



THE REFLECTOR

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, ELCA

December 2023

Worship Times

Saturdays
5:30 pm

Sundays
10:00 am

Youth Bake Sale Fundraiser December 9 & 10



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You Are Invited to Celebrate the Birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.



Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 10, 10:00 am

Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24

Candlelight Worship: 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm

Holy Communion Service: 11:00 pm

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 31, 10:00 am

No Sunday School

Sundays, December 17, 24 or 31

No SALT

Sundays, December 24 or 31

No Worship Service

Saturday, December 23

Monday, December 25

Saturday, December 30

Catch the Spirit of Christmas

In the "busy-ness" of Christmas, *Catch the Christmas Spirit* finds your children taking time out to read the Christmas story. As they read, the story comes to life around them. Your kids will clap for joy, sing the blues with the shepherds, and make room for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Join us on Sunday, December 10, for the children's Christmas program at 10:00 am.



Can you help at Christmas Eve Worship?

If you and your family will be home for the holidays, please consider helping as an usher or lector at the Christmas Eve Candlelight services. Four ushers and one lector are needed at both the 4:00 and 5:30 pm services. Sign up on the bulletin board or call the church office.

Reflector Changes

We hope you are receiving this issue of the Reflector via our Email Blast system. This change was done to save postage and paper costs. The Reflector can also be found on our website, gloriadelutheran.org, and printed copies will be available at church. If someone tells you they are not receiving the Reflector, please advise them of these changes.

Thoughts from Pastor Bryant

For the past seventeen years, there has been a steady presence at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Yes, I'm talking about the Holy Spirit, but we all know the Spirit has been working through one particular individual to keep things moving forward during that time, and that's our beloved office coordinator, Deb Kaardal. She's been talking about it with me (threatening it?) for a while, but has now officially submitted her resignation to the church council and announced her retirement, effective December 15.

When I arrived as Gloria Dei's new "lead" pastor in September 2015, with all of seven years' experience at the age of 33, I wasn't quite sure how I would go about "leading" our office staff. I put those words in quotation marks, because after eight years, I can confidently say that I've never led our office staff. Instead, from the very start and every day since, I've been blessed to work alongside talented people who do their work well. Whatever success we've had over that time as a congregation has been thanks to our volunteers and staff, and Deb is certainly tied for first among those who have simply made all the difference in my own work as a pastor. She's taught me how to be a better communicator, how to be more organized, how to plan ahead every once in a while, and how valuable the people are who simply roll up their sleeves and get things done. We've worked together through crises large and small, in the midst of many changes in our lives and in the world. She's shown me grace when I've been late on deadlines (including the one for this Reflector article). She's kindly corrected me when I've been confused on details (again). She's made all of us in the office look much more proficient at our jobs than we sometimes are. We've worked together through lots of laughs, as well as some days of tears (mostly on the part of the pastors). She's been everything you could ask for in a co-worker and I can safely say she's had a profound impact on Gloria Dei and on my life. Even as someone who has lots of words (as Deb well knows from editing so many of the things I write), it's impossible for me to fully express how grateful I am for her. I suppose I will simply say, "Thank you, Deb, and God's blessings on your well-deserved retirement!"

Change usually brings a mixture of grief and anxiety, and that's certainly true of Deb's retirement. We have been working to make this time of transition go as smoothly and seamlessly as possible, but we know there will be challenges to overcome. Thank you for

your understanding and grace as we move forward, trying to replace the irreplaceable. It's appropriate that all of this is unfolding during Advent, since Advent is a time when we prepare for the biggest change of all: the arrival of God's kingdom in Christ. God's word reminds us that we are called to navigate even the most tumultuous times with faith and hope, trusting that whatever trials we face now are simply a prelude to the joy of receiving the fulfillment of God's promises. We are called to watch and keep awake, to work toward peace and justice, to generously share what has been entrusted to us, and to let faith cast out our fears. I'm certainly looking forward to a joyous Christmas celebration with you all. May you all receive the greatest gift again into your hearts and homes, knowing that you are loved by God and forgiven in Christ.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Bryant



