

WEEKLY WORD



A Publication of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

January 7, 2007

Second Sunday after Christmas

Resolutions Do Not Have to Sink

by Karen Kennedy, staff

Resolution: The process of reducing to a simpler form.

Resolute: Marked by strong determination.

We vow, we promise, we sweat to make a change. The start of a new year is a great place to begin; therefore we make a pledge. It usually centers on eliminating a vice or adding a virtue to our future days. If you can't think of your own resolutions, the newspapers are filled with suggestions from steps to abandoning bad eating habits to jumping into an exercise regimen. Pick the vice or the virtue and begin the year with great anticipation of change.

That's the easy part. Long winter nights, family pressures and work stress cause our resolutions to evaporate in life's present demands. "Maybe, one piece of chocolate will help me get through the day," or "I am too tired to exercise, TV will be my exercise tonight." As we begin to fall back on our old ways, we soon realize that we have not budged from our original spot. We soon realize that we could become part of the failed resolution's statistics. To change is not easy. I speak from experience.

Each year, I vow to get rid of something in my life. One year, it was smoking—I actually won that battle; the next year it was potato chips—lost that battle—potato chips still fill my pantry. Every year something gets on my hit list.

Over the years, I realized that change lies not in the specific resolution but in its daily execution. And I need help! I must daily feed my

mind with the healing, life-sustaining words from and of God. No magic wand involved, I need to come daily to God and be changed.

Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. Luke 9:23-24

Change occurs by a moment-to-moment thought process.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12: 2

"Over the years, I realized that change lies not in the specific resolution but in its daily execution."

Will our flesh fail at times? I think so. In fact, Scriptures declare so. Peter began sinking while walking on the water when he looked at other circumstances other than the Lord. As soon as he began to sink, he cried, "Lord, save me." Jesus didn't say "Peter, you are sinking again, figure this one out yourself." No, he reached his hand to this sinking man. I believe he will do the same to us as we move forward this year in our weakly and sinking flesh.

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100:5

As we begin this year, let's resolve to come to him daily for help as we live out our new year's resolutions.

Index

- Calendar7-8
- Children5
- Last Week7-8
- LWML5
- News1-4
- Offering7
- Youth6

Programs Start Up this Week

Stay warm at Gloria Dei as we heat up Grace Place, Women's Connections, Faith Alive and Discovery 101 this week. Join us!

Congratulations DeAnn

DeAnn McCue, Director of Family Ministry, celebrated 10 years of service at Gloria Dei on Thursday, Dec. 21. Although words seem inadequate, we are so thankful for her love, creativity and insights that she has brought to us.

– Pastor Burcham and the staff of Gloria Dei

Thank You

A joyous Christmas 2006 has come and gone, and God's presence overshadows any presents we could have received. His love is everlasting and is communicated to us in various ways, certainly through His Word and Sacrament, but also through fellow believers. This Christmas season our family felt the love of God through you. Thank you for all the cards, gifts and warm wishes that we received over the last several weeks. As always, the outpouring of your love is humbling and greatly appreciated. May God continue to bless each of you as He continues to bless our congregation. — Pastor and Michelle Burcham

Sermons Available

The current weekend sermon on CDs can be picked up in the Toolshoppe immediately following the 7:45 a.m. worship service on Sundays.

Women's Connections Begins Tomorrow

Women's Connections starts on Monday, Jan. 8 from 6:30-8 p.m. Join us as we connect to Jesus and each other through worship, study and fellowship.

January's Sessions:

Breaking Free: This Beth Moore study draws several parallels between the captive Israelites and today's Christians, focusing on making freedom in Christ a daily reality.

Daniel: Explore Beth Moore's newest study. We will see that Daniel faced pressures and temptations similar to those of a Christian in today's world.

Jesus, the One and Only: Using Luke, the other Gospels, and additional Scriptures, Beth Moore brings participants to new insights and understanding of the life of Christ.

Really Bad Girls of the Bible: This study demonstrates one truly life-changing concept—the sovereign power of God to rule our hearts and lives with grace, compassion, and hope.



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



Sunday Schedule

Sunday Worship
7:45, 9, 10 and 10:30 a.m.
Staffed Nursery from 8 a.m.-noon
Educational Times at 9:20 & 10:20 a.m.

Saturday Schedule

Saturday Worship at 5:30 p.m.
Grace Place at 5:50 p.m.
Staffed Nursery from 5:15 p.m.

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. Heather Dingman
Family Ministry Admin Assistant
heather@gloriadeionline.com

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

Mrs. Karen Kennedy
Director of Publicity & Promotion
karen@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

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

Mr. Brandon Simpson
Facility Manager
brandon@gloriadeionline.com

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

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

Governing Board
276-1700



Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are in celebration of the 12th wedding anniversary of Pastor Kendall and Lynn Meyer and the 13th wedding anniversary of Jim and Betty Wollslager.

