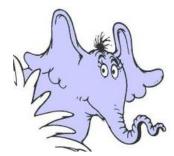
The Elephant In The Room



(A problem or difficult issue that is obviously present but avoided as a subject for discussion because it is more comfortable to do so.)

Now that Horton has been in worship with us for a couple of Sundays, we have at least identified the "problem or difficult issue" we are facing – your pastor is retiring. We have learned

how to deal directly with such "elephants." We acknowledge them, name them, and talk about them. As we approach the time of my leaving, we will prepare a "good good-bye" that will lead to a "good hello" – a good beginning.

Leavings and good-byes are a journey of loss (as is any change) that cause many conflicting feelings. The important thing for any journey is planning. The Synod has a process for one pastor leaving and another pastor coming. The important thing for you is to take the journey prepared, which often is not the shortest route.

Roy Oswald: "When I was a young boy, my brothers and I would often decide to walk home from school over the fields, rather than along the road. It was shorter, but we would come upon enormous thistle patches. We rarely wore shoes to school so we had to cross those thistle patches in bare feet. We did have the choice of taking the road and walking around the thistles. But it was the end of the day and we were all tired, hungry, and anxious to get home to the snack our mother had for us. And so, we would choose the shortcut. We'd back up and run through the narrowest part at full speed in bare feet across prickly thistles, yelping in pain all the way. When we reached the other side, we would immediately hit the dirt and start pulling out the thistles that stuck in our feet. "I have four - how many did you get?" was our post agony conversation."

"How often we try to handle the pain of loss by trying to get through it as fast as possible because we are so anxious to get there; to get past the pain. But there is a price to pay. We always end up with briars in our feet on the other side - powerful unexpressed emotions that continue to live with us unexpressed. They are like painful thistles that have to be pulled out to avoid infection. The more imbedded they become, the more painful they are to get out. Repressed emotions are often expressed in unexpected hurtful ways, demanding to be dealt with, making moving on to a new beginning difficult."

The suggested route is often the longer way. But when we arrive, we won't have the thistles of unexpressed repressed emotions to deal with. We will be ready for something new. My best pastoral advice is 1. express your feelings and ask your questions with one another, with me, or a council member; 2. take the Synod's suggested route. God will be with you every step of the way. So let us begin in the midst of tears and laughter by learning to say a good good-bye, because as I tell every grieving family, your laughter in the midst of your tears is the sign of new beginnings in the midst of endings; of new life in the midst of death.

Pastor Marilyn



Harold Childers died in **December**, **2018**. If we get any more information, we will pass it along. Our prayers and condolences to the Childers family.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members and friends hospitalized and/or surgery in January: Janice Galloway, Andy Talts

Please note: When being admitted to the hospital, please indicate "Lutheran" or "Gloria Dei" when asked about your religion. It helps our hospital ambassadors know who is hospitalized so that visitation can be arranged.

GIFTS OF REMEMBRANCE

In loving memory of:

Tony Schmitz Tony Schmitz Jim Neumann, Love Never Ends G.L. Shriver

From:

Anne Rusk/Memorials
Priscilla Circle/Memorials
Pat & Doug Bressler/Memorials
Alice Shriver/Flowers/2-17-19

PRAYERS

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

- 2/03 Gayle Teerman, Jon & Marva Tetting, Edward Thompson, John & Carolyn Tolzmann, Rudolph Trapiss
- 2/10 Loraine & Bill Van Haecke, Nancy Vogel, Marilyn Wahl, Ruby Wanland, Myrna Ware
- 2/17 Bill & Diane Wasser, Carl Weicht, Joel & Sharon Weinhardt, Earl West, Hazel Wolfgram
- 2/24 Celia Wollner, Charles & Joy Yonko, Art Zerbel, Dennis & Jane Zimmerman, Ella Zoellner

AMAZON SMILE

Just a reminder to use when shopping on Amazon. **Login: smile.amazon.com.** You access your account in the same way you normally do and then can designate a charitable organization. Gloria Dei and Joining Hands in Food Ministry are registered as recipients.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

