

WORSHIP LEADERS - DECEMBER

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you! You shall bear a child and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High.” And Mary said, “I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will.” – from Holden Evening Prayer

From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Advent is characterized by visitation. Some make travel plans, some host gatherings or guests from out of town – whom it is always a privilege to welcome at Gloria Dei! Our Health Cabinet organizes a gathering at a senior center. Nursing homes welcome carolers. Women’s circles put something together for our homebound members to be delivered in person.

Years ago, I had the opportunity to visit the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth, where Mary heard this news from the angel Gabriel. It is a beautiful twentieth century basilica built over first century ruins. Another group was conducting a worship service in the grotto below, so I stayed with my group upstairs and marveled at the intricate mosaics depicting Mary and Child in a variety of cultures from around the world.

It was only this year reading a book with our Council that I realized what I missed by not going below. In *The Mission Table*, Pastor Stephen Bouman, the ELCA Director for Congregational Mission, tells his own story of being at the Church of the Annunciation:

“In a crypt chapel there, carved into the altar, were the words from John’s gospel: *Verbum Caro Factum Est*, ‘The Word became flesh.’ I noticed one other little word that could only be written in that place, and it almost gave me a heart attack. ‘*Verbum Caro Hic Factum Est.*’ *Hic.* ‘Here.’ ‘Thus.’ The Word was made flesh here! The divine explosion of love and grace and compassion from the heart of a gracious God came *hic* – here, in the belly of this woman, Mary, in this struggling town, in this world. God enfleshed here. *Hic.*”

Pastor Bouman continues, “The visitation in Mary’s womb was a divine intrusion. When we receive a visitor or make a visit, we have to adjust, give space. Behind every visitation is the divine visitation of ‘*verbum caro factum est ... hic,*’ – right here, rearranging our priorities, quickening our hope, disrupting our patterns, deepening our compassion. In our visits with family, friends, and neighbors, every place and every conversation is holy. God is near. Visitation makes present the ‘*hicness*’ of God.”

Before the birth at Bethlehem, the Word became flesh there in that place within Mary, calling and equipping her to bear Christ in the world. And it is that same Word that is spread when her visitation continues. For right

	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Organist	Barb Erickson	Worship Band	Mary Garner	Stan Wold
Assisting Minister	James Crane	Madeline Pass	Sue Anderson	Kathleen Gates
Sound Technician	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Worship Band	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Steve Dalager & Scott Ruzich
Reader	Rick Troy	Connor Weberg	Gerry E. Kristin H. Myrna M. Marianne K. Susan A. & Barb R.	Chelsea Froemke
Acolytes	Maggie Winesett & Martha Carlson	Bryn Weberg & Esmeralda Lew	Raine Amundson & Sam Winesett	Christian Leight & Joey Peterson
Ushers	Danny & Mark Pass	Barb Renick & Kathy Wimer	Marlaine & Lubov Williams	Corrine Helmen & Marcia Troy
Nursery Attendants	Katie or Chuck Erickson	Self Serve	Cara Weberg	Self Serve
Counters	Lubov Williams & Janine Dahquist	Rod Dahquist & David Gangeness	Bob Forbort & Sharon Stenberg	Barb Renick & Joan Gunderson
Coffee Servers	Mary Savolainen	Sherry Dalager	Eve Gathering	Rick & Marcia Troy
Communion Assistant	Janet W. & Munda F.	Julie J. & Barb R.	Brett A. & Craig	Chelsea F. & Ann N.

ALTAR GUILD for the Month of December is Barb Renick, Kathy Wimer, Linda Kalweit

after Mary receives a visit, she makes a visit to her cousin Elizabeth. Like the shepherds who heard angelic good news, she went in haste to share it.

Advent celebrates moments of trusting God's world-transforming promise even when it is not completely visible:

- + At Elizabeth's home, Mary sings about that promise of God lifting up the lowly, confronting the proud, and filling the hungry with good things (Luke 1:46-55).
- + Each week, we pray for peace and justice in a world that still suffers from violence and oppression.
- + In hospital and homebound visits, both those visited and those visiting receive a glimpse of Christ's presence when words of grace are shared.
- + Even as finishing work continues at CHUM's Steve O'Neil Apartments for chronically homeless adults and families, plans for building relationships with future residents have begun (see p. 10).
- + Before another building project, the LSS Center for Changing Lives, begins, Bishop Tom Aitken and other members of Gloria Dei have been accompanying homeless youth through visits to the Renaissance House, volunteering at the Teen Clinic, and pledging support (see p. 12).

