

WEEKLY WORD



A Publication of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

April 18 and 19, 2009

Second Sunday of Easter

Real Learning Begins with Jesus

by Karen Kennedy, Director of Publicity and Promotion

Imagine: Your boat is docked on the lake and a man, who you have recently met climbs onto your boat. He then asks you to move it a few feet from the shore. Once the boat is situated, he sits and proceeds to teach things that clash with your simple fisherman existence. In fact, his teachings uproot the foundation of your belief system:

Loving your enemy challenges your eye-for-an-eye mindset.

Storing treasures in heavenly vessels replaces your collecting earthly goods.

Seeking the approval of the Lord confronts your penchant to perform for people.

Even though forgiveness, unconditional love, mercy and grace continues to flow from this man's lips, you are not sure of the teachings. After all, you have managed your life successfully so far, why should you learn anything more?

And if his teachings weren't odd enough, his next request hinges on the eccentric: "Put out into deep water (the boat) and let down the nets for a catch." Okay, now you are a bit offended. You are the expert fisherman and he is a visitor on your boat. Who does he think he is? Your buddies fished all night and caught nothing, surely the experts understand the ebb and flow of fishing. But in an uncharacteristic move, you actually decide to go with his suggestion. Much to your surprise, the bounty is beyond your wildest imagination. So much so, that you realize your own limitations and you prostrate yourself at the teacher's feet.

Isn't this where learning begins? You begin with the misconception that you know everything only to find out that your knowledge base is limited and flawed. After you exhaust all your human resources, logic and schemes, you decide to heed to the Master's words and discover that his ways contain infinite wisdom compared to your database of tried-but-not-so-true facts.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:7-8

In the next few weeks, we will examine what it takes to be a follower of Jesus. But let's remember where it all begins—heeding to the Master's teachings and falling on our knees before him.

Upcoming Messages

April 18-19: Followers of Jesus are Learners

April 25-26: Stephen Ministry Commissioning

May 2-3: Followers of Jesus Pay the Price

May 9-10: Followers of Jesus Ask Questions

May 16-17: Followers of Jesus are His Representatives

May 23-24: Followers of Jesus are Fishers of Men

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what's
NEW!
this week!

Welcome AriSon

We warmly welcome AriSon, a musical group out of Nashville. We anticipate hearing their music throughout the weekend. See page 8 for more details.

Couples

Take time with your spouse at Gloria Dei's first marriage workshop on April 24 and 25. For more details, see page 2.

Camera Club

Join Gloria Dei's Camera Club this Wednesday. See page 5 for details.

Famine

The youth participated in the 30-hour famine event this weekend. See page 6 for more details.

Strategic Plan Updates

Ministry Celebrations

Easter: Last weekend approximately 2,000 worshippers celebrated the resurrection of our Lord. Since a vital component of our vision is to provide various worship venues that will reach the wide spectrum of worship preferences, we



offered six different worship services last weekend. Our Saturday 5:30 p.m. service used the lighting of a flame to demonstrate the impact of being a follower of Jesus. Our Saturday 7 p.m. service in the Sanctuary offered traditional music as well as contemporary praise songs in a candlelight setting. Our Easter morning traditional services in

the Sanctuary expressed great joy with the offering of traditional hymns, bells and choir. If you traveled to the Family Life Center at 9 a.m., you would have been met with festive music, puppetry and families celebrating the resurrection by adding flowers to the cross. An hour and a half later, the Sanctuary was once again filled with worshippers rejoicing in the resurrection through high energy songs.

Jim and Barb Miles attended Saturday's contemporary-blended service and Sunday's traditional service. They thoroughly enjoyed the uniqueness of each service.

"The two services were so different," said Barb. "We enjoyed the blend of the organ with the worship band on Saturday and the bells and the trumpets on Sunday morning." With a reflective pause, she concluded that both services were "very moving."

He is risen! And we are thankful for being able to worship our risen Lord together last weekend.

Marriage Workshop Registration Deadline

Registration deadline Sunday, April 19

Friday, April 24 from 7-9 p.m. • Saturday, April 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Marriage, similar to life, requires lots of attention and skill. Join Dr. Daniel Earle, Psy.D with a strong LCMS background and Dr. Cora Schuhmacher Majors, Psy.D from Glen Haven Counseling Resources in West Des Moines, as they hold an interactive 2-day workshop teaching important skills for your everyday married life.

