Weekly Word



A Publication of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

April 29, 2007

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Loving Outside of Ourselves

by Karen Kennedy, staff

"I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air.

Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.'

"I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'

"The voice spoke from heaven a second time, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.' This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. Acts 11:6-10

Peter's reaction to this vision was completely justified. After all, personally and culturally these animals were not to be consumed; however, God's rulings trumped Peter's hesitations. Peter wasn't a quick study though, God had to repeat it three times before Peter understood the command.

Similarly to Peter, we should expect major alterations to our thoughts as the Lord patiently unfolds his heart to us.

In the past year, my husband and I have traveled to Mexico on several mission trips. I simply love the humbleness of the Mexican people. Our last trip though, God showed me how shallow my love was at times when a beach vendor tried to sell a shirt to my husband. As the sale progressed, I kept on thinking of this man as a nuisance, "Why is Clayton messing with him? These beach vendors are like flies, they are always around," I said under my

breath. Well, my breaths got louder and huffier when Clayton invited him to have lunch with us. To top the sale off, Clayton asked his new friend, Edmundo, to our 25th wedding anniversary party that evening!

At sunset, Edmundo and his wife arrived at the party. As they sat down, this "pesty fly" translated our conversations with our other Spanish-speaking guests. We now had opened doors and gained insights into our guests that would have never been possible if it wasn't for our hero of the evening, Edmundo.

My shallow thinking was exposed: Who am I to judge how a man makes a living? Do I ever have a right to dismiss a person as uncommon or unclean? Even though I may view them as a nuisance, they are of great value to God, and therefore, I need to think and act accordingly.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son. John 3:16

Jesus came to be a Savior for all mankind, the cross covers all of mankind, no one is outside the boundaries of his love. Loving God and loving our brother is not an option, it is a part of the entire package. In fact, the Bible puts the importance of loving our brother in this thought-provoking way.

If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. 1 John 4:20

God's love embraces all people and he has called us to follow in this love despite our prejudices.

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Confirmation Sunday, May 6

7:45 a.m. Traditional in the Sanctuary with Communion

- 9 a.m. Traditional-blend in the Family Life Center
- 10:30 a.m. Confirmation in the Sanctuary with Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-blend in the Family Life Center

(Please note: The 10 a.m. service in the Family Life Center will be combined with the 10:30 a.m. service.)

Member Updates

Member update sheets are in today's *Weekly Word*. Please fill out one per family and return them to the ushers. We need every family to fill one out, so that we can update our records. Thank you!

Executive Director Position

In the last several years, Gloria Dei has had a steady increase in attendance and membership. For example, our average worship attendance in the last three years has increased by 214. As we begin to develop into a larger congregation, the Governing Board has recommended adding a staff position of an Executive Director, which will help with the upward growth trend of our congregation. As they reviewed the trend, our staff and the current structure of Gloria Dei, it became apparent that a full time position is needed to help monitor and oversee the daily activities and details of Gloria Dei. Therefore, the administrative responsibilities currently held by Pastor Burcham will be transferred to this new position. Thus, it will allow Pastor Burcham to focus all his energy and time on the vision and ministry of Gloria Dei.

"I believe the new position will help us to become better stewards of what God has given to us," said Pastor Burcham. "It will allow me to develop and help Gloria Dei with the big picture of where we are going and why."

As of April 22, we will be accepting applications for this position. The qualifications are as follows:

- Degreed, preferably in business administration.
- Accepts the core beliefs and values of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.
- Has a minimum of five to ten years experience in business management and organizational leadership.
- Has a proven leadership style which motivates and brings out the best in people.
- Possesses excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Demonstrates a passion for the mission of the Church.
- Is or is willing to become a member.

For more information or to submit a resume, please go to our Web site and click on job-posting link.

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 service will be projected on the screen. In addition, large-print service bulletins will be available with the ushers for those who need them.

Gloria Dei 8301 Aurora Ave. Urbandale, IA 50322 515-276-1700 Gloria Dei 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 PhillipsDirector 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

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, April 29 at the 9:00 a.m. service is for:



C lara Marie Orosco born January 17, 2007 to John and Michelle (nee Bookwalter) Orosco. Clara's spiritual sponsors are Adam Orosco and Jen Orosco.



eah Kay Mannes born February 25, 2007 to Brent and Tamara (nee Schultz) Mannes. Leah's spiritual sponsors are Sarah and Gregg Homstad, Tara and Sean Berkenpas, Tiffany and Massimo Galliano.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, April 29 at the 10:30 a.m. service is for:



A dam Wesley Papenfuss born December 22, 2006 to Wesley and Julie (nee Breyen) Papenfuss. Adam's spiritual sponsors are Jo Ellen Welder and Richard Papenfuss.

