



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

THE GLORION

MARCH 2024

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



March, 2024

Happy Lent! I'm not sure I should wish anyone a happy Lent due to its general tone and feel. But Lent is always a good time because we're working on our spiritual lives (or at least supposed to be working on our spiritual lives), and most importantly, God is doing a work on and in us!

My Lent is a bit different this year. I'm turning 60! On March 21st I will commence my 61st year here on God's green earth. My plans for celebration involve attending a gathering for family and friends in DC on the 22nd. For my Gloria Dei and Florida friends, we're planning a Dutch treat luncheon at the Rose Plantation on Thursday, 4 April at 1:30 p.m. Hopefully you will be able to join me then. It will be a much better celebration in Easter time, than in dreary old Lent!

I'm so happy to be able to be with you and share the joys of the Gospel. God has given us time, this time. May we continue our journey to God with one another.

Pr Ed Barnett

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Ray Kirkpatrick, Byron Kirpatrick's brother, died Tuesday, February 13, 2024 in Pennsylvania. Our condolences and prayers to Byron and Crystal and the Kirkpatrick family at this difficult time. Byron & Crystal's address is: 250 Lilac Drive, Fruitland Park, FL 34731.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in February: Richard Czuprynski, Marlene Farris.

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

In loving memory of:

Allen, Emma & Helen Weber
Doug, Always In My Heart

Nancy & MaryJean Kancel/March Candle
Pat Bressler/March Candle

In honor of:

Our children & grandchildren.
Congratulations to Susan &
Hank Stennes.

Chuck & Joy Yonko/March Wine
Pat Bressler/First Impressions-Bldg.

PRAYERS

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

- 3/3** Dianne & Dennis Marcotte, Carol Marshall, Evelyn Matthes,
James, Quiana & Julian Menchaca, Andy & Taeko Mincer
- 3/10** Rita Moritz, Gloria Moulton, Gladys Mull,
Brian & Karen Mundy, Vaike O'Grady
- 3/17** Lillian Ostrander, Bob Pierce & Susan Stack, Sandy Retz,
Jim & June Rieb, Ron Riikonen
- 3/24** Madalon Ritter, Elizabeth Sanguedolce, Alberta Siepiela,
Lillian Skilbred, Maureen Skurecki
- 3/31** Donna Smith, Linda Steege, Hank Stennes & Susan Veraska,
Jeanne Talts, Jon & Marva Tetting

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

03/03	Irvin & Susan Johnson	41 years
03/08	Jim & June Rieb	55 years*
03/09	Byron & Crystal Kirkpatrick	31 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

Church Women United will be having World Day of Prayer at St. Phillips in Mt Dora on March 1st. beginning with snacks at 9:30 and the program to begin at 10:00 am. All women of the church are invited.

Four of our ladies attended the planning meeting for the Heart of Florida SWO Spring Gathering. This was hosted by Redeemer Lutheran Church in Winter Park. The Spring Gathering will be at St. Stephens Lutheran Church, 2140 W. SR 434, Longwood on April 20th. All women of the church are invited. We will carpool from Gloria Dei. More details will follow soon.

Our Spring Fashion Show Salad Luncheon will be on April 16th. Maxine from Fashion Labels will present fashions from her shop modeled by some of our own ladies. Our speaker for the day is from Angel Flights that provides free flights for sick children to needed hospitals.

Remember to SAVE THE DATE, November 8 – 10, 2024 for the SWO Fall Gathering. It will be at the Warren Willis United Methodist Center in Fruitland Park. The theme for the weekend is “Peace, do not be anxious.” Philippians 4:6-7. More information will be coming soon.

Last but not the least! Thanks to the many hands that helped with the Quilts, Baby Care Kits, Personal Care Kits, and the School Kits. From our Synod there were 5,739 quilts, 303 Baby Care Kits, 82 Fabric Kits, 1,382 Personal Care Kits, 2,361 School Kits, 1,473 Boxes for a total of 29,016 Pounds. Gloria Dei had 76 quilts (that were displayed on our pews on February 4), 17 Baby Care Kits, 74 Personal Care Kits, 96 School Kits, 43 Boxes and 715 Total Pounds. And many thanks to all of you that contributed to the shipping cost. Your generous contributions were \$460.00. All of this could not have been done without all of you!!!!

We would love to have you join us in our monthly meetings for Bible Study and Fellowship.

