



*Jesus our brother, kind and good,  
was humbly born in a stable rude...*  
– Sunday School song

### From the Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

Christmas is about the *stable place* that God's love creates. The stable place where Mary gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger. The stable place foretold by the prophet Isaiah that meant an end to war, that meant the birth of the promised king, that meant God was establishing peace through justice. We see that stable place in Christmas cards, in crèche scenes of the holy family amid animals and shepherds, in reverent stillness warmed by the glow of light in the manger, an image of stability come again to a world in need.

In the birth of Jesus Christ, God's love finally brings forth what earlier had not been completely visible. And this is good news, because we know that for all those gathered around the glow of the crèche scene, *life was anything but stable*. An imperial census was a disruption of life to say the least, to travel a journey of several days' from Nazareth to Bethlehem while everyone else was making a journey too. But it was all part of the Roman Empire's control system, reminding those they conquered of who's in charge, perpetuating an institution of inequality, poverty, and disillusionment through brute force. Life was anything but stable. On top of this was the perplexing pregnancy, not just to Mary but also to Joseph, and possibly to the neighbors. And when they reach their destination there is no room for them we read; they're cold, tired and destitute.

This is not unlike the experience of many in our world today. Globally and along our southern border, we think of thousands who have been displaced by violence and unrest, forced to travel under difficult circumstances to reach uncertain destinations, refugees including families with children. Locally, we think also of people experiencing homelessness, who are coping day-to-day with food and housing needs. We ourselves may be able to relate, when our once stable lives are disrupted by illness, or brokenness, or grief.

Yet it is into such instability that God comes. Into lives that are anything but stable, to those who have known deep darkness, the light of Christ comes, lifting up the lowly, welcoming the outcast, redeeming this world in love, and *enabling us to become stability for each other*.

This month, Gloria Dei will begin partnering with CHUM to host a *Warming Center* in the Hillside Room of our building. The Warming Center will be open in the Hillside Room from 8:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. on nights when the weather is predicted to reach 10 degrees or below. Like the CHUM Drop-in

	December 1	December 8	December	December 22	December 29
<b>Organist</b>	Mary Garner	Barbara Erickson	Worship Band	Mary Garner	Barbara Erickson
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Martha Carlson	Chelsea Froemke	Tanner Hall	Kristen Hylenski	Patti Maguire
<b>Sound Technician</b>	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich
<b>Reader</b>	Rachel Komarek	Rick Troy	Craig Haugan	Candice Maki	Joan Gunderson
<b>Acolytes</b>	Eliza Bauerkemper & Gigi Calland	Kingston Lew & Adrian Erickson	Maya Smith & Samantha Stevens	Eliza Bauerkemper & Gigi Calland	Kingston Lew & Maggie Winesett
<b>Ushers</b>	Barb Renick & Kathy Wimer	Paul Steklenski & Linda Kalweit	Rick & Marcia Troy	Karen Bockelman & John McDonald	Candice & Bob Maki
<b>Nursery Attendants</b>	Self Serve	Stephanie Carlson	Barb Switzer	Self Serve	Self Serve
<b>Counters</b>	Kristen Hylenski & Laura Hoeller	Rod Dahlquist & David Gangeness	Bob Forbort & Sharon Stenberg	Barb Renick & Joan Gunderson	Janine Dahlquist & Julie Jagin
<b>Coffee Servers</b>	Youth Group	Paul Steklenski & Linda Kalweit	Eve Gathering	Jason Hester	Service & Justice
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Deonta Lew	Deonta Lew	Deonta Lew	Deonta Lew	Deonta Lew
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sherry Dalager & Helen Wikblad	Judy Oman & Sue Anderson	Martaine Wilms & Alison Stucke	Barb Renick & Linda Kalweit	Sandy Uecker & Thomas Leight

Center and another site farther west in Duluth, Gloria Dei's Warming Center will provide a *stable place* for people who would otherwise be outside on extremely cold nights. Our new building has updated sprinkler and fire safety systems, which will allow guests to sleep. Guests will also be able to connect with needed resources during Warming Center hours.

