WORSHIP LEADERS - AUGUST 2020

	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
Organist	Mary Garmer	Mary Garmer	Steve & Sherry D.	Lexy Land	Mary Germer
Assisting Minister	Patti Maguire	Chelsea Froemke	Patti Maguire	Chelsea Froemke	Patti Maguire
Altar Guild	Karen Bockelman	Karen Bockelman	Karen Bockelman	Karen Bockelman	Karen Bockelman
Reader	Assisting Minister	Assisting Minister	Assisting Minister	Assisting Minister	Assisting Minister
Acolytes					
Communion Assistant					
Nursery Attendants					
Sound Technician	Doug M. or Scott R.	Doug M. or Scott R.	Doug M. or Scott R.	Doug M. or Scott R.	Doug M. or Scott R.
Ushers					
Counters					
Coffee Servers					

Vol. 24 Issue 8 DEI BY DAY August 2020

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old, says the LORD. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. – Isaiah 43:19

From the Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

In 1995, Gloria Dei published a 125th anniversary booklet that included a section called: *Visions for the Future.* "It is the year 2020, and Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a vital, active, loving presence at Sixth Avenue East and Third Street in Duluth's Central Hillside." It goes on to describe what "Gloria Dei's programs promote in its 150th year," and it's fascinating to read how closely some of their projections resemble our current ministry:

+ Acceptance and love: People sometimes made to feel like "outsiders" by mainstream society are welcomed, accepted, and offered support. Social and educational programs recognize that in the community and among Gloria Dei's members there are many kinds of families and diverse cultural backgrounds. In addition, the church building is easily accessible to people with physical handicaps. Gloria Dei's ministry is based firmly on the Gospel message of love and inclusion.

+ Immediate aid: The church continues to use its Discretionary Fund to meet emergency needs of community members. Gloria Dei remains a strong member of CHUM, supporting its program to provide housing, food, and comfort to those in need. An early response team of congregation members provides comfort and aid to families that are in distress.

+ Habitat for Humanity: Renovation of living space for low-income people has been extended to abandoned schools and industrial buildings.

+ A strong emphasis on music: Music remains a cornerstone in our worship of God. We continue to attract the finest leadership by our enthusiastic support and appreciation for the role of music in our church. Gloria Dei reaches out to many different segments of the community by sponsoring varying types of music performances and activities. The pipe organ has been upgraded, and a quality grand piano sits in the sanctuary. The music program includes a thriving senior choir as well as a children's choir.

+ Spiritual growth: Religious education is offered to people of all ages. Individual relationships with God are nurtured through worship and church-sponsored activities. A contemporary service featuring stringed instruments and sermons related to real life situations has been added to serve many of our Central Hillside people.

+ Intergenerational relationships: Gloria Dei is a family that needs the contributions of its oldest and youngest members, as well as everyone in between, to function properly. While a variety of separate programs are offered to the young and the elderly, many church activities are designed to increase communication and sharing of strengths among the generations.

+ Gender equality: Language in worship and service roles within the church reflect a belief that women and men are of equal status and importance.

+ Youth involvement: A variety of educational, service, and social programs and activities assures that our young people are active, significant partners in our church ministry. The children of our congregation know they are accepted, needed, and loved.

+ Communications: The church reaches out to more people than ever via radio airwaves. At the church's warm invitation, many in our radio audience have become members of Gloria Dei. New systems of communication satellites provide direct access to most of the human race allowing two -way discussions with other congregations throughout the world.

+ World peace: Through education and partnerships with congregations in other parts of the world, Gloria Dei is working to increase its dialogue with other religions and cultures in this shrinking world. The church continues to sponsor refugees to the U.S. and to contribute monetarily and bodily to international peace efforts. Exchange visits continue with our sister congregation in Bukoba, Tanzania.

+ Health and wellness: The Parish Nurse program offers exercise classes and education on monitoring and maintaining health. The church continues to recognize the strong spiritual element involved in physical health.