02/02	Ted & Dorothy Baehmann	62 years*
02/14	Joel & Sharon Weinhardt	30 years

^{*}Special congratulations to these celebrating fifty or more years of marriage.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/01	Betty Ann Huebner	02/02	Bill Birdsall
02/03	Gerry Haller	02/03	Bill Summers
02/10	Sue Leaf	02/11	Marilyn Czuprynski
02/11	Joel Weinhardt	02/12	Mary Lou Smith
02/14	Linda Riikonen	02/15	Gayle Teerman
02/18	Joe LaHood	02/20	Taeko Mincer
02/22	Jan Rudolph	02/23	Scott Macy
02/25	Ralph Hallberg	02/26	Maureen Skurecki
02/27	Bill Swinford	02/28	Linda Mueller

LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S SENIOR WATCH PROGRAM

OVERVIEW:

If you are living alone or have medical problems and you have no one to check on you daily, you can take advantage of the security provided by the Lake County Sheriff's Senior Watch Program.

HOW IT WORKS:

When you join, you will be assigned your own special identification number. Simply call the Senior Watch telephone operators each morning and tell them how you feel.

If the Senior Watch operators do not hear from you, they will attempt to call you. If you fail to answer the telephone, the Senior Watch will contact one of your neighbors or a relative, if possible, to check on you. If contact cannot be made with you in a timely manner, a Deputy Sheriff will be dispatched to your home.

HOW TO JOIN:

Call the Lake County Sheriff's Office at 352-343-2101 and provide your name, address, telephone number and a few details about yourself such as your age, medical condition and friends and relatives who may live nearby.

FUNERAL PLANNING

While we may resist and avoid end of life decisions, such planning makes it much easier for a family dealing with the loss of a loved one. Please note the following resources are available to you:

- 1. Funeral/Memorial Planning Sheet-available at Welcome Desk
- 2. **Columbarium**-Niches are available at a cost of \$2,500. Please contact Mary Beth if you would like further information.
- 3. **Prayer Garden**-Available for interment of cremains.

The cost is \$100 for engraving on the memorial stone.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Balance 9/30/18	\$2,367.91
10/02 Momentum Marketing	\$ (423.73)-window clings
10/06 Deposit	\$ 62.00
10/12 Frame (for new logo)	\$ (75.44)
10/14 Deposit	\$ 100.00
Balance 12/31/18	\$2,030.74

If you are a Thrivent member, don't forget to designate your Choice Dollars to a charity of your choice.

MINISTRY NEWS FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP - "THE WIRED WORD"

BEFORE WORSHIP AT 8:15 A.M.

Ripped From The Headlines. -Discuss what scripture says about current events. Meets downstairs. Led by Forrest Berg

GOSPEL DISCUSSION GROUP - WEDNESDAYS 10:00 a.m.

A discussion on the Gospel lesson for the upcoming Sunday. No book is required but please bring your Bible Meets in the Gathering Room. Led by John Braun

DEVELOPING DISCIPLES – TUESDAYS 2:00 p.m.

What does it mean to live as an everyday follower of Jesus? Meets in the Gathering Room. Led by Pastor Marilyn

Please consider taking advantage of one of these opportunities. Faith formation as a disciple of Jesus means life-long learning.

WELCA (Women of the ELCA)

Our January meeting was held on January 8 due to the first Tuesday of the month fell on New Year's Day, so each activity of WELCA and Mary Martha was move forward by one week.

Currently we have produced over 260 quilts, 100 Personal Care Kits and are requesting a short report about the knitted hats, where they go and an approximate number completed.

Feb. 3 will be the blessing of the quilts before they leave Gloria Dei and sent off to needy areas of the country and world. This is organized by Lutheran World Relief. The Friday prior we will gather at the church to take the completed quilts out of various storage areas and placed on the pews, Help is always needed on this morning as well as help packing up the quilts into boxes for shipping on the next Monday Feb. 4th.

Pastor Gale Madsen gave each Circle a special presentation on Healthy Responses to disagreements

and conflicts. This was an especially great presentation and we encourage others to be selective as we respond to disagreement and handle and responses.

