# Weekly Word

Bringing Jesus Christ to people for the first time and for a lifetime!

### **Prayer**

Pastor Burcham explains the situation involving the public prayer vigil in Newtown, Connecticut and our Synod.

See page 4.

### **VBS**

March 18-22 from 9-11:30 a.m.



Register online today! See page 5 for more details.

### **VBS Leaders and Helpers**

We need your assistance. In order to be as hospitable as possible, we need help with welcoming, teaching, singing, organizing and much more.

If you are interested, contact DeAnn McCue at deann@gloriadeionline.com.

### Mid-week Meal

Wednesday, Feb. 20 from 5-6:15 p.m.

#### Taco/Enchilada

Enjoy a meal before Lenten worship. The cost is \$5 per adult, and \$2.50 per child, children under 2 eat free.











"I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. Malachi 3:6

## **Rebuilding the Walls**

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. James 4:10

In chapter 21, we get a glimpse into the state of Israel through the eyes of Ezra, a respected priest and teacher, and Nehemiah, a cupbearer, who turned into a mover and shaker.

As you recall, Ezra enters Jerusalem with a thousand fellow sojourners. They discovered the good—the temple is in order, and the not so good—the Israelites. It

good—the temple is in order, and the not so good—the Israelites. It seems that the Israelites decided it was a good idea to marry some of their neighbors, which clearly defied God's command. Ezra is grief-stricken.



A few years later, Nehemiah travels to Jerusalem, and sees Jerusalem's wall broken down and its gates burnt. And similar to Ezra's response, Nehemiah, sits down and weeps.

Two men, one city and one similar response. What is a traveler to do? According to the Bible, Ezra sits there for a long time before falling on his knees with his hands spread out and prays:

I am too ashamed and disgraced, my God, to lift up my face to you, because our sins are higher than our heads and our guilt has reached to the heavens... Ezra 9: 6.

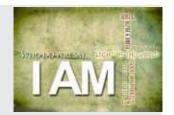
Likewise, Nehemiah prays, confesses the sins, asks for help and receives the "go ahead" from God to rebuild the walls.

There is a pattern here that we should not ignore. Both men grieved at Israel's sin and then humbled themselves, worshipped and prayed to the Lord even though they were not the original offenders. And yet, they took the form of a servant by humbling themselves at the throne of God. It's a an amazing example of leadership, and points us to that which is to come, Jesus, our Messiah, who knew no sin, but became sin for us, so that we could be made righteous.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! Philippians 2:8

## Join us for Lenten Worship

We are anticipating a great time of refreshing as we look at some of the names of Jesus. Our "Who Do You Say I Am" Lenten messages continue for the next five weeks.



#### Wednesdays, Feb. 20, 27 and March 6, 13 and 20

Traditional Worship at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary Blended Worship at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary Contemporary Interactive Worship at 6:45 p.m. in the Family Life Center

(Faith Alive will meet at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Junior and senior high ministry will meet during the Contemporary Interactive Worship at 6:45 p.m. in the Family Life Center.)

## **Holy Week Schedule**

We are looking forward as we focus on the cross and the resurrection of our Lord during Holy Week and Easter.

### Maundy Thursday, March 28

Traditional Worship with Communion at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary Traditional Worship with Communion at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary Blended Worship with Communion at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

### Good Friday Services, March 29

Traditional Worship at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary Contemporary Worship at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center Traditional Worship at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary Blended Worship at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

## **Easter Worship Schedule**

### Easter Worship Saturday, March 30

Contemporary Worship at 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center Blended Worship at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

### Easter Worship Sunday, March 31

Traditional Worship at 8 a.m. in the Sanctuary Blended Worship at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary Contemporary Worship at 10 a.m. in the Family Life Center Contemporary Worship at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

## Men's Softball League



Let's play ball and have fun! Join us for the men's league (age 16 and over). League starts Monday, April 15; all games played on Monday nights. It's a 14-game season; the cost is \$25. If interested, sign up with TK by March 10 at tim@gloriadeionline.com. No experience necessary.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 8301 Aurora Ave. Urbandale, Iowa 50322 515-276-1700

#### Church office hours:

Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Rev. Ronald Burcham

Senior Pastor

rburcham@gloriadeionline.com

### Rev. Timothy Phillips

Director of Congregational Care tphillips@gloriadeionline.com

### Rev. Philip Robarge

Director of Adult Ministry probarge@gloriadeionline.com

#### **Governing Board**

govboard@gloriadeionline.com

#### Visit us on:

twitter/gloriadeionline facebook.com/gloriadeionline Youtube.com/gloriadeionline

### Need help?

### **Stephen Ministries**

We have trained individuals to help you in every season of life. Contact Pastor Phillips at tphillips@gloriadeionline.com.

