

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

## Annual Report

Prepared for the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

*June 26, 2022*



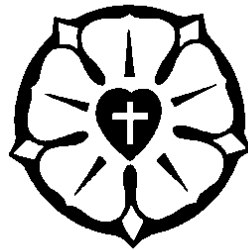
250 FOX HILL ROAD HAMPTON VIRGINIA 23669



# **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 57<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**June 26, 2022**

**I. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum**

**Jason Green**

**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 Church Council: Gary Hess, Rachel Lomax, Ashley Zamora
- B. Election of Trustees: Ernie Atkins, Anne Perry, Mike Riley, Peggy Todd
- C. Presentation and approval of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 2022-2023 Financial Plan
- D. Special Recognitions

### **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*



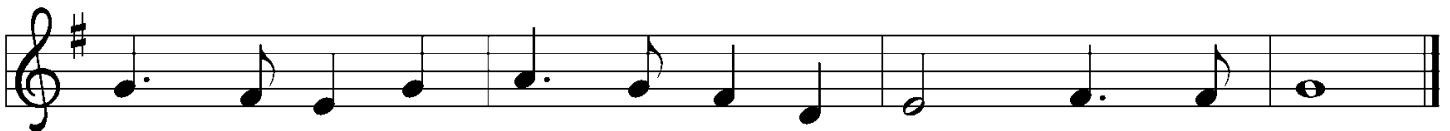
1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



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

June 27, 2021

Ernie Atkins, Council President, called the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Congregational Meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. He then advised that Jenny Sutherland would serve as voting moderator, assisted by Mike Riley and Andrew Sutherland. Pastor Dave was identified as scriptural officiate, Garth Wallis was identified as Parliamentarian, and Mike Canny as Congregational Secretary, recording minutes of this meeting. He also reminded all present that voting by proxy and absentee ballot is not permitted under the Gloria Dei Constitution.

Upon completion of counting by ushers Rachel Lomax and Peggy Todd, and in consultation with the Voting Moderator, it was determined that a quorum (20% of voting members) was present.

## **Order of Meeting**

Ann Riley made a motion that the Order of the Meeting be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Aaron Sutherland. Motion carried. Order of the Meeting thereby adopted.

## **Old Business**

Motion was made by Lynn Graves to accept the minutes and standing reports as presented. Motion seconded by Barry Hutchison. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

### **Nomination/Election of Candidates**

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Ernie Atkins, has prepared the following list for consideration as President, Vice President, and Council Members:

President: Jason Green

Vice President: Vivian Griese

Council Members: John Campbell, Aaron Sutherland

No additional names have been 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 Atkins 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 Atkins 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 Garth Wallis and seconded by Dawn Lomax. There was no request for discussion. Motion was put to a vote and carried.

Ernie congratulated those elected to positions of the membership and thanked the outgoing members of Council, Dan Singer and Todd Pfahl, who have served faithfully during challenging times and have now completed their terms.

### **Presentation of the Gloria Dei FY 2021-2022 Financial Plan**

Rick Graves presented the 2021-2022 Financial Plan as developed by the Church Council. Ernie Atkins asked for a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Financial Plan as presented. Motion was made by Peggy Todd and was seconded by Fred Bradley. Ernie asked for discussion. After several brief speakers, motion was put to vote. Motion carried.

### **Additional New Business**

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

### **Presidential Address**

Ernie Atkins, who concluded his service as President with this meeting, thanked many with the church and school staff for their support, recounted his experiences as President and stated it was an honor to serve as President of Gloria Dei. He considers it an honor to turn the presidency over to Jason Green.

### **Ernie Atkins Recognition**

Ernie was presented with a plaque from the Congregation, recognizing his long and dedicated service to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

### **Closing**

Meeting closed with scriptural responses and a hymn.

### **Adjournment**

11:05 a.m.

Mike Canny

Congregation Council Secretary



## SENIOR PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF



Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

There are many scholarly articles published about the benefits of volunteering. The benefits are not just for yourself, but also for your family and your community. Some of the benefits you receive from volunteering are: you participate in meaningful activities, use time more productively, overall life has improved, grow your circle of friends and acquaintances, feel better about yourself, increase your ability to interact with different kinds of people, sharpen your leadership abilities, become healthier. The benefits to your family and community also generate quite the list of benefits.<sup>1</sup> (Use the link below to find more findings of benefits to your family and community.)

Look at those who are volunteering at Gloria Dei. Typically, they have a smile on their face and are happy to serve in whatever capacity they serve. They are invested in this community and will do what it takes to see this community become better and stronger. Now, that isn't to say these folks aren't tired. The old adage was "10% do 90% of the work." That isn't the case anymore. Many people have quit volunteering...not just at churches. Since many people have stepped down from volunteering, and others are in the process of letting go; there are not enough volunteers in this world.

Without volunteers, nonprofits will not make it into the twenty-second century; and the reality is, it is more like the next five years.

Sure, COVID-19 was the best excuse for you to drop everything. Many of you are returning to everyday life – you are going to the grocery store, out to eat, on vacation – you are doing it all – except getting involved with your church or other nonprofits that you once loved.

To the now 3% of you doing 97% of the work, thank you! You are what has been moving us forward and will continue to move us forward. Your hard work does not go unnoticed.

Picture with me for a moment: I have entered the grocery store without a cart or a basket. I begin to do my shopping, which is more than what I had anticipated. My arms are weighed down with more than I can handle. I just dropped the apple. If I try to pick up the apple, I will drop everything else. I desperately need someone to come pick up the apple and maybe one more item from my arms.

Will you be the person who picks up one or two things to help those who have their arms full from the decrease in our number of volunteers?

We need you to step in to leadership roles. Stepping up to leadership does not always mean you are leading large groups of people. In fact, one of the largest ways to help with church growth is small groups. Could you lead a group with five or six other people in attendance? I've heard the need for something for those who are in their 20s and 30s. I've been asked about something for our college students who are going to school locally. I've heard supper club is missed. I've seen some of your faces light up when I've mentioned a night a month at a local brewery to have a pint and share in some fellowship. I know there is a huge desire to get better connected with our community and ramping up our outreach. If you have a touch of tech knowledge, our tech team could use some folks to help them rotate out every now and then. We need you to jump in and grab a paddle.



## CONGREGATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

As I pen my first report to the congregation as Council President, I look back over the past year in the life of our congregation, and I am thankful. I am thankful for a return to in-person services, for then moving those services back into the Nave, for the support of the congregation to re-implement our fellowship events, for a joyful Christmas season, the gatherings of our youth at Wonderful Wednesdays, a renewing season of Easter with great attendance at services, and a continued outreach to the greater community through our various philanthropical commitments. I am thankful for Pastor Dave and his impact here in our lives. I am thankful for Lisa Dadez and her guidance of our School and for the School staff for enduring a year that was almost as challenging as those first months of the pandemic. I am thankful.