Our Spring Fashion Show is well in the works. Nancy Almquist let us know that Anthony's on RT. 466A will be presenting their Spring Fashions and Nancy has been successful in getting models for the show. It will be on March 19 and again includes a salad luncheon and dessert. Poster and Sign-up sheet will be available at the end of Feb. or Early March. Remember salads are brought in by those attending and desserts will be provided by WELCA.

Fruit Baskets for shut-ins were assembled Dec. 21 and distributed that same day. We would appreciate it if some notification to WELCA is given when a member moves away. It seems each year we are on a hunt for a member to deliver these lovely baskets and discovered they no longer are attending Gloria Dei. There were a total of 24 Baskets completed, 23 delivered to our shut-ins and one given to a needy family in a different community, clearly grateful for the gift.

Respectfully Submitted, Madalon Ritter

<u>RUTH CIRCLE</u> – will meet on Thursday, February 7th at the home of Elizabeth Sanguedolce, 5005 Sawgrass Lake Circle (Plantation) at 1:30 PM. Elizabeth will also lead the Bible Study from the *GATHER* magazine. Please let her know if you will be attending this meeting, 352-250-8056. Looking forward to seeing all of you.

Janet Braun, Leader

WELCA (cont'd)

<u>PRISCILLA CIRCLE</u> – will meet on **Monday, February 11th at 9:00 a.m**. at Debbie Cassem's home. Please let Debbie know if you are coming 787-0631.

Nancy Almquist, Leader 321, 4208

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE – will meet on Tuesday, February 12th @ 9:00 a.m. Quilting until 10:30, then coffee and snacks. Our Bible Study will be out of the January/February *Gather* where we will read together "Meetings with Jesus" Session two on page 29. If you do not subscribe to the magazine, we will share at our study. On Friday, February 22nd at 9AM we will again be quilting in the morning. On Friday, February 1st, we will be laying the quilts on the pews for Pastors blessing. She will bless the Quilts, Personal Care Kits, School Kits, Baby Care kits and Fabric kits that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief on Monday, the 4th. Anyone in Gloria Dei's area is welcome to join us for fun and fellowship in Fellowship Hall on any of those days.

Carol Marshall, Leader, Phone 787-0435

WORSHIP

We are using the Setting 10 Liturgy for the season of Epiphany. We will distribute star words on January 6th. The Epiphany Season is January 6 (Epiphany)-March 3 (Transfiguration Sunday). "For the Sake of Life" is our worship series for this time.

WE ARE IN NEED OF USHERS AND WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Please contact Crystal Kirkpatrick (552-3983) to learn more.



CHECK IT OUT: www.gloriadeielca.com

Besides much community information, the website has a calendar feature where we can list any upcoming functions. Please send information about any functions to Mary Beth Morris. Please include information about regularly occurring meetings that may have been suspended during the summer. Continue to send this information to Mary Beth so the information on the website stays current. Thanks! Be sure to check out our new website as it is regularly being updated. Videos of sermons will be available soon.

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

The next Beer & Hymns is Tuesday, February 12th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Continental Country Club.

-6-

THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING!

Thanks to everyone who volunteered for a Worship ministry. We are going to see a lot of new faces every Sunday.

A few tips when signing up:

When signing up for a Worship ministry, do not enter any information into the Comments box. Enter your name and email into the spaces that are provided.

If you are signing up for two people, you must go through the signup procedure twice. On the confirmation page, you can click on Return to Sign Up to sign up the other person. Putting information into the comments box does not reserve a spot.

Thank you again for your positive comments and willingness to help us work through this procedure.

Be on the lookout for another email encouraging you to make your Worship donations online.

Feel free to contact me (407-340-0414 or mkgreer@earthlink.net). I can walk you through the signup process while you are in front of your PC at home.

Worship Donations

Sunday Worship would look very different without the many donations made by Gloria Dei disciples. These donations include Altar Flowers, Communion Wine, and Eternal Candles.

If you have an email address (and we know about it) you will be receiving an email that contains a link to the Worship Donations Signup on SignUpGenius. You will also have the opportunity to pay for your donations online.

We are using Tithe.ly, a funds collection company that services religious institutions. A simple online form will enable you to designate the type of donation and the memorial or commemoration that you wish to include.

