



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



- 1 ~ Per Amundson
- 3 ~ Scott Komarek
- 4 ~ Drew Anderson
- 4 ~ Charles Ralph
- 5 ~ Thomas Aitken
- 5 ~ Paul Steklenski
- 8 ~ Asher Hensel
- 11 ~ Sandi Johnson
- 11 ~ Gary Olson
- 14 ~ Colleen Martin
- 14 ~ Paul Uecker
- 17 ~ Amanda Switzer
- 18 ~ Jason Hester
- 19 ~ Sam Lufholm
- 19 ~ Tim Raun
- 20 ~ Shirley Sullwold
- 24 ~ Kylie Dalager
- 25 ~ Amber Olson
- 25 ~ Oscar Velez-Crane
- 26 ~ Connie Anderson
- 27 ~ Brandon Dahlquist
- 28 ~ Robert Asleson
- 29 ~ Myrna Matheson
- 29 ~ Tom Uecker
- 29 ~ Sam Winesett
- 30 ~ Jean Starkey

HAVE YOU MOVED?

A reminder to notify the church office when you have a change of address, phone number, or email so that we can avoid extra postal return charges and continue to keep in touch. Thank you!

Video-grapher	Sound Technician	Reader	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Organist	
	Florence Family	Assisting Minister		Chelsea Froemke	Mary Garner	Jan 3
	Florence Family	Assisting Minister		Patti Maguire	Barbara Erickson	Jan 10
	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Assisting Minister		Chelsea Froemke	Worship Band	Jan 17
	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Assisting Minister		Tanner Hall	Mary Garner	Jan 24
	Florence Family	Assisting Minister		Carlson duo	Barbara Erickson	Jan 31

*Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace, goodwill toward all. – Luke 2:14*

From the Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

It was December 1967 when Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached his last Christmas sermon, at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. Its main theme, taken from the angel host's proclamation, "*peace on earth, goodwill toward all,*" spoke to people in the throes of the Vietnam War and the struggle for civil rights, and called for the development of what he called a "*world perspective*" that sees the *interrelatedness of all people and all life*. In our own time impacted by polarization, pandemic, and climate change, and still marked by racial inequity, I invite you to consider how excerpts from his Christmas message continue to resonate today:

This Christmas season finds us a rather bewildered human race. We have neither peace within nor peace without. Everywhere paralyzing fears harrow people by day and haunt them by night. Our world is sick with war; everywhere we turn we see its ominous possibilities. And yet, my friends, the Christmas hope for peace and goodwill toward all men [sic] can no longer be dismissed as a kind of pious dream of some utopian. If we don't have goodwill toward men in this world, we will destroy ourselves by the misuse of our own instruments and our own power. ...

[I]f we are to have peace on earth, our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective. No individual can live alone, and as long as we try, the more we are going to have war in this world. Now the judgment of God is upon us, and we must either learn to live together as brothers or we are all going to perish together as fools.

Yes, as nations and individuals, we are interdependent. I have spoken to you before of our visit to India some years ago. It was a marvelous experience; but I say to you this morning that there were those depressing moments. How can one avoid being depressed when one sees with one's own eyes evidences of millions of people going to bed hungry at night? How can one avoid being depressed when one sees with one's own eyes thousands of people sleeping on the sidewalks at night? ...

It really boils down to this: that all life is interrelated. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. We are made to live together because of the interrelated structure of reality. ...

Dr. King went on to affirm that it is God's love that enables peace on earth to come about, God's self-giving love revealed in Christ's birth and life and also in his death and resurrection, God's *agape* love that enables us to see our interrelatedness and work toward a shared future of mutual flourishing.



As we begin a new year, I give thanks for ways in which God is shaping our ministry toward *deeper interrelatedness*. Despite the isolating effects of the pandemic, I am grateful for ways we are finding to “be” together as a parish through Coffee Hour, Life Groups, Bible studies, men’s and women’s groups. Last month, a group organized by our Health Cabinet visited one of our members through her nursing home picture window, bringing signs and waving, and praying for her. Our Health Coordinator Kristen has also organized virtual FaceTime visits, sent cards, and coordinated phone calls and check-ins to help keep homebound members connected.

I’m also thankful for efforts to recognize and cultivate deeper *interrelatedness with others in the community*. This includes people experiencing poverty and homelessness through Chum, LSS, and Loaves & Fishes. It also includes newer relationships with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) leaders and organizations. Last month, a small team from our Men in Mission group met with the director of the Family Freedom Center, Kevin Alexander, to hear about his vision for the well being of African Americans in Duluth and how Gloria Dei can begin a relationship as a supportive ally. This month, we are hosting an important film and discussion about racial justice January 13 facilitated by Daniel Oyinloye called “Intergenerational Conversations” (see p. ** for information to register). As we have been learning in our racial justice book discussions, recognizing racial inequity and injustices can be uncomfortable, but it is necessary for healing and building relational capacity.