Lorraine Van Haecke, Leader
Cell: 407-252-4692
Home: 352-787-1407
Lorraine.vanhaecke@gmail.comoraine

Ruth Circle–

Lenten project for 2024. Items needed for Lutheran World Relief personal care kits will be collected between Feb 14th and March 31. There is a chart on wall of Fellowship hall if you would like to see where personal care kits were sent in 2023. Please consider donating any of the following items:

Bath Towel "between 20"X40" and 52"X27".

Light or Medium weight. Dark color recommended.

Bars of Soap (Please no mini hotel soaps, these can be donated to Haven House if you have them).

Adult-size Individually wrapped toothbrush in original packaging.

Sturdy Comb.

Metal nail clippers.

There will be a box in Narthex to collect donated items.

Next Ruth Circle meeting: Thursday March 7th at 10:30 am

Mary-Martha Circle-will meet on the 2nd Tuesday, March 12. We will start our Mission Quilting at 9:00 AM and have a break at 10:30. Bible Study at 11:00 will be out of the Gather Magazine. We will have copies of the lesson for anyone who needs one. We will also be Mission Quilting on the 4th Friday which is March 22 at 9:00 am. Please come and join us for fun & fellowship.

Carol Marshall, Leader Phone 352-787-0435.

EDUCATION-DEVELOPING DISCIPLES

You are cordially invited to join our Bible study. We meet on Wednesdays from 2:30 -4:00 pm at church. During March, we will study Women with Jesus at the cross. 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

THHHHHHAAAAANNNNNNK YOOOOOOOOUUUUUUU to the 47 volunteers from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, and from around our local community who joined hands on February 9 to distribute 10,003 pounds of nutritious food to 700 individuals from 196 families in need. It was a beautiful morning and our volunteers worked hard with joy in their hearts and smiles on their faces. Our next free food distribution will be on Friday, March 8th at 130 South Lone Oak Drive in Leesburg. Mark your calendars! Also, I posted 47 photos of this morning's food distribution that you can see at [Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/](https://www.facebook.com/feedinghopenow/). Be sure to "LIKE" and "FOLLOW" us on Facebook to receive monthly reminders of Joining Hands in Food Ministry's free food distributions.

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.

THRIVENT BENEFIT ALERT- If you own a Thrivent product and are eligible to vote for "Choice Dollars" please use vote now. This session closes on **March 31**. Both **Gloria Dei** and **Joining Hands in Food Ministry** have used these dollars to support its programs in the past. This is a great way to provide needed funds.

MARCH CALENDAR

Sun.	3/3	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Lent3
Mon.	3/4	7:00 p.m. Bible study Zoom
Tues.	3/5	10:00 a.m. WELCA Board meeting 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 11:30 a.m. Scheduling Meeting
Wed.	3/6	10:00 a.m. Bible Study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers/Soup Supper NO Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	3/7	10:30 a.m. Ruth Circle
Fri.	3/8	8:30-10:30 a.m. Joining Hands in Food Min.
Sun.	3/10	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Lent4
Mon.	3/11	NO Bible Study Zoom
Tues.	3/12	9:00 a.m. Mary Martha Circle/Quilting 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Wed.	3/13	10:00 a.m. Bible Study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers/Soup Supper 5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	3/14	10:00 a.m. 1st Impressions Task Force Meeting
Sun.	3/17	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Lent5-Hunger Off. Stewardship Temple Talk by Linda Steege
Mon.	3/18	7:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom
Tues.	3/19	10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Wed.	3/20	10:00 a.m. Bible Study “Christ: The Theme of the Bible” @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 2:30 p.m. Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers/Soup Supper 5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	3/21	10:00 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting
Fri.	3/22	9:00 a.m. Mission Quilting

Sun.	3/24	9:30 a.m. Passion/Palm Sunday Worship
Mon.	3/25	12:00 noon Eucharist Service-Holy Week 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom
Tues.	3/26	10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:00 noon Eucharist Service-Holy Week
Wed.	3/27	10:00 a.m. Bible Study "Christ: The Theme of the Bible" @ 821 Lake Port Blvd. card room 12:00 noon Eucharist Service-Holy Week NO Developing Disciples Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	3/28	4:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service
Fri.	3/29	4:00 a.m. Good Friday Service
Sun.	3/31	9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship

FINANCIAL CORNER

GENERAL FUND

	January, 2024	Year to date 2024
Contributions	\$17,293.62	\$17,293.62
Expenditures	\$20,061.74	\$20,061.74

