

Glory News

June - July
2024

Contents

A Word from the Bridge Pastor	1
Notes from the President	2
Evangelism & Stewardship.....	3
Sharing is Caring.....	4
Prayer Concerns.....	4
BibleQue	5
Thank You	5
Rummage Sale Report .	5
Volunteers	6
Game Night	6
Lease Update	6
June Celebrations	7
Men's Breakfast	7
Bible Study	7
Attendance And Offering	8
Sunday Scriptures	8

The Word from the Bridge Pastor

“Train yourself in godliness, for, while physical training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and struggle, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially those who believe.” (1 Timothy 4:7b-10).

A couple of years ago I was getting really out of shape. I knew that I needed to exercise, and at my wife Sara’s persistent urging I enrolled in a fitness class at the YWCA. For twelve weeks, twice a week, I met with a fitness trainer and the rest of the class.

Initially, I felt conspicuous finding myself in such a group. But one thing quickly became clear. All of us needed to be there. We were all out of shape and it was affecting our lives. The trainer showed us a series of exercises each day, which all felt extremely awkward doing, and looked even more awkward. But being in a group made me feel much less conspicuous. We all started small, encouraged each other, and called each other to task. By the end of the time I knew some gym people, I felt like I had some idea of what I was doing, and felt as if I belonged there. I was also more fit, knew I felt better, and sometimes even looked forward to the gym. With that beginning I continued working out with whoever was there when I showed up. In time I mentioned my workouts in passing to a friend, and he asked me if I would help him get started. I invited him to come with me, and soon the gym was a place he felt good about himself and at home.

I think this is what Paul is getting at in his first letter to the younger Timothy, when he says, *“Train yourself in godliness.”* When we exercise some measure of discipline to our spiritual life it can be that part of our lives where we experience harmony and satisfaction no matter what goes on around us, and what’s more a part of our life that begins now and will continue in God’s presence after this life is over.

The concept is simple enough — *“Just Do It”* — but the whole matter seems intimidating, not least admitting our unfaithfulness. We can leave our spiritual stagnation unaddressed, but I urge you to enrolled in the spiritual fitness class of your choice, whether it is Bible Study, hymn singing, worship, volunteering, or prayer. You may find yourself out of your familiar, comfort zone, but you will be among friends.

Initially, we may feel conspicuous, but it quickly becomes clear that we all need to be there. Most of us are spiritually out of shape, and it affects our lives. The exercises of prayer, reading scripture, mutual encouragement, Holy Communion, etc, may even feel awkward. But being in the company of believers will make us feel far less conspicuous. When we start small, encourage each other, and called each other to task we will grow in God’s presence. And soon we will all know that we belong among God’s people, in his presence. We will feel more hopeful, have improved resources for dealing with the struggles of daily life, and look forward to coming into God’s presence in prayer, worship, and service. In time we may mention our faith in passing to a friend and they may ask if we will help them get started, and soon God’s Holy Church and people can be a place where more and more folks feel at home and good about themselves and the God who loves us all.

Peace,



Notes from the President

Greetings my friends and family. We have begun and are continuing on our journey together maintaining and creating our future in Christ and our church home. The big and little changes have begun in a BIG fashion. Prep for and holding multiple Rummage Sales, have led to sorting, boxing up, donating, and throwing out several rooms full of stuff from upstairs. We've also cleared out part of the storage area and rooms in the Social Hall in preparation for our potential lease. We are probably about half done in doing this essential work. **YOU** have worked Valiantly and Tirelessly in your efforts and they are *greatly appreciated*. You know how we all accumulate many things over the years in our lives, and periodically do a downsizing in our own homes. Well in some parts of our church there is 60+ years of stuff to sort and we will be moving a great many boxes to the benches in the Social Hall to continue to sort etc., as we need to finish clearing out the Education Wing.

We need to have some fun along the way to keep our spirits and energy up. Pastor's first Bible-Que started us off this week and I am thinking a few afternoon events are just what the doctor ordered. We can do Saturday afternoons and/or Sunday's after church for a few hours. We have people in our congregation who love to play games. board games, card games, Dominos, Poker/Texas Hold'em, BINGO, Yahtzee, Pinochle, Three and Company, SkipBo etc. The list is nearly endless. Tables can be set up for different games and feel free to move around. How about towards the end of June - the 29th or 30th to kick off the summer fun? I will put a note on the bulletin board, mark which date you would prefer and we'll go from there.

