

WEEKLY WORD



A Publication of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

April 15, 2007

The Second Sunday of Easter

God-sightings

by Pastor Kendall Meyer, Director of Adult Ministry and Associate Pastor

"Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, O Lord." Psalm 89:15

God tells us in Joshua 1:5, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." But, on a scale of one to ten (ten being the highest), how do you rate your sense of God's presence in your life?

When things happen in your life, do you chalk them up as mere coincidences? Or do you see God's present involvement in those 'coincidences'?

If you are like me, I desire to be in close relationship with God, but often find it difficult to feel his presence. I want to have the mindset conveyed by David in the book of Psalms:

"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; If I make my bed in the depths, you are there."

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you."

Psalm 139:7-8 and 11-12

Those passages may present a difficulty for us because oftentimes life's circumstances overshadow the truth of God's presence. So, we hit a barrier between what God tells us and how we feel. We end up fretting, worrying and doubting instead of trusting in him.

In today's sermon series "Breaking Down Barriers," we will focus on tearing down barriers that might be holding us back. It will take some courage and honesty to critically look at where we are in our relationship with God. In fact, past disappointment or sorrow may surface. However, those barriers need to be recognized before they are broken down. Perhaps, if we start to look beyond our circumstances, we can distinguish God's hand protecting, adjusting, and tweaking our lives. At that point, it may be easier for us to let go of our strongholds and run into his loving presence.

So let's go on a God hunt in every aspect of our lives. Let's boldly pursue and see his sightings—always remembering that he is present in the ups and downs of life.

God Sightings

God is not hiding from us; he actually desires a visible presence in our lives. Take some time this week to list the times that you have seen or felt his presence. And don't be bashful about sharing his presence with others.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Index

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Calendar | 7-8 |
| Children | 5 |
| Last Week | 7-8 |
| News | 1-5 |
| Offering | 7 |
| Youth | 6 |

Visiting Today?

If you are visiting us today, we warmly welcome you. Please take time to check out all of our upcoming classes and activities. If you are interested, contact the church office at 276-1700. Here are two classes you won't want to miss!

Discovery 101: Wednesdays

Discovery 101 is a four-week class for those who are new to the Lutheran Church. Childcare is provided.

Discovery 201: Sunday, May 20 from 3-7 p.m.

Discovery 201 is a four-hour event for everyone joining Gloria Dei. Dinner and childcare are provided.

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation will be held Sunday, May 6 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. To graciously host the confirmands and their families, the following services and locations will be offered:

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional worship in the Sanctuary
- 9 a.m. Traditional-blend worship in the Family Life Center
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-blend worship in the Family Life Center

Please note: The 10 a.m. contemporary worship service in the Family Life Center will be combined with the 10:30 a.m. contemporary-blend service on Confirmation Sunday.

Gloria Dei
8301 Aurora Ave.
Urbandale, IA 50322
515-276-1700
www.gloriadeionline.com



Full-time staff e-mail:

Rev. Ronald Burcham
Senior Pastor
rburcham@gloriadeionline.com

Rev. Kendall Meyer
Director of Adult Ministry
kmeyer@gloriadeionline.com

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

Mrs. Karen Kennedy
Director of Publicity & Promotion
karen@gloriadeionline.com

Mr. Tim Kightlinger
Director of Youth Ministry
tim@gloriadeionline.com

Mr. Steve Kohtz
Director of Worship Ministries
steve@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. DeAnn Haas McCue
Director of Family Ministry
deann@gloriadeionline.com

Mr. Chris Onsrud
Director of Media Ministry
chris@gloriadeionline.com

Mr. Brandon Simpson
Facility Manager
brandon@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. Marsha Sly
Administrative Assistant
marsha@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. Terry Steinke
Director of Early Childhood Ministry and Tiny Treasures Preschool
terry@gloriadeionline.com

Part-time Support Staff

Mrs. Holly McDaniels
Assistant to the Worship Director
holly@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. Laura Rath
Senior Pastor Admin Assistant
laura@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. Michelle Reinert
Assistant to the Youth Director
michelle@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. Shelly Rivera
Assistant to the Family Director
shelly@gloriadeionline.com

Mr. Bill Wishman
Interim Business Manager
bill@gloriadeionline.com

Governing Board
276-1700

Help us reach our \$44,000 goal. We currently have raised \$25,961.

April 14 & 15
Buy a 2X4 in the narthex and sign it.
\$1, \$5, \$10, \$20 or \$50 donations accepted.

Buy a 2X4 today!