+ Environmental concern: Various church groups have "adopted" natural areas around the city, taking responsibility for their environmental integrity and reflecting congregation members' commitment to serve as stewards of God's beautiful and bountiful Earth.

Of course, no one could have predicted the precise details of Gloria Dei's last 25 years of ministry. But these general themes continue to articulate the kind of church we seek to be and become. Our Anniversary Committee is working on a timeline to describe ministry developments since 1995, and we invite you to help tell the story! See "Gloria Dei Wikipedia" on p. 13. No one could have foreseen either how our recent ministry has had to adapt… after the fire… during the Covid pandemic… in response to racial injustices and climate change. What is your vision for Gloria Dei's future?

As we consider God's call today and look ahead, we also face unknowns in our nation, our synod, and our lives. But in the midst of a changing world God's faithfulness does not change; in times of uncertainty God "makes a way" for God's people; in a cloud of our unknowing we encounter the God who in Jesus Christ knows us and loves us. Such relational truth is the spiritual thread through our history that unites us with God and each another, and even brings life out of death.

Trusting God's promises gives us confidence to continue becoming the church and the people of faith God intends us to be, and to face the unfolding future with hope, knowing that God will always be with us.

Yours in Christ, + Pastor David Carlson

On August 13, 2020 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. there will be a Zoom film night to view and discuss the Noura Erakat film, "Gaza in Context". The film is available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmRPkfAN2EU. The next meeting for Peace Not Walls is Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Book discussion will center on *A Palestinian Theology of Liberation: The Bible, Justice, and the Palestine-Israel Conflict* by Naim Ateek, who is a cofounder of Sabeel.

4. Migrant Justice -The Interfaith Committee on Migrant Justice (ICMJ) focuses on ways to support a better understanding of migrant issues. Meetings are now being conducted on Zoom.
This group also is looking at the possibility of a website to provide updates on events and resources.
There is an ongoing need for sponsorship of asylum-seekers that need a temporary home as juveniles and possibly families are being released from detention facilities due to COVID 19. Possible options for some type of facility that could provide a community kitchen and sleeping for up to 15 people and support services for this facility are being explored. Members of our group are meeting with the police two review and update of Duluth Police Department's Use of Force Policy.

5. Global Mission - NE MN Synod has companion synod relationships with churches in Honduras, India, and Russia. See NE MN ELCA Synod webpage for updates.

2020 SYNOD ASSEMBLY, Aug 28 & 29

The dates of the Synod Assembly have been set and will take place virtually through a Zoom platform with registered voting members. The theme is taken from Jesus' words, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14-16). Information for the assembly on synod website includes a the budget, bulletin of reports, resolutions, and the bishop election. Four nominees for bishop, including Pastor Carlson, have written new essays about ministry in relation to refugees, racial justice, and a religiously unaffiliated society. These materials are at the synod website: http://www.nemnsynod.org/bishop-election-nominees.html . Thank you for keeping this whole process in your prayers for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 ~ Journey Amundson	12 ~ Clara Hensel
6 ~ Kathrine Frostman	16~ Charlene Aaseng
7 ~ Susan Chicag	17~ Charlotte Rothman
8 ~ Maggie Winesett	21 ~ Stephanie Heilig
8 ~ Stephen Wlosinski	24 ~ John Pehkonen
10 ~ Carl Schramm	25 ~ Arianna Gault
11 ~ Brynn Erickson	25 ~ Christian Leight

Communications, Press, & Publicity Committee; Freedom Fund Dinner Committee; Health & Environmental Equity Committee; Membership Committee; Political Action Committee; Criminal Justice Committee, Educational Equity Committee; and Finance Committee. Information on each committee is available on the website. For example, the Communications Committee of the Duluth NAACP released a statement regarding their position on the School Resource Officers in the Duluth Public Schools.

The Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial Facebook site continues to provide the documentary I Can't Breathe: A CJM Memorial Documentary by Daniel Oyinloye on its CJM Facebook page. Go on Facebook and put I Can't Breathe: A CJM Memorial Documentary in the search.
SURJ Northland (Stand Up for Racial Justice) is a collective of white people organizing for racial justice in northern Minnesota and Wisconsin. A recent post on their Facebook page identified an upcoming anti-racism educational opportunity: No One "White" Way to Organize: Conversations with White Antiracist Organizers (a virtual five session series). Information can be found on their Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/surjnorthland/

2. Together Here The NE MN SYD website http://www.nemnsynod.org/together-here.html: provides resources and information but updates can also be found by joining Together Here on Facebook. A book study - *Native* by Kaitlin K. Curtice is being sponsored by Together Here. It will be held on Thursdays July 16 through August 13, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Registration can be found on Together Here NE MN Synod Facebook page.

3. Twin Ports Peace Not Walls - Jim Bailey and Julie Jagim are working with Sarah Roe at Northeast Minnesota ELCA Synod to help create Twin Ports Peace Not Walls website page linked to our NE MN ELCA Synod webpage. This would provide a platform for education and advocacy so that resources and links can be made available. Carla Carlson, Bright Stars of Bethlehem Partner Liaison, joined the meeting by Zoom and gave an overview of the Bright Stars of Bethlehem mission: Their mission is to support the educational, social and economic needs of people living in the occupied Palestinian territories and to help to educate the future leaders of Palestine. The Anchor of BSB is Dar-al-Kalima University in Bethlehem Palestine. Mitri Raheb is the President of Dar-al-Kalima University. The University umbrella for outreach includes a Youth Academy which serves approximately 2000 children annually, providing them with sports, arts, music and dance opportunities. They also serve older seniors, helping them to maintain a support and social network. They gather to embroider, play games, play music or dance. With the Corona virus they are trying to get courses on line and are working on plans for children this summer and looking towards other mechanisms to address the isolation associated with the pandemic specifically for senior citizens. The current focus for Bright Stars of Bethlehem is on the upcoming Virtual Gala fundraiser which is on October 24, 2020.

AUGUST LESSONS

Sunday, August 2, 2020—9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the Eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.
Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

Sunday, August 9, 2020—10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the Eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.
1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday, August 16, 2020—11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need. **Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67;**
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Sunday, August 23, 2020—12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.
Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Sunday, August 30, 2020—13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.
Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

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!

LIFE'S LANDMARKS

Baptism

William Timothy Stark, July 12

Marriage

Chelsea Froemke & Drew Anderson, July 18

Funeral

Elwood Olin, July 17

Howard Erickson, July 22

PARISH CONVERSATION, Aug 9 – Join us for our quarterly check-in after worship, during which everyone can hear updates about various ministries, received a quarterly financial report, and become more aware of parish leaders, newcomers, and upcoming events. This will take place during our Zoom coffee hour after worship that morning. If your ministry has updates you'd like to share, please contact Pastor Carlson or Council President Bob Asleson.

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR - A reminder to join us each Sunday after worship, 11:00-12:00, for congregational fellowship through Zoom, either with the link emailed each Thursday (contact the church office if you aren't receiving it) or by phone (312-626-6799; ID: 871- 8859-0793; passcode: 062870). A nice way to check in with each other!

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.

SAFE GATHERING TEAM

In the past month, the Safe Gathering Team has been hard at work on three documents related to Gloria Dei's reopening plan. The first of these, ***"Meeting Guidelines"*** was developed to establish a protocol for the AA groups that have been using our building to be able to resume meeting in person. These guidelines include requirements for assigned meeting space, sanitizing, physical distancing, wearing masks, attendance limit of 10, etc. In person meeting is an important aspect of AA and it is part of our mission to provide space. AA is the only group at present to be meeting under these guidelines; however the guidelines, as approved by the Church Council, will be a pattern for possible congregation and community groups in the future.

The second document, ***"Safe Gathering Plan,"*** outlines three levels or phases: Red, Yellow, Green (just like a traffic light.) Level Red/Phase I is our current practice of no in-person worship (except for a worship leadership team of less than 10 people), committees and small groups expected to meet virtually, youth/family and congregational care done through email, phone calls, and mailings, staff working remotely as much as possible.