Finally, I am encouraged by attention to a deeper *interrelatedness with all life*. This includes involvement with our gardens and Green Team, Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light, an ongoing Earth Harmony book discussion, and our synod’s Ecofaith Network. This month, one of our adult forums will focus on how to talk with children about climate change. And the “Called to Arise” workshop series, with short films and articles on the intersection of racism, inequality, and the environment continues on January 19 with Prof. Diane Jacobson of Luther Seminary reflecting biblically on the Earth Day jubilee.

In a film of that series just released about the *Incarnation*, I observed: “Nativity scenes are not complete without a starlit sky, without migrant seekers from other lands, or without animals, who both witness the birth of Christ and share in his salvation. For as in Bethlehem, so too among us, the eternal Word that became flesh embraces not just a human life but all the elements of the universe, in order to redeem it all.” May the *world perspective* of Dr. King, rooted in God’s all-encompassing love, broaden our vision and inspire us toward deeper interrelatedness, that we may reflect the peace on earth Christ came to bring.

In God’s grace,
+ Pastor David Carlson

In memory of Janine Dahlquist~ from Paul Steklenski & Linda Kalweit
In memory of Len Anderson ~ from Darlene Anderson

Gabriel Project

In memory of Janine Dahlquist~ from Paul Steklenski & Linda Kalweit

Garden Fund

In honor of all who tend to the gardens ~ from Warren & Gayle Salmela

God's Global Barnyard

Got your Goat in honor of Bob & Brenda Lufholm ~ from Kathy Wimer
Got your Goat in honor of Sonny & Donna ~ from Kathy Wimer

Laundry Vouchers

In memory of Seymour & Lilian Bailey, Walter & Clara Eberhard ~
from Jim & Judy Bailey

From Linda Vukson

In memory of Lorentz Wittmers ~ from Ruth V. Wittmers

Loaves & Fishes:

In memory of Seymour & Lilian Bailey, Walter & Clara Eberhard ~
from Jim & Judy Bailey

From Linda Vukson

Neighborhood Breakfasts

From Linda Vukson

Niiwin Indigenous Foods Market

In memory of Seymour & Lilian Bailey, Walter & Clara Eberhard ~
from Jim & Judy Bailey

From Elaine Wickstrom

From Tom & Carol Uecker

Project Cheboksary, Ingrian Lutheran Church Russia

In honor of Tom & Beckie Aitken ~ from Pastor & Stephanie Carlson

Radio Ministry:

In memory of Mary Savolainen & Harry Wick ~ from Alice Lahti
In honor of Pastor Dave & all those participants in the weekly worship service on Sunday. See you in Church~

Youth Fund:

In honor of our new granddaughter, Lia Karen Sutherland ~
from Karen Bockelman & John McDonald

ECO-FAITH NEWS - The EcoFaith Network NE MN Synod is excited to release *Incarnation*, our newest Moment of Arising video. With Claire Repsholdt as litanist, the Rev. John Hanson as speaker, Else Madsen as scripture reader, and the Rev. David Carlson as host, we look to Christ's incarnation in Bethlehem as a doorway into incarnation in the whole of creation. In the stanza's musical arrangement by Paul Jacobson, Christmas (Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella) dances with Easter (Now the Green Blade Rises)*. Along with the photographic imagery created by filmmaker Linda Kalweit, we are drawn into God's saving love for the whole creation. The video ends with this question, *How will we adore, nurture, and protect God's gift?*

All nine of the currently released Moments of Arising videos are available at <http://www.nemnsynod.org/moments-of-arising-series.html>

CALLED TO ARISE, Jan 19 – J-Term Workshop, Tuesday, January 19, 6:30 – 8:00p.m., Earth Day's Jubilee Year with Dr. Diane Jacobson, professor emerita of Luther Seminary in Old Testament, explore the significance of the biblical vision of the 50th year as a Jubilee for the 50th year of Earth Day and beyond.

Called to Arise at the Intersection of Racism, Inequality, and the Environment From Death to Resurrection
Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, and 23, 6:30 – 8:00p.m.
More information and registration for J-Term coming soon!

+ + +

2020 CHRISTMAS GIFTS THANK YOU

CHUM / Gabriel Project

In honor of Gloria Dei's 150th Anniversary ~ from Pastor & Stephanie Carlson

In memory of Gary O. Bolander ~ from Diane Bolander

In memory of Seymour & Lilian Bailey, Walter & Clara Eberhard ~ from Jim & Judy Bailey

From Linda Vukson

From Will & Sharon Stenberg

Center for Changing Lives

From Linda Vukson

Chrrent for Curran Hospital Solar Panels

From Elaine Wickstrom

Damiano Center

In memory of Seymour & Lilian Bailey, Walter & Clara Eberhard ~ from Jim & Judy Bailey

Sunday, January 3, 2021 Second Sunday of Christmas

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147:12-20, Ephesians 1:3-14, John 1:[1-9] 10-18

Sunday, January 10, 2021 Baptism of Our Lord

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11

Sunday, January 17, 2021 Second Sunday after Epiphany

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God. 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20], Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, John 1:43-51

Sunday, January 24, 2021 Third Sunday after Epiphany

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Psalm 62:5-12, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

Sunday, January 31, 2021 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

Join us for a look at the text for the next Sunday every Tuesday at 12 Noon. Contact Pr. Carlson to join the Zoom meeting. All are welcome!

