

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Annual Report



Prepared for the 56th Annual Meeting

June 27, 2021

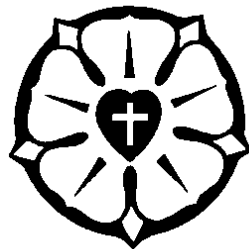


250 FOX HILL ROAD HAMPTON VIRGINIA 23669

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

**A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

Organized in December of 1965



Building Faith

Building Community

Building Lives

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GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH
THE 56th ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
June 27, 2021

I. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Ernie Atkins

II. Order for Opening Congregational Meeting

Pastor Dave

Invocation

Hymn ELW 632

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.

Litany

The love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Brothers and sisters, God calls each of us by name.

We are a church that belongs to Christ.

Recognizing the diversity among us, we are grounded in God's love and forgiveness to live and serve here and now.

We are a church whose unity is in Christ.

Young and old together, our life in Christ compels and empowers us to be open and accessible within any community, within any context.

We are a church that believes Jesus is God's "YES" to us.

Recognizing each of us has unique gifts and a unique story, we are part of a larger body and a larger story. Together, we achieve things we could not do alone.

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world—together.

Recognizing our roots are in Scripture, tradition and the Lutheran Confessions, as well as the vibrant communities and rich history of our congregation, we are a church guided by the Holy Spirit that is both resilient and always being reformed.

We are a church that is deeply rooted in the gospel—and always being made new.

Let us pray: As we live into the church that we proclaim to be, fill us with hope as we engage in the work of serving you. Guide us that we may honor our missional heritage while opening our eyes to new ways of serving others. Steer our thoughts and words away from distraction and toward your will. In our deliberations keep us close to you and fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may serve you in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

III. Old Business

Presentation and approval of annual meeting minutes and standing reports

IV. New Business

- A. Election of President: Jason Green
- B. Election of Vice President: Vivian Griesse
- C. Election of Church Council: John Campbell, Aaron Sutherland
- D. Presentation and approval of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 2021-2022 Financial Plan
- E. President's Address
- F. Special Recognition(s)
 - Ernie Atkins

V. Closing Responses and Prayer

Pastor Dave

Scriptural Responses

P: O Lord, save your people:

C: and bless your inheritance.

P: My word shall accomplish that which I please:

C: and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

P: You shall be my witnesses:

C: to the uttermost parts of the earth.

P: I have chosen you, and ordained you:

C: that we should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain.

P: And lo, I am with you always:

C: to the end of the age.

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **and also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn ELW 543

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Ar hyd y nos



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

VI. Adjourn and Dismissal

Pastor Dave

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

September 27, 2020

Ernie Atkins, Council President, called the 55th Annual Congregational Meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. Pastor Phyllis Milton led the Invocation and Litany. Ernie then declared a quorum present, and identified Judy St. Pierre as the Meeting Parliamentarian; Peggy Sipes, assisted by Andrew and Aaron Sutherland, as Zoom Meeting moderators; and Michael Canny, as Congregational Secretary, recording the minutes of the Meeting.

Order of Meeting

Jason Green made motion that the Order of the Meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Jenny Sutherland. Motion carried. Order of the Meeting thereby adopted.

Old Business

Motion was made by Jason Green to accept the 2019 Minutes and Annual Report as presented. Motion seconded by Aaron Sutherland. Motion carried.

New Business

Nomination/Election of Candidates

Pursuant to a request made by Nominating Committee Chair, Lynn Graves, the following list for consideration as Council Members, Trustees, and Treasurer was presented by Ernie:

Council Members: Kent Morgan, Eric Olsen, and Shannon Schubert

Trustees: Jim Fullen, Fred Bradley, and Paula Jones

Treasurer: Dawn Lomax

No additional names were presented within ten days prior to this Annual Meeting; therefore, the slate of candidates stands as presented. The candidates have been approved in accordance with Section B6.02.b of our nominating process and have stated they are willing to serve. Ernie thanked the members of the Nominating Committee for their efforts.

Since there was only one person nominated for each of the positions under consideration, Ernie asked for a motion to enable the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate recommended by the Nominating Committee. Such motion was made by Leonard Mayo and seconded by Marna Mayo. There was no request for discussion. Motion was put to a vote and carried.

Ernie congratulated those elected and reelected to positions of the membership and thanked the outgoing members of Council for their service. It was noted that Rita Foringer, Alison Phillips, and Aaron Sutherland had graciously agreed to serve beyond their terms due to COVID-19 pandemic pending the conduct of the 2020 Annual Meeting.

Presentation of the Gloria Dei FY 2020-2021 Financial Plan

Rick Graves presented the FY2020-2021 Financial Plan as developed by the Church Council. Ernie asked for a motion to approve the FY2020-2021 Financial Plan as presented. Motion was made by Carolyn Campbell and was seconded by Tami Atkins. Ernie asked for discussion. With no discussion requested, the motion was put to vote and carried.

Call Committee

Rick Graves described the Committee's efforts to this point.

Florida Land

Ernie requested a motion to direct the Trustees of the Church to take action to divest Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of the plot of land commonly known as NW290th St., Okeechobee FL, by means of sale, with the receipts of such sale to be applied to debt reduction measures at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Land was gifted to the Church. Such

motion was made by Andrew Sutherland and seconded by Mike Riley. Ernie asked if there was any discussion. There being no discussion, motion was put to vote and carried.

Gloria Dei Church Constitution

Ernie asked for a motion to suspend, revise, and reenact Section C11.02 of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Constitution to allow for electronic voting as opposed to voice voting during times when voice voting is impossible or impractical. Motion was made by Rita Foringer and seconded by Tad Foringer. Ernie asked for discussion, and there was none. Motion was put to vote and carried.

Sunrise House

Rick Graves updated the church membership regarding the status of Sunrise House, which was forced to shut down due to COVID-19 restrictions and concerns. Reopening is unknown.

Additional New Business

Ernie asked if there was any further new business or questions. There was none.

Special Recognitions

Pastor Milton was recognized for her extended service and leadership as Interim Pastor during the challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Church and School Staff were likewise recognized, as were those in leadership positions and other members who have stepped up to assist the church.

Closing

Ernie advised the membership of the Council's plan to re-open our Sanctuary for in-person worship on Reformation Sunday. He asked for the assistance and cooperation of the church membership in order to make this happen. Additional volunteer assistance will be necessary for this to come to fruition.

Ernie asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Carolyn Campbell and seconded by Mike Riley. There being no discussion, the motion was put to vote and carried. Meeting was declared to be closed by Ernie at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Milton led the scriptural responses and closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Canny
Congregation Council Secretary

SENIOR PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF

Pastor Milton took wonderful care of Gloria Dei as interim. I know she received a lot of push back with the way she led during the pandemic, but all of us pastors did. We did what we thought was best, ensuring safety so we could all gather together again in the future without losing any of our members. She is now spreading her love and joy in Norfolk. I am sure God has great plans for her future. For Pastor Milton, age is just a number, and she is much younger than what the numbers reveal. A huge thank you to Pastor for leading faithfully through to the end.

I owe a huge thanks to the Virginia Synod who worked so well with me and Liz in transitioning into this Synod. They are also great about getting back to me with questions that arise for me concerning the Synod, the Church, and other ministries. I am in conversation with someone from the Synod office once, if not twice, a month.

Thank you to the Call Committee, now Welcoming Committee. You guys and gals are fantastic. Together we will become the church that you envision for the future.

Our School is first rate. Did you know that? We have not only amazing teachers and support staff, but we also have amazing students. There is a great love of Jesus and of learning at our School.

The School Chapels have brought me great joy. I have slowly been putting my mark on the School Chapels, and there will be more transitions for weekly Chapels going into the new school year.

My middle school Bible classes will be overhauled for the next school year. The students will have an in-depth nine-week course with me, moving them beyond the basics.

I have set the goal for our student enrollment to be at 400 students for the 2022-2023 school year. Help me in spreading the word that our School is growing and is a great place for children to learn in a Christian setting.

The Church is going to continue to do amazing things on into our future. Notice, I said “is going to continue.” I did not come here to fix anything. This community has a lot to offer, and together we will show our neighbors that fact.

Wednesday night youth events will begin to encompass younger youth, as we will no longer have the traditional Sunday school. This allows parents with kids of different ages to have a place where all of their children belong. It would be nice to also drum up Wednesday night Bible study, small groups, exercise groups, and/or fellowship groups for our adults. When we bring in the adults, we bring in more children. My goal is that youth group will be double its size from pre-pandemic in the next five years. Keep inviting folks to Wednesday evening discipleship.

Outreach and evangelism will become our two greatest foci. By focusing on these two ministries, we are preparing ourselves to serve on into the twenty-second century.

Starting in the midst of a pandemic is less than ideal, but that was God’s plan for me and my family. Not only do we have a pandemic, but I think we are in the midst of an outrageously politically-polarized time in our country. Our decisions at Gloria Dei should be based on Jesus’ call to love one another, not what your political affiliation is lined with. Let me be upfront, I do not care about who you vote for nor who you hate because they are of the other party – my citizenship is in heaven as is yours – it’s time to start being the church, not a politically-divided nation that is spilling into the Church’s front door.

JOY is at the center of my ministry here at Gloria Dei. And JOY should be at the center of your ministry here, too. JOY is contagious. And we are going to spread that JOY in all we do in the name of Jesus. Lay down your political agendas, your conspiracy theories, your complaints, and pick up the JOY that Jesus is giving us.