Of course, you may continue to sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Hall and use your Sunday envelope. Just remember to designate the amount on the front of the envelope.

Questions? Call or email Mary Greer (mkgreer@earthlink.net or 407-340-0414).

SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Community Hunger Project: Again your continued support of the Community Hunger Project is greatly appreciated. Need continues to be greater than available resources. Salvation Army staff continue to express how much the contributions assist in helping them meet the growing demand. February food items include peanut butter, canned potatoes, carrots and canned fruit.

Hats, Scarfs, Socks etc. Salvation Army staff wanted to thank each and every one who donated warm clothing. It was delivered the day before the last cold spell. They commented they were really needed and much appreciated. They could use more used blankets again.

Souper Sunday: Souper Sunday comes February 3rd. We will be collecting soups (10 ½ oz. cans of Chicken Noodle, Tomato, Vegetable) and crackers for Joining Hands in Food Ministry.

Thank You Cards for December Donations: Gloria Dei received Thanks You's from Salvation Army for the generous gift, Sozo Kids at the Help Agency, the Forest Inc.

JANUARY Donations: The committee donated money to the Educational Foundation which provides supplies for teachers.

Oak Park Middle School: The generous school supplies donated in the fall have met the needs for the present. Ruby and Charlotte will be meeting with contacts in near future to determine if there are other needs and to see how GDL can assist in the special recognition of the dedicated teachers. A special thanks to all who help support the Oak Park Middle School.

Elementary School: Joe LaHood reported \$751 was collected from the congregation and \$600 donated by Beal's for underwear. He has found out there is a need for uniforms but they are not available at this time. He will continue to meet with contacts to determine needs in the future.

Social Outreach Committee Members: We are pleased to announce we have three new members as of this year. We Welcome Pat Heimbach, Diane Wasser and Joe Lahood. THEIR SPECIAL TALENTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

(Social Outreach cont'd)

Happy New Year from the Social Ministries Committee: The committee wants Gloria Dei members to know we look forward to working with you in 2019. We need your support and if you have suggestions for the committee, please talk to any one of us. Your response when there is a special need in the past continues to speak loudly to the community that Gloria Dei members care and willingly reach out in Christ's name.

God Bless each of you and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

Pat Bressler, Pat Heimbach, Diane Wasser, Gayle Bloom, Linda Steege, Joe Lahood, Charlotte Christensen, Ruby Wanland, Leone Goding and Joyce Brandt

JHIFM

The January 11 food distribution was a huge success thanks to all the volunteers who joined hands to feed 493 individuals from 140 needy families 7,488 pounds of nutritious food. THANK YOU ALL! It was also a very special day since since Joining Hands in Food Ministry (JHIFM) received a check for \$1,000 from Lady Lake Sam's Club manager Matt Luevano. Thank you Matt and Walmart Corporation for supporting our fight against hunger in Lake and Sumter Counties.

I have posted photos of yesterday's food distribution on Facebook which you can access by typing Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/ in the address bar of your internet browser.

Thank you hunger heroes!

Ritch Cassem

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

		TEDRUARI CALENDAR
Fri.	2/01	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
Sun.	2/03	8:15 a.m. Bible Fellowship
		9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Healing Service
		Blessing of the Quilts & Kits
Tues.	2/05	9:30 a.m. WELCA Board Meeting
		2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples
Wed.	2/06	10:00 a.m. Gospel Discussion Group
		5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	2/07	1:30 p.m. Ruth Circle
Fri.	2/08	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
		9:30-11:30 a.m. Joining Hands in Food Ministry
Sun.	2/10	8:15 a.m. Bible Fellowship
		9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Mon.	2/11	9:00 a.m. Priscilla Circle
Tues.	2/12	9:00 a.m. Mission Quilting
		9:00 a.m. Mary Martha Circle
		1:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee Mtg.
		2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples
		5:00-7:00 p.m. Beer & Hymns @ Continental CC
Wed.	2/13	9:00 a.m. Social Outreach Ministries
		10:00 a.m. Gospel Discussion Group
		5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	2/15	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
Sun.	2/17	8:15 a.m. Bible Fellowship
-	2 / 4 O	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Visitor Sunday
Tues.	2/19	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples
Wed.	2/20	10:00 a.m. Gospel Discussion Group
-	- 12-1	5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	2/21	3:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting
Fri.	2/22	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
a	2/24	9:00 a.m. Mission Quilting
Sun.	2/24	8:15 a.m. Bible Fellowship
Т	2/26	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offer.
Tues.	2/26	2:00 p.m. Developing Disciples
Wed.	2/27	10:00 a.m. Gospel Discussion Group
		4:00 p.m. Prayerful Stitchers
		5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