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING —January 31, 2021

The Annual Report includes reports from committees and ministries, nominations for Council, and the 2021 Budget. Due to Covid-19, the office plans to mail reports so they arrive at least ten days ahead of the meeting, which will convene at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, January 31, and resume after worship on Zoom through the usual coffee hour link. Please read and bring your reports to the meeting. This meeting will also include a verbal updates.

SAFE GATHERING TEAM – JANUARY 2021

We are facing a difficult winter—the reality of a third and most severe surge in the spread of COVID-19 while at the same time the hope for better days to come with the approval of one or more safe and effective vaccines. It would be tempting to give in to “covid-fatigue” in our eagerness to get back to “normal.” One health care expert has spoken of this as “our darkest winter.”



In December the Safe Gathering Team has paid particular attention to news that has come from the Minnesota Department of Health. The data has made clear that Minnesota is seeing its highest rates of infection, hospitalizations and intensive care unit admissions, and deaths, numbers that exceed the worst points of the surges in April and May. This has reinforced our determination that now is not the time to move toward any further level of reopening.

We are encouraged by the news of approved COVID-19 vaccines and Minnesota’s preparations for distribution, including in the Duluth area. Minnesota will follow the recommendations of the CDC in determining priority groups who should receive the early limited doses. Ultimately, all Minnesotans will have an opportunity to be vaccinated. It will not be required or mandated, but it is highly encouraged.

The SGT joins in encouraging vaccination when it becomes available but we also know it will take months before we have reached a point when we can stop doing the things we have been doing for the past 10 months to slow the spread—wear masks, stay 6 feet from others, wash hands often, and stay home if sick.

The report of the SGT in the 2020 Annual Report includes the current phase of our Safe Gathering Plan and a general idea of what might be possible in the future. Meanwhile, we thank you for your patience and your continuing support, not only of our work but of the ministry of Gloria Dei.

REBUILDING + RENEWING THRU NOV 2020

Campaign goal: \$500,000

Actual pledges: \$561,767

Pledges Rec'd: \$532,267 94.75%

Pledges Remaining: \$29,500

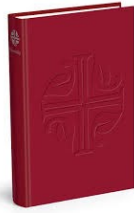
At the end of November, Gloria Dei had a total revenue balance on hand of \$212,678 with total projected expenses of \$219,170 including the organ, for a balance needed of \$6,492. If all outstanding campaign pledges of \$29,500 are received, this will surpass projected expenses by \$23,008. Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!

**JANUARY 2021 EARTH STEWARDSHIP TIPS**

- Conserving and sharing a finite planet: “President Biden’s chief of staff and Office of Management and Budget director should align all federal agencies, spending, and legislative strategy around four big goals: ending the pandemic, dismantling systemic racism, confronting climate change, and [“Redirecting the Economy Toward Community, the Environment, and a Sustainable Future.”](#)
- Changing course: “Under Biden, the Department of Justice can reverse course and argue in favor of the defendants in [Juliana v. United States](#), the constitutional climate recovery lawsuit brought by 21 young Americans against the U.S. government. (Trump’s DOJ argued the Constitution does not give youth access to the courts to protect their environmental rights.)”
- Banking on fossil fuels?: “Since 2016, the world’s top 35 banks have undermined the Paris Agreement by providing [\\$2.7 trillion to the fossil fuel industry](#). President Biden should appoint a Treasury secretary, SEC chair, and financial regulators at all levels of his administration who are committed to holding financial institutions accountable for climate risk.”
- Coming clean: “The Biden administration needs to establish mandatory, consistent, industry-wide, [corporate climate risk disclosure](#). This would send a clear signal across every sector of the economy that mitigating climate risk is critical to the financial stability of our country. The old adage is true: what gets measured gets managed.”
- Paying all the costs: “Carbon must be priced appropriately to pay its full costs of polluting the planet,” said [Janet Yellen](#), former Chair of the Federal Reserve System. “It will certainly affect the economics of fracking and coal—the idea is to drive that stuff out of business over time. Maybe it doesn’t sound pleasant to say, but that’s what has to happen.”



HYMNAL LENDING OR PURCHASING - Those who worship via video stream each Sunday are blessed by having the words to hymns right on the screen—thanks to Linda our videographer and to Karen who looks up the copyright information. The Evangelism Team is thinking of radio listeners who don't have the words—and who may wish to borrow a hymnal from the church to sing along. Others may wish to purchase a hymnal from Augsburg Fortress (\$24.50) to keep. For either option, please call the church office, 722-3381.



STEWARDSHIP

Our stewardship celebrates the abundance and the value of God's gifts, practicing sustainability and generosity as joyful expressions of God's love for all creation.