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Beg. Bal. 1/1/2024	Donations	Withdrawals	Ending Bal 1/31/24
Elementary School	14.69	0	0	14.69
Oak Park Middle	0	0	0	0
Thrivent Choice \$\$	2,249.34	60.00	1,042.89	1,266.45
Eternal Light	665.00	0	0	665.00
Fellowship	504.98	130.00	78.08	556.90
JHIFM	0	10.00	10.00	0
World Hunger	0	22.00	22.00	0
Flowers	526.90	56.00	311.91	270.99
ELCA	0	15.00	15.00	0
Altar wine/bread	196.02	0	0	196.02
AV Equipment	138.33	0	0	138.33
First Impressions	2,430.63	0	1,050.00	1,380.63
Evangelism	1,123.00	0	0	1,123.00
Choir/music	550.00	0	0	550.00
TOTALS	8,398.89	9,935.52	14,423.17	6,162.01

2024 First Impressions Task Force Report
Meeting Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 10 AM

In Attendance: Kathleen Birdsall, Linda Steege, Pat Bressler & Crystal Kirkpatrick. Absent: Arlene Kelly Resigned: Elizabeth Sanguedolce

We opened our meeting with a word of prayer.

Our goal is to gather quotes on the various needed repairs, upgrades and/or maintenance that need to be addressed to maintain the integrity of our building. To date we have received two proposals, one for the rotted wood and rusted outdoors on the outside of the building from Corban Construction. A second proposal from Larry's Gutters to upgrade to commercial as code requires.

When First Impressions has received all proposals, the committee will prepare a recommendation to the council and council will discuss then pass the findings on to the congregation.

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

- Rot – Portico ceiling, columns on front & side of building.
- Rust – Metal doors on sides & back of building, and handrails.
- Upgrade roof gutters (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)

Has anyone noticed the buzz is gone in the sanctuary ? The 35 year old ballast in two lights were replaced. The rest of the lights will start going one by one and it will be cheaper to replace them with LED's than pay for the labor of all the ballast replacements.

Next meeting is set for March 14th at 10:00 am.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Birdsall, Chair

MARCH WORSHIP LEADERS

Assistant Ministers

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

9:30 a.m.

3/3	R=Steve Cranmer +=James Menchaca C= A=Vaike O'Grady	3/10	R=Jim Gable +=Vaike O'Grady C= A=Pat Bressler
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3/17	R=Linda Hide +=Julian Menchaca C= A=Ellen Clement	3/24	R=Vaike O'Grady +=Leone Goding C= A=Pat Bressler
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3/28 4:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday	3/29 4:00 p.m. Good Friday
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R=MaryJean Kancel +=Leone Goding C= A=	R= +=Leone Goding C= A=
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3/31	Easter Sunday	R=MaryJean Kancel +=James Menchaca 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.

3/3	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly	3/10	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly
3/17	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly	3/24	Crystal Kirkpatrick Byron Kirkpatrick Craig Carlson John Kelly

3/28 Crystal Kirkpatrick
Byron Kirkpatrick
Craig Carlson
John Kelly

3/29 Crystal Kirkpatrick
Byron Kirkpatrick
Craig Carlson
John Kelly

3/31 Crystal Kirkpatrick
Byron Kirkpatrick
Craig Carlson
John Kelly

Altar Guild for March: Mary Grissom & Lillian Ostrander

Post Worship Secretary for March: Carol Marshall

Greeter for March:

3/3
3/10
3/17
3/24
3/31

Fellowship

3/3
3/10
3/17 Dianne Marcotte & Madalon Ritter
3/24 Debbie Cassem & Arlene Kelly
3/31

Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

3/3 Jeanne Talts
3/10 John & Janet Braun
3/17 Arlene Kelly
3/24 Madalon Ritter & Arlene Kelly
3/31

Stewardship

What Are Your Gifts?

Do you realize that stewardship starts with God and ends with people other than you?

God has entrusted to each of us certain gifts with the intention of us sharing those gifts. The gifts that we receive daily are too numerous to list and are to be used in celebration to the glory of God. Some of us are able to speak in public without embarrassment. Some of us were blessed with musical ability. Some of us are very knowledgeable in certain fields. These are just three of the many gifts that God has given to us to share with others, and Gloria Dei is blessed to have members in all those categories, and SO MANY MORE!

We have many hymns regarding stewardship, my favorite being “We Give Thee but Thine Own”. I encourage all my fellow congregants to read the words to this hymn, or any of the others that deal with stewardship, and search YOUR heart to make sure that YOU are being a good steward of God’s wonderful gifts to YOU.

Peace,

Arlene Kelly

**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.

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

