

WEEKLY WORD

November 22 and 23, 2008

The Twenty-eighth Sunday after Pentecost

We Are Blessed and I Am Thankful

by Pastor Burcham, Senior Pastor

God has made us rich in so many ways. This weekend in our worship services we will highlight some of the great blessings from our ministry together. We will recall those spiritual milestones like baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and the celebration of eternal life along with numerous other ministry opportunities at Gloria Dei. God has made us rich in spiritual blessings, all of which cannot contain a price tag.

In addition to spiritual riches, we have discovered over the last three weeks how God has made us rich in financial blessings. Oh, we may not feel rich, but when we look at the world and Scripture, we discover we truly are rich. There is nothing wrong with being rich. In fact, it is a great blessing from our God that we should acknowledge and thank him for his generosity. We have also learned that we are to trust in God and not in our wealth, always being aware of the allure of riches as they try to divert us away from our God.

We have also discovered that one of the greatest joys in our spiritual life is offering back to God a portion of what he has entrusted to us. This offering is to be done willingly and joyfully, not grudgingly or out of guilt. Joyful offerings bring honor and thanksgiving to God for all that he has done.

Today, we bring what we have learned together as we present to God our financial commitment to the ministry of Gloria Dei. What a powerful spiritual statement when we take that which competes with our hearts and freely give it back to God. As Jesus said; "where your treasure is there will be your heart also... you cannot serve both God and money."

What a privilege to be in ministry with you at Gloria Dei and what an honor it is to join you in giving a portion of our riches back to God and in support of the ministry that he has given us.

Upcoming Advent Services and Events

Advent Thursday Services:

Thursday, Dec. 4, 11 and 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Due to our increased attendance at Grace Place on Wednesday evenings, we moved our Advent services to Thursday evenings. This year's series of messages, "Peace on Earth," will help to unravel the mystery of Christmas during our traditional Advent worship.

Weekend Services during Advent:

Dec. 6-7, Dec. 13-14 and Dec. 20-21

We are excited to prepare our hearts for Christmas during our regularly scheduled weekend worship times. This year's theme, Re: Christmas, will examine the promises, priorities and people of Christmas.

Weekend of Dec. 6 and 7:	Promises of Christmas
Weekend of Dec. 13 and 14:	Priorities of Christmas
Weekend of Dec. 20 and 21:	People of Christmas

Advent by Candlelight:

Monday, Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center

Women are invited to an evening of candlelight, fellowship and preparation for the Christmas season. See page 4 for more details.

what's
NEW!
this week!

Thanksgiving Services:

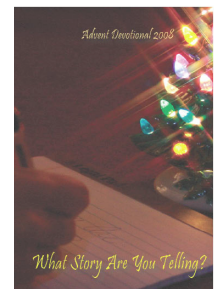
Tuesday, Nov. 25 at
6:30 p.m.

or

Thursday, Nov. 27 at
9:30 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study

Pastor Meyer's
10:30 a.m. Bible
study will not meet
Sunday, Nov. 23 and
30, but will resume
Dec. 7.



Advent Devotional

Pick up a devotional today at the Information Center. See page 4, for more information.

Index

Calendar	10-11
Children	8
Christmas	4-5
Community	6
Last Week	10
Missions	7
News	1-3,8
Welcome	12
Youth	9

Strategic Plan Updates

The **Facility Focus Group** wishes to express their sincere appreciation to our fellow members who took the time to attend one of the recent town hall meetings. The Focus Group was encouraged by the attendance and the level of interest expressed in the form of questions and suggestions for modification of the site evaluation tool. A summary of the changes made and an updated listing of the criteria and assigned weights follows:

- The assigned weights were modified on four criteria.
- Two new criteria were added.
- Four criteria were modified.
- Two criteria were combined in the image section.
- Two criteria in the location and surrounding development section were clarified by adding examples.

For an up-to-date criteria chart, please visit our Web site at www.gloriadeionline.com.

H3 Worship Change

The H3 service in the Family Life Center on Dec. 28 at 9 a.m. will not be held. Please feel free to attend the 9 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary.