FINANCE REPORT THRU NOVEMBER 2020

Needed per month \$20,208; per week \$4,798
Envelope Offerings:
Budget, 11 months \$228,708
Actual, 11 months \$243,520 106.5%
Difference, *ahead \$ 14,812*



Thank you for supporting God's Mission through the ministry of Gloria Dei. 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!

PLEDGE CARDS – THANK YOU to all those who turned their commitment cards. As of this printing, the office has received 59 cards for a total pledged amount of \$212,040. If you have not yet turned yours in please do so. It's not too late to complete a card! Your commitment is very important in planning our budget for 2021. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Wimer, 727-1987. Additional cards available in the office.

SIMPLY GIVING - An increasing number of people at Gloria Dei are using Simply Giving, an automatic withdrawal process operated through Thrivent Financial. This process allows one to designate an offering amount and a schedule for giving automatically. Forms for Simply Giving are available through the church office—722-3381. ** Note that Simply Giving's automatic withdrawal does not deduct a fee from the donation amount, whereas giving by credit card on our website does deduct a percentage fee.



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.

THANK YOU to all who have worked so hard to make this Christmas season so meaningful.

- Paul S for giving the Christmas tree, and to John M, Karen B., Carol U, and Thomas L for decorating it and the sanctuary.
- Maggie W for being this year's Santa Lucia, Daphne A for telling the story of Lucia and, with Paul S, bringing traditional Lucia rolls that morning.
- All Sunday School families who participated in the Christmas program with singing and speaking parts, Steve & Maia D, Per A and Martha C for music, and Chelsea for assembling the video.
- Our organists, Mary G and Barb E, music directors Stan W and Katheryn H, Steve D and One Bread, for your dedication and beautiful music throughout the season, and to all musicians who were part of the Christmas Eve prelude: Jamie C, Paul U, Theresa J, Katheryn H, Barb E, Bob A, Ed M, Martha C, Nancy A, Steve D, Lexy L, Sarah L, Cal M, GiGi C, Lisa M, Bill M.
- Anna M for preaching the 1st Sunday of Christmas.
- Karen B, Stephanie C, and Sharon of the Altar Guild for their dedication during the extra services.
- Doug M, Scott R, the Florence family, Linda K and Paul S for their sound, radio, and video broadcasting ministry.
- Thanks to all who gave items for the food shelf (and delivered them) and all who gave extra ministry gifts this year!

SUNDAY WORSHIP – PLEASE STAY HOME and participate through video streaming on our Facebook page, website, www.gloriadeiduluth.org, or the radio 710 AM or 98.1 FM. Gloria Dei now has a YouTube channel that is also live streaming. People can subscribe to our Gloria Dei channel to make it easier to find us: Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - Duluth, MN. We are grateful for technology that allows us to hear and see each other, and for the Holy Spirit through whom we are united in worship. Some members text or message one another during the sharing of the peace. Some click the Donate Now button during the offering. Some watch the recorded service later.

Bulletins – A copy of the Sunday bulletin is being emailed from the church office and mailed to those who do not have email. If you are not receiving a bulletin but would like to, please contact our Parish Secretary Donna at secretary@gloriadeiduluth.org.

Abundance - Offerings through automatic withdrawal, giving online, and commitments in the mail are part of our worship, express God's abundant grace, and enable us to fully fund our ministries. THANK YOU for supporting God's Mission through the ministry of Gloria Dei!

PRAYER AT HOME - Wednesday evenings from 6:45-7:00 p.m., Gloria Dei leaders offer a weekly time of guided prayer. We hope these will be times to still our hearts and rest in the presence of God. In times marked by anxiety, uncertainty, and suffering the people of God turn to prayer. These 10-15 minute prayer times include an opening, a brief scripture reading, prayers, music, silence, and a closing blessing. You are welcome to join us with the Zoom link (emailed Tuesday) or by phone (312-626-6799; ID: 854-8529-9292; passcode: 273004). You are encouraged to light a candle or focus on another symbol of God's listening presence and, if you wish, remain in prayer as long as you need.

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.

INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL, Jan 3 – At 8:45 a.m. on the first Sunday each month - join us! This year's theme is "My Story, Our Story, God's Story." January's theme is "Joy" and the Bible verses are Psalm 30:5 and Matthew 2:10. There will be brief craft activity each month and you will only need paper, writing utensils (pens, markers, crayons, or colored pencils will work), scissors, and glue or tape. If you don't have these things already at home let Chelsea know and she will coordinate a craft supply drop off. Zoom Meeting ID: 894 1732 0208 & Passcode: 812957 (This is the same link for Intergenerational Sunday school and for adult forum). Hope to see you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL, Jan 17- On the 3rd Sunday of each month families are invited to meet on Zoom for Sunday School. ELCA World Hunger has modified their VBS resources to use for at home Sunday School and we will use this resource for our time together. Chelsea will put together a special Sunday school box for all families interested in participating. Please email chelsea.froemke@gmail.com if you are interested. Note that requesting the box does not mean you have to participate every month or that participation requires any supplies. All families are welcome to join as much or as little as you want. It is our hope that this will be a meaningful time for our youth to engage with one another, with their families, and with the global body of Christ! Chelsea Froemke is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Zoom Meeting ID: 789 5024 6507 & Passcode: N0LU66

ADULT FORUM - All are welcome to join us for Zoom discussion on Sunday mornings beginning at 8:45. Please join us! Meeting ID: 894 1732 0208 & Passcode: 812957. This month, we are planning: Jan 3—Intergenerational Sunday School

ing at 10:00 a.m. and during special worship services. This streaming service is through Boxcast.

