

WEEKLY WORD



A Publication of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

August 6, 2006

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Winding Curves: Take Your Eyes Off the Road

by Karen Kennedy, staff

This week ends our “Signs of Life” sermon series. It is fitting that it ends on the winding curves sign because life is full of unexpected curves, detours, and pitfalls that occasionally cloud the road ahead. This week we will take our eyes off the road and onto the guide, the reference point, our northern star, which helps us to navigate in every situation.

*For this God is our God for ever and ever;
he will be our guide even to the end.*

Psalm 48:14

This week also marks the first day of the Iowa State Fair. In my household, the fair evokes fond memories, except for the year that we joined some of our out-of-town friends. On that hot August day, our group consisted of 10 children ages six and under and five adults. In the midst of grazing through the food lines and browsing at the vendors, we noticed five-year-old Austin was gone. Terror immediately struck our hearts; we quickly hatched a plan where each of us would search different locations before reporting back in 10 minutes. When we returned, Austin was not in hand. As panic rose in each of our hearts, we decided to search one more time before contacting the authorities. Within a few minutes, I spotted Austin strolling casually down the sidewalk. Miffed by his cavalier attitude, I inquired about his detour. “I didn’t like where we were, so I decided to explore by myself,” he said. Although I was happy to see him, veering from our path was completely inconsiderate—he should have known better.

Knowing better doesn’t always fuel our actions, does it? Take, for example, Jonah. When God told Jonah to go to Nineveh, he ran away from the Lord. Jonah immediately charted an alternative plan and jumped on a ship going to another

city. What was Jonah thinking? What was Austin thinking? When we find ourselves diametrically opposed to our present situation, do we just forsake the pilot and crew and head in our own direction? Jonah’s curve from God definitely took a turn for the worse when the storms erupted and the crew had to throw this stow-away overboard.

Though I question Jonah’s sanity from running from the Lord, I am amazed at Jonah’s gut reaction to drowning—he took his eyes off his hopeless situation and gazed on his deliverer’s abilities.

“In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry. You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me.” Jonah 2:1-3

When basically all hope was lost, Jonah declared that God would and could deliver him. After three days and three nights, Jonah was washed ashore, a bit humbled, but nonetheless delivered.

But you brought my life up from the pit, O Lord my God. Jonah 2:7

When we find ourselves on a winding curve, whether from our own disobedience, like Jonah or my friend Austin, or from life’s detours and bumps, we can be assured that God will guide us every mile along the way.

The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorching land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Isaiah 58:11

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GodZ GuyZ at the Fair

Come and hear GodZ GuyZ at the Iowa State Fair. They will be performing on the AE Stage at 3 p.m. Sunday, August 13. It would be great to see our Gloria Dei friends in the audience. Mark your calendars now and we'll see you there.

Grief Share Support Group

A grief support group will begin Thursday, August 24 from 6:30-8 p.m. to help individuals who are mourning the death of a family member or friend. The group will use GriefShare, a 13-week curriculum written by Church Initiative, a not-for-profit nondenominational organization whose aim is to support individuals through the grieving process. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Tim Phillips at 276-1700 or pick up a registration form at the Information Center and return it to the "GriefShare" box by Thursday, August 17. Childcare will be provided. A free-will donation of \$18 is suggested to cover the cost of the workbook.



Office Help Needed

Do you have a couple of hours a week to help in the church office?



We are looking for a team of people to help answer phones during the week on a regular basis. So if you have a couple of hours to donate, contact Pennie at 276-1700 or pennie@gloriadeionline.com. Thanks!

Tool Shoppe



Take some time today to visit the Tool Shoppe, located east of the narthex. We now have traveling mugs with Gloria Dei's logo imprinted on them for \$10. While you are there, don't forget to check out the other new items.

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



www.gloriadeionline.com

Sunday Schedule

Sunday Worship
8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Staffed Nursery
8 a.m.-noon

Saturday Schedule

Saturday Worship
5:30 p.m.

Grace Place
6 p.m.

Staffed Nursery
5:15 p.m.

Staff e-mail:

Rev. Ronald Burcham
Senior Pastor
rburcham@gloriadeionline.com

Rev. Kendall Meyer
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Mr. Bill Wishman
Interim Business Manager
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Governing Board
276-1700

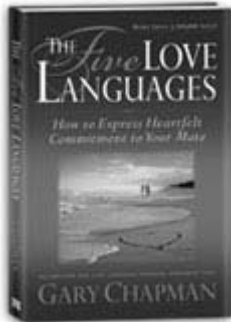
Golf Outing



Don't forget to register for this year's golf outing at Willow Creek Golf Course, Saturday, August 26 at 8 a.m. For more information, stop by the Information Center today.

