

WEEKLY WORD

December 5-6, 2009

Second Sunday of Advent

Blue Christmas

Christmas can oftentimes magnify the sadness of a broken relationship, the grief of a loved one, or the intense feeling of missing a loved one who will not be able to come home for Christmas. Today's message centers around where to find comfort when your Christmas seems to have a blue tint to it. We will see how God tenderly and lovingly encourages us to come to him to change the color of our Christmas to his brightness.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

What's on your Christmas Playlist?

The message series, "What's on your Christmas Playlist," will continue through Christmas. We pray these messages will help you to spread the Christmas joy in your personal lives and to those around you.



- Dec. 5-6: "Blue Christmas"
- Dec. 12-13: "Silver Bells"
- Dec. 19-20: "I'll Be Home for Christmas"
- Christmas Eve: "Mary Did You Know?"

Spreading Christmas Joy

by Karen Kennedy, Director of Publicity and Promotion

Recently I saw the movie, "Blind Side." Based on a true story, it revolves around a boy's plight from homelessness to being adopted into a family and who eventually became an NFL player. Although the entire movie was inspirational, one scene struck me, it was when the mother requested her husband to stop the car because she saw a young man walking on the street on a cold and wet night without a jacket. She asked, "Where are you going?" When she realized that he didn't have a place to go, she invited him to stay at their house for the evening.

Her willingness to stop, to ask a simple question and then to invite him into their lives completely changed the course of this boy's life. A split-second decision, a small gesture on her part not only revolutionized the boy's life, but hers also.

Likewise, what small gestures can we do during this Christmas season to reach out to someone? Perhaps, we can give a smile to the check-out person, hug our children and tell them how much we love them, pray for our neighbors, visit someone who is sick in the hospital, or lend an ear to someone who is struggling this Christmas. Who knows, those small gestures could change someone's Christmas this year.

Invite a friend or neighbor to church this Christmas season.

UP & COMING EVENTS

Advent Services

Join us Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Baked Goods

Stop by the table in the narthex Sunday to buy delicious holiday goods baked by the ladies of the Naomi Circle. All proceeds will be used to purchase food for the four Urbandale area families that Naomi Circle has adopted for Christmas.

Christmas Program

Mark your calendars for Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3 or 5 p.m.

Cantata

Experience the wonder of Christmas at "Glorious Impossible," Sunday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m.

Tiny Treasures Program

Join the preschoolers for their "Joy for the World" program Monday, Dec. 21 at 6:30 p.m.

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Giving statements mailed

Year-to-date giving statements were mailed Dec. 4 to each family in the congregation. This is a record of all giving through Dec. 4 and will give an accurate total of giving with one month left in the year. A final record of giving will be mailed after the first of the year for income tax purposes. If your year-to-date statement was not received or if you have questions, please call Shari Smith at 276-1700, ext. 202.

Cookie dough fundraiser

Last month, Tiny Treasures held a cookie dough fundraiser to help support Zac Duncalf, who is currently going through treatment for leukemia. A total of \$3,200 was given to the Duncalf family to help defray expenses during Zac's treatment. Thank you so much for your support in this fundraiser. ~ Tiny Treasures

A little bit about a lot of things

This column written by Bill Jesse, Executive Director, gives an account of some of the specifics that are handled in the church office. Our hope is that it will inform you of some of the essential, and oftentimes, fun details of running the church. Besides, it may cause you to smile and think, "Wow, I didn't know that!"

Who is Joining Gloria Dei Lutheran Church?

Gloria Dei is welcoming many new members to our congregation on a regular basis. Approximately 150 new members are added each year and a total of 468 new members were added over the last three years.



Bill Jesse

Some very interesting statistics were discovered with the completion of a demographic study of the new members for the last three years.

The largest group joining Gloria Dei are transfers from other Lutheran Church Missouri Synod congregations. The categories are as follows: 38 percent of the new members were transfers; 33 percent were baptisms; 14 percent were adult confirmations; 8 percent were children joining with families; 4 percent were from the affirmation of faith and 2 percent from regular Confirmation.

By analyzing these statistics into age groups, we see that 32 percent are children under the age of 10, totaling 151 children added to our membership in the last three years; 20 percent are the adults ages 31-40; and 14 percent are youth ages 11-20.