I am thankful, but I know we have not yet reached our potential. We have opportunities to further our reach into the greater community and to strengthen our own relationship with God. As Council, we took a retreat this past April to develop an Annual Roadmap to set a guide for how we as a community of faith can wrangle those opportunities into solid, spiritually-nurturing, and community-nurturing works. This is intended to help guide us to being the people God intends us to be for both ourselves and our greater community. I would hope that each of you has taken time to look at the display showing the Annual Roadmap, and as we move through the coming year, you are able to participate where able in seeing the roadmap become reality.

We **FINALLY** achieved a long set goal of revamping both the Church and School websites. With this upgrade in technology, we will be able to better offer virtual environments for worship, proffer increased opportunity for giving through Tithely, and have better communication through calendars and online documents for our Church and School activities. We also upgraded our online experience with the great assistance of the Tech Team and the purchase of a new camera. These advances in technology were first steps as we continue to develop ways in which to spread God's word and offer individuals the best experience we can for those who worship with us now in different ways.

Tithely is an exciting new feature on the website, and it is rapidly making its mark. If you would like to join the digital age in tithing and give to a list of other-directed offerings, please check out the "GIVE" portion of the site. There are detailed instructions to walk you through the process. One crucial note, you do have the ability to cover the transaction fees of this service. Just like every other credit card/ACH transaction, Gloria Dei is charged a fee of each processed amount for the service. There is an easy check box that allows you to cover these fees, if you so desire.

Both Council and I continue to offer our appreciation to those of you who have stepped up to assume leadership and assistance positions as well as those who continue to make our Sunday services and weekly activities possible. Without you, Gloria Dei would not be able to function. I would ask all to find how you may be able to serve in the functioning of our church and activities—whether as an usher, a lay assistant, a reader, a greeter, a coffee creator, a musician, a singer, a bell ringer, a camera operator, or in any area you may feel a call to be more active. If you are unsure of whom to contact for any role you may want to pursue or if you have an idea for a new ministry or new group you would like to begin, please feel free to reach out to Peggy Sipes, Pastor Dave, me, or any of our council members, and one of us will be able to point you in the direction!

As you elect or re-elect new members to the Council body, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to our retiring Council Member, Garth Wallis. His service to this congregation has been great, and he will be truly missed.

I would also like to offer my most sincere gratitude for the many years of service to Paula Jones. In recognizing her many years of membership and more importantly her service to our congregation, at its February meeting, the Council voted to bestow upon her the title of Trustee Emeritus.

In closing, I recently ran across a quote from Helen Keller while helping with a book report. “There is no better way to thank God for your sight than by giving a helping hand to someone in the dark.” I could not think of a better way to guide us forward as we look to what Gloria Dei can be.

Yours in Christ’s service,  
Jason A. Green  
Council President



## HEAD OF SCHOOL

In June, we completed our 49<sup>th</sup> school year, and what a year it was! This year, we had a total of 29 students graduate between fifth and eighth grades. At graduation, we recognized ten 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: Zachary Dibble, Abigail Fisher, Brooklyn Phipps, Bryson Rader, and Zoe Zou*  
*Eighth Grade: Junior Ceribasi, Jillian Griffin, Wai-Yun Quach, Austin Rader, and Dylan Taylor*

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.

In June, we said good-bye to Donna Scherrer. Donna faithfully served the staff, students, and families of Gloria Dei for twenty-five years. She has worked as a classroom aide, afternoon office assistant, Prekindergarten Teacher, and Child Care Program Director. Donna single-handedly created the Kick-Start Kindergarten program. This full-day program was created to meet the needs of three groups: placement for advanced prekindergarten students, age-appropriate students not quite ready for kindergarten, and students repeating prekindergarten. Donna also oversaw the implementation of Gloria Dei's cross country team and led the team through many seasons. I am so very thankful for Donna's dedication and commitment to Gloria Dei. She has been an integral part of our program and 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.

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Marcie Earhart  
Rebecca Mahan

**15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Vanessa Vaught

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Jeanene Nolte  
Rick Graves

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Julie Allen  
Janet Cole  
Donna Scherrer

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Cheryl Smith

I am very appreciative of these dedicated individuals 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 child care program for our students. Thank you for your faithfulness and dedication to our ministry.

### 2021 – 2022 School Highlights

- We were blessed with an enrollment of 343 students in our day school program (two-year olds–eighth grade).
- Gloria Dei Lutheran School was once again recognized in the Best of Coastal Virginia 2022 Reader's Choice contest. Gloria Dei was the Overall Gold Winner in the Best Private School category. Gloria Dei's Child Care Program and Summer Adventures Program both received Peninsula Gold Awards. Many thanks to all who voted for our School and Child Care programs.
- It is with a grateful heart I extend my thanks to all involved in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Drive-thru BBQ Fundraiser. This event is a great way to connect with our school families, congregants, and our community. We raised over \$4,000! These funds are earmarked to assist with technology upgrades in our worship space.

- In the fall, we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fun Run. Under the direction of Lindsey LaRoche and Donna Scherrer; students collected donations, ran laps, and participated in a day of fun activities. Thanks to our Fun Run directors, as well as the staff and volunteers required to pull off this exciting day. We raised over \$6,700! The proceeds from the Fun Run went towards the purchase of technology, enrichment activities, and cleaning/disinfecting supplies.
- Gloria Dei Preschool program received the Innovative School Award for Environmental Excellence. This prestigious award, given by the Hampton Clean City Commission, was in recognition for the preschool teachers' outstanding efforts to increase awareness in environmental issues. The teachers planned and executed a unit of study and celebration in honor of Earth Day.
- Our School sponsored successful Scholastic Book Fairs in the fall and spring. Many thanks to Julie Allen, Rebecca Mahan, and Donna Collins, as well as our parent volunteer, Laura Cullipher, who worked to set up, manage the fair, help with the children, and clean up.
- Two full-size AC/HVAC units were replaced—one on the Fox Hill campus and one at the Willow Oaks campus. In addition to this, Mr. Edwards replaced three split units on the Willow Oaks campus.
- The following after-school programs were active: Art Club, The Master's Singers, Math Labs, Gymnastics and Ninja Zone.
- Once again, students in kindergarten through eighth grades participated in *Kid's Heart Challenge*. The students raised over \$2,000 for the American Heart Association. A special thanks to Lindsey LaRoche for sponsoring and coordinating this special event.
- Gloria Dei Lutheran School and Child Care received \$418,325 in Virginia Child Care Stabilization grants. This money is earmarked per the guidelines of the grant to assist with staffing/hiring and staff support, professional development and training, facility improvements, cleaning and disinfection supplies, as well as helping to offset the increased expenses associated with providing food service and transportation.
- Renovations are underway as we prepare to reopen the campuses to parents and guests. The newly-established committee, The Stewards of Gloria Dei, began assisting with sprucing up the buildings. New cove boards were installed in the hallways, along with new light fixtures. In May, the Stewards began the task of painting the two-year-old rooms and hallway.
- Indoor security cameras will be installed throughout the hallways of the Fox Hill Campus.

