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# GLORIA DEI

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

**THE GLORION**

**FEBRUARY 2024**

[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**



February, 2024

In the rush of the New Year, I overlooked thanking everyone for all the wonderful and generous Xmas gifts and cards. My sincere apologies. The love from you that I felt this past Christmas overwhelmed me with joy. It's amazing I'm recalling Christmas here in February. What's even more amazing is the speed with which this year is rushing upon us. Lent is coming early this year. It's SO early that Ash Wednesday occurs on Valentines Day this year!

Today, Lent is a hard sell in many respects. We don't want to be reminded of our mortality (Ash Wednesday) or our need for constant conversion from sin (the rest of the weeks of Lent). We'll never see many TV commercials inviting us to forsake ourselves and our sinful ways. So let me do my best to advertise Lent for us: For Christians, the only way to true life IS to forsake ourselves and take up our crosses. This is done through daily repentance of course, but in Lent we set aside special times to reflect deeper and let God work on us more intensely. I invite you to keep a holy Lent as best you're able.

Pr Ed Barnett

January 15th, 2020

U.S.—A new study performed by LifeWay Research found that the Bible supports your political views entirely.

"Our study confirmed that every last verse of the Bible affirms every personal opinion you have about politics," said the head researcher, Dr. Bob Oppenheimer.

"Even the ones that seem to contradict you -- if you study harder and do a few backflips, even these ones are excellent prooftexts for your beliefs about modern politics."

Researchers combed through the Bible but could not find a single verse that contradicts anything you believe politically.

From your opinions on gun control and immigration to your hot takes on foreign policy and your well-informed viewpoint on trade deals, every single inch of the Bible affirms every position you take on politics. "It's really quite incredible: you're perfectly right on everything, and the Bible will never challenge or contradict you.

Your political viewpoints are special, beautiful, and perfect, just the way they are."

The study also found that your theology is more correct than the Bible's.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

Arlene Kelly's mother, Marlene Lampman, died Monday, January 22, 2024. Our condolences to the Kelly and Lampman Families. There will be a Celebration of Life sometime in the future. The Kelly's address: 33 S. Bobwhite Road, Wildwood, FL 34785.

## RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in January:

## GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

### In loving memory of:

In loving memory of our spouses                      Fred & Marlene Farris/Jan. Wine  
and family.

Marlene Lampman, mother of                      Pat Bressler/JHIFM, Memorials  
Arlene Kelly, Resting in peace, Love Never Ends.

Marlene Lampman                                      Mary Beth Morris/JHIFM, Mem.

### In honor of:

Christine Carlson & friends and                      Craig Carlson/Flowers  
family.

Marti Yance's birthday, 2/18                      June Rieb/Flowers  
and Taeko Mincer's birthday, 2/20

## Update on Sandy Retz

Sandy Retz has moved. Her new address is: 51760 Gratiot Avenue, Storeypoint Chesterfield, Apt 7, New Baltimore, MI 48051.

## PRAYERS

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

**2/4**     Martin & Martha Holleran, Lorraine Hughes, Mary Humphreys,  
Irvin & Sue Johnson, Nancy & MaryJean Kancel

**2/11**    Shirley Kelley, John & Arlene Kelly, Mary Kelp, Bess King, Bernadine Kirkpatrick

**2/18**    Byron & Crystal Kirkpatrick, Ray & Roseanne Knudsen, Sandy Kolb, Jane Kunde, Helga La Cava

**2/25**    Dock & Barb Lias, Judy Lorenz, Sylvia Mackey, Gail Madson, Don & Cindy Manfre

## **FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

02/02	Ted & Dorothy Baehmann	67 years*
02/14	Joel & Sharon Weinhardt	35 years

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

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

02/02	Bill Birdsall	02/03	Gerry Haller
02/11	Marilyn Czuprynski	02/11	Joel Weinhardt
02/18	Ellen Clement	02/18	Marti Yance
02/20	Taeko Mincer	02/25	Ralph Hallberg
02/26	Maureen Skurecki		

## **THANK YOU LETTERS**

I want to thank you all for the many birthday cards and wishes. I also want to thank Leone and the quilters for the surprise party for my birthday! I am blessed to be a part of Gloria Dei. Bess King

Thank you so much for the bountiful bowl of Christmas goodies. It was very appreciated along with the lovely quilt. Happy New Year to all of you. Mary Kelp

Dear Gloria Dei Women's Group,  
Thank you so much for the Christmas Fruit & Goodie Basket & warm quilt. It was greatly appreciated.