CHUM will coordinate the Warming Center and will provide *paid CHUM staff to operate the center overnight*. Gloria Dei has been asked to provide two volunteers in the evening and two volunteers in the morning hours to provide hospitality to guests and also assist CHUM staff with setting up and closing. Volunteer shifts are 7:30-9:30 p.m. and 7:30-9:30 a.m. Volunteers are welcome to stay overnight if they wish, but are not required to do so.

This winter, our Warming Center agreement with CHUM will be in effect from December 1, 2019 until April 30, 2020. According to St. Louis County, there were 67 nights last winter when the overnight temperature was 10 or below, so *a large pool of volunteers is needed*. A call out to volunteers will be sent by email the evening before the Warming Center is to open. Gloria Dei Warming Center coordinators Char Matheson and Chelsea Froemke are preparing a directory of volunteers interested in spending an evening or morning with CHUM staff and Warming Center guests. Please email them at [charm64@gmail.com](mailto:charm64@gmail.com) or [chelsea.froemke@gmail.com](mailto:chelsea.froemke@gmail.com) if you want to be on the list. Other congregations besides Gloria Dei are also being contacted.

Huge thanks to Char and Chelsea for their coordinating efforts, to Bob Asleson and Char for fine-tuning our agreement with CHUM, to members of the Service & Justice Committee and Dan Lew who met with CHUM's Lee Stuart earlier this fall expressing our openness this possibility, and to the Council for its unanimous support of this new undertaking. As I mentioned to the *Duluth News Tribune* last month, such leaders connected thankfulness for our renewed building with an idea to help the community. "The character of a society can be assessed by how it treats its most vulnerable people. It's a matter of faith to welcome and serve people in our neighborhood, especially those that are in need."

A Warming Center, like a manger scene, may be a *stable place* for a night. Like Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds, we know that *the stability our world needs goes beyond it*. So with the coming of Advent and Christmas, we can again celebrate the birth of the One who enters into our lives and embodies the promise of hope, forgiveness, justice and peace. Thanks be to God for the precious gift of Christmas: love that creates a *stable place* in our hearts and in our world, love that enables us to become stability for each other.

See you in worship!  
+ Pastor David Carlson

**SERVING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE 5 PM SERVICE**

Assisting - TBA  
Acolytes - TBA  
Reader - Bryn Weberg  
Ushers - The Pass family  
Organist - Mary Garmer  
Altar Guild - Barb Renick & Linda Kalweit

**SERVING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE 10PM SERVICE**

Assisting - Patti Maguire  
Acolytes - TBA  
Reader - John McDonald  
Ushers - Mary Gagnon & Joan Gunderson  
Organist - Barbara Erickson  
Altar Guild - Barb Renick & Linda Kalweit



**CHRISTMAS EVE**

Worship with carols and candlelight  
5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Re-broadcast of late Christmas Eve Service  
Christmas morning, 10:00 a.m.  
WDSM Radio 710 AM or 98.1 FM

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 ~ Darrell Harris      | 13 ~ Mark Pass        |
| 2 ~ Shirley Peterson    | 20 ~ Nicholas Pearson |
| 2 ~ Elaine Wickstrom    | 21 Kingston Lew       |
| 3 ~ Alexis Cieluch      | 21 Joann McCall       |
| 4 ~ Mary Gagnon         | 22 ~ Andrew Wold      |
| 5 ~ Lowell Johnson      | 22 ~ Mona Wold        |
| 6 ~ Travis Lufholm      | 23 John Degelau       |
| 8 ~ Michael Pearson     | 25 Beau Baker         |
| 8 ~ Carol Uecker        | 25 ~ Barb Renick      |
| 10~ Nancy Carlson       | 26 ~ Conor Weberg     |
| 10 ~ Nadia Tessier      | 27 ~ Jazzlynn Lorfald |
| 10 ~ Lubov Willms       | 27~ Carol Worthing    |
| 11 ~ Faith Garnatz      | 27 ~ Doug Maguire     |
| 12 ~ Daphne Amundson    | 28 ~ Mark Florence    |
| 12 ~ Joseph Bauerkemper | 30 ~ Danielle Cieluch |