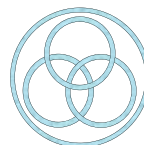
Couples will learn how to:

Improve communication skills

Recall the importance of your marriage vows

Increase their love for each other

The cost is \$90 per couple, which includes snacks, breakfast and lunch. Childcare is provided. To meet Sunday's registration deadline, please leave a message at 276-1700 or diane@gloriadeionline.com today. Diane Schmidt, Front Desk Administrative Assistant, will return your call Monday to verify the registration information.



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govboard@gloriadeionline.com

Altar Flowers



The flowers on the altar on Sunday, April 19 are provided by Merle and Ellie Knuth in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

What's On Your Mind

Got questions? We may have the answers.

A message series "What's on Your Mind" will begin in June. Your help is needed. We need to know what is on your mind. Take a few minutes and think about some questions or concerns that you have always pondered. Hold those thoughts until you can write them on our survey sheets located at the Information Centers. After the sheets are completed, drop them off at the "What's On Your Mind" boxes by April 30. All entries are anonymous. We will then explore and select some of the "What's on Your Mind" questions for the upcoming message series.

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

Acolytes:

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Grant Smith

9 a.m. (Sanctuary):

Dylan Elder

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary):

Rae Gathercole

Elders:

Tom Westby

Marvin Deer

Rod Serbus

Ushers:

Northwind

Dale Engelken

Mike Martens

7:45 a.m.

Scott Ammann

Brent Handel

9 a.m.

Tom Feldotto

Randy Fleming

Casey Fluegge

Dean Kleckner

Mark Kramer

Jared Nicol

Rob Steuber

10:30 a.m.

Phillip Bax

Bill Clark

Jim Kellenberg

Chris Warwick

Scripture Readings:

2 Timothy 3:14-17 and John 8:31-38 (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 church
- For our families
- For our country
- For our graduating seniors

Prayers

- For Ryan Zittritsch's father, Mike, who has been diagnosed with cancer
- For Sandy Zimmerman's sister-in-law, who is undergoing treatment for spinal tumors
- For Jane Meythaler's aunt, Maxine Lage, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer
- For Gabe and Jaimie Nelson, who are grieving the loss of Gabe's grandfather
- For Mitch Golay's father, Randall Golay, who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
- For the health of Ed Mautz
- For God's help with all the aspects of the Strategic Plan
- For our summer programs
- For those who are unemployed
- For those in the military

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.

Getting to Know Us

If you are visiting us today, we warmly welcome you. Please take time to check out all of our upcoming classes and activities. If you have questions, contact the church office at 276-1700. Here are two classes you won't want to miss!

Discovery 101: Beginning the Journey

Beginning the Journey is an introduction to the central teaching of Scripture. In addition to learning the basics of our beliefs, you will be encouraged to develop your faith in God.



This informal four-week class is for all who are new to the Lutheran faith. Child-care is provided. Register by calling the church office at 276-1700. Please indicate

if childcare is needed. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Tim Phillips at 276-1700, ext. 204.

When can I come? Thursday, April 23 from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Discovery 201: Welcome to Gloria Dei

Welcome to Gloria Dei (for those who already have a Lutheran background or following Discovery 101) will be an introduction to Gloria Dei, the staff and the programs offered. Our mission, vision and the current organization of Gloria Dei will be presented. At the end of the class you will have the opportunity to become members. This class, held on a Sunday afternoon, includes a meal and childcare. Register by calling the church office at 276-1700. Please indicate if childcare is needed. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Tim Phillips.



When is it? Sunday, June 14 from 3 to 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Information Center

If you are visiting today, stop by the Information Center, which is located outside the Sanctuary or in the back of the Family Life Center. We would love to get to know you and provide brochures of our activities and events throughout the year. See you there!

Check out our Web site

www.gloriadeionline.com

Need more information and resources? Check out our Web site for additional information and updates. We post weekly sermons, newsletters, information about our children, youth and adult programs and much more.

Notes of Thanks

Thank you for your generous donation of personal products and the \$1,500 for the Urbandale Food Pantry. Your continued generosity helps our residents in need.
– The Urbandale Food Pantry.

Thank you so much for your prayer support during my recent hospitalization. I greatly appreciated the visits I received from Pastor Tim as I was far away from my home church. The Lord continues to work in me to bring me back to my full strength and I believe your prayers helped make that happen.

– Julie Lipe. (Laura Valle's sister who was visiting from Oklahoma.)