Peace be the journey,

Pastor Dave

CONGREGATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we remember the past year and as you read this year's Annual Report, come June 30, 2021, I will conclude my sixth and final year as your President. While the past year has been one of extreme challenge and change, I would encourage you to remember that as a congregation, we survived the COVID-19 pandemic, we welcomed our new Senior Minister of Word and Sacrament in the person of The Reverend David Fox, and we are finally beginning to transition the path back to "more normal" childcare, school, and worship operations. Thanks be to God!

During the turbulent times of the year past, God has remained at our side as we adapted to new and innovative ways to fulfill his mission here at Gloria Dei. To all of you who had a part in making this past year a success, know that your efforts were and continue to be sincerely appreciated.

As I prepare to depart my elected office, I will refrain from going into the salient details that describe how amazing it has been for me to serve these last six years as your President. I want all of you to know that I feel both honored to have served with you and sad at the same time. Honored because I have the opportunity to have fulfilled my duties and to write my final address as your President, but sad to be stepping away from a leadership role at this really exciting time in our ministry history. However, let there be no question, you will have new and vibrant leadership in Pastor Dave as well as Jason Green, your proposed incoming President; Vivian Griesse, your proposed incoming Vice President; and Aaron Sutherland and John Campbell as proposed new council members should you see fit to elect them and have them join the remaining council members and professional staff as they assume or continue in their positions as your leaders. These individuals, working as a group with your support, will move the Gloria Dei family into our new ministry, educational, and child care endeavors. Please give them your support!

As your President, I have shared an inexplicable bond with you and have been privileged enough to learn a great deal from you. You have been excellent and patient teachers and have both challenged and inspired me in many different ways. I have come to value you as part of my extended family; however, it is the universal truth we all have to face - whether we want to or not, that everything eventually ends. To that end, as much as I've looked forward to this day, I've always disliked endings just as much...but they are inevitable. Leaves fall, you finish a book, you finish a project, you say farewell, you leave one job for another. For me, this is one of those times, but I am forever grateful for the opportunity to have worshiped and served with you, and I know that you are such a part of my being that I will continue to hear the small, clear, and joyous voices in my heart that are the essence of each and every one of you as I continue my Earthly journey. It is my sincere hope that you will feel the same.

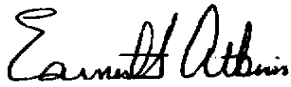
While we have enjoyed many successes, our work is far from finished, and there will be future obstacles placed in our path. To this end, I will candidly tell you that not all we tried was successful, but we tried and that is what is important. Through the odyssey of my tenure in office, I have come to be not afraid of failing, of making mistakes, of stumbling, of falling, or of disappointment. I have learned that some of the greatest rewards can come from initial failures, obstacles, or in doing the things that I, personally, had the most difficulty with, or that scared me the most. Being your President has been no exception to this situation, and I'd suggest that adopting a "tackle what scares you the most" approach will eventually position you to enjoy more success than you could have ever imagined. Along those lines, it is my sincere belief that as Pastor Dave and your leadership team challenge you to grow as a congregation, you will take a new and bold step in participating more in our ministry programs and endeavors. Be bold...take the walk with them.

While none of us knows where life will take us, you may have heard "it's not the destination...it's the journey!" In our case, it is the walk with our God. As we stand and embark on the adventures of the bountiful days to come, my wish for you all is that, as we travel the calm waters or turbulent storms in life, we always remember God is

at our side. Further, it is my hope that your journey be one of peace and you find the mountain, valley, or some place in between that is right for our congregation as a whole as well as you as an individual. As always, remember to be patient and persevere through the ups and downs you will encounter. More importantly, learn to enjoy the journey you are on.

With much love, and with honor to have served you, I remain...

Sincerely,



ERNIE ATKINS
Congregation Council President



EDUCATION MINISTRIES

HEAD OF SCHOOL

In June, we completed our 48th school year, and what a year it was! We were fortunate to find ways to continue in-person instruction and childcare during the pandemic. Barriers, known as quad-pods, were constructed in the elementary and middle school classrooms, daily health checks were conducted on all staff and students, masks were donned, cohorting was established, and social distancing enforced. While some classes did need to quarantine due to exposures, our mitigation efforts were successful in preventing the transmission of COVID-19 among students and staff at Gloria Dei Lutheran School and Child Care.

This year, we had a total of 23 students graduate in fifth and eighth grades. Between the two graduations, we recognized five students who earned the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence. This award is the highest academic honor presented at the end of elementary, middle, and high school. It is presented to students who show outstanding academic success in the classroom. This year's recipients are as follows:

Fifth grade: Aaron Gaita, Dominick Stilgebouer, and Peyton Walter

Eighth grade: Robert Conklin and Evan Costello

I pray each graduate will take the lessons they have learned during their time at Gloria Dei and continue to maximize the gifts with which they have been blessed to become responsible, caring, trustworthy children of God.

On June 18, after working 30 years and 7 years respectfully, Susan and Charles Smith retired to the mountains of Waynesboro, Virginia. Susan served as music teacher and choir director, while Charles oversaw our fleet of buses, helped in the kitchen, and anywhere an extra hand was needed. Susan, we are so thankful for the joyful noise you created in our classrooms, hallways, and Chapel. You taught the children how to share the message of God's love through song. Charles has transported countless children to and from school, as well as back and forth between campuses. He was diligent in his efforts to keep our children safe. We are so happy for the Smiths and wish them much happiness as they fulfill their dream of mountain living.

This year, it is with great sadness that we announce the retirement of Charlene Hockenberry. She will be retiring after 17 years of faithful service as the school secretary. I am so appreciative of Charlene's dedication and commitment to the staff, students, and families of Gloria Dei Lutheran School. You have been an integral part of our program and you will be greatly missed.

I would like to congratulate our staff members who are celebrating special milestones in their service and ministry at Gloria Dei.

10th Anniversary

Amira Abdel-Sayed

Jessica Nolte

Dorothy Silverthorn

15th Anniversary

Anna Mary Vogt

20th Anniversary

Sharon Bennett

25th Anniversary

Peggy Sipes

I am very appreciative of these dedicated ladies and all of our staff members who give so unselfishly of their time and talents as we work together to provide a quality educational and childcare program for our students. Thank you for your faithfulness and dedication to our ministry.

2020 – 2021 School Highlights

- We were once again recognized as a Best of Coastal Virginia 2021 Award Winner in Coastal Virginia Magazine's Best of Readers' Choice Awards. Gloria Dei Lutheran School won in the following categories: Best Private School, Best Child Development Center, and Best Summer Camp.
- We were blessed with an enrollment of 311 students in our day school, two-year olds through eighth grade. All classes were limited in size due to distancing restrictions set forth in our mitigation plan. Many grade

levels were filled to capacity with a waiting list. Public school students did not return to in-person learning until late in the year, so transportation was not offered to area elementary schools.

- We said good-bye to Pastor Phyl and welcomed Pastor Dave to the Gloria Dei Family. He quickly immersed himself in school routines, having weekly lunches with classes and helping with afternoon carpools, and, of course, weekly Chapels. While we miss Pastor Phyl, Pastor Dave has been a great addition to the Church and School.
- The kindergarten classes were relocated to the Willow Oaks Campus for inclusion in our elementary program.
- Once again, I extend my thanks to all involved in the BBQ Fundraiser for our School ministry. We sold 285 adult dinner plates and 53 kids' meals, for a total of 338 to-go dinners. In addition to this, we sold approximately 75 one-pound containers of barbecue. The School raised a little over \$3,500! None of this would have been possible without the help of our amazing volunteers.
- This year, students in K – 8th grades participated in *Kids' Heart Challenge*. This program is a fundraiser for the American Heart Association, and our students raised \$5,493.53. A special thanks to Lindsey LaRoche for sponsoring and coordinating this event. She did an exceptional job.
- Through CARES Act funding, Gloria Dei Lutheran School and Child Care received the following:
 - 10 Samsung 50" Smart LED-LCD Televisions
 - 110 Chromebooks
 - 11 Webcams
 - Touchless Hand Sanitizer Dispensers
 - Cleaning Supplies
 - Masks, Face Shields, and Gloves
 - CARES Act Grants totaling \$139,330.00
- The entryway to Building B at the Willow Oaks campus was repaired and tilework replaced.
- Water heater installed in the Willow Oaks kitchen and a booster added to the water heater in the Fox Hill kitchen.
- Installation of three new A/C units at the Willow Oaks campus.
- Large stage erected on Willow Oaks campus to accommodate outdoor Christmas programs. Spring programs were in the front gardens at the Fox Hill campus.
- Creation of a "pizza garden" at the Fox Hill campus. Students grew and tended to vegetables and herbs that they used to create homemade pizzas.
- The School participated in the second round of the Payroll Protection Program as part of the federal government's C.A.R.E.S. Act. We received \$396,000, which helped to offset additional expenses related to COVID operations.
- In June, the middle school S.C.A. held a memorial ceremony for Linda Robinson. The student-led service recognized Linda's ministry at Gloria Dei and included the presentation of a statue and stone plaque in Mrs. Robinson's honor. The statue and stone will be permanently placed in a flower garden at the Willow Oaks campus.
- The Linda K. Robinson Scholarship Fund was established in January. The fund will assist students who experience a financial hardship and may need to withdraw from the educational program. To date, \$2,695.00 has been raised in honor of Linda.