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**GREEN KITCHEN COUNTERTOP FOOD WASTE BINS:** The bins that were given away at the drawing on November 3rd were so popular that I've checked about ordering some that people could buy. If we have 20 orders, I think the bin would cost about \$10.50, including shipment from Canada. I am contacting those who had their names in the drawing and didn't win, but others may also be interested. Please let me know by Dec 5 if you would like one or more of the bins. Some are doing Christmas shopping! (See a sample bin on the counter in Lakeside room or the Conference room.) Judy Bailey (218-481-7195 or [jimjudybailey@gmail.com](mailto:jimjudybailey@gmail.com).)



### EARTH STEWARDSHIP TIPS

This month's Stewardship Tips come from an article by ecological economist, Herman Daly, "When Smart People Make Dumb Mistakes." Daly explains how some, highly distinguished, free-market economists make egregious mistakes about climate change, because they are blinded by their belief that economic growth is always good, and more of it must be better.

+ William Nordhaus, free-market economist and 2018 Nobel prize recipient, contends that, "Agriculture, the part of the economy that is sensitive to climate change, accounts for just 3% of national output (GDP). That means there is no way to get a very large effect on the US economy (GDP) from climate change." I'm not making this up!

+ A major conclusion of free-market economic theory is: do whatever it takes to grow GDP. In a famous 1991 paper titled, "To Slow or Not to Slow," Nobel prize economist, William Nordhaus, argued firmly for the latter option. "Let's not be too eager to slow down global warming, because we don't want to jeopardize GDP growth."

+ Oxford University economist, Wilfred Beckerman, says, in his book, Small is Stupid, "climate change is no worry because it affects only agriculture and even if agricultural output fell by 50% by the end of this century, this is only a 1.5% cut in GDP." Incredible. He is saying that if people had half the food they needed, they still could produce everything else.

+ Free-market economists, committed to GDP, while ignorant of ecology, believe, "if climate breakdown ends up starving and displacing a few hundred million poor Africans and Asians, that will register as only a tiny negative blip in world GDP. After all, poor people don't add much value to the global economy. The same goes for things like insects and birds and wildlife."

+ When William Nordhaus received the 2018 Nobel prize in economics, he admonished his students: Don't let this distract you from the work at hand, which is economic growth." The religious-like belief in GDP growth that leads distinguished economists to make dumb mistakes, is due to the complete neglect of the Earth Sciences by free-market economists.



### Sunday, December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent

*The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.*

**Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44**

### Sunday, December 8, 2019 Second Sunday of Advent

*At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.*

**Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12**

### Sunday, December 15, 2019 Third Sunday of Advent

*A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.*

**Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11**

### Sunday, December 22, 2019 Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.*

**Isaiah 7:10-16, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25**

### Sunday, December 29, 2019 First Sunday of Christmas

*As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.*

**Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23**

**Join us for a look at the text for the next Sunday every Tuesday at 12 Noon at the Church. All are welcome.**

### 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.*

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS & POINSETTIAS** - Pick up a form at the usher stand (homebound members receive one in the mail), fill in and drop it in the collection plate with your offering or mail it into the church office by December 17.



