing the cross wall.
8. Closed meeting with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Birdsall, Chair

Presidents Report for February 2023
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
By William Birdsall

- 1.0 I have continued to work on our Building Insurance Coverage and presently waiting for this year's quote for our present carrier Church Mutual.
- 2.0 I have made a contact with Pathways Health Partners, located here in Leesburg regarding presenting a program to our members.
- 3.0 I am in the process of hanging the Cross Wall for First Impressions.
- 4.0 I have been having discussions with various members regarding sitting on the Council.
- 5.0 I have been attending the monthly Leesburg Chamber of Commerce breakfast Mtgs.
- 6.0 I have been preparing the monthly articles for the Glorion.

Council Corner for February & March 2023

By William Birdsall

First, please note my new position on the Church Council. At the GDLC Council's last meeting held on March 2nd new officers were elected for this year. Pastor Barnett was elected as President, Loraine Van Haecke as Vice President, Arlene Kelly as Secretary and myself, Bill Birdsall, as Treasurer. As you may already know, Dianne Wasser our former secretary did not seek another term on the Council, nor did Linda Hide our former Treasurer. However, Linda will remain as our bookkeeper. This now leaves the Council with three vacancies.

As was discussed in the last Glorion, our insurer dropped our Wind and Hail coverage and has not yet found any carrier that is offering it in Florida, however that drop of coverage should actually result in a savings over last year's premium which will be a big help for our budget. At this time, we are not overly concerned as our roof is made of metal and should be more durable than the traditional asphalt shingle roof.

The Saints and Sinners car show was again a success but this year's event was the best to date. Although we did not have a record-breaking attendance what we did see was our Fellowship Hall full of people almost the entire day. First the Pancake Breakfast was a huge success with people arriving a half hour early, waiting for the food to be served which happened 15 minutes ahead of schedule. The Bingo then took the stage and many stayed and played and enjoyed the fun. Our new computerized bingo game which was displayed on the TV worked well and was easy for the players to follow and to see.

The work on the new administration office saw unforeseen delays due to illness, unknown pipes conflicting with new cabinetry and unexpected ceiling problems all of which result in about a loss of a months progress. However, we have met with our security vendor and are waiting for a proposal to install new locking mechanisms at the front doors and also the phone cameras for the front door linked to the Pastors office and the admin office.

Pastor and I will continue to attend the monthly Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting to continue meeting more of the local business owners.

Bill

Minutes of the Gloria Dei Congregation Council

Thursday, March 2, 2023 10am

A Eucharist service was led by Pastor Barnett starting at 10:05am.

I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Bill Birdsall at 10:32am.

II. **Roll Call** - Present were: Pastor Barnett, Bill Birdsall, Craig Carlson, Arlene Kelly, Linda Steege, and Loraine Van Haecke. Crystal Kirkpatrick and Linda Riikonen were excused.

II. **Promise** - The Covenant Promise was recited by the Council.

IV. **Election of Officers** – Bill read the sheet he provided which detailed the differences between the treasurer and the bookkeeper. The officers were announced by Pastor, and he made a motion to approve the officers which were approved unanimously. The new slate of officers for Gloria Dei is as follows: President - Pastor Barnett, Vice President – Loraine Van Haecke, Treasurer - Bill Birdsall, Secretary – Arlene Kelly **Motion carried.**

V. **Adoption of Agenda** - The agenda was reviewed and a motion to accept the agenda was made by Pastor Barnett and approved by all. **Motion carried.**

VI. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings** - Minutes of the January 10th meeting were reviewed and approved by a motion made by Linda Steege and seconded by Craig. **Motion carried** The annual meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with a motion by Bill and seconded by council. **Motion carried.**

VII. **Correspondence** – An estimate for insurance was received from Church Mutual. In 2022, the cost was \$12,106/year. The coverage that we got the estimate for doesn't include wind and hail damage, and the cost goes down to \$8,400/year. There is major cost to add wind and hail coverage, but we are getting an estimate to include that factor.

VIII. **Pastor's Report** – Pastor handed out his report to all present. We discussed it in length, concluding that there were several positive changes that he would like to make regarding new members and social events. Loraine is going to be the council representative for social life in the congregation.

IX. **Unfinished Business** -

A. Update on building improvements – The phone installation is scheduled for March 14th. A locksmith is needed for the front door with camera view for the setup like downstairs for Mary Beth.

B. New directory – Linda Steege reported that the directory isn't finished, as it needs to be updated to reflect members who have left for various reasons. Pastor will get a copy of the members' list used for Consecration Sunday from Pastor Gail and update it using that list.

C. Organization flow chart – Arlene distributed the copy of the flow chart developed for Gloria Dei, having used the sample as a guideline. After numerous discussions and changes needing to be made, Arlene is going to make the necessary changes and bring the revision to the next council meeting.

D. Medical awareness presentation – Pastor stated that we are waiting to hear back from Pathways Health Partners to set up a potluck in conjunction with the presentation.

E. Comments on men’s breakfast – There needs to be a purpose for the meeting other than breakfast. It needs to be spiritual and fun, and the men of the congregation need to be invited to come out and join them.

F. Insurance update – This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

X. New Business –

A. Council retreat – Pastor gave us 2 different sets of dates for the retreat. Due to conflicts with some members, the dates chosen are April 25-26, 2023 at San Pedro in Orlando. He is lining up the guest leader and will check with the center to ensure that our dates are still available.

B. Responsibilities of bookkeeper, treasurer, and finance committee – This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

XI. Officers reports – Instead of a president’s report, it was decided that going forward a council reflections article will be given monthly for the Glorion. This report will be done by rotating members of the council, with Bill doing this month’s article.

XII. Committee reports – No committee reports

XIII. Who does what? Pastor is going to talk to Pastor Madson regarding the membership list and give it to Linda Steege to update the directory. Bill is getting a quote for insurance to include hail and wind damage. Arlene is going to update the flow chart. Craig is going to check the availability of Christine and him to attend the Synod Assembly on June 8-10, 2023.

The commitment cards are going to be reviewed in June, and a quarterly report will be given to the congregation.

XIV. Next Meetings - Executive committee meets on March 30, 2023 at 10am via Zoom; Regular council will have the meeting at the retreat in April.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Loraine and seconded by Arlene.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Kelly, Secretary

**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.

March 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor/President	The Rev. Edward G. Barnett	516-610-6676
Vice President	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692
Secretary	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
Treasurer/Financial Secy	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Fellowship	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692
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 & Communications/Webmaster	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Christian Education	Linda Steege	815-222-6195
Mission Endowment	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	Pastor Gail Madson	402-525-7027
Church Staff Liaison		
Joining Hands Liaison	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
WELCA	Loraine Van Haecke	352-787-1407