What is the conclusion to all these numbers? The children and youth 20 years and younger make up nearly half (46 percent) of the new membership. In comparison, adults 50 years and older comprise 11 percent of the total new membership. In addition, adults ages 21-30 and the 41-50 age groups were nearly equal at 12 percent and 11 percent, respectively.

So, who is joining Gloria Dei? A general statement could be made based on the three-year statistics that young families are joining. Parents in their thirties with children under the age of 10 make up the largest group.

Full-time staff:

Rev. Ronald Burcham

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Mrs. Gale Webb

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Governing Board:

govboard@gloriadeionline.com

Advent worship services

Let's prepare our hearts for Christmas by participating in the Advent midweek worship services in the Sanctuary. Entire families are encouraged to attend as we reflect on the times leading up to the birth of our Savior.

Wednesday, Dec. 9: The Voices of the Angels

Wednesday, Dec. 16: The Voices of the Shepherds

Altar flowers



The poinsettias on the altar during the Advent season were donated by members of the congregation and by the church. The plants will be displayed at the church for the entire Christmas season. For those who purchased a plant, they can be picked up after the Christmas Eve service that you attend.

A note of thanks

We were extremely pleased with all aspects of the Iowa Lutheran Teachers' Conference held at Gloria Dei. We were warmly greeted and treated professionally as we prepared for the conference. While we appreciate Gloria Dei as a conference setting, we especially value all of you as ministry partners. Whether the context is mission education, youth ministry, children's ministry, crisis care or other "adventures" Gloria Dei is willing to lead and partner. May God bless you as you extend his kingdom in your community, throughout the District and into the world. ~ Bob Riggert, Executive Assistant Stewardship, Education and Youth

Servers

Officiant/Liturgist:

Northwind (FLC):
Rev. Ron Burcham

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):
Rev. Philip Robarge

9 a.m. (Sanctuary):
Rev. Ron Burcham

9 a.m. (FLC):
Rev. Philip Robarge

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Rev. Ron Burcham

Preacher:

Rev. Ron Burcham

Organist:

Kathy Stange

Acolytes:

7:45 a.m.
Jonas Dierenfield

9 a.m.
Ross Miller

10:30 a.m.
Jacob Nichols

Elders:

Devin Wren
Ken Meythaler
Rod Serbus

Ushers:

Northwind
Randy Bosworth
Dennis Dean
Brad Gerke
Mike Mahler

7:45 a.m.

Mike Collins
Joe Gilg
Kory Meyeraan
Dan Timmons

9 a.m.

Stan Bonta
Dick Larimer
Don Pevestorf
Chris Uglum
Don Zimmerman
Sandy Zimmerman

10:30 a.m.

Jeff Johnston
Kory Schramm

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 40:1-11 and Matthew 11:25-30

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 with your request.

Thanksgivings

- For blessings received

Prayers

- For Fred Sturdevant and family as they transition to Fred living at Fountain West Care Center
- For the comfort of Sharolyn Thenhaus' mother, who is facing the last stage of life
- For Melissa Woodruff's cousin, Gina, who is battling non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- For Scott and Martha Raecker mourning the loss of Scott's father, James
- For Richard Rinderknecht and family, who are grieving the loss of his mother
- For Zac Duncalf and his caregivers
- For the care concerns of Len Daib
- For the health of Richard Fastenau
- For missionary Steve Lutz in Papua, New Guinea
- For the health concerns of Cathy, a friend of the Siems family

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.

Join us for our Christmas Program



Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3 and 5 p.m.

Savior of the Nations. For all ages! Journey with us as children and youth present the Christmas story from an international perspective. The journey begins in the Sanctuary before individual groups travel to Honduras, China and Uganda. Each country will have its own station with children eagerly awaiting to share their country's heritage through narrative, song and dance. As with all journeys, we will end where we began, in the Sanctuary. An International Taste of Christmas will follow the program where you can get a sampling of food from each country.

Fabric donations needed: Children's ministry needs donations of fabric in order to costume our preschool children for the Christmas program. Specifically, we are in need of brightly colored solids and patterns in amounts of a yard or more (45 or 60 inches wide). If you would like to donate fabric, please drop it off in DeAnn and Penny's office by Sunday, Dec. 6. If you have questions, please contact Kirsten Illian at 986-1038.

