



A few fun New Year's suggestions

With the New Year comes lots of talk concerning resolutions. For the most part, we dismiss them because most resolutions are usually huge hurdles to jump over, like quitting a bad habit or starting a new exercise regime. However, what would happen if we chose to do a few small and fun things that could potentially help us in 2012?

Take a look at the fifteen listed below. If you want to add to the list, please post your suggestions on our Facebook page today (facebook.com/gloriadeionline).

Volunteer in new frontiers

If you do the same thing, with the same people, in the same setting, the results are oftentimes very predictable. Why not volunteer someplace new once a month? Who knows, you may discover new friends and new possibilities.

Find new ways to relax

It is important to find ways to recharge your life; it helps to maintain a healthy perspective. So start simple, and find something that adds a smile to your face.

Enjoy exercise

People oftentimes do not exercise because they are defeated before they even begin. They think that they have to run a marathon to get the results that are needed. But did you know that a simple walk around the block could help boost your metabolism and recharge your mental capacities? Start small and enjoy the immediate results!

Make a plan

Getting from point A to point B requires some planning. It is the little things that we do today that will impact our tomorrows. So write down one small step that you can accomplish today and then do it!

Befriend someone

Look around the people that you see on a daily basis. Is there someone that you can befriend this year by listening, taking them to lunch or inviting them to your house? Most likely, you will be enriched as you learn about the other person.

Develop a stronger prayer life

How is your prayer life? Do you pray alone all the time? Do you ever pray in a group? If it is the same as last year, maybe it is time to jumpstart it by looking at the prayers of the Bible, reading a book on prayer or inviting others to pray with you.

Take a class

Ever thought, when I have the time, I want to learn how to? Why not start small, and take a class on a subject that you are passionate about? There are lots of classes held at libraries, schools and colleges around town, let alone all the online classes that are available. Again, start small and see where it leads.

Learn new skills

Who says you can't teach an old dog new tricks? Identify a skill that you need to sharpen and then find an expert who can help you. Everyone is an expert in something, so it is a matter of finding the person with the skills that you lack and asking them to help you. Most people are honored to help in the areas that they are gifted in.

(continued on page 2)

January Opportunities

We have lots of great things planned for the cold winter months, so check out pages 2-6 and find one that will keep you warm this winter.

Educational times

Weekend educational times will not meet:
Dec. 31-Jan. 1, 2012

Midweek educational times will not be held:
Jan. 4, 2012

All educational times resume:
Jan. 7-8 and
Jan. 11, 2012

New Year's weekend worship

Saturday, Dec. 31 at
5:30 p.m. Northwind
(Communion)

Sunday, Jan. 1 at
9 a.m. Traditional
in the Sanctuary
(Communion)

Sunday, Jan. 1 at 10:30
a.m. Contemporary
in the Sanctuary
(Communion)

All other worship services will not be held.

Tiny Treasures

Tiny Treasures registration for the 2012-13 school year will be available to Gloria Dei families on Saturday, Jan. 7 at 9 a.m. For more information, go to the Tiny Treasures page on our Web site.

A few fun New Year's suggestions *(continued from page 1)*

Listen to unfamiliar music

Most of us get set in our ways. We like certain types of music and we close our ears to other forms of music. But what happens if we expand our horizon and spend a few minutes listening to another genre? Who knows, we may even find something that we like.

Eat differently

Like sweets? Like salty snacks? Why not find a new recipe that indulges the taste buds and nutritionally stacks up? Once you find the winner, replace your tried-but-true junk standbys with your new favorite recipe.

Learn a new game

Studies show that certain games help to stimulate the brain. So, why not find a new game this year? So whether it is Scrabble, Angry Birds, word puzzles, solitaire, or any other game, find someone who knows the game and start playing.

Be neighborly

Who do you live by? Is there something that you can do for them that would help their lives? Maybe you can shovel their sidewalk, or watch their children or bring them warm homemade soup. Your efforts could warm their hearts.