Many thanks to our congregation, parents, and staff for their support and trust as we continue our educational ministry.

Yours in Christ's service,

Lisa S. Dadez

CHILD DAY CARE

Gloria Dei Lutheran School offers child care for children ages 16 months to 12 years. There were 200 students in afternoon child care on an average day.

- Hours are 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Before and after-school care, parent/teacher conferences and staff work days, Christmas and Easter holidays, and snow days (unless conditions are severe).
- Breakfast served from 6:15 a.m. – 7:15 a.m.; lunch, morning, and afternoon snacks.
- Variety of activities for children – crafts, movies, games, free play, and outdoor play.
- Tutorial study for students in grades 3rd through 7th.
- Additional after-school activities – gymnastics, Tumblebugz, and Lil’ Ninjas
- “*Summer Adventures*” – our summer program for children 16 months to 12 years old.

New protocol was implemented for drop-off at early morning child care. The following changes were made to ensure we followed CDC and VDSS guidelines to maintain a healthy and safe establishment during the pandemic.

- Physical assessment and temperature checks were executed on each child who entered the building.
- The main entrance was closed; therefore, parents dropped off and picked up at the back door.
- To practice social distancing, class sizes were reduced accordingly.
- Increased hand washing, sanitizing, and disinfecting specifications were implemented.

Jeanene Nolte, Child Care Director
Donna Scherrer, Program Director
Janet Cole, Program Coordinator

NEW MEMBERS

Even in the midst of a pandemic, Gloria Dei welcomed new members through transfer and through baptism. We are thankful for each of these folks who are now part of the Gloria Dei Family. Join with me in welcoming the following new members:

Tamara Bogy

William Dunn

Jason Cooper

Pastor Dave Fox
Ollie Fox

Lawrence Dunn
Deborra Dunn

Daisy Maxwell

New member classes will be offered three to four times a year and will be done on a Sunday afternoon. If the need arises before January, we will do one in late fall or early winter; if not, we will plan to have the first one after the New Year.

TUESDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP BIBLE STUDY

This class uses the Augsburg Adult Bible Study Series material. Most recently, we studied the prophets in “Prophets Faithful to God’s Covenant.” The series covers most of the Bible every six years with different authors—professors, theologians, and pastors—every three months. The material is interesting and varied. We have met through the pandemic on Zoom and will continue to offer that as an option, though we hope to be back in the building after school ends for the year. We are a small group of about 8-9 adults and would love to have you join us. We meet at 10:00 a.m. each Tuesday, and everyone is welcome.

Paula Jones, Leader

DAYBREAKERS

Since arriving as Pastor of Gloria Dei, the Daybreakers have met online two Tuesdays a month (1st and 3rd). We have focused on the Old Testament and Gospel readings. I am always amazed at the wisdom that comes from this group. Though the focus is on talking about Scripture, we make time for prayer and for fellowship.

I give thanks for all of these women as they not only share in time of study but as they also support and love one another throughout the week. This group is always open to welcoming new faces in their time together.

MEN’S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

The Men’s Bible Study has been a small but mighty group, which meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Part of being small has to do with our meetings being online rather than at a restaurant for breakfast. Soon, we will have the opportunity to share a meal together. This group has talked about wanting to grow (especially with younger men). I reminded them that if it weren’t for Liz’s ability to take Ollie to school on Tuesday, I couldn’t be there either. The time is not ideal for working parents with kids needing to get to school. We will, I’m sure, continue our ponderings on how this group can expand.

Our discussions, on the Gospel mainly, are life-giving and informative – though I can’t speak to it – I hope it is also inspiring. This group loves to ask questions – sometimes I have to tell them, “I’ll have to get back to you on that.”

The men continue to collect money throughout the year from those participating in the Bible study to give scholarships to some of our Gloria Dei young adults attending college. The year 2020 marked our 20th year of giving scholarships, and we were able to present five \$300 scholarships to our Gloria Dei members attending schools of higher learning. Those recipients were James Green, Gabby Newsome, Alexis Pfahl, Natalie Pfahl, and Matthew Zorumski. In 2021, we were able to give three recipients \$500 scholarships, and those recipients were Richard Fox, Alexis Pfahl, and Natalie Pfahl.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday evening group was formed to meet the need of an adult Bible study, and we have had great fun accomplishing that goal. This year, we have been on Zoom, but that hasn’t slowed us down. We’ve covered several topics, the most recent the *Book of Job*. Job gave us a boost in spirit as we saw his faithfulness to God come full circle. We have studied such things as the Ten Commandments, eschatological writing in the Bible, and the book of Mark. We are a small group of about eight, but ready to welcome all. We are on a summer break, but will resume classes in September when we hope to be in the building.

Reverie Rowlett, Leader

CONFIRMATION 2020-2021

I did not have the pleasure to teach our confirmation class over the whole school year, but was honored to do so for the few months I had them in my class. We had four students join us online and then in May meeting in person. This year, we studied what it means to be a Lutheran.

Two of those four students were confirmed on May 23, 2021: Dallam Brown and DJ Miller. I am very proud of the two of them in the work they put into their faith stories and the courage they had to stand in front of all of you in person and online as they delivered those stories.

I am unsure of the number of students we will have in the fall, as I understand some opted out of online classes and wanted to wait until they could return to in-person classes. What I do know is that we will have at least five students for next year. Our curriculum for the upcoming school year will be the Bible.

A special word of thanks to two faithful ladies: Sharon Bennett and Rita Foringer. As I've mentioned before, if you want to watch ministry with children and youth grow, you must have committed adults. Your presence at each class communicates to our students that you care for them and about them.

Confirmation is tackled at a fragile time in youths' lives. It's in the midst of them trying to define who they are. But confirmation at this point is crucial, because it reminds them of whose and who they are in relation to Christ Jesus.

Peace be the journey,
Pastor Dave

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Pre-k thru 5th grade)

This year was a quiet one for Sunday School. Sunday School lessons were e-mailed and/or mailed out weekly. Each lesson included a combination of stories, crafts, and activities to do at home. Thank you to the Church Office staff for faithfully sending those out each week!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The Christmas Pageant was virtual this year. The children sang and spoke the Christmas Story as told by "The Friendly Beasts." Participating were: Jeremiah Green, Ruth Hutchison, Rhodes Lomax, Lucas Lopez-Venable, Leo and Ralph Maxwell, LJ Murray, Emma Olsen, Cameron and Luke Phillips, Micaela Ruhl, Andrew Sutherland, Jorge Tatum-Rodriguez, Amelia Venable, Megan Watson, and Isabella and Jacob Zamora. It was wonderful to see their faces and hear their beautiful voices! Thank you to the fabulous tech team for helping make the program a success and to all of the parents and grandparents who helped their children get online! Big changes are coming to Sunday School for the fall. Stay tuned for more information!



WORSHIP MINISTRIES

2020-2021 was certainly an interesting, challenging, trying, heart breaking, exciting, and transformative year. I do not think there are quite enough adjectives in the English language to cover all the descriptions of this past year.

I begin with a heartfelt statement of THANKS to God and the Call Committee for finding and bringing to our home Pastor Dave Fox; his wife, Deacon Liz Fox; and their son, Ollie! After what seemed like a never-ending search process, Pastor Dave was found, accepted our call, and was formally installed on May 2 of this year. It has been an unusual time of “settling in” due to COVID restrictions, but, as of the time of this writing, the proverbial light is at the end of the tunnel, and I know we all look forward to getting to know Pastor and his family much better. Pastor Dave will be a great leader of worship and outreach to our community and will bring to a close this searching chapter of our lives at Gloria Dei!

With Pastor Dave’s arrival, the sadness of saying goodbye to Pastor Milton must ensue. I would like to again say a truly heartfelt “THANK YOU!” for the service and dedication of Pastor Milton. She served the Gloria Dei congregation, the greater Church, and most importantly Christ extraordinarily well in the role of Interim Pastor (Interim Senior Minister of Word and Sacrament). Pastor Milton’s leadership kept our ship righted as we genuinely enjoyed her time and talents in our services and church life! I am quite sure there was no way she could have begun to guess all that would be thrown at her through the COVID-19 crisis. On behalf of the Gloria Dei family, I would like to wish her all the best in her life and new endeavors!

Worship has certainly looked different over the past year, going from limited in person, to fully virtual, to an outdoor limited worship, to a somewhat normal outdoor worship, and finally back to inside the Nave worship (fingers crossed at the time of this writing!) in late June. I would like to thank all those who have made our worship experience be the best it could be no matter what the location or background, with special thanks to Mike Riley for his overall dedication, the Sutherland’s for their tech-spertise, Derry and crew for their work on sound management, Ginny and the choir/music crew for keeping us inspired musically, Pastor Dave for coming into all this and running with it, the usher staff for their assistance, and Renee and the Altar Guild for always keeping things nailed down no matter the windy conditions. Thank You all for all you do!

The stewards of our worship services, to include music, Ushers, Greeters, Lectors, Altar Guild, Assisting Ministers, Coffee Creators, Cross and Crown, and Sound Board Techs, are all looking for additional volunteers to help with their duties when we get back to meeting in person. If you have any interest in helping in any of these areas, please feel free to contact me, and I will be happy to point you in the right direction!