### SAMARITAN SUNDAY, Dec 1 -

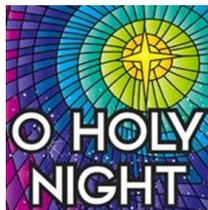
Thanks for remembering: 1) canned food items to help replenish the CHUM Food Shelf, which are brought forward as part of our offering. 2) Our loose cash offering on the first Sunday has for several years gone to the Gabriel Fund, a ministry started by Gloria Dei and other Central Hillside parishes and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

**EUCCHARIST AT ST. ANN'S, Dec 1** - Each month, Gloria Dei conducts a service and fellowship time at a senior residential home. This month a Holy Communion service is at St. Ann's on Sunday, December 1 at 3:00 p.m. in the chapel. All are welcome.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL** - 7:00 pm on Wed., Dec 4. The choir has weekly rehearsals at 8:30 a.m., on each Sunday except when the band plays. For more information, please contact Director of Music Stan Wold, 728-5925.



**CHUM HOLIDAY CONCERT, Dec 13 & 14** - The St. Scholastica Concert Choir, Bella Voce, Vox Anima and Cantus Corde present this annual celebration, "O Holy Night," reflecting on the Christmas season through sacred and secular music. Friday and Saturday evenings, Dec 13 & 14 at Holy Rosary Church, 2801 East 4th Street. There is a \$15 ticket fee and, in partnership with CHUM, a freewill offering will be collected for the Steve O'Neil Apartments. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and concert begins at 7:30 p.m.



**ONE BREAD, Dec 15** - Thanks to One Bread, our worship band, for accompanying worship once a month, this month with *God Give Us Life* liturgy by Ray Makeever. Other Sundays, liturgy will be accompanied with piano and choir. We thank God for the gifts of all musicians at Gloria Dei!

**A SPECIAL ADVENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY, Dec 16** - There have been many references this year about the shortened time be-

**SOUND, STREAM & RADIO** - Seeking 4 or 5 members who can join a fabulous new ministry rotation at Gloria Dei called "Sound, Stream & Radio." Handouts and video training is available and a snap to learn. Join the fun and become a member of this important ministry rotation! This team will take turns on Sundays doing "Sound, Stream & Radio," and also potentially be able to sign up to do the "Sound" for weddings and funerals at Gloria Dei. Linda has signed up to be on the 5-6 member team and is also a contact person (728-6208). We look forward to having more newbies join us!



### 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 OCTOBER 2019

Needed per month \$20,208; per week \$4,664

Envelope Offerings:

Budget, 10 months \$202,083

Actual, 10 months \$208,743 103.3%

Difference, *ahead* \$6,659

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!



**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.

**PLEDGE CARDS – THANK YOU** to all those who turned their commitment cards in; we've received 59 cards to date for a total of \$185,688.00. 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 2020. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Wimer, 727-1987. Additional cards available in the narthex.

**NEW (& OLD) CHRISTMAS CARDS** - Gloria Dei Christmas cards (5.5" x 4.25") are again available for purchase: sets of 10 cards with 10 envelopes for \$12.00 per set. Two designs: 1) Detail of Nativity stained glass window designed by Colleen Drew & photographed by Munda Forbort. 2) Artwork of the Gloria Dei building in winter by Duluth artist Joel

First United Methodist Church at 727-5021, located at 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth.

**NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFAST, Dec 28** - All are welcome to join us for our free fourth Saturday Neighborhood Breakfast from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at Gloria Dei. Hunger takes no vacation—we can use your help any time from 7:30 to 11:30. Please let Paul (728-6206) or Carol K. (525-6098) know if you can help.



**VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARERS/GREETERS.** Once again CHUM will sponsor volunteer tax preparation through AARP. For more information about joining the CHUM group as a tax preparer or greeter, please contact Tom Uecker: [tuecker1@msn.com](mailto:tuecker1@msn.com) or 218-525-4173. Training is provided by AARP, and you can select the day(s) and time period(s) that you would like to help.