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 223 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 for students of Gloria Dei, 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.
- Homework/study time for students in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Additional after-school activities – Art Academy (3<sup>rd</sup> & up), gymnastics, Tumblebugz, and Lil’ Ninjas.
- “*Summer Adventures*” – our summer program for children 16 months to 12 years old.

We have slowly transitioned to using our main entrance for pick-up and drop-off. From September through May, the main entrance was closed; therefore, parents dropped off and picked up at the back door. From May until June, parents entered through the main entrance to drop-off and pick-up.

Jeanene Nolte, Child Care Director  
Janet Cole, Program Coordinator



## **EDUCATION MINISTRIES**

### **TUESDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP BIBLE STUDY**

This class uses the Augsburg Adult Bible Studies series. In June 2022, we started to study God's vision for the earth and our lives in "Partners in a New Creation." The Augsburg 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. Our group meets every week if possible. We have met during the pandemic via Zoom. We are meeting in person now and will offer Zoom as an option when needed. 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.

Jill Ruhl, Leader

### **MEN'S AND DAYBREAKERS BIBLE STUDIES**

We have two morning Bible Studies at Gloria Dei. The men meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month and the women meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays. Both groups study the pericopes in preparation for the following Sunday. The pericopes include the lessons for the forthcoming worship service as defined in the church's lectionary series.

The men meet in the Simeon Center at church at 8:00 a.m. This year, the men awarded three \$500.00 scholarships. Recipients were Jonah Hutchison, Alexis Pfahl and Megan Watson. We wish them the best in their college careers. For additional information, contact Rick Graves at [rclinegraves@gmail.com](mailto:rclinegraves@gmail.com).

The women, also known as the Daybreakers, also meet at 8:00 a.m. The Daybreakers were involved in Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Creating and wrapping the kits, knowing they would help those less fortunate, was a special time. For additional information, contact Rita Foringer at [rforinger@verizon.net](mailto:rforinger@verizon.net).

Both groups are taking a break over the summer and will reform in the fall. All are welcome to these studies. Prayerfully consider joining. Remember, "The early bird gets the WORD."

### **CONFIRMATION 2021-2022**

This year we had three confirmands complete their Bible year of confirmation. All three were first-year confirmation students.

Confirmation is two years of study. We meet for fifty minutes during Wonderful Wednesdays. One year, we focus on what it means to be a Lutheran-flavored Christian. The other year, we study the Bible. Each year, the students are expected to attend class, participate in our service opportunities, do ten sermon notes, and pass two quizzes.

I am excited to see that we are sending confirmation students to camp. This week at camp is usually a time the students will never forget. During confirmation camp, the students will have an in-depth study of the church year. They, of course, will also have the opportunity to learn new songs, grow in their faith, do crafts, go on outings, and much more.

Thank you, Sharon Bennett and Rita Foringer, for your weekly presence, love, and service. Also, thank you to Ernie Atkins for teaching the course while Rita was healing and I was teaching communion class.

Peace be the journey,  
Pastor Dave

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The 2021 Christmas Pageant was called, "A Simple Christmas Pageant," originally organized by Charlotte Greeson at Virginia Theological Seminary and tweaked by Ginny Chilton for pandemic purposes. The pageant focused on Christmas scripture and song. We heard that Jesus would come "Soon, and Very Soon" and that "This Little Light of Mine" can never be hidden! We bebopped with "The Angel Band" and sang "Away in a Manger" for baby Jesus. We told everyone to "Rise Up Shepherd and Follow" because "He Came Down." We heard from "We Three Kings" and celebrated to "Let There Be Peace on Earth." In Mrs. Chilton's words, it truly was a multi-generational program, with kids, youth, parents, and even grandparents helping out and participating, both in person and on Zoom.

Many, many kudos and thanks to our director, Ginny Chilton, and to ALL: Jack Adams, Lola Atkins, Micah Craft, Adaleyn Forbes, Ollie Fox, Julie Hutchison, Ruth Hutchison, Elijah Lawson, Eva Lawson, Rachel Lomax, Amelia Lopez, Josh Lowman, Derry Mace, Leo Maxwell, Ralph Maxwell, DJ Miller, Marcus Miller, Hayley O'Neill, Vicki O'Neill, Emma Olsen, Easton Ransier, Mike Riley, Maddie Ritchie, Micaela Ruhl, Aaron Sutherland, Andrew Sutherland, Jenny Sutherland, Peggy Todd, Charlie Venable, Megan Watson, Ashley Zamora, Jacob Zamora, Isabella Zamora, and to anyone else not on this list!



## WORSHIP MINISTRIES

2021-2022 has been a transition year. We are slowly coming out of the pandemic and trying to get back to some sort of normal life. In-person worship is back for those who wish to attend, and the online option is still available and expanding for those who are more comfortable with social distancing.

First, we need to thank all who are involved in the service who work behind the scenes and whose efforts may not be known to the congregation. The Tech Team includes Mike Riley, Derry Mace, Barry Hutchison, Aaron Sutherland, Jenny Sutherland, and Andrew Sutherland. The Altar Guild preps the Altar and the church paraments in advance for our services and is led by Renee Wells. The Guild also includes Ann Riley, Pam Hess, Rowena Cornwell, Laura Fox, Vivian Griese, Rita Foringer, Carol Godley, Mary Mace, Debbie Moore, Jill Ruhl, and Donna Vanorsdale. Lastly, thanks to Peggy Sipes for the scheduling of volunteer worship staff and coordination of the bulletins and all other forms of communication to both staff and parishioners.

Our regular worship at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday is supported by many groups of volunteers to include the Cross and Crown, Readers, Cantors, Lay Assistants, Ushers, Greeters, Choirs, Bells, and Coffee Creators. Special thanks go out to Sandy Dunn and Mary Mace who have graciously helped playing the organ and piano for our services while we search for a new organist and Director of Music. All of the groups mentioned are open to adding more volunteers. If you have interest in serving, please let us know; we will put you in touch with the right person to get you involved. Come join the fun.