Although we do not know when we will be able to move on to Level Yellow/Phase II, we have done considerable work in developing that phase, especially as it relates to worship. Even as we begin to resume some level of in-person worship, we will continue our live stream and radio broadcasts and will encourage those in high-risk categories or who are feeling ill to stay

WELCOME TO THE GLORIA DEI WIKIPEDIA!

Wikipedia has become famous as a free online encyclopedia, created by volunteers who share their insights and expertise in almost every subject you can name. In these days of coronavirus and physical distancing, we won't be able to gather in person to celebrate Gloria Dei's 150th Anniversary, so the anniversary committee is seeking to create a free online Gloria Dei history and we need your help.

Each month the committee will designate a theme and invite you to share photos, memories, stories—anything you can add to that theme. While our focus will be on the last 25 years (1995-2020) we welcome anything you can offer to bring Gloria Dei to online life.

SEPTEMBER THEME—We're Swedish and proud of it!

What do you know about the Swedish roots of our congregation? The arrival of the steamer *Norman*? Our annual celebration of Santa Lucia? Ebba Brooks telling the Lucia story? Lucia maidens and star boys? Lucia buns? The Mother's Day Swedish pancakes? What are your memories of the David Ericcson altar painting of the Ascension? What do you know about the Swedish sustainability program *Natural Step* and of Gloria Dei's involvement in that program in Duluth? Do you have photos, videos, or other memorabilia? Do you have stories to tell? Be a part of the Gloria Dei story into the future!

Mail anything that's in hard copy (photos, letters, articles, etc.) to the church, marked ATTN: Anniversary Committee. Send anything digital (photos, documents, videos, etc.) to Linda Kalweit at either lmkalweit@gmail.com or to her anniversary dropbox (useful for fairly large photos and videos.) The dropbox link is https://www.dropbox.com/request/xuHF1ayivZ5dNCl5aCu1 If you have any questions about using the dropbox, contact Linda at 218-340-0342.

2002 ANNUAL REPORT? - Did you happen to save a copy of Gloria Dei's Annual Report from 2002? It would have been used at the annual meeting in January 2003. The Anniversary Committee is creating a timeline of significant church activities from 1995-2020, and could not find that report in our files. If you happen to have saved that year, please let the church office, or Karen Bockelman know. Thanks!

ACCOMPANIMENT REPORT

By Ryan Jagim

As we continue to look at our role of accompaniment with our neighbors in the Duluth Central Hillside and our regional, national and worldwide communities, the following organizations provide opportunities for that engagement.

1. Duluth NAACP – https://duluthnaacp.org/Contact/

Please consider joining the NAACP (go to the website above). At the last general meeting, new members were asked to get involved with one of the committees of the NAACP as follows:

organ payment will come due in September 2020. Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!

FROM THE GREEN TEAM - One green counter-top food waste bucket remains. Great to collect veggie trimmings for your compost pile or food waste for the WLSSD dumpters. It arrived with a broken handle and was replaced by the Canadian company from whom we bought those earlier. Would anyone like to have it? No charge. We want it to be used. I would deliver it to your doorstep. Judy Bailey 481-7195 or jimjudybailey@gmail.com

EARTH STEWARDSHIP TIPS - AUGUST

- "The fossil fuel industry no longer denies global warming, instead it tries to delay climate action. It contends the problem is too hard to solve, or the solutions are inadequate or too costly. True? A major study by the U. of California-Berkeley and GridLab finds that 90% of US electricity can be supplied by carbon-free sources by 2035 while decreasing consumer costs compared to today's system."
- "The U. of C. and GridLab "2035 Report" is only the latest addition to the growing mountain of evidence that clean energy is the least-cost, least-risk choice for new investment in the US grid. The "cleanest" existing gas-fired plants can provide "backup" power for when renewables' output is low, but building new gas-fired power plants is not financially justified."
- "Building a reliable 90 percent zero carbon electricity system is a huge opportunity for economic recovery—a fantastic way to invest in a healthier economy and support new jobs, without raising electricity bills. To realize the promise of this affordable, reliable, clean power system, the U.S. will need to double solar and wind annual construction through the 2020s, and then triple it in the 2030s."
- The fossil fuel industry also claims that climate change solutions allow the government to intrude into our "free" market, capitalistic economy and that is socialism. I don't think so - wind turbines, solar panels and the grid do not require government ownership. Besides, the term "free" market is deceptive. All our freedoms are founded in law, including economic freedoms.
- Our economy is better described as a legal-market economy. The laws and regulations governing our economy are many and fall into categories, such as: Corporate law, Labor law, Commercial law, Contract law, Property law, Environmental law, Tax law, Banking and Finance law, Immigration law, etc. Environmental law is trying to incorporate the ecological limits ignored by our economy, such as climate change.

