

WEEKLY WORD



A Publication of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

May 20, 2007

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Closing the Door

by Karen Kennedy, staff

It is hard to pray at times. It is not from lack of time, teaching or example, but rather a pure practical problem—practice. Sure, certain prayers are routine, such as prayers in the morning, before meals, bedtime or during a crisis. But what about the remaining 1,437 minutes in a day? Why don't I occupy my thought life with prayers to the Lord?

After all, Scripture states that people are important to him, especially the intricate workings of their heart and life.

Behold, thou desires truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Psalm 51:6

Jesus taught us the importance of a vibrant prayer life compared to the hypocritical prayers, which seek public acclaim instead of godly rewards.

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:5-6

Imagine, excusing yourself from the synagogue or the street corner to pray. "Excuse me, Mr. Pharisee, I have something better to do than to watch your sideshow, I am going home, closing the door and praying."

I don't know about your home, but compared to a street corner, my home is usually quieter and cleaner, a respite from the world. Recently though, a moment of insanity entered my home scene when I crossed the threshold into my teenager's room, which is the antithesis of the rest of my house. Rule one: clothes belong on hangers in a closet, not on the floor. Rule two: gum wrappers and pop cans belong in a trash can. Rule three: a couch is not a dresser drawer. Rule four: dresser drawers are not trash cans.

Although my mind was completely distracted by the lack of order and cleanliness, I acted 'spiritual'—I closed the door and prayed. And in the midst of the chaos of scattered stuff, I found the reason why prayer is an obstacle for me. I do not like messes and disorder. I only take the clean, orderly things to God, not the clutter of cobwebs that constricts and confines my life. In other words, the messy, gray parts of life I purposely tuck deep into my finely organized closet and never expose or deal with them.

Prayer doesn't work that way. God wants it all—the good, the bad and the ugly. He is not appalled by our messes, nor is he baffled by our lack of organization or our inability to categorize our disorder. The aspects of life that we want to conceal, he wants to heal. To help us, he simply requires for us to close the door and pray—he will do the cleaning. Soon, his redeeming power will transform our junk, dirt and disorder into a room that is pleasant to live in.

He will respond to the prayer of the destitute; he will not despise their plea. Psalm 102:17

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CONGRATULATIONS!

Take some time today to congratulate one of our graduating high school seniors.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join us for some delicious pancakes this morning in the Family Life Center. More details on page 7.

Worship Changes

Service Change

In order to reorganize our summer efforts, the Board of Elders has decided to move the 10 a.m. contemporary service from the Family Life Center to the 10:30 a.m. contemporary service in the Sanctuary starting today. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 276-1700.

Service Outlines

In an attempt to go paperless and save printing costs, we have ceased printing the worship outlines. 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.

DMARC Envelopes

If you haven't mailed your donations for our spring food drive for DMARC, please do so this week by sending the pre-printed envelopes to the church or dropping them off at the office. Don't forget to write "DMARC" on the memo line. Thank you for your support.



Nomination for Governing Board

The Governing Board is accepting nominations for members who are interested in running for election to the board. If you would like to learn more about this type of ministry or would like to nominate someone, please contact Ken Wunsch at govboard@gloriadeionline.com or contact one of the other Nominating Committee members: Steve Kammeyer, Kevin Kelley, Ann Readinger or Lorrie Graaf by Tuesday, May 22.

Budget and Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for these two important meetings:

- The budget hearing will be Sunday, June 10 at 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- The annual congregational meeting will be Sunday, June 24 at 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Members and non-members are invited to attend, but only members 18 years old and up will be able to vote. Childcare provided.

Gloria Dei
8301 Aurora Ave.
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www.gloriadeionline.com



Full-time staff e-mail:

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shelly@gloriadeionline.com

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

Governing Board
276-1700

Sign Up to Smile

Sign up for a photo session for the pictorial directory today in the Narthex. You can also register at Gloria Dei's Web site, www.gloriadeionline.com. If you have any questions, please e-mail Deb Timmons at ameskids@mchsi.com.

LCMS Convention

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod will meet in convention in July in Houston, Texas. The LCMS meets in convention every three years to elect officers and decide matters of the church. Pastor Burcham is serving as the representative for the Des Moines West Circuit (seven congregations from the westside of Des Moines) and has also been appointed to a floor committee, which meets in St. Louis this weekend. Floor committees review and consolidate resolutions that have been submitted for consideration at the convention. Pastor Burcham will be back in the office Tuesday, May 22.