In Jesus, God doesn't remain "upstairs" but comes down deeply into the world to bring good news "from below." This season, I invite you to reflect on how our worship and prayer place us in the posture of joyful anticipation:

- + In the faith of children through the Sunday School Program and Santa Lucia retelling on December 14
- + In music and hymns, like "O come, O come, Emmanuel..." which we'll explore more fully on December 21
- + In Eucharist each Sunday and on Christmas Eve at 5:00 and 10:00 p.m.
- + In daily life through common prayers like, "Come, Lord, Jesus be our guest..."
- + In visits with relatives, friends, and neighbors where God's Word has the power to shape our world – right *here*.

"In the visit, God comes near," Pastor Bouman writes. With Mary, may we be inspired to be bearers of the Word we receive, in all our relationships.

See you in worship!
+ Pastor David Carlson

STEWARSHIP PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

From heaven unto earth you come to bear good news to everyone, O God! Open our hearts and minds to receive all over again the assurance of your presence among us. In the newborn Child, may we find newly born in our lives the gift of generosity—the love that frees us to live and give beyond cost and calculation. Make of our money the gold and frankincense of those who, like the wise men of old, are "overwhelmed with joy," in the spirit of Christ. Amen. - *Moravian Book of Worship*

SERVING 5:00 P.M. SERVICE

Organist– Barb Erickson
Assisting Minister– TBA
Sound Tech - Steve D. & Scott R.
Reader-Stephanie Carlson
Acolyte– TBA
Ushers– Per & Elaine Wickstrom

SERVING 10:00 P.M. SERVICE

Organist– Mary Garmer
Assisting Minister– Patti Maguire
Sound Tech- Steve D. & Scott R.
Reader– Patti Maguire
Acolyte– TBA
Ushers– Paul Steklenski & Linda Kalweit

CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS

December 24, 2010 NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS EVE

On a long winter evening we gather to proclaim the coming of the light. Isaiah announces that the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Paul reminds us that the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. In the familiar account of Christ's birth, the evening sky is bright with the heavenly host singing, "Glory to God in the highest." Amid our broken world we proclaim that the prince of peace is born among us. God comes to us in human flesh—in Christ's body and blood—so that we may

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

	2 ~ Darrell Harris 2 ~ Elaine Wickstrom 3 ~ Alexis Cieluch 4 ~ Mary Gagnon 4 ~ Iris Lahti-Anderson 5 ~ Lowell Johnson 6 ~ Brendon Smith 8 ~ Michael Pearson 8 ~ Carol Uecker 10 ~ Nancy Carlson 10 ~ Nadia Tessier 10 ~ Lubov Willms 12 ~ Daphne Amundson 13 ~ Mark Pass	14 ~ Eileen Anderson 20 ~ Nicholas Pearson 21 ~ Joann McCall 22 ~ Mona Wold 25 ~ Beau Baker 25 ~ Nicole Bissonette 25 ~ Lil Peterson 25 ~ Barb Renick 26 ~ Conor Weberg 27 ~ Holly Anderson-Fitzpatrick 27 ~ Jazzlynn Lorfald 27 ~ Doug Maguire 27 ~ Carol Worthing 30 ~ Danielle Cieluch	
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EVANGELISM - WITNESS

1) Proclaim God's saving Gospel of justification by grace for Christ's sake through faith alone, according to the apostolic witness in the Holy Scripture, preserving and transmitting the Gospel faithfully to future generations. 2) Carry out Christ's Great Commission by reaching out to all people to bring them to faith in Christ and by doing all ministry with a global awareness consistent with the understanding of God as Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of all.

THANK YOU RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

It takes \$1000 per month to fund our ongoing Radio Ministry. As of August 31, Radio Ministry has received \$7,955, on track to meet our budget needs. Thanks to all who sponsor broadcasts and give regularly throughout the year. Gifts in any amount continue to make this an important self-sustaining outreach.

