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# GLORIA DEI

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

**THE GLORION**

**NOVEMBER 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**

**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)**

**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**



November, 2023

November begins with our celebration of All Saints'. We remember the faithful who have gone before us. We recall that every time the church celebrates the Divine Liturgy, we are connected to them on the very other side of the altar rail. In fact, every Sunday we hear these words: "therefore with the church on earth and the host of heaven." There's an eternal connection between here and there.

This also makes it an appropriate time to speak about our legacies. What will you leave behind as your legacy in the Church of Jesus Christ? What has God gifted you with in the here and now that you can't take with you? We all know the jokes about the guy who wanted to take his millions with him and made his wife promise that it all went in the casket with him (and she accommodated him by writing a check for that exact amount and burying him with it!).

Take a moment and consider how you could give a gift that keeps on giving to Gloria Dei. From the very beginning of the ministry of our Lord Jesus, the church has been dependent on the patronage and largess of believers just like you. The People of God have given to support the Body of Christ during their life and in their passing as well.

May this holy month of All Saints' keep you strong in the faith that there's much more to believe and hope for in God's future!

"The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever."

[1 John 2:17](#)

Pr Ed Barnett

## Lutheran Saint(s) of the month

Saint of the Month: St John Christian Frederick Heyer

**John Christian Frederick Heyer** (July 10, 1793 - November 7, 1873) was the first [missionary](#) sent abroad by [Lutherans](#) in the [United States](#). He founded the Guntur Mission in [Andhra Pradesh](#), [India](#). "Father Heyer" is commemorated as a missionary in the [Calendar of Saints](#) of the [Lutheran Church](#) on November 7.

Among of his many accomplishments...

- In 1829, he used his private funds, along with twenty two other stockholders (all Lutheran clergymen), to purchase the former Adams County Academy and form the Gettysburg Gymnasium, which would become [Gettysburg College](#) in 1832, at which time Heyer and his associates, through their private subscriptions, became the Patrons of Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg.<sup>[5]</sup> Heyer was also elected to the first Board of Trustees, and was an occasional instructor at the Gymnasium.
- He was the first pastor of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in [Pittsburgh](#), established in 1837, which was the earliest English-speaking Lutheran congregation west of the [Allegheny Mountains](#). He organized The First German Evangelical-Lutheran Congregation of Pittsburgh, a German-speaking congregation, one week later, on January 22, 1837. This parish was the mother of a great deal of Pittsburgh Lutheranism.

In his 80s(!) he famously told a gathering of the Ministerium that if no other people would volunteer to go to India, then he would. He did! Founding a great tradition of Lutheran churches in southern India. I have a good pastor friend in New York whose great grandfather was baptized by Fr Heyer in India. Recently my friend's daughter was ordained to the Holy Ministry as well. What a grand tradition. It all harkens back to congregations in this country that many of us know. What rich connections which span the globe.

To this day, the churches founded by Fr Heyer in India are strong and well. If you want to see the reverence with which they hold Heyer, view this very interesting worship music tribute to him on YouTube:

[Tribute to Fr Heyer || Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church || 180th Gospel Day Celebration Song|| - YouTube](#)

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Merle Moritz** died Monday, **October 2, 2023**. Our prayers and sympathy to Rita and her family. Funeral arrangements are not known at this time. Rita's address is: 130 Landing Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748.

**John Cleary** died Sunday, **October 8, 2023**. Our prayers and condolences to JoAn and her family. The funeral for John will be in Illinois, on Monday October 16th. JoAn's address is: 6007 Prince Harold Court, Leesburg, FL 34748.

## RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in October: Jerry Eld

## GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

### In honor of:

Happy Anniversary Jayne & Jim Gable

Granddaughter Zaya Jayde Holte's  
1<sup>st</sup> birthday.

70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

All Veterans

### In loving memory of:

My Family.

Merle Moritz, Rest in Peace, Semper Fi

Sal Luco

Joseph J. Kancel

Kenn & Marti Yance and

Jim & June Rieb/flowers

John & Arlene Kelly/flowers

Richard & Marilyn Czuprynski/flower

Ritch & Debbie Cassem/flowers

Dale Blass/flowers

Pat Bressler/memorials

Dianne Marcotte/Candle

Nancy & MaryJean Kancel/Wine

## PRAYERS

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

**11/5** Mary Lou Smith, Carol Snyder, Linda Steege,  
Hank Stennes, Michael Stewart

**11/12** Jeanne Talts, Jon & Marva Tetting, Ed Thompson,  
Loraine Van Haecke, Nancy Vogel

**11/19** Marilyn Wahl, Joel & Sharon Weinhardt, Celia Wollner,  
Kenn & Marti Yance, Chuck & Joy Yonko

**11/26** Art Zerbel, Nancy Almquist, Don & Helen Ames,  
Richard Anderson, Sue Anderson

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

11/03 Richard & Marilyn Czuprynski 69 years\*

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

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

|       |               |       |             |
|-------|---------------|-------|-------------|
| 11/01 | Jim Rieb      | 11/04 | John Kelly  |
| 11/10 | Craig Carlson | 11/11 | Andy Mincer |
| 11/18 | Dock Lias     | 11/27 | Lynn Crane  |