Building Healthy Families

Yogi Berra said, "If you come to a fork in the road, take it." Many young people are graduating from high school and college this week and are facing the first major "fork" in their road. Pray for them and remind them that God will help them on every road and highway. – Lutheran Family Service of Iowa.

Servers

Officiant/Liturgist:

Rev. Timothy Phillips

Preacher:

Rev. Kendall Meyer

Organist:

Lynn Hays

Acolytes:

Kaytlin Rice

Emma Wenndt

Chelsea Elming

Elders:

Tom Westby

Marvin Deer

Randy Walford

Ushers:

Northwind

Brad Gerke

Brett Hosch

7:45 a.m.

Gordon Dahlby

Rick Johnson

Bob Kollmorgen

Merle Knuth

9 a.m.

Dennis Appelhons

Bryan Flanigan

Eric Hoffman

Jason Hoffman

Bill Kramer

Shane Love

Doug Mertz

Keith Nicolet

Dave Schramm

10:30 a.m.

Ed Mautz

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 the graduating seniors

Prayers

- For Sheryl Woolman's friend Bonnie Yetley, who has been diagnosed with cancer
- For Robert Lassman, Terry Steinke's father, who is very ill
- For Morey and Shirley Juhlin, who is celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary
- For Rhonda Deer's mother, Jane Heintz, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer
- For Mike Marten's brother-in-law, David Redd and his family
- For Max Eklund, who has leukemia
- 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.

Welcome 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.

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 join us for 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. If you have questions, contact the church office at 276-1700.

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

During the summer, we encourage children to worship with their parents. We offer a summer reading program and story time for our preschool children. In the fall, we offer educational times and a preschool.

Elementary Children

Children are welcomed to worship with their families during the summer months. During the week, check out our summer camps designed for all of our elementary children.

Youth

We have lots of activities for our youth throughout the week. See page 9 for more details.

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!

Upcoming Class!

Today!

Discovery 201

Sunday, May 20 from 3-7 p.m.

Dinner and childcare will be provided.

Sign up today at the Information Center
or call 276-1700.

Upcoming Small Groups

Women's Connections Summer Edition

It is not too late to join the fun at Women's Connections summer edition on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the board room. 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. In addition, it will require little outside work because the emphasis will be on watching and discussing the video, not the daily reading assignments. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224.



Mothers with Young Children Group

Mothers with small children will meet Wednesday, May 23 at 9:30 a.m. in the Cry Room. Please join us for an enriching time of study and fellowship. If you have questions, contact Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224.

Couples with Young Children Group

If you are interested in joining a small group that supports couples with young children, please call 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.

Softball Schedule

Date	Time	Visitor	Home
Monday, May 21	6:15 p.m.	Hope	GDLC
Tuesday, May 29	7:15 p.m.	CA	GDLC
Monday, June 4	8:15 p.m.	MDRC	GDLC

Bulletin Board

- **Pancake Breakfast**
Sunday, May 20
- **Honduras Bake Sale**
Sunday, May 20
- **Discovery 201**
Sunday, May 20
- **Beginning Dance**
Starts Monday, June 4
- **Preschool Movement Camp**
Starts Monday, June 11
- **God's Amazing Creation**
Starts Monday, June 18

Mt. Olive Job Posting

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School, 5625 Franklin Ave., Des Moines is looking for a part-time receptionist/secretary. Duties will include maintaining statistical information for the church and school, handling phone calls, compiling and printing bulletins, distributing the mail and general office duties. If you are interested call 277-8349.

Free Concert

David Bush and Jaime Jamgochian, Contemporary Christian music artists, will present a free concert on Friday, June 1 at 7 p.m. at First Federated Church, 4801 Franklin Avenue in Des Moines. An offering will be received. For more information, call 515-555-2122.

Craft Fair

The annual craft fair sponsored by LWML (Women on a Mission) will be held Saturday, October 13 from 8:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m. For more information, go to our Web site and click the Craft Fair 2007 link on the left side.

Snacks Needed

We are looking for ministry partners who can bring snacks for the Saturday night's Northwind service. If you are interested, please call Trina Mazza at 270-2105.