Pastor Dave has completed his first year and has adjusted well to the restrictions of COVID and the reopening of the church for in-person worship. He brings with him new ideas to connect to the larger community. Our outdoor services are to show the community we are here and active. He has instituted nontraditional exposure for fellowship like “A Pint with Pastor” at local breweries and “Doughnuts on the Beach with Pastor.” Both allow for a relaxed atmosphere to discuss anything of concern and to brainstorm for future community service and exposure. Overall, it has been a good year under Pastor’s leadership, and we are looking forward to many more.

Thanks to all who serve in any capacity to keep our church moving forward in worship.

Yours in community,  
John H. Campbell



## ADULT BELL CHOIR

I began directing the Adult Handbell Choir a few months ago. After practicing for those few months, we had the opportunity to ring a couple of pieces during our Sunday morning worship. It has been great to see this group back in person and ringing joyfully to the Lord.

Ashley Zamora



## YOUTH BELL CHOIR

It was great to be able to have a full year of Wonderful Wednesdays, which is when youth handbells take place. Our youth were excited to be back ringing bells in person. We were able to put all of the youth together to ring a couple times during the year. It was great to hear the melody of handbells ringing in the church.

In January, our seniors were excited to start working on the handbell peal. The last time we heard the peal on Easter was in 2019, so it was nice to listen to them practicing. We had four youth ring the peal this year, and they did an amazing job!



I want to thank all of the youth for their hard work this year. I am excited to see what they can do when we come back together in the fall. We look forward to next year and making a joyful noise once again!

Ashley Zamora

## ALTAR GUILD

This year, our Altar Guild has adjusted to the new normal. We are fully back in the Nave and have adjusted to the individual communion trays. Our team moderates the need for white grape juice and gluten-free wafers each Sunday to make sure we are accommodating all. We continue to welcome new ways to make our worship space beautiful.

Altar Guild members are Rowena Cornwell, Rita Foringer, Laura Fox, Carol Godley, Vivian Griese, Pam Hess, Mary Mace, Debbie Moore, Ann Riley, Jill Ruhl, Donna Vanorsdale. I thank them for all their hard work and dedication each week!

We are always grateful to Jeff's Flowers, *of Course*, for their assistance with the beautiful flowers for our worship space throughout the year. BIG THANK YOU to Tammy Bialk, Peggy Sipes, and Pastor Dave for keeping us on course. Mike Riley and Aaron Sutherland are always willing to help with our ladder work, and ALL of those who helped with our Chrismon Tree setup, Holy Week and our Easter celebration. If you would like to become the leader or a member of the guild, please contact me at (757) 749-4425.

Peace be with you,  
Renee Wells  
Lead Sacristan



## MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The Memorial Fund was developed in order to allow members and friends of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church to have a part in helping provide various items necessary for worship, as well as the aesthetic beauty of our worship place. Memorials are given for many reasons. All are given to the Glory of God. Some are given “in memory of” when a family member or close friend dies. Some are given “in honor of” for a special person—the birth of a child or grandchild, or a special occasion—baptism or confirmation, and some are given because the need is apparent, usually at the pastor’s request. In addition to these gifts, monies are given, to be designated by the pastor and held in a discretionary fund. Gifts are also combined over a period of time for more expensive items (e.g., transept windows, stained glass doors, pews).

Memorials have and will continue to enhance our church service and the physical appearance of our church structures. There are Memorial envelopes available for help in directing your memorial gifts. These are located in the narthex. At the end of this report there is a list of the memorials given in the past year.

Anyone wishing to dedicate a specific memorial should contact the pastor (851-2838) or Jeane Fullen (880-6932) with your request.

### Memorials (6/1/21-5/31/22)

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

June Ambrose  
Eleanor Frasca  
Dale Green

Harry Hart  
Charles Lascola  
Ginny Melton

Bruce Moody  
Tex Rathkamp  
Al Scherrer, Jr.



# CARE MINISTRIES

## PASTORAL CARE TEAM

### Food Services

Church Funeral/Memorial Receptions

Andrea Cooper

Meals at Home

Lynn Graves

### Transportation and Special Projects

Lynn Curtis

### Visitation

Eucharistic Ministry

Pastor Dave

Rita Foringer

Jim and Jeane Fullen

Bonnie Hess

Bonnie Morelen

Prayer Shawls

The knitters/Rita Foringer

Prayer Beads

The beaders/Jill Ruhl

### Follow-Up (Calls and Cards)

Pastor Dave

Rita Foringer

Bonnie Morelen

### Prayer Chain

Peggy Sipes and Tammy Bialk

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 all of our Prayer Ministry members.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

*"She seeks wool and flax and works willingly with her hands."*

*Proverbs 31:13*

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has been a part of Gloria Dei for approximately 15 years. During that time, we have created prayer shawls and prayer blankets, confirmation stoles, prayer squares, and baptismal blankets. Hundreds of people have been recipients of our creations.

They are knit or crocheted with prayers and are always a symbol of God's love and the love of the congregation.

During the past few years, the number of ladies participating in the ministry has declined. Some have moved from the area, and some are now using their creative skills with God. We are in need of additional needleworkers.



There is no pressure. One creation a year would be one more than we have now. We meet monthly and usually follow our time together with lunch, so fellowship with other Christian women is another benefit. If you currently know how to knit or crochet, please consider joining us. Another alternative is to learn a new skill. Lessons are available for both crafts.

So, prayerfully consider joining us, or at the very least pray that we gain additional members. The ministry is an important one at Gloria Dei, and we would like it to continue. If you have any questions, please contact Rita Foringer at [rforinger@verizon.net](mailto:rforinger@verizon.net).

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 this past year totaled \$620, which is an increase of over \$400 from the previous year. We thank the congregation for your generosity.

## JUST OLDER YOUTH (JOY) FELLOWSHIP

Seniors of Gloria Dei meet monthly (September – May) for lunch and table talk in the Simeon Center the third Wednesday of each month. The luncheon begins at 12:30 p.m. with food provided by the Gloria Dei kitchen and continues with chatting and activities. Watch the *Weekly* for dates and to sign up!

Wow! The food was wonderful! Always a great selection to suit any diet. Thank you, Maria and the Gloria Dei kitchen!

Our activities this past year included Pastor Dave's Laughter Yoga, which we held outside in September due to COVID restrictions. It was a "hoot" on a lovely sunny day. October and November brought us decorating pumpkins and turkey cupcakes, as well as sharing for what we are most thankful. Christmas brought us a holiday cookie quiz (not easy) and the annual singing of The Twelve Days of Christmas.

Our numbers were almost doubling by the first of the new year. We had a guest speaker about free services available for patients with terminal illnesses or other needs, we made palm crosses, we shared from our "Joy" box, and played a nursery rhymes game. Two of our congregation members came and shared their gifts. Ron Aheimer, in February, came with his violin and serenaded us with love songs. Our program for May was retired policeman Mike Canny sharing tips on seniors staying safe. We engaged in community interests with a speaker from the newly opened Fox Hill Neighborhood Center.

