



GLORIA DEI

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

THE GLORION

OCTOBER 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

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

OFFICE PHONE: (352)787-3223

OFFICE EMAIL: gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com

WEB SITE: www.gloriadeielca.com

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, 2023

I write you greetings from my yearly retreat with the Society of the Holy Trinity, held at the gorgeous St Mary of the Lakes Seminary in Mundelein IL. I always get to meet new people every year. Last night I sat at dinner with some pastors. They wanted to know who I was and where I serve. I told them. One responded, "Isn't that where Pr Crosby was? She was my Intern back in the day." Small world!

Anyway, I'm anxious to get back to work when I return. At the same time, I'm at a bit of a loss what to write this month. So, I'll leave you with this thought and scripture which is appropriate whether on a ministerial retreat or sitting in sunny Leesburg:

Isaiah 55:6-9 - Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.

Pr Ed Barnett

Lutheran Saint(s) of the month

October's (Lutheran) Saint of the Month: St. Francis of Assisi – October 4th

St. Francis of Assisi (c. 1181 – 3 October 1226), one of the most popular saints, was an Italian mystic and Catholic friar who founded the Franciscans. He was inspired to lead a life of poverty as an itinerant preacher. One of the most venerated figures in Christianity, Francis was canonized by Pope Gregory IX on 16 July 1228. He is usually depicted in a brown habit with a rope around his waist with three knots, symbolizing the three Franciscan vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

In 1219, he went to Egypt in an attempt to convert the sultan al-Kamil and put an end to the conflict of the Fifth Crusade. In 1223, he arranged for the first live nativity scene as part of the annual Christmas celebration in Greccio. According to Christian tradition, in 1224 Francis received the stigmata during the apparition of a Seraphic angel in a religious ecstasy. He founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare, the Third Order of St. Francis and the Custody of the Holy Land. Once his community was authorized by Pope Innocent III, he withdrew increasingly from external affairs.

Francis is associated with patronage of animals and the environment. It became customary for churches to hold ceremonies blessing animals on his feast day of 4 October. He is known for devotion to the Eucharist. Along with Catherine of Siena, he was designated patron saint of Italy. San Francisco in California, United States is named after him. The current Roman pope chose the name “Francis” after St. Francis of Assisi.

(after Wikipedia)

COMMUNITY NOTICES RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in September: cj Clarke

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

In honor of:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Tom & Vaike O'Grady's anniversary | Jeanne Talts/Sept Wine |
| To celebrate our September birthdays | Debbie & Ritch Cassem/flowers |
| Kenn & Marti Yance 55 th anniversary | Jim & June Rieb/flowers |

PRAYERS

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

- 10/1** Helga La Cava, Barb & Dock Lias, Judy Lorenz,
Sylvia Mackey, Gail Madson
- 10/8** Dianne & Dennis Marcotte, Carol Marshall, Evelyn Matthes,
James, Quiana & Julian Menchaca, Andy & Taeko Mincer
- 10/15** Merle & Rita Moritz, Gloria Moulton, Gladys Mull,
Brian & Karen Mundy, Vaike O'Grady
- 10/22** Sandy Retz, Jim & June Rieb, Ron Riikonen,
Madalon Ritter, Lillian Russo
- 10/29** Elizabeth Sanguedolce, Alberta Siepiela, Lillian Skilbred,
Maureen Skurecki, Donna Smith

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

| | | | |
|-------|------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 10/16 | 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 | | |

Gloria Dei Women of the ELCA

We had our regular WELCA Board Meeting in September, Ruth and Mary/Martha Circles had their meetings in September, also. The Quilters began quilting again on September 12. God is Good.

Registration for the SWO Fall Gathering has been extended.

Prayerfully consider joining this group on November 10, 11, 12 at the Warren Willis United Methodist Conference Center located at 4991 Picciola Road in Fruitland Park. This will be a fun and spiritually filled weekend. If you cannot attend the entire weekend join us for a day. Information is on our website at flwelca.com.

October is a busy month with our usual meetings along with Appreciation Day for the Staff and Dedication of the New Office October 1 after church service. Ruth Circle is hosting on October 5, a Benefit Potluck Salad Luncheon at 11:30. Speaker will be from LovExtension in Tavares. The congregation is invited to both events.

The WELCA Annual Christmas Luncheon will be on December 7th at 11:30 at the Chesapeake Grill in Arlington Ridge hosted by Ruth Circle. The group has been working on the event and I am positive it will be a good time for all. Watch for more details from Dianne Marcotte, Leader of the group. Welcome back to your Florida homes. Everyone that is traveling, have safe travels.

Lorraine Van Haecke, Leader
Cell: 407-252-4692
Home: 352-787-1407

Ruth Circle – In lieu of regular monthly meeting , salad luncheon to benefit LovExtension on Thursday, October 5th at 11:30 am. Hopefully you have read about this previously and signed up in Fellowship Hall.