Sunday, July 1 • 2 p.m. • Lions Park • Urbandale

A Salute to American Liberty

paying tribute to all those who have served our country

We need your talent!

We need musicians for a community concert at Lions Park, Sunday, July 1 at 2 p.m.

Everyone is invited.

- Vocalists
- Wind and String Players
- Children, Youth and Adults

Only six rehearsals:

Wednesdays, May 30, June, 6, 13, 20, 27

Children's Choir 6-7 p.m.

Choir 6-7 p.m.

Orchestra 7-8 p.m.

Praise Team TBD

Dress Rehearsal:

Saturday, June 30 from 8-10 a.m.

Sign up today in the narthex or call Julie Den Herder at 251-4632 or e-mail jrdenherder@gmail.com.

Diana's Angels

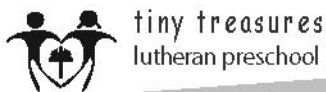
Diana's Angels will meet Thursday, June 7 at 7 p.m. at Hope Lutheran, 3857 E. 42nd St., Des Moines. This will be their last meeting until August, so if you want packets handed out or picked up, please let us know. We are now supplying all four hospitals in Des Moines with baby outfits, blankets and booties. If you have questions, contact Lois Cole at 288-1250. Thanks for your help in this wonderful outreach to grieving parents and family members.

Looking for Homes

The International Student Exchange program is looking for four families to host students for the 2007/08 academic year. The four youth are: Tigran, a 15-year old male from Armenia; Abdulrahman, a 15-year-old male from Kuwait; Vera, a 15-year-old female from Russia; and Tetyana, a 16-year-old female from Ukraine. They are all excellent students, outgoing and excited to experience life in America. If you are interested, please contact Amber Diehm Heuer, Area Representative, ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, at 641-821-0126.

Thrivent Builds

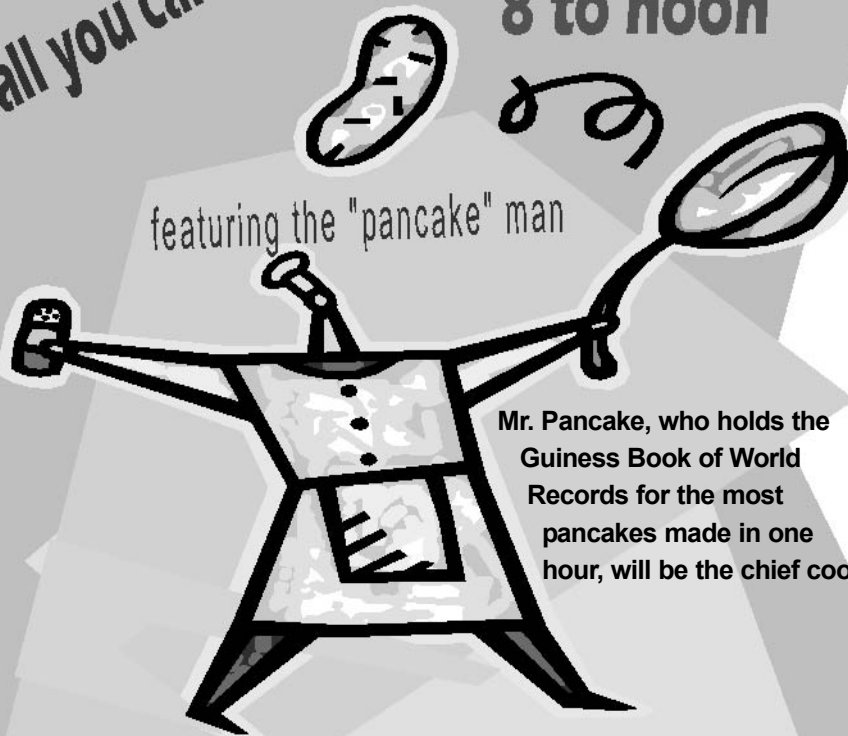
We are looking for helpers to work on building sites, prepare and serve lunches on Wednesday, June 13, Saturday, June 23, Wednesday, July 11, Saturday, July 28 and Saturday, August 25. For more information go to www.gdmhabitat.org or contact Bill Clark at 276-2517.



all you can eat!

Today!
Sunday, May 20
8 to noon

featuring the "pancake" man



Mr. Pancake, who holds the Guinness Book of World Records for the most pancakes made in one hour, will be the chief cook.