Buy the Wood Build a Home

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Saturday, April 14 at the 5:30 p.m. service is for:



Ian Edward Gage born November 15, 2006 to Bradley and Angela (nee Mueggenberg) Gage. Ian's spiritual sponsors are Eric Mueggenberg and Andrea Gage.

Worship Outlines

In an effort to go paperless and to save printing costs, we will cease printing the worship outlines starting May 5 and 6. As always, the complete outlines will be projected on the screen. In addition, large-print service bulletins will be available with the ushers for those who need them.

Emergency Pastoral Care

We now have an option for the congregation to contact a pastor anytime in the event of an emergency. When the church office is closed, you can call the 276-1700, select option 5 for "pastoral care" and leave a message. A pastor will get back to you as soon as possible.

Servers

Elders

Steve Junge
Tim Mueller
Tim Radig
Ushers:
Northwind
Dale Engelken
Mike Martens
Shawn Woolman

7:45 a.m.

Scott Ammann
Casey Fluegge
Brent Handel
Jordan Handel
Justin Handel
Morey Juhlin

9 a.m.

Tom Feldotto
Randy Fleming
Dean Kleckner
Mark Kramer

Jade Olson

Doug Pals
Rob Steuber

10 a.m.

Clayton Linqvist

Jared Nicol

10:30 a.m.

Philip Bax
Bill Clark

Leslie Clark
Jim Kellenberg
Chris Warwick

Organist

Kathy Stange

Acolytes

Shelby Aufdenkamp
Eric Burr
Rachel Kelly

God's People in Prayer

Blue prayer request cards are beneath 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 or Joan Kickbush after 5 p.m. at 987-4864 with your request.

Thanksgivings

- For our families

Prayers

- For Betty Wollslager's recovery from her fall
- For the strength and wisdom of Kim Marsh's father, who has an infection that the doctors can't diagnose
- For Adella Molloy, who is recovering from surgery
- For the health of Jeff Burke
- For the healing of Diane Mahaffey
- For Norma Willems, mother of Rachel Onsrud
- For the healing of John McKeighan

Prayer Ministry Team

If you are interested in joining the prayer ministry team, please e-mail tphillips@gloriadeionline.com with your name, e-mail address and phone number.

Gloria Dei's Spring Food Drive

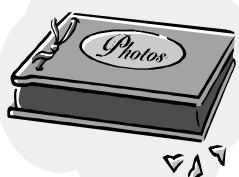
Gloria Dei will host a food drive for DMARC, Des Moines Area Religious Council, starting Sunday, April 22. In previous years, specific food items have been collected but this spring we will collect only cash donations. DMARC will then purchase items from a warehouse at a reduced rate, thus obtaining more items. For example, if an individual from Gloria Dei bought five cans of spaghetti, DMARC could possibly purchase seven. In addition to DMARC's buying power, Gloria Dei will not be faced with the workload of collecting, storing and transporting the items to the food bank. We believe that more will be accomplished by cash donations than by specifically collecting food items.

How to get involved:

Naomi Circle will provide envelopes in next week's *Weekly Word*. Please make checks payable to Gloria Dei with "DMARC" written on the memo line. The envelopes and checks can be placed in the mail anytime or in the offering plate on April 29 and May 6. If you have any questions, contact Deb Timmons at 289-0360.

Scrapbook Fellowship

Scrapbook Fellowship will meet Friday, April 20 in rooms 131-133 from 8:30 a.m.-11 p.m. This is an opportunity to finish pages with plenty of space to spread out, get inspired with new ideas and have fellowship with other scrappers. Please note the date change to accommodate the dinner theater. For more information, contact Deb Kesse at 251-8324 or DeAnn McCue at 278-5544, ext. 207.



Thank You

We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to our Gloria Dei family. The outpouring of love, support, prayers, cards, food and everything else was overwhelming and provided great comfort. During times like this, we rely heavily on our faith, our family and our friends and we are so richly blessed with an abundance of each. A special thanks to Pastor Phillips for his visits and prayers in the hospital and hospice and to Pastor Burcham for everything he did both for us and for Grandma Cheryl.

Thank you and God bless. He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

— Steve, Julie, Grace and Evie Kammeyer

Iowa Hospice

Iowa Hospice will conduct free volunteer training for five consecutive Tuesdays starting April 24 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 5650 NW Johnston Drive, Suite E. The training is open to anyone ages 18 and above. To register, please call Iowa Hospice at 276-6696.

