



The Light

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church

"...and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." Matthew 10:38-39

Pastor's Page ...

The Youth Servant Trip to Denver is officially in the books. The rental car has been returned. The post-trip laundry has been done. And we're all finally back on a normal sleeping schedule which includes sleeping in actual beds, instead of air mattresses on a church basement floor.

Reflecting back on our time in the Mile-High City, the themes of discipleship are of course very prevalent. More than just the work that goes into painting houses, planting trees, picking up brush and what-not out in the 95+ degree heat, the very action of giving of one's time and effort in order to help out a perfect stranger all stuck out to me.

After all, these were by no means "clean places" in which we visited or "clean people" which we interacted with, or even familiar places to any of us who have been to Denver before. And have you ever tried to plant a tree in Colorado? It's much like trying to do it around here, where the soil is bone-dry and full of large rocks, no matter how deep you dig the hole.

Needless to say, the work was hard, and most times it was not fun or joyful or any of the things in which you might envision when you think of service for someone else. There's certainly no glory or power which comes from such service, aside from a simple "thank you" or maybe a home-cooked meal of chicken mole and popsicles. How counter-cultural such service, such discipleship is to the outside world. Doing something just for the sake of helping another, without any thought or need for payment or gift or anything.

Such is the road of discipleship. It is a costly road for the One who gave his life for it in order that we may have ours. And it is costly for us in the sense that we give up our preconceived notions of how the world should operate and instead we give, and we give, and we give.

And when we've given all that we can, we return to the source of our life and health and salvation. We return to Christ, who is the resurrection and the life, and we receive him in the word and sacraments. We receive nourishment for discipleship and then we go back out again, to serve and love as each of us have been loved and served by God.

Service that doesn't have to start on a servant-trip, but rather starts in the home. Among the people whom you are connected with either by blood or by marriage. And then it filters out into the community, into the church, into all those whom you run into throughout the course of your days and your weeks. And then we come back again, to Christ, who is our source of life and we receive again and again and again as the cycle continues.

This discipleship in which we are each called into is hard, messy, and at times frustrating work. And, yet, such service in Christ, promises a life in which we could never find or get on our own. The gift of life in Christ is that it's enough to propel us further into service for others, and even, dare I say, raise us from the dead.

Peace,
Pastor Martha

July
2017



ELCA



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Worship: 9:30

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GLORIA DEI

July 2nd - 9:30 AM Worship
July 9th - 9:30 AM Worship
July 10th - 7 PM Endowment Meeting
July 11th - 7 PM Church Council
July 12th - 10AM Sandwich Ministry - 30 Lunches
July 16th - 9:30 AM Worship
July 20th - 6:30PM Summer Midweek Worship
July 22nd - Minnesota Youth Group Overnight
July 23rd - 9:30 Worship
July 24th - 10am Sandwich Ministry- 60 Lunches
July 30th - 9:30 Worship
July 30th - Aug. 4th GDLC/Gold Hill Flathead Lake Bible
Camp Week



SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY TEXTS

July 2, 2017
Jeremiah 28:5-9
Psalm 89:1-4
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

July 9, 2017
Zechariah 9:9-12
Psalm 145:8-14
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16, 2017
Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23, 2017
Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 86:11-17
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



President Notes

I like crossword puzzles and most other word games. Oddball definitions and hidden meanings are fun for me (is that weird?) so this month I thought I'd share this.

JULY:

J is for Jesus—the right answer to every Sunday school question, right?

U is for Understanding—God came to earth in human form to live and die like one of us

L is for Life—the eternal kind. After living and dying among us He rose from the dead, redeeming us from our own sinful death.

Y is for you—and me and all of us. These are frightening times, and it gives me comfort to know that all my sins are forgiven, that there is a plan, and that I am free to spread the Good News no matter what else is going on around me.

I hope your summer is going well!

Ross

Even though we are taking a break from monthly meetings, the work of WELCA continues in various ways throughout the summer from Sunday coffee fellowship, cookies for the nursing homes and women sewing, crocheting or knitting away the dog days of summer. Our next gathering will be the **annual WELCA picnic** scheduled for **Thursday, August 10 at 5:30 p.m. in Krause's backyard, 2817 Hannibal Street**. Plates, utensils and beverages will be provided and food is potluck. Looking forward to seeing you there and if you have questions, Marilyn's cell # is 490-7486.

WELCA cookies for the nursing homes are due on July 10. Scheduled for July are: Pat Sanders, Midge Bentley, and Susanne Whelchel. Thanks ladies!

SERVICE COMMITTEE PROJECTS



Because the future is in your hands...your congregation's ongoing life depends on your generosity, stewardship, and **readiness to honor your history.**"—stewardshipforum.com
As the Stewardship committee has met/continues to meet about November's Consecration Sunday, one angle we haven't considered yet is **honoring our history.** I know I haven't learned nearly as much as I'd like to about the history of Gloria Dei. Maybe it's old news to some of you, but I think there may be enough "newcomers" such as myself to make it worthwhile.

The purpose of honoring our history would be to look to the future, as Ross mentioned in his temple talk in May. If we become bogged down in a "those-were-the-good-old-days" mentality, the emphasis on our vital history could be counterproductive. If we look back with the idea that we will continue to make ours a culture of generosity, then we can do more than "keep the lights on;" we will realize our dreams and values!

I am looking for ideas for "Honoring Our History" Consecration Sunday; please contact me at 406-391-4829 or rossw@bresnan.net with your input. Thank you and God bless Gloria Dei!

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

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

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

Youth Service Trip to Denver



Anna Bentley	July 1 st
Paula Morgan	July 1 st
Jacob Trudnowski	July 1 st
Brandon Amundson	July 2 nd
Jack Hendrickson	July 6 th
Ross Whelchel	July 6 th
Andrew Arntson	July 7 th
Karen Andreas	July 8 th
Patty Ferguson	July 8 th
Bob Green	July 11 th
Erin Garlinghouse	July 13 th
Judy Hendrickson	July 14 th
Bob Bentley, Jr.	July 17 th
Chris Heiland	July 17 th
Parker Annarose Lee	July 17 th
Janel Morgan	July 19 th
Mitch Rosa	July 19 th
Lynn Nielsen	July 20 th
Dennis Marjamaa	July 23 rd
Tyler Stodden	July 24 th
Jodi Burroughs	July 26 th
Nancy Nilson	July 26 th
Dottie Heath	July 29 th
Jenny Eva	July 30 th



Ed & Kathleen Scott	July 23 rd
Alan & Cortney Franklin	July 24 th
Darrell & Betty McDaniel	July 27 th
Dan & Diana Trudnowski	July 27 th
Leo & Dottie Heath	July 29 th
Don & Mavis Bentley	July 30 th