## Gloria Dei Women of the ELCA

The time is almost here for the SWO Fall Gathering at the Warren Willis United Methodist Conference Center located at 4991 Picciola Road in Fruitland Park. The weekend will begin on November 10 thru 12 with ladies of the Florida/Bahamas Synod. There will be new friends to meet and old friends to reconnect with. If you have not registered, check on line at [fwelca.com](http://fwelca.com) to register for the weekend or the day. There will be worship, fellowship, and workshops and always good food.

The WELCA Annual Christmas Luncheon will be on at 11:30 Thursday, December 7, at 11:30 at the Chesapeake Grill in Arlington Ridge hosted by Ruth Circle. There will be a sign-up sheet and all details available soon. All women are invited! This is always a fun time!!!

This is the time to reflect and give thanks to God for our many blessings!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO EVERYONE!

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

**Ruth Circle** – Next meeting will be Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE INVITED! Time for bible study, fellowship, plans for future projects.

**Mary-Martha Circle** – will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, November 14. 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 4<sup>th</sup> Friday which is November 24 at 9am. Please come and join us for fun & fellowship, its just not about tying.

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 3<sup>RD</sup>. 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.

## **EDUCATION-DEVELOPING DISCIPLES**

You are cordially invited to join our Bible study, More Women in the Old Testament.

We meet on Wednesdays, and starting November 1, the time is changing from 2:00 - 3:30 pm to 2:30 - 4:00 pm.

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.

Wednesday MID-DAY prayer at 1:00 pm will be changing to Tuesday MORNING PRAYER at 10:00 am starting November 14.

## **THANK YOU LETTERS**

On behalf of the staff at Gloria Dei, thank you all so very much for showing your appreciation with the beautiful luncheon celebration. It was wonderful and very thoughtful.

Thank you to all my church family who sent expressions of sympathy, comfort and support upon the recent death of my Mother Barbara Ryan. The kind words and prayers are appreciated.

Dianne Marcotte

Thank You's (cont'd)

Greetings, everyone! Boy, do I miss church. TV church just isn't the same. But I need to thank all the people who have been so good at keeping me connected! If I start naming them, I'd overlook someone and then feel horrible forever. Here they are - take all the ones that apply to you! Thanks for the positive emails and texts - the little "Hi - hope today is a good day!" does a LOT when you're sitting in bed waiting for your bones to knit back together. Thanks for the e-cards from several different companies - filled with music and laughter (mine) and brilliant visuals. Thanks for the emails, or the phone calls, that help me keep up with things that are going on. Thanks for the cards! Oh my! Between kind thoughts for my health and for my recent page turn in my Book of Years, there are cards everywhere. I love it - they are so colorful and instant decor! Some of you have written some beautiful messages, also, which I will treasure always. And thanks for the visits! I have no problem looking at Michael, but it has been great to break up the scenery with some different faces now and then. I can collect some hugs then, too, as well as find out what's going on in OTHER people's lives. All in all, thanks for being CHURCH to me, and for me. We hear it over and over - "It's the PEOPLE!" Thank you! cj Clarke

### **JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY**

On this beautiful early fall morning of October 13th over 40 dedicated volunteers from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, and from around our local community gathered to distribute 12,136 pounds of nutritious food to 719 individuals from 203 local families. We were truly fortunate that the previously forecasted rain and high winds disappeared, and instead the sun broke through the clouds that dispersed in front of a mild breeze. Our smiling volunteers cheerfully filled grocery bags with pistachios, hazelnuts, beef stew, canned fruit and vegetables, fresh peaches, raspberries, caramel apples, rice, mac & cheese, milk, cereal, lentils, peanut butter, jelly, canned soups and chicken & dumplings. Vehicles were loaded with bag after bag of free groceries as they drove through Gloria Dei's parking lot approximately every 50 seconds. This morning, the Lake County Health Department was on hand to administer free Flu and Covid vaccines for those wishing to receive them. Joining Hands in Food Ministry (JHIFM) is a certified 501(c)(3) public charity and an authorized partner agency of Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, and Farm Share.