Thursday, Nov 7th - meeting with bible study at 1:30 at fellowship hall.

Thursday, Dec 7th- annual WELCA Christmas party at Chesapeake Grill in Arlington Ridge. Look for details on poster which will be posted in Fellowship Hall on November 1.

Dianne Marcotte

Mary-Martha Circle – will meet on the 2nd Tuesday, October 10. We will start our Mission Quilting at 9AM and have a break at 10:30. Bible Study at 11 will be out of the Gather Magazine. We will have copy's of the lesson for anyone who needs one. We will also be Mission Quilting on the 4th Friday which is October 27 at 9am. Please come and join us for fun & fellowship.

Carol Marshall, Leader Phone 352-787-0435

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Gloria Dei will be host to the Church Women United, World Community Day on Friday, November 3RD. We will have coffee and snacks at 9:30 am with the program following at 10:00 am. Please, would all ladies try to attend and welcome other ladies from other churches to ours. Thank you,

Leone Goding

QUILTING

The Quilters are asking for volunteers to sew quilt tops, so that when they resume quilting, there will be tops to start the process. If you have any questions, please see Leone or Jacki Goding.

THANK YOU LETTERS

(From Children's Advocacy)

Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

Please accept our sincere thank you for the blankets you've donated recently. We appreciate your donation so very much.

The Center, a private not for profit corporation, advocates for the right of every child to access the services they need to begin the healing process following abuse. All services are provided free of charge to the child victim and family members.

On behalf of the children you are helping us serve, thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

Sincere, Brenda S. Crellan, LMHC, NCC, Executive Director

EDUCATION-DEVELOPING DISCIPLES

You are cordially invited to join our Bible study. We meet on Wednesdays from 2:00 -3:30 pm at church. In October we plan to study more women in the old testament.

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

JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY

Special thanks to the over 40 volunteers from First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, and from around our community who this morning (September 8) joined hands to distribute a WHOPPING 13,436 pounds of nutritious food to 702 individuals from 196 families in need. We were truly blessed this morning when a strong thunderstorm passed over our area only one hour after our food distribution ended. I posted photos of this morning's food distribution at [Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/](https://www.facebook.com/feedinghopenow/).

Richard. Cassem

Joining Hands in Food Ministry Chief Operating Officer

JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY

Joining Hands is collecting ***canned fruit and cereal***, any kind will be a big help! Please put your donations in the Narthex on the shelf. Thank you for your support.

WE NEED PICTURES!

All Saints Day is November 5th, and we would like to honor family and friends who have gone before us by placing their pictures on the altar railing during our 9:30 service. Please bring as many pictures as you can, but please **MAKE SURE TO PUT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF EACH PICTURE or we won't know who to return them to.** There will be a box in the narthex to place your pictures starting in October.

FINANCIAL CORNER

GENERAL FUND

| | August, 2023 | Year to date 2023 |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Contributions | \$12,067.63 | \$129,928.34 |
| Expenditures | \$20,797.23 | \$183,548.04 |

RESTRICTED FUNDS

| | Beg. Bal. 1/1/2023 | Donations | Withdrawals | Ending Bal 8/31/2023 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Elementary School | 160.59 | 50.00 | 195.90 | 14.69 |
| Oak Park Middle | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Thrivent Choice \$\$ | 3,683.76 | 555.00 | 2,097.42 | 2,141.34 |
| Basket Social | 282.51 | 0 | 282.51 | 0 |
| Eternal Light | 600.00 | 45.00 | 0 | 645.00 |
| Fellowship | 13.51 | 658.26 | 570.73 | 100.94 |
| JHIF | 0 | 858.00 | 858.00 | 0 |
| World Hunger | 0 | 1,176.00 | 1,176.00 | 0 |
| Flowers | 561.38 | 839.00 | 1,233.61 | 166.77 |
| ELCA | 0 | 130.00 | 130.00 | 0 |
| Altar wine/bread | 25.02 | 146.00 | 0 | 171.02 |
| AV Equipment | 4,733.77 | 2,000.00 | 6,595.44 | 138.33 |
| First Impressions | 0 | 1,447.51 | 51.88 | 1,395.63 |
| Disaster Relief | 0 | 320.00 | 125.00 | 195.00 |
| Evangelism | 780.00 | 257.00 | 60.00 | 977.00 |
| Choir/music | 550.00 | 0 | 0 | 550.00 |
| | | | | |
| TOTALS | 11,390.54 | 8,481.77 | 13,376.59 | 6,495.72 |