### **Concordia Choir**

The Concordia Choir will be in concert Sunday, Feb. 24 at 4 p.m. at First Christian Church, 2500 University Ave., Des Moines. Tickets are \$20 (\$10 for students) and can be purchased at ConcordiaTickets.com.

### Gloria Dei Youth Honored

Harrison Kruse, a Johnston High School sophomore and member of Gloria Dei, was honored recently by the Central Iowa Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals for outstanding youth in philanthropy for 2012.



Harrison Kruse

Harrison, who lives with his parents, Paul and Teresa, in Granger, has managed donation drives for youth homes, volunteered as a Salvation Army bell ringer and for other multiple causes. He owns and manages a small business, Harrison's Lawn Mowing and Snow Removal, and uses funds he earns to donate to other charities.

He first became interested in Youth Homes of Mid-America in Johnston, when asked to work on a project for Confirmation. The youth home provides residential and community-based treatment for at-risk youths.

"Often the change you are making in somebody's life means more than you can imagine. By setting an example in the community, hopefully other people will be inspired and contribute time and money to help change the lives of those in need," said Harrison Kruse.

### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar in the Sanctuary on Sunday, Feb. 17 are provided by Dan and Jill Schultz in celebration of Andrew's 21st birthday on February 11.

## **Mission Dominican Republic**

Jen and Verity Carstensen; and Bill, Lesli, Sydney and Kelsey Clark will join 18 others to travel to the Dominican Republic to help the Lighthouse Projects.

This non-profit organization was founded by Cristian Santigo to show the local families in Los Alcarizzos the love of Jesus Christ. Cristian, who spoke at Gloria Dei last summer, has been instrumental in building a campus which houses a Christian K-12 school for 1,150 students, a water purification company,

## Dominican Republic from Feb. 22-March 2

**Prayer needs:** Pray for safety and for open doors to show Jesus' love to all those they meet.

**Physical needs:** Baseball equipment, gently used or new. Drop off at the church office.

a baseball diamond, and an electrical vocation school. The campus also holds the newly constructed Treye Blythe Gymnasium, which was built in honor of member Dustin Blythe's son, who was stabbed to death when he tried to pull a friend out of a fight in 2006.

The members of this team range in age from 10 years old to 60 plus. They will spend most of their time constructing a new dormitory to house missionaries and students.

Besides visiting the town and playing with the students in the local satellite schools, the team plans to take a three-hour-trip to the remote village of Las Charcas to play baseball with the local youth and children. This short trip is part of an overall plan for Project 52 to build a baseball field in this remote city of 9,000.

Please pray for safe travels, great open doors to show Jesus' love in practical ways and strong relationships to be built.

### Servers

Officiant/Liturgist:

5:30 p.m. (FLC) Rev. Ron Burcham

**8 a.m. (Sanctuary)** Rev. Phil Robarge

**9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)** Rev. Phil Robarge

10 a.m. (FLC) Rev. Tim Phillips

11 a.m. (Sanctuary) Rev. Ron Burcham

Preacher

Rev. Ron Burcham

Organ Lynn Hays

Acolytes:

8 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Jacob May

9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) MacKenzie Beck

11 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Brandt Howe

Scripture verses: Malachi 3:6-17 (NIV) Hospitality Teams 5:30 p.m.(FLC) Team One

8 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Team One

9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) Team Two

**10 a.m. (FLC)** TBD

11 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Team One

### Let's pray!

Prayer requests can be made on the back of the "Welcome" card located in 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 55 years of marriage of Wally and Bev Haase on Feb. 16

### For the health of

- Tanya Richards
- Elna Lindgren
- Jackee Brienzo
- John Schmidt
- Carol Petersen
- John Onsrud
- Christine Watson
- Lyle Lawson
- Donna Smitly
- Norma Rohn
- Brenda Barron
- Steve Crouthamel
- Judith Cuthbert

### And for:

- Safe travels for the Project 52 Dominican Republic Mission Team
- For Bob and Kathy Sams and family who are grieving the loss of their mother, Wilma Sams
- The grieving family of Charleen Hilterbrand

### **Prayer ministry**

To join the prayer team, e-mail Pastor Phillips at: tphillips@gloriadeionline.com with your name, e-mail address and phone number.