Pancake Breakfast celebration

\$5 adults and children ages 10 and up

\$3 children ages 3 - 9

children under 2 eat free

all profits go toward Tiny Treasures

Thank you

Our fun night was a huge success. We are thankful for the following sponsors:

Thrivent Financial, Professional Construction Solutions - owner Jim Muetzel, #577-5183; Bank of the West of Urbandale; Fareway of Urbandale; When Pigs Fly BBQ; Tastefully Simple - Julie Jordan, Consultant; Estilo Salon & Day Spa; Pump It Up, Cold Stone Creamery of Johnston; Red Rossa Pizza; General Growth Properties; Carlos O'Kelly's of Des Moines; Premier Designs - Donna Schmidt, Consultant; Papa Murphy's Pizza of Urbandale; Ronda Mueller and Olmsted Elementary School; Super Suppers of Urbandale; Urbandale Dance School and Gymnastics Club; Cosi Cucina; Massage Envy; Shane's Rib Shack; Backyard Adventures; Carol Clemen; Discovery Toys - Krista Jiroutek, Consultant; Jesse's Embers; Mark Courter State Farm Agency; Wellspring Christian Resources; Farner Bocken - Darren Anderson; McDonald's of Urbandale; HyVee of Urbandale; Happy Joe's of Urbandale; Anytime Fitness in Johnston; Friedrichs Coffee of Urbandale; Soleil Tanning in Johnston; Susan Straka; Old Country Buffet; The Learning Post; Cookie & Yo-Yo the Clowns; Cookies BBQ; Triad Kid's Campus; CIMCO; Glazed Expressions; Longview Golf Center; Blue Bunny; Des Moines Menace; Elaine Klinefelter; Brad Gage; Orv Spence; Texas Roadhouse; and the preschool families.

Summer Reading Program

Join us Today!

The summer reading club will take a ride on the reading railroad! Registration will begin today. 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!

Summer Story Time

During June and July we will be reading stories to children in the library after the 7:45 and 9 a.m. services. Children can relax and enjoy a few stories while their parents enjoy a cup of coffee and conversation with each other. Children will be gathered in the narthex immediately following each service and can be picked up at the library.

We need ministry partners, who can read their favorite stories and gather the children. If you are interested in helping, please sign up on the sheet at the Information Center or call Terry at 278-5544, ext. 305.



ages 3-13

Summer Camps

- Fine Arts
- Little Girls in 'Her' Story
- Girls in 'Her' Story
- Preteen Wacky Wednesdays
- Kindermusik
- Preschool
- Drama
- Science

It is not too late to register!

register today at
www.gloriadeionline.com



growyeldminister



gloriadeiyouthministry

luke 9:23

Eighth Grade & Senior High Lock-out

Please join us for some summer fun for grades 8-12 as we get to know the new confirmands. Please feel free to invite your friends.

Friday, June 1

9 p.m. Meet at Longview Golf Centre to hit golf balls, win prizes and get to know each other.

10 p.m. A bus will pick us up and take us to the Sportsplex West for rock climbing, soccer, batting cages and more.

Saturday, June 2

1 a.m. The bus will travel to Merle Hay Lanes for bowling.

4:30 a.m. The bus will take us to the Metro Ice Sports for ice skating fun.

Cost is \$30 per person, includes all the activities, transportation and pizza.

If you are interested, please e-mail michelle@gloriadeionline.com or call 276-1700 by May 27.

Lincoln Urban Plunge

June 29-July 1

Take the Lincoln Urban Plunge with Christ for the City International and experience nine different inner-city ministries in one weekend. Go to jail, feed the homeless, help sort and hand out clothes, and experience six other activities. Open to all current students in grades 8-12. The cost is \$25 for the weekend and covers your meals, lodging and guide. If you are interested, contact Tim Kightlinger today.

Senior Recognition

Sunday, May 20 at the 9 a.m. worship service

Join us as we recognize our seniors; a front pew will be reserved for the graduates. Following the service we'll gather in the Youth Center at 10 a.m. and participate in the Tiny Treasures Preschool pancake breakfast. The church will cover the cost for the graduates and their immediate family.

The Point

Wednesday, May 23 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

High school large group Bible study will resume on Wednesday, May 23 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Youth Center and will continue throughout the summer.