OCTOBER CALENDAR

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|--|
| Sun. | 10/1 | 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Staff Appreciation and Administration Office Dedication following service |
| Mon. | 10/2 | 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostles' Creed) Zoom |
| Tues. | 10/3 | 10:00 a.m. WELCA Board meeting |
| Wed. | 10/4 | 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew) @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 1:00 p.m. Mid-Day Prayers 2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal |
| Thurs. | 10/5 | 1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle-Potluck Fund Raiser |
| Sun. | 10/8 | 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship |
| Mon. | 10/9 | 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostles' Creed) Zoom |
| Tues. | 10/10 | 9:00 a.m. Mary Martha Circle/Quilting |
| Wed. | 10/11 | 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew) @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 1:00 p.m. Mid-Day Prayers 2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal |
| Fri. | 10/13 | 8:30-10:30 a.m. Joining Hands in Food Min. |
| Sat. | 10/14 | 3:00 p.m. Health Seminar 4:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner |
| Sun. | 10/15 | 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering |
| Mon. | 10/16 | 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostles' Creed) Zoom |
| Wed. | 10/18 | 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew) @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 1:00 p.m. Mid-Day Prayers 2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal |

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|---|
| Sun. | 10/22 | 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship |
| Mon. | 10/23 | 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostle's Creed) Zoom |
| Tues. | 10/24 | 10:00 a.m. Council Meeting |
| Wed. | 10/25 | 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew) @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 1:00 p.m. Mid-Day Prayers 2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal OCTOBER GLORION DEADLINE |
| Sun. | 10/29 | 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Reformation/Confirmation |
| Mon. | 10/30 | 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostle's Creed) Zoom |

| October 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 | | | | |

Upcoming November Events

- Sat. 11/4 8:00 am Live Radio Broadcast from car show**
9:00 am Pancake Breakfast
10:00-2:00 Saints & Sinners Car Show
11:00 am Octoberfest Lunch/Bingo
Sun. 11/5 WELCA Thank Offering
Tues. 11/14 5:30 pm Gloria Dei/1st Pres Hymn Sing Potluck
Sat. 11/18 8:00-2:00 Church Yard Sale

| November 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 | | |

Council Corner for September

By Crystal Kirkpatrick

I am delighted to serve on council. Our current council is very “hands on” and we are all concerned about the budget. We have cut until there’s nothing else to cut.

I think Pastor Barnett is a “good fit” for Gloria Dei Church. He is centered in prayer and teaching us to do the same. It gives a warm and delightful feeling.

It’s very nice to have Pastor and Mary Beth upstairs now. It is much more convenient. The new spaces are working out well. Way to go Bill Birdsall!

OCTOBER WORSHIP LEADERS

Assistant Ministers

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

9:30 a.m.

- | | | | |
|--------------|--|--------------|--|
| 10/1 | R=MaryJean Kancel +=James Menchaca C= A=Patricia Bressler | 10/8 | R=Vaike O'Grady +=Leone Goding C= A=Arlene Kelly |
| 10/15 | R=Jim Gable +=Julian Menchaca C=Jayne Gable A=Patricia Bressler | 10/22 | R=Steve Cranmer +=Leone Goding C= A=Patricia Bressler |
| 10/29 | R=John & Linda Menchaca +=James Menchaca C= A=Pat Bressler | | |

Ushers

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

9:30 a.m.

- | | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| 10/1 | Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly | 10/8 | Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly |
| 10/15 | Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly | 10/22 | Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly |
| 10/29 | Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly | | |

Altar Guild for October: Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick

Post Worship Secretary for October: Lillian Skilbred

Greeter for October:

10/1

10/8

10/15

10/22

10/29

Fellowship

10/1 Jim & June Rieb

10/8 Ritch & Debbie Cassem

10/15 Healy

10/22 Pat Bressler

10/29 Chuck & Joy Yonkos

Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

10/1 Jeanne Talts

10/8 John & Janet Braun

10/15 Arlene Kelly

10/22 Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly

10/29

A Brief History of Stewardship

“Stewardship” is a word created by leaders in the Protestant churches of North America in the late 19th century. At that time it was a way of talking about money for the church and especially missions in the West and missionaries abroad. The concept developed in response to the separation of church and state, which meant churches were no longer funded by the state. By necessity, the American church had to find a way to raise money for congregations and missions. Over the last one hundred years, there have been three periods or stages when stewardship has taken a high profile. By the late 20th century, stewardship was commonly used both inside and outside the church.

1. The Beginnings of American Stewardship 1890 - 1918

- This first period linked stewardship with law and connected it with the tithe.
- Churches were not supported by taxes and needed to find their own way of gathering funds.
- Early methods of fundraising included renting or selling pew space, subscription lists, church suppers, church socials, raffles and lotteries.
- Special collections were taken in support of missions in the rapidly expanding West and for other parts of the world.
- At the turn of the century, envelope giving offered privacy.
- Churches began to adopt unified budgets.
- A rising middle class began dealing with the “burden of affluence”.
- The enthusiasm for mission collapsed with the loss of idealism in the United States. By the 1920’s many congregations took to erecting new church buildings rather than giving money to benevolences or missions.