Anita and Ann will be planning speakers, events, and games for the 2022-2023 year. We're also interested in crafts if you can share your knowledge and talent. 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, (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). All women of the church are automatically members. So, ladies, that includes you!



We are now in "after COVID" and learning our new normal. The Women of Gloria Dei have had the opportunity to once again meet together. We began our year by making floral centerpieces for the holiday. Using greenery from our yards and flowers from the Sunday altar flowers, we were able to create a centerpiece that was perfect for our fall table. We will definitely do this activity again.

Another opportunity opened to us was getting together with the Girl Scouts from Troop 1041. They invited us to their International Night and shared with us what they learned about various countries. The sharing included some special foods that the girls had prepared.

The highlight of the year was the preparation of Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Along with the Girl Scouts and the Lenten support of the congregation, we were able to complete 155 kits and donate over \$2,000.00. This was truly a “God’s Work Our Hands” endeavor. Special thanks go to the Scouts and the congregation for making it a huge success.



As stated earlier, all women of Gloria Dei are automatically members of WELCA. Please prayerfully consider joining with us in the fall to see what God has planned for the group. For additional information or questions, contact Rita Foringer at [rforinger@verizon.net](mailto:rforinger@verizon.net).

Peace and blessings,  
Rita

## WELCA BOOK CLUB

*“So many books, so little time”*



The WELCA Book Club falls under the umbrella of the Women of Gloria Dei, which means that all women are welcome. All that is required is a willingness to read the chosen book. Each month, we get together and discuss the latest book selection. I’ll explain how that works in a moment.

During the past year, our focus seems to have been historical fiction. We’ve traveled through our readings to Australia, Europe, and yes, parts of the United States. We’ve endured the life of prisoners, been on a treasure hunt in Virginia, created a library, and decoded German messages during World War II. All through resilient women. There have even been books we did not enjoy; however, our willingness to read them broadens our outlook on what others are thinking and enduring.

Each month, we meet in a different home. The hostess selects the reading for the month, which gives us a variety of books. The discussion of the book is always enlightening. Each woman has her own perspective and is NOT afraid to share it. Light refreshments are served. We meet from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on the second Monday of the month.

We always welcome newcomers and hope you will consider joining. If you wish to create an additional group, please let me know. Nothing says we can have only one book club. Perhaps daytime works better for you. There are lots of options. The goal is to read. It opens up worlds we can only imagine.

For more information or questions, contact Rita Foringer at [rforinger@verizon.net](mailto:rforinger@verizon.net).

Peace and blessings,  
Rita

## COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

### COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

The Community Fellowship activities of Gloria Dei give everyone the opportunity to use their gifts to help the greater community. Starting to come out of Covid in the summer of 2021 was the beginning of reopening and rebuilding our Church and community fellowship. The first event was the Drive-thru BBQ. It was a great success for our Church and our surrounding community. Proceeds allowed us to support purchasing well-needed tech equipment to help grow our online service.



We were able to open the doors for the Hanging of the Greens, which is always a special event. It's fun-filled with caroling, decorating, and events for the kids. The Father/Child Breakfast returned as well, where we turned the Fellowship Hall into a great restaurant and enjoyed each other's excitement for Christmas.

By spring, we as a congregation were feeling more comfortable getting out and about. The Lenten season was kicked off with our Pancake Supper that honored Al Scherrer, Jr. Thanks to his recipe and special griddle that we were able to borrow, it seemed as if he was right there laughing with us.

Thank you to all who helped prepare, serve, and clean up at our events. We would love to grow our community programs inside and outside of Gloria Dei. We welcome new faces and new helping hands to join in our fellowship. We are looking for new ideas and new ways to connect. Please reach out to us any time!

Sincerely,

Aaron Sutherland, Shepherd

Eric Olsen, Shepherd

### H.E.L.P. MINISTRY AND COAT DRIVE

Hampton Ecumenical Lodgings and Provisions (H.E.L.P.) is a program in which Gloria Dei Lutheran Church has been associated with for the past 40 years. H.E.L.P. gives aid to families in trouble who are homeless, need financial assistance, or need help with food or clothing.

A high spot again this year was the success of Andrew Sutherland's Annual Coat Drive. We would like to thank everyone for all their support in our coat drive! During this year's primary collection, we received a total of **1,839** items, our biggest collection number since the start of the ministry. This is a **56% increase** in items received compared to last year's donation statistics. Not only did members of the church give generously to the coat drive, but a large portion of our donations came from members of our school due to the addition of several new donation bins around the campus. All adult items have been given to H.E.L.P., where they were distributed to daytime and overnight shelters. Children's coats have been delivered to the Boys and Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula, where all donations have been distributed by Deacon Liz. Lastly, all children's clothes have been given to the Battered Women's Shelter of Hampton. (Statistics to follow.)



Categorized Donation Amounts

Men's items: 208	Boys' items: 104
Women's items: 434	Girls' items: 137
Socks: 303	Shoes: 24
Belts: 16	Hats: 129
Gloves: 55	Scarves: 97
Bags: 4	Blankets: 1
Toiletries: 215	Professional clothes: 112

Total: 1,839 items

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



**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP AND SENIOR HIGH DISCIPLESHIP GROUP**

The Senior High Youth were excited to gather in person this year and get back to more regular activities. We met weekly for Wonderful Wednesdays, with an average of 10 senior high youth in attendance to enjoy food, friends and fellowship. We took turns leading various topics and participated in meaningful discussion during Discipleship Group.

We had two Youth Sundays with our high school seniors (Marcus Miller, Michael Murphy, Andrew Sutherland and Megan Watson) leading the service as pastors. Youth in lower grades served as ushers, readers, greeters, tech team assistants, and members of the Cross and Crown.



We were able to hold our annual Christmas tree sales and make a profit, despite supply issues.



We gave back to our community through service projects such as making blankets for local hospice patients, organizing donations for Andrew's Coat Drive, cleaning up Buckroe Beach, and hosting our annual Egg Hunt for young children.

And while COVID restrictions prohibited us from joining annual Virginia Synod events like Winter Celebration at Eagle Eyrie, we were able to meet locally and have fun activities including a fall event with pumpkin carving and s'mores over the fire, doing the Million Bulb Walk at Norfolk Botanical Gardens, attending a Norfolk Admiral's ice

hockey game, and having our first lock-in since the pandemic began!

It's been a wonderful year with the Senior High Youth! And, as the school year comes to an end, we look forward to having a few events with our youth this summer so we can continue to gather in faith and fellowship.