Golf Outing

Serve Our Youth Golf Outing will be held Tuesday, May 19 at 1 p.m. at Woodland Hills Golf Course, 620 NE 66th Ave., Des Moines. The cost per golfer is \$60. To register contact Kathy Howey at 641-620-9037.

Book Club

Gloria Dei's book club will meet Wednesday, May 6 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Cry Room. They will discuss "The Convenient Groom" by Denise Hunter, an inspiring tale of enduring love in the setting of a Nantucket beach wedding. For more information, contact Heather Schmitz at 371-5875.

LWML Circles

LWML Spring Rally, “Grow in His Love,” will meet Sunday, April 19 at 2 p.m. at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 1701 West Jester Drive, Polk City. Registration begins at 1:45 p.m. Complimentary desserts and beverages will be served.

Cart Drivers Needed

With April comes spring showers, so we are once again in need of volunteers to drive the carts. If you wish to volunteer, please call Dan DeVries at 276-4132.

Camera Club

For all you photo buffs, get your cameras out and join us Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. for a preliminary meeting about forming a camera club. Come with your ideas! For further information, contact Chris Onsrud at 278-5544, ext. 300.

Pantry Requests

Urbandale Food Pantry requests bars of soap for April. Please drop them off in the boxes in the narthex or by the Family Life Center. Thanks to everyone who brought laundry detergent last month.

Installation

The installation service for Pastor Luke Timm at Living Faith Lutheran Church, 2180 NW 142nd Street, Clive is scheduled for Sunday, April 19, at 3:30 p.m. A reception with refreshments will follow the service.

Healthy Spirit, Healthy Body

“You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body.” 1 Corinthians 6:20

Join us Monday evenings from 6-7:30 as we seek to honor God with a healthy lifestyle. This class includes time for Bible study, encouragement, and exercise! All are welcome whether you are starting or continuing to make healthy lifestyle changes. On April 20, we begin the study “Managing Your Moods,” which can be purchased at the Toolshoppe. Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes to the class. If you have any questions, call Paula Spark at 371-7972.

Women of Faith Tickets

Friday, May 1 from 7-9:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have ordered Women of Faith tickets, please pick them up at the church office Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or call 276-1700 to arrange another time. Checks need to be payable to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

Want to attend? Contact Diane Schmidt at 276-1700; we have three extra tickets (\$75 per ticket) for sale.

XYZ Group Continues Its Legacy



The XYZ (Extra Years of Zest group) has been meeting the first Tuesday of every month for nine years at the Machine Shed. Nearly 30 participants attended last month’s meeting (*above picture*). The group converses, prays, reads the Bible and helps with several outreaches, such as adopting a family at Christmas and supporting the Freedom for Youth Ministry.

If you would like to join this “seasoned with joy” group, please join them Tuesday, May 5 at 9 a.m. at the Machine Shed.

Youth Participated in 30-hour Famine

Each day more than 26,000 children under the age of five die from preventable diseases such as malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea, and acute respiratory infections. Malnutrition is associated with over half of those deaths.

Our teens wanted to help solve the devastation caused by hunger, so they joined forces with World Vision's 30-hour Famine. By pledging to go without food for 30 hours, participants gained an understanding of how it feels to experience hunger.

Under the direction of Kim Phillips and the help of several ministry partners, the youth not only fasted but they spent the night at church, participated in group activities, such as games that help to educate about hunger, helped with community service projects, and collected funds and canned goods in the neighborhood.

If you would like to help this cause, please write a check payable to World Vision and place in the offering plate. Thank you for your support.



Gloria Quilters

Saturday, May 2 from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Rooms 130-134

Join the Gloria Quilters in their mission to make and donate quilts to the people in Honduras. Please bring a sack lunch. No experience is required, just willing hands! For more information, contact Norma Rohn at mrohn@aol.com.

Softball

Come to the field and watch our softball team compete with local churches. All games are at Campbell Fields which is located in Clive between Hickman and University (behind Menards just West of the interstate). For an up-to-date schedule, go to the adult page on our Web site at www.gloriadeionline.com

Men's Bible Study

On Thursday, April 16, Men's Bible Study began the study of the Gospel of John. This thirteen-week study examines background information on the book of the Bible, its author, audience, occasion and purpose. The learning experiences will promote exciting and challenging discussions. Men's Bible Study meets at 6:30 a.m. in room 128 and will finish promptly at 7:30 a.m. Each week examines a different section of the Gospel of John, so participants can join at any time and still be involved if personal schedules demand missing a section. Please feel free to join other men of faith as they study the Gospel of John.