+ Visit: <http://gloriadeiduluth.org/worship/livestreamingworship.html>

DVD MINISTRY – For those who have neither Internet access nor reliable radio reception, please let Mary Gagnon and Gary Olson know: 525-7729. Efforts have begun to create and deliver DVDs of the Sunday video broadcast. Help making deliveries may also be needed. Thanks to them and to all who can be part of this ministry.

150TH ANNIVERSARY VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

January introduces the 3rd chapter of Gloria Dei's 150th virtual celebration with a global theme—**Where in the world is Gloria Dei?** In the church year, January is the season of Epiphany. Starting with the arrival of "wise men from the East", this season is a time to remember and celebrate Jesus's coming to the nations beyond Israel. So it would seem fitting to share stories, videos, and photos of connections with our companion churches in Honduras, India, Russia, and Tanzania. If you have anything to share about these—or any other—global connections, send to Donna at the church office and she will pass it on to Linda Kalweit who is putting these chapters together.

Our February chapter, **Out of the Ashes**, will honor the 2016 fire and subsequent rebuild of our building. Not surprisingly, we already have a lot of material, but we want to collect personal reflections—when/how you heard about the fire, your feelings and/or struggles, your memories of those three and a half years. Short video or audio reflections (recording on a cell phone is fine) or written memories should be sent to Donna at the church office for passing on to Linda K. Don't forget that materials can always be added even after each chapter is posted. Check it out on the Gloria Dei website.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY NOTES Carol Uecker

It's been about a month for our Little Free Library and I thought you might want to know what has been popular. I have been closely monitoring it out of curiosity. Children's picture books are almost gone. Any current issues of kid level magazines seem to disappear quickly. Current popular novels and authors go at once. Some books have been added. The gift wrapped books (title, author and synopsis on post it notes) have gone quickly. The mid level reader books have not begun moving, which probably indicates that adults are either visiting for their young children or themselves.

Just a reminder that the library was donated fully stocked by Altrusa, a woman's service group. It was built for them by Community Action carpenters in training. There is a sign on the library that says that. What a wonderful gift to the downtown/hospital area.



produce. They are distributing food on a weekly basis. Each household will receive 4-6 grocery bags of food, depending on family size. People are asked to go to the market to pick up the food curbside, but AICHO will also deliver to Elders, homebound persons and those in isolation due to COVID. They are also able to work with homecare nurses to customize food for people with special dietary needs. This project will continue through December, but AICHO is hopeful that they will receive more funding to continue throughout the pandemic.

To register for food, email: foodaccess@aicho.org. Food distribution dates are announced on the American Indian Community Housing Organization Facebook page.

AICHO also has PPE supplies of disposable masks, hand sanitizer, hand wipes, thermometers and more, which they are distributing to non-profits and the community at large. Email Michelle LeBeau at michelle.lebeau59@gmail.com. Both programs are open to ALL members of the community.

In addition to the above programs, AICHO is also distributing food for the unsheltered which is non-perishable. They are partnering with CHUM, AIM and Life House to distribute this food, as well as other agencies working with unsheltered people.

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 November 30, Radio Ministry has received \$10,894 which is \$106 behind our budget needs. Thanks to all who responded to the anniversary appeal in March—this generous figure reflects that. Thanks to all who sponsor broadcasts and give regularly throughout the year. Gifts of \$245 to sponsor a Sunday or in any amount continue to make this an important outreach.

WORSHIP WITH THE RADIO

+ Live Radio Broadcast Sundays 10:00 a.m. on AM 710 or FM 98.1 - WDSM Radio, since 1942
+ Live Audio stream Sundays at WDSM Radio website <https://wds710.com/> - click "Listen Now" near the top. Gloria Dei's website also has a link to this service.



VIDEO STREAMING LIVE ON INTERNET OR PHONE

+ Live Video streaming of our worship is available each on Sunday morn-

Jan 10—DVD discussion on "Living the Questions"

Jan 17—How to Talk to Kids About Climate Change: Informed by Faith and Science. The presenter is Charlie Orsak, a local parent, member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and a volunteer with the Citizen's Climate Lobby. This gathering will address faith and science perspectives on caring for creation, how to best talk to kids about the urgent problem of climate change, and actions families and individuals can take to make a meaningful difference. There will also be time for questions and discussion.