**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP**

We are back in person, and the kiddos love it!! Last summer, we welcomed back both youth groups with a movie night on the lawn, which included a cookout and games. It was followed up with an end-of-summer bash. This gave all the youth time to gather for some community service projects and chatting it up by the pool. In the fall, we started off the year with our new format, Wonderful Wednesdays,



where we enjoy home-cooked meals, music/handbells, and small groups. This allowed us to welcome our younger members as well as our Junior and Senior High to participate in the fun! Pastor Dave helped us with Cross & Crown training, because it had been awhile, and we had new recruits. In October, there was a Fall Fest. These festivities included a pumpkin carving contest, movie, games, campfires, and SMORES!! As the year went on, we did enjoy outings such as Sky Zone, Million Bulb Walk to see Christmas lights, and bowling. We were able to start back with our service projects, such as prepping food for the H.E.L.P. food pantry



and making blankets for hospice. They also volunteered a lot of their time stuffing stockings, selling Christmas trees, Christmas Pageant, two Youth Sundays, Easter Egg Hunt, and trash clean up at the beach. We still have some things we are looking forward to, such as VBS, our “famous” youth yard sale, Synod retreats, and lock-ins!

Wonderful Wednesday has brought new leaders to the youth groups. Pastor Dave led the group for Confirmation and First Communion. Rita Foringer and Sharon Bennett helped with Confirmation, and Rick Graves helped with First Communion. Diane Washburn led the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Bible Study group. Jack Adams led the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and under Bible Study group. Ashley Zamora has continued with music/bells. Vivian Griese, Flo Forbes, and Peggy Todd have done a great job with crafts. Coming back has been fun and allowed us to reconnect and rebuild with the very children that are the heart of our church.



Please reach out if you have any questions about joining Wonderful Wednesdays as a youth or a volunteer. We have plenty of jobs and will help find the perfect fit for you. Come join us! You will have fun, I promise!

Peace,  
Jenny and Aaron 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, Rachel Lomax, and Josh Lowman (Senior Youth Advisors) as well as Aaron and Jenny Sutherland (Junior Youth Advisors) helping to coordinate this event. If we thought last year was a very different year with COVID in play, we had no idea what was to come. After scouring the United States and even Canada, we were finally able to procure Christmas Trees for the event with the help of a fellow church and their connection at Lowes. While the trees were not up to our usual expectations, it was a blessing just to get them due to the shortages. There were so many comments of positive support for our youth

and community of faith from those purchasing trees. As always, it cannot be a success without the help from numerous families, especially all those youth and parents who picked up extra shifts and made extra efforts! Christmas Tree Sales were, as always, a HUGE success. We showed a net profit of \$1,257.00 on sales of \$7,080.00 and expenses of \$5,997.00. If the math does not add, that is due to the generous donations over and above the cost of a tree!

Expenses were well up due to an increase in the cost of trees. Christmas tree sales help cut our costs for retreats to a minimum so all youth can enjoy these retreats: Winter Celebration for our high school youth, Lost and Found for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and 7<sup>th</sup> Day for our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth. 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

We were unable to create our yummy eggs this year due to logistics in the church/school space. We pray that next year we will be able to spread JOY with our delicious Easter eggs.



October 2021–Prepared and sent out 21 College Care Packages. We helped spread fun, happiness, and joy to Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, and throughout the state of Virginia on behalf of their loved ones.

February 2022–Participated in this year’s *Cultivating Generosity* Stewardship Campaign Celebration with the making of ~390 Ghirardelli chocolate brownies. That was roughly 33 batches using the special Pampered Chef brownie pans. A special “Thank You” to those who allowed us to borrow your pans.

April 2022–Purchased a camera and tripod for Pastor Dave’s executive certification in religious fundraising project and to enhance online viewing for the Church and School.

May 2022–Purchased 10 copies each of “All Creation Sings” and “This Far by Faith” song books for choir use.

Yours in Eggs,  
The Ladies of Eggcellence

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

Gloria Dei re-established our relationship with the Red Cross this year, bringing quarterly blood drives back to the church. Vicki O'Neill coordinates the drives, and Girl Scout Troop 1041 hosts the drives. Scouts got donors checked in and also maintained the snack table. The church hosted three blood drives this year, collecting a total of over 60 donations. That many donations can provide lifesaving blood to up to approximately 180 people in our community.



## GIRL SCOUTS

Troop 1041, led by Vicki O'Neill, consists of 28 Girl Scouts from grades 2 through 9. The girls enjoyed a robust year and were excited to be able to start meeting back at Gloria Dei.

The troop created several key relationships this year to include: NASA Langley Research Center's Allies & Advocates for Women (A2W), WELCA’s Women of Gloria Dei, and Bluebird Gap Farm. These wonderful partnerships guided many of our activities this past year.

Female aerospace engineers, scientists, and mathematicians from NASA Langley worked with the troop to guide



the girls in earning badges in mechanical engineering, space science, and STEM career exploration. For engineering, scouts experimented with designs for flyers and balloon cars and tested out their designs. For space science, girls learned about planets and stars and got to look thru high-powered telescopes set up in the parking lot by a local astrology club. Lastly, during STEM career exploration, girls traveled to different tables highlighting various STEM careers in fields such as engineering, flight, 3D scanning and printing, design, health, fitness, environment, and more.

Prior to COVID, Girl Scouts had joined the WELCA group at Gloria Dei for a few events. They were happy to re-establish that relationship this year. The women of Gloria Dei were invited to join in World Thinking Day, where each girl researched a country, created a display, and made a dish from that country. Everyone was invited to take a

“world tour” to visit, learn, and taste new foods. Girl Scouts and their families joined in to assist WELCA collect donations for and make 155 care kits for Lutheran World Relief. The last event of the year, both groups joined to meet with local Virginia author, Dawn Brotherton, and learn about what goes into writing a book.

Girls continue to partner with Bluebird Gap Farm for the third year in a row. Troop 1041 maintains a garden where they grow vegetables to help supplement food for the animals at the park. In addition, the troop was given an area approximately 2700 sq. ft. where they have begun clearing space to design a learning garden for the park. Plans are to include areas such as a recycled garden, raised beds, companion gardening, and more. This will be a long project. The troop has already received a few donations of materials to offset out-of-pocket costs.

As always, community service is a big part of what girl scouts do. This past year, Troop 1041 packed 25 pet adoption bags which were donated to the Newport News SPCA. They made no-sew blankets for Riverside hospice patients on multiple occasions. The October Trunk or Treat was once again hosted by Troop 1041 and open to the community. Girls packed and donated approximately 70 treat bags to go with kids’ meals at the Gloria Dei BBQ. During the holidays, they partnered with social services to shop for two girls their age from the angel tree. They shopped for coats, clothes, and wish list items to make the holidays brighter. Last, but not least, Troop 1041 hosted three Blood Drives at Gloria Dei manning the check-in table.