## **Public Prayer in Newtown, Connecticut**

You may be aware of the "Public Prayer Controversy" that has been the topic of headlines across the country. It has brought The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), the national church body of which Gloria Dei is a member, into the national spotlight. Rev. Rob Morris, a young, recently ordained pastor of the LCMS, was requested to apologize for "exceeding the bounds of practice allowed by the Scriptures, our Lutheran Confessions, and the constitution of our Synod." The request for this apology came from the President of the LCMS, Rev. Matthew Harrison. There is a link on our web site to his letter and all other mentioned letters or articles.

The controversy centers on a prayer vigil that was offered after the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut. The prayer vigil had participants from various Christian denominations and representatives from the Baha'I and Muslim faiths. President Obama was present and addressed the crowd.

According to President Harrison's letter: Pastor Morris took specific steps to ensure that there would not be the impression that those present were in agreement in their beliefs. President Harrison also notes in the letter that Pastor Morris "asked for an announcement before the event to make it clear that those participating did not endorse each other's views. He read from Scripture when he spoke."

Nonetheless, President Harrison concluded that the vigil was indeed a worship service and that Pastor Morris had acted contrary to the constitution of the Synod and Scripture. Pastor Morris offered an apology to those whom he had caused offense, but not for participating. Pastor Morris wrote; "I did not believe my participation to be an act of joint worship, but one of mercy and care to a community shocked and grieving an unspeakably horrific event."

After the news media capitalized on the story, President Harrison issued another letter of apology to the church for the way he handled the situation. In addition President Harrison, Pastor Morris, and Pastor Morris' District President issued a joint letter of harmony.

There are various opinions as to whether Pastor Morris should have participated in the vigil. Unfortunately

many of the opinions have been shared over the internet and many have simply ignored the 8th commandment. In the Small Catechism's explanation of the 8th commandment Luther wisely wrote about how we are to speak of our neighbor: "We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way."

Pastor Morris made a decision in a short amount of time with limited information. Only he knows all of the emotions and thoughts that went into that decision and it is unfair and unjust to throw stones after the event. In my personal opinion, he acted correctly and demonstrated maturity beyond his years and certainly beyond his experience in ministry. He proclaimed the love of Jesus to a community that needed comfort and hope. Unapologetically he proclaimed the Gospel and gave voice to God's compassion and grace in the public square.

I understand that we never want to give the impression that there are various pathways to God or heaven. We never want to lead anyone to believe that the differences between Christianity and other religions is unimportant, but I do not believe that anyone watching the prayer vigil would walk away with that impression. What they saw was a community coming together to try and make sense out of a senseless act of violence.

My final thought is, what message would have been given if Pastor Morris had not participated? What message would people assume about his congregation and the Lutheran church? I believe it would have been the impression that we are uncaring and very closed. Both would be completely untrue, but nonetheless, I believe that would have been the impression.

I know that all do not share my opinion and I respect that. I felt that you, the members of Gloria Dei, would want to know where I stand on what has become a very public event in our church body.

In Christ.

Pastor Burcham

Pustor Burken

## **Gloria Dei Youth Ministry**

### **Castaway**

Sundays at 9:50 & 11:20 a.m. Join us as we discuss "The Story."

### **Junior High Small Groups**

**Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 6:45 p.m.:** Join us for Contemporary Interactive Worship in the FLC. Our small groups will meet during the service.

### Café 923

**Friday, February 22 from 6-9 p.m.** Come with your friends as we hang out, play games and have a great time.

## High School Bible Study

Sundays at 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Join us as we discuss "The Story."

### The Point

Wednesday, Feb. 20: Join us for Contemporary Interactive Worship in the FLC at 6:45 p.m. Our small groups will meet during the service.

### **30 Hour Famine**

"What to Bring" meeting on Sunday, March 10 from 9-9:30 a.m.

Meet in the Youth Center for a short meeting. The deadline for registration is March 3.