RADIO MINISTRY SINCE 1942

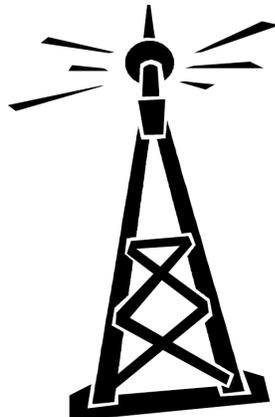
Become a friend of Gloria Dei Radio Ministry

- Worship with us on Sunday morning at 10:00.
- If you can't attend in person, listen to the live broadcast on AM 710 - WDSM Radio.
- Make a difference in our community by supporting Gloria Dei's Radio Ministry through your regular gifts, or as a special gift in memory or in honor of someone to recognize an event.
- Each Sunday broadcast costs \$230.
- Call the church office at 218-722-3381 to sponsor a Sunday and support the spread of the Gospel!

WORSHIP STREAMING LIVE ON THE INTERNET

1. Listen live using Windows Media Player:
Download Windows Media Player for best software interface with the audio stream.
2. After opening up the media player, type CTRL U (Hold down CTRL key, then press U key) which will open a new window asking for "URL."
3. To play live audio stream, copy and paste the following into the URL window:
<http://24.158.26.190:17543>

Note: you will only hear the live audio while the service is being broadcast, so if you are early just wait a few more minutes and try the link again



Sunday, December 7, 2014 Second Sunday of Advent

John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

Isaiah 40:1–11, Psalm 85:1–2, 8–13, 2 Peter 3:8–15a, Mark 1:1–8

Sunday, December 14, 2014 Third Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice always," begins the reading from First Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. "All God's children got a robe," go the words of the spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes that make us feel happy just to put on. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God's party.

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11, Psalm 126, 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24, John 1:6–8, 19–28

Sunday, December 21, 2014 Fourth Sunday of Advent

God keeps the promise made to David, to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16, Luke 1:46b–55, Romans 16:25–27, Luke 1:26–38

Sunday, December 28, 2014 First Sunday of Christmas

In the psalm all the natural world praises God, including all humanity, male and female, young and old. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we speak of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.

Isaiah 61:10—62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4–7, Luke 2:22–40

Join us for a look at the text for the next Sunday every Tuesday at 12 Noon in the Hillside Room. All are welcome!

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

You may want to give a gift to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on the occasion of Christmas this year. You may choose to give a poinsettia for the sanctuary. Each poinsettia will be \$14.00. Or, consider giving a gift (any amount) to a ministry fund:



- ELCA World Hunger
- CHUM/Gabriel Project
- LSS Center for Changing Lives
- Northeastern MN Synod
- Transportation Fund
- Radio Ministry
- Parish Nurse Fund
- Youth Fund
- Neighborhood Breakfast
- Building Renovation Fund
- Mission Endowment Fund
- Bukoba Parish
- Ingrian Lutheran Church of Russia
- Extra gift for the "General Fund"
- Other – Please Specify

You may place your donation into the offering plate and be sure to mark it "Christmas Gift" with a designation. **All donations must be received by Monday December 15 with this completed form.** Poinsettias or gifts to funds may be given in memory or in honor and all names will be listed in the bulletin.

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Gift: Poinsettia or Fund _____

From: _____

Please fill in the information and drop this form into the offering plate with your donation or mail it to the church office. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP

FINANCE REPORT THRU OCT 2014

Needed per month \$16,500

per week \$3,807

Envelope Offerings

Budget, 10 months \$165,000

Actual, 10 months \$166,182 100.1%

Difference, ahead \$ 1,182

Our regular offering is a sign of worship and thanksgiving for all that God has done and continues to do. In our offering, we return to God a portion of what God has so graciously entrusted to us. THANK YOU for remembering your offering as a regular part of your worship!

ONLINE GIVING - At the web site

(www.gloriadeiduluth.org), click on the "Donate Now" button for a convenient way, through automatic withdrawal or secure credit/debit card transactions, to support God's mission through Gloria Dei with a donation or monthly commitment. Make an offering from your smartphone by scanning this QR code, which will take you to our secure online giving site.