With COVID restrictions eased back, girls were able to get back to camp. They enjoyed time at Camp Skimino in Williamsburg and taking part in activities like archery and rope courses. Our Cadette-level Scouts spent some time with park rangers at Sandy Bottom Nature Park, learning about primitive camping and survival. They learned about edibles in the woods and how to build a shelter.

Cookie season presented new challenges this year. Due to shortages, supply could not keep up with demand and cookie season was ended sooner than usual. Troop 1041 still managed to hold a few booths in the Gloria Dei parking lot and sold out of what stock they had on hand.

We had one of our Cadette-level Scouts earn the Silver Award, the highest award at Cadette-level. Hayley O’Neill planned her project around faith. During Lent, she made over 60 prayer beads and packed them with a prayer guide. She dispensed them to church members and friends encouraging them to pray. In addition, she planned bags with items for children to include them in Lent activities as well.

Girl Scout Troop 1041 looks forward to next year being another spectacular year. Plans are to continue hosting the Blood Drives as well as the annual Trunk or Treat, to welcome a few additional girls and expand the troop, and to continue the amazing partnerships created. The troop is exploring taking their first big trip sometime next year, exploring ideas in North Carolina, Washington DC, Hershey, Pennsylvania, or space camp in Georgia to name a few. The goal is to keep girls engaged and provide a safe environment to grow girls of courage, confidence, and character.



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a large part of that goal by providing us space as well as support. We can't thank Pastor Dave and the entire congregation enough. Many thanks. Your support means the world!

Vicki O’Neill  
Troop Leader, Troop 1041

## BOY SCOUTS

Troop 84 is tiny, but we're having a good time. We now have three Life Scouts who all have the opportunity to plan toward their Eagle Scout project.

We did multiple campouts that took place at locations such as Newport News Park and Chippokes Plantation State Park. The campouts were organized around rank and merit badge requirements and fun outdoor activities. The boys took part in bicycle trips, kayak tours, and hiking. Last summer we were able to return to Goshen/Camp Marriott for summer camp, where the boys had a great time swimming, earning merit badges, and eating! For our next scheduled outdoor event, we look forward to traveling to New River Junction in western Virginia for a campout and 5-day kayak trip.



The Scouts continued their tradition of cheerful service to the community. They gave their time and talents in beach cleanup at the Grandview Nature Preserve. Through their own initiative and in conjunction with merit badge development, the boys aided civic organizations such as the H.E.L.P. Food Bank, an HBCU sorority alumni service group, and their personal church congregations.

The Scouts performed one of their most notable service actions at the Chamberlain. There they assisted residents in the assembly and mounting of a large bird house to attract purple martins. This, along with much of their other service work, fits with the BSA focus on conservation.

The Troop's small size has made some things more streamlined, but also makes other things more challenging. Having continued access to the church has been a blessing. Thanks to the congregation for supporting our youth.

Respectfully,  
Barry Hutchison  
Scoutmaster, BSA Troop 84



# GENERAL OPERATIONS

## 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. Continue to deal 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.

For another year, the COVID-19 situation presented challenges and a need to protect our people. We continued to be up to this challenge. We took the needed steps in order to react and protect our financial situations. We sought and were blessed with multiple grants that helped to fund and fortify our School and Daycare operations. We carefully guarded our reserves for both Church and School. Church and School reserve funds have been further strengthened and now are at much more than acceptable levels.

Our projected indebtedness for 6/30/22 consists of 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 6/30/22 as of 5/29/22: \$1,692,820 (a reduction of \$83,689 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: \$11,105,462

Our current liquidity (cash on hand projected for 6/30/22) \$2,498,165; included are these funds:

- Columbarium Account: \$7,605 (an increase of about \$1,500 over last year)
- Legacy Account: \$1,096.40 (about same total as last year)
- Memorial Account: \$85,540 (about \$1,950 more than last year)
- Church Operating Account: \$255,700 (an increase of about \$28,960 over last year)
- School Operating Account: \$928,550 (an increase of about \$306,850; substantial impact from grants which will be spent over the next 3-6 months)
- School Savings Account: \$800,755 (an increase of about \$180,000; some of which will be spent for multiple capital items)
- School Fundraising: \$414,500 (an increase of about \$263,900; large grant impact and some expenses will occur in next 3-6 months)
- Linda Robinson Scholarship Account: \$4,419 (a new account in memory of a wonderful leader)
- Pastor's Discretionary Account: \$900 (funded by designated gifts)

**Total projected, dedicated Church and School Reserves projected 6/30/22: \$889,555** (these are included within the above liquidity amounts). As mentioned above, much of the balance increases are already set to replace items of need including lighting, HVAC units, and other capital items that are in great need for our buildings. We also make sure reserves cover two months of payroll and expenses.

***Our Proposed Plan for the Fiscal Year***  
***July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023***

Each year, your Church Council produces an Annual Plan for our next fiscal year. We are presenting the following plan for Congregational approval here at our Annual Meeting. This year, while we are presenting our traditional spreadsheet plan, we want to concentrate on our story, our goals, and the challenges that are before us. Our plan is not a spreadsheet, but a collection of desires, hopes, and actions that will allow us all to prosper heeding God's word and making our Church, our community, and our people better because we are here.

As we often state, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a people, not a place. Our goal is to be Gloria Dei not only to the Fox Hill community but to also be Gloria Dei at the park, beach, grocery store, school, work, and beyond. While we know we must pay the electric bill, the mortgage, and all of the expenses that come with operating a large organization; our real needs expressed in this plan have to do with better serving our youth, our families and creating services and programs that will make our community a better place for us all to live in.

Our important challenges include:

- Expand and enhance our Vacation Bible School program reaching deeper into our community.
- Establish a Confirmation Camp program for our confirmation class.
- Continue to build our Wonderful Wednesday program taking advantage of all of our volunteers and establishing new models for education, service and worship.
- Expand our small groups and faith groups.
- Recognize the importance of reaching into our community using the H.E.L.P. program and enhancing our involvement starting with a regular gifting of operational funding to this excellent agency.
- Establish multiple outreach programs to move out into the community with both our message and our desire to become a stronger force for improvement. These will be funded programs which continue to be under more specific development.