A Growing Marriage Conference

Moody Bible Institute is hosting a marriage conference Saturday, September 30 at Point of Grace Church, 939 Office Park Drive, West Des Moines. Dr.



Gary Chapman, the author of the New York Times best-seller book, *The Five Love Languages*, will be leading the conference. This light-hearted and fun conference is designed to discover important life-sustaining keys for marriage. Whether you are getting married, or have been married for 50 years, this conference will help you build a healthy vibrant relationship with your spouse.

If you are interested, contact Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224. If enough people are interested, a group rate of \$35 per person applies; if not, the cost is \$50 per person.

Worship Service Ministry Partners

We are thankful for our helpers today who assist in providing a great place to worship.

Elders:

Steve Junge
Tim Radig
Tom Westby

Ushers:

Northwind:
Rich Johnson

8 a.m.

Ken Andresen
Cheryl Corbett
Bob Knief
Ken Petersen, Sr.
Ken Petersen, Jr.

Norm Rinderknecht
Don Zimmerman
Sandy Zimmerman

9:30 a.m.

Bruce Brock
Dan DeVries
JoAnn Drake
Paul Drake
Dan Timmons
Art Tucknott
Joel Woehler
Don Franzen

11 a.m.

Jeff Eckhoff
Bill Fellows
Ron Wheeler

Organist:

Kathy Stange

Acolytes:

Leney Roberts
Spencer Macklin
Rachel Corell

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 Pennie 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 nation and the freedom we enjoy

Prayers

- For our safe travel on vacations
- For our farmers
- For peace in the Mideast
- For our economy

Prayer Ministry Team

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

Sunday's Fall Worship Schedule Starting September 10

7:45 a.m. Traditional in the Sanctuary

- Music type:** • Hymns from various hymnals accompanied by organ
- Special music:** • Vocal choirs, bell choirs, brass, orchestra
- Elements:** • Written liturgy that uses the liturgy from the hymnals on the second and fourth Sundays.
- Responsive Psalms sung by cantor on occasion
 - Communion liturgy from hymnals used on one Sunday a month. Shorter written liturgy on one Sunday a month.
 - Use Nicene creed at one communion service each month
- Communion:** • Distributed at the communion rail

9 a.m. Traditional-Blend in the Sanctuary

- Music type:** • Hymns from various hymnals accompanied by organ
- Softer praise songs led by worship leader, piano and drums
- Special music:** • Vocal choirs, children's choirs, bell choirs, brass, orchestra, and praise choir
- Elements**
- Written liturgy that focuses on the theme of the day
 - Communion liturgy from hymnals used on one Sunday a month. Shorter written liturgy on one Sunday a month.
 - Use Nicene creed at one communion service each month
- Communion:** • Continuous flow distribution

10 a.m. Contemporary in the Family Life Center

- Music type:** • Praise music led by a worship leader and praise band
- Guitar-driven
- Special music:** • Solos, praise band
- Children's choirs
- Elements:** • Free-flow service that incorporates confession, scripture lessons, prayers, and the creed twice a month
- Communion:** • Continuous flow distribution
- Note:** • This service will resemble the Northwind Saturday evening service.

10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend in the Sanctuary

- Music type:** • Hymns from various hymnals accompanied by the praise band
- Praise music led by a worship leader and praise band.
 - Guitar or piano-driven
- Special music:** • Children's choirs, bell choirs, brass, orchestra, praise choir
- Elements:** • Free-flow service that incorporates confession, scripture lessons, prayers, and the creed twice a month
- Communion:** • Continuous flow distribution

Listening and Changing

As a result of June's worship survey and comments made to the Elders concerning the proposed fall Sunday worship schedule, the Elders discussed at length and made a few changes to the previously proposed fall schedule. The major shift will be to move the 9 a.m. service to the sanctuary and change it to a traditional blend. In order to accommodate this change, the Elders needed to modify the time of the 8 a.m. service by 15 minutes.

The new schedule starting September 10 is as follows:

7:45-8:45 a.m.	Traditional	Sanctuary
9:00-10:00 a.m.	Traditional-Blend	Sanctuary
10:00-11:00 a.m.	Contemporary	Family Life Center
10:30-11:30 a.m.	Contemporary-Blend	Sanctuary

Even though this is a huge change from the projected fall schedule, the Elders believed it was necessary to listen to the survey and people's comments and plan accordingly. The children's and adult educational times will be 9:20 and 10:20 a.m.

Saturday's Northwind service and educational time will remain the same.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact an Elder today.