2. The Flowering of Stewardship 1945 – 1965

- The second period connected stewardship with the Gospel and began to see money as only a part of a broader understanding of stewardship.
- During the post World War II period, there was a religious boom. The United States entered an era of unprecedented and increasing affluence.

- American life was changed by suburbia, the interstate highway system, better automobiles and television.
- The situation was ripe for the church to respond to the needs of the people.
- In contrast to the atheism of communist nations, Americans were “God-believing church goers”.
- Church membership as a percentage of the total population grew from 49% in 1940 to 63% by 1960.
- A renewed interest in stewardship brought forth the three “T’s” – Time, Talent and Treasure. This elicited a positive response in campaigns.
- Denominational loyalty was strong. In 1957, 96% of Americans cited a specific religious affiliation.

3. The Globalization of Stewardship 1980 – 200?

- The current period joins stewardship with the care of this world and often does not mention money.
- A broader definition of stewardship includes a lifestyle of working for the environment, justice, peace and the integrity of creation.
- The word “stewardship” became more popular in secular circles than it was within the church.
- Christianity does not play as important a role in the establishment; secularization is taking over society.
- Focusing stewardship on the finances of the church is not legitimate because the emphasis should be on the needs of the whole world.
- In the words of Douglas John Hall (1990),
“Now the church can assume its proper place as a servant to the world, rather than trying to maintain its own power and position within society. It has an opportunity to act as a steward (servant) and can now take stewardship seriously.”

Reflections on the History of Stewardship

- We learn that we are not masters living in a world that we own and control, but we rather are stewards of what has been entrusted to us.

- Christian stewardship is rooted in God's gift of Jesus Christ to us, and we are entrusted with sharing this gift.
- Through God's grace, we freely receive God's gifts and have permission to use these gifts.
- Stewardship has to do with every aspect of living out personal faith, including creation, lifestyle, gifts, finances and callings/vocation.
- Churches are increasingly dependent on lay members to assume their rightful place of servant leadership, using their gifts to participate in God's work in the world today.

(This brief history is summarized from "A History of Stewardship" by Dr. William O. Avery of Gettysburg Seminary, and was published by the Lutheran Laity Ministries for Stewardship.)

GLORIA DEI INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY INSTRUCTIONS

Members of Gloria Dei have been asking about instructions to get the membership directory of our church on line. Below are step by step directions for both Apple devices and Android Devices.

Apple Devices: Instructions to download the **Instant Church Directory** on your Iphone or Ipad: These instructions are for church members who have never logged in to the instant church directory before:

1. Download the app from the App Store. Search for “Instant Church Directory.” The app has a small picture of a church on it.
2. After downloading the app, open the app and click on “Create Login”.
3. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
4. Create a secure password. The password must be 8 characters long and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols.
5. Retype your password to confirm.
6. Check your inbox for an email from service@instantchrchdirectory.com
7. To complete the login process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email.
8. Once you confirm your email, close the browser window and go back to the App. Click on “sign in” to sign into your church’s directory using your email and password.

Android Devices: These instructions are for church members who have never logged in to the instant church directory before:

1. Download the App from the Play Store (android devices). Search for “Instant Church Directory”
2. Open the app and click on “Create Login”.
3. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
4. Create a secure password. The password must be 8 characters long and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols.
5. Retype your password to confirm.

6. Check your inbox for an email from service@instantchurchdirectory.com
7. Th complete the login process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email.
8. Once you confirm your email, close the browser window—do not one in on the browser. Open the app and click on “sign in” to sign into your church’s directory.

Since most of our members have devices that can download the directory onto their phones or pads, we have not been regularly printing paper copies. However, if you do not have a “smart phone” our church office is able to print the directory. Due to the cost of printing color copies of our directory, we are hoping members will try to download the instant church directory first. Call Mary Beth at church if you need a printed copy.

**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.

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/ | Bill Birdsall | 732-773-2680 |
| & Communications/Webmaster | | |
| Christian Education | Linda Steege | 815-222-6195 |
| Mission Endowment | | |

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Worship & Music | Crystal Kirkpatrick | 352-552-3983 |
| Evangelism/Technology/ | Bill Birdsall | 732-773-2680 |
| & Communications/Webmaster | | |
| Social Ministry | | |
| Property | Bill Birdsall | 732-773-2680 |
| Fellowship | Loraine Van Haecke | 407-252-4692 |
| Stewardship | Dianne Marcotte | 508-723-2073 |
| Church Staff Liaison | | |
| Joining Hands Liaison | Arlene Kelly | 605-999-4555 |
| WELCA | Loraine Van Haecke | 407-252-4692 |