I look forward with a nervous excitement to another year of growth and commitment as we move back into a life of normalcy both in our worship and our own day-to-day lives. I know we all look forward to coming together again as a congregation and to serving God and Christ Jesus in ways we may yet not fully know or understand. It is an honor to serve this congregation and glorify His name whilst doing so!

Faithfully serving,
Jason Green

MUSIC MINISTRY

In just a few months, I’ll be wrapping up my second year here at Gloria Dei. That feels hard to believe, since we were together only seven months before the coronavirus changed life as we know it. At the time of the shutdown, we had just learned a new setting for our Wednesday Lenten services. Young and old, voices and instruments, groups and soloists, had worked hard to learn *Holden Evening Prayer* by Marty Haugen. Those two Lenten Wednesdays we had together were marvelous; it was painful when they came to such an abrupt halt.

As I reflect on all that has happened since then for our music ministry, two themes emerge: *trust* and *adventure*. Almost all the Adult Choir members and Handbell Choir members embarked on the adventure of trying to do music rehearsals over Zoom, which we continued nearly every week for over a year. I witnessed trust and adventure again among Adult Choir and Worship Band members who volunteered to sing for Zoom worship in their DIY plastic pods. And I saw it, too, when the Handbell Choir met in person in May, with safety protocols in place; even though we hadn't played in so long and we'd lost a few ringers, we worked up several pieces to play for Worship. The folks in these groups trust me, they trust each other, and they're willing to try something new.

The sense of trust and the willingness to adventure will serve us well when these groups start to rebuild in the fall. It will take time—singing in front of your laptop is not the same as being in person—but we have maintained our relationships and our love of music through Zoom, so we have what it takes to rebuild once we are together again. Because of this time spent doing things differently, I see us being more free to try new things and build back something different and better than we had before.

Two elements of our Music Ministry that will need extra TLC in the fall are the youth music groups and congregational singing. Participation in Zoom youth music was low, understandably, and we had only six short but fabulous weeks together in person before summer break. I didn't have the chance to adequately get to know the youth before the coronavirus hit, and this time of separation has not helped. The youth community is such a vibrant part of Gloria Dei's identity, so rebuilding youth music will be one of my highest priorities. I see my role in the fall with the youth as less musical task-master, more listener and friend. It will take time to heal from this hard year, to rebuild our community, and to decide what God is calling the youth music ministry to be.

The same is true of congregational singing. The strength and breadth of congregational singing is a hallmark of worship at Gloria Dei. In 2020-2021, our small but mighty team of volunteers has kept up singing into the microphones for Zoom worship, but we all know singing at your laptop, or sitting six feet away from others on the lawn, is not the same as singing in a large group in a reverberant sanctuary. Hearty congregational singing is part of what makes worship...worship, so I anticipate it will be disheartening to finally be together but to be so out of practice, or to not have quite enough people to adequately fill the room when we all sing together. Healthy congregational singing will probably take the longest of all the elements of our Music Ministry to rebuild. Patience will be the word of the day, or more likely, the year. Rebuilding congregational singing will be my other top priority next year.

Faithfully submitted,

Ginny Chilton
Church Music Program Director

YOUTH BELL CHOIRS

We had a great start to our year with bells! Before we ended early, we were able to introduce some new ringers to handbells, and there were some who got reacquainted with them. Our Junior Youth ringers started in September with lots of enthusiasm! They carried that throughout the year and learned to find their specific notes on the music and play an entire song through. Both groups were able to perform during the Christmas season and did an amazing job! Our Senior High ringers came ready to ring in September. They were excited to teach new ringers the handbell peal and refine their knowledge from last year. Even though our Senior High ringers never got to unveil the 2020 handbell peal, I can assure you that it sounded amazing, and they were more than ready to perform. This group starts preparing for the peal in January, and all of them work hard learning all of the intricacies of the peal. I want to thank all of our ringers for all the hard work they put in this year!

This whole year would not have been possible without the help of Nancy Monroe. She is a vital part of youth bells! Thank you for all your hard work, Nancy!

We look forward to next year and making a joyful noise once again.
Ashley Zamora

ALTAR GUILD

This year our Altar Guild was challenged with different ways in preparing for our worship services. With the majority of the year having services via Zoom, the Nave still had to be setup, just in a more abbreviated way. Now with our outside services and hopefully back to in person/indoor services, we continue to welcome new ways to make our worship space beautiful. I look forward to getting back to setting up for communion the more traditional way and welcoming back my whole team.

Altar Guild members are Terry Burks, Sandy Dunn, Carol Godley, Marti Grenier, Bonnie Hess, Pam Hess, Debbie Moore, Kelly Morrison, Jill Ruhl, Donna Vanorsdale, and Renee Wells. We welcome Ann Riley to our group this year. Farewells this year from the guild were Kim Miller and Kelly Martin. Kelly is still willing to help with special projects, and we thank her for her continued support. We also thank Kim Miller for her many years of service and her availability this year to help with all the questions we had. The need still continues for new members on a monthly basis, as well as help in our robing room for Cross and Crown. Training is provided.

We are always grateful to *Jeff's Flowers, of Course* and *Countryside Gardens* for their assistance with the beautiful flowers for our worship space throughout the year and especially during the Christmas and Easter seasons. BIG THANK YOU to Tammy Bialk and Peggy Sipes in our Church Office for keeping us on course. Pastor Dave and Pastor Phyl for making the process of setting up a breeze. Mike Riley and Aaron Sutherland for always being willing to help with our ladder work, and ALL who helped with our Chrismon Tree setup, Holy Week, and our Easter celebration. If you would like to become a member of the guild, please contact me.

Peace be with you,
Renee Wells
(757) 749-4425

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Memorial Fund of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a sacred trust comprised of gifts given to the Glory of God by members and friends as a means to celebrate with the Church, those special persons, alive or among the saints, who occupy a holy place in their lives and memory. Memorial gifts are given for many reasons. Some are given "in memory of" when a family member or close friend dies. Some are given "in honor of" a special person, occasion, or significant event; for instance; the birth of a child, a graduation, a marriage, a specific blessing. These gifts are used solely for items related to worship, building aesthetics, cultural, religious, or fine art.

Some memorial gifts may be designated to assist those in need and directed to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Those wishing to donate to the Memorial Fund may send gifts directly to the church office by contacting either Jeane Fullen (757-880-6932) or the church office (757-851-2838), or by using your personal offering envelopes.

Memorials (6/1/20-5/31/21)

✠ Memorials given to the Glory of God and in memory of:

Brittany Cashwell

Ernest Lanning

Linda Robinson

CARE MINISTRIES

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Gloria Dei is grateful for those who sacrifice time out of their week to serve by visiting those who are shut-ins. Our team is made up of the following members:

Food Services

Church Funeral/Memorial Receptions
Meals at Home

Andrea Cooper
Lynn Graves
Lynn Curtis

Transportation and Special Projects

Visitation

Eucharistic Ministry

Pastor Dave
Rita Foringer
Jim and Jeane Fullen
Bonnie Hess
Bonnie Morelen

Prayer Shawls

Prayer Beads

The knitters/Rita Foringer
The beaders/Jill Ruhl

Follow-Up (Calls and Cards)

Pastor Dave
Rita Foringer
Bonnie Morelen

Prayer Chain

Peggy Sipes/Tammy Bialk/Jill Ruhl

This team has visited (mostly over the phone) with 34 people who are on our care list at this time.

You (and your family) could help out by visiting one of the persons on our care list once a month. It could be a very rewarding time as you learn more about this person as you share with them the gift of time. Please contact the Church Office if this is something you might be interested in doing.

It would be a great testament of our church if every person on our care list was paired with at least one individual or family outside of the Pastoral Care Team. Let's make this our goal.

PRAYER MINISTRY

There were many prayer requests submitted to the Gloria Dei Prayer Ministry again this year. We have 60 members and invite everyone to join us. All members receive the prayer requests by email. Special thanks to our Prayer Ministry members:

Pastor Dave

Tammy Bialk

Fred Bound

Cindy Brown

Terry Burks

Carolyn Campbell

John Campbell

Tom Clasen

Lisa Dadez

Dolores Davis

Sandy Dunn

Rita Foringer

Tad Foringer

Jeane Fullen

Jim Fullen

Gwen Gilbert

Trish Glaab

Carol Godley

Lynn Graves

Rick Graves

Jessica Green

Vivian Griesse

Anita Hamilton

Beverly Hamrick

Jackie Hart

Jay Hart

Pam Hess

Cheryl Hooks

Barry Hutchison

Julie Hutchison

Dee Lowther

Bill Lowther

Virginia Lyeth

Laura Ann Madott

Mark Madott

Joe Martin

Kelly Martin

Leonard Mayo

Marna Mayo

Kim Miller

Ross Miller

Vangie Miller

Carol Moody

Joann Morrison

Russ Morrison

Ann Myers

Sharon Padula

Anne Perry

Pamela Robnett

Bill Roscopf

Pat Roscopf

Reverie Rowlett

Jill Ruhl

Peggy Sipes

Donna Vanorsdale

Tom Vanorsdale

Crystal Via

Clinton Wells

Renee Wells

Jennifer Williams

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Prayer Shawls, Lap Robes, Baptismal Blankets, Newcomer Scarves, and Confirmation Stoles

Despite social distancing and lockdowns, life goes on. Events still occur where someone needs a reminder that they are loved by God and the Gloria Dei Congregation. That is what the Prayer Shawl Ministry is about. Shawls, lap robes, and prayer squares serve that purpose. So, despite dealing with the issues of the pandemic, members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry kept their fingers busy and needles flying to insure this ministry continues to be a part of Gloria Dei.