### 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 October 31, Radio Ministry has received \$8,550 which is \$1,450 behind budget needs. Thanks to all who responded to the anniversary appeal in March—this figure reflects that. Thanks to all who sponsor broadcasts and give regularly throughout the year. Gifts of \$230 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 morning at 10:00 a.m. and during special worship services  
+ Visit: <http://gloriadeiduluth.org/worship/livestreamingworship.html>  
Or, download "Sunday Streams" app on your phone: ID is gloriadeiduluth. This app offers viewing and recorded worship services.

tween Thanksgiving and Christmas--almost a full week. That only adds to the pressures many are experiencing at time of year. If you are feeling overwhelmed with everything you need to get done, why not pause for time with God? Once again the Center for Spirituality and Enrichment at St. Scholastica Monastery is offering a time of **Taizé Prayer on Monday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel.** Taizé Prayer is a contemplative type of prayer where we seek to encounter the mystery of God through the beauty of simplicity. It is a time to hear scripture, sing simple, repetitive songs, offer prayer and praise, spend time in holy silence. Here, in the sacred space of contemplative silence, God often touches us deeply. Isn't that something many long for in our broken and busy world?



### BETHLEHEM CHRISTMAS SIMULCAST SERVICE, Dec 21

Share the heart of Christmas with the people of Bethlehem. 9:30AM ET/8:30AM CT/ 4:30PM IN BETHLEHEM.

Palestinian Christians, whose ancestors date back to the first followers of Christ, continue to bear witness to their faith in Bethlehem, Palestine, this Christmas. Join with congregations at Washington National Cathedral and Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem for this 12th annual Simulcast Christmas Service celebrating the birth of the Prince of Peace. [YOUTUBE.COM/WNCATHEDRAL](https://www.youtube.com/wncathedral). Readings, prayers and carols in both English and Arabic alternate between Washington, DC and Bethlehem via live simulcast. Open to the public and to people of all faiths.



**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL, Dec 24** - The CHUM Christmas Eve Vigil provides an opportunity to remember those who have died in the past year who have also spent much of their lives homeless or advocating for those who are homeless. This is a sacred moment in time when we pray and remember. Join us on the Duluth City Hall steps at 12 Noon.



### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP, Dec 24

All are welcome to celebrate with us the Nativity of Our Lord: 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.

Live broadcast on WDSM Radio AM 710 and livestream at [gloriadeiduluth.org](http://gloriadeiduluth.org)

Re-broadcast of late Christmas Eve Service  
Christmas morning, 10:00 a.m.

### 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, Dec 1** - Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" is our theme for the year, one that we will explore through different "I AM" statements in scripture. Metaphors like bread and light, shepherd and vine, resurrection and life help us know the Lord's saving purpose for us and the world. Join us once a month for singing, bible verses, crafts and conversations that will focus on how God's identity shapes who we are as people of faith. See you there!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING 2019-20** – Keeping with our Holy Cow Award goal, this year, the Sunday School will be raising additional funds to support the ELCA World Hunger Appeal thru January 2020, and then Current for Curran, a project to put solar panels on a Lutheran hospital in Liberia. The goal is raising \$500 for each project. Thank you!

**YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS, Dec 4, 11, & 18.** In addition to regular worship, our confirmation class will be focusing on the biblical story of God and God's people in the Old and New Testaments. We meet most Wednesdays from 3:45-4:45 p.m. in the Conference Room. All students in grades 7 & up are welcome—please speak to Pastor Dave.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, Dec 22** – The Sunday School again recreates the nativity story during the worship hour on the third Sunday of Advent. The Sunday School classes are doing some practicing during the Sunday School hour in the next few weeks, but all children who want to participate are welcome to practice with the group at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday the 22nd!

**CHRISTMAS BREAK, Dec 29** - No Sunday School or Adult Forum on Dec 29. See you on Jan 5!

**ADULT FAITH FORUM** – All are welcome to join us at 8:45 in the Lakeside Room before worship.  
Dec 1 - Intergenerational Sunday School "Who do you say that I am?"  
Dec 8, 15 & 22 - Reading Biblical Literature DVD discussion  
Dec 29 - No Adult Forum

**RELIGION & SCIENCE IN DIALOGUE, Dec 11** - 8 a.m. at Valentini'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! This month, we're reading Part 1 of *The Lost Art of Scripture* (2019) by Karen Armstrong.