Lead Now Updates

by Tim Kightlinger, Director of Youth Ministry

Recently, Gloria Dei has subscribed to the Christian Communication Network (CNN), a national organization that provides churches with the equipment to receive national Christian conferences via satellite. Our pilot simulcast was our Lead Now simulcast held on Saturday, Nov. 15 at Gloria Dei where 13 participants attended.

It was a great day hearing from nationally recognized speakers as they challenged us to live our lives courageously for God. We were encouraged to connect with God as Margaret Feinberg, author of “The Organic God,” spoke on giving generously through our faith in Christ. We heard from Erwin McManus, Pastor from Mosaic in Los Angeles, as he spoke about how God has designed us to have an impact on our world. What would happen if we fully engaged our focus on our true purpose and destiny in the pursuit of the passion and character of God? Francis Chan, Pastor of Cornerstone Church in Simi Valley, California, spoke on how to be a leader and have the confidence to lead beyond all oppositions. Other speakers brought alive topics of the inner life of a leader, intimacy with God and how God uses us to push back the darkness and live as light in this world. Here are some of the participants’ responses to the simulcast:

“I thought it was great. I loved the passion they spoke with. Very encouraging!”

“Very impressed with the speakers and applicability of content.”

“Thank you so much for hosting and it was worth the travel and time.”

In the upcoming year, Gloria Dei will host more simulcasts on subjects ranging from marriage to worship. More information will follow.

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Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, Nov. 23 at the 9 a.m. service is for:



Adilyn Marie Lietz born Oct. 26, 2008 to Toby and Kelly (nee Wilson) Lietz. Adilyn's spiritual sponsors are Chad and Micole Stobbe, and Jeff and Chris Lietz.

Altar Flowers



The flowers on the altar are in celebration of:
The 38th wedding anniversary of Jim and Janet Tysse.

Wedding Coordinator Position

We are looking for two individuals to fill an opening as Wedding Coordinator. The position is part-time and depends on the number of weddings scheduled at Gloria Dei. Each wedding is assigned to a Wedding Coordinator, who must be available for the Friday evening rehearsal and Saturday wedding. On average, a coordinator spends approximately 10 hours with a couple, over a period of months, from the first meeting to the end of the wedding.

If you would like more information or would like to apply for this position, contact Bill Jesse, Executive Director, at 276-1700 or at bjesse@gloriadeionline.com.

Servers

Officiant/Liturgist:

Northwind (FLC):
Rev. Ron Burcham

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):
Rev. Tim Phillips

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

9 a.m. (FLC):
Rev. Tim Phillips

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

Preacher:

Rev. Ron Burcham

Organist:

Shirley Roberts

Acolytes:

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):

Faith Rosburg

9 a.m. (Sanctuary):

Matt Tanner

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Harrison Kruse

Elders:

Tim Mueller

Steve Junge

Tim Radig

Ushers:

Northwind

Brett Hosch

7:45 a.m.

Gordon Dahlby

Bob Kollmorgen

Merle Knuth

9 a.m. Sanctuary

Dennis Appelhons

Bryan Flanigan

Eric Hoffman

Jason Hoffman

Bill Kramer

Shane Love

Doug Mertz

Keith Nicolet

Dave Schramm

9 a.m. FLC

Paul Rusch

Shirley Roberts

10:30 a.m.

Doug Fuller

Clayton Linnquist

Ed Mautz

Scripture Readings:

1 Chronicles 16:8-36 (NIV); Luke 1:68-75 (NIV)

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 our blessings as a congregation
- For our families

Prayers

- For the health of Julie Mitchell's mother
- For the health concerns of John Miller
- For Julie DenHerder's friend, Julie Reese, who has been diagnosed with leukemia
- For Kathy Meisgeier, the sister of Karen Collins, who is recovering from surgery
- For Phil Linnquist, who is battling cancer and other health concerns
- For the health of Marv Rohn
- For the health concerns of Shirley Nuzum
- For Melinda Hubbard's friends, Tricia and Ryan Flattery, who are having a difficult pregnancy
- For Jo Rice's son-in-law, Tom, who will be deployed
- For John McKeighan's health

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.

Christmas Program 2008

Journey with us as we hear again the words of Isaiah, Matthew and Luke through an exciting adventure.