Discussions continue with our broker, Bruce Barker, and Life Center and Life Christian Academy. We are all working on addendums to the original lease of must haves as we see them. Your Council members continue to work on issues and we have sent Bruce our list of items to address and add anything as it may come up. We are anticipating the brokers going over the proposed addendums. I know Pastor and I have had multiple discussions with Bruce, in person, via phone, text and email. We will be glad to discuss this with you and can set up a time after church to do this or another time.

We can always use contributions/contributors to the Newsletters - share your time and talent. Tell stories, submit poems, submit some Christian cartoons, share an idea for us to try. Variety is the spice of life. This is a gentle reminder that we continue to need people to be Lectors and do the readings, and counters to help do the posting of our tithes for deposit and sending to our Financial Executive. The counters that have already volunteered can tell you it's not difficult. Like anything new you just have to learn it. Thanks everyone for your consideration.

Joyfully and Thankfully,

Vickie

Evangelism and Stewardship

Love Notes

The Gloria Dei building that has served our spiritual needs, and been the center of our spiritual life IS STILL HERE. The joys and sorrows of family events, baptisms, weddings and funerals, are all major parts of life as Christians. Here, we have studied God's Word, offered Him our prayers and praise in worship, and received our Lord's very Body and Blood through the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

However, in what appeared like a few moments, all that seemed to change. Anger and confusion with no place to put them. Questions which had no answers. Isaiah speaks about "grass withering" where there is nothing left. Some of us felt like that.

Realization sets in, all of a sudden you realize that our building still stands. The Word of God is still preached. We are still able to meet with supporting fellowship and God is ever present here!

We have suffered a loss in a way. What hope, what comfort is there for us? The Bible is full of hope, here is one. "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him..." (Isaiah). So where is the comfort? Loss of a pastor, an aging building and congregation? Sounds negative to me. That cannot be, as God is not negative, therefore we must re-think some of the words - "in everything" and "works for good." We have been doing that over many months. Thoughts, a lot of prayers, and some arguing. The task is great but only because we are charged with a directive from God about being good stewards of our assets in the process of spiritual advancement for ourselves, and, any who would hear our messages of the power and glory of God. In essence we are an infant church with traditions of yore. Oliver Lodge tells us, "Never throw away hastily any old faith, tradition or convention. They may require modification, but they are the result of the experience of many generations."

It is true that prayer brings the omnipotent God to work for us. Prayer does change things. We need to do our part in this 'church rebuilding'. God said to Moses, "Why do you cry for me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward." (Exodus 14) God is not going to do our walking for us; He has given us two legs and two hands and intellect enough to do the job. Trusting in God for direction, we are able to go forward. "God gives every bird its food; but He does not throw it in the nest." (*Hilland*)

Chosen by God for this new life of love in deciding how best to serve our God, put on your best wardrobe: Compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, and discipline. Be even-tempered, especially when others become agitated; this is a must: forgive the offense quickly. It is your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it. Let every detail in your life be done in the name of Jesus, thanking God the father every step of the way while working toward construction of a church that will tell the story of Jesus to all who would enter.

May we be grateful for the opportunity to further our spiritual growth.

Judy Mandt

Evangelism and Stewardship *(cont.)*

Sharing is Caring – Food and Clothing Bank

Thank you to everyone who participated in this ministry. Please remember to donate some food items (or money) so our shelves can be filled. We serve whoever comes to our door with compassion. Story from a Lutheran digest: The father was waiting at the bus stop for his son, coming home after 12 years in the city. He recalled the very few details he had. The condo turned into apartments, raised rent, thievery, and finally the building set on fire with his remaining goods inside. Overnight staying at costly motels, then cheap rooms where his belongings were often stolen; working daily but the wage did not pay for any of the services and finally loss of his long time held job. He was homeless. A missionary found him and in conversation they shared, the son was given a bus ticket home. The father sees the passengers depart from the bus, but no son. The only person was a straggly haired, extremely thin person wearing clean but shabby clothing. Father gave a quick blessing to him, continued looking for his son. It was then he realized that this lonely figure was HIS SON. The true story was long, so I paraphrased it. Sometimes it is hard to remember that the homeless belong to someone, and bad things just happen.