Altar Flowers



The flowers on the altar today are provided by Bill and Lesli Clark in celebration of their 11th wedding anniversary.

Servers

Elders Devin Wren Ken Meythaler Gary Wasko 9 a.m. **Ushers:** Northwind Dale Engelken Mike Martens Shawn Woolman 7:45 a.m. Scott Ammann Casey Fluegge 10 a.m. Brent Handel Jared Nicol

Jordan Handel 10:30 a.m. Justin Handel Philip Bax Morey Juhlin Bill Clark Leslie Clark Tom Feldotto Jim Kellenberg Randy Fleming Chris Warwick Dean Kleckner **Organist** Mark Kramer Kathy Stange Jade Olson **Acolytes** Shelby Aufdenkamp Doug Pals Rob Steuber Eric Burr Rachel Kelly Clayton Linquist

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 great participation and offering to feed starving children with the 30-hour famine

Prayers

- For the youth that will be confirmed next Sunday
- For the surgery and quick recovery of Justin Kightlinger
- For Jay Plagge's father, who has had a stroke
- For the health of Juan Valle
- For Irene Klinefelter, who is recovering from surgery
- For the tests results for Walker Duncalf
- 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.

New to Gloria Dei?

Welcome

If you are new to Gloria Dei, welcome! We seek to be a place where people can come and discover God's perspective on life, a place where you can find real answers to today's questions. Please take some time to get to know us. We have lots of programs and activities for you and your family. If you have any questions, please call the office at 276-1700.

Mission Statement

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, as an effective and innovative mission center, brings Jesus Christ to people for the first time and for a lifetime.

At the core of all we do at Gloria Dei is Jesus Christ. The salvation that he won for us through his death on the cross, the life everlasting that he guaranteed with his resurrection from the grave, and his abiding presence with us daily, is the central truth of all that we do. It is our privilege, responsibility, and our mission to share the "good news" of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone.

Vision Statement

It is our vision that Gloria Dei will be a place of abundant grace.

Gloria Dei will be a growing, relationship-centered church, serving as a beacon to our community, courageous in sharing the love of God with all people and equipping them to deal with the challenges of life and becoming leaders in the kingdom of God.

Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member, please call the church office at 276-1700. We have two classes designed for you: Discovery 101, a four-week class for those who are new to the Lutheran Church and Discovery 201, a four-hour event for everyone joining Gloria Dei.







A Snippet of Gloria Dei for the Entire Family

Nursery

Located below the narthex, the nursery is professionally staffed during all worship services, and midweek classes for children ages 3 and under at no cost to the parent.

Preschool Children

We have Grace Place, our educational time during the school year on Saturdays at 5:50 p.m. and Sundays at 9:20 and 10:20 a.m. In addition, we have Tiny Treasures Lutheran Preschool during the week for young children.

Elementary Children

We have Grace Place, our educational time during the school year on Saturdays at 5:50 p.m. and Sundays at 9:20 and 10:20 a.m. In addition, we have summer camp programs and Vacation Bible School during spring break.

Youth

We have lots of activities and educational time for our youth throughout the week.

Adults

Lots of small groups, Bible studies, fellowship opportunities and support groups are available throughout the week for adults.

Interested in Learning More?

Please go to the Information Center for brochures and information. See you there!

Gloria Dei's Spring Food Drive

Gloria Dei continues the spring food drive for DMARC, Des Moines Area Religious Council. 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 provided envelopes in last 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 today and May 6. If you have any questions, contact Deb Timmons at 289-0360.

Upcoming Small Groups

Women's Connections Summer Edition

Women's Connections summer edition will start Monday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m. in rooms 130-132. We will explore Beth Moore's "A Woman's Heart, God's Dwelling Place." This summer edition will be shorter in time; no specific worship or fellowship times will be offered, only the Bible study from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Mothers with Young Children Group

If you are interested in joining a small group for mothers with young children, please join us Monday, April 30 at 9:30 a.m. in rooms 130-132 for a planning meeting. We will discuss topics and days to meet. If you have questions, contact Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224.

Men's Bible Study

Please join the Thursday evening Bible study as they begin a study on 1st Corinthians at 6:30 p.m. in rooms 130-132. The study will compare the issues that confronted the Corinthians to the issues that confront us. Likewise, solutions will be examined and discussed. If you have any questions, contact Fred Spath at 254-2561 or spathfamily@msn.com.