## **JHIFM (cont'd)**

Our monthly free food distributions are always on the second Friday of every month from 8:30 AM until 10:30 AM at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 130 S. Lone Oak Drive in Leesburg. "LIKE" us at Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/ for monthly reminders of our free food distributions. JHIFM is an equal opportunity food provider and is a grant recipient of the Lake County Department of Human Services . Enjoy the photos of this morning's food distribution. Florida Department of Health (DOH), Lake County Florida , First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, FL, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church ELCA, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, Farm Share, Chevron, Thrivent, FedEx, Joining Hands in Food Ministry Leesburg, FL, Word Of Mouth.

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.

## FINANCIAL CORNER

### GENERAL FUND

|               | September, 2023 | Year to date 2023 |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Contributions | \$16,922.38     | \$146,850.72      |
| Expenditures  | \$26,248.63     | \$209,796.67      |

### RESTRICTED FUNDS

|                      | Beg. Bal.<br>1/1/2023 | Donations | Withdrawals | Ending Bal<br>9/30/2023 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 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                 | 983.01    | 671.94      | 324.58                  |
| JHIF                 | 0                     | 858.00    | 858.00      | 0                       |
| World Hunger         | 0                     | 1,198.00  | 1,198.00    | 0                       |
| Flowers              | 561.38                | 839.00    | 1,434.48    | (34.10)                 |
| ELCA                 | 0                     | 145.00    | 145.00      | 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                     | 420.00    | 420.00      | 0                       |
| Evangelism           | 780.00                | 257.00    | 60.00       | 977.00                  |
| Choir/music          | 550.00                | 0         | 0           | 550.00                  |
|                      |                       |           |             |                         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>        | 11,390.54             | 8,943.52  | 14,010.57   | 6,323.49                |

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

|               |                           |  |
|---------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Wed.</b>   | <b>11/1</b>               | <b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew)<br/>@ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room<br/>1:00 p.m. Mid-Day Prayers<br/>NO Developing Disciples Bible Study<br/>4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>        |
| <b>Thurs.</b> | <b>11/2</b>               | <b>1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle</b>   |
| <b>Fri.</b>   | <b>11/3</b>               | <b>9:00-12:30 Church Women United</b>  |
| <b>Sat.</b>   | <b>11/4</b>               | <b>9:00 a.m. Pancake Breakfast<br/>10:00-2:00 Saints &amp; Sinners Car Show<br/>11:00 a.m. Octoberfest Lunch &amp; Bingo</b>   |
| <b>Sun.</b>   | <b>11/5</b>               | <b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-All Saints Day/<br/>WELCA Thank Offering</b>   |
| <b>Mon.</b>   | <b>11/6</b>               | <b>7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostles' Creed) Zoom</b>  |
| <b>Tues.</b>  | <b>11/7</b>               | <b>10:00 a.m. WELCA Board Meeting</b>  |
| <b>Wed.</b>   | <b>11/8</b>               | <b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew)<br/>@ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room<br/>1:00 p.m. Mid-Day Prayers<br/>2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study<br/>4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b> |
| <b>Fri.</b>   | <b>11/10<br/>11/10-12</b> | <b>8:30-10:30 a.m. Joining Hands in Food Min.<br/>Women's Fall Gathering</b>   |
| <b>Sun.</b>   | <b>11/12</b>              | <b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>  |
| <b>Mon.</b>   | <b>11/13</b>              | <b>7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostles' Creed) Zoom</b>  |
| <b>Tues.</b>  | <b>11/14</b>              | <b>9:00 a.m. Mary Martha Circle/Quilting<br/>10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer<br/>5:00 p.m. GDC/1<sup>st</sup> Pres Hymn Sing/Potluck</b>   |
| <b>Wed.</b>   | <b>11/15</b>              | <b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew)<br/>@ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room<br/>2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study<br/>4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>                               |
| <b>Sat.</b>   | <b>11/18</b>              | <b>8:00-2:00 p.m. Church Yard Sale</b>   |

**Sun. 11/19 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering**  
**Mon. 11/20 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostle's Creed) Zoom**  
**Tues. 11/21 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer**  
**DECEMBER GLORION DEADLINE**  
**Wed. 11/22 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew)**  
**@ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room**  
**NO DEVELOPING DISCIPLES BIBLE STUDY**  
**4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal**  
**Thurs. 11/23 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

**Sun. 11/26 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship**  
**Mon. 11/27 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Apostle's Creed) Zoom**  
**Tues. 11/28 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer**  
**Wed. 11/29 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (book of Matthew)**  
**@ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room**  
**2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study**  
**4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal**  
**Thurs. 11/30 10:00 a.m. Eucharist**  
**10:30 a.m. Church Council Meeting**

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

# **Council Corner for November**

**By Bill Birdsall**

The Gloria Dei Council met in September as did the Executive Committee in October. At council we discussed the upcoming Healthcare Dinner, date not set yet, office dedication, the Web Page, a proposal by JHIFM to construct a new ramp into their shed, and the formation of a position for financial secretary.