**THE LOAVES & FISHES** community is looking for donations of new unwrapped gifts for their annual Christmas party. Families attending the Christmas party will have an opportunity to "shop" for a gift for their child and volunteers will wrap presents. Gift donations will be collected in the Narthex until Sunday, December 8th. Gloria Dei has been invited to collect items specifically for older youth. Some gift ideas: puzzles, board games, jewelry, head phones, stocking hats, art supplies, sports gear.

And of course please join Loaves and Fishes for a fun and festive community Christmas Party on December 14th from 2-5 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (1710 East Superior St, use Greysolon entrance).

**MORE HOLIDAY SHARING** - As the holidays approach we once again turn thoughts to sharing with our community. For Chum and Warming Center guests, we will collect new and slightly used warm hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for all ages. Chum is also collecting several items from toothpaste to sleeping bags for its "Christmas for the Homeless" event Dec 18, 3-7 pm (box and list in Hillside Rm). Finally, the Christmas Day Breakfast crew is planning its 11th year at both the Chum Center and Steve O'Neil Apts, with morning setup and cleanup shifts. This year's crew is collecting easy to reheat foods that can be given to guests - microwave Mac 'n Cheese, Cup of Noodles, etc. If you'd like to donate some items, a basket will be in the coat area, thru Dec 15. If you have any questions or would like to help, feel free to contact Heather Winesett at 218-391-0241. Thanks so much for your on-going generosity!

**LAUNDRY MINISTRY** - Gloria Dei has been partnering with Dee Independent Cleaners to provide \$3 vouchers for neighbors to do a wash & dry. Vouchers are given out at the Neighborhood Breakfast (over 270 to date). Initially funded with a Chum and then a Thrivent grant, it is hoped this will become a sustaining ministry with gifts at any time.

**CENTER CITY SOUP SUPPER, Dec 16** - St. Mary's Star of the Sea has begun hosting FREE soup suppers to those in the neighborhood on the 3rd Monday each month. Gloria Dei and First Presbyterian help serve from 4:30-6:00 with prep time and clean up before and after. Donations of soup and bread have been secured from Blackwoods/Perkins and Super One. You and your families are invited as part of our center city community as well. There will be two shifts of workers: set up and clean up. Anyone who would like to volunteer, contact Carol Uecker (cruecker1@q.com).

**RUBY'S PANTRY Dec 19** - 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, please contact



and the Community Thanksgiving worship service will be at Gloria Dei on Tuesday, Nov 26<sup>th</sup>.

December is busy too. The Pastor will be preaching at St Ann's on December 1<sup>st</sup> and the Health Cabinet will bring treats to our friends there later in the month. Worship at Edgewood Vista will be on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 1 in the Chapel. Feel free to attend any of these opportunities to see and worship with folks who can't often get to church. During December the Care Team, the Pastor and I make a special effort to see anyone who would like communion in their home. If you know of someone homebound or in the hospital, please let me know.

**ADVENT CHALLENGE:** As the church year ends and begins again, our culture rushes into the Christmas season without really recognizing Advent. Let's challenge ourselves this month to slow down. Let's take quiet time to prepare our hearts and souls 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 savor the Christmas story; read Mary's response to the angel; sing the *Magnificat*; and meditate on the light of the new born day. Let's really try to notice Advent this year.

**AED Simple training:** Firefighter and former Faith Lutheran member Ben Johnson is offering a shortened form of CPR and AED training after church on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. This will allow those who are interested to learn how to respond to an emergency situation of someone who is unresponsive. This is not a longer formal certification process, but will enable folks try to save a life until the professionals can get here. If you want to attend, please let me know ASAP. Thanks to Ben for his help in this life saving training.