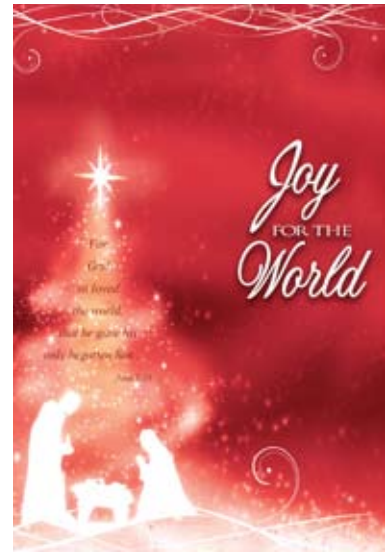
Christmas Caroling

Saturday, Dec. 12 from 2-4 p.m.; Meal at 4:30 p.m.

A great event for the entire family. Wrap the children up in warm clothes and travel with us to houses where we will spread our Christmas joy by singing. After we carol our way in the Urbandale vicinity, we will meet at church for chili and hot chocolate. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Phillips at 278-5544, ext. 204.



Come spread the joy Saturday, Dec. 12.



Tiny Treasures Program

Monday, Dec. 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Joy for the World. Our seven pre-school classes will join together in the Sanctuary to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas joy. The entire congregation is invited to this program offered by our little ones.

Giving Tree



Share with God's people who are in need. Romans 12:13

Thank you for your donations. Please remember to pray for the families in need. There are still a few tags left on the tree. Please drop the gifts off by Sunday, Dec. 6.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

We are excited to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Thursday, Dec. 24. We have a variety of types and times of worship services. And remember, Christmas is a great time to invite your neighbors, friends and families.

H3 Family Service

Thursday, Dec. 24 at 3:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center

This family-oriented worship service, H3 (head, heart and hands), will feature the sights, sounds and exploration of the first Christmas with an emphasis on helping children understand the importance of Jesus' birth.

Traditional Candlelight

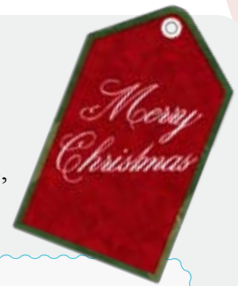
In the Sanctuary at 4, 6 and 7:30 p.m.

This traditional candlelight worship service in the Sanctuary offers a rich legacy of the traditional hymns and liturgy.

Blended Candlelight

In the Family Life Center at 5:30 p.m.

This blended candlelight worship service in the Family Life Center will help direct our hearts to the real reason for Christmas—Jesus.



“Christmas Playlist: Mary Did You Know?”

Christmas Eve’s message will feature the song, “Mary, Did You Know?”

What were the thoughts of Mary? Could she really envision what God was going to do through her son? Could she have known all that he would suffer? Like all parents she may have had other ideas for her son, but God had his own plans.

Join us as we explore together the magnificent birth that changed our entire world.



Gloria Dei worship ministry presents:

SIMPLY WORD'S

Glorious IMPOSSIBLE

Sunday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m.

No admission charge!

Join us as we celebrate the wonder of
Christmas through music.

Important dates

Grace Place

Grace Place will not be held Dec. 12-13, 26-27 and Jan. 2-3; will resume Jan. 9-10.
Grace Place will be held Dec. 19-20.

Faith Alive

Faith Alive, midweek meals and Music Alive will not be held Dec. 16, 23, 30 and Jan. 6; will resume Jan. 13.

Castaway

Classes will not meet Dec. 12-13, 19-20, 26-27 and Jan. 2-3; will resume Jan. 9-10.

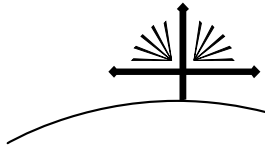
Membership classes

If you are visiting and would like to join the Gloria Dei family, please check out the following classes:

New to the Lutheran Faith?

Join us on Thursday, Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 6:30-8 p.m.

We will cover the basics of our beliefs and be encouraged to develop our faith in God. If childcare is needed, please indicate this when registering. Register online at www.gloriadeionline.com.



Want to become a member?

Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010 from 3-6:30 p.m.