God Bless, Donna Smith

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

The WELCA Board met on January 2, 2024. We opened our meeting with our Purpose Statement:

**AS A COMMUNITY OF WOMEN CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP IN JESUS CHRIST AND EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO GROW IN FAITH AFFIRM OUR GIFTS SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER IN OUR CALLINGS, ENGAGE IN MINISTRY AND ACTION AND PROMOTE HEALING AND WHOLENESS IN THE CHURCH, THE SOCIETY AND THE WORLD.**

Several of our ladies attended Church Women United at St. Stephens A.M.E Church in Leesburg celebrating Human Rights Day. The offerings from the Human Rights Day Celebration will be sent to National CWU to support the work of the CWU National movement. World Day of Prayer will be held at St. Phillips in Mt. Dora on march the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mary/Martha Circle and the Quilters are hoping to have 75 quilts for Lutheran World Relief and Ruth Circle will have 61 personal care kits. All items will be blessed on February 4<sup>th</sup> and packed and get on their way to help people in need. The quilts will be displayed on the pews on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Both circles are using the Gather magazine for their Bible Study.

The Heart of Florida Conference is planning our Spring Gathering on February 17<sup>th</sup> at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Winter Park. We are invited to come and bring our ideas. The Spring Gathering will be on April 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Stephens in Longwood. All women of the church are invited.

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, Shrove Day, and Pancake Supper, then beginning on February 21<sup>st</sup> we begin our soup suppers on Wednesday evenings through March 20. The Spring Fashion and Salad Luncheon is coming up on April 16. Watch Sunday bulletins and The Glorian for details on the happenings at Gloria Dei.

Blessings to all.

Lorraine Van Haecke Leader

**Ruth Circle**– Next meeting on Thursday, Feb 1, 2024. **PLEASE NOTE NEW MEETING TIME OF 10:30 AM.** Loraine will lead bible study.  
Dianne will provide snacks. Dianne Marcotte

**Mary-Martha Circle**-will meet on the 2nd Tuesday, February 13. 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 February 23 at 9am. Please come and join us for fun & fellowship.

We will have a big send off for the quilts on Monday, February 5th but we must put them on the pews on Friday, February 2nd for QUILT SUNDAY on the 4th. We hope to have about 100 of them. Please join us as we try to make those less fortunate than we are a little warmer.

Carol Marshall, Leader Phone 352-787-0435.

## QUILTING

We want to thank the ladies for sewing all those wonderful tops for us. Please continue to do so and look for your tops when they are laid on the pews Sunday, February 4th. We still continue to need them, any questions please see Leone or Jacki Goding.

## EDUCATION-BIBLE STUDIES

You are cordially invited to join our Bible study. We meet on Wednesdays from 2:30 -4:00 pm at church. This month, we will continue more Women in the Bible. 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.

Mary Kelpé hosts a bible study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ Lake Port Square on Wednesdays @ 10:00 a.m. in the card room at 821 Lake Port Blvd. Feel free to join the group!

There is also a bible study on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. by zoom. If you would like to attend, please email Pastor Barnett at [egbarnett@hotmail.com](mailto:egbarnett@hotmail.com) or Mary Beth Morris at [gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com](mailto:gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com) and one of us will send you the link.



**NEW MEMBERS  
JANUARY 7, 2024**

**Ellen Clement** (full)  
427 Palo Verde Dr  
Leesburg 34748  
207-852-5830

**Ernest & MaryJane DeBarr** (seasonal)  
6608 Mohawk Trail  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
231-832-4346 (Ernest)  
269-377-2915 (MaryJane)

**Don & Cindy Manfre** (full)  
32705 Timberwood Drive  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
352-321-4050-Don  
352-531-8934-Cindy

**Lillian Ostrander** (seasonal)  
4514 Antietam Creek Trail  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
973-670-7318

**Bob Pierce & Susan Stack**(full)  
633 Misti Drive  
Leesburg, FL 34788  
615-444-4321 (Bob)  
615-444-5115 (Susan)

**Shirley Kelley** (full)  
1314 Apache Circle  
Tavares, FL 32778

**Susan Veraska** (full)  
800 Lake Port Blvd., C-306  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
352-255-0550