Jan 24—Bright Stars of Bethlehem, with Katheryn Hamm & Julie Jagim. Bright Stars is a U.S. charitable organization that supports the outreach ministries of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem to build hope and a brighter future for the Palestinian people.

Jan 31—DVD discussion on "Living the Questions"

FIRST WORD - Our Tuesday noon bible study is offered weekly through Zoom. Contact Pastor Carlson at pastor@gloriadeiduluth.org to receive the link, or join by phone: 312-626-6799; ID: 651 575 089; passcode: 092234

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS, Jan 6, 13, 20, 27 - In addition to regular worship, our confirmation class will be focusing on Luther's *Small Catechism* and faith practices. We meet most Wednesdays from 3:45-4:45 p.m. on Zoom. All students in grades 7 & up are welcome—please contact Pastor Dave.

INTERGENERATIONAL CONVERSATIONS FILM, Jan 13 -

Gloria Dei is partnering with DanSan Creatives to host an evening film and virtual conversation about racial justice in Duluth, January 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The intergenerational conversation is a part two segment piece that features three youths, three young adults and three elders from the African American community who have lived in the Duluth community for a significant number of years. In this conversation we explore the impact of the 1920 lynchings, intergenerational conflicts, roles, systems and infrastructure. Knowing that healing is necessary we were also able to identify that infrastructural change comes from significant systemic and cultural changes. This experience hinged on bridging perspectives, affirming understanding, building on one another's experiences and creating a uniting space through intergenerational dialogue.

Evening film and virtual conversation Wednesday, January 13, 2021 - 7:00 p.m. Facilitated by DanSan Creatives, presented by Gloria Dei Lutheran Church with support from SURJ, First Lutheran Church, Lake Superior Conference of the Northeastern MN Synod ELCA, Peace UCC, and Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth. Register free and view the trailer at dansancreatives.org/screeningregistration



EARTH HARMONY STUDY GROUP, Jan 14 - The Oreck-Alpern Inter-religious Forum of the College of St. Scholastica offers a study group on environmental stewardship, facilitated by Pastor Carlson. These sessions explore a variety of spiritual perspectives that recognize our deep creaturely interrelatedness, lament our negative impact on the earth's well-being, and highlight our vocation as stewards. This month, we are reading chapters *All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis* (2020) by Ayana Johnson and Katharine Wilkinson, eds., a collection of essays by women at the forefront of the climate movement. A Zoom meeting is planned from 8:00-9:00 a.m.; if interested, please contact Pastor Carlson.

RELIGION & SCIENCE IN DIALOGUE, Jan 20 - 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! This month, we're reading chapters in *The Age of Wonder: How the Romantic Generation Discovered the Beauty and Terror of Science* (2008) by Richard Holmes. A Zoom meeting is planned from 8:00-9:00 a.m.; if interested, please contact Pastor Carlson.

RACIAL JUSTICE Jan 20, 27, Feb 3, 10 - Join Pastor Carlson for a Zoom discussion on racial justice on these Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. As a reference point, people are invited to order their own copy of *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. All are welcome, and you don't need to have the book to participate in the conversation. A Zoom link is sent on Tuesdays, or join by phone: 312-626-6799; ID: 854-8529-9292; passcode: 273004.

RACIAL JUSTICE IDEAS – Service & Justice committee invites you to share: What have you been doing to respond to racial injustice? How have the events especially of this year shaped new practices or actions in your life? Please send to Carol Kelley, cannkelley5230@gmail.com or 525-6098, as a way to inspire more antiracist efforts in our life and witness.

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.

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR – Join us Sunday after worship, 11:00-12:00, for congregational fellowship through Zoom, either with the link (emailed Thursday) or by phone (312-626-6799; ID: 871- 8859-0793; passcode: 062870). Though we miss being in-person, here is a chance to check in weekly.

contributed! Additional gifts welcome to Gloria Dei with "Tanzania Scholarship" in the memo. Funds beyond the goal will go to additional students, or to the Bukoba congregation, as we continue to learn about the needs there.

THRIVENT GRANTS RECEIVED, INVITE FURTHER DONATIONS:

1. Julie Jagim--A \$250 grant was used as seed money to pay for laundry vouchers at Dee Independent Cleaners that Loaves and Fishes can offer while they are undergoing renovations. Contributions toward this can be made to Gloria Dei, with notations of Laundry Vouchers in the memo line.
 2. Judy Bailey--A \$250 grant to supplement the donations we are making to CHUM for the Food Shelf and Health Clinic in the wagon collection on the first and second Sundays this month. Monetary donations for CHUM can also be made directly to Gloria Dei that will be passed on to CHUM. Note CHUM in the memo line of your check.
 3. Canice Maki--A \$250 grant to assist Loaves and Fishes to help with costs of new flooring and kitchen renovation at the Loaves and Fishes Dorothy Day House. This house serves single men in their recovery from homelessness, unemployment or addiction and is currently undergoing a much-needed kitchen renovation. They serve up to 25 meals a day and an outdated kitchen was not keeping up with the needs of the residents and guests. Other upcoming needs at their Olive Branch House and Hannah House are multiple and include a sewer line replacement and re-roofing projects. Day-to-day expenses include groceries, cleaning products, paper products, etc. Anyone wishing to donate to Loaves and Fishes may send the donation to Gloria Dei earmarked for Loaves and Fishes. Thank you for considering a donation to this extremely worthwhile cause!
 4. Connie Anderson is transferring her grant for Angel Closet to Damiano Center so donations that are earmarked for Damiano will be sent on to support their work.
 5. Bobby Maki received a \$250 grant for helping with purchase of food for Heather Winsett's Christmas breakfast project at CHUM and Steve O'Neil apartments. Donations welcome also.
 6. David Gangeness is receiving a \$250 grant to help Niiwin Indigenous Food Market with its reorganization and its provision of food to the community.
- **Your donations to these special offerings will be forwarded on to the groups and be reported to Thrivent to show that their seed money was effective.



NIIWIN FOOD MARKET - AICHO (American Indian Community Housing Organization) has stocked the Niiwin Market on 1st Avenue East and 4th Street with food, including meat, dairy, dried goods, and fresh

and/or information as we continue to support one another through the pandemic.

Peace,
Kristen Bauerkemper krbauerkemper@gmail.com

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD SHELF, Jan 3 – We are resuming our practice of bringing items on the first Sunday of the month for the Chum Food Shelf, which has seen increased use during the pandemic. Items can be brought to the wagon which will be under the canopy on the first Sunday between 11:00 and 1:00 pm and delivered to the Food Shelf on Monday.

RUBY'S PANTRY (DRIVE-THRU), Jan 21 - Volunteers Needed At Ruby's Pantry—Coppertop, 3rd Thursday of Every Month, 3:30-5:30pm: Set up for food distribution, 5:30-6:45pm: Assist with food distribution, 6:45-7:30pm: Assist with clean-up. For a \$20.00 donation, people receive approximately two boxes of food. Cash only, no income guidelines. If you are interested in volunteering at Ruby's Pantry-Coppertop, or for more information, please contact First United Methodist Church at 727-5021, located at 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth.



Sue Anderson, Paul Steklenski, and Patty Maguire continue to volunteer at Ruby's Pantry every month. There are currently around 30 volunteers helping with distribution each month who are observing strict COVID safety protocols. In November, 19,000 pounds of food was distributed to 192 households. In October, 26,000 pounds of food was distributed.

HONDURAS COMPANIONS - NE MN Synod has companion synod relationships with churches in Honduras, India, and Russia. See NE MN ELCA Synod webpage for updates. La Paz de Cristo (The Honduras Mission and Ministry Committee of the NEMN Synod) have been requesting financial gifts to support the Iglesia Cristiana Lutherana de Honduras following the devastation of hurricane Eta and Iota in that region. These gifts will be used by Companion Synod Iglesia Cristiana Lutherana de Honduras to help their neighbors and communities with the food, shelter, basic necessities, and rebuilding following these hurricanes. Donations can be sent to the Northeast Minnesota Synod Office with a note in the memo line Honduras Relief.

EDUCATION IN TANZANIA – Pr. Faith Lugazia is a Lutheran theology professor in Tanzania, who has preached at Gloria Dei while completing her PhD at Luther Seminary, and Gloria Dei has pledged to help support her son Alpha's high school expenses this coming year and next. Service & Justice has set a goal of \$1500 to cover 3 semesters and has received gifts totaling \$1650 - many thanks to all who have

LIFE GROUPS - Neighborhood clusters of our congregation, that began gathering in person last year are now getting together via Zoom for fellowship, reflection, and prayer. Leaders are reaching out to their Life Groups with scheduled times to join either by video link or by phone. If you would like to participate but don't know when your group is meeting, please contact Pastor Carlson at 722-3381 or pastor@gloriadeiduluth.org.

MEN IN MISSION, Jan 9 -

Gentlemen/Men in Mission, this is an invitation to our Zoom call on the second Saturday morning of the month at 9:00 am. I hope most if not all of you will participate in this call as my experience with Zoom has seen it greatly received and not surprisingly well attended by most participants. A Zoom link is sent out prior to the meeting, and we begin with devotions. If you haven't received a link before, please send me a note at RTroy44@yahoo.com, or participate by phone (312-626-6799; ID: 880 0565 0501; passcode: 136680). Please join us and be prepared to enjoy reconnecting with each other.