SIMPLY GIVING There's a way to give your weekly offering that's easy, that helps reduce the cost of envelopes, and that benefits Gloria Dei with knowing more consistently what the electronic giving amounts will be. It also can be easier for you with one less thing to do, and at the same time for people who like to place their gift in the offering plate can still do that, too. Laminated cards for people who give their offerings electronically will be provided in the church pews. It's our goal to increase the number by 50 families or individuals. Thank you. *The Stewardship Committee*

RENOVATION FUND GOAL - Thank you for prayerfully considering your support for the Renovation Fund with a financial gift above and beyond your regular offering (green envelopes or designate in memo). The Church Council supports their short-term fundraising goal of \$10,000 by the end of 2014 to complete the consulting work necessary to produce options for possible renovation phases for the Hillside Room and adjacent areas that could enhance Gloria Dei's capacity for ministry. As of last week, over \$8,665 has been collected so far – thanks be to God!

KEY INVENTORY – Please help re-create a complete list of church keys among our members. If you currently have a metal key to access the church or specific rooms for ministry, please show it to Karen Kjolhaug or Donna in the church office so it can be signed out again (or returned if no longer needed). This is not a recall, just an inventory to help ensure both access and security – with much appreciation for everyone's ministry in and through these walls!

**LSS CENTER FOR CHANGING LIVES DULUTH
A JOYFUL CHALLENGE**

From our Bishop and fellow member at Gloria Dei:

Beckie and I have made a decision to fully get behind youth homelessness in Duluth. Above and beyond the gift we have already pledged, we hereby joyfully challenge fellow members of Gloria Dei to a **dollar for dollar MATCH** up to \$1,000 as together we build a Youth Homeless Center near the Synod Office. I'd like to see if we can do this as a Christmas present to the "Center for Changing Lives/Duluth" which is scheduled to break ground next Spring if all goes well. In addition to the apartment units space on the first level will house some offices for LSS personnel connected to homeless ministry, and we may even be able to move into a small portion of the space as Synod Staff! This would be a witness to our community of **God's work, Our Hands**, the public message of our ELCA!

I've been on the ground floor of the conversations for this building which will have twenty living units; some for temporary housing, some for longer term housing, but all with accompanying counseling, life-skill and job-coaching, off-the-streets comprehensive mentoring with Christian love. We know that these young people are either kicked out of their homes at an early age, or don't feel safe there, many have been physically and sexually mistreated. They need the down to earth Christian care of adults like us, who have been joined to our Lord in his mending of the world!

+ Bishop Tom Aitken

Member of Gloria Dei Lutheran, Duluth



A REMINDER THAT ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE DECEMBER

15, 2014. Please e-mail them to Donna at secretary@gloriadeiduluth.org or bring them in early for her to type.

Thanks! Reports will be available in the narthex sometime mid January.

WINTER CHURCH CLEAN UP - Help Paul and Karen with the annual church cleaning on December 6, 9-12 with lunch!

+LIFE'S LANDMARKS+

Funeral

Nov 17, Charlene Ralph

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Worship God in proclamation of the Word and administration of the sacraments and through lives of prayer, praise, thanksgiving, witness, and service.

EUCCHARIST AT KING MANOR, DEC 3 - Each month, Gloria Dei conducts a service and fellowship time at a senior residential home. This month, Pastor David and the Health Cabinet are planning to meet at King Manor on Wednesday, December 3 at 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us.

CHOIR REHEARSAL, DEC 3 - Monthly on the 1st Wednesday each month at 7:30. The choir also rehearses each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. For more information, contact Stan Wold, Director of Music, 728-5925.

SAMARITAN SUNDAY, DEC 7 – Thanks for remembering: 1) canned food items to help replenish the CHUM Food Shelf, which are brought forward as part of our offering. 2) Our loose cash offering on the first Sunday has for several years gone to the Gabriel Fund, a ministry started by Gloria Dei and other Central Hillside parishes and managed through CHUM, for direct assistance to the needy.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, DEC 14 – The Sunday School again recreates the nativity story during the worship hour on December 14. Please note: there will also be a rehearsal for the Christmas Program on Saturday morning, December 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Many thanks to Sunday School leaders for arranging this special service again this year—all children invited to participate!

ONE BREAD, DEC 14 - Thanks to One Bread, our worship band, for accompanying worship once a month. The next Sunday planned is December 14, with the "God Give Us Life" liturgy by Ray Makeever. Other Sundays, the liturgy will be accompanied with organ, piano, and choir. We thank God for the gifts of all musicians at Gloria Dei!