**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

**Proposed Plan budget FYE 6/30/23**

**Current Year FYE 6/30/22**

	Current Year Projection as of 4/30/22	Current Year Plan (FYE 6/30/22)	Variance Project vs Plan	Proposed Plan / Budget FYE 6/30/23	Variance Proposed vs Current Projection	Variance Proposed vs Current Project %	Notes
1.6 Harris Creek House Rental	17,200	0	17,200	21,600	4,400	25.58%	
2050.1 Rental House Utilities	742	0	742	0	(742)	-100.00%	We are now including the Rentals in our Plan as they are contributing needed income. We are assuming full occupancy as is currently the case.
64.2 Harris Creek Utilities	(1,240)	0	(1,240)	0	1,240	-100.00%	
64.3 HC Property tax	(4,490)	0	(4,490)	(4,490)	0	-0.01%	
Subtotal Harris Creek Rentals	12,212	0	12,212	17,110	4,898	40.11%	
Subtotal Regular Offerings	459,989	491,586	(31,597)	473,789	13,800	3.00%	A 3% increase to the current year projection has been used.
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>472,201</b>	<b>491,586</b>	<b>(19,385)</b>	<b>490,899</b>	<b>18,698</b>	<b>3.96%</b>	<b>This now represents our Operating Income available for our programs and expenses.</b>
Harris Creek Maint Reserve	3,500	0	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%	future replacement reserve
Harris Creek Security Deposit	1,050	0	1,050	1,050	0	0.00%	required escrow treatment
Harris Creek Pet Deposit	300	0	300	300	0	0.00%	non-refundable but escrowed
100 Education Ministry							
<i>Wonderful Wednesdays</i>	1,517	500	1,017	2,000	483	31.84%	<i>Combines former "Sunday School &amp; Youth Night"</i>
114 Confirmation	300	450	(150)	2,000	1,700	566.67%	<i>Assumes "Camp" expenses</i>
115 Vacation Church School	2,000	2,000	0	3,000	1,000	50.00%	<i>Additional \$1000 to current year projection</i>
116 Baccalaureate expense	150	150	0	150	0	0.00%	same as current year projection
117 Staff Development	0	100	(100)	100	100	#DIV/0!	reinstating \$150 amount
123 Weekday Bible Study	131	100	31	131	0	0.00%	same as current year projection
124 First Communion Class	37	100	(63)	100	63	170.27%	reinstating \$100 prior budget
Total 100 Education Ministry	2,581	3,400	(819)	7,481	4,900	189.87%	Large increases for Program additions
1000 Executive Committee							
Gathering of the Ministerium	150	145	5	150	0	0.00%	at same as current year projection
1001 Synod Assembly	0	1,260	(1,260)	1,260	1,260	#DIV/0!	assuming return to actual meeting
Annual Retreat	0	1,000	(1,000)	2,000	2,000	#DIV/0!	funding versus current year council paid
Total 1000 Executive Committee	150	2,405	(2,255)	3,410	3,260	2173.33%	Returning to prior levels & paying for Retreat

		Current Year FYE 6/30/22			Proposed Plan budget FYE 6/30/23		
	Current Year Projection as of 4/30/22	Current Year Plan (FYE 6/30/22)	Variance Project vs Plan	Proposed Plan / Budget FYE 6/30/23	Variance Proposed vs Current Projection	Variance Proposed vs Current Projct %	Notes
200 Worship Ministry							
201 New Music	702	1,500	(798)	750	48	6.78%	slight increase to current year projection
202 Piano/Organ tuning	518	2,000	(1,482)	1,600	1,082	208.86%	given new Music Director, returning to prior levels
203 Sound System	0	500	(500)	300	300	#DIV/0!	no expense, but now we are off warranties
204 Music Supplies	214	1,200	(986)	250	36	16.90%	slight increase to current year projection
Instrumental Accompanists	1,000	750	250	750	(250)	-25.00%	this includes guest organists/pianists
Misc Worship Supplies	2,846	3,000	(154)	2,846	0	0.00%	same as current projection
210 Altar Guild Supplies	361	584	(223)	500	139	38.53%	slight increase to current year projection
211 Bulletins	862	750	112	900	38	4.44%	slight increase to current year projection
213 Decorations/Flowers	872	758	114	900	28	3.23%	slight increase to current year projection
Worship Ministry Staff Wages	45,979	54,832	(8,853)	41,509	(4,470)	-9.72%	assume Sept. hiring of Music Director
Worship Staff Benefits	13,330	16,350	(3,019)	13,518	188	1.41%	impact of lower Music Director from prior year
250 Cross & Crown	131	150	(19)	150	19	14.50%	slight increase to current year projection
Admin Miscellaneous	2,544	3,200	(656)	2,500	(44)	-1.75%	assumed slightly less than current year
Seasonal Worship Supplies	5,563	3,500	2,063	5,786	223	4.00%	4% increase for inflation over prior year
Atrium Coffee/Expense	78	1,200	(1,122)	500	422	544.08%	assuming full service return
261 Guest Pastor Fees	700	600	100	700	0	0.00%	same as current projection
262 Guest Pastor Expenses	46	0	46	46	0	0.00%	same as current projection
<b>Total 200 Worship Ministry</b>	<b>75,746</b>	<b>90,874</b>	<b>(15,127)</b>	<b>73,504</b>	<b>(2,242)</b>	<b>-2.96%</b>	<b>with Music Director assumption; slight decrease</b>
300 Support Ministry							
301 Supplies Office	2,172	3,260	(1,088)	2,280	109	5.00%	inflationary increase
302 Copier Paper	536	1,043	(507)	563	27	5.00%	inflationary increase
Total 303 Telephone Service	4,427	2,728	1,699	4,648	221	5.00%	inflationary increase
305 Copier Lease	8,842	10,300	(1,458)	11,076	2,234	25.27%	known increase
305.2 Computer Upgrade	0	1,200	(1,200)	1,500	1,500	#DIV/0!	assumed based on projected purchases
306 Postage Office	1,702	1,877	(174)	750	(952)	-55.95%	need action plans to decrease
Support Ministry Wages	109,024	110,311	(1,287)	111,695	2,671	2.45%	projected 3% increase modified for timing
Support Staff Benefits	11,746	12,252	(506)	12,402	656	5.59%	based on wages and known increases
315 Workers Comp Insurance	1,067	1,209	(143)	1,098	32	3.00%	inflationary increase
319 Stewardship Program	4,577	2,000	2,577	2,400	(2,177)	-47.56%	assumed cost from quote
320 Supplies EMR	893	500	393	500	(393)	-44.03%	need action plans to decrease
323 Database Maintenance	3,792	3,832	(40)	3,900	108	2.85%	known increase
325 Website Development	3,825	5,000	(1,175)	1,000	(2,825)	-73.86%	continuing development and \$300 annual hosting
331 Custodial Service	2,400	2,400	0	2,400	0	0.00%	same as current projection

		Current Year FYE 6/30/22			Proposed Plan budget FYE 6/30/23		
	Current Year Projection as of 4/30/22	Current Year Plan (FYE 6/30/22)	Variance Project vs Plan	Proposed Plan / Budget FYE 6/30/23	Variance Proposed vs Current Projection	Variance Proposed vs Current Project %	Notes
Building Maint Nave	5,153	1,400	3,753