**Allen & Paula Francis** (seasonal)  
30032 Green Bay Drive  
Tavares, FL 32778  
614-565-1844 (Paula)

**Joel & Sharon Weinhardt** (associate to full)  
4954 Tara View  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
330-936-8451 (Joel)  
330-327-6223 (Sharon)

## **JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY**

Thank you to the nearly 50 volunteers from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, and from around our local community who joined hands this rainy morning on January 12 in Leesburg, Florida to distribute 12,590 pounds of nutritious food to 804 individuals from 211 families in need. Joining Hands in Food Ministry would like to thank the following organizations for their financial support:

FedEx Corporation (FedEx Cares)  
Chevron Corporation  
Thrivent Financial  
Lake County, Florida Dept of Human Resources  
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church  
First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg

Richard. Cassem  
Joining Hands in Food Ministry Chief Operating Officer

## **JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY**

In keeping with Super Bowl theme, please donate soup of any kind. Collecting between Jan 21 and Feb 11th". Please put your donations in the Narthex on the shelf. Thank you for your support.

**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 live generously. Approved action teams receive promotional resources and seed money to jump start your fundraiser, educational event or service project. 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 purchase needed supplies for your event.

You can become a member by purchasing a 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 instead. Your \$19.95 will then allow JHIFM to purchase \$250 of food.

Members of Gloria Dei who are familiar with Thrivent Action Teams are available to help guide you through the very easy application process. If you have further questions or you need directions of how to apply. Please contact Dianne Marcotte [djrm718@gmail.com](mailto:djrm718@gmail.com) or 352-933-5517

## FINANCIAL CORNER

<b>2023 Restricted Funds</b>				
	Beg 1/1/23	Donations	Expenditures	Ending 12/31/23
Elementary School	160.59	50.00	195.90	14.69
Oak Park Middle	-	-	-	-
Thrivent Choice \$	3,683.76	663.00	2,097.42	2,249.34
	282.51	-	282.51	-
Eternal Light	600.00	65.00	-	665.00
Fellowship	13.51	1,397.01	905.54	504.98
JHIF	-	1,143.00	1,143.00	-
World Hunger	-	1,275.00	1,275.00	-
Flowers	561.38	1,400.00	1,434.48	526.90
ELCA	-	185.00	185.00	-
Altar wine/bread	25.02	171.00	-	196.02
AV Equipment	4,733.77	2,000.00	6,595.44	138.33
First Impressions Fund	-	2,547.51	116.88	2,430.63
Disaster Relief	-	420.00	420.00	-
Evangelism	780.00	778.00	435.00	1,123.00
Choir/Music	550.00	-	-	550.00
	11,390.54	12,094.52	15,086.17	8,398.89

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>2/1</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. Ruth Circle</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>2/4</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Quilt Blessing</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>2/5</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>2/6</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. WELCA Board meeting</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</b> <b>11:00 a.m. Scheduling Meeting</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/7</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room</b> <b>NO Developing Disciples Bible Study</b> <b>NO Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>2/8</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Impressions Meeting</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>2/9</b>	<b>8:30-10:30 a.m. Joining Hands in Food Min.</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>2/11</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>2/12</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>2/13</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Mary Martha Circle/Quilting</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</b> <b>4:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/14</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room</b> <b>2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study</b> <b>4:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service</b> <b>4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>2/18</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>2/19</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>2/20</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/21</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room</b> <b>2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study</b> <b>4:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers/Soup Sup-Ruth Cir.</b> <b>5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>2/22</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Finance Meeting</b> <b>10:30 a.m. Lake Port Square Eucharist</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>2/23</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Mission Quilting</b>

<b>Sun.</b>	<b>2/25</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>2/26</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>2/27</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/28</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Bible Study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room</b>
		<b>2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study</b>
		<b>4:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers/Soup Sup-Council</b>
		<b>5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>2/29</b>	<b>5:00 p.m. Eucharist/Council Meeting</b>

## **Council Corner for February**

### **By Loraine Van Haecke, Vice President**

The Gloria Dei Council Executive Committee met on January 16<sup>th</sup> and the Council met by zoom on the 18<sup>th</sup> and again on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the church. The focus was mainly on the budget and our annual meeting.