Fear Not, A Savior is Born

Thoughts from Pastor Shannon

It is not often, I mention a particular person in my newsletter article, but this month I am taking that liberty. For those of you who do not know, our church's office manager, Deb Kaardal, has announced her retirement. After working here for 17 year in various roles, her last day in the church office will be on December 15. This has made the staff slightly anxious as we look toward the New Year and what will it look like in our day to day work without her. Deb has done a lot in her role at church. She makes Pastor Bryant and my job look easier. She helps fill the gaps we overlook. She coordinates schedules, been a confidant, and shares in many a laugh when times have been challenging. Good church workers are hard to come by and Deb no doubt has blessed us with her many talents and gifts over the years. We are all thankful for her and the ministry she has cared out. Thank you does not seem enough but all the same, THANK YOU, DEB! We are looking at recognizing her during worship on a Sunday morning in early 2024 and will let you know a date soon. In the meantime, I would encourage us all to send her a word of congratulations!

It is easy to feel overwhelmed and anxious when change is coming. Advent is a time we prepare for change to come into world as we remember the birth of God's son, Jesus. In many ways, we see these human emotions play out in the Christmas Story, especially in Joseph. Joseph often gets overlooked. After all, he does have a beautiful Magnificat to sing after an angel of the Lord visits him. He does not get to carry the child. Instead he is a calm and steady presence in the life of Mary and Jesus. In his fears, he continues to do the honorable thing and take Mary as his wife. He stands by her through the birth of Jesus in not such great circumstances. One can only imagine his own worries in the midst of preparing for his life to change.

Even as exciting as it is preparing for a new thing like retirement, a birth, or any celebration, it can be scary. The one consistent in our lives though through all of the changes, is Jesus. Immanuel, God with us. As we prepare to have Deb retire, as we make our way through the days of Advent and the excitement of Christmas, as we look toward the unknowns in 2024, may we be reminded of the truth that roots our lives no matter how we feel. Christ is indeed with us.

I love all Christmas songs but one that has pierced

my heart over the years is "O Little Town of Bethlehem". The last line of the hymn goes: "the hopes and fears of all the years, are met in thee tonight." Whether we are hopeful or fearful, Immanuel has come, let us wait then with great anticipation, to see what God is going to do next in our midst.



Pink Offering Envelopes

A few times a year, you find a pink envelope that says "WELCA" in your packet of offering envelopes. Any money you choose to donate to your Gloria Dei WELCA organization is put to good use. They may purchase a needed item for the kitchen, pay for the canteen meal at a blood drive, or buy supplies for funerals. Every year, they give money to Gloria Dei youth groups, church needs and charitable organizations in our community. Your donations are thoughtfully distributed where they are needed most.

Please consider placing a donation in the pink envelope to support the works of WELCA. You can find out all about what WELCA does at Gloria Dei by picking up a copy of the 2024 Handbook from the church office. Ladies, please consider joining one of the many areas of ministry listed in that book. *FYI: All women of Gloria Dei are automatically members of WELCA.*

Member Information

Adieu!

*Serving With A
Joyful Heart*



Some of you may have heard that I am retiring as of December 15 after 17 years as your Volunteer/Office Coordinator. I will miss coming to work each week and working and laughing with all of you and with Pr. Bryant, Pr. Shannon & Michelle. We are not moving out of town, so I will be around and I plan to do some volunteering here of my own.

Michelle will be taking on a lot of new responsibilities and I know you will show her the kindness and patience you have shown me. *(Please see page 8 for a most urgent need.)*

I am going to miss my interactions with the youth of our congregation. We have an awesome group of kids here.

Thank you for all of the memories, friendship and support. I feel very blessed to have worked here with all of you.

Deb Kaardal

WOW Christmas Meal

The WOW Team will be serving a Christmas meal on Wednesday, December 13, from 5:15—6:15 pm.

Menu is turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, relish tray, rolls, cake & ice cream.

We ask that you please sign up ahead of time for this meal so we know how much to prepare.

All proceeds from the Christmas meal will go into the Good Samaritan Fund at Gloria Dei.



WOW will be serving pizza on December 20 before breaking for the holidays. Help is needed to serve and clean up.

Nominating Committee Seeks to Fill Final Spots!