Journey with Dr. Luke

Journey with Dr. Luke will resume Sunday, Jan. 7 at 10:20 a.m. If you have journeyed with us last year or if you have never traveled with us, please feel free to join us this year.

Worship Service Ministry Partners

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

Elders:	Arlyn Hesse	10 a.m.
Devin Wren	Jim Johnson	Ivan Daniels
Ken Meythaler	Dick Mueller	Dan Johnson
Gary Wasko	9 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Ushers:	Greg Haessler	Kevin Kelley
Northwind	Doug Kumm	David Sengpiel
Mike Mazza	Jim Miles	Colleen Sengpiel
7:45 a.m.	Tanya Richards	Organist:
Bruce Amendt	Tom Richards	Shirley Roberts
Dave Disney	Tim Mueller	Acolytes:
Lou Grotheer	Chad Oehlert	Maggie McClelland
Mo Grotheer		Kelle Marsh
		Sarah Nichols

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 nation and the freedom we enjoy
- For our families

Prayers

- For the grieving family of Howard Dean Ingersoll
- For the Uganda team and worship conference
- For our military
- For children and youth
- For our nation

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.

Upcoming Classes

If you are interested in any of the following classes, please sign up at the Information Center or e-mail Pastor Phillips at tphillips@gloriadeionline.com.

Discovery 101

Our four-week new member class for people wanting to join Gloria Dei from a non-Lutheran background will be offered Wednesday nights in rooms 127/129 from 6:30-8 p.m. starting January 10.

DivorceCare

Our support group ministry will hold a class for those who have gone through the pain of divorce on Tuesday nights in the Youth Center from 6:30-8 p.m. beginning January 9. The ministry is offered for a suggested donation of \$18.

GriefShare

Our grief support ministry will begin its winter session on Thursday nights in the Youth Center from 6:30-8 p.m. beginning January 4. This ministry is offered for a suggested donation of \$18. Invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers to this comforting ministry.

2007 Weddings

Are you planning to be married at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in 2007? A pre-marriage class will meet in rooms 130/132 on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8 p.m. beginning January 16. This class is required and will meet for six weeks. The cost per couple is \$20.

Get a Taste of Small Groups

By Pastor Kendall Meyer, Director of Adult Ministry

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a part of a small group? We are starting a 6-week small group study, which will give a “taste” of the benefits of a small group.

This study, “Groups,” will show the rewards and embrace the risks of community. Step by step, this study will challenge and encourage you to explore the amazing potential for growth found in authentic relationships. You’ll study the true nature of friendship, the power of paying attention, the path to intimacy and the encouragement of support found in small groups.

The six sessions are: *This Is a Friendship, Love Pays Attention, Knowing and Being Known, When Community Breaks Down, Forgiveness, Building a Passionately Inclusive Church, and Being “For” One Another.*

All you need to do is make a six-week commitment today. Sign-up tables are in the narthex, Family Life Center, or e-mail Pastor Meyer at kmeyer@gloriadeionline.com. See you there!

Recycled Christmas Cards

The Honduras Mission team needs recycled fronts of religious Christmas cards for their mission trip to Honduras. Please save your cards and put them in the “donation-card” box located in the narthex in January. Thank you for your assistance!

Honduras Mission Trip

Please join us for a presentation on Honduras on Sunday, Jan. 21 at 9 and 10:30 a.m. This presentation is open to everyone. Please come if you are going, would like to go, or plan to support us through prayer. If you have any questions, contact Bill Clark at 453-3404 or bill.clark@equitrust.com.

Scrapbook Fellowship

Start the new year scrapbooking last year’s photos.

Join us Friday, Jan. 12 from 8:30-11 p.m. in rooms

131/33. If you have any questions, contact Deb Kesse at 251-8324 or DeAnn McCue at 276-1700.



Playgroup

Tiny Treasures will hold a Friday morning playgroup for children ages 2 1/2 to 3 1/2.

- February-May 2007
- 9:15-11:15 a.m.
- \$40 a month

For more information, pick up a brochure at the Information Center.

Teachers Wanted: We are looking for three part-time (3 hours per week) teachers for our playgroup program. If you are interested or know of someone who is interested, please contact Terry at 278-5544, ext. 305.



Meeting Dates & Times

Mary-Esther Circle

Mary-Esther Circle will meet Thursday, Jan. 11 at 9 a.m. at the home of Hazel Schroedel, 5212 Cody Drive, West Des Moines.

Miriam Circle

Miriam Circle will meet on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. at Holmes Oldsmobile (Hickman & I-35) to help assemble food packets for the African Mission Project. At noon, the group will go to the Machine Shed restaurant.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will be held Monday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. at the home of Myra Willms, 3835 38th St., Des Moines.

Sarah Circle

Sarah Circle will be held Monday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. at the home of Nancy Junge, 6427 Harbor Oaks Drive, Johnston.