### FLU SEASON IS HERE – GET YOUR FLU SHOT NOW!

**CHUM CHURCH, Dec 8** - held each month at Peace Church, 1111 N. 11th Ave. East. Pre-worship gathering is at 4:00, worship at 4:30, and supper at 5:00. CHUM Church intentionally invites people of all abilities who wish to worship in an accessible, welcoming, and inclusive environment. Worship is open to all. The worship service is about a half-hour long, has an easy-to-follow order of worship, familiar hymns, and a time for socializing. The worship service is accommodating to people who previously many not have felt comfortable in other worship settings or those experiencing memory loss. For more information, [contact Sue Anderson](#), CHUM Church Coordinator, 740-2498.



**CHUM DELEGATE NEEDED** - Many thanks to Joan Gunderson for serving as Gloria Dei's representative at Chum's assemblies. A new delegate is needed! If you are interested in participating in this capacity, please speak with Carol Kelley or Pastor Carlson.

**EARTH HARMONY STUDY GROUP, Dec 12** - The Oreck-Alpern Interreligious 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 group meets at Sara's Table on the second Thursday from 8-9 a.m. at Sara's Table. This month, we are reading the first two sections of *Falter* (2019) by Bill McKibben.

**TRAVELING TEXT STUDY, Dec 17** - Most "First Word" bible studies on Tuesdays at 12 noon are in the conference room at the church. All are welcome! But once a month, we are invited to the home of Marianne Kjolhaug - either meet us there, or arrive at the church by 11:45 to carpool. The Word is on the move!

### 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.*

**LIFE GROUPS** - Gatherings of Gloria Dei members in 8 neighborhoods around the Duluth area are starting up, and you're invited! We plan to meet 4 times in the coming months (Dec, Feb, Apr, Jun) for fellowship, devotions, prayer, and relationship building. A great way to get to know other Gloria Dei members and the ministry we share - hope to see you! If you didn't receive an invitation postcard in the mail and would like to attend, please contact the church office.

**COFFEE HOUR ROTATION SIGN UP** - the 2020 Coffee Hour rotation schedule is being created. Perhaps there is one specific Sunday that you or your group would like to serve. Now is the time! If you wish to be added or make changes in the rotation - please contact the church office by Dec 15. Remember:

- Coffee hour snacks can be simple! Perhaps one sweet and another for those with a restricted diet such as fruit, cheese and crackers, etc.
- For new coffee hour servers, join a partner to serve! There are written directions, and leaders will help with learning to use the kitchen.
- We are here to help! ~ Sue Anderson, Sharon Stenberg, and Gayle Salmela

**COUNCIL MINUTES** - For the sake of increasing communication, the Council is making a binder of approved minutes from previous months available in the Narthex cabinet above the hearing devices.

**GLORIA DEI GEAR** - Thanks to Greg Stevens, the "GD" cross logo is finding its way onto coffee mugs and embroidered on sweatshirts, jackets, and hats. Checks are made out to Gloria Dei and orders are made at the display table at during coffee hour. A new way to wear GD in the community!

**GLORIA DEI QUILTERS, Dec 3** - We will transition to winter hours. We will continue to meet the first Tuesday of each month, but will start at 2:00 and go to 4:00 in the Lakeside Room until spring when we will go back to evening hours. Newcomers are always welcome. For questions, call Marianne Kjolhaug at 722-1493. If you can come during the day, please join us. If you would rather work at home, we can send you with some cut fabric pieces to sew into tops, or we will give you large pieces of fabric (we have lots) and instructions how to cut. We have some members who sew quilt tops at home, if you would like to do this we can tell you how. Then at our meetings, we all join together to insert batting and tie the quilts as a group. You do not need to have the ability to sew or cut in order to join us. You are welcome to come and just socialize if you want. Come to as many meetings as you want. We do not take attendance. We do not send home report cards. We have lots of fun together while creating beautiful colorful quilts that are donated to Lutheran World Relief and other needy organizations.