Walking in the Light



Tune in Sunday, August 13 at 10 a.m. on radio station 1150 AM KWKY as Pastor Baldwin shares on Philippians 4:4.

Ice Cream Social

Luther Park Community Center, 1555 Hull Ave., is hosting an ice cream social, Sunday, August 6 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Free-will offering will go toward purchasing new lobby furniture.

Wish to join Gloria Dei?

Sign the friendship pad in the pew or at the Information Center and check "wish to join Gloria Dei." All who wish to join must attend the Discovery classes.

New to the Lutheran church?

You are invited to attend Discovery 101 and Discovery 201.

Transferring from another Lutheran church?

You are invited to attend Discovery 201.

Discovery 101

Wednesday, September 13

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

Discovery 201

Sunday, October 15 from 3-7 p.m.

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

Sign-up

If you have any questions or want to register, please contact Pastor Phillips at 278-5544, ext. 204 or tphillips@gloriadeionline.com.

Self-defense Class

A Women's Self-defense Class will run for six weeks starting Monday, August 28 at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center; no class will be held on Labor Day. The cost of the class is \$25. Dr. Chip Miller, who has 31 years of teaching experience and is the founder and head instructor of Drake Gung Fu Club, will be the instructor. If you are interested, sign-up at the Information Center or call Pastor Phillips at 278-5544, ext. 204.

Guest Transportation

To improve access to our facility, we have formed a guest transportation ministry. This ministry will involve two eight-passenger shuttle carts that will circle the parking lot and transport guests to the doors of the narthex. If you are at least 30 years old and would like to be involved in this ministry by driving the carts, sign-up at the Information Center or call Pastor Phillips at 278-5544, ext. 204.



Scrapbook Fellowship

Scrapbook Fellowship will meet Friday, August 11 from 8:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Come and go as your schedule allows. Join us for fellowship, ideas, and to get some pages done! New scrappers are always welcome! For more information call Deb Kesse at 251-8324 or DeAnn McCue at 278-5544, ext. 207.

Ministry Partners

Do you love children? Do you love the Lord? We would love to have you share that love with children. We are currently seeking ministry partners to work with our educational programs on Sunday morning, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings. If you are interested, please call DeAnn at 278-5544, ext. 207.

Third Graders and Parents

All third graders and their parents are invited and encouraged to attend Faith Alive together for six weeks beginning September 20. Parents will work with their children as we search the scriptures together, highlighting key verses. A letter will be sent in August. Questions? Contact DeAnn in the church office at 278-5544, ext. 207.

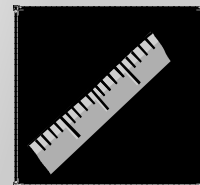
Backpacks for Children in Uganda

We are collecting backpacks and school supplies for children in the area that Pastor Burcham, Steve Kohtz, and Chris James directly worked with in Uganda. We have set a goal of gathering 200 backpacks loaded with school supplies to be shipped in September. Items needed for each backpack are:



- Backpacks (new/gently used)
- Box of 24 crayons
- Pencils (6)
- Erasers (2)
- Pens (6)
- Box of 10 markers
- Box of 12 colored pencils
- Wooden ruler (new/gently used)
- Notebook - 1-subject, wide ruled
- Pocket folder (4)
- Scissors (new/gently used)
- Glue sticks (2)

Please bring items to the large blue bin located in the Information Center. If you have questions, please contact DeAnn at 278-5544, ext. 207.



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High School

Sunday Nights with GF (God and Friends)

August 6

We will not meet tonight.

Junior High

Join your friends every Saturday night for worship and Bible study at our Northwind worship service.



Young Adults (Ages 18-23ish)

Thursday, August 10 at 8 p.m.

Meet at the church at 8 p.m. for the last young adult meeting this summer.

"Yes I Am" Conference (Saying Yes to Purity)

Mark your calendar for September 22 from 5:30-11 p.m. More details will follow.

Junior High Youth Gathering

Don't forget to register for the Junior High Youth Gathering October 21-22. The cost is \$120.

Registration materials have been sent home; registration is due by September 1.

Playground Update



Holes were dug Tuesday afternoon in preparation of installing the playground. Stay tuned for an updated photo next week as the playground should be visible and standing.

Summer Reading Wraps Up

Our summer reading program wraps up this weekend. Please turn in your reading logs today. Thanks!



Hands-on Summer Camps Enriched Children & Youth

Our halls were filled this year with enthusiastic campers who learned about God's creation in a hands-on learning environment during the science, drama, girls' and fine arts camps.