The Nominating Committee has almost completed their work, but are still looking for a few more members to join a committee. Here are the committees looking for people:

Congregational Life: 1 open seat

Discipleship: 2 open seats

Spiritual Formation: 2 open seats

Worship: 3 open seats

Feel the call to serve? Give the church office a call if you'd like to serve or need more information.

Salvation Army Seeking Holiday Ringers

The Redwood County Salvation Army is raising money to fight poverty and give hope to people in Redwood County. You can help by volunteering to ring the kettle bell at one of their 3 Redwood Falls locations — Tersteegs, Walmart or Runnings. Volunteers are the difference between an empty kettle and one that raises about \$30 an hour.

Contact Chad Kamolz at 507-430-4235; call or text 507-709-0140; or email lorio@unitedcapmn.org. See posters on our bulletin boards for more information.

All money raised stays local and helps with utilities, shelter for homeless, rent assistance and work related transportation. Gloria Dei does refer people to this fund and as it is managed by United Community Action, they can refer people to other programs or funding as available.



If you would like to make a donation, mail to:
Redwood County Salvation Army
%UCAP
164 E 2nd St
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

Member Information



Help Achieve Goal!

Over the last two years, the Church Council has taken steps to reduce the budget deficient. As we near the end of the year, you have seen a display in the entry-way of our building to update you on our budget and finances. As is the case every year, we have accumulated a deficit during the summer months that we want to make up through generous giving in November and December.

To help achieve this goal of balancing our budget for the year, we've brought back the "Pastors' Stewardship Challenge." We started with 200 envelopes hanging on a bulletin board near the sanctuary, each one marked with a dollar amount from \$1-200. We encourage you to take an envelope (or more) and return it with that dollar amount in it. Every gift, large or small, adds up, and when all the envelopes have been returned, we will have raised \$20,100. Thank you for all the ways you strive to make a difference in the world by living out your faith!

Current YTD shortfall is \$-39,364.98

Anniversary Committee Forming

Gloria Dei will turn 100 years old in 2026. While that seems like a ways off, much planning goes into having a well-organized, thoughtful anniversary celebration. If helping shape the anniversary celebration is something you would be interested in, please let us know in the church office.



SALT will be meeting December 3, 10 and 17 to talk about Advent.

The Discipleship Committee has purchased an Advent devotional book for every family at Gloria Dei titled *Journey to Joy, An Advent Devotional Book for Families*.

The focus of this Advent devotional is joy, the kind of joy that is soul-deep, rooted in Jesus. True joy can rise up within us even when our Advents—or our lives—aren't glittery gold and even when we feel more broken than whole. A joyful heart is possible despite what is happening around us because we know God is faithful and more powerful than our circumstances. With Bible-based reflections to ponder, prayers to pray, and simple faith-based actions, author Kate Wicker helps families seek the joy of Jesus' birth throughout the Advent season.

SALT meets on Sundays at 9:00 am in the Fireside Room. You are welcome any time. There is no SALT December 24 or 31 due to the Christmas break.

Sponsorship Boards

Thank you to all who have supported the Radio Sponsorship and the Mission Sponsorship throughout 2023. The Radio Sponsorship, which pays for the weekly broadcast of the worship service on KLGR, is completely full for 2023. The Mission Sponsorship, which is split as benevolence to the Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem and the Lutheran World Relief Water Program, has two open dates—December 24 and 31, 2023.

The 2024 sponsor boards are ready to go. However, since we are using the bulletin board by the balcony for the Pastors' Challenge, you can find them in the church office for the time being.

Member Information

Christmas Flowers For the Altar

If you would like to contribute towards the purchase of flowers for our Christmas services, please complete this form and return it to the church office by **December 13**. A minimum donation of \$20 is suggested. Please make a notation in the memo line that your donation is for Christmas flowers.



You may also provide your own poinsettias or other flowers for the services if you wish.

If so, please have flowers to the church beginning Wednesday, December 22, and mark them with your name. *(Please do not bring them in earlier.)*

Flowers may be picked up after December 25.

_____ Enclosed is \$_____ for the purchase of flowers for the Christmas Services.

_____ I will provide my own flowers for the Christmas Services.

Given by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please print legibly!