Take a family member on a date

If you are married, why not take your spouse on a date? Spend the time outside of the normal routine, and enjoy each other's company. And if you have children, make a date and do something out of the ordinary together. If you have elderly parents, call them up to see if they would like to do something special with you. And if they cannot go out, bring the date to them by making a picnic lunch.

De-stress your life

What causes you stress? Is it something that you can eliminate? Take some time to identify stress points, and then find ways to either eliminate or manage the areas that cause you stress.

Switch your reading materials

Do you always read certain types of books? Certain authors? Certain scriptural passages? Expand your repertoire by making a plan to read different books, authors and scriptures.

Want to be hospitable with us?

The Hospitality ministry has been up and running for more than a year. They have had the awesome opportunity to meet and assist those who attend Gloria Dei's worship services. In addition, many of the people who have served on the hospitality teams have witnessed growth in their teams as well as in the relationships they have built with others.

There is always room for more to serve on these teams as it takes anywhere from 8-10 people to serve at each service. We invite you to join one of our teams in 2012. If you have questions or would like to join us in serving, please stop by one of the Welcome Centers, located in the Narthex and the Family Life Center, to talk with a member of the team or contact Pastor Robarge at probarge@gloriadeionline.com.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

8301 Aurora Ave.

Urbandale, Iowa 50322

515-276-1700

Church office hours:

Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Rev. Ronald Burcham
Senior Pastor
rburcham@gloriadeionline.com

Rev. Timothy Phillips
Director of Congregational Care
tphillips@gloriadeionline.com

Rev. Philip Robarge
Director of Adult Ministry
probarge@gloriadeionline.com

Governing Board
govboard@gloriadeionline.com

For a complete staff listing:
go to our Web site at:
www.gloriadeionline.com

Bringing Jesus Christ to people
for the first time and for a lifetime.

www.gloriadeionline.com

[twitter/gloriadeionline](https://twitter.com/gloriadeionline)

facebook.com/gloriadeionline

Youtube.com/gloriadeionline

Senior Adult Ministry

The recent Senior Adult Christmas party, held at the home of June Reed, was a great success with nearly 70 people in attendance.

At the present time Pastors Boeschen and Foreman are seeking leaders for four Mission Action Teams: Fellowship, Service, Growth and Learning and Travel. If you are interested in serving on one of the MATs, please contact Pastor Boeschen at dboeschen@gloriadeionline.com or Pastor Foreman at cforeman@gloriadeionline.com. We hope to have the MATs in place during the month of January.

Year-end giving

Since the last weekend of the year includes both 2011 and 2012, here are some important year-end reminders regarding your giving:

To include your giving in the 2011 calendar year:

- Postmark your offering on or before Dec. 31, 2011.
- Go to www.gloriadeionline.com on or before Dec. 31, 2011 and process your contribution using our online giving program through Vanco.
- Place your offering in the offering plate at the 5:30 p.m. contemporary worship service on Dec. 31, 2011.
- Bring your offering to the church office by 3 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 30, 2011.

To include your giving in the 2012 calendar year:

- Postmark your offering on Jan. 2, 2012 or later.
- Go to www.gloriadeionline.com on or after Jan. 1, 2012 and process your contribution using our online giving program through Vanco.
- Place your offering in the offering plate at either the 9 a.m. traditional or 10:30 a.m. contemporary worship services on Jan. 1, 2012.
- Bring your offering to the church office on or after Jan. 3, 2012.

Please note that the date on your check does not determine for which year your offering is applied. Using the guidelines above will ensure you are getting your offering in the correct year. Year-end statements will be mailed out in January of 2012. If you have any questions, please call Shari Smith at 276-1700, ext. 202.

Discovery 101

Thursday, Jan 12-Feb. 2 from 6:30-8 p.m.

You will learn the basics of our beliefs and be encouraged to develop your faith in God. Register by going to the adult page on our Web site (www.gloriadeionline.com). If you would like to use the childcare services we offer, please indicate this when you register.