WORSHIP LEADERS

Assistant Ministers

Legend:	R-Reader, +-Crucifer, C-Communion Assist., A-Liturgy Assist.		
	<u>9:30 a.m.</u>		
2/03	R=Brian Mundy += C=Sharon LaHood A=Brian Mundy	2/10	R=Byron Kirkpatrick +=Leone Goding C=Judy Eads A=Ted Baehmann
2/17	R=Sylvia Mackey +=Jean Hoffman C=Jayne Gable A=	2/24	R=Byron Kirkpatrick +=Leone Goding C=Ted Baehmann A=Brian Mundy

<u>Ushers</u>	<u>9:30 a.m.</u>			
2/03	Paul Proulx	2/10	Ritch Cassem	
	Leone Goding		Debbie Cassem	
	Carol Davis		Joy Yonko	
	Byron Kirkpatrick		Chuck Yonko	
2/17	Leone Goding	2/24	Bev Healy	
	Joyce Brandt		Dick Healy	
	Crystal Kirkpatrick		Joyce Brandt	
	Byron Kirkpatrick		Bess King	

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

-11-

<u>Altar Guild</u> – Byron & Crystal Kirkpatrick

Post Worship Secretary – February: Nancy Almquist

Greet	ers
2/03	Linda Steege & Mary Lou Smith
2/10	Jan Rudolph & Sandy Retz
2/17	Carol Davis & Bess King
2/24	Pat & Rollie Heimbach

Counters – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

2/03	Jean Talts & Linda Riikonen
2/10	Vernon & Jean Kluge & Arlene Kelly
2/17	Arlene Kelly & Steve Greer
2/24	Mike Stewart & Irv Johnson

Fellowship Hostesses-Sign-up sheet outside kitchen

I CHOW	sinp riostesses-sign-up sheet outside R
2/03	Steve & Mary Greer
2/10	Madalon & Dick Ritter
2/17	Jim & June Rieb
2/24	

If you are able to serve or have any questions, please contact Jim & June Rieb at 323-6244.

-12-

TREASURER'S REPORT

DISIPLES IN CHRIST: Listed below are the final numbers for Gloria Dei's income and expenses for **2018**. These numbers can also be visualized on the Goal Banner on the bulletin board in the social area. As you can see, we fell short of the budget which you approved. You have now approved a similar budget for 2019 last November. We, as a congregation, need to step up and give a little more if we can, even if it's only \$1.00 a week.

God's Blessings to All

Linda Riikonen, Treasurer

	PLEASE NOTE:			
	YTD Actual 12/31	YTD Approved Spending Plan	Under Plan/ (Shortfall)	
Offerings	229,779	290,842	(61,063)	
Expenses	273,150	290,842	(17,692)	
	(43,582)	-0-	(43,371)	

VISITATION REPORT

These congregational visits are in addition to those made by Pastor Marilyn. Visitation Ministers:

Forrest Berg Patricia Bressler
Jim Gable Leone Goding
Mary Lou Smith Myrna Ware

Please let us know if you are interested in serving.