What should people expect? This year's program is for the entire family. Children ages 2 years old through high school seniors will tell the Christmas story in a traditional and contemporary way. Audience members will travel from site to site where children and youth will present the story from the Bible.



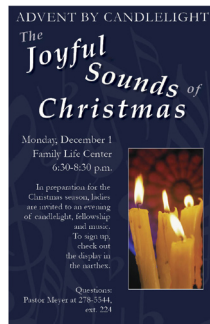
Sunday, Dec. 14 at 3 and 5 p.m.

The audience will start in the Family Life Center where junior and senior high youth will begin the journey, uncovering a scroll telling the prophecy about the lineage of Christ. They will learn about the passage in the Bible (Isaiah 11:1) that foretells the Savior's coming from the root of Jesse. Audience members will then move to one of three areas to hear more of the story: kindergarten through second graders will share their perspective in the Sanctuary, the third through fifth graders will share in the center wing, and the preschool children will tell more of the story in the Youth Center. The audience will finish in the Family Life Center and receive a gift to help them remember the prophecy and God's greatest gift, Jesus.

What's so different? Aside from traveling from site to site, this year we will have all ages involved in the same Christmas program. We will have more than 150 ministry partners involved in this year's program. In addition, this year's program

The Joyful Sounds of Christmas

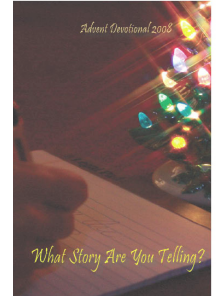
"The Joyful Sounds of Christmas" is the theme for Advent by Candlelight, which will be held on Monday, Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. Ladies of the congregation are invited to host a table for this annual event. Tables are reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis. As a hostess, you decorate a table in the Family Life Center, prepare a dessert and invite friends to join you for an evening of candlelight, fellowship and preparation for the Christmas season. Each hostess is asked to pay \$15 for their table to help defray expenses. Stop by the display in the narthex and sign up for your table today. Please pick up an information packet and put your money in the envelope provided. Questions may be directed to Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224 or kmeyer@gloriadeionline.com.



Advent Devotional

Pick up a devotional today at the Information Center

Come along with us as we follow the Advent sermon theme, "Re: Christmas," throughout the week. We will explore some of God's promises about the coming Messiah. Let's spend time and rejoice together in the good news of what God has done for each of us.



Church Decorating and Cookie Exchange

Next Sunday, Nov. 30 from 4:30-7 p.m.



"It's Beginning to Look a lot Like Christmas." Join us for an evening of Christmas fun. We'll decorate the church, eat and exchange cookies. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Steve Kohtz at 278-5544, ext. 205.

Gingerbread Tea

Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10 a.m.

This fun parent/child tea includes decorating, a light lunch and taking home a gingerbread house. Cost is \$35 per family. Register online or in person at the Information Center today. Space is limited! Questions? Contact DeAnn McCue at 278-544, ext. 207.



Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for Cantata set-up on Dec. 21 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Volunteers will also be needed for Cantata tear down on Dec. 21 from 7-8:30 p.m.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Terry Woolman at 270-9125 or sign up at the Information Center.

Concert

Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

This concert of jazz and classical Christmas music offered by Creston's Southwestern Community College is one you won't want to miss. Our own choir director, Carmen Emborski and orchestra bass player, Grey Lovelace, are members of this elite choir.

Host Homes: We need host homes. Host homes will provide two breakfast meals and evening snack, transportation to and from Gloria Dei and a bed for two students. For more information or to sign up to be a host home, please contact Steve Kohtz at 276-1700 ext. 205 or steve@gloriadeionline.com.

Giving Tree

Help us give to those in need

We want to give to those in need during the holiday season. Join us as we reach out by purchasing gifts to be given to families in need.

All you have to do is:

1. Please visit our giving trees, which are located in the Narthex and Gathering Place.
2. Pick a tag(s) and purchase the item(s) on the list.
3. Wrap the item(s).
4. Securely attach the tag(s) to the outside of the package(s).
5. Return item(s) to either tree on or before Sunday, Dec. 7.
6. Pray for families in need.
7. Join us Saturday, Dec. 13 from 9 a.m. to noon in the Family Life Center to help with the pick-up and deliveries.
8. Gather your friends, family, neighbors or co-workers and adopt an entire family!