If you are transferring from another Lutheran church or have taken the Discovery 101 class, join us for an interactive event. You'll meet the staff, get an overview of our ministry, meet each other and enjoy a delicious meal. Register online at www.gloriadeionline.com.

Professional directory

Imagine: You are looking for a painter and would like to find someone whom you can trust. Look no further! An online professional directory is being created.

We are excited to create an online directory of the wide range of talents and services of our members. If you have a business or a service that you would like to publish on our Web site, please sign up by clicking on the Professional Directory Link on our Web site at www.gloriadeionline.com. If you have questions, please contact Karen Kennedy at 278-5544, ext. 225.

LWML Circles

Rebekah Circle will meet Thursday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. in the home of Sheila Manteaw, 6100 Trace Ct., Johnston.

Ruth Circle will meet Monday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. in the home of Elaine Mueller, 3205 Mary Lynn Dr., Urbandale.

Naomi Circle will meet for their Christmas party brunch, Thursday, Dec. 10 at 9:30 a.m. in rooms 131/133. Please bring a gift for the Christmas Urbandale Caring Corp Families.

Bottles from China

The Toolshope has received more of the hand-painted bottles from China. They can be purchased Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings.

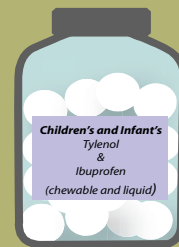
Honduras news

Bake sale:

The Honduras mission team will have a bake sale Dec. 13 in the narthex. Proceeds will be used for the 2010 trip.



December's collection



The Honduras mission team is collecting adult Tylenol and Ibuprofen. Please drop them off in the Honduras mission trip box in the narthex.

Scrapbook Fellowship

It's that time again! Join us for Scrapbook Fellowship Friday, Dec. 11 between 8:30 a.m. and 11 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in rooms 131/133. Come and go as your schedule allows. For more information, contact Deb Kesse at 251-8324.

Childcare: If you need childcare, contact Carol Wenndt by Wednesday, Dec. 9 at 306-4352 (phone or text) with the date, times (start and finish) as well as the number of children.

Volleyball

Spike! Bump! Volley! Duck! Enjoy playing volleyball on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center with a group of fun-loving volleyball enthusiasts. No skill is necessary, only a desire to laugh and get a little exercise at the same time. No need to sign up, just show up with your gym shoes and volley with us!

Congregational Health Ministry Action Team

On November 19, the Congregational Health MAT met to discuss the preparations and progress made by staff in response to current health issues, specifically the containment of the H1N1 flu virus.

The MAT is made up of medical health professionals, a member of the Center for Disease Control and the Executive Director. Each brought areas of expertise to the MAT.

The MAT was charged with three main tasks.

1. Review current steps taken by the directors and staff of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church to contain the spread of communicable diseases.
2. Provide recommendations for practices to be followed to contain the spread of communicable diseases.
3. Establish a plan/checklist to monitor preparedness for a pandemic outbreak based on the most current and up-to-date information.

Task Item #1

With input from directors and staff, Executive Director, Bill Jesse prepared a current procedures list already adopted or emphasized. The MAT expressed most common sense procedures and practices are already being done. It was recommended someone be appointed to be responsible for common areas such as the office, Gathering Place, etc.

Recommendation:

Using the Weekly Word, the Gloria Dei Web site and the Tiny Treasures' e-mail list, communicate with the membership the current procedures and practices already adopted or emphasized. Include practices from the kitchen ministry concerning food preparation and serving.

Task Item #2

Discussion was held around the current practices during service in regard to Greeters at the doorways to Gloria Dei, our practice of greeting during the services, the passing of the pew registers, and the passing of the offering plates.

Recommendation:

During the flu season, (roughly through March) continue the non-contact greeting at the entrances. Smiles and verbal greetings are recommended. The greeting during the service should follow the same guidelines as the greeting at the door. Current greetings, including fist bumps, verbal greetings etc. should continue through the flu season. Greeting the pastor after services should follow the same guidelines. The pew registers will continue to be used but congregational members may want to use their own pens rather than share the pen in the register. Elders and ushers may wipe down offering plates after or between services with a disinfectant wipe. A suggestion to put hand sanitizers in the pews was rejected as this was overkill in the opinion of the MAT as congregation members already may carry their own sanitizers.

Task Item #3

Discussion was held concerning the preparedness for a pandemic outbreak. Bill Jesse supplied a Faith Based and Community Organizations Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Checklist obtained from the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The MAT reviewed the checklist to determine Gloria Dei's preparedness. Creating an Infection/Disease control policy to sit on a shelf and not be maintained was viewed as a waste of time and resources.

Recommendation:

Maintain an up-to-date checklist to reflect current practices and procedures. Routinely use this document to determine the preparedness and to keep abreast with new information and to keep best practices in the forefront.

For more information

We have been proactive in our response to the current health concerns. For a complete listing of procedures that have either been adopted or emphasized in the past 6-8 weeks, please go to our Web site at www.gloriadeionline.com.

HUGS and sack lunches for the homeless in Des Moines

Our children in 4th and 5th grade are collecting HUGS for the homeless. They need hats, gloves and scarves to give to the homeless living in camps in Des Moines. They are also collecting blankets and clean five-gallon buckets with lids. This effort is in partnership with Joppa Ministries and Joe Stevens to help provide 50 HUGS and buckets on Sunday, Dec. 20 for the men and women living in camps. Sack lunches are also being collected for the homeless to be included with the HUGS. Decorated sacks can be picked up at the Information Center. Lunches should include a sandwich, fruit, drink, snack and a granola bar or any other item. All items can be placed in the bin in the narthex by Sunday, Dec. 20. If you have any question, please contact DeAnn McCue at 278-5544, ext. 207.

Christmas program preparations underway

Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3 and 5 p.m.

Program Times:

All preschool and elementary children who have last names A-L will be in the 3 p.m. program.

All preschool and elementary children who have last names M-Z will be in the 5 p.m. program.

Rehearsal Times:

Practices are underway. All children and youth are welcome and encouraged to participate! Sunday, Dec. 6 and Saturday, Dec. 12.

Elementary Rehearsal Times:

12-12:45 p.m. for Last Names A-L

12:45-1:30 p.m. for Last Names M-Z

Preschool:

12-12:45 p.m. – All preschoolers rehearse in Youth Center.

Rehearsal Lunch: Please join us from 11:15-12:45 for a sloppy joes lunch. Cost: all ages are \$2



Christmas program art room open

Lots of art will be created for the Christmas Program, including ornaments for multi-cultural trees in room 131/33. Come in and paint, glue, bead, fold and design your artwork before or after program rehearsals. The room is open from noon to 1:30 p.m.

International Taste of Christmas

We are excited to unveil the International Taste of Christmas after both programs on Dec. 13. We will taste a wide array of food from different countries for your enjoyment.

Parents Needed

We need parents to help with the Christmas program in many ways and time slots. We have sewing, set-up, art, painting and clean-up needs. We also need help during the program and rehearsals and much more! Please sign on the clip boards near rehearsal areas today.

Mark your calendar!
Sunday, Dec. 13
3 and 5 p.m.

The Wave in December

The Wave (4th & 5th Graders) will meet on Sunday, Dec. 20 from 1-2:30 p.m. Please bring six snacks to share and HUGS (see page 7). We'll play games, eat great snacks and hear the Christmas story in a new way!

January's opportunities

To help brighten your days, we have some activities planned for you and your family.

Kindermusik: Starts the week of Jan. 10. With a bang, a jingle, and a smile, we will sing our way through the winter months.

Creative Dance: Starts Monday, Jan. 11 at 6:45 p.m. Children ages 6 to 12 are invited to dance the cold away.

Beginning Ballet and Creative Movement: Starts Monday, Jan. 11. at 6 p.m. Want to take care of that extra energy? Come to a fast-moving class for children ages 3 to 5.

Youth Basketball: Elementary children are invited to a basketball camp on Saturday, Jan. 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 9-10 a.m.

Family Event: Sunday, Jan. 24 from 1-2:30 p.m. Sled near Lakeview pond, enjoy potluck snacks and hot cocoa at the church.

For more information on all these events, check out our Web site at www.gloriadeionline.com.

Midweek meal

Wednesday, Dec. 9
from 5-5:45 p.m.

Pizza Pockets

\$4 per adult

\$2 per child or youth

(2 and under eat free)

growieldminister



gloriadei youth ministry

luke 9:23

Junior and Senior High Christmas Program

Our Christmas program will be Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3 and 5 p.m.

Rehearsals will be Sunday, Dec. 6 and Saturday, Dec. 12 from 12-12:45 p.m.

Please sign-up to bring a dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies. Sign-up sheet is on the youth bulletin board and cookies need to be at the church by 1 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 13. There is also a sign-up sheet for youth and parents to help serve the cookies after the 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Christmas program performances.

Senior High: We need guides and actors for the Christmas program.

30 Hour Famine Kickoff

We will have a 30-hour Famine kick off Wednesday, Dec. 9 during the opening. The actual event is April 9-10, 2010.

Junior High Grades 6-8

Sunday: Castaway

We offer a junior high educational time, Castaway, on Saturdays at 5:50 p.m. and Sundays at 9:20 and 10:50 a.m.

Main Focus: Once upon a time - Parables of Jesus

Dec. 5 and 6: The Unforgiving Sinner (Matthew 20:1-16) Classes will not meet Dec. 12-13, 19-20, 26-27 and Jan. 3-4, but will resume Jan. 9 and 10. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mission opportunities

Saturday, Dec. 19 from 1-3 p.m. at Hope Bargain and Community Outreach Center in Pleasant Hill. Sign-up sheets are on the Youth Bulletin Board.

Service opportunities

Sunday, Dec. 20 from 9-10 a.m. Join us in the Youth Center as we assemble the Christmas Eve candles and dry cookie dough bags.

Senior High Grades 9-12

Sunday mornings

Sundays from 9-10 a.m. Join us as we discuss and study relevant issues for high school youth. Meets Dec. 6 and 13. No Bible studies Dec. 20, 27 and Jan. 3.

The Point

Wednesdays in the Youth Center at 6 p.m. Wednesday evenings will be a time when senior high students can gather with friends and study, discuss, and experience some hot topics from the Bible that are relevant to teens today.

White elephant gift exchange

Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 6:15-7:15 p.m. Come and bring a wrapped gift for the white elephant (something you don't want but someone else will) gift exchange party.

Senior High Urban Plunge

January 8-10. Sign-up sheet on the youth bulletin board. Deadline to sign up is Dec. 13.



Last month's dinner theater raised more than \$6,000 to be used to help with outreaches, and youth events.

Week of Dec. 5-12, 2009

Saturday, Dec. 5

- 10:00 a.m. Gingerbread Tea
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place
- 5:50 p.m. Castaway

Sunday, Dec. 6

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 8:00 a.m. Naomi Bake Sale
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. H3 Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 9:00 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 9:10 a.m. Adult Bible Study - God Heard Their Cry
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Lighthouse Bible Study
- 9:20 a.m. Worship Team Warm-up
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study - God Heard Their Cry
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 10:50 a.m. Grace Place
- 10:50 a.m. Castaway
- 11:15 a.m. Christmas Program Lunch
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Program Practice
- 1:00 p.m. Third Grade Girl Scouts
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, Dec. 7

- 8:00 a.m. Iowa Department of Education
- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Connection a.m.
- 4:30 p.m. Kindermusik Young Child
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connection p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Worship (Nov. 21-22)	Attendance	Communion
Northwind	164	114
7:45 a.m.	155	
9 a.m. (Sanctuary)	348	
9 a.m. (FLC)	120	49
10:30 a.m.	392	
Total	1,179	163

Thanksgiving Worship	Attendance	Communion
Tuesday, Nov. 24	138	118
Thursday, Nov. 26	120	104
Total	258	222

Tuesday, Dec. 8

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 5:00 p.m. Boys Basketball Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Kindergarten and Second Grade Girl Scouts
- 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Governing Board Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, Dec. 9

- 10:00 a.m. Pastor Robarge's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Kindermusik
- 5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 5:30 p.m. Music Alive
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Classes
- 6:00 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High - The Point
- 6:15 p.m. Gloria Dei Alleluia Ringers
- 6:15 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 6:15 p.m. Parenting Families Bible Study
- 7:30 p.m. Advent Worship Service
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale

Thursday, Dec. 10

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Naomi Circle Christmas Brunch
- 10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
- 2:00 p.m. Children's Celebration Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Connections MAT