Visits, communion and healing made for January:

- (1) to Pat Bressler
- (1) to Betty Ann Huebner
- (1) to Sandy Kolb
- (1) to Mary Rhoades
- (1) to Sam & Barbara Goins
- (1) to Marilyn Wahl
- (1) to Bernice Heiser

PASTOR'S REPORT DECEMBER 2018

Community Contacts
Counselling
4
Visits
4
Kolb, Bressler, Ulmer(telephone call)
Communion
2
Kolb, Bressler
Healing
3
Kolb, Bressler
Commendation of Dying
1
Genevieve Scott
Deaths
1
Scott 12/23; Neumann 12/31

Administration

Church Council –meeting 12/2-cancelled due to severe weather

Meeting with Dick Healy 12/27 to inform about upcoming retirement

Staff Supervision Review Nov FS

Glorion

Tithely Conference Call – 12/6

Evangelism – Meeting 12/11

Faith Formation –

Developing Disciples – "Friends of God"

Life Transitions-"A New Normal" – Dealing with grief

Fellowship-

Sunday morning post-worship coffee

Hosted council party 12/13

Mutual Ministry – Meeting 11/14

Prayerful Stitchers – 11/28

 $Social\ Media-Website-website\ content\ prep$

WELCA – Christmas Luncheon 12/6

Worship & Music

Sunday Bulletins Sermon Preparation

Power Point Presentations

Healing Service – 12/2

Planning-11/21

Choir Party 12/5

Council Installation 12/9

Design new Welcome Cards

Christmas Eve -12/24 - 5 pm

FBS - Conference clergy meeting - Ocala 12/4

Ill - 12/16 - Supply - Rev. Jim Gable

Vacation 12/26-12/30 – Supply – Gail Madson

Council Action – None

COUNCIL CORNER

TEMPLE TALK, January 20, 2019

Change. A word that can arouse apprehension, anxiety and even fear in us. It's a word that also hints at progress and hope. Fear of uncertainty and fear of the unknown are not reliable ways to deal with the future since they are negative emotions and not a foundation to support our faith. Instead we seek a faith that is positive and confident, kind and generous. We are now challenged with significant change once again, by the retirement of Pastor Marilyn on April 28th.

We humans cannot interact without developing a culture. Wherever we gather together we construct codes of conduct, often codes expressed without words. We hold up one another to unspoken expectations and gradually define the emotional life of the group. These codes of behavior can be nurturing or corrosive. They can further the aims of the flock or work to destroy it.

So, change is coming! Then, the age-old question, asked by innumerable people over eons is heard.

But what about me?

The answer? This is the Lord's Church- not ours. If we are with the Lord in this house, you will be cared for. Will we realize fondly-held dreams about how Gloria Dei will end up after this change? Yes, all of us will- in part. If this process of change isn't about us as individuals but is about God's direction and will, then it isn't a race to determine who or which faction will achieve stunning victory over the views of others. It IS about trying to discern God's will and nurturing Gloria Dei as a place of welcome and peace and rest, as free of petty arguments and hurtful actions as we can make it. It is a community of disciples, not a mob.

I ask you to consider your words and actions and if they consistently contribute to building up the community instead of fracturing it. Unity is precious and fragile. It must be protected and can't be left alone to defend itself against its many adversaries. Unity needs you, every day, all the time. A Christianity that constantly seeks political answers to moral and spiritual problems gives disciples an excuse to blame other people when they should be looking in the mirror. This applies to us all.

Your Church Council met last Wednesday with Connie Schmucker, ELCA Deacon and Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership. She will help us to navigate the call process once again. We discussed initial steps such as the retirement process and later, an interim pastor. We will be in regular contact with Connie and will communicate news to the Congregation periodically, in the bulletin, Glorion and in Temple Talks, as well as through gloriadeielca.com and in Facebook and individually or in groups as the occasions arise. The Council is united in our belief that the entire process will turn out well for everyone, if we let it.

Right now, first in importance in this voyage is our celebration of the ministry of Pastor Marilyn and David. We have so much to be grateful for and are delighted for their opportunity to enjoy a retirement full of new experiences and old contentment.

Council has created an informal Celebration of Ministry Committee. I've asked Crystal, Charlotte and Ruby to co-chair the Committee and they are looking for many willing hands to make this a celebration worthy of Pastor and David. Please talk to them or email them to find out your role in this. This Committee will communicate to the Congregation in the usual ways.

We, the Gloria Dei community, must encourage a faith that provides the things our faith first gave to us so many years ago: introspection, moral guidance and social support. Amen.

For the Council, Dick Healy