Servers

Officiant/Liturgist:

5:30 p.m. (FLC):
Rev. Tim Phillips

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):
No Worship

9 a.m. (Sanctuary):
Rev. Tim Phillips

9 a.m. (FLC):
No Worship

10:30 a.m. (FLC):
No Worship

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary):
Rev. Tim Phillips

Preacher

Rev. Tim Phillips

Piano

Jessica Cronk

Acolytes

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary):
Jade Van Thournout

Scripture Readings:

Romans 8:31-39 and
Matthew 1:18-21
(NIV)

Hospitality Teams

Northwind (FLC)
Team Three

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary)
No Worship

9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Team Three

9 a.m. (FLC)
No Worship

10:30 a.m. (FLC)
No Worship

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Team Three

Let's pray!

Prayer requests can be made on the back of the "Welcome" card located in the pews. Please indicate your prayer request and place the card in the offering plate. We have both e-mail and phone prayer chains available. Call Pastor Phillips in the church office, 276-1700, or Diane Young between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 993-3870 with your request.

Prayers

For the health of:

- Ed Mautz
- Daryl Robarge
- Lyle Kramer
- Brenda Barron
- Addison Blythe
- Tom and Carol Beedle
- Roesella Kretschmer
- April Grimm
- Emma Anderson
- Katie Wollslager
- Sue Anderson
- Eli Horn
- Lynn Wampler
- Shirley Disney
- Rudy Petersen
- Bob McCleary

And for:

- All of our college students who will be going back to school shortly
- Our military who are overseas this holiday season

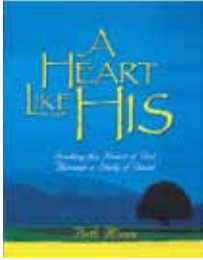
Prayer Ministry

To join the prayer ministry team, e-mail Pastor Phillips at: tphillips@gloriadeionline.com with your name, e-mail address and phone number.

Winter opportunities for women

Women's Bible Connections

Begins Monday, Jan. 9 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible



Connection will begin the year studying Beth Moore's "A Heart Like His." This in-depth study takes the reader through every twist and turn of David's life as a shepherd, a refugee and a king.

If you are interested in a journey that will build an earnest desire to seek God as David did in the Psalms, please e-mail Lisa Scherer at scherer_family@q.com. The cost of the book is \$21 and can

be purchased the first night of the study.

Online Bible Study

A 12-week online Bible study, "An Untroubled Heart" by Micca Campbell, will begin Jan. 1. Laura Rath will lead the study by posting thoughts relevant to the book weekly at www.laurarath.blogspot.com. Women are then invited to comment on the book and how God is working in their lives.



How do I sign up? To sign up for the "An Untroubled Heart" study, send an e-mail to: laurajrath@gmail.com with your name and e-mail address, as well as your city and state. By signing up you will receive the weekly reading schedule via e-mail.

Marriage Bible Study: "Love and Respect"

Starts Thursday, Jan. 12 at 6:15 p.m. Learn what motivates men and women in this 14-week study from the book "Love and Respect" by Dr. Eggeriches.

Book Club

The book club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 4 at 6:15 p.m. in the Cry Room. to discuss, "The Color of Rain" by Michael and Gina Spehn. This real-life Brady Bunch story is about what it means to endure the unthinkable---and still open one's heart to what's next. When two childhood friends die of cancer six weeks apart, the shared experience of loss brings their grieving spouses together. After discussing this book, plans for upcoming months in 2012 will be discussed. Please RSVP to us at gloriadeibookclub@hotmail.com.

Gloria Dei Quilters

Saturday, Jan. 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m in rooms 134/36/38

We'll focus our energies on Saturdays this year. Camp Dodge still needs quilts for kids and the Honduras team will take as many quilts as we can provide, so come join us.

Scrapbook fellowship

Friday, Jan. 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. &

Saturday, Jan. 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Come join the fun. For childcare, contact Carol Wennndt by Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 306-4352 (phone or text) with the date, times (start and finish) as well as the number of children.

Congregational Care

We are offering lots of enriching times this year. For more details - check out the Congregational Care page on our Web site (www.gloriadeionline.com).