Bulletin Board

- 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
- Honduras Bake Sale Sunday, May 20
- Discovery 201 Sunday, May 20

Thank You

Thrivent Builds Project

Thank you for your support in the Thrivent Builds 2X4 fund raiser. We raised \$710. Thank you! If you would like to continue to support the project with donations or volunteering, call Bill Clark at 276-2517 or Darwin Bartels at 276-4611.

Rebekah Circle

Thank you for all the casseroles for the Salvation Army. Your generosity is a blessing. – Rebekah Circle





Meetings

Mary-Esther Circle

Mary-Esther Circle will meet Thursday, May 10 at 9 a.m. at the home of Lou Grotheer, 3808 Melanie Circle, Urbandale.

Miriam Circle

Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, May 8 at 7 p.m. at the home of Barbara Koepp, 808 48th Street, West Des Moines, 226-9181.

Please remember to bring diapers, diaper wipes, and other paper products for the Bidwell Center.

Naomi Circle

Naomi Circle will meet Thursday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m. at Panera Bread, 2839 86th Street, Urbandale.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet in the church kitchen on Monday, May 14 at 6 p.m.

Sarah Circle

Sarah Circle will meet Monday, May 14 at 6:45 p.m. at the new Legends restaurant, 640 S. 50th St., Suite 2110, West Des Moines. We will have dinner with our regular meeting. Please RSVP Kim Brienzo at 278-8310. This will be our last meeting until September, so hope to see you there.

LWML Directory

Please pick up the new LWML directory today at the Information Center.

30-Hour Famine

The youth are still accepting donations today at the orange table in the narthex. Thank you for your prayers and support during this weekend's 30-hour fast.

Thank You

Thank you for the prayers, cards and expressions of kindness we received from members for our 48th wedding anniversary celebration. They are very much appreciated! –Sincerely, Merle and Ellie Knuth

Media Ministry Fundraiser

The media ministry will be selling baked goods and Chris Onsrud's famous homemade Chex-mix after the worship services on May 5-6 and May 12-13. All proceeds will go toward replacing the failing video switcher.

Helping Hands

The Southwest Polk County Chapter has received money for adult and youth projects; the first three churches that send in an application for a project, like the annual helping hands day will receive money. For more information contact Faith Spark at Dfpctspark@msn.com.

Gloria Quilters

May 5

The Gloria Quilters will meet Saturday, May 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please join us to work on quilts for the Honduras Mission which will be depart

Honduras Mission which will be departing in June. Come when it is most convenient for you and stay as long as you can. We'd love to have you join us.



May 19

The last meeting of this session of the

Gloria Quilters will be held on Saturday, May 19. Individual and group photos will be taken. More information on this fun and final activity will be forthcoming soon!

Liturgical Dancers Needed



We are looking for children, men and women who would like to learn how to worship God through dance and creative movement. Rehearsals begin Saturday in the room 138 from 3:30-5 p.m. for Pentecost Sunday's presentation. For more information, contact Kim Marsh at 689-7388.

Softball Schedule

Date	Time	Visitor	Home	Field
Thursday, May 3	6:15 p.m.	Point of Grace	GDLC	R
Thursday, May 3	7:15 p.m.	First Federated	GDLC	R

Ruth Harbor

Ruth Harbor, a Christ-centered home and program for young women facing unplanned pregnancies, will be sponsoring a walk to raise funds on May 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the Meredith Trail. For more information, go to www.ruthharbor.org.

Scrapbook Fellowship

Another chance to get some pages done or some picture organized! Scrapbook Fellowship will meet on

Friday, May 11 from 8:30 a.m to 11 p.m. in room 131/133 next to the kitchen. Come when you can, leave



when you need to. We have a lot of fun visiting and watching "chick flicks" while we work. We'd love for you to join us!

For more information contact Deb Kesse at 251-8324 or DeAnn McCue at the church office

XYZ Will Travel

The XYZ group will travel to Union, IA. to fill bags with soup ingredients for Outreach Africa on Tuesday, May 1. We will meet at Gloria Dei's west parking lot at 10:15 a.m. and car pool to Story City where we will be stopping for lunch at the Happy Chef Restaurant before proceeding to Union, Iowa for a couple of hours. If you are interested in joining us or have questions, please contact Dick or Elaine Mueller at 276-8903 or rmueller 4213@msn.com.

Clowns Visit Tiny Treasures







Cookie, Sara Brown, and YoYo, Tom Bowen, clowned around with the preschoolers to help support last week's circus theme. Each day the preschoolers got a taste of circus life in activities such as face painting, and magic tricks. The clown duo will be performing at Family Fun Night this Thursday.

All Aboard! Summer Reading Fun

The summer reading club will take a ride on the reading railroad! Registration will begin in May. The summer reading club is open to all children ages 3 to grade 6.

