



The Light

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

Matthew 10:39

Pastor's Page ...

In just a few short weeks, youth from both Gloria Dei and Gold Hill will be filling a Suburban and trekking down to Denver, CO for a week of service projects, bonding time with other youth from all around the country, fun activities around the city, and time away to grow in and deepen their faith in God.

The theme for the week is: "Life does not always feel good, does it?" What that means is that sometimes we can get lonely or sad or depressed or hurt. Sometimes we don't want what we already have or have what we need. Sometimes things can get really incredibly hard for us. So, sometimes, we seek something to make life better. Something to make things good again.

These things could be materialistic, like fancy cars, bigger houses, or more money in our bank accounts. These things could be not materialistic, like power, fame, and increased social status. No matter what they could be, we see that which grants security in a moment, is just as fleeting as the wind.

Instead, as Christians, we are called to live a life in Christ, the One who was forsaken and stricken by all, and yet loved them until the end. The One who though he was God, he came not to be served but to serve. Jesus told his followers that there are a lot of things trying to hurt and destroy us, but from the very beginning, God intended for his creation to live abundant lives. Lives that are abundant with right relationships with God and with others.

And that's why God became incarnate in his son, Jesus Christ: to restore the abundant life we are intended for – not a luxury we hoard, but an abundance that we share with all.

And this sharing doesn't just happen when we go on servant trips to major metropolitan cities, but rather it should happen every single day. As Christians, we are called to this life of service, in our relationships in our families, in our workplaces, and in our interactions with strangers on a daily basis.

Is this a tough life, especially one that is so counter-cultural to what we see, hear, and experience out in daily life? Absolutely! This is why we need God's grace, God's Spirit to move and dwell in our lives. God's Spirit who comes to us in his holy Word and Sacraments. God's Spirit who makes each of us into a disciple. And God's Holy Spirit, who come what may in life, is with us and dwelling within us always and forever.

As you pray this month, I ask for your prayers for the youth, the chaperones, and for God's Holy Spirit to be with all during the week of June 18th – 24th, as hearts are changed, faith is grown or deepened, and Christ's love is shared with all.

Peace,
Pastor Martha

June
2017



ELCA



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Worship: 10:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GLORIA DEI

June 2-4 Montana SYNOD Assembly
June 4 9:30 Worship
June 7 7:00 pm Choir Practice
June 11 9:30 am Blessing of the Cycles
June 13 7:00 pm Church Council
June 14 7:00 pm Choir Practice
June 18 Father's Day
9:30 am Worship
June 18-24 Mission Trip
June 25 9:30 am Worship



SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY TEXTS

June 3

Exodus 19: 1-9
Psalm 33:12-22
Romans 8:14-17, 22-27
John 7: 37-39

June 11

Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Mathew 28:16-20

June 25

Jeremiah 20: 7-13
Psalms 69: 7- 10 16-18
Romans 6 1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39



VBS with Gold Hill at Gold Hill this Year will be June 26th - June 29th Sign Up sheets are in the Narthex and leave the registration in the Church Office.

President Notes

Happy Spring, Church family! I have a couple items this month:

Over the last several months, our services have been blessed with beautiful violin music. Thanks to our accompanist Laurie Battle, Jeremiah Senner came to us out of the blue and has added so much to our worship experience. Jeremiah's work schedule may not allow him to attend over the summer, but I hope we see him whenever he's available.

It's a worldly reality Gloria Dei and most churches face each year: as summer approaches, attendance (and giving) decline. As you travel, camp, and otherwise enjoy the summer months, please remember to keep up with your offering as you are able.

Just a quick refresher on the option of automatic giving. If you have online banking, you can have your offering sent directly to the church. Also, there is a program called Vanco that will set up a similar withdrawal. Forms and other information are available from the church office.

As I write this, I'm looking at six inches of May snow in my yard, but I have faith that summer will come to Butte one of these days!

In Christ,

Ross

SERVICE COMMITTEE PROJECTS



Gloria Dei has good news for those of you that don't like the hassle of writing checks or finding cash for your routine offerings. You now have the option of setting up a secure, electronic fund transfer (EFT) from your checking or savings account to Gloria Dei. You decide the amount and the day of withdrawal (or day of the week). What could be easier? Authorization forms are available in the Narthex.

Another option is to simply set an automatic payment through your bank. To make that happen, just contact your bank and set up the payment.

Besides providing a convenience for donors, the church council is hopeful that the electronic giving program will provide consistent giving throughout the year whether you're on vacation, a snowbird or just unable to attend church.

Please think about this opportunity and contact the church office for an authorization form if this method of giving appeals to you!

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

The Stewardship Committee met Wednesday, May 17 for lunch. Present were Bob Green, Marilyn Krause, Pastor Martha, Janel Morgan, Pete Madison, and Susanne and Ross Whelchel.

The committee heartily thanked Janel and Sunvee Rosenleaf for agreeing to take over the chairmanship of the October Fundraising Dinner. The goal of raising funds for the kitchen countertop replacement was discussed. Janel had some questions about the date (tentatively October 12) and the auctions. Marilyn, Susanne, Janel, and Sunvee will meet later to go over more planning details. **As we do every year, we place a great deal of the success of the dinner on the willingness of the congregation to sponsor tables.** We hope that people will consider sponsoring a table for the upcoming auction.

Also talked over was the current budget shortfall. Ross agreed to do a temple talk on Sunday, May 21 to bring this to the congregation's attention. We also agreed to continue to promote electronic giving through VANCO or through one's bank, as summer is a time when many are out of town. Details about electronic giving are available from any Stewardship Committee member or from the church office.

The committee will not meet again until Wednesday, August 30 at noon in the library, so we briefly discussed plans for Consecration Sunday on November 19. We will try a different approach to request "Time and Talents" information and also distribute pledge cards that Sunday. Three temple talks will lead up to Consecration Sunday, reminding everyone of the vital importance of "Estimates of Giving" to the 2018 budget process. We also decided to host a brunch for the congregation on Consecration Sunday rather than a lunch as we have in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Whelchel, Chair





June WELCA Cookies

Betty McDaniel
Stephanie Stodden
Vonnie Nuthak

WELCA doesn't have formal meetings during the summer (we'll start again in September), but there is still activity that takes place so please mark your calendars! WELCA is slated to be coffee hostess on Father's Day, June 18. If you can provide cookies, fruit, or cheese and crackers please let Marilyn know. Her phone is 490-7486 and email is marilyn.krause@gmail.com.

Please join us August 10 for the annual WELCA potluck picnic. It will be in Krause's backyard, 2817 Hannibal Street. More info to come on that event later this summer.

At our May meeting, we discussed adopting a child through a charitable organization to help provide food, clothing, or possibly education opportunities. Think and pray about that possibility so that in September we can discuss and make a decision. Have a GREAT summer!

Gloria Dei's week up at FLBC this summer will be: July 30th – August 4th.

The earlier that you sign up for camp, the cheaper that it will be.

Gloria Dei will be offering camperships to all those in need of financial assistance for camp.



Please help me to fill our bag!!! Bags maybe filled many things, such as: cleaning supplies (brooms, dustpans, cleaning wipes); arts and craft supplies (paint color crayons, old candles, white shirts and socks for tie- dying); office supplies (printer paper, stamps, envelopes); kitchen items (pot holders, aprons, paper towels, Ziploc bags, utensils); and maintenance items (rakes shovels, hammers, nails, screwdrivers).

These are just a few examples of how we can fill the BAG OF BLESSINGS TO BENEFIT FLBC.

I am a member of the FLBC Board, serving as the representative for the Great Divide Cluster. I want to thank you for your support of this important ministry.

Bob Bentley