Thrivent Builds

Join us Wednesday, April 29 to Saturday, May 2.

Get ready to raise the roofs! "Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity Raise the Roofs Celebration" on the 1200 block of 10th Street, Des Moines. The dates are Wednesday, April 29 through Saturday, May 2. Their goal is to frame and enclose two two-story houses, plus set the trusses. As the houses are side-by-side, it will be exciting to work with one another and the Habitat home buyers to see the houses take shape!

Help Needed.

They need a group of 10 volunteers from Gloria Dei to work from 8:15 a.m. until approximately 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 1. If that date does not work for you, other days are available. No experience is necessary; just a willingness to express your faith through service to others. Lunch will be prepared and delivered by the Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity.

Please contact Bill Clark at 515-491-8543, billclark@mchsi.com or Brendalyn Shird at Habitat for Humanity (471-8686 or bshird@gdmhabitat.org).

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Response to Same Sex Marriages

In light of the recent ruling on the same sex marriages from the Iowa Supreme Court, Reverend Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, issued an applicable statement after the California Supreme Court issued a similar same sex marriage ruling:

The recent decision of the California Supreme Court legalizing same-sex marriage highlights the downward spiral of moral values that is becoming so prevalent in our culture. This most recent action contravenes not only the Judeo-Christian values that have defined the moral compass of this great nation, but also the laws of nature and the natural reproductive process.

In the face of such moral decline, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has consistently upheld the Bible-based values that designate marriage as the lifelong union of one man and one woman (Genesis 2:2–24; Matthew 19:5–6). The LCMS has consistently held that homosexual behavior is prohibited in the Old and New Testaments. (Leviticus 18:22, 24; 20:13; 1 Corinthians 6:9–20; 1 Timothy 1:10) as contrary to the Creator's design (Romans 1:26–27).

As a Christian body in this country, the LCMS has the duty and responsibility to speak publicly in disagreement with this action of the California Supreme Court. In the present context we cannot be silent, since such silence could be viewed as acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle. Accordingly, we as a church body urge our leaders, members, congregations, and all Christians, to give a public witness from Scripture against the social acceptance and legal recognition of homosexual marriage.

While this occasion calls us to declare that homosexual behavior is both unnatural and sinful, (see Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; Romans 1:24–27), we also recognize that it is necessary to respond to these sexual sins with the same love and concern as all other sins, calling for repentance and offering forgiveness in the Good News of Jesus Christ when there is repentance.

The Gospel declares that Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world (1 John 2:2) and that Christ, who knew no sin, was made to be our sin so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21). It is the church's proper evangelical work to proclaim the reconciliation of the sinner to God in the death of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:18–19) in a spirit of compassion and humility, recognizing that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus (Romans 3:23–24).

To view the statement in its entirety and to view the response of Reverend Paul Sieveking, President of the Iowa District West LCMS and Iowa District East President Reverend Gary Arp to the Iowa Supreme Court ruling regarding same sex marriage, please go to our Web site at gloriadeionline.com and click on the link.

ESL Program

The English as a Second Language Program at First Christian Church is in need of childcare workers for the summer session. Classes will be held every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. from May 27 thru August 6. If you enjoy children and would like to learn more about the children of immigrants/refugees, this would be a wonderful experience for you. For more information call Norma Rohn at 253-0523 or Sondra Eddings at 255-2181.

Camp Okoboji

Friday, April 24 thru Sunday, April 26

Join us for a weekend or a day of work, fun and Christian fellowship as Camp Okoboji



prepares for the upcoming summer months.

Individuals or families are

welcome for the entire weekend. Tasks will include cleaning, painting, raking leaves, sewing, laundry, small repair jobs and much more. There will be a Christian concert by Tangled Blue on Saturday night at 7 p.m. Meals and lodging will be provided for all volunteers. For reservations, call 712-337-3325 or e-mail lorene.camp@lidwlcms.org.

Audio CDs

Do you know someone who would benefit from the New Beginnings series of messages? If so, the Media Ministry has an audio CD set of all the messages in the Toolshoppe for \$5.