*Please return to the church office by
December 13.*

Snow Birds— Temporarily Away

If you are taking a trip for a month or more and have put your mail on a “temporarily away” status, please let the church office know. We are charged for every returned piece of bulk mail. If we know you are going to be gone, we can put your mail in your church mailbox to await your return. If you are away longer, we would be happy to send your mail to your winter address.

WELCA Handbooks

The 2024 Women of the ELCA Handbooks are available in the church office. Stop in to pick up your copy!

We encourage every female member of Gloria Dei to have a copy of this handbook. As you go through the pages, take a look at all the behind-the-scenes activities that happen, as well as all the people who are involved. Interested in helping? Contact the chairperson.

Weather Related News

We have had such good fall weather, we hate to mention winter conditions. However, in case of bad weather on a weekend, please check our Facebook page for any cancellations of Sunday school or worship. If Sunday school is cancelled, there will be NO SALT.

On Wednesdays during the winter, if school is called off due to bad weather there will be NO evening activities (no WOW, confirmation, Trinity).

Funerals

Audree A. Maguire

10/05/2023

Member Information



Times of Giving!

Lots of opportunities for giving this time of year at Gloria Dei.

Top: Members of the Priscilla Circle put personal care kits together for Lutheran World Relief.

Center: Workers from God's Work. Our Hands day. Members of the Church in the World Committee pack up donated items for veterans at Eagles' Healing Nest.

Bottom: Pictures of our Share the Spirit gift tree, the stewardship Pastors' Challenge and the food shelf Adopt-A-Turkey board.



Member Information

Meals on Wheels

Gloria Dei will be delivering Meals on Wheels during the month of January. Your help is needed to deliver a warm, nutritious meal to a hungry senior citizen.

We will use Sign-Up Genius for scheduling. Please watch for the link to that and check your January calendars to see when you can help out.

We are also looking for someone to be a liaison to the folks at Senior Dining. This involves bringing a copy of the drivers to the RACC about 2-3 during January and there maybe a need to do some last minute filling of spots. Please help if this is something you can do — otherwise Michelle, our Parish Secretary, will be tasked with this job.

Backpack Food Program

Gloria Dei continues to collect peanut butter, cereals, granola bars and canned fruits and vegetables for the Reede Gray Weekend Food Backpack program.

Weekends finds some students experiencing real hunger—right here in Redwood Falls. The backpack program at Reede Gray School addresses this issue of food insecurity by providing food for the weekends. We join the Presbyterian and Methodist churches in providing food for students when they are not in school.

Drop off your donations in the collection bin by the Sunday school bulletin board.

Remember in Prayer: ✝

Those who are ill... Jeff Arnold, Dianne Donner, Debbie Goodrich, Floyd Hoffbeck, Peggy Kuehn, Mary Mielke, Doug Prescher, Marie Schultz, Carolyn Smith-Kryzer, Shirley Zimmer

Those in the military... Angela Allen, Claire Applen, Daniel Applen, Jordan Cady, Bryce Farringer, Caleb Goble, Austin Gunderson, Jerick Kosel, Austin Ourada, Seth Stelzer, Taylor Sutton, Michael Weber

Electronic Giving

In this season of gift giving to family, friends and those less fortunate, we hope you will also consider your gift to Gloria Dei Lutheran. It is through the donations of every individual and family in the congregation that we are able to carry on our work. You can use our electronic giving option for both regular offerings and one-time gifts. Giving online is easy. Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit our website at: www.gloriadeilutheran.org
2. Click on the “Give Now” line on the home page.
3. Click on the Create Profile button, then
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.



Using your Thrivent Benefits

If you are a client of Thrivent Financial, you may have two awesome benefits that you are not making use of.

Thrivent Action Teams:

Eligible clients can apply for two \$250 debit cards each year to be used to support a fundraiser, a service activity or an educational event. Gloria Dei always has projects coming up that could use funding.

Thrivent Choice Dollars:

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars, can direct them to be deposited to Gloria Dei. You do need to check your account and direct where you want your Choice Dollars to go.

Both of these programs are offered as part of Thrivent's fraternal benefits furthering their mission and purposes.

Where ever you decide to use your Thrivent benefits, they are greatly appreciated.