In addition, volunteers are needed to help tally points earned in the summer reading club. If you can help this summer, please contact DeAnn at 278-5544, ext. 207.

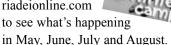
All Aboard!

Pancake Breakfast

Mark your calendars for the Tiny Treasures preschool pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 20 from 8 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$5 per person, children ages 3-10 are \$3. and children under the age of 2 eat free.

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



Workers Needed for Family Fun Night

We need youth and adults to run the games the evening of the Family Fun Night on Thursday, May 3. Sign-up sheets are on the window outside the preschool office at the east end of the building. The game list includes: lollipop tree, bowling, cake walk, book walk, coloring table, lego table, stamp table, beanbag toss, color-balls game, fishing game, dice game, football toss, marshmallow drop, bounce house, duck pond, egg-on-spoon walk, leap for the Lord, horseshoes, and ring toss.



Purchase tickets at the door or by calling 276-1700.

carnival games



Thursday, May 3 5:30-7:30 p.m.

silent auction

bounce house

\$5 per child or a maximum of \$15 per family children under 2 are free

Proceeds will go toward Tiny Treasures; supplemental funding will be provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.



Castaway

April 29: Last 10:20 a.m. Castaway

May 5: Last Saturday Castaway

May 6: Last 9:20 a.m. Castaway

April 29 Topic:

Topic:

"Focus Amidst the Distraction"

Confirmation

Confirmation pictures will be Saturday, May 5 at 9 a.m. Please don't forget to be in the Youth Center at 10 a.m. Confirmation Sunday at 10 a.m. for Confirmation Service.

Cafe 923

Cafe 923 will be Friday, May 4 from 6-9 p.m.



Senior High

The Island

April 29

No Island today, instead join us join us for paintballing fun.

Paintball

Junior and Senior High Youth

Join us today at 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 paintballs. See you at noon at Gloria Dei.

Parents: If you are interested in driving, please meet us at noon.

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.lcmsgathering.com and click on "Caitlin." In addition, please turn in your medical release form as soon as possible.



Week of April 29-May 5

Sunday, April 29

7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in

Sanctuary

9:20 a.m. Castaway

9:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 510:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in

Family Life Center

10:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5

10:20 a.m. Journey with Dr. Luke

10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service

in Sanctuary

12:00 p.m. Senior High Paintball

Monday, April 30

9:30 a.m. Moms with Young Children Mtg.

Tuesday, May 1

10:15 a.m. XYZ (Meet at Church Parking Lot)

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting1:00 p.m. Helping Hands

6:30 p.m. Kindermusik: Near and Far6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University

Wednesday, May 2

5:45 p.m. The Gloria Dei Chorale

6:00 p.m. Discovery 101

Thursday, May 3

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

5:30 p.m. Tiny Treasures Family Fun Night

6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Friday, May 4

6:00 p.m. Cafe 923

Saturday, May 5

8:30 a.m. Gloria Dei Quilters9:00 a.m. Confirmation Photos3:30 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 Service5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Outpouring of Love (April 15 and 22)				
General Fund Offerings	\$47,881			
YTD Offering	\$1,158,655			
YTD Budget	\$1,126,020			

Last Week's Attendance				
Northwind	105	Communion		
7:45 a.m.	193	Northwind	76	
9 a.m.	434	10:00 a.m.	41	
10 a.m.	68			
10:30 a.m.	266			
Total	1066			

Week of May 6-12

Sunday, May 6 Confirmation Sunday

7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary

with Communion

9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in

Family Life Center

9:20 a.m. Castaway

9:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5

10:30 a.m. Confirmation Service in Sanctuary with

Communion

10:30 a.m. Contemporary-blend Worship Service in

Family Life Center

5:30 p.m. The Island

Monday, May 7

6:30 p.m. Women's Connection Summer Edition

Tuesday, May 8

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting1:00 p.m. Helping Hands5:30 p.m. Foundation Meeting6:00 p.m. Governing Board

6:30 p.m. Kindermusik: Near and Far6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University6:30 p.m. Thrivent Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 9

10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Meyer

5:30 p.m. Strategic Planning MAT

Thursday, May 10

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews 11:30 a.m. Pastoral Luncheon 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Friday, May 11

8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship

Saturday, May 12

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. Northwind Service with Communion

Educational Attendance							
	Saturday, 5:50	Sunday, 9:20	Sunday, 10:20	Wed., 6:15	Misc.		
Preschool	5	38	12	22	Music Alive		
Elementary	11	62	12	81	48		
Junior High		25	28	87	Wed. Meal		
High School			6		55		
Total	16	125	58	190			

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