### **Dinner Theater**

**April 19, 20 and 21 -** Scenes 7-10 will rehearse Sunday, Feb. 17 at 12:15 p.m. Cast lunch to be served at noon (\$2.50 per person).



## **Spring Break at Gloria Dei!**

### **Before Care**

Monday-Friday, March 18-22 from 7-9 a.m.

We will provide a safe, and fun environment for your children from 7-9 a.m. If interested, contact DeAnn at deann@gloriadeionline.com.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Monday-Friday, March 18-22 from 9-11:30 a.m.

This is a time of great fun and learning more about who God is! There will be singing, arts and crafts, Bible stories and games. Register online today!

### **Spring Break Camp**

Monday-Friday, March 18-22 from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Each day we'll focus on a different theme: Get in the Game, Metropolitan Museum of Art, God's Amazing Creation, Walk of Fame, and I'm Bored! Please register for this camp by clicking on the registration link on the right column of our Web site www.gloriadeionline.com. The cost is \$50 per child. Remember to bring your own lunch.

## **Week of February 16-23, 2013**

### Saturday, February 16

12:00 p.m. Senior Adult Valentine Potluck

5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Family Life Center

5:50 p.m. Grace Place

### Sunday, February 17

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in

Sanctuary with Communion

8:20 a.m. Grace Place

9:30 a.m. Traditional Blend Worship Service in the

Sanctuary with Communion

9:30 a.m. Senior High Bible Study

9:50 a.m. Grace Place 9:50 a.m. Castaway

9:50 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Chuck Corell)

10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Family Life Center

10:20 a.m. Grace Place

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Sanctuary with Communion

11:20 a.m. Grace Place 11:20 a.m. Castaway

12:15 p.m. Dinner Theater Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Girlz of Faith

#### Monday, February 18

9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Moms' Bible Study

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Connections1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision

3:30 p.m. Archery Practice 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connections

6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision

Ash Wednesday (Feb. 13)	Attendance	Communion
12:15 pm. (Sanctuary)	85	70
6:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)	320	240
Total	405	310

Worship (Feb. 9-10)	Attendance	Communion
5:30 p.m. (FLC)	157	107
8 a.m. (Sanctuary)	124	
9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)	362	
10 a.m. (FLC)	86	36
11 a.m. (Sanctuary)	212	
Total	941	143

### Tuesday, February 19

2:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

3:30 p.m. Archery Practice

6:00 p.m. Governing Board Meeting6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University

7:00 p.m. Encourage Each Other Women's Study

### Wednesday, February 20

10:00 a.m. Pastor Robarge's Bible Study12:15 p.m. Lenten Traditional Worship

in the Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Faith Alive Midweek Meal

6:00 p.m. Lenten Traditional-blend Worship

in the Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Faith Alive

6:45 p.m. Lenten Contemporary Interactive

Worship in the Family Life Center

7:15 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale

7:30 p.m. Men's Study: 33 Series, Vol. 1 (off-site)

### Thursday, February 21

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
2:00 p.m. Home School Choir
3:30 p.m. Archery Practice
6:30 p.m. Divorce Care
6:30 p.m. Grief Share

6:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Foundation

### Friday, February 22

6:00 p.m. Café 923

### Saturday, February 23

7:30 a.m. Men's Study: 33 Series, Vol. 1

5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Family Life Center with Communion

5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Outpouring of Love (Feb. 9-10)				
General Fund Offerings	\$32,849			
General Fund Offering Budget	\$38,000			
3rd QTD Offering	\$168,426			
3rd QTD Budget	\$191,000			
YTD Offering Total	\$1,095,823			
YTD Offering Budget	\$1,147,000			

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 there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10

## Week of February 23-March 2, 2013

#### Saturday, February 23

7:30 a.m. Men's Study - 33 Series, Volume 15:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Family Life Center with Communion

5:50 p.m. Grace Place

### Sunday, February 24

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in

Sanctuary

8:20 a.m. Grace Place

9:15 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Dan Snyder)9:30 a.m. Traditional Blend Worship Service in the

Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Senior High Bible Study

9:50 a.m. Grace Place 9:50 a.m. Castaway

9:50 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Chuck Corell) 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Family Life Center with Communion

10:20 a.m. Grace Place

10:45 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Dan Snyder)