Member Information

Gloria Dei Lutheran Confirmation Class of 2023



The tenth grade class was confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2023. They all did an outstanding job delivering their faith statements. Those pictured (left to right): Pastor Shannon Wachter, Adam Mohr, Alex Beavers, Martin Kaden, Ari Ellingson, Nicole Whitmore and Pastor Bryant Kaden. Blessings to them as they continue their faith journey.

Ari Ellingson also shared a drawing as part of his faith statement. His drawing, done in ink, is pictured here.



Youth Information



Sunday School News

Sunday school meets from 9:00–9:50 am Sunday mornings. Check in at the front welcome center and then head into the church sanctuary for music, offering and a story. Children will then be excused to their classrooms.

Practice for the Christmas Program will be held during the Sunday school hour on December 3 and 10.

The Christmas Program is December 10.

There is NO Sunday school on Sunday, December 17, 24 or 31. Sunday school will resume on January 7, 2024.

Team-teachers are needed for the second half of the school year. We need two teachers for the 1st/2nd grades. Please prayerfully consider.

Baby Book Club

The Baby Book Club meets monthly. Join Lindy Kaden for a time to grow together in faith. This is for any child & their parents not yet in our formal Sunday school program.



Meet at 9 am in the nursery downstairs. We will read a book, play in the nursery, do a simple craft, and enjoy a snack before worship. A great bonding time for new/newer parents as well.

A Thrivent grant is providing each child with their own book to take home after class.

Class dates: December 3, 2023; January 14, February 11, March 17 and April 14, 2024.

Trinity in the Middle Looks like Fun!



Youth Information



2024 Youth Mission Trip Christmas Bake Sale Fundraiser

The youth will again be busy baking Christmas cookies and goodies to be sold before and after church on December 9 & 10. Pick up a treat as a gift or for yourself!

Your support for these youth fundraisers is greatly appreciated. Missions trips expand youth's understanding of the whole church, motivating them to see people the way God sees them and can awaken a passion to serve others.

Noisy Offering

The December Noisy Offering will be collected on December 16 & 17. Proceeds from this offering are going to support the Redwood County Salvation Army. All money raised stays local from the December campaign.



Trinity in the Middle...for all 5th & 6th graders. Friends welcome. Wednesday nights from 6:15—7:15 pm.



Attention All Senior High Youth

All youth in grades 9—12...we invite you to a Senior High Bible Study night on the first Sunday of every month at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the fellowship hall and enjoy some games, devotions, Bible study, friendship and probably some snacks too!

Pastor Shannon and Pastor Becca look forward to spending this time with you.

Friends are always welcome.

Gloria Dei College Scholarships



The application forms for the 2024 Gloria Dei Lutheran college scholarship will be available on Friday, December 1, 2023, with a due date of NOON on February 2, 2024. This is for all Gloria Dei high school students and current full-time college students. Students are eligible to receive a total of four scholarship awards, so students who have received this before may apply again. The scholarship is given based on service to the church and community, character and the continuation of the applicants Christian values and service. Up to 14 applicants could receive a scholarship valued between \$725-\$1,000. You must be a member of Gloria Dei for a minimum of one year to apply. Applicants are responsible to see that all materials are received at the church office by the deadline.

Students, please do **NOT** wait until February 1 to check to see if your items have been received in the church office. We will **not** call you if your application is incomplete. This is part of the application process. Also, **NO** screen shots of any documents are accepted!!! Please plan ahead!

Member Information

Welcome New Members!



Pictured above: Joel and Amanda Mathiowetz and their children Leo and Lucy. We welcome new members Amanda, Leo and Lucy Mathiowetz. Amanda is the owner of the new “Overjoyed” gift store in downtown Redwood Falls. Leo is a second grader and Lucy is in pre-K. Amanda & Joel live on a farm near Morton.