**BOOK GROUP** - There will not be a meeting in December. Looking ahead in to 2020 the schedule will include: January, *Hillbilly Eulogy* by J.D. Vance; February, *The Street Of a Thousand Blossoms* by Dale Tsukiyan; March, *Virgil Wander* by Leif Enger; April, *I Can Do No Other: The Church's New Here We Stand Moment* by Anna Madsen; May, *Just Mercy*, By Brian Stevenson. Join the group on the 3rd Monday each month, 9:30 a.m. at Gloria Dei.

**TO: THE MEN OF GLORIA DEI**  
**From: Rick Troy, Club President**

Gentlemen, please know that during the month of December information will be forthcoming from our weekly announcements at Sunday services regarding the renewal of our club's activities as well as asking for an indication of interest on your respective parts for participating in those activities during the calendar year 2020. Concurrently I will be following up this alert with reminders at our Sunday services during December to be available to field questions concerning our clubs renewal for those needing more information. Stay tuned!

### WELCA NEWS

Gloria Dei WELCA Gives Thanks for everyone who helped make the Fall Fair on November 9th a big success. Thank You to the crafters who made hand made items. Thank You for the Stained Glass Artists who created beautiful jewelry, ornaments and sun catchers. Thank You to the bakers who made home made breads, cookies, bars, candy and other goodies. Thank You to those who donated gently used items to the Country Store. Thank you to the cooks who made home made Soups and Sloppy Joe's. Thank You to those who donated items for the Baskets raffled off, and who made the quilt for the raffle. And, most important of all, Thank You to everyone who spent time setting up for the Fall Fair, who worked the day of the sale, for those who served the luncheon, and for those who helped tear down and clean up after the Fall Fair. We couldn't have done it with out everyone. The proceeds from the Fall Fair allows WELCA to continue to make donations to support local ministries.



**MARTHA CIRCLE, Dec. 13** - We meet the second Tuesday each month from September to June at Gloria Dei in the Lakeside Room from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. All women in the congregation are welcome to attend.

**EVE GATHERING, Dec 17** - We will be meeting at 2:00 p.m. in the Lakeside Room. All women in the congregation are welcome to attend.

**WELCA SEEKING CHAIR/CO-CHAIR** - Gloria Dei WELCA is currently looking for a chairperson for 2020. This position can be shared with another person, as Alison and I did for the last couple of years, if someone doesn't want to do the job by themselves. There is currently lots of support and willing helpers within the WELCA Executive Board and a Friends group that meets 3 or 4 times a year. Please let Gayle Salmela or Marlaine Willms know if you are interested in serving in this capacity.

**BINS FOR WELCA** School kit, Baby kit, Newborn kit and Health kit bins are now out for collection in the hallway under the coat rack on the 2nd floor landing. New and gently used items are now able to be brought and added to the totes.

**LGBT ELDERS** meets the 2nd Monday each month, 6:00 p.m. at the 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.*

### CHAPLAIN'S REPORT – Patti Maguire

Thanksgiving sneaks up on me every year. As I write this a week before the holiday I realize how much we have to be thankful for: our homes, families, good health & healthcare, the bright sun and changing seasons. Especially this year we thank God for returning us to our home on the Hillside and our church family as we reach out to serve our neighbors. *"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His faithful love endures forever" Psalm 107:1*

November has been a very busy month. The Health Cabinet met on November 6<sup>th</sup> and the Pastor spoke on Creation Care at a Theology Uncapped dinner on the 7<sup>th</sup>. We worshiped at Ecumen Lakeshore on November 12<sup>th</sup> with our good friends who live there. November 14<sup>th</sup> the monthly Parish Nurse meeting included a great presentation by Natalie Rude, an artist who owns Studio Haiku, who shared her love for Japanese haiku poetry and God's love. Wednesday, Nov 20<sup>th</sup> the Pastor and I attended a half day conference on ambiguous losses with Dr. Carla Dahl from Luther Seminary. CHUM Annual meeting is scheduled for Nov 21<sup>st</sup> at Hope UMC