Care Night

If you are hurting, grieving or needing extra support, please join us for Care Night beginning Thursday, Jan 12. at 6 p.m. After dinner, the individual support groups will meet from 6:30-8 p.m.

Marriage Built to Last

A marriage enrichment class entitled "Marriage Built to Last" will begin Thursday, Jan. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Pre-marriage Class

Couples wishing to be married at Gloria Dei in the upcoming year must attend a six-week marriage class. The next class will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Financial Peace University

We will host another Financial Peace University starting Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

LWML

Ruth Circle will meet Monday, Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. at the home of Myra Willms, 3835 38th St., Des Moines.

Mary Esther Circle will meet Thursday, Jan. 12 at 9 a.m. at the home of Joan Kickbush, 13942 Oak brook Dr., Urbandale.

Rebekah Circle will meet Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. at the home of Rosalie Petersen, 109 N. Jacob, Grimes.

Naomi Circle will meet Thursday, Jan. 12 at 9:30 a.m. at Panera Bread on Westown Parkway in West Des Moines.



Gloria Dei Youth Ministry

Contact: Tim Kightlinger
tim@gloriadeionline.com

Senior high (9-12)

Bible Study Sunday at 9 a.m.

Jan. 8: Join us for discussion concerning being depended on God.

The Point - Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Join us on Jan. 11, 2012.

Training Ground - Sunday, Jan. 8, 2012

We start the evening with small groups (6-7:15 p.m.) and then enjoy games and hang-out time (7:15-8:30 p.m.).

Dinner theater rehearsals

Dinner theater casting and rehearsals will begin January 8, 2012 from noon to 2 p.m. Open to all 6-12 graders and adults. We are looking for actors, directors, set designers, etc. Contact TK today. Performance dates are April 27, 28 and 29.

Summer Mission Trip Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 4 from 6-7 p.m. in the Youth Center. This is an informal meeting for both parents and youth to attend.

Junior high (6-8)

Castaway - Sunday 9 & 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 8: Join us for discussion concerning being depended on God

Small Group - Wednesday from 6-7:15 p.m. Students in grades 6-8 meet in small groups to discuss various topics. Starts Jan. 11, 2012.

Junior High Café 923

Friday, Jan. 13 from 6-9 p.m.

Come hang out, have a good time, eat, play games and bring your friends! Pizza \$1 per slice; soda 50 cents a can.

GirlZ of Faith

Thursday, Jan. 5 from 6-7:15 p.m.

Girls in grades 4 and 5 are invited for a sweet time of study, fellowship and fun.

BoyZ of Faith

Sunday, Jan. 8 from 6-7:15 p.m.

BoyZ of Faith is a group just for boys in grades 4 and 5. Boys will meet the first Sunday of the month from 6-7:15 p.m. for Bible study, snacks, a hands-on project and a whole lot of fun!

The Wave

Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012 from 3-5 p.m.

Urbandale Swimming Pool. We're going swimming! Grab your friends and jump in! Cost is \$3 per person to swim. We'll meet at the pool.

Remembering My Baptism (1st Grade)

Sunday, Jan. 8, 2012 from 4-5 p.m.

All first graders and a parent are invited to build a faith chest to take home. We'll talk about our baptism and be reminded of what it means to be "squeaky clean through Jesus Christ!" Cost is \$40 per family. Registration required by going to the children's page on our Web site.

Does God Really Hear Me (2nd Grade)

Sunday, Feb. 5, 2012 from 1-2 p.m.

All 2nd Graders and a parent are invited to attend this lively event focused on prayer! We'll play games and have a blast learning how to pray and be reminded that God always hears us! Space limited to 12 families.

Knead to Loaf

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Come experience the joys of bread making. We'll make several loaves of bread to take home to bake and enjoy or give away. You'll also receive the recipes to make the breads again. Maximum of 12 families. Cost is \$40. Please register in the kitchen.