Chili Cook Off Results

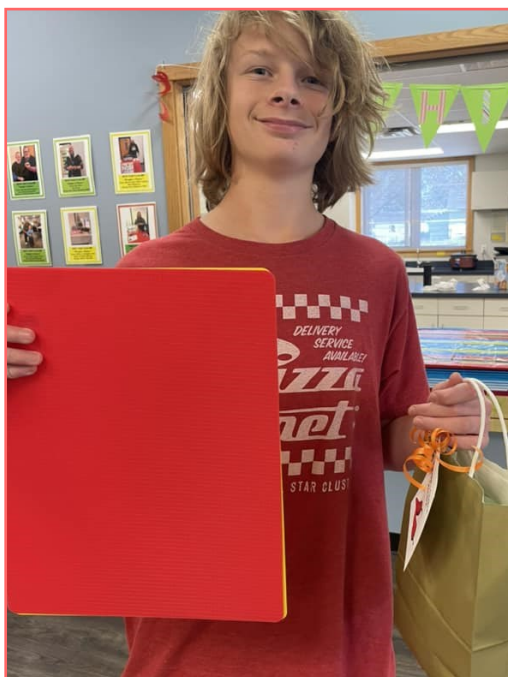
The 5th Annual Chili Feed—Chili Cook Off was a successful fundraiser for the 2024 Youth Mission Trip. All of our chili cooks brought their “A” game and chili lovers were treated to a variety of delicious chilis.

We had 8 contestants: Macy & Pr. Bryant Kaden, Jace & Jason Baumgard, Jackie Ourada, Brianna Goblirsch, Mackenzie Schram, Julie & Jim Lueck, Matthew Kaden, Caleb & Scott Wachter.

Winner of both the Judge’s Choice & People’s Choice was Macy & Pr. Bryant Kaden. Winner of the spiciest chili was Matthew Kaden and winner of the best decorated was Jace & Jason Baumgard.

Judges for this year were Nate Wanzek, Greg Prescher, and Kathy Anderson.

We want to thank all of the contestants (some of which do not even have children going on the mission trip—they just love the kids that much), the judges, the workers and everyone who came out to support the fundraiser. Thank you! Thank you!



Member Information



Trunk or Treat 2023

One of the colder Trunk or Treats we've had but certainly another successful evening. We had 13 vehicles—including a shiny dump truck and a photo booth. We had between 300-400 kids come thru. Thanks to Pam Adam, Altmann's/4H, Jason & Jace Baumgard & Sandy Loftus, Emily Berg, Chad Johnson & girls, Donner family, Deb Kaardal, Kaden family & friends, Terri Malecek & family, Priscilla Circle, Jean Reque, Craig Serbus & Tammy Freese, and the Wachter family. See you all next year!



In His Service

December 10:00 am Worship Assistants

Sunday, December 3, 10:00 am

Usher: Nate Wanzek; J. Baumgard; Jeff /Paula Olson
Lector: Jan Nelson

Sunday, December 10, 10:00 am

Ushers: John/Becky Cselovszki; Kristin/Jeremy Bakeberg

Sunday, December 17, 10:00 am

Usher: Tim/Sommer Wertish; Annette/Joel Mertens
Lector: Dan Krenz

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve Candlelight

Services: Please sign up on bulletin board to help!

4:00 pm

Ushers: need (4)

Lector: need (1)

5:30 pm

Ushers: need (4)

Lector: need (1)

11:00 pm w/communion

Ushers: Donner's

Lector: Leah Donner

Communion: Leah & Chad Donner

December 31, 2023, New Year's Day

Usher: Jason & Amanda Jacobson

Lector: Cindy Swierenga

Youth Worship Assistants

Acolytes

Sunday, December 3, 10:00 am	Baxter Wanzek
Sunday, December 10, 10:00 am	Leon Hidanovic
Sunday, December 17, 10:00 am	Aiden Hagert
Sunday, December 24, 4:00 pm	Brady Madsen
Sunday, December 24, 5:30 pm	Braya Farmer
Sunday, December 31, 10:00 am	Finn Jacobson

PowerPoint

Sunday, December 3, 10:00 am	Gabby Berg
Sunday, December 10, 10:00 am	Gretzky Berg
Sunday, December 17, 10:00 am	Fletcher Leach
Sunday, December 24, 4:00 pm	Matthew Kaden
Sunday, December 24, 5:30 pm	Dylan Mertens
Sunday, December 31, 10:00 am	Kate Jacobson

If you are unable to serve on the assigned dates, please find a replacement or switch dates or call the monthly caller for assistance.