While shawls and robes are an important part of what we do, baptismal blankets are equally important. Whether and adult or an infant, the recipient is also wrapped in the love of God and Gloria Dei. It is also a reminder of the promises made to further their Christian growth.

Participants include Sharon Bennett, Patrice Blair, Carolyn Campbell, Rita Foringer, Mary Mace, Crystal Via, and Diane Washburn. Sadly, we said good bye to Ellen Halley and Kelly Gleisner this year. Their skills and friendship will be missed!

"She seeks wool and flax and works willingly with her hands."
Proverbs 31:13

This year, two confirmation stoles were presented, and there were two young men who completed their confirmation studies. It's a thrill to present these stoles and see what the Holy Spirit is doing in the lives of young people. May God continue to bless Dallam Brown and DJ Miller.

This ministry is open to anyone who wishes to participate. And, with the departure of some of our members, we are more than happy to welcome others. Like so many things at Gloria Dei, it's an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with fellow church members. If knitting or crocheting is a skill you would like to learn, we even give lessons.

If you have any questions, contact Rita Foringer at rforinger@verizon.net.

On another note, the big news for this ministry is the completion and dedication of the needlepoint kneelers that are located behind the altar in the area where the servers sit during Sunday worship services. The completion of these kneelers is the final piece to the vision of the altar worship space. Patrice Blair, Dolores Davis, Rita Foringer, Ellen Halley, Nancy Monroe, Jill Ruhl, and Diane Washburn all helped in making the kneelers a reality.



Peace,
Rita Foringer

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

ELCA Good Gifts are a creative, meaningful way to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones. These gifts are real examples from projects currently supported through ELCA church wide ministries. Donations to ELCA Good Gifts last year totaled \$200.00. We thank the congregation for your generosity.

JUST OLDER YOUTH (JOY) LUNCH FELLOWSHIP

Seniors of Gloria Dei meet monthly (September – May) for lunch and table talk the third Wednesday of each month. The luncheon begins at 12:30 with food provided by the Gloria Dei kitchen, and lasts 1 – 1 ½ hours for chatting and a program or games.

We had a different year with COVID-19 and met on Zoom instead of at church. Pastor Milton was our leader through December. In January, Anita and Ann started as co-chairs, and those programs included a favorite hymns sing-along, how we have and share JOY, two sessions on sign language provided by Vicki Venable, 31 questions, and show and tell. In May, we gathered on the church lawn for a bag lunch and mostly just catching up. We enjoyed seeing everyone in person and, for some, it was their first time to meet Pastor Dave. The weather was wonderful, and we had 11 attendees. It was a fun and wonderful day!



Anita and Ann will be planning guest speakers and games for the 2021-2022 year. If you have any ideas to share, please call one of us. We look forward to sharing our time with you and keeping in touch.

Anita Hamilton, 851-8398

Ann Myers, 851-7315

WOMEN OF THE ELCA – GLORIA DEI UNIT

“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”

Mission Statement of the Women of the ELCA (WELCA).

The Women of Gloria Dei is part of the national organization of women within the Lutheran Church. It is referred to as WELCA (**W**omen of the **E**vangelical **L**utheran **C**hurch in **A**merica). All women of the church are automatically members. So, ladies, that includes you!

While we haven’t been able to meet during the current year, the women of the church have continued to do what women have done throughout the ages. While social distancing made things difficult, we simply turned to modern technology to care for and nurture members of the congregation. Cards, texts, phone calls, meals, Facebook, Zoom were all ways that we continued to stay in touch.

The Book Group has also been “on hold.” We had our first get-together in May 2021 and are planning to go forward in the same format as before. Meeting on the second Tuesday of the month in the home of various members with the hostess selecting the book to be read. This is another opportunity for the women of Gloria Dei.

Now we are looking ahead to the possibilities in 2021-2022. Once again, we plan to reach out as women within the congregation, within our neighborhoods, and globally. So, ladies, please watch for what’s coming. WELCA is a wonderful way to meet other members of the congregation and to join in fellowship with other Christian women.

If you have any questions, please contact Rita Foringer at rforinger@verizon.net.

Peace and blessings,
Rita

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

PARISH FELLOWSHIP

2020 was not a busy year for Community Ministries due to COVID. The few events that did take place were carried out in a new format to ensure the safety of all participants. While we look forward to being able to hold some of our traditional events now that a vaccine is available and less people being affected, we also want to take the coming year to branch out our efforts in ways we haven't done in recent memory. To help do that, we would like to know more about what community-based ministries you would like to see. Please reach out to one of the Shepherds if you have ideas or would like to get involved.

As always, thank you to those who helped support our efforts during the previous year. We could not have done it without you!

Matthew 18:20

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Via con Dios *"Go with God,"*

Eric Olsen, Shepherd

Todd Pfahl, Shepherd

HELP PROGRAM AND MINISTRIES

Hampton Ecumenical Lodgings and Provisions (H.E.L.P.) is a program in which Gloria Dei Lutheran Church has belonged to for the past 40 years. We are one of 66 area churches who became members under the leadership of Pastor Stowe. Gloria Dei Church joined with other churches to aid families in trouble who were without homes and in need of a place to sleep, financial assistance, and clothing.

The outreach program continued this year even though the pandemic cut into our activity. We were limited in our involvement; however, we did meet our \$400 goal to contribute to *A Night's Welcome* that took place at area churches. Prayerfully, we will get back to helping others.

A high spot this year was the success of Andrew Sutherland's Annual Coat Drive. Within only *two days* of collecting donations, we accumulated 1,177 items (stats below). Not only did members of Gloria Dei give generously to the coat drive, but a large portion of our donations came from members of our community who saw us holding our "Coat Drive" signs on donating days. All items had been given to United Central Methodist Church in downtown Hampton, since they were hosting H.E.L.P.'s *A Night's Welcome* the entire winter.

Now, let's get into the numbers:

Men's items: 281	Boys' items: 28
Women's items: 397	Girls' items: 75
Socks: 97	Shoes: 37
Belts: 24	Hats: 65
Gloves: 52	Scarves: 89
Bags: 23	Blankets: 3
Misc.: 6	

Another high point was the donation of the Wednesday Lenten Evening collection which came to \$1,915.00, and was given to H.E.L.P.! Hopefully, next year we will be back on course with our tasks and projects with the help of our Church and School staff and congregation.

Thank you, Gloria Dei, for everything you continue to do to uplift this community and do God's work in people's lives!

Alfred E. Scherrer, Jr., Coordinator





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❖ **HELP Board of Directors**

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Sandra Konrad
Rev. Timothy Crummitt

❖ **Mission Statement**

To provide dignifying, empowering, and faith-based safety-net shelter, healthcare, and support to our community's most vulnerable people

❖ **Ministries**

HELP House Family Shelter
Emergency Housing
Food Pantry
A Night's Welcome Winter Shelter
HELP Day Center
HELP Medical Clinic
HELP Dental Clinic
Financial Assistance

❖ **Vision Statement**

That persons in need in our community have access to the shelter, healthcare, and support needed to regain and maintain self-reliance



February 2, 2021

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
250 Fox Hill Rd
Hampton, VA 23669-1757

Dear Gloria Dei,

On behalf of the HELP Board of Directors and those we serve; we would like to thank you for your generous donations totaling \$6,890.31 in 2020.

Itemized list of your gift(s) in 2020, showing tax deductible amount:

Date	Amount	Payment Type	Notes
Jan 2, 2020		In Kind	15 bags
Jan 22, 2020		In Kind	12 bags
Feb 4, 2020		In Kind	19 bags
Feb 19, 2020		In Kind	14 bags
Mar 2, 2020		In Kind	8 bags
Jun 8, 2020	\$3,658	Check (9461)	
Jul 20, 2020	\$820	Check (9473)	
Aug 13, 2020		In Kind	5 Bags
Aug 13, 2020		In Kind	Toiletries (5 bags)
Aug 20, 2020	\$435	Check (9479)	
Nov 19, 2020	\$1,012	Check (9493)	
Nov 19, 2020	\$400	Check (9493)	
Total	\$6,325		

This past year has been unique with the COVID-19 Pandemic. We continued services uninterrupted where possible, adjusted to reopen other services quickly, kept all staff employed, and served the needs presented to us. And none of this would have been possible without your generous support.

Your commitment to bettering our community through your donations to our organization is genuinely appreciated.

With Gratitude,

Matthew Stearn

Matthew Stearn
Executive Director

The entity making the above donations to HELP Inc received no goods or services in return for the contribution. HELP is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP/SENIOR HIGH DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

While we were not able to meet in person for almost all of this past year, we were able to stay engaged with our youth through Zoom activities. Wednesday Youth Nights for our senior youth consisted of all of us meeting on Zoom for Discipleship, with a couple of game nights to keep things fun. We covered topics like Anger, Commitment to Christ, Devotional Time, Discernment, and the Call to Be Different. Even though Zoom meetings can be daunting and sometimes the youth were just over being on video after being on Zoom for their school day, they really had a good time and felt connected to Gloria Dei under difficult conditions.

We were able to meet face-to-face for one service activity. On March 28, 2021, the Senior and Junior Youth met outside using COVID-safe practices (distancing, sanitizer, masks) to assemble welcome bags for those attending Easter worship on the lawn or in the parking lot. They also took some time to write notes to our congregational members who were homebound during this time, wishing them a Happy Easter and letting them know they were in our thoughts. It was great to have all of us together. The youth really enjoyed it, and loads of notes were created.