Friday, Dec. 11

- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 9:00 a.m. Giving Tree Setup

Saturday, Dec. 12

- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 9:00 a.m. Giving Tree Pickup
- 11:15 a.m. Christmas Program Lunch
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Program Practice
- 2:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling
- 2:00 p.m. Urbandale High School Choir
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion

Worship (Nov. 28-29)	Attendance
Northwind	108
7:45 a.m.	103
9 a.m. (Sanctuary)	319
9 a.m. (FLC)	57
10:30 a.m.	387
Total	974
Advent Worship	
Wednesday, Dec. 2	142

Week of Dec. 12-19, 2009

Saturday, Dec. 12

- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 9:00 a.m. Giving Tree Pickup
- 11:15 a.m. Christmas Program Lunch
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Program Practice
- 2:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling
- 2:00 p.m. Urbandale High School Choir
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion

Sunday, Dec. 13

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 8:00 a.m. Honduras Mission Bake Sale
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. H3 Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 9:10 a.m. Adult Bible Study - God Heard Their Cry
- 9:20 a.m. Worship Team Warm-up
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study - God Heard Their Cry
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Christmas Program
- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Program
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, Dec. 14

- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Connection a.m.
- 3:45 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connection p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Tuesday, Dec. 15

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 5:00 p.m. Boys Basketball Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community
- 6:30 p.m. Spiritual Life Survey MAT
- 6:30 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, Dec. 16

- 10:00 a.m. Pastor Robarge's Bible Study
- 6:15 p.m. Gloria Dei Alleluia Ringers
- 6:15 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Advent Worship Service
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale

Thursday, Dec. 17

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
- 2:00 p.m. Children's Celebration Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community

Friday, Dec. 18

No Scheduled Events

Saturday, Dec. 19

- 8:00 a.m. Cantata Rehearsal
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center

Scripture Based on Giving:

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first-fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. Proverbs 3:9-10

Outpouring of Love (Nov. 21-22, 2009)	
General Fund Offerings	\$20,442
QTD Offering	\$235,734
QTD Budget	\$260,236

Outpouring of Love (Nov. 28-29, 2009)	
General Fund Offerings	\$41,608
QTD Offering	\$277,342
QTD Budget	\$302,699

Educational Attendance for Nov. 21-22 and Wednesday, Dec. 2				
	Sat. 5:50 p.m.	Sun. 9:20 a.m.	Sun. 10:50 a.m.	Wednesday
Preschool	11	34	20	24
Elementary	27	75	42	116
Total Children	38	109	62	140
Junior High	n/a	n/a	n/a	61
Senior High	n/a	n/a	n/a	28
Total Youth	n/a	n/a	n/a	89

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

If you are new to Gloria Dei, welcome! 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 ask any of our members or stop by the Information Center.

Weekend Worship Services

Northwind Contemporary Worship Service

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center: This come-as-you-are service offers high-energy worship, and an educational time for the children and youth at 5:50 p.m.

Traditional Worship Service

Sundays at 7:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary: Join us in this classical Lutheran worship service that utilizes all three liturgies from the new Lutheran Service Book. Children and youth are invited to a 9:20 a.m. educational time.

Traditional Worship Service

Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary: Our classical Lutheran worship makes use of written and free-flow liturgy with traditional hymns. Approximately 20 minutes into the service, children and youth are invited to an educational time.

H-3 Family Worship Service

Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Family Life Center: This casual atmosphere where families are encouraged to worship with lively hymns and praise music. Approximately 20 minutes into the service, children and youth are invited to an educational time.

Contemporary Worship

Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary: This service offers high-energy worship using contemporary Christian songs and praise music. Approximately 20 minutes into the service, children and youth are invited to an educational time.

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.

Activities throughout the Week

We have lots of activities for the entire family throughout the week and would love for you to join us. Please check our Web site for the activities and times.

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.

Weekly Bible Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Gloria Dei Weekend Worship Times

Saturday Evening: 5:30 Northwind Contemporary

Sunday Morning: 7:45 Traditional • 9:00 Traditional • 9:00 H3 Service • 10:30 Contemporary

Grace Place: Saturday at 5:50 p.m. and Sundays 9:20 and 10:50 a.m.

• Staffed nursery from 8 a.m.-noon