If you are interested in adopting an entire family, or have any questions concerning the mission, please contact Pastor Phillips at 278-5544, ext. 204.

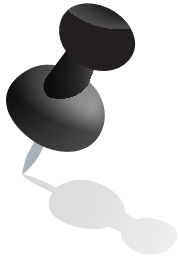
Pick up a tag today!

Peace on Earth-Advent Thursday Services

Thursday, Dec. 4, 11 and 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary



The theme, "Peace on Earth," will help to unravel the mystery of Christmas during our traditional Advent worship on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. In the stress of the holiday season, we struggle to find peace. Often we are troubled by things we have done and things that have happened in our lives. We can find personal peace in our Savior Jesus, who was sent on our behalf to suffer for those sins and brings us healing from all of our wounds.



Community Involvement

Part of our vision at Gloria Dei is to be a beacon to our community; therefore, we will take an active role in our community.

This Week's Concert

On Sunday, Nov. 23 at 3 p.m., Drake University's four choruses will present "Wanting Memories," a concert that will explore the role music plays in creating and recalling memories. Actors, an interactive script, and music ranging from the Hallelujah Chorus to vocal jazz and folksongs will provide an experience that may rank as one of the most enjoyable and unusual concerts you've ever attended. The performance will be held in Sheslow Auditorium on the campus of Drake University. There is no admission charge, although donations will be accepted.

Urbandale Food Pantry Updates

A note of thanks: "Thank you so much for organizing and collecting the personal products for the Urbandale Food Pantry! Your kindness is greatly appreciated!" Sincerely, Eileen Boggess, Food Pantry Coordinator

Volunteer opportunities: Volunteers are vital to the effective operation of the Urbandale Food Pantry. Your help is needed to process and fill food orders. Volunteers are needed Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and from 12-2:30 p.m. The Food Pantry is located at 7611 Douglas Ave., Suite 31, Urbandale. Please contact Eileen at 251-6688 to schedule a time when you can volunteer.

Medicare Part D Check-Up

Every fall the providers of Medicare prescription drug plans (Part D) announce changes to their premium, co-pays and the drugs they cover, which means money could be saved by choosing a different plan for 2009. Changes or enrollment to Medicare Part D plan for 2009 can be made between Nov. 15 through Dec. 31. The Urbandale Senior Center, 7305 Aurora Ave. is hosting a Medicare Part D Check-Up Event on Thursday, Dec. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) counselors will be available to help you compare plans for 2009. Appointments are necessary; call 1-800-351-4664 to schedule your appointment. This is a free and confidential service. SHIIP is a service of the State of Iowa and does not sell or promote any Part D plan.

Hondorus Trip 2009

Informational Meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Plans are underway for the Honduras mission trip from Friday, June 26 to Saturday, July 4, 2009. The total cost is \$1,845, which includes airfare, sleeping accommodations and most meals; a \$200 deposit is required by Jan. 28, 2009.

The team will provide free medical, dental and optical care for the Hondurans along with washing hair, singing songs and sharing the gospel to children, youth and adults. If you have a passion to give to those who are less fortunate, please contact Bill Clark at BillClark@mchsi.com or Pastor Phillips at 278-5544, ext. 204.

Imagine: Let Your Light Shine

Gloria Dei is passionate in being courageous in outreach. A few years ago a group from Gloria Dei founded the Shining City Foundation, which has provided humanitarian aid to those less fortunate. Below is an article from one of their representatives, who has helped with the work in China.

by Scott Raecker, Shining City Foundation Representative and Member of Gloria Dei

Imagine you and your family live in a tent with a dirt floor. Your only heat comes from the fire in the middle of the tent. The only light you know is that of the fire, the sun, and the moon. You have never traveled farther than you can walk.