Week of December 31-Jan. 7, 2012

Saturday, December 31

3:45 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
 5:30 p.m. Northwind Contemporary Worship
 in the Family Life Center

Sunday, January 1

9:00 a.m. Traditional Blend Worship Service in
 Sanctuary with Communion
 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
 in Sanctuary with Communion
 (All other services will not be held)

Monday, January 2

8:30 a.m. Office Closed
 3:00 p.m. ICA Archery Training

Tuesday, January 3

9:00 a.m. XYZ (Extra Years of Zest)
 2:00 p.m. Worship Planning Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Encourage Each Other Study
 7:00 p.m. Central Iowa Knitters

Wednesday, January 4

6:15 p.m. Book Club

Thursday, January 5

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
 10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
 2:00 p.m. Celebration Home School Choir
 3:00 p.m. ICA Archery Training
 6:00 p.m. Girlz of Faith
 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Friday, January 6

9:30 a.m. Moms Club of West Des Moines

Saturday, January 7

5:30 p.m. Northwind Contemporary Worship
 in the Family Life Center with
 Communion
 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Worship (Dec. 17 and 18)	Attendance	Communion
Northwind	179	
7:45 a.m.	148	121
9 a.m. (Sanctuary)	352	258
9 a.m. (FLC)	36	
10:30 a.m (Sanctuary)	265	176
10:30 a.m. (FLC)	83	
Total	1063	555

Christmas Eve Worship	Attendance
3:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)	308
4:00 p.m. (FLC)	128
4:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)	679
5:30 p.m. (FLC)	125
6 p.m. (Sanctuary)	512
7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)	268
Total	2020

Christmas Day	Attendance	Communion
9 a.m. (Sanctuary)	189	144
Total	189	144

Outpouring of Love (Dec. 17-18)	
General Fund Offerings	\$53,029
Second QTD Offering	\$359,926
Second QTD Budget	\$385,000

Outpouring of Love (Dec. 24-25)	
General Fund Offerings	\$39,910
Second QTD Offering	\$399,320
Second QTD Budget	\$465,000

Information Changes

If you have recently moved or decided to discontinue use of your landline phone and use only your cell phone as your primary number, please forward the changes to Diane Schmidt at diane@gloriadeionline.com.

Tutoring program

Urbandale Community Action Network is launching a tutoring program on Tuesday afternoons from 3:15-5 p.m. at the Urban Heights Covenant Church beginning mid-January. Volunteers are needed to tutor and provide snacks. If interested, contact Mary Polson at 278-3936.

Week of January 7-14, 2012

Saturday, January 7

- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center with Communion
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Sunday, January 8

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Casual Contemporary Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 9:10 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place
- 9:20 a.m. Lifelight Bible Study
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. H3 Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion
- 10:50 a.m. Castaway
- 10:50 a.m. Grace Place
- 12:00 p.m. Carilloneurs
- 12:00 p.m. Dinner Theater Rehearsal
- 2:30 p.m. Daisy Troop 407
- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scout Brownies
- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 806
- 4:00 p.m. Remembering My Baptism First Grade Event
- 6:00 p.m. BoyZ of Faith
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High Training Ground

Monday, January 9

- 9:30 a.m. Mom's Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Connections
- 1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
- 3:00 p.m. Mount Olive Basketball Game
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connections
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training

Tuesday, January 10

- 1:00 p.m. Directors' Meeting
- 2:00 p.m. Worship Planning Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
- 3:00 p.m. ICA Archery Training
- 5:00 p.m. Kindermusik Young Child
- 6:00 p.m. Beginning Dance
- 6:00 p.m. Kindermusik Our Time
- 6:00 p.m. Governing Board Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Premarriage Class
- 6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University

Tuesday, January 10 (Continued)

- 6:30 p.m. Thrivent Board Meeting
- 6:45 p.m. Kindermusik Imagine That
- 6:45 p.m. Creative Dance
- 7:00 p.m. Encourage Each Other Study

Wednesday, January 11

- 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
- 5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 6:00 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:00 p.m. Junior High Small Groups
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High - The Point
- 6:15 p.m. Alleluia Ringers
- 7:30 p.m. Quest for Authentic Manhood

Thursday, January 12

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
- 2:00 p.m. Celebration Home School Choir
- 3:00 p.m. Mount Olive Basketball Game
- 6:00 p.m. Care Night Meal
- 6:15 p.m. Marriage Love and Respect Study
- 6:30 p.m. Divorce Care
- 6:30 p.m. GriefShare
- 6:30 p.m. Marriage Built to Last
- 6:30 p.m. Discovery 101
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Friday, January 13

- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 6:00 p.m. Café 923

Saturday, January 14

- 8:30 a.m. Gloria Dei Quilters
- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in the Family Life Center
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Ways to help

Urbandale Food Pantry Please consider donating shampoo in January to the "Food Pantry" bin in the narthex.

Honduras Mission - Additional items needed in January for the Honduras mission are Children Vitamins and Prenatal Vitamins. Please place items in the "Honduras" bin in the narthex.

Joppa Ministries - Starting next week, we will begin our "Share the Heat" campaign to raise funds to help provide propane gas for the homeless. A donation of \$20 will help to keep one person warm for a week. Check the display in the Narthex next week.

Welcome to Gloria Dei! We are glad you are here!

All educational times resume Jan. 7-8, 2012. We value families, so we encourage families to worship together. We will then invite the children to educational time on Saturdays at 5:50 p.m.; and Sundays at 9:20 and 10:50 a.m.

5:30 p.m. Saturday Northwind Contemporary in the Family Life Center

Discover reflection and celebration at this casual Saturday evening worship service. Communion will be offered the second and fourth Saturdays of every month.

7:45 a.m. Sunday Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

This worship service uses organ and piano-led hymns as well as responsive liturgy. Our special music groups also perform on a regular basis. Communion will be offered the first and third Sundays of the month.

9 a.m. Sunday Traditional Blend Worship in the Sanctuary

This worship service uses organ and piano-led hymns and songs as well as responsive liturgy. Our special music groups also perform on a regular basis. Communion will be offered the first and third Sundays of the month.

9 a.m. Sunday Casual Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center

Geared for those who are casual by nature, this service will offer a balance of high-energy and reflective worship. A pastor will lead the service, and the message will be a simulcast from Saturday night's service. Communion will be offered the second and fourth Sundays of every month.

10:30 a.m. H3 Young Family Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center

Our H3 (Worship with your Head, Heart and Hands) casual service offers an atmosphere in which families are encouraged to worship together. Expect lively praise music, puppets and themed family activities. A pastor will lead the service, and the message will be a simulcast from Saturday night's service. Communion is offered the second and fourth Sundays of every month.

10:30 a.m. Sunday Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary

Join us in the Sanctuary for high-energy and reflective worship that is awe-inspiring. Communion will be offered the first and third Sundays of every month.

Other important items

Nursery: Infants to age 3. Located on the lower level with access through the doors in the Narthex. The nursery is staffed during all worship services for children ages 3 and under at no cost to the parent.

Cry room: Located in the southwest corner of the Narthex is a room with a full view of the Sanctuary for parents to take their small children when they are upset or crying.

Weekly Bible reading - Matthew 1:18-21 (NIV)

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

If you have any questions, please ask one of our members or stop by the Welcome Centers.

Education times

All educational times resume Jan. 7-8, 2012.

Children (ages 2- grade 5)

Grace Place

Saturdays at 5:50 p.m.
Sundays at 9:20 & 10:50 a.m.

Faith Alive

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Youth (grades 6-12)

Times vary, check page 5.

Adults

Times vary, check pages 6-7.

Communion

Communion is offered on the first and third Sundays of each month during the services in the Sanctuary and the second and fourth Saturdays and Sundays during the services in the Family Life Center.

A note to our guests and visitors: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Gloria Dei in the belief and with the confession that this Sacrament is the very body and blood of Christ (The Doctrine of the Real Presence) which is received with the bread and the wine for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our faith. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and seek to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. If you agree with our beliefs regarding the nature and meaning of this Sacrament and desire to commune with us, you are welcome! For the medical and/or physical needs of members or visitors, non-alcoholic wine will be in the inner circle of each communion tray and will be lighter in color than the regular wine. In addition, gluten-free wafers are available, please alert the elders before the service if possible.