On April 21, 2021, we began to meet in person again using COVID-safe practices (distancing, sanitizer, masks) for Wednesday Youth Nights. The youth participated in music activities for the first hour of the evening, while the second half was dedicated to Discipleship. We covered topics such as Priorities, Pushing the Limits, Reputation, Self-Image, and the Power of Speech. We were able to gather for only five evenings, but we had a great turnout with an average of 8-10 senior youth in attendance. Although many of us had not seen each other in person for over a year, the youth seemed to adjust well to the new set up, and the group dynamic was still intact.

As the school year comes to an end, we look forward to having a few events with our youth this summer so that we can continue to gather in faith and fellowship.

Thank you for your continued support!

Peggy Todd, Rachel Lomax, and Josh Lowman
Senior High Youth Advisors



JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

The Gloria Dei Junior Youth Group 2020-2021 kicked off with an updated Zoom schedule which

Pastor Phyl and the youth leaders fine-tuned based on what we'd learned earlier in the year. Through this process of adaptation, the kids and adults managed to find virtual gatherings as a way of connection as well as an outlet of joy amidst such a turbulent time. Whether it was Bible study, singing, or just laughing and talking about the craziness of their school day, they stayed engaged. None of this could have been possible without our amazing volunteers and church staff. Pastor Phyl, Mrs. Foringer, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Chilton, and Mrs. Zamora gave their all in order to keep everyone connected in discipleship and music.

Then later on in the year, we welcomed in Pastor Dave! He gave us a fun, fresh perspective to the Wednesday night youth meetings. As the weather got warmer and restrictions loosened, we were allowed to get back together in person. While virtual discipleship was good, we couldn't wait to see each other again face-to-face. Once all of us could do this, the gatherings started to feel "real" again...more authentic than hiding behind a screen. Even though masked and social distanced, it felt good to be back together. This progression allowed two terrific young men, DJ Miller and Dallam Brown, to be confirmed on the church lawn. We were also able to have an in-person Youth Sunday. Since we are headed toward normalcy in our lives more and more, we've decided to have some fun events during the summer to keep everyone together.

I would like to give a special thanks to the dedication of our youth!! This has been a tough year for all of us, but I'm super proud of how our kids have handled the cards they were dealt and how they stayed dedicated to this group of friends in Christ. Also, thank you to the parents for encouraging them to get on to one more Zoom call. We are so excited to see what the fall brings! Please reach out to me if any of your children are interested in joining Junior Youth Group.

Peace be with you!
Jenny Sutherland

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

As I headed up the sales efforts this year, I could not have done it without the help and support of Peggy Todd and Rachel Lomax (Senior Youth Advisors) and Aaron and Jenny Sutherland (Junior Youth Advisors) helping to coordinate this event. It was a very different year with COVID in play, but it was a very satisfying event both for the youth and the community. There were so many comments of positive support for our youth and community of faith from those purchasing trees. We sold out in record time this year, a little over two weeks. People were really clamoring for some normalcy in the Christmas season, and it was good to be a part of that. As always, it cannot be a success without the help from numerous families, especially all those youth and parents that picked up extra shifts and stared down the pandemic! Christmas Tree Sales were, as always, a HUGE success. We showed a net profit of \$3,851.00 on sales of \$7,900.00 and expenses of \$4,300.00. If the math does not add, that is due to the generous donations over and above the cost of a tree! Expenses were up due to an increase in the cost of trees. Christmas tree sales help cut our costs for retreats to a minimum so that all youth can enjoy these retreats: *Winter Celebration* for our high school youth, *Lost and Found* for our 7th and 8th graders, and *7th Day* for our 5th and 6th grade group. Thanks to all youth and their families and members of Gloria Dei who volunteered their time during a very busy time of year. Also, special thanks to all who purchased a live tree.

Faithfully serving,
Jason Green

LADIES OF EGGCELLENCE

Given the unique times of COVID-19, the Ladies of Eggcellence were blessed to be able to create 2,734 yummy eggs this year. Many thanks to the creativity of Mike Riley. Thinking out of the box – Mike, Aaron Sutherland, and Derry Mace managed to create a “temporary kitchen” in the Atrium so that all stages of the egg-making process could be done under the most sanitary conditions without impacting the School’s daily operations. Relocation of freezers/refrigerators, compartment sink with spray hose that accessed HOT running water, and strategic electrical wiring for dipping stations contributed to another successful year of creating those marvelous chocolate-dipped cream-centered eggs – a Gloria Dei tradition since 2009.



The normal procedure of receiving orders was not logistically feasible, and eggs were sold on a first-come, first-served basis. We did a trend analysis on our congregation’s previous years orders to determine how many batches of each flavor to make. We sold out on the beautiful Saturday of Palm Sunday weekend, and it was good to see both Church members and community neighbors come through the parking lot to pick up the Easter goodies!

Our apologies to those who were unable to acquire our delicious eggs. We pray next year will be a “normal” egg year. Shout out and many thanks to the dedicated Eggstra hands that allowed us to spread JOY during difficult times.

Proceeds for 2021 were \$2,122.00. Use of the proceeds is to be determined.

Yours in Eggs,
The Ladies of Eggcellence



GIRL SCOUTS

This past year may have brought challenges and restrictions, but Girl Scout Troop 1041, led by Vicki O'Neill, used their resources wisely and still provided a fun and engaging year. The troop took advantage of good weather to meet at local parks and found time to reach out and support others.

Since they could not do a “trunk or treat” this year, the girls provided 100 treat bags in October to be distributed along with kid meals as part of the BBQ Dinner offered by the church. Just before the holidays, they made arts and crafts which were distributed to senior living centers. They also partnered with PACE to provide drawings and cards to home-bound seniors who were alone. They did several “home town hero” projects recognizing local police and medical staff. The girls said “thank you” by visiting locations and donating Girl Scout cookies. The biggest project was creating 150 thank-you bags for nurses, respiratory therapists, and other medical technicians at Riverside Hospital.

Two of our Junior-level Girl Scouts and church members, Hayley O'Neill and Adalelyn Forbes, chose to tackle refurbishing the Gloria Dei benches to earn their Bronze Award. The girls scrubbed, sanded, and re-oiled the three benches out front as well as weeded the gardens and picked up trash around the property. All in all completing over 20 hours of work.

Two of our Cadette-level Girl Scouts earned their Silver Award by installing two gardens at Bluebird Gap Farm, growing vegetables such as squash, cucumbers, and parsley. They spent all summer and fall weeding, watering, and harvesting crops which were used to help supplement food for animals at the park. The girls put in well over 40 hours of work. The gardens have been replanted and will be cared for again this year.

During the winter, the troop spent a lot of time on Zoom, and leaders dropped supply bags at girl's homes. As spring began to arrive, the troop spent time rotating through the local parks in Hampton learning and earning badges for trees, animal habitats, outdoor art, first aid, and more. They celebrated the theme of “Peace” during this year's World Thinking Day.

Troop 1041 managed to hold a few drive-through cookie booths in the Gloria Dei parking lot. With limited booth locations, the stop at Gloria Dei was a huge success, providing our biggest cookie year ever. A big thanks to Gloria Dei for their support!

To round out the Girl Scout year, we were able to finally meet our new Pastor. Pastor Fox joined the girls in May, helping them earn their My Promise/My Faith pins for 2021, celebrating the theme, “Make the World a Better Place.”

With the beautiful spring weather, the girls were able to end the year with some outside adventures. They made a trip to Go Ape in Williamsburg to climb in the trees and spent a day at Camp Skimino participating in archery, pitching a tent, compass skills, and making SWAPS.

The Troop currently supports 32 girls from 1st to 7th grades. Thank you as always to Gloria Dei for all of their love and support of Troop 1041. We could not do all we do without you. We hope next year brings even more adventures.

Vicki O'Neill, Girl Scout Troop 1041

CUB SCOUTS

The Cub Scouts look for reopening in September 2021.

John Campbell, Scoutmaster, Cub Scouts Pack 184

BOY SCOUTS

Troop 84 worked to keep the boys engaged and progressing this year. The Troop's strength has always been outdoor activities, so we focused on those when able and kept going on Zoom for the regular meetings.

Our biggest accomplishments: Two Scouts achieved the rank of Eagle Scout! Ben Melson made Eagle after leading the troop through a bench-building project on the playground at the Willow Oaks School campus. Jonah Hutchison achieved his Eagle rank with the completion of an improvement project that added a concrete walkway and replaced the "dumpster blind" outside the Fellowship Hall. As is tradition, both of these projects occurred at the height of summer heat!

As outdoor activities became more permissible, the boys eagerly returned to camping. These trips took place at Newport News Park, Fort Boykin, Crabtree Falls, and Sherando Lake. The boys concentrated on cooking, rank advancement skills, and hiking and fishing.

I am most proud of the service our boys continued to provide. They participated in beach cleanup at the Grandview Nature Preserve. The troop built a perch for ospreys and helped place it in the Hampton River adjacent to Elizabeth Lake. In one of our most rewarding and poignant opportunities, the troop teamed with soldiers from Fort Eustis and members of local civic organizations in Hampton to clean up two cemeteries. Not just any gravesites, the Bassette and Elmerton cemeteries are the resting place of generations of prominent African Americans; most notably Mary Peake, who taught freed slaves during the Civil War.

Like many organizations, Scouting BSA has had some difficulties over the past year due to COVID-19. Troop 84 is no exception and has seen its membership decrease to five currently Chartered Scouts. A number of factors contributed to this decrease, from people's individual choices due to pandemic concerns as well as natural aging out of scouts. We hope that as protocols become more permissive, our recruiting opportunities will expand.

Thanks to the congregation as always for supporting our youth.

Respectfully,

Barry Hutchison, Scoutmaster, BSA Troop 84

SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Our Church and School

What we owe and what we are worth!

We should celebrate our blessings and look toward our next year!

From a financial perspective, our goals during the last twelve months included:

1. Cope with the unpredictable and harsh impacts of the pandemic.
2. Maximize our grant potential.
3. Continue to service our debt service.
4. Monitor our reserve fund levels that will continue to protect the Church and School program.
5. Prepare for an enhanced outreach into our community.

The COVID-19 situation created many challenges, and we were up to them. We took the needed steps to react and protect our financial situations. A major move was undertaken jointly by the Church and School. We obtained a second Paycheck Protection Program loan/grant of \$396,000 that greatly benefited the School directly and created payroll and utility savings for the Church. These results are outlined in detail in the Plan Proposal section of this report.

Church and School Reserve funds have been further strengthened and at much more than acceptable levels.

Our projected indebtedness for 6/30/21 includes the one remaining loan for which we are making regularly scheduled principal and interest payments.

- Consolidated Loan (previously Atrium mortgage, Rice Land purchase and Harris Creek property).
 - Balance projected for 6/30/21 as of 5/30/21: \$1,776,509 (a reduction of \$73,564 in from the prior year); current interest rate of 4.85%; Maturity date: 12/11/35.
 - Current Monthly payment of \$14,111.77.
 - Payments are made from the Church Operating Account.

Our Estimated Value of Real Estate and Holdings: \$10,105,462.

Our current liquidity (cash on hand projected for 6/30/21) \$1,715,019; included are these funds:

- Columbarium Account: \$5,090 (an increase of about \$1,000 over last year)
- Legacy Account: \$1,096.40 (about same total as last year)
- Memorial Account: \$83,599 (about \$1000 less than last year)
- Church Operating Account: \$226,740 (an increase of about \$42,000 over last year)
- School Operating Account: \$621,700 (an increase of about \$383,000; large impact from PPP)
- School Savings Account: \$620,800 (an increase of about \$91,000)
- School Fundraising: \$150,604 (an increase of about \$66,000; large grant impact)
- Linda Robinson Scholarship Account: \$2,695.00 (a new account in honor of a wonderful leader)
- Pastor's Discretionary Account: \$2,695 (funded by designated gifts)

Total projected, dedicated Church and School Reserves projected 6/30/21: \$741,122 (these are included within the above liquidity amounts).

Every Member Response Program

As all of you are certainly aware the last 16 months have been vastly different and, in many ways, trying times for our church, our community, our country, and our world. We have been truly blessed by God, and our congregation has responded to the challenges wonderfully.

As most of you know, our stewardship program is unlike most of our programs, as EMR is scheduled on a calendar basis. Our financial plans and budgets are on fiscal year of July 1 through June 30. For the calendar year 2020 (again this is the EMR 2020 year, not the Plan year or fiscal year), our total offerings were \$442,773. Though this is about \$40,000 less than the prior EMR year, given the incredible impact from COVID, we believe this is a remarkably successful result and certainly better than we would have expected given the “shutdowns” and the very formidable and frightening aspects of the pandemic. Many organizations did not survive as well, and we should give thanks for our many gifts.

For the fiscal year running 7/1/20 to 6/30/21, we are as of 5/30/21 forecasting a total of \$447,384 for Regular Offerings.

Our current EMR 2021 campaign resulted in a pledge total of \$426,400, and with our normal total offering from both pledges and “non-pledging” giving of 115% (of pledges), this creates a projection of \$490,360 for the 1/1/21 to 12/31/21 period. For the calendar year to date, 1/1/21 through 4/30/21, we have received \$175,580 in offerings for the first four months of the calendar year. This is another indicator of future offerings.

As we look forward and plan our stewardship efforts, we are utilizing many of the methods, themes, and plans offered by the ELCA and other outside sources of programs with specific plans and assistance. These new plans and steps will result in an enhanced EMR plan for our 2022 year.

We are certainly grateful for all the gifts including funding, time, and talent. Thank you for all your gifts to our Church.

We remain prayerful that our congregation will continue their stewardship and give with their hearts to our Church and its valuable ministries.

*“We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be,
all that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.”*

	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Plan Proposal as of 6/3/21				Proposed Plan FYE 6/30/22	Variance v Plan FYE 6/30/21	Variance v Projected FYE 6/30/21	Notes
	Projected FYE 6/30/21	Plan FYE 6/30/21	over Plan	Notes & Future Plan Impact				
Total 1 Regular Offering	447,384.78	491,585.97	(44,201.19)	should recover when in person	491,585.97	0.00	44,201.19	This is our expectation for Offerings
Expenses								
100 Education Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00					
107 Sunday School	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 500.00	\$ (250.00)	\$ 500.00	assuming return in July or August
114 Confirmation Curriculum	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 450.00	\$ (200.00)	\$ 450.00	as in prior years
116 Vacation Church School	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	as in prior years
118 Brotherhood expense	0.00	150.00	(150.00)	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	as in prior years
117 Staff Development	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	as in prior years
123 Weekly Bible Study	307.47	75.00	232.47	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 100.00	\$ (25.00)	\$ (207.47)	as in prior years
124 First Communion Class	0.00	50.00	(50.00)		\$ 100.00	\$ (50.00)	\$ 100.00	as in prior years
Total 100 Education Ministry	307.47	2,875.00	(2,567.53)	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 3,400.00	\$ (525.00)	\$ 3,092.53	more than prior Plan and prior year
1000 Executive Committee								
1000.8 Gathering of the Ministerium	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 145.00	\$ (45.00)	\$ 145.00	same as prior Plan 2020
1001 Synod Assembly	0.00	1,200.00	(1,200.00)	cancelled; will resume in next Plan	\$ 1,260.00	\$ (60.00)	\$ 1,260.00	5% over 2021 Plan
Strategy Planning	0.00	0.00	0.00	no activity	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 1,000.00	Placeholder for discussion
1003 Pastoral Call/Research	6,220.91	7,000.00	(779.09)	will not repeat	\$ -	\$ 7,000.00	\$ (6,220.91)	none Planned
Total 1000 Executive Committee	6,220.91	8,300.00	(2,079.09)	will be less in next plan	\$ 2,405.00	\$ 5,895.00	\$ (3,815.91)	
200 Worship Ministry								
201 New Music	595.00	1,200.00	(605.00)	will return to current plan	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 905.00	same as prior Plan 2020
202 Piano/Organ Tuning	4,135.00	2,000.00	2,135.00	will return to current plan	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ (2,135.00)	assume 2000
203 Sound System	0.00	250.00	(250.00)		\$ 500.00	\$ (250.00)	\$ 500.00	assume 2000
204 Music Supplies	488.83	600.00	(111.17)		\$ 1,200.00	\$ (700.00)	\$ 700.37	assume 1200
207 Instrumental Accompanists	100.00	400.00	(300.00)		\$ 750.00	\$ (350.00)	\$ 650.00	assume 750 for discussion
Miscellaneous Worship Supplies	659.74	3,000.00	(2,340.26)	will return to current plan	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,330.26	same as Plan 2021
210 Altar Guild Supplies	(35.00)	403.58	(438.58)	will return to current plan	\$ 584.00	\$ (180.42)	\$ 619.00	same as Plan 2020
211 Bulletins	390.20	750.00	(359.80)	will return to current plan	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 359.80	same as Plan 2021
213 Decorations/Flowers	112.93	367.97	(255.04)	will return to current plan	\$ 750.00	\$ (390.03)	\$ 645.07	same as Plan 2020 + 5%
Worship Ministry Staff Wages	68,748.74	81,673.42	(12,924.68)	should be about same as current	\$ 54,831.88	\$ 6,741.54	\$ (3,917.86)	impacted by no Assoc from prior
Worship Ministry Staff Benefits	4,861.88	3,784.18	1,077.70	should be about same as current	\$ 16,349.66	\$ (12,585.50)	\$ 11,397.98	increase with full year of Pensions
250 Cross & Crown	0.00	150.00	(150.00)	will return to current plan	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	same as Plan 2021
Administrative Miscellaneous	6,248.08	8,484.10	(2,236.02)		\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,264.10	\$ (2,045.08)	return to historical levels
258 Seasonal Worship Supplies	1,902.33	2,500.00	(597.67)		\$ 3,500.00	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 1,597.67	return to historical levels
Total 250 Admin/Office Expense	60.00	750.00	(690.00)	will return to current plan	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (450.00)	\$ 1,150.00	return to historical levels
281 Guest Pastor Fees	200.00	250.00	(50.00)		\$ 600.00	\$ (350.00)	\$ 400.00	return to historical levels
Total 200 Worship Ministry	77,803.33	84,373.23	(6,569.90)	should be about same as current	\$ 90,873.54	\$ (6,500.31)	\$ 13,270.21	more than prior Plan and prior year
300 Support Ministry								
301 Supplies Office	2,385.53	3,200.00	(814.47)		\$ 3,260.29	\$ (60.29)	\$ 874.76	assume 3% over 6/30/20
302 Copier Paper	1,012.79	2,000.00	(987.21)		\$ 1,043.17	\$ 956.83	\$ 30.38	assume 3% over 6/30/21
Total 303 Telephone Service	2,848.26	1,800.00	728.22		\$ 2,727.70	\$ (807.67)	\$ 79.45	assume 3% over 6/30/21
305 Copier Lease	6,702.42	9,446.36	(2,743.94)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 10,299.96	\$ (853.60)	\$ 3,597.54	assume same monthly amount
306.2 Computer Upgrade	3,611.28	2,500.00	1,111.28	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ (2,411.28)	assume 1200
308 Postage Office	1,876.88	1,500.00	376.88		\$ 1,876.88	\$ (376.88)	\$ -	same as projected 6/30/21
Support Ministry Wages	81,204.88	102,100.48	(20,895.60)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 110,311.03	\$ (8,210.60)	\$ 29,105.04	incorporates a 3% staff increase
Support Ministry Staff Benefits	8,062.85	11,810.65	(3,747.80)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 12,251.83	\$ (941.28)	\$ 4,198.98	impact by compensation increase