Judy Mandt



PRAY FOR	CONTACT	REASON FOR PRAYER REQUEST
Norma Shaw	Judy Mandt	Prays to combat spiritual affliction
Jan Truax	Vickie McDougall	Respiratory distress
Terry & Gail Larson	Gloria Dei LC	Comfort & Strength in Longterm Care
Dottie Schwartz	Stuart Schwartz	Recovery & rehabilitation from illness
Blair Nelson	Stuart Schwartz	Needs to be in Assisted Living Community
Dave Buller	Karen Lundquist	Alzheimer's Disease
Sheldon Arkin	Karen Lundquist	Cancer Treatment
Ian Powell	Karen Lundquist	Gainful employment follow college graduation



Hold out Wednesday evenings this summer for 10 weeks of Food, Fellowship & Study. Pastor Schier-Hanson will lead a Barbeque Bible study (abbr: BibleQue) on Wednesday evenings from June 12th until August 21st. The dinner bell rings at 6:30 for a meal of barbeque (Pastor purchases and prepares the meat for the grill), and attendees bring pot-luck side dishes and desserts to share. We will be viewing the first season of the acclaimed series "the Chosen" about the life of Christ, and looking at the biblical accounts it portrays. The Chosen is the highest crowd-funded TV series or film project of all time, and portrays Jesus through the eyes of those who met him. Fourteen people participated on the first Wednesday. We Hope you can join us as well. Please RSVP each week so we can buy enough meat to barbeque.



Many Thanks to:

Vickie McDougall, Judy Mandt(+ Stacey and Jennifer), Denise Powell, Darlene Olson, Sally Norlin, Karen Lundquist, Beth Parsons, Duane Dotich, Pastor S-H for doing everything necessary to make the four Rummage sales such a success.

Special Thanks to Sally Norlin, Karen Lundquist, Darlene Olson, Beth Parson, Vickie McDougall for cleaning sorting and packing the upstairs and downstairs of the Ed Wing.

Sara and Sophia Schier-Hanson for single-handedly pulling all the weeds in Gloria Dei's garden beds, planting flowers and putting down more than a yard of mulch to keep the weeds under control. It looks beautiful.

Judy Mandt for her continuing care for the needy in our community and for continuing to pack up the all the items upstairs, and finding ministries that can use the clothing and other items.

Duane Dotlich for working on the blackberry vines and picking up trash outside.

Pastor Schier-Hanson for repairing the leaking toilets in the restrooms; our water bills will definitely be lower..

Karen Lundquist for providing meals for each day of the Rummage sale, during all the days of preparation, and for the meal at our May 26th special congregational meeting.

Thank You

Rummage Sale Report

The Rummage sale was a huge success. Not only did our fourth and final day sale raise an additional \$1035.00, it also brought our total revenue for the rummage sale for the church's general fund to \$3641.47; an amount of clothes, odds and ends, furniture, electronic equipment & books also left the building from both the upstairs and the downstairs. Many thanks to the volunteers, whose dedication and persistence made the rummage sale such a success, and helped tremendously in emptying out the upstairs of the Education Wing. There's still plenty to do, so think about helping with the sorting & packing.



Sunday Volunteers

Lectors

6-2 Terry Larson
 6-9 Denise Powell
 6-16 April Berg
 6-23 Vickie McDougall
 6-30 Stuart Schwartz

Sign Up Sheets for all the available slots are on the bulletin board next to the interior office windows.

*Please lend a hand.
 Many hands make light work.*

Counter 1

6-2 Beth Parsons
 6-9 _____
 6-16 Beth Parsons
 6-23 Vickie McDougall
 6-30 _____

Counter 2

Terry Larson
 Terry Larson
 Terry Larson
 Terry Larson
 Terry Larson

Gloria Dei Game & Fellowship Night

It's time to have some fun. Responses to the question of when to host a congregational game night have unanimously settled on Saturday, June 29th beginning at 11:30am. Refreshments and tables will be provided for a night of playing the game of your choice; don't forget to bring the game you want to play. Cards, Pinnocchle, Scrabble, monopoly, backgammon, Uno, Skipbo; you name the game and they'll be a time to play.

We'd love to have as much feedback and input as people are willing to offer. If you have any questions about or suggestions for the evening, speak to Council President Vickie McDougall or any member of the church council.

We really hope that people will take the time to kick back, relax and enjoy an evening of fun.