Happy December Birthday to our Honor Roll Members

Jim Darr 12/12
Floyd Hoffbeck 12/27
Ron Ihrke 12/26
Jerry Luttmann 12/15
Norma Moeller 12/6



We acknowledge all Honor Roll Members birthdays. Honor Roll Members are those who have reached 80 years young.

Scheduled to Meet:

Charity Circle: Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am. Contact Mary Jane Lussenhop 627-3906

Priscilla Circle: Meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. Contact Marcia Maland 430-4321

Ruth Circle: Meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Contact Sue Nelson 612-916-9920

Men's Bible Study: Every Wednesday, 8:00-9:00 am, Fellowship Hall.

Bible Study Quilters: Third Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. Contact Ruth Zeise 430-2623

All are welcome to join these Bible Study groups.

Council News



The Church Council met on November 14, 2023. Highlights from the meetings include:

Church in the World Committee:

The Adopt-A-Turkey board will be up thru the end of November. Donations were very well received at the Eagles Nest on November 10. Residents there were very appreciative. Share the Spirit Christmas tree is up in the Heritage Room thru 1:30 pm, November 30.

Congregational Life Committee:

Next on their agenda is setting up the large Christmas Tree in the narthex.

Discipleship Committee:

Reviewed suggestions received from Deb Kaardal. December stewardship snap is Christmas activities. Will order 150 daily devotional booklets for Advent. SALT will meet December 3, 10 and 17 and will use the Advent devotional.

Management Committee:

The nativity scene is set up outside. Looking into better prices for a knox box. Getting an estimate for shingling the east shed. Annual meeting date is February 4, snow date the following Sunday. Crappies for Christ went really well—Thanks Dan Krenz!

Spiritual Formation Committee:

Discussed snack bags for the Christmas program and how preparation for the program was going. Looking at games and themes for Donuts with Dad.

Worship Committee:

Discussed Christmas program and what may still be needed. Discussed some changes to the Christmas Eve candle lighting service. Will be decorating the sanctuary on December 1.

Pastors' Report:

Pastor Bryant reported on his schedule. He had one funeral in Milroy and one at Gloria Dei. He led several SALT sessions. He did a baptism in Lucan. He and Pastor Shannon attended the SW MN Synod Fall Theological Conference. **Pastor Shannon** reported that the Senior High is again meeting the first Sunday of the month. She officiated at two funerals in October. Trunk or Treat was a big success with between 300-400 children. The Chili Cook-Off was also a success raising over \$1,000 for the mission trip.

Office Coordinator:

The Nominating Committee is trying to finish up their work for this year. The Confirmation service was very good. Met with the WELCA Steering Committee. Helped set up for the LWR Mission Sunday. Deb announced that she is going to retire as of De-



Monthly Treasurer's Report through October 2023

Monthly Operating Report:

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Income(Loss)</u>
General Fund	\$ 31,276.51	\$ 39,620.51	\$ (8,344.00)
Dedicated Funds	\$ 4,626.65	\$ 1,795.27	\$ 2,831.38
Income Total	\$ 35,903.16	\$ 41,415.78	\$ (5,512.62)

Operating Report for Year

General Fund	\$ 304,436.45	\$ 343,801.43	\$ (39,364.98)
Dedicated Funds	\$ 42,910.81	\$ 43,687.37	\$ (776.56)
Income Total	\$ 347,347.26	\$ 387,488.80	\$ (40,141.54)

Fund Balances

	<u>01/01/2023</u>	<u>Income(Loss)</u>	<u>10/31/2023</u>
General Fund	\$ 3,567.26	\$ (39,364.98)	\$ (35,797.72)
Dedicated Funds	\$ 122,572.90	\$ (776.56)	\$ 121,796.34
Total Fund Balances	\$ 126,140.16	\$ (40,141.54)	\$ 85,998.62



Member/Staff Information

PLEASE LET US KNOW...

Call the church office at 637-2592 if:

- ✿ a member of your family is ill or hospitalized
- ✿ you would like a pastoral visit or if any pastoral needs arise.
- ✿ you have a new baby in your family
- ✿ there is a change in your home address or telephone number

Building Hours

The **EAST** (near the office) doors of the church are open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. The other doors will only be open during worship and church functions.

