

WEEKLY WORD

November 29 and 30, 2008

The First Sunday in Advent

Advent Season is Upon Us

At Gloria Dei, we have several opportunities during Advent that will help us prepare for the event that changed the world, the birth of Jesus. Advent comes from the Latin word "adventus," meaning coming; it is celebrated in the church as a period of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Savior. So, please join us for the following opportunities:

Advent Weekend Services

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.

- Promises of Christmas - Dec. 6 and 7
- Priorities of Christmas - Dec. 13 and 14
- People at Christmas - Dec. 20 and 21

We are asking worshipers to bring different items pertaining to the weekend theme. Each week a different colored bag will be provided at the worship services to take home and fill. This week, worshipers are asked to pick up a yellow bag and return it next week with a string of clear Christmas lights. What are we going to do with them? A surprise is planned, so be expecting something great.

Advent Devotional



Travel with us in our devotional as we follow the Advent sermon theme, "Re: Christmas." We will explore some of God's promises about the coming Messiah. If you have not picked up your devotional, please do so at the Information Center today.

Advent Thursday Services

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. See page 5 for more details.

Advent by Candlelight



"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. If you have not signed up and would like to come, please contact Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224.

what's
NEW!
this week!



Decorating Today!

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

Join us for an evening of Christmas fun. We'll decorate the church, eat and exchange cookies. All are welcome!



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!

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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. You are invited to attend the 9 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary.

Tiny Treasures' Playgroup

Tiny Treasures will offer a playgroup for children who will be old enough for the regular preschool in the fall. This playgroup has proved to be a great feeder program for preschool classes because it allows children the opportunity to be comfortable in a school setting.

The two classes will meet on Tuesday or Thursday from 9:15-11:15 a.m. from February through May. Registration materials are available in the plastic racks today. Children must be 3 years old by Sept. 15, 2009 and toilet trained. Tuition is \$40 each month; registration fee of \$10 must accompany the form. Class size will be no more than eight children with two teachers. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Steinke at 278-5544, ext. 305.

Calendar

The Shining City Foundation's calendars will be available in the narthex following the services. A free-will offering will be accepted; all profits will benefit the work in China.

Women's Connections and Bible Study

Women's Connections will not meet Monday, Dec. 1 and the 10:30 a.m. Bible study will not meet Sunday, Nov. 30. Both will resume their regular schedules the following week.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
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terry@gloriadeionline.com

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Mrs. Martha Raecker
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laura@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. Michelle Reinert
Assistant to the Youth Director
michelle@gloriadeionline.com

Mrs. Penny Schramm
Assoc. Director of Children's Ministry
penny@gloriadeionline.com

Governing Board:
govboard@gloriadeionline.com

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, Nov. 30 at the 9 a.m. service is for:



Anna Kay Woodley born October 23, 2008 to Joe and Jennifer (nee Christensen) Woodley. Anna's spiritual sponsors are Greg Christensen and Matt Woodley.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, Nov. 30 at the 10:30 a.m. service is for:



Brody Richard Burke born Sept. 4, 2008 to Lance and Beth (nee Loew) Burke. Brody's spiritual sponsors are Chet and Lacey Galetich.

Altar Flowers



The flowers on the altar are in celebration of:
The 25th wedding anniversary of Marv and Rhonda Deer.

The flowers on the altar are in celebration of:
The 25th wedding anniversary of Doug and Penni Kumm.

Bake Sale

Naomi Circle annual Christmas goodies bake sale will be Sunday, Dec. 7 from 7:45 - 11:30 a.m. in the narthex. All proceeds go toward their mission projects.

Servers

Officiant/Liturgist:

Northwind (FLC):
Rev. Tim Phillips

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):
Rev. Kendall Meyer

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

9 a.m. (FLC):
Rev. Kendall Meyer

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Rev. Tim Phillips

Preacher:
Rev. Tim Phillips

Organist:
Kathy Stange

Acolytes:

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):

Faith Rosburg

9 a.m. (Sanctuary):

Matt Tanner

Elders:

Tom Westby

Marvin Deer

Rod Serbus

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 Linquist

Ed Mautz

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 55: 1-12 (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 families and country

Prayers

- For Lee and Georgete Alexander mourning the loss of their son, Tim
- For the healing for Kim Phillips' aunt, Peggy Griffis, who is battling lung cancer
- For Natasha Hanich battling breast cancer
- For the health concerns of John Miller
- For the health of Julie Mitchell's mother
- For Kathy Meisgeier, the sister of Karen Collins, who is recovering from surgery
- For Phil Linquist, who is battling cancer and other health concerns
- For the health concerns of Shirley Nuzum
- For Jo Rice's son-in-law, Tom, who will be deployed
- For John McKeighan's health

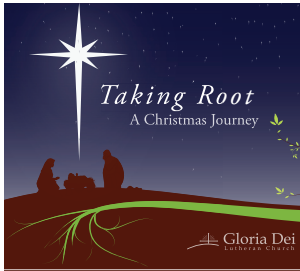
Prayer ministry team

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 has been written by the ministry staff.

The audience will start in the Family Life Center where junior and senior high youth will begin

Christmas Caroling

**Saturday, Dec. 13 from 2-4 p.m.
Meal at 4:30 p.m.**

A great event for the entire family. Wrap the children up in warm clothes and travel with us to houses where we will spread our Christmas joy by singing. After we carol our way in the Urbandale vicinity, we will meet at church for chili and hot chocolate. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Phillips at 278-5544, ext. 204.



Cantata

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Trumpets heralding, voices caroling, lights twinkling, bells ringing, and angels in the air, surely the sounds of Christmas fill the air during this musical experience. The Christmas Cantata by the Gloria Dei music ministry is sure to be glorious this year. With an emphasis on the tune "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," we will focus on the birth of our newborn King in an uplifting and glorious celebration. Come warm your hearts by the glow of beloved Christmas carols, some wonderful holiday sounds and the fellowship of friends.

And of course, don't forget to invite your friends and family to this joyous event.

Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24

"What Story Are You Telling?" There are lots of stories to be told at Christmas time. Stories of family holidays or good times with friends are always cherished and remembered. Or maybe part of your family tradition is to read "The Night Before Christmas." But what about the real story, the true story of God becoming man? Is this the story we are passing to our children and grandchildren? Let's discover the true story of Christmas together at one of the following worship services:



H3 (Head, Heart and Hands) Christmas Eve at 4 p.m. in the Family Life Center

Traditional Christmas Eve at 4:30, 6 and 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Contemporary Christmas Eve at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center

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 week: 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, 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.

Welcome New Members!



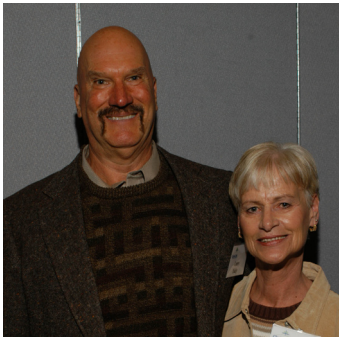
Mandy Baudler and Kenny Cooper



Jen and Dylan Boyles



Brad and Sarah Deich



Lawrence and Maggie Eddy



Mark W. Greene



Jeff and Jeni Hanselman



Bryce Holmes and Kristin Ziegler



Bill Horstman and Jody Schroeder



Sue and Bill Jesse

New Members

We welcome our newest members to Gloria Dei. We are thankful for each of their lives. We pray that their experiences at Gloria Dei will enrich their relationships with Christ.



Angie Jilek



Kelly and Ron Klein



Keith Kombrink, Sr.



Linda Mosier



Terry and Mark Rowley



Diane and John Schmidt



Dan, Jill and Andrew Schultz



Barbara Walker and Curt Parrott

Children's Ministry Updates

Christmas Journey Rehearsals

We will not meet on Sunday, Nov. 30. Happy Thanksgiving! We will have two remaining Christmas program rehearsals, Dec. 7 and 13. Please help your child learn their lines and songs by encouraging them to listen and sing the songs on the CD. All lines should be memorized by the Dec. 7 rehearsal. Grades K-2 and grades 3-5 will extend their rehearsal time to 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 7 and Dec. 13. If you have signed up to help with the Christmas program, please attend these two rehearsals! We need everyone! We will be costuming the kids, lining them up, and setting the stage.

Details of the Christmas Program on Dec. 14

All children in the 3 p.m. program should be at church at 2:45 p.m.; all children in the 5 p.m. program should be at church at 4:45 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Penny Schramm or DeAnn McCue in the church office at 276-1700 or by email: 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 the gingerbread tea display in the narthex. Questions? Contact DeAnn McCue at 276-1700.

Coin Collection Total

On Wednesday, Nov. 19, children brought in more than 34,000 pennies. Our total collection of all funds was \$554.82. All of the offering will go toward the Freedom for Youth Ministries in Des Moines.

Dates To Remember:

- 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,

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)

LWML

Rebekah Circle will meet Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at the home of Lois Appelhons, 4519 96th St, Urbandale. Please bring your item for the Kavanaugh house and an ornament for the exchange.

Naomi Circle will meet Thursday, Dec. 11 at 9:30 a.m. in rooms 131-33 for the Christmas brunch. Remember to bring your adopt-a-family gift.

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

A special thank you to Pastor Burcham, Pastor Phillips and Pastor Meyer for their support to my wife Karen, her family and me during her two-year battle with breast cancer and her funeral service. The outpouring of prayers, phone calls, cards, food, flowers and friendship from the congregation has touched our hearts deeply. We know Karen is safe in our Savior's arms and her memories will remain to comfort all.

God's blessings to our Gloria Dei family.
Kevin Andresen

growyieldminister

GUM

gloriadeiyouthministry

luke 9:23

Junior High Grades 6-8**Service and Mission Hours**

Sign up at the youth bulletin board today for service and mission hours.

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 next Sunday for Castaway at 9:20 or 10:50 a.m. in the Youth Center.

Main Topic: "Open House"

Nov. 30: No Castaway
Dec. 7: Social Life
Dec. 14: Private Life

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. Pizza will be available for \$1 per slice.

Mission Trip

July 11-18, 2009, 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.

Senior High Grades 9-12**Sunday Bible Study**

Join us next Sunday from 9-10 a.m. in room 136-38. No class on Nov. 30.

Wednesday: The Point

Dec. 3: Words
Dec. 10: But Everyone Else is Doing It!
Dec. 17: White Elephant Christmas Party
Dec. 24: No Point
Dec. 31: No Point-Happy New Year!

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. Hamburgers will be served for dinner. 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, Dec. 7 from 12-2 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13 from 12-1 p.m.
Set Construction:
Sunday, Dec. 7 from 12-3 p.m.
Saturday Dec. 13 from 12-3 p.m.

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

Week of Nov. 29-Dec. 5, 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. Co-ed Volleyball
- 6:30 p.m. SPI Mat Meeting

Wednesday, December 3

- 10:00 a.m. Pastor Meyer'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 – Senior 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. Homeschool 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. Junior High Café 923

Outpouring of Love:

Please note: Our business manger was out of the office last week; therefore, the offering numbers will not be available until next week.

| Worship Service | Attendance | Communion |
|------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Northwind | 165 | 117 |
| 7:45 a.m. | 137 | |
| 9 a.m. (Sanctuary) | 360 | |
| 9 a.m. (FLC) | 125 | 56 |
| 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) | 328 | |
| | 1115 | 173 |

Week of Dec. 6-13, 2008

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
 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting

Sunday, December 7

7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
 7:45 a.m. Naomi Bake Sale
 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. 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 with Communion
 10:30 a.m. Life and Ministry of the Messiah
 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
 3:00 p.m. Urbandale HS Winter Choral Concert
 5:30 p.m. Senior High Café 923
 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Monday, December 8

3:15 p.m. UHS Private Instrumental Instruction
 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
 6:00 p.m. Preschool Faculty Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Beginning Ballet
 6:00 p.m. Creative Dance
 6:30 p.m. Women's Connection
 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball
 6:45 p.m. Creative Dance Two

Tuesday, December 9

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
 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community
 6:00 p.m. Governing Board
 6:30 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball
 7:30 p.m. Thrivent Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 10

10:00 a.m. Pastor Meyer's Bible Study
 5:15 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal
 5:30 p.m. M and M's Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. 6-8 Grade Small Group & Confirmation
 6:00 p.m. Faith Alive/Music Alive
 6:00 p.m. The Point – Senior High

Thursday, December 11

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
 9:00 a.m. Facilities Focus Meeting
 9:00 a.m. Naomi Circle Christmas Party
 10:00 a.m. Sewing Club
 2:00 p.m. Homeschool Music
 4:00 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Home Game
 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community
 6:30 p.m. Advent Service

Friday, December 12

8:00 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
 8:00 a.m. Giving Tree Gift Set-Up

Saturday, December 13

9:00 a.m. Giving Tree Gift Pick-up
 11:30 a.m. Christmas Program Rehearsal
 12:00 p.m. Christmas Program Set Building
 2:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling
 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Rehearsal
 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service with Communion
 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. |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Preschool | 6 | 27 | 25 |
| Elementary | 11 | 70 | 48 |
| Total Children | 17 | 97 | 73 |

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: No Grace Place today

Grace Place - preschool and elementary children: We offer educational opportunities for children ages 2 through grade 5 next 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: No Youth Activities today

Junior High: Castaway: For our junior high youth in grades 6-8, we have a high-energy educational time, Castaway, in the Youth Center next 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 next week.

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: Isaiah 55:1-6

"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of the peoples. Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations that do not know you will hasten to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor." Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

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