SANTA LUCIA, DEC 14 After worship join us downstairs during coffee hour for the telling of Santa Lucia by Daphne Amundson. All children are invited to participate too, with costumes, singing, and distributing treats. Though little is known about her, she is remembered as someone who devoted her life to God and her possessions to the poor. Her celebration became particularly important in Sweden and Norway, perhaps because the feast of Lucia (the name means "light") originally fell on the shortest day of the year. A tradition arose of a girl in the household, wearing a crown of candles, bringing saffron rolls to her family early in the morning on the day of Lucia.



O ANTIPHONS, DEC 21 - The *O Antiphons* are a set of medieval refrains originally used before and after the singing of the Magnificat (Luke 1:47-55). Each evokes the Messiah under a different title derived from the Old Testament. Around the twelfth century, they were collected into a Latin verse hymn, which was later translated by John Mason Neale, finally becoming the beloved Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." These seven antiphons form the structure of this service of Lessons and Carols for Advent, during our regular worship time, Sunday, December 21 at 10:00 a.m.

CHUM CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL, DEC 24 – 12:00 noon at City Hall steps, prayer for the homeless.

CHRISTMAST EVE WORSHIP, DEC 24

5:00 p.m. worship with Holy Communion and Candlelight

10:00 p.m. worship (prelude starts at 9:45) with Holy Communion and Candlelight

This late service is broadcast live from 10:00-11:00 p.m. and rebroadcast 12/25 at 10:00 a.m. on WDSM Radio 710 AM.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS & POINSETTIAS - (See the insert in this month's Dei by Day on page 4) Tear out, fill in and drop it in the collection plate with your offering or mail it into the church office by the deadline.



MINISTRY OF DISCIPLESHIP

Nurture members in the Word of God so as to grow in faith and hope and love, to see daily life as the primary setting for the exercise of our Christian calling, and to use our gifts of the spirit for our life together and for our calling in the world.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will not meet on Sunday December 21 or 28; we will resume again on Sunday January 4. Merry Christmas!

INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL, DEC 7 — "Holy Parables!" Jesus taught in parables, hearing events in which God's kingdom breaks into our minds and hearts with surprising grace. Join us once a month for singing, bible dramas, crafts and conversations across the generations that will focus on parables. In December, we're focusing on parables about the lost—a sheep, a coin, a son (or 2)—and the character of the God who finds us. See you there!

- Driving Connection—be on call to help families get to appointments, school, or shopping.
- Birthday Connection—gather a team and sign up to provide one of the monthly birthday parties.
- Meal Connection—recruit a team to bring a meal for all residents of the apartments.
- Adult Education Connection—Teach a class for adults (e.g. knitting, exercise, computer, cooking)
- Recreation Connection—Team up with a family from the apartments for fun and adventure, intended to help introduce children/families to low-cost or no-cost recreational opportunities.
- Child Care Connection—to provide respite for apartment parents on site.
- Advocacy Connection—relational support for a residential family as they define and seek goals of employment, better relationships, education, or self-improvement.

For more information, please contact Courtney Cochran at ccochran@chumduluth.org or 218-740-2497

RUBY'S PANTRY, DEC 18 - Ruby's Pantry-

Coppertop distributes food at First United Methodist Church (the Coppertop Church) 230 East Skyline Parkway, Duluth on the third Thursday of every month. For \$20.00 those purchasing a share will receive approximately two large boxes of food. Cash only, no checks or EBT cards accepted. There is no "typical" food order and contents of a share vary depending upon what food is available to Ruby's Pantry at the time. You will need to bring your own boxes (laundry baskets work very well). There are no income guidelines. The Pantry operates from 5:30-7:00 pm. We depend upon volunteers to help with the distribution process. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please call First Methodist Church at 727-5021 or talk with Sue Anderson.



NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFAST, DEC 27 —All are welcome to join us for our free fourth Saturday Neighborhood Breakfast from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the Hillside Room. To help, come early or stay late!