You have no money, and don't need any, because there are no stores to shop and nothing to buy. You do not have a job, because your only job is to produce everything needed to survive. Your children do not go to school because there is no school. Your health care consists of folk medicine. You eat only milk, cheese, butter, and barley. The only toys you have are the ones you have made from sticks and rocks. You have no electricity, radio, newspaper and TV.



Children are proud recipients of hats from Gloria Dei.

And you have never heard of God or his Son Jesus. Compared with those around you, you consider yourself well off. You have a tent while others have no place to call home. You have a yak that produces your staple food. And you own a vicious dog that protects you. You are content and feel so fortunate for what you have; you offer prayers and sacrifices to multiple gods of folk religions passed on from your ancestors.

Can you imagine anyone living like this? I couldn't, until I witnessed it with my own eyes. The first time I experienced such living I prayed to God to help me act so that I never again felt the shame of doing so little to help others. God tells us in Matthew 25:40 that *whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.*

I have come to believe that it is not the humanitarian support we provide that will enhance the lives of those less fortunate; it is through humanitarian efforts that we enhance their lives as we introduce people to the concept of a Creator God, and his Son Jesus, who died for all of us, even those that may not know him yet.

Have you ever considered who introduced the concept of God and Jesus to you and/or your family—possibly last month or centuries ago? Think about what your life would be like if you did not know God and Jesus—to know grace, hope, forgiveness, and life eternal.

Through mission work at Gloria Dei we have an opportunity to bring the Gospel to life—to introduce people to Jesus Christ for the first time and for a lifetime.

We do this when we deliver a solar generator, light bulb, and radio to a yak herder who has never had electricity.

We do this when we knit a hat that is placed on the head of a child who has only known frostbite and cold. We do this when we buy a calendar and the proceeds go to provide food supplies for orphans we will never meet.

In Matthew 5, Jesus shares with us the Beatitudes, and then He tells us: *You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*

Let your light shine.



A local man is thrilled to have light.

For more information about The Shining City Foundation, go to www.shiningcity.org.

Children's Ministry Updates

A Christmas Journey Rehearsals

Christmas Program rehearsals are Sunday, Nov. 23 from noon to 1 p.m. All kindergarten to second grade students will meet in the Sanctuary. All third through fifth graders will meet in rooms 131/133, next to the kitchen. All preschool children will meet in the Youth Center. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to noon in the Family Life Center. Each child's meal is \$2; adults are \$3.50.

Sing Today: A Christmas Journey CD

We are going to record children's voices for the Christmas CD that will be handed out after the Christmas programs on Dec. 14. We will rehearse and record on Sunday, Nov. 23 from 1-3:30 p.m. following our regularly scheduled practice from noon-1 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This is optional! If you have questions, please contact Penny Schramm or DeAnn McCue at 276-1700 or by e-mail at penny@gloriadeionline.com or deann@gloriadeionline.com.

Gingerbread Tea Updates

Make plans to attend the Gingerbread Tea on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. in the Family Life Center. This fun parent/child tea includes decorating and taking home a gingerbread house and light lunch. Cost is \$35 per family. Register online or in person at the Information Center today! Space is limited! A tea cup and saucer have been commissioned for this year's Gingerbread Tea and will be for sale at the tea. The pattern is a Christmas rose, which can be seen at gingerbread tea display in the narthex. Questions? Contact DeAnn McCue at 276-1700.

Dates To Remember:

- Nov. 26:
No Faith Alive: Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 29 and 30:
No Grace Place: Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 24 and 31:
No Faith Alive: Christmas Break
- Dec. 27 and 28:
No Grace Place: Christmas Break

Faith Alive Meal

Wednesday, Nov. 26

No Faith Alive

Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 5:15 p.m.

Baked Potato Bar

Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 5:15 p.m.

Chicken Noodle Soup

\$3.50 per person
(children under 2 eat free)

Artwork For Sale

If you are interested in purchasing any of the artwork from The Iowa Women's Correctional Facilities annual art show, please e-mail Steve Kohtz at steve@gloriadeionline.com.

Book Club

Gloria Dei's book club is an informal discussion group of Christian books, which meets the first Wednesday of the month from 6:15-7:25 p.m.