E-Prayer Chain

Please e-mail your prayer requests to gloriadei@gloriadeilutheran.org or call 637-2592. To become a member of the E-Prayer Chain, contact the church office.

Bulletin Prayer List

To be placed on the prayer list in the weekly church bulletin, please call the church office or let one of the pastors know your wishes.

Moving?

Please notify the church office of your correct address and phone number as soon as possible. If moving to another town, please join a church in your new community & request a letter of transfer.

Lost and Found

All “found” items are in marked boxes above the coat racks in the long hallway. Anything left in August will be culled.

Paper Bags

Paper grocery bags are collected for use by the local food shelf. You may leave bags in the shopping cart by the church’s elevator. We do NOT collect egg cartons!

Staff Information

Rev. Bryant Kaden

403 Morten Drive
Redwood Falls, MN
Cell phone: 320-262-9665
bryantkaden@hotmail.com
Pastor Bryant’s day off is Monday.

Rev. Shannon Wachter

510 S. Dekalb St.
Redwood Falls, MN
Cell phone: 320-905-6371
shannon.a.wachter@gmail.com
Pastor Shannon’s day off is Friday.

Michelle Farmer

Parish Secretary
gloriadei@gloriadeilutheran.org
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am—Noon

Bill & Marie Schultz

Custodians
Home phone: 507-627-8281

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

301 N Lincoln St

Redwood Falls, MN 56283

Phone: 507-637-2592

Email: gloriadei@gloriadeilutheran.org

Website: www.gloriadeilutheran.org




Worship Broadcast Times

Live

Mediacom Ch. 8 or 107.2 (Sun)	10:00 am
Nuvera Ch. 3 (Sun)	10:00 am
KLGR 1490 AM (Sun)	10:00 am

Delayed

Mediacom Ch. 8 or 107.2 (Mon)	7:00 pm
Nuvera Ch. 3 (Mon)	7:00 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>December 2023</div> <div>*Calendar is subject to change.</div>					1 College Scholarship Applications Ready 9:00 am-noon Quilters	2 5:30 pm Worship
3 9:00 am Sunday school, Baby Book Club, SALT 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am 2024 Youth Trip Meeting 7:00 pm Sr. High Youth	4	5 1:00-3:00 pm Priscilla Circle	6 8:00 am Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall Reserved 5:15-6:15 pm WOW 6:15 pm Confirmation/Service Project 6:15 pm Trinity 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Ruth Circle	7 1:00-4:00 pm Quilters 1:30 pm Pastors @ Gar-nette Gardens	8 9:00 am-noon Quilters	9 Kitchen Reserved for Youth Bake Sale 5:30 pm Worship
10 Christmas Program Youth Bake Sale 9:00 am Sunday school, SALT 10:00 am Worship	11	12 9:30 am Charity Circle 6:30/7:45 pm Commit-tees/Council	13 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 5:15-6:15 pm WOW Christmas Dinner 6:15 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm Trinity 6:15 pm Bell Choir	14 1:00-4:00 pm Quilters	15 9:00 am-noon Quilters	16 5:30 pm Worship/Noisy Offering/Praise Team
17 9:00 am Sunday school, SALT 10:00 am Worship/Praise Team/Noisy Offering	18 6:30 pm Bible Study Quilting	19	20 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 5:15-6:15 pm WOW 6:15 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm Trinity 6:15 pm Bell Choir	21 Winter Begins	22	23 No Worship Service
24 No am worship Candlelight Worship 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm Candlelight Worship w/ communion 11:00 pm	25 Christmas Day Building Closed No Worship Service	26	27 8:00 am Men's Bible Study No evening activities, Christmas Break!	28 1:00-4:00 pm Quilters	29 9:00 am-noon Quilters	30 No Worship Service
31 10:00 am Worship/Lessons & Carols						



301 N Lincoln Street
Redwood Falls, MN 56283



THE REFLECTOR

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
301 N Lincoln St, Redwood Falls, MN 56283
507-637-2592

gloriadei@gloriadeilutheran.org
www.gloriadeilutheran.org
December 2023

Mission Statement

We are a gathering of Christian people where all individuals and families are welcome to worship, grow and flourish in faith, and share in God's love.

Vision Statement

Glorifying and serving God by living our faith daily.