TAX SITE HELP WANTED. We could use some more volunteer help at Gloria Dei in helping prepare tax returns and/or reviewing returns. This would allow us to be more flexible setting our schedule and allow volunteers more flexibility in the time they might be available. It also would help us be more compliant with AARP rules which want us to have at least two preparers at each site. Training takes place in December or January and usually involves 1 or 2 days. If you think you can help or want more information, contact Tom Uecker, 525-4173.

lepsy Foundation of Minnesota (EFMN) provides free seizure first aid training across Minnesota and eastern North Dakota. More information can be found at www.efmn.org or by calling 1-800-779-0777,

ADVENT Challenge: As the church year begins again, our culture rushes into the Christmas season without noticing Advent. I challenge you this month to slow down. To take quiet time to prepare your heart and soul to accept the miracle of God coming to us in the form of a baby. Slow down and breathe in the wonder of this coming. Slow down and spend time with Scripture; read Mary's response to the angel; sing the *Magnificat*; meditate on the light of the new born day. If you can, slow down and notice Advent this year.



CHUM LEGISLATIVE DINNER, DEC 1 – Dinner with Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC) on Monday, December 1 from 6pm to 8pm at St. Paul's Episcopal

Church (1710 East Superior Street). This event will feature two of the legislative leads from JRLC coming to Duluth to present on their legislative agenda for the 2015 Legislative Session. CHUM community members will have a chance to ask questions and vote on what they hope to see on CHUM's legislative agenda for 2015. The event will be catered by Duluth Grill and is free to all those who hope to attend. RSVP to Courtney Cochran at ccoehran@chumduluth.org or 218-740-2497.

CHUM HOLIDAY CONCERT, DEC 13 – at Hope United Methodist Church (301 W. St. Marie St) at 7:00 p.m. Free admission with a free will offering during the concert, featuring Sara Thomsen and the Echoes of Peace Choir, Bill Bastian, Jazz Time, Hope Choir and Esperanza! Chimes and more! Doors open at 6:30 with light refreshments following.

CHUM FAMILIES CONNECTION is a program to connect CHUM congregational families with the residential families in the Steve O'Neil Apartments. The intent of this program is to support residential families. It will also connect congregational families directly with families in the apartments and involve them in the work of CHUM to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate community. There are 8 connecting points to choose from, with increasing levels of involvement and commitment. Choices range from one time on-call help, to consistently scheduled childcare, to long-term advocacy work in partnership with a family. This is an abbreviated description:

- Moving Connection—be on call to help families move into a new apartment.

ADULT FAITH FORUM – All are welcome to join us at 8:45 in the Hillside Room before worship.

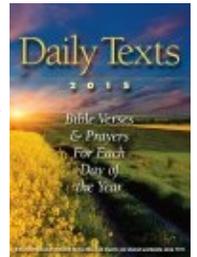
Dec 7—Intergenerational Sunday School, “Holy Parables!” above
Dec 14—“The Mission Table” - conversations with the Long Range Planning Team

Dec 21 & 28—DVD Discussion: “The National Parks: America’s Best Idea” (Ken Burns documentary)

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS, DEC 6 & 20 In addition to discipleship practices of worship, prayer, and service, our youth confirmation program will focus on Luther’s *Small Catechism* and faith practices. *We meet every other Saturday from 9:00-10:30 a.m.* All families with students in grades 7 & up are welcome—please speak to Pastor Dave.

RELIGION AND SCIENCE IN DIALOGUE, DEC 17 - 8 a.m. at Valenti’s (London Rd). Through the College of St. Scholastica, Pastor Carlson facilitates a monthly discussion group in the community on the topic of Religion and Science. The group is lively and engaging and connects our readings with current events and daily life. Newcomers are welcome! For December, we’re finishing *The Luminous Web* by Barbara Brown Taylor (2000).

DAILY TEXTS Daily Texts is a devotional book in paperback with Bible verses and prayers for every day of the year. Published by Mt. Carmel Lutheran Ministries of Alexandria, MN, it is modeled after the Moravian Daily Texts. Each day has a selected text from the Old Testament, New Testament and a prayer for the day. The Moravian Church, with which the ELCA has a close relationship, has been selecting these texts annually and sharing them worldwide since 1731. Gloria Dei Council members have been using these texts for devotions at home and also for council and committee meetings; they are a wonderful resource for reflecting on scripture passages daily. Each 2015 paperback book costs \$6.50 and would make a great Christmas gift (checks payable to Gloria Dei). A limited number of extras have been ordered—call the church office to inquire, 722-3381.



SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

- are available at a discounted rate through the church office. \$12.00 per year. Renewals are due by January 1. If you are interested in receiving a subscription or renewing a subscription, please call the church office at 722-3381.