The Epiphany Service and the reception afterwards was attended by 26 parishioners. The Stewardship Luncheon was well attended with 80 attending and 41 units turning in their pledges. Dianne Marcotte and her helpers did a great job!

Thanks.

We have Shrove Tuesday coming on February 13<sup>th</sup> with a Pancake Supper after the service. On February 21<sup>st</sup> our Soup Suppers begin. Plan to join us.

Pastor has been working on the website video. This will be recorded with MaryJean Kancel doing the video. Pastor presented a script to the council for review. This is a work in process. The Elderly Health Care Potluck will be scheduled later. It is our hope to get the Small Groups started during Lent. The Pastor is working on getting this started.

There are many opportunities for all of us to volunteer a little bit of time. Such as: Communion Assistants, Crucifers, Readers, Altar Guild, Ushers, Greeters, Fellowship at Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings, WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Church), Quilting, Bible Study and more. There is a place for everyone!

I have been blessed to serve on the Council for this past year with our current council and looking forward to working with the Pastor and our new council.

## **FEBRUARY WORSHIP LEADERS**

### **Assistant Ministers**

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

#### **9:30 a.m.**

<b>2/4</b>	R=Quiana Menchaca +=James Menchaca C= A=Vaikke O'Grady	<b>2/11</b>	R=Steve Cranmer +=Julian Menchaca C= A=Pat Bressler
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#### **2/14 Ash Wed @ 4:00 p.m.**

R=Linda Steege  
+=Leone Goding  
C=  
A=Pat Bressler

<b>2/18</b>	R=MaryJean Kancel +=Leone Goding C= A=Ellen Clement	<b>2/25</b>	R=Vaikke O'Grady +=Leone Goding C= A=Ellen Clement
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### **Ushers**

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

#### **9:30 a.m.**

<b>2/4</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly	<b>2/11</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly
<b>2/18</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly	<b>2/25</b>	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly

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

**Post Worship Secretary for February:** Julie Eld

**Greeter for February:**

**2/4** Sandy Kolb & Bess King

**2/11** Sandy Kolb & Bess King

**2/18**

**2/25**

**Fellowship**

**2/4**

**2/11** Chuck & Joy Yonko

**2/18**

**2/25**

**Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.**

**2/4** Jeanne Talts

**2/11** John & Janet Braun

**2/18** Arlene Kelly

**2/25** Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly

## **2024 First Impressions Task Force Report Meeting Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 10 AM**

In Attendance: Kathleen Birdsall, Linda Steege, & Pat Bressler

Absent: Crystal Kirkpatrick, Arlene Kelly, Elizabeth Sanguedolce

We opened our meeting with a word of prayer.

Our goal was to discuss vender quotes on the various areas of the church that need repair, upgrades and/or maintenance. The recent holiday season did not lend itself to very many of those quotes coming forth. We will continue to work with our vendors to get the rest of the quotes in a timely manner.

Below are a list of the areas that we are looking into.

- Rot – Portico ceiling, five wooden columns on front & side of building.
- Rust – Five metal doors on sides & back of building, handrails.
- Upgrade roof gutters (can't handle the heavier rains & are residential not commercial as code requires)
- Electrical in Nave – Ballasts are burning out, need to be replaced. The sanctuary above altar, light bulbs burned out & tile pieces ready to fall needs to be addressed.
- Painting the outside of the building and the walls in nave and sanctuary.
- Upgrade - flooring in the sanctuary (area around the altar & choir)

The electrician will be in January 25<sup>th</sup> to look over the problems in the sanctuary.

Next meeting is set for February 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Birdsall, Chair



**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.**

**2024 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pastor/President	The Rev. Edward G. Barnett	516-610-6676
Vice President	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692
Secretary	Vaike O'Grady	512-827-6344
Treasurer	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Financial Secretary	Janet Braun	412-445-7774
Fellowship	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692
Property	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Worship & Music		
Evangelism/Technology/ & Communications/Webmaster	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Christian Education	Christine Carlson	516-458-7355
Finance		
	John Braun	412-926-3381
	Don Manfre	352-321-4050
	Joel Weinhardt	330-936-8451

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Worship & Music		
Evangelism/Technology/ & Communications/Webmaster	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Property	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Fellowship	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692
Stewardship	Dianne Marcotte	508-723-2073
WELCA	Loraine Van Haecke	407-252-4692