Paintball

Junior and Senior High Youth

Join us Sunday, May 20 from noon to 5:30 p.m. for some paintballing fun. 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.

Week of May 20-26

Sunday, May 20

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 8:00 a.m. Tiny Treasures Pancake Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Honduras Bake Sale
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-blend Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Discovery 201

Monday, May 21

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

Tuesday, May 22

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 6:30 p.m. Kindermusik: Near and Far
- 6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Elders Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Purpose-Driven Bible Study

Wednesday, May 23

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Meyer
- 5:30 p.m. Strategic Planning MAT
- 6:30 p.m. Governing Board Mtg.

Thursday, May 24

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 3:00 p.m. Iowa Health Hospice Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Strategic Planning Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Saturday, May 26

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

Outpouring of Love	
General Fund Offerings	\$26,902
YTD Offering	\$1,232,279
YTD Budget	\$1,206,450

Last Week's Attendance			
Northwind	153	Communion	
7:45 a.m.	162	5:30 p.m.	36
9 a.m.	400	10:00 a.m.	55
10 a.m.	55		
10:30 a.m.	267		
Total	1037		

Week of May 27- June 2

Sunday, May 27

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary

Monday, May 28

Memorial Day - Offices Closed

Tuesday, May 29

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 5:00 p.m. Urbandale Community Restorative Justice
- 6:30 p.m. Kindermusik: Near and Far

Wednesday, May 30

- 10:00 a.m. Kindermusik: Creatures of the Ocean
- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Meyer
- 6:00 p.m. Patriotic Children's Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Patriotic Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Patriotic Orchestra

Thursday, May 31

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 5:00 p.m. Urbandale Community Restorative Justice
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Connections MAT

Friday, June 1

- 9:15 a.m. Moms Club of Des Moines Metro West
- 9:00 p.m. Eighth Grade Welcoming Lock-out

Saturday, June 2

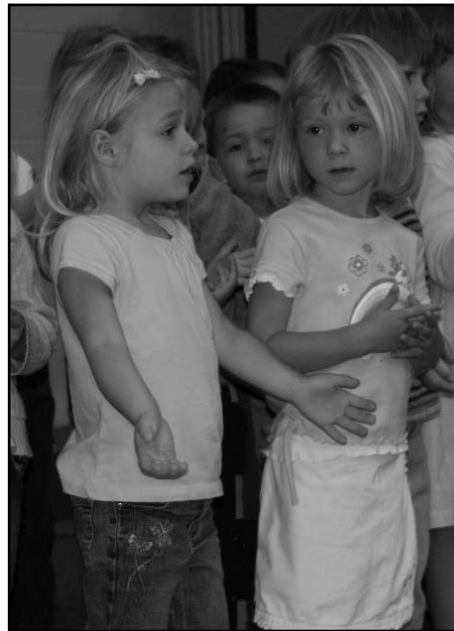
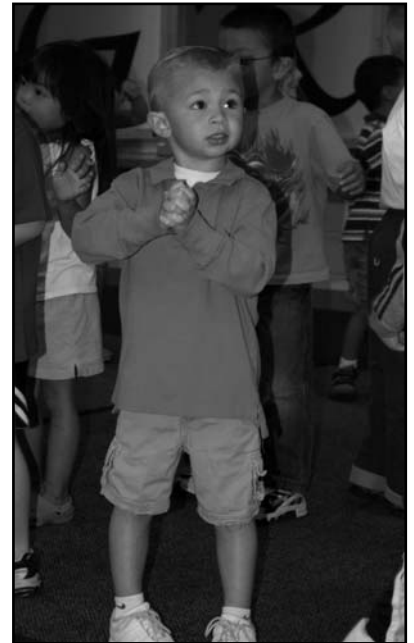
- 12:00 a.m. Eighth Grade Welcoming Lock-out
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service

Communion

Communion is offered on the first and third Sundays of each month during the services in the Sanctuary and the second and fourth 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.

Week in Review



The children from Tiny Treasures prepare for Sunday's pancake breakfast entertainment. They also rehearsed a song that will be sung in the Sanctuary on Sunday.

Gloria Dei Weekend Worship Times

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

Saturday Evening: 5:30 Contemporary
Grace Place at 5:50 p.m. (September-April) • Staffed Nursery from 5:15 p.m.