Upcoming Reads

Dec. 3 - "A Promise to Believe In, The Brides of Gallatin Series #1," by Tracie Peterson

Thank You

Thanks to all who donated Halloween candy. The first week of November we brought approximately 12 pounds of candy to Freedom of Youth Ministries as part of a meal that was served by the Wednesday morning women's Bible study. Our small group then brought 36 pounds of candy to Hope Ministries for the monthly meal we provide. We have another 22 1/2 pounds that will be delivered to Hope with the December meal. Everyone was so generous; we thank you so much! the Fjelsteds, the Loves and the Soderbergs.

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Junior High Grades 6-8

Service and Mission Hours

There are lots of opportunities for service and mission hours in the next few weeks. Sign up at the youth bulletin board today.

Eighth Grade

Please turn in your Urban Plunge registration forms. We need at least three parents to attend; the Youth Ministry will cover the cost for the parents.

Kids Against Hunger

Saturday, Dec. 6. We'll depart Gloria Dei at 9:30 a.m. and travel to Lutheran Church of the Cross in Altoona. We will put together food pouches that will be sent to various areas of the world. We'll return to Gloria Dei by 12:30 p.m. Parents please sign up to help drive.

Sunday: Castaway

Join us Sundays for Castaway at 9:20 or 10:50 a.m. in the Youth Center.

Main Topic: "Yikes"

Nov. 23: Death

Nov. 30: No Castaway

Junior High Café 923

Friday, Dec. 5 from 6-9 p.m.

Please join us as we play in the Family Life Center and the Youth Center. This event is a must to invite your friends to.

Mission Trip

July 11-18, 2008, Ashland, MT If you currently are in grades 8-12, you are invited to the mission trip. Currently there are 11 signed up to go. A \$75 deposit is due at this time. There are still spots available, contact Tim if you are interested.

Youth Gathering

Nov. 28-30: Youth attending the Gathering please meet at the church on Friday, at 4 p.m.; will return to the church by noon on Sunday.

Senior High Grades 9-12

Sunday Bible Study

Join us Sunday from 9-10 a.m. in room 136-38.

No class on Nov. 30.

Wednesday: The Point

No Point on Nov. 26.

Senior High Café 923

Sunday, Dec. 7 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Come and hang out with us as we play games in the Family Life Center and the Youth Center.

Please feel free to invite your friends.

30-Hour Famine Planning Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 7:30-8:15 p.m. in rooms 131-133

All interested teens ages 12 years old and up are encouraged to attend this very important planning meeting. The famine date is April 17-18, 2009. If you have any questions, e-mail Kim Phillips at tnk4jc1@msn.com.

Christmas Program Grades 6-12

Rehearsal: Sunday, Nov. 23 from 12-1 p.m.

Set Construction: Sunday, Nov. 23 from 12-3 p.m.

We are in need of teenagers to be guides, host/hostesses, overseers of the take-home event.

Week of Nov. 22-28, 2008

Saturday, November 22

- 9:30 a.m. Kids Against Hunger
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service with Communion
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Sunday, November 23

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 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
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place
- 9:20 a.m. Worship Team Warm Up
- 9:20 a.m. Lifelight Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 10:50 a.m. Grace Place
- 10:50 a.m. Castaway
- 12:00 p.m. Christmas Program Rehearsal
- 1:00 p.m. Christmas Program Set Building
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, November 24

- 9:30 a.m. Iowa Lutheran Teachers Meeting
- 3:15 p.m. UHS Private Instrumental Instruction
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Beginning Ballet
- 6:00 p.m. Creative Dance
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball
- 6:30 p.m. Womens Connections
- 6:45 p.m. Creative Dance Two

Tuesday, November 25

- 11:45 a.m. Kindermusik Play Group
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 4:30 p.m. 4th Grade Basketball Practice
- 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Worship Service
- 6:30 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Elders Meeting

Wednesday, November 26

- No Faith Alive, Confirmation or the Point

Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving

- Church Office Closed
- 9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Worship Service

Friday, November 28

- Church Office Closed
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Depart to District Gathering

Outpouring of Love	
General Fund Offerings	35,658
YTD Offering	526,728
YTD Budget	671,140

Scripture Base on Giving:

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Malachi 3:10-11

Worship Service	Attendance	Communion
Northwind	178	
7:45 a.m.	145	132
9 a.m. (Sanctuary)	357	212
9 a.m. (FLC)	89	
10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)	480	239
	1249	583

Week of Nov. 29-Dec. 6, 2008

Saturday, November 29

- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Northwind Service

Sunday, November 30

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
9:00 a.m. H3 Worship Service in Family Life Center
9:20 a.m. Worship Team Warm Up
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary
4:30 p.m. Christmas Church Decorating & Cookie Exchange
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, December 1

- 3:15 p.m. UHS Private Instrumental Lessons
6:00 p.m. Beginning Ballet
6:00 p.m. Creative Dance
6:30 p.m. Advent by Candlelight
6:45 p.m. Creative Dance Two

Tuesday, December 2

- 9:00 a.m. XYZ Monthly Meeting
9:00 a.m. Board of Education Licensure Meeting
11:45 a.m. Kindermusik Play Group
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
3:00 p.m. Westover/Dunns Service of Remembrance
3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
4:30 p.m. 4th Grade Basketball Practice
6:30 p.m. Kindermusik Imagine That
6:30 p.m. Kindermusik Young Child Semester 3
6:30 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball
6:30 p.m. SPI Mat Meeting

Wednesday, December 3

- 10:00 a.m. Pastor Kendall's Bible Study
5:15 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal
5:30 p.m. M and M's Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Faith Alive and Music Alive
6:00 p.m. Confirmation Classes
6:00 p.m. The Point – Sr. High
6:15 p.m. Gloria Dei Book Club
7:30 p.m. Creston Community College Choral Concert
7:30 p.m. 30-Hour Famine Planning Meeting

Thursday, December 4

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
8:00 a.m. Gingerbread House Assembly
9:00 a.m. Facilities Focus Group Meeting
10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
2:00 p.m. Home-school Choir
3:00 p.m. Mt. Olive Home Basketball Game
6:30 p.m. Advent Worship Service

Friday, December 5

- 8:00 a.m. Gingerbread House Assembly
8:00 a.m. MOM's Club of WDM
3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry Christmas Party
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Café 923

Saturday, December 6

- 8:00 a.m. Gingerbread House Assembly
9:30 a.m. Kids Against Hunger
10:00 a.m. Gingerbread Tea
4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Northwind Service
5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Last Week's Educational Attendance				
	Sat. 5:50 p.m.	Sun. 9:20 a.m.	Sun. 10:50 a.m.	Wed. 6 p.m.
Preschool	8	23	45	29
Elementary	16	67	63	115
Total Children	24	90	108	144
Junior High		21	9	91
Senior High		13		30
Total Youth		34	9	121

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

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 ask any of our members or stop by the Information Center.

Nursery

Infants to age 3. Located on the lower level, access is 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.

Families worship together

At both 9 a.m. services, families are encouraged to worship together before the children are invited to join their peers in an educational time specifically for them. Of course, if children would rather be with adults throughout the service, they are more than welcome.

Children

Grace Place - preschool and elementary children: We offer educational opportunities for children ages 2 thru grade 5 on Saturdays at 5:50 p.m. and Sundays at 9:20 and 10:50 a.m. Each class is grade-level appropriate with lots of hands-on activities to help reinforce the lessons. Families are welcome to worship together before the children are excused for Grace Place 20 minutes into the service, or families can take their children to the classrooms.

Youth: Junior

Junior High: Castaway: For our junior high youth in grades 6-8, we have a high-energy educational time, Castaway, in the Youth Center on Sundays at 9 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

Senior high students: Our senior high youth in grades 9-12 are invited to a small group study from 9-10 a.m. in rooms 132-36.

Adults

There are lots of community groups forming. For more information, contact Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224.



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.

Weekly Bible Reading: 1 Chronicles 16:28-34

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength, Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name.

Bring an offering and come before him; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness. Tremble before him, all the earth! The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

Let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them! Then the trees of the forest will sing, they will sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

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

Educational Times: Saturday at 5:50 p.m. and Sundays 9:20 and 10:50 a.m.

• Staffed nursery from 8 a.m.-noon