Children



Week of August 6-12

Sunday, August 6

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service with Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service with Communion
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
- 6:00 p.m. High School Evening with GF
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting - RM 109

Monday, August 7

Tuesday, August 8

- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Governing Board
- 6:30 p.m. Thrivent Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Connection MAT

Wednesday, August 9

- 8:30 a.m. Lung Association

Thursday, August 10

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 7:00 a.m. National Youth Gathering Planning Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 7:30 p.m. Strategic Ministry Action Team

Friday, August 11

- 8:00 a.m. Honduras Mission Trip Leaves
- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 6:00 p.m. Henkel-Sievers Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, August 12

- Honduras Mission Trip
- 4:00 p.m. Mary Henkel and Jon Sievers Wedding
- 5:30 p.m. Saturday Evening "Northwind" Service with Communion

Outpouring of Love for the Lord

General Fund Offerings	\$19,514
YTD Offering	\$104,250
YTD Budget	\$134,050

Attendance

Northwind	170
8 a.m.	133
9:30 a.m.	316
11 a.m.	175
Total	794

Week of August 13-19

Sunday, August 13

Honduras Mission Trip

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service with
Communion

6:00 p.m. High School Evening with GF

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting - RM 109

Monday, August 14

Honduras Mission Trip

7:00 p.m. Spirit Nurturers

Tuesday, August 15

Honduras Mission Trip

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 16

Honduras Mission Trip

Thursday, August 17

Honduras Mission Trip

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

10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews

Friday, August 18

Honduras Mission Trip

Saturday, August 19

Honduras Mission Trip

5:30 p.m. Saturday Evening "Northwind" Service

6:45 p.m. Junior High Saturday Night Live

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August 5 and 6, 2006 • Signs of Life: Winding Curves

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

"Halleluiah" (Your Love is Amazing)
"Everyday"
"Blessed Be Your Name"
"I Could Sing Your Love Forever"
Confession and Forgiveness
"Jesus, Draw Me Close"
"Word of God, Speak"
New Testament Reading
(NIV) 1 Peter 1:3-9
"Word of God, Speak"
Gospel Reading
(NIV) John 17:6-17
Children are Invited to Grace Place
Offering
"My Savior My God"
Sermon: Pastor Kendall Meyer,
Director of Adult Ministry
Prayers
Lord's Prayer
"Sweeter"
Blessing and Announcements

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Welcome
"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord," LW 296, 3 Vs.
Introit
"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word," LW 334, 3 Vs.
Confession and Forgiveness
"Today Your Mercy Calls Us," LW 347, 2 Vs.
New Testament Reading
(NIV) 1 Peter 1:3-9
Gospel Reading
(NIV) John 17:6-17
Apostles' Creed
"Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens," LW 339, 3 Vs.
Sermon: Pastor Kendall Meyer,
Director of Adult Ministry
"Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens," LW 339, 1 Vs.
Offering
Prayers
"Holy, Holy, Holy," LW 168
Lord's Prayer
Celebration of Holy Communion
"Agnus Dei," LW 172
"Shepherd of Tender Youth," LW 471, 3 Vs.
"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me," LW 512, 3 Vs.
"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer," LW 220, 3 Vs.
Benediction
"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow," LW 461

Sunday, 8 a.m.

Welcome
"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord," LW 296, 3 Vs.
Introit
"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word," LW 334, 3 Vs.
Confession and Forgiveness
"Today Your Mercy Calls Us," LW 347, 2 Vs.
New Testament Reading
(NIV) 1 Peter 1:3-9
Gospel Reading
(NIV) John 17:6-17
Apostles' Creed
"Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens," LW 339, 3 Vs.
Sermon: Pastor Kendall Meyer,
Director of Adult Ministry
"Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens," LW 339, 1 Vs.
Offering
Prayers
"Holy, Holy, Holy," LW 168
Lord's Prayer
Celebration of Holy Communion
"Agnus Dei," LW 172
"Shepherd of Tender Youth," LW 471, 3 Vs.
"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me," LW 512, 3 Vs.
"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer," LW 220, 3 Vs.
Benediction
"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow," LW 461

Sunday, 11 a.m.

"Halleluiah (Your Love is Amazing)"
"Everyday"
"Blessed Be Your Name"
"I Could Sing Your Love Forever"
Confession and Forgiveness
"Jesus, Draw Me Close"
"Word of God, Speak"
New Testament Reading
(NIV) 1 Peter 1:3-9
"Word of God, Speak"
Gospel Reading
(NIV) John 17:6-17
Sermon: Pastor Kendall Meyer,
Director of Adult Ministry
Offering
"My Savior My God"
Prayers
Lord's Prayer
"Sweeter"
Blessing and Announcements

The Celebration of Holy Communion

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.