	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Plan Proposal as of 6/3/21				Proposed Plan FYE 6/30/22	Variance v Plan FYE 6/30/21	Variance v Projected FYE 6/30/21	Notes
	Projected FYE 6/30/21	Plan FYE 6/30/21	over Plan	Notes & Future Plan Impact				
Workers Comp Insurance	1,173.98	1,329.53	(155.57)		\$ 1,209.18	\$ 120.35	\$ 35.22	3% increase assumed
Stewardship program	0.00	0.00	0.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$ (2,000.00)	\$ 2,000.00	new effort for program expense
320 Supplies EMR	937.95	800.00	137.95		\$ 500.00	\$ 300.00	\$ (437.95)	assumed 500; would like to cutdown
Total 323 Database Maintenance	3,743.50	3,750.00	(6.50)		\$ 3,831.60	\$ (81.60)	\$ 88.10	3% increase assumed
324 Accounting Consultation	0.00	4,000.00	(4,000.00)	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	assume 4000; prep to audit process
Website development	0.00	0.00	0.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00	assume 5000; new account
331 Custodial Service	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 2,400.00	\$ (200.00)	\$ 200.00	assume 200/mo
332 Building Maintenance Nave	495.10	1,800.00	(1,304.90)	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 934.90	assume 1400
Building Maint- Church Offices	287.53	1,000.00	(712.47)		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 712.47	assume 1000
Maintenance Supplies - Atrium	428.61	2,000.00	(1,571.39)		\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,571.39	assume 2000
Total 334 Grounds Maintenance	2,145.11	2,500.26	(355.15)		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 500.26	\$ (145.11)	assume 2000
Total 336 Utilities Electric	13,450.13	19,500.00	(6,049.87)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 20,000.00	\$ (500.00)	\$ 6,549.87	assume 20,000; no PPP impact
Total 337 Utilities Gas	536.80	1,600.30	(1,063.50)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 0.30	\$ 1,063.20	assume 1600; no PPP impact
338 Utilities Water	537.91	1,200.10	(662.19)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 1,350.00	\$ (149.90)	\$ 812.09	assume 1350
339 Utilities Sewer	434.53	1,100.26	(665.73)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (99.74)	\$ 765.47	assume 1200
Total 341 Property Insurance	15,515.71	18,749.52	(3,233.81)		\$ 15,981.18	\$ 2,768.34	\$ 465.47	assume 3% increase
351 Postage Newsletter	714.00	1,500.00	(786.00)		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 286.00	assume 1000 and try less by emailing
352 Advertising	0.00	300.00	(300.00)		\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00	assume 200
Total 353 Bank Charges	629.55	639.42	(9.87)		\$ 648.44	\$ (9.02)	\$ 18.89	assume 3% increase
Total 300 Support Ministry	150,695.38	197,746.76	(47,051.38)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 210,291.25	\$ (12,544.49)	\$ 59,595.87	major impact from no PPP savings
400 Care Ministry								
Total 401.0 Nursery Program	0.00	1,100.00	(1,100.00)	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 3,000.00	\$ (1,900.00)	\$ 3,000.00	assume prior level of 3000
403 Funeral Receptions	0.00	200.00	(200.00)		\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	assume 0
406 Synod Benevolence	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00		\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ (15,000.00)	three new breakouts
ELCA Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	0.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00	new breakout of overall \$30,000
ELCA World Hunger	0.00	0.00	0.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00	new breakout of overall \$30,000
ELCA Mission Support	0.00	0.00	0.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00	new breakout of overall \$30,000
Total 400 Care Ministry	30,000.00	31,300.00	(1,300.00)		\$ 33,000.00	\$ (1,700.00)	\$ 3,000.00	increase from resumption of Nursery
500 Community Ministry								
501 Junior Youth Program	55.00	500.00	(445.00)	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 445.00	assume 500
502 SeniorYouth Program	54.00	500.00	(446.00)	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 446.00	assume 500
Total 502.10 Youth Retreats	(3,851.00)	500.00	(4,351.00)	should return to former Plan amount	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 4,351.00	assume 500
507.1 Youth Night Expense	0.00	150.00	(150.00)		\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	assume 150
Total 510 Parish Fellowship	(1,183.05)	2,000.00	(3,183.05)		\$ 1,800.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,983.05	assume 1,800
Total 500 Community Ministry	(4,925.05)	3,650.00	(8,575.05)		\$ 3,450.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 8,375.05	resuming cancelled retreats
600 Debt Service								
610 Atrium Mortgage (P & I)	162,706.85	162,706.60	0.25	same as currentl Plan	\$ 162,706.85	\$ (0.25)	\$ -	same as prior as set with TowneBank
Total 600 Debt Service	162,706.85	162,706.60	0.25		\$ 162,706.85	\$ (0.25)	\$ -	assume 162,706
Total Expenses	422,608.89	490,951.59	(68,342.70)	some impact from PPP savings	\$ 506,126.64	\$ (15,475.05)	\$ 83,517.75	major change from no PPP savings
Net Operating Income	24,775.89	634.38	24,141.51		\$ (14,540.67)	\$ 15,175.05	\$ (39,316.56)	negative net to covered by Prior Year surplus



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE REVEREND DAVID E. FOX, SENIOR MINISTER OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

MRS. LISA DADEZ, HEAD OF SCHOOL

MR. EARNEST S. ATKINS, CONGREGATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

2021 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT SUMMARY – April 2021

Opinion

Audit procedures were performed to assess the objectives listed below. In doing so, the auditor reviewed the design and the operating effectiveness of the controls governing the financial reporting and operations of the church.

With the exceptions noted, controls were designed and operating effectively. Furthermore, based on the limited procedures performed, no improper entries or balances were noted.

Audit Objectives and Scope

Audit procedures were performed on the books and records of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Gloria Dei Lutheran School transactions were reviewed only where joint billings or allocations were used. Thorough walk-throughs were performed for all audit topics. [More significant and broader testing is expected in 2022, which will include all Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, School, and Day Care activities. It is the desire of the Audit Committee to have the support from a local accounting firm for portions of the 2022 audit.]

Key controls covered in the 2021 audit included the following areas:

- Accounts payable (paying bills and invoices including reviews, approvals, and documentation requirements)
- Accounts receivable (receiving, processing, and depositing monies from all sources)
- Accounting close, processing, reporting, reviews, and approvals
- General accounting and business operations guidelines
- Budgeting and planning
- Asset tracking and monitoring
- Insurance and security
- Grants and loan programs

Audit Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on audit work performed, the books and records of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church appear to be materially accurate. Testing found, with some exceptions as noted in this report, that the controls governing the financial operations process appear to be in place and operating as intended. Although controls over financial operations appear to be adequate, additional work is needed in the following areas:

- Asset tracking and monitoring – both church and school
- Church council resolution for business titles
- Continued development and refinement of formal policies, procedures, desk instructions for significant financial and operational activities – both church and school
- Reconcile insurance, real estate tax, and legal records

Church and School Business Management concurred with the report and prepared responses and a plan of action to remediate each issue. Please see the full report for additional details.

STATISTICS

2020 - 2021

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Membership

467

Average Worship Attendance

*We are not posting a number for the average worship attendance,
as we are not clear on what that specific number would be due to the pandemic.*

Gloria Dei Lutheran School

Full-time Student Enrollment

311

After-School Day Care

200

Current Elected Leadership

		<u>Term Expires</u>
Trustees	Fred Bradley	2023
	Jim Fullen	2023
	Paula Jones	2023
	Anne Perry	2022
	Mike Riley	2022
	Vivian Griesse	2022
	Ernie Atkins	2021
Council President	Jason Green	2021
Council Vice President	Kent Morgan	2023
Council Members	Eric Olsen	2023
	Todd Pfahl	2021
	Shannon Schubert	2023
	Dan Singer	2021
	Garth Wallis	2022
	Ashley Zamora	2022
	Dawn Lomax	2023
Treasurer	Mike Canny	(appointed)
Congregational Secretary		

For as all
die in Adam,



so all will be
made alive in Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:22

✠ *In Memoriam* ✠

*Remembering those members and non-members
whose committals/funerals were conducted by our Pastor.*

Linda Kay Robinson

June Louise Rickard Ambrose