Diana's Angels

Diana's Angels, an organization, which sews baby outfits, blankets and booties for local hospitals, will meet Tuesday, April 17 at 7 p.m. at Hope Lutheran, 3857 E. 42nd Street, Des Moines. If you have questions, contact Ann Carrick at 789-9504 or Michele Banwart at 201-5174.

Media Ministry Fundraiser

The media ministry will be selling Chris Onsrud's famous homemade Chex-mix after the worship services on April 28-29 and May 5-6. All proceeds will go toward purchasing a new video switcher.

Photo Directory

Smile! We are in the process of producing a church photo directory to be published this year. Watch for details in the mail in the next few weeks.

Bulletin Board

- **Discovery 101**
Wednesday, April 18
- **Consignment Sale**
Friday, April 20 and
Saturday, April 21
- **Last Day of Faith Alive**
Wednesday, April 25
- **Last Day of Sunday's
Grace Place at 10:20 a.m.**
Sunday, April 29
- **Tiny Treasures
Family Fun Night**
Thursday, May 3
- **Last Day of Saturday's
Grace Place**
Saturday, May 5
- **Last Day of Sunday's
Grace Place at 9:20 a.m.**
Sunday, May 6
- **Confirmation**
Sunday, May 6
- **Pancake Breakfast**
Sunday, May 20
- **Discovery 201**
Sunday, May 20

Consignment Sale

Don't forget the consignment sale Friday, April 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, April 21 from 8 a.m. to noon. (Items will be half-price starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday.) For more information, pick up a brochure at the Information Center.

Family Fun Night

Bring a friend. Bring your family. Tiny Treasures Lutheran Preschool is hosting a Family Fun Night on Thursday, May 3 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.. This fundraising event geared toward preschoolers will include carnival games, a bounce house, a silent auction, and food with a free-will offering. Tickets are \$5 per child or a maximum of \$15 per family, children under the age of 2 are free. You can pay at the door or purchase advance tickets by calling 276-1700.

Summer Camps

Camps are beginning to fill up! Register today. Pick up a summer camp brochure at the Information Center or go to www.gloriadeionline.com to see what's happening in May, June, July and August.



Pancake Breakfast

Mark your calendars for Tiny Treasures preschool pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 20 from 8 a.m. to noon. More details to follow.

Midweek Meal

- Wednesday, April 18: Tacos, veggies and fruit
- Wednesday, April 25: A little bit of everything

Concert



The contemporary band, Anavox, (best known for the song, "You're Amazing"), which has won numerous awards will be at Gloria Dei Wednesday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. Ticket donation at the door is \$3-10. All ages are invited, but be prepared to rock and roll!

Softball Schedule

| Date | Time | Visitor | Home | Field |
|------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|-------|
| Thurs., April 19 | 8:15 p.m. | GDLC | New Hope | R |
| Tues., April 24 | 6:15 p.m. | GDLC | WEFC | R |
| Tues., April 24 | 7:15 p.m. | GDLC | Union Baptist | R |

growieldminister



gloriadeiyouthministry

luke 9:23

Wednesdays

April 18

Confirmation classes will attend the Anavox concert. Minimum \$3 donation will be accepted at door.

April 25

Sixth grade topic: "My Christian Faith"

Seventh grade topic: Test time

Eighth grade topic: Test time

Castaway

April 15

Topic:

"Defeat: Knocked Down, But Not Knocked Out"

Paintball

Join us April 22 from noon to 5:30 p.m. for some paintballing fun. Sign up by April 15. Cost is \$15 per person; \$10 if you have your own equipment; \$20 for 500 painballs. Sign up on the Youth Center door.

Parents: If you are interested in driving, please contact Tim at 278-5544, ext. 212.

Senior High

Sunday Morning Senior High Bible Study

April 15

Large-group Bible study begins at 10:20 a.m. on Sundays in the Youth Center.

Topic: "Holy Spirit, Our Power Source"

The Island

April 15 at 5:30-8 p.m.

Small group topic: "My Struggles are about Him."

Large group topic: "Materialism, Are We Really Complete with the Stuff"

The Point

Let's get to the point on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.

Senior high youth will gather for fellowship, a large-group teaching time, and a 20-minute small-group discussion.

April 18

Please join us for the Anavox concert.

Mexico Trip

It is not too late to sign up for the Mexico trip on June 23-July 1. See Tim for more details.

Paintball

Join us April 29 from noon to 5:30 p.m. for some paintballing fun. Sign up by April 22. Cost is \$15 per person; \$10 if you have your own equipment; \$20 for 500 painballs. Sign up on the Youth Center door.