It has been a while since I have written this article for the Glorian. In February I resigned my position as president to assume the position as treasurer after Linda Hide resigned from council and as treasurer. At that time Pastor Barnett took the president's position and decided that each council member would take a turn at writing the article. This month is my turn.

For me this has been a busy year for the council as we have been working on ways to bolster the size of our congregation as well as increasing participation of the members. We are encouraging new ideas for group activities as well as continue those activities that work well such as the pancake breakfast, potluck dinners, yard sales and the car show as well as faith related activities.

The council's vision of the relocation of the administration offices has been completed with minimal cost to the congregation and minimal effect on our budget. We thank those members who bore most of the costs of the project as well as the time and labor of a few volunteers.

The council has been closely monitoring the budget and particularly income and expenditures. We have been able to keep a lid on insurance increases and cut telephone costs as an example. But the reality is that we started the year knowing that our pledges do not meet our needs and therefore we are slowly spending more money than we take in. The church building does not maintain itself and there are doors to replace, rain gutters to replace, rotten wood trim and the need to paint. The financial committee will be meeting soon to discuss how we will meet these needs. None of this work can be done by volunteers.

In closing we feel confident that with the council commitments and guidance from the financial committee we will find solutions to meet these needs in the future. Peace

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

### Assistant Ministers

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

**9:30 a.m.**

|              |   |              |  |
|--------------|---|--------------|--|
| <b>11/5</b>  | R=Vaike O'Grady<br>+=Leone Goding<br>C=<br>A=Arlene Kelly | <b>11/12</b> | R=MaryJean Kancel<br>+=James Menchaca<br>C=<br>A=Patricia Bressler |
| <b>11/19</b> | R=Steve Cranmer<br>+=Leone Goding<br>C=<br>A=Arlene Kelly | <b>11/26</b> | R=Linda Hide<br>+=Julian Menchaca<br>C=<br>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.**

|              |   |              |   |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| <b>11/5</b>  | Crystal Kirkpatrick<br>Byron Kirkpatrick<br>Craig Carlson<br>John Kelly | <b>11/12</b> | Crystal Kirkpatrick<br>Byron Kirkpatrick<br>Craig Carlson<br>John Kelly |
| <b>11/19</b> | Crystal Kirkpatrick<br>Byron Kirkpatrick<br>Craig Carlson<br>John Kelly | <b>11/26</b> | Crystal Kirkpatrick<br>Byron Kirkpatrick<br>Craig Carlson<br>John Kelly |

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

**Post Worship Secretary for November:** Maureen Skurecki

### **Greeters for November:**

**11/5**

**11/12** Bill & Loraine Van Haecke

**11/19** Chuck & Joy Yonko

**11/26**

**Fellowship**

**11/5** Bill & Kathleen Birdsall

**11/12** Dick & Bev Healy

**11/19**

**11/26**

**Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.**

**11/5** Jeanne Talts

**11/12** John & Janet Braun

**11/19** Arlene Kelly

**11/26** Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly

## **Stewardship**

Psalm 24 1 A Psalm by David. The earth is Yahweh's, with it's fullness, the world and those who dwell in it.

What does Year Round Stewardship program look like?

In 2024 Gloria Dei church will move into year round stewardship. Traditionally you may have heard the word Stewardship used in the Fall to explain the annual program of making and collecting pledges of money to be used in support of the church. That may have been the only time you thought about stewardship and the need for stewardship.

There are many examples of good stewardship in the stories of the bible. Stewardship and generosity are mentioned over 2,000 times in the bible. We are called to Steward all of what we have been given. In a year round program you will hear words like generosity, gratitude, accountability and responsibility. Most importantly you will hear stories. An important part of being good stewards is the telling of stories. That is how we learn, grow and express our faith through the telling of these stories.

Each month of the year will put a spot light on different types of stewardship and how we can be good stewards. The plan is to have a once-a-month temple talk. Don't worry only about three minutes long! There will be an article each month in the Glorion. There may be video's or music at some point in year. Please consider telling a story that you may know which contains stewardship words and actions. You can do this by speaking at temple talk or writing an article for Glorion.

If you have any questions, please see Linda, Arlene or Dianne for more information.



**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.**

### **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   | Bill Birdsall              | 732-773-2680 |
| Financial Secretary                                 | Janet Braun                | 412-445-7774 |
| 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<br>& Communications/Webmaster | Bill Birdsall              | 732-773-2680 |
| Christian Education                                 | Linda Steege               | 815-222-6195 |
| Mission Endowment                                   |                            |              |

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

|  |                     |              |
|--|---------------------|--------------|
| Worship & Music                                      | Crystal Kirkpatrick | 352-552-3983 |
| Evangelism/Technology/<br>& Communications/Webmaster | Bill Birdsall       | 732-773-2680 |
| 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 |