Last month, we depleted our treasury through a contribution to the Family Freedom Center to assist with its worthy goals of supporting African American families. Any who wish to give to replenish funds for further projects are invited to do so with a check payable to "Gloria Dei Men's Club" sent to Bob Kelley 5230 Juniata St., Duluth 55804. Thanks for your involvement, and hope to see you with us together on Zoom. - Rick Troy

WELCA NEWS

Each year, WELCA helps to support many groups/charities including CHUM, Habitat for Humanity, Seafarer's Ministry, Union Gospel Mission, Center for Changing Lives, UMD Campus Ministries, Gloria Dei Parish Nurse, breakfast program and renovation. Since COVID-19 interfered with our annual Fall Fair plans, Sharon Stenberg suggested an online Silent Auction. With Linda Kalweit working on the technical aspect, we are planning to hold the Silent Auction on Saturday and Sunday, February 27 and 28, 2021. The hours will be 9:00 am to 6:00 pm each day. WELCA members and, in fact, all church members may donate items (handmade items, purchased items), baked goods, services (housecleaning, transportation, etc.) or vacation opportunities (use of a camper trailer or cabin, etc). Donors will take a picture of the item and email it to Linda Kalweit (lmkalweit@gmail.com) with a description and the donor's name, minimum bid or value. Linda will transfer the information to a separate page of the Gloria Dei website. Bidders will email or call their bid to Candice Maki (218-969-2836; candice-maki@yahoo.com). High bid updates will be posted at 12 noon and 5 pm both days of the auction, without the bidder's name attached. Win-



ning bidders will be notified at the end of the auction. If an arrangement between the donor and the bidder can be reached about exchanging items, that may be the easiest way to do that. If that doesn't work, some WELCA members will be available for pick-up and delivery or perhaps meeting in the church parking lot would work for some. Payments can be sent directly to WELCA treasurer, Marlaine Willms. This gives us all time to handcraft an item or think about what we have to donate. Questions can be referred to Candice Maki, candicemaki@yahoo.com or Sharon Stenberg, sharonsw1943@gmail.com. Thank you for considering participation in this event!

WELCA ONLINE SILENT AUCTION—SAVE THE DATE!

February 27 & 28

9:00 am to 6:00 pm each day

See items on separate page of Gloria Dei website.

WELCA GATHER BIBLE STUDY, Jan 20, 1:30-3pm —Please join us for a ZOOM Bible study using the January issue of GATHER magazine. Faith Garnatz will lead. All women are welcome to participate; please RSVP to Candace Maki in order to receive the ZOOM link. If you don't have a copy of the magazine, don't worry, just let her know and a copy of the devotional article will be sent. The Zoom link will be sent the day before and the morning of the meeting so it will be easy to find.

WELCA: Sadly, Gayle Salmela has resigned as co-chair of WELCA at this time. Gayle did an excellent job as co-chair and her leadership will be very much missed, although she plans to remain active in WELCA projects. WELCA thanks her so much for her time of leadership. A new co-chair is needed!! With interest or questions, please contact Candice Maki, 218-969-2836, candicemaki@yahoo.com.

HEALTHY CONNECT – Our Health Coordinator Kristen Bauerkemper is organizing phone calls and other contacts with homebound and isolated members. Please be in touch with Kristen 512-791-4237 or [krebauerkemper@gmail.com](mailto:krbauerkemper@gmail.com) – if you:

- + would like to add someone on the prayer list...
- + are making cloth face masks and are interested in distributing them...
- + need help getting groceries or running an errand, or could help others do so...
- + would like assistance with yard work tasks or a maintenance/repair project, or would like to be included on a list to help others with such projects. Thank you!

LGBT ELDERS & LARCC (at Gloria Dei). For more information, please contact Kathleen Gates gatespea@centurylink.net or 624-4589.

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.

HEALTH COORDINATOR

Joy to the World, The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!

We enter 2021 with many of our new realities – the daily challenges of our work/home life blur and imbalance, pandemic fatigue, and ambiguous loss experienced on so many levels. Yet, JOY is in the world, and 2021 begins with renewed hope. In this new year, try to incorporate mindful breathing into your daily routines – sit in stillness and breathe for 3 minutes (you can set a goal for yourself of doing this 2x/day or whatever works best for you). As we navigate our new year, here are some resources to help support our resiliency and mental wellbeing:

Community Health Highlight

- The MN Association of Children's Mental Health (MACMH) website links to free webinars and resource information to support the mental health of families during the pandemic:

<https://macmh.org/publications/covid-19-resources/>

- NAMI MN is offering free zoom classes, including Family to Family a virtual workshop for family and friends of an adult living with a mental illness. Learn about mental illnesses, the brain, treatment, and resources to help a loved one living with a mental illness. NAMI also offers a short

training on self-care for those working in health care with seniors to help these essential workers manage stress while continuing to offer help, hope and healing to those they care for. Check out these and other opportunities at: <https://namimn.org/education-and-public-awareness/>

- Also, be sure to check out the Mental Health Resources (under the 'Youth' tab) on our NE MN website for helpful and supportive information and links: <http://www.nemnsynod.org/mental-health-resources.html>

Inspired by our intergenerational Sunday school "My Story, God's Story, Our Story" theme of JOY for the month of January, here are Bible verses to carry and hold in our hearts:

- *When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. Matthew 2:10*
- *Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn shout for joy before the Lord, the King. Psalm 98:4-6*

I'm thankful for our Gloria Dei community! Please contact me with ideas