Parents: If you are interested in driving, please contact Tim at 278-5544, ext. 212.

National Youth Gathering

If you are going to the youth gathering in Orlando, Fla., the second payment of \$100 is due Sunday, May 6. We will be staying at the Double Tree Castle. For more updates, go to www.lcmgathering.com and click on "Caitlin." In addition, please turn in your medical release form as soon as possible.

Week of April 15-21

Sunday, April 15

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 10:20 a.m. Castaway
- 10:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:20 a.m. Journey with Dr. Luke
- 10:20 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 11:45 a.m. Youth Ministry Adult Volunteer Training
- 5:30 p.m. The Island

Monday, April 16

- 9:30 a.m. Stay-at-Home Mom's Craft Day
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Connections MAT

Tuesday, April 17

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 6:30 p.m. Kindermusik: Imagine That
- 6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University
- 6:30 p.m. Thrivent Board Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Facilities MAT Meeting

Wednesday, April 18

- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Meyer
- 5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 5:30 p.m. Music Alive

- 6:00 p.m. Discovery 101
- 6:00 p.m. Anavox Concert
- 6:15 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:15 p.m. Lord, I Want to Know You
- 6:15 p.m. The Gloria Dei Chorale
- 6:15 p.m. The Point
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Orchestra
- 7:30 p.m. The Alleluia Ringers

Thursday, April 19

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 2:00 p.m. Home School Choir

Friday, April 20

- 8:00 a.m. Tiny Treasures Consignment Sale
- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship

Saturday, April 21

- 8:00 a.m. Tiny Treasures Consignment Sale
- 3:30 p.m. Dance Class
- 4:00 p.m. Gloria Dei Infusion Worship Practice
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Team
- 5:30 p.m. Castaway
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service with Communion
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Outpouring of Love

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund Offerings | \$32,444 |
| YTD Offering | \$1,109,499 |
| YTD Budget | \$1,072,400 |

Holy Week Attendance

| Easter | | Maundy Thursday | | Good Friday | |
|------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|------------|
| Northwind | 240 | 7 p.m. (Sanctuary) | 340 | 4:30 p.m. (FLC) | 188 |
| 7:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) | 383 | 7 p.m. (FLC) | 81 | 6 p.m. (Sanctuary) | 374 |
| 9 a.m. (Sanctuary) | 773 | Maundy Thursday Total | 421 | 6 p.m. (FLC) | 75 |
| 9 a.m. (FLC) | 70 | Communion (Sanctuary) | 255 | 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary) | 220 |
| 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) | 459 | Communion (FLC) | 51 | | |
| 10:30 a.m. (FLC) | 113 | | | | |
| Easter Total | 2038 | | | Good Friday Total | 857 |

Week of April 22-27

Sunday, April 22

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion
- 10:20 a.m. Castaway
- 10:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:20 a.m. Journey with Dr. Luke
- 10:20 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service
- 5:30 p.m. The Island

Tuesday, April 24

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Elders Mtg.

Wednesday, April 25

- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Meyer
- 5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 5:30 p.m. Music Alive
- 5:30 p.m. Strategic Planning MAT
- 6:00 p.m. Discovery 101
- 6:15 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:15 p.m. Lord, I Want to Know You
- 6:15 p.m. The Gloria Dei Chorale
- 6:15 p.m. The Point
- 7:30 p.m. The Alleluia Ringers

Thursday, April 26

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews

Friday, April 27

- 5:00 p.m. 30-Hour of Famine

Saturday, April 28

- 30-Hour of Famine
- 3:30 p.m. Dance Class
- 4:00 p.m. Gloria Dei Infusion Worship Practice
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Team
- 5:30 p.m. Castaway
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

| Educational Attendance | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| | Saturday, 5:50 | Sunday, 9:20 | Sunday, 10:20 | Wed., 6:15 | Misc. |
| Preschool | Easter | Easter | Easter | 27 | Music Alive |
| Elementary | No Classes | No Classes | No Classes | 79 | 56 |
| Junior High | | | | 91 | Wed. Meal |
| High School | | | | | 73 |
| Total | | | | 197 | |

Gloria Dei Weekend Worship Times

Sunday Morning: 7:45 Traditional • 9:00 Traditional-Blend • 10:00 Contemporary • 10:30 Contemporary Blend
 Educational Times: 9:20 and 10:20 a.m • Staffed Nursery from 8 a.m.-noon

Saturday Evening: 5:30 Contemporary
 Grace Place at 5:50 p.m. • Staffed Nursery from 5:15 p.m.