FELLOWSHIP— “KOINONIA”

Manifest the unity given to the people of God by living together in the love of Christ and by joining with other Christians in prayer and action to express and preserve the unity which the Spirit gives.

NEW COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE FOR 2015 is being put together in the church office and will be ready to post by the 14th of December. If you would like to be a part of the rotation—or added to someone's group on the rotation—please notify Donna in the church office before the 15th. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity.

GLORIA DEI QUILTERS - will meet on Tuesday December 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lakeside Room. New comers are welcome. No sewing experience necessary. For questions, call Marianne Kjolhaug at 722-1493.



FREE HOLIDAY SCREENING: “IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE” DEC 12 - One Roof Community Housing, in partnership with North Shore Bank of Commerce and Zeitgeist Center for Arts & Community, is hosting a free showing of the holiday classic “It’s A Wonderful Life” on Friday December 12th, 7:00 p.m. at Zinema 2.

BOOK CLUB On December 15 the book to read is “Unbowed” by Wangari Meathai. The book chosen for the month of January will be “The Light Between Oceans” by M.L. Stedman



COFFEE & CONVERSATION will not be meeting in the winter months. We will resume meeting in April on Tuesday the 21st at Perkins on London Road in the back room at 9:00 a.m.

THE MANY FACES OF GLORIA DEI is a new picture board featuring our Gloria Dei Family. We welcome your picture!

- Linda K can take your picture during coffee hour most Sundays, or e-mail Linda a picture: Lkalweit@d.umn.edu or
- Bring Linda a picture and she will scan it and return the original to you. If you have questions contact Linda: 728-6206.

VÄLKOMMEN - You are invited to attend a Sankta Lucia Celebration on Saturday, December 13, at 9:00 am in the Great Lakes Ballroom of the Holiday Inn. Come celebrate this festive occasion filled with tradition, singing, and a brunch. Tickets are \$17.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children 5 to 12 years of age and can be obtained by calling Nancy Lahti at 727-4416. (Limited number of tickets available). This event is sponsored by the Swedish Cultural Society of Duluth.



MINISTRY OF SERVICE

Purpose: Serve in response to God's love to meet human needs, caring for the sick and the aged, advocating dignity and justice for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among the nations, and standing with the poor and the powerless and committing to their needs.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT - Patti Maguire

As I write this one week before Thanksgiving, I realize how much we have to be thankful for: our homes, families, good health & healthcare, the bright sun and the changing seasons. All of these are gifts from our God. I am thankful to God too for all of our church family who reach out with Christ's love to serve our community. Today I am especially thankful for the Care Team and Health Cabinet who are the hands of the health ministry of Gloria Dei.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His faithful love endures for ever" Psalm 107:1

November has been a full month. Nov 10th the Pastor and a number of folks from Gloria Dei attended a great half day conference on "Embracing & Transforming Spiritual Suffering". On the 13th I traveled to Silver Bay to the United Protestant Church for the monthly Parish Nurse meeting where we learned about "Seizure Recognition & Response" from Lisa Peterson from the Epilepsy Foundation. On Nov 24th I plan to attend an ethics training session at Miller Dwan on "The Effect of Personal Perspective on Health Care Workers".

Thank you to Marie and Marj Lindemann for so lavishly hosting the Health Cabinet meeting on Nov 5th. On the 11th we also brought treats and visited folks at St Ann's after their Bible study. December 3rd we will worship with our friends at King Manor and on Jan 7th we will be at Edgewood Vista. Please join us for these worship opportunities.

First Aid for Seizures

Did you know that 1 in 10 people will have a seizure in their lifetime? How should you respond? The most important things to remember if you were to witness a seizure are:

- 1) Cushion the person's head and remove glasses
- 2) Loosen tight clothing (ties or scarves, waistbands)
- 3) Turn person on his/her side to prevent aspirating vomit or saliva
- 4) Don't put anything in the mouth
- 5) Check for epilepsy or seizure disorder ID
- 6) Do NOT restrain
- 7) As the seizure ends, offer help and reassurance

Although most seizures end naturally without emergency treatment, a seizure in someone who does not have epilepsy could be a sign of serious illness. Call for medical assistance if the seizure lasts more than 5 minutes or a second seizure starts shortly after the first one ended.

Seniors are the most rapidly growing population with epilepsy. The Epi-