Wednesday's Meal

January 10:

- Nachos
- Peas
- Pears

January 17:

- Chili
- Corn Bread
- Tropical Fruit

The cost per meal is \$2.50; children ages three and under eat free.

5 p.m.



gloriadeiyouthministry

luke 9:23

Junior High

Wednesdays

Confirmation classes start again this Wednesday, Jan 10.

Sixth grade will continue with their current studies.

Seventh grade topics will include: "The Commandments, Quickly through the New Testament, and They're not like us (different non-christian religions)."

The eighth grade will study the *Apostles' Creed*.

Castaway

Sunday, Jan. 7

Join us for today at 9:20 or 10:20 a.m. for a high-energy time of study and fellowship.

Topic: "Are We Going to Ride on the Clouds in Heaven"

Senior High

Planning MAT's Session

Senior High planning session will meet Sunday, Jan. 7 from 6:30-8 p.m. All adults and high school students are invited.

Super Bowl Party

Senior High Super Bowl party will be held in the Youth Center Sunday, Feb. 4 from 5-10 p.m. Bring a food/appetizer to share.

The Island

January 14

The Island will begin again Sunday, Jan. 14 from 5:30-8 p.m.

January 21

Join us for "Pins and Praside." We will begin in the Youth Center at 5:30 and travel to Merle Hay Lanes for bowling. We will land back in the Youth Center for pizza and small-group Bible study. Sign up by Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Dinner Theatre Auditions

April 13-14 and 20-22

Please join us Sunday, Jan. 7 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Youth Center as we prepare for our next dinner theatre.

Rehearsals begin next Sunday, Jan. 14 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

If you can't make the audition, please let Tim know, so he can set up another audition time.

Mark Your Calendar!

The 30-hour famine will be held April 27-28, 2007. In 2006, our group was one of the highest fundraisers for the World Vision's 30-hour famine organization. All teens 12 years and older are invited to participate in saving kid's lives! An initial planning meeting will be in January. Those that feel led to help with the organization of this year's event, please contact Kim Phillips at 254-1036 or e-mail: TNK4JC1@msn.com.

Week of January 7-13

Sunday, January 7

- 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
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner Theatre Auditions
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, January 8

- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Connections
- 6:45 p.m. Men's Basketball
- 7:00 p.m. Purpose Driven Bible Study

Tuesday, January 9

- 8:00 a.m. Freedom from Smoking
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball
- 5:00 p.m. Foundation Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Governing Board Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. DivorceCare

- 6:30 p.m. Small Group MAT
- 6:30 p.m. Thrivent Meeting
- 6:45 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball

Wednesday, January 10

- 10:00 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
- 6:15 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:15 p.m. Lord, I Want to Know You
- 6:15 p.m. The Gloria Dei Chorale
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Orchestra
- 7:30 p.m. The Alleluia Ringers
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei's Infusion Worship Team

Thursday, January 11

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 2:00 p.m. Home School Choir
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 6:00 p.m. GriefShare

Friday, January 12

- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice

Saturday, January 13

- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Team with Communion
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Outpouring of Love (Dec. 23-25)

General Fund Offerings	\$57,654
YTD Offering	\$648,256
YTD Budget	\$670,250

Outpouring of Love (Dec. 30-31)

General Fund Offerings	\$44,017
YTD Offering	\$692,273
YTD Budget	\$697,060

Week of January 14-19

Sunday, January 14

- 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
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 3:30 p.m. Dinner Theatre Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, January 15

- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Connections
- 6:45 p.m. Men's Basketball

Tuesday, January 16

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball
- 6:30 p.m. Kindermusik: Imagine That
- 6:30 p.m. Kindermusik: Village
- 6:30 p.m. DivorceCare
- 6:30 p.m. Pre-marriage Class
- 6:45 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball
- 7:00 p.m. Kindermusik: Family Time

Wednesday, January 17

- 10:00 a.m. Kindermusik: Family Time
- 10:00 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
- 6:15 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:15 p.m. Lord, I Want to Know You
- 6:15 p.m. The Gloria Dei Chorale
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Orchestra
- 7:30 p.m. The Alleluia Ringers
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei's Infusion Worship Team

Thursday, January 18

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 2:00 p.m. Home School Choir
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 6:00 p.m. GriefShare

Friday, January 19

- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice

Saturday, January 20

- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Team
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Attendance (Dec.23-25)			
Dec. 23-24		Christmas Eve	
Northwind	73	4:00 p.m.	189
7:45 a.m.	146	4:30 p.m.	564
9 a.m.	301	6:00 p.m.	504
10:30 a.m.	183	7:30 p.m.	353
		Total	1610
Total	703	Christmas Day	117

Attendance (Dec. 30-31)			
Northwind	83	Communion	
7:45 a.m.	134	7:45 a.m.	115
9 a.m.	291	9 a.m.	222
10:30 a.m.	252	10:30 a.m.	151
Total	760		