Thank You AriSon

The AriSon concert is at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Family Life Center. They will also sing during the Saturday night service, the H3 Sunday service and 10:30 a.m. Contemporary service. The nationally-acclaimed group known for their hits, such as “You are Unique,” “God is Great,” “Fireflies,” “Talkin’ About Jesus,” “All I Have to Do Is Pray” and “Mary’s Lullaby” is from Nashville.

“Music Alive and Tiny Treasures have been enjoying AriSon music for a few years,” said Terry Steinke, Director of Tiny Treasures Preschool. “To actually bring their music to life with the singers and songwriters is a thrill.”

CDs are available for purchase at the AriSon table. All profits will help pay for the concert.



Faith Alive Meal

Wednesday, April 22
Grilled Hamburgers

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

Dates

Faith Alive ends April 29.

School-year Grace Place ends May 2 and 3.

Summer Grace Place begins May 16 and 17.

Upcoming Children’s Opportunities

Summer Grace Place

Saturdays at 5:50 p.m. Sundays at 9:20 and 10:50 am. Summer Grace Place will begin May 16 and 17. We’re taking a trip to Rome! We’ll visit the Apostle Paul under house arrest and hear from Christians meeting secretly. We’ll play Olympic games and complete Bible-time crafts. Summer Grace Place will meet weekends until the end of August. Register online today.

Summer Grace Place Staff Needed: We need Summer Grace Place ministry partners. We have lots of options and areas open. Each weekend we will need 34 different ministry partners. We will provide all the materials needed for this summer’s adventure. Do you only have a week or two that you can say yes to helping? We have a place for you! Would you like to help more than that? We have a place for you! Interested to know what’s available? Contact DeAnn or Penny at 276-1700, ext. 207.

Summer Camps

Some of our classes are beginning to fill up. Please secure a space today! Pick this year’s summer camps brochure up at the Information Center. You can register today by filling out the registration form in the brochure or online. The Next Generation “Her” Story Camp is full.

Summer Dance Class for Ages 7-12

Another dance class has been added to the summer line up! Liturgical Dance will meet Wednesday evenings starting June 3 from 6-7 p.m. For more information, go to the children’s page on our Web site at www.gloriadeionline.com.

Summer Kindermusik Play Date

Summer play date with Kindermusik has been added to this summer’s schedule on Monday, August 10. Check out our Web site for more information.



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luke 9:23

Junior High Grades 6-8

Sunday: Castaway

April 19:

The World's Greatest Lover John 3:16

April 26:

Simmer Down Anger

May 3:

Confirmation: No Castaway

Café 923

Friday, May 1, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Come and play games or just hang out with your friends. Eat pizza for \$1 per slice.

Confirmation Grades 6-8

Pictures in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 29, 6-8 p.m.

6 p.m. Opening worship in the Youth Center

6:15 p.m. Put on robes, corsages and boutonnieres

6:30 p.m. Photos (Smile!)

What's Next

Parents of eighth grade confirmands are invited to a two-week study on helping your teenager grow spiritually. Join us in the narthex Wednesday, April 22 from 6:15-7:30 p.m.

Senior High Grades 9-12

9-hour Blast

April 24-25

A fun filled evening welcoming 8th graders into the senior high youth group.

Begins at the church Friday at 10 p.m. and ends Saturday at 7 a.m. at the church. The evening's activities will include Sportsplex West, bowling, activities at the church and food!

The cost is \$30 which includes transportation, activities and food. Sign up on the youth bulletin board and pay by Wednesday, April 22.

Senior Recognition

Wednesday, May 6 from 6-7 p.m.

Graduates and their families are invited to dinner, program and a commissioning in the Family Life Center. All youth in grades 8-11 are invited to attend and to wish the seniors well.

Mission Trip Meeting

Wednesday, May 13 from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Youth Center

If you signed up, please bring your parents to the required informational meeting. Important information and forms will be presented.

Sunday Bible Study

Join us Sunday from 9-10 a.m. in room 136-138.

Wednesday: The Point

April 22: Cutting

April 29: Eternal Party

May 6: Graduation Recognition

Café 923

Sunday, May 3, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Come and play games or just hang out with your friends.