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. White's Baptism Dinner

11:20 a.m. Grace Place 11:20 a.m. Castaway

12:15 p.m. Dinner Theater Rehearsal

### Monday, February 25

9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study9:30 a.m. Moms' Bible Study

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Connections

6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connections

#### Tuesday, February 26

2:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University

7:00 p.m. Encourage Each Other Women's Study

### Wednesday, February 27

10:00 a.m. Pastor Robarge's Bible Study12:15 p.m. Lenten Traditional Worship

in the Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Faith Alive Midweek Meal

6:00 p.m. Lenten Traditional-blend Worship

in the Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Faith Alive

6:45 p.m. Lenten Contemporary Interactive

Worship in the Family Life Center

7:15 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale

7:30 p.m. Men's Study: 33 Series, Vol. 1 (off-site)

### Thursday, February 28

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
2:00 p.m. Home School Choir
6:30 p.m. Divorce Care
6:30 p.m. Grief Share

### Friday, March 1

9:30 a.m. MOM's Club of West Des Moines

5:00 p.m. Apostles' Creed Retreat

6:00 p.m. Cole Kirstein and Jennifer Larsen

Wedding Rehearsal

### Saturday, March 2

7:30 a.m. Men's Study: 33 Series, Vol. 14:00 p.m. Cole Kirstein and Jennifer Larsen

Wedding

5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Family Life Center

5:50 p.m. Grace Place

### Items needed

**Urbandale Food Pantry** is requesting feminine hygiene products during the month of February. Please place your donation in the "Urbandale Food Pantry" bin that is located in the Narthex.

Children's Attendance	Saturday 5:50 p.m.	Sunday 8:20 a.m.	Sunday 9:50 a.m.	Sunday 10:20 a.m.	Sunday 11:20 a.m.
Preschool	10	6	18	8	9
Elementary	22	0	51	20	21
Total Children	32	6	69	28	30

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

**Please note:** We encourage families to worship together before children (ages 3-grade 5) are invited to Grace Place on Saturday evenings at 5:50; Sunday mornings at 8:20, 9:50, 10:20 and 11:20. Junior high youth (grades 6-8) are invited to Castaway at 9:50 and 11:20 a.m.

### 5:30 p.m. Saturday | Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center

This contemporary service offers a unique come-as-you-are worship experience on Saturday evening. A gathering of celebration will be led by our worship team and band in the Family Life Center, inviting worshipers to lift anthems to our God. There will be time for intimacy with God, reflection on his promises and the opportunity to grow as his Word is declared.

### 8:00 a.m. Sunday | Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

This worship service is based on traditional hymns and liturgy. The music is organ led with offerings of special music, offertories and communion hymns led by the piano. Our special music groups and choirs perform on a regular basis.

### 9:30 a.m. Sunday | Traditional Blend Worship in the Sanctuary

This service offers a blend of instruments, from piano and organ to brass and percussion. Large group choirs as well as small group vocal and instrumental ensembles offer special music. The liturgy is specifically designed to enhance the life of the believer, by supporting the current study of God's Word at Gloria Dei.

### 10:00 a.m. Sunday | Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center

This high-energy service offers a casual setting for those who enjoy a come-as-you-are contemporary environment. A gathering of celebration will be led by our worship team and band in the Family Life Center, inviting worshipers to lift anthems to our God. There will be time for intimacy with God, reflection on his promises and the opportunity to grow as his Word is declared via this video venue.

### 11:00 a.m. Sunday | Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary

This contemporary service has a unique style of its own as we combine the present day sounds of contemporary music with a worship band in the awe inspiring setting of the Sanctuary. This service includes uplifting songs of celebration as people gather together responding to our God.

### 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.

### Weekly Bible reading - Malachai 3:16-17 (NIV)

Then those who feared the Lord talked with each other, and the Lord listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the Lord and honored his name.

"On the day when I act," says the Lord Almighty, "they will be my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as a father has compassion and spares his son who serves him."

### **Educational times**

Children (ages 2- grade 5)

#### **Grace Place**

Saturdays at 5:50 p.m. Sundays at 8:20, 9:50, 10:20 & 11:20 a.m.

#### **Faith Alive**

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

**Youth** (grades 6-12) Times vary, check page 5.

#### **Adults**

Times vary, check pages 6-7.

### 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.