Proposed Lease Agreement (reprinted from May)

Bruce Barker, our commercial broker, has presented a draft lease document for our review. The council received copies of the document for consideration, comments, suggestions etc. The document details the terms of the lease, specific requirements for both parties, timelines, use agreements and much more. There are 37 pages and a significant amount is "Boiler Plate", and used in standard leases. However, each detail must be evaluated and any questions or concerns addressed. Once we have the final version of the lease, we will have our Property Attorney's Office review and provide a response prior to signing the lease. The basics of the lease are:

- \$8,000 a month for the entire Education Wing of our building, which encompasses both the upstairs and downstairs, which includes the kitchen, and social hall. We have verbally been told we can use the kitchen and social hall on Sunday's and for Advent and Lent services and soup suppers. We have asked for that confirmation in writing, which may require an addendum to the lease document.
- 1st term of lease is five years from commencement with an option for 2 more five year leases. Commencement date is still being discussed.

We have also verbally been told the security at Life Center will also patrol our property and provide the landscaping maintenance for the entire Gloria dei campus. We have also sent a question about wear and tear on parking lot during construction, and potential problems with only one way in and out drop off/pick up area on the eastside etc. We will update everyone as new information from Bruce is received and or new questions come from other members. You can email the church office at gloriadeilutherantacoma@gmail.com, call and leave a message on the church phone or drop the question off at church. Pastor is around quite a bit, there is usually some folks there on Wednesdays from 2:00 to 5:00 and Judy is there on Thursdays and Fridays from 1:00 to 3:00. If you want a paper copy of the lease document, please let Pastor or Vickie know and they will get you one.

June Celebrations

Birthdays

15th Jan Truax
22nd Gail Larson

Anniversaries

3rd Terry & Gail Larson
4th Keith & Betty Gross
8th Duane & Carol Dotlich



GDLC MEN'S BREAKFAST

GET CONNECTED WITH BROTHERS IN CHRIST
SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH at 8:05 AM

BRING A FRIEND!

Men's Breakfast meets on the last Saturday of the month,
June 29th, at 8:05 a.m. Join us for fellowship & devotions at
Ben Dews Restaurant at 6501 6th Ave, Tacoma.
All men of Gloria Dei and their guests are invited to attend.

Bible Study

Thursday Gospel of Matthew Bible Study

The focus of our study is taken from the scriptures from the Gospel of Matthew. Understanding the context and background of these teachings really enhances the richness of our faith. The Thursday Bible Study gathers at 2:30 pm in the Fireside Room; bring your Bible.



Attendance, Offerings & Scriptures

For May 2024

May Income:

Reg. Income \$ 9,028.29

Estate Income \$ 2,725.10

Total Income: \$ 11,753.39

May Expenses: \$ 11,877.95
(\$ 124.56)



May Sunday Attendance:

In-Person Attendance [] *Live stream* ()

5/05: 28 [22](6) 5/12: 21 [14](7)

5/19: 27 [20](7) 5/26: 26 [20](6)

May Average Attendance: 26 In-Person [19] Live Stream (7)

Prepare for Sundays by Reading the Scriptures

June 2nd — The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 5:12-15 / Psalm 81:1-10 / 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 / Mark 2:23

June 9th — The Third Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 3:8-15 / Psalm 130 / 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 / Mark 3:20-35

June 16th — The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 17:22-24 / Psalm 92:1-4,12-15 / 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 / Mark 2:23

June 23rd — The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-11 / Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 / 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 / Mark 4:35-41

June 30th — The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 3:22-33 / Psalm 30 / 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 / Mark 5:21-43

July 7th — The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 2:1-15 / Psalm 123 / 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 / Mark 6:1-13

July 14th — The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-15 / Psalm 85:8-13 / Ephesians 1:3-14 / Mark 6:14-29

July 21st — The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:1-6 / Psalm 23 / Ephesians 2:11-22 / Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28th — The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 4:42-44 / Psalm 145:10-18 / Ephesians 3:14-21 / John 6:1-21

3315 South 19th Street
Tacoma WA 98405-1902
(253) 383-5515

GLORY NEWS

GLORIA DEI
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

June - July 2024

10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service is offered in-person

&

Livestream -on our website: gloriadeilutherantacoma.org

(253) 383-5515

E-mail: gloriadeilutherantacoma@gmail.com

Website: gloriadeilutherantacoma.org

Church Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday 12—4:30pm

Gloria Dei Staff:

PASTOR: Rev. John Schier-Hanson, Bridge Pastor

ORGANIST: Marti Hammel

FINANCIAL EXECUTIVE / BULLETIN SECRETARY: Stefanie DeZarn

CUSTODIAN: Bobby Ledford

*"Gloria Dei Lutheran Church rejoices in Jesus as Lord.
We are a Christian Family called to Share God's Word, Invite, Welcome,
and Serve all People; Nurture Personal Faith and Spiritual Growth."*