Week of April 18-25, 2009

Saturday, April 18

- 12:00 a.m. 30-hour Famine
- 8:00 a.m. Tiny Treasures Consignment Sale
- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place
- 7:00 p.m. AriSon Concert in Family Life Center

Sunday, April 19

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. H3 Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 9:00 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 9:20 a.m. Lifelight Adult Bible Study
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Worship Team Warm-up
- 10:15 a.m. Faith Lessons - Prophets and Kings of Israel Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 10:50 a.m. Castaway
- 10:50 a.m. Grace Place
- 2:00 p.m. Girl Scouts
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, April 20

- 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Connections a.m.
- 1:15 p.m. Home School Science Education
- 6:00 p.m. Healthy Spirit, Healthy Body
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connections p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Tuesday, April 21

- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Divorce Care
- 6:30 p.m. Divorce Care for Children

Outpouring of Love	
General Fund Offerings	\$31,531
YTD Offering	\$1,256,501
YTD Budget	\$1,375,837

Wednesday, April 22

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study
- 5:15 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 5:30 p.m. M and M Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation
- 6:00 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:00 p.m. Small Group Bells
- 6:00 p.m. The Point - Senior High
- 6:15 p.m. Sacraments Class What's Next
- 6:30 p.m. Camera Club Organizational Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:40 p.m. Gloria Dei Orchestra Rehearsal

Thursday, April 23

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 a.m. Facilities Focus Group
- 10:00 a.m. Ladies Sewing Club
- 2:00 p.m. Homeschool Choir
- 6:30 p.m. Discovery 101
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings Support Group

Friday, April 24

- 8:00 a.m. Disaster Response Training
- 7:00 p.m. Marriage Workshop
- 10:00 p.m. 9-hour Blast

Saturday, April 25

- 12:00 a.m. 9-hour Blast
- 8:30 a.m. Marriage Workshop
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service in Family Life Center with Communion
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Easter Worship Services	Attendance
5:30 p.m. (Family Life Center)	207
7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)	126
7:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)	313
9 a.m. (Sanctuary)	783
9 a.m. (Family Life Center)	158
10:30 a.m.	405
Total	1,992

Week of April 25-May 2, 2009

Saturday, April 25

- 12:00 a.m. 9-hour Blast
- 8:30 a.m. Marriage Workshop
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service in Family Life Center with Communion
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Sunday, April 26

- 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. Stephen Ministry Commissioning
- 9:00 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 9:20 a.m. Lifelight Adult Bible Study
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Worship Team Warm-up
- 10:15 a.m. Faith Lessons - Prophets and Kings of Israel Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Stephen Ministry Commissioning
- 10:50 a.m. Castaway
- 10:50 a.m. Grace Place
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, April 27

- 9:15 a.m. Women's Connections a.m.
- 1:15 p.m. Home School Science Education
- 6:00 p.m. Healthy Spirit, Healthy Body
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Connections p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Tuesday, April 28

- 11:45 a.m. Kindermusik Movin' and Groovin' Family Time Class
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Make Way for Music Family Time Class
- 6:30 p.m. On the Road Day Kindermusik Class
- 6:30 p.m. DivorceCare
- 6:30 p.m. DivorceCare for Children
- 6:30 p.m. Young Child Semester 4
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Elders Meeting

Maundy Thursday Services Attendance and Communion		
6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)	245	198
6:30 p.m. (FLC)	85	49
Total	330	247

Wednesday, April 29

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study
- 5:15 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 5:30 p.m. M and M Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation
- 6:00 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:00 p.m. Small Group Bells
- 6:00 p.m. The Point - Senior High
- 6:15 p.m. Confirmation Pictures and Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers Rehearsal

Thursday, April 30

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 a.m. Facilities Focus Group
- 10:00 a.m. Kindermusik Movin' and Groovin' Family Time Class
- 10:00 a.m. Ladies Sewing Club
- 2:00 p.m. Homeschool Choir
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 6:30 p.m. Discovery 101

Friday, May 1

- 9:30 a.m. MOM's Club of West Des Moines
- 6:00 p.m. Junior High Café 923

Saturday, May 2

- 8:30 a.m. Gloria Dei Quilters
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Wednesday Educational Attendance	
Preschool	22
Elementary	86
Total Children	108
Junior High	91
Senior High	24
Total Youth	115

Good Friday Services	
4:30 p.m. (FLC)	143
6 p.m. (Sanctuary)	392
7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)	175
Total	710

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 through grade 5 Saturday at 5:50 p.m. and Sunday 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 high: Castaway: For our junior high youth in grades 6-8, we have a high-energy educational time, Castaway, in the Youth Center Sunday 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 this week.

Adults

There are lots of community groups forming. For more information, contact the church office at 276-1700.



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: John 8:31-38

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word. I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father."

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