home. There will be some restrictions on attendance numbers, physical distancing and other worship practices. In keeping with the Governor's mandate, persons over the age of 5 will be required to wear masks (unless medically excused.) More details of this phase are still being developed. If you are watching the live stream worship you may have noticed that worship leaders are now wearing masks except when speaking or singing. This is not in violation of Duluth's Face Mask Ordinance since face coverings are required in "a Space of Public Accommodation." Right now the sanctuary is not available to the public for worship, so we have more flexibility. When we get to Level Yellow/Phase II the sanctuary would be available to the public and masks would be required under the ordinance.

Level Green/Phase III is even further down the road.

The third document being developed by the SGT is the ***"COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS PLAN."*** This is a more detailed and technical document required by the state of Minnesota and addresses hygiene/respiratory etiquette, controls for physical distancing, cleaning/ disinfecting/ decontamination/ ventilation, identification/ isolation of sick persons, communication/ training of staff and members.

Once these documents have been approved by the Church Council they will be shared with Gloria Dei members through mailings and other means.

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 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 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.

ORGAN UPDATE - There is progress on the organ. Fenris has finished the wind chests, valves and fittings for all the 16 ft pipes. Now they are working on the over 30 Swell shades. When that is finished they will build the rest of the wind chests. Smaller pipes are being measured so that fitting valves can be ordered. Some elements of the keyboards have been on backorder, but due to be shipped by the end of July. The organ will not be installed in September. But Bob Rayburn hopes for October. It will be installed back-to-front; we will be able to see the progress. Wes and Bob may make a trip to Duluth in September to double-check things at the church. He says the wooden facade pipes are beautiful, and sound wonderful. And all the pipes are in wonderful shape, with nothing getting dented or damaged in transit. So far the team are all staying well. - Barb Erickson

GUEST PREACHER - MANY THANKS to the Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen for preaching and leading worship on August 30 while Pastor Carlson is involved with the Synod Assembly that weekend. A member of Gloria Dei, Anna is a teaching theologian of the ELCA, founder of OMG: Center for Theological Conversation, and director of the Spent Dandelion Retreat Center.

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.

DISCIPLESHIP CONTINUES – Although not meeting in person, groups are finding other ways to stay connected through phone calls and conduct meetings via Zoom video conferencing. For help setting up a Zoom meeting for your ministry group, please contact Pastor, Kathy Wimer, or Chelsea Froemke.

FIRST WORD (ZOOM) - Our Tuesday noon bible study is now going to be offered through a Zoom meeting. To join our conversation, contact Pastor Carlson at pastor@gloriadeiduluth.org ahead of time to receive the Zoom link.

YOUTH & FAMILIES – Our Youth Director Chelsea Froemke is keeping in touch with youth and coordinating children's messages. We encourage parents to help their children participate through video streaming, children's activity pages that go with the Sunday readings, and talk with their children about how God is with us. She also has resources to help families with children who may be experiencing anxiety – chelsea.froemke@gmail.com or 218-260-7343.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & FAMILY LIFE GROUP, Aug 5

Hello Gloria Dei families! As September approaches I wanted to take a moment to ask you all a few questions regarding this year's Sunday school program. For the time being it will be my assumption that we will continue with our online worship and will not be able to meet in person for Sunday school. There are a number of resources coming out to help facilitate virtual programming.

THANK YOU RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

It takes $1000 per month to fund our ongoing Radio Ministry. As of June 30, Radio Ministry has received $7,010 which is $1,010 ahead of 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://wdsm710.com/ - click "Listen Now" near the top. Gloria Dei's website also has a link to this service.

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 JUNE 2020

Needed per month $20,208; per week $4,798
Envelope Offerings:
Budget, 6 months $124,750
Actual, 6 months $127,016 *101.8%*
Difference, *ahead $2,266*

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. ** 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.

REBUILDING + RENEWING THRU JUNE 2020

Campaign goal: $500,000
Actual pledges: $561,767
Pledges Rec'd: $492,337 *87.6%*
Pledges Remaining: $69,430
At the end of June, Gloria Dei had a total revenue balance on hand of $116,157 with total projected expenses of $164,170 including the organ, for a balance needed of $48,013. If all outstanding campaign pledges of $69,430 are received, this will surpass projected expenses by $21,417. Any pledges received early will help, since the

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.

EDUCATION IN TANZANIA – Gloria Dei received a request from Pr. Faith Lugazia a Lutheran theology professor in Tanzania, who has preached at Gloria Dei while completing her PhD at Luther Seminary, 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 already received pledges of $550. Make checks to Gloria Dei with "Tanzania Scholarship" in the memo, any funds beyond the goal will go to additional students, or to the Bukoba congregation, as we continue to learn about the needs there.

CHUM - A small number of volunteers are continuing to deliver three meals per day each weekend to Chum's Shelter in Place, but they are starting to burn out as the summer progresses. The Sign-Up Genius is very helpful to keep this project going virtually on autopilot but more volunteers are needed.

The Kelleys organized a small group to purchase and prepare 100 bags of food which were delivered to the CHUM Drop In Center for guests who came late for meals and for homeless people residing in tents in the community. This operation cost about $350 ($3.50 per meal!). The committee determined that since Neighborhood Breakfast is on hold indefinitely, the budgeted funds should go toward more of these food drops for CHUM.

LOAVES & FISHES - Loaves & Fishes Meal Angels is continuing through the summer, using the Sign-Up Genius for volunteers. Meals are only needed at Dorothy Day House over the weekends, so this has reduced the numbers of volunteers needed to sign up. We only missed one slot in June and there is only one slot left for July. Council has authorized more meals, so Gloria Dei is providing two per month. Ecolibrium3 Mask Making Fundraising was coordinated by Linda V. and money was raised for Loaves and Fishes.

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.

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. This streaming service is through Boxcast.
+ Visit: http://gloriadeiduluth.org/worship/livestreamingworship.html

Would some sort of virtual Sunday school program be of interest?

Right now, I am thinking that I would send out pre recorded lessons weekly so that you all can access them at your convenience. We would also like to include some time to gather youth and families via zoom. I am aware that there are lots of virtual gatherings happening and with school on the horizon the last thing I want to do is overwhelm our kids. However, I so value our time together and I am curious if families would be interested in occasional zoom calls. This could take many different shapes so I want to hear from you all!

+ Would you be interested in participating in a monthly intergenerational Sunday School Zoom call?
+ Would you like to have gatherings with families more often than monthly? If so, what would you like to see happen during these times?

Please email me back with any ideas that you may have for Sunday school. I'm eager to hear from you: What might work well for your family? How can Sunday school be supportive for your family's journey of faith during these times?

We also will continue to schedule family life group gatherings seasonally for anyone interested. Thanks to all who gathered over zoom this spring (it feels like forever ago). I am eager to see you all again and would like to invite you to our summer life group gathering! This will be a time for parents to connect! I sent out an invite via email for an 8:00 PM gathering on August 5th, along with a few resources attached for families that might be helpful as you begin talking to your kids about the coming school year. If you didn't get that email, please let me know!

Peace, Chelsea

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING & SYNOD JOURNEY UPDATE

After much prayer and consideration, the ELCA has decided to postpone next summer's ELCA Youth Gathering to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 24-28, 2022, in Minneapolis, with the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the tAble, scheduled for July 21-24, 2022. To learn more about the postponement and the 2022 Gathering, please visit: elca.org/YouthGathering/COVID19.

It looks like the modified Synod Journey plan is still on for next summer. Again, if this is something that your youth is interested in please inform me by September 1st so that we can begin our preparation. ~ Chelsea

RELIGION & SCIENCE IN DIALOGUE (ZOOM), Aug 12 - 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 the more chapters of *Ask the Beasts: Darwin and the God of Love* (2014), by Elizabeth A. Johnson, a Catholic and feminist scholar and professor of theology at Fordham Univ. in New York. A Zoom

meeting is planned from 8:00-9:00 a.m.; if interested, please contact Pastor Carlson.

WHITE FRAGILITY, Aug 12 & 19 - Join Pastor Carlson for a Zoom discussion on racial justice on Wednesdays August 12 & 19 from 7-8 p.m. As a reference point, people are invited to order their own copy of the national best seller, *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* (2018) by Robin DiAngelo. We will read and discuss the book in two parts. All are welcome, and you don't need to have the book to participate in the conversation. A Zoom link will be sent on Tuesdays prior to the discussion.

EARTH HARMONY STUDY GROUP (ZOOM), Aug 13 - 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 month, we are reading chapters in *Active Hope*, by eco-philosopher Joanna Macy. A Zoom meeting is planned from 8:00-9:00 a.m.; if interested, please contact Pastor Carlson.

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.

FELLOWSHIP CONTINUES – Although not meeting in person, groups are finding other ways to stay connected through phone calls and conduct meetings via Zoom video conferencing. For help setting up a Zoom meeting for your ministry group, please contact Pastor, Kathy Wimer, or Julie Jagim.

HEALTHY CONNECT – Our Health Coordinator Kristen Bauerkemper is coordinating phone calls and other contacts with homebound and isolated members. If you need help with getting groceries, or if you are willing to help with a phone call or running an errand, please be in touch with her at krbauerkemper@gmail.com or 512-791-4237. Please be in touch with Kristen if you or a loved one is unwell or you would like them on the prayer list.

WELCA held a Bible study via Zoom using the Gather magazine. Faith Garnatz led the discussion with ten women participating. It was great to see and communicate with fellow members in this way. Another Bible study, led by Patti Maguire, will be held on August 18 from 1:30 – 3:00. All women are welcome to join in. Individual quilters continue working at home on quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

MEN IN MISSION, Aug 8 - Gentlemen/Men in Mission, this is an invitation to our Zoom call on Saturday morning July 11th at 9 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. Pastor David will send out the link during the week. If you haven't received a link before, please send him a note at pastor@gloriadeiduluth.org. Join us on the 11th and be prepared to enjoy reconnecting, and just enjoying each other. Hope to see you with us together on Zoom. - Rick Troy

LGBT ELDERS and 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.

HEALTH COORDINATOR

As the pandemic continues, we remember that the church is not the building, but people connected through sharing God's love. And, together, Gloria Dei continues to seek to build connections and support in our community. Please let me know if Gloria Dei can support you in any of the following ways:

- regular phone calls with other members for a chance to visit
- help getting groceries or other errands
- assistance with radio, phone, or computer technology in order to access Sunday worship, Prayer at Home (on Wednesday evenings), or any other Gloria Dei related opportunities
- help with yard work tasks or a maintenance/repair project

Also, please let me know if you would like to be included on a volunteer list to help others with any of the tasks listed above.

And...have you or your children created art this summer that you would like to share? Bright and colorful art and greetings can help to brighten someone's day, especially during this time when opportunities for visits and in-person connections with our elders are greatly impacted. If you or your kids have art that you would like to mail to members in our congregation who live in senior care facilities, please let me know!

I'm thankful for our Gloria Dei community!

Peace and blessings to you,
Kristen Bauerkemper, Gloria Dei Community Health Coordinator
krbauerkemper@gmail.com 512-791-4237

RUBY'S PANTRY (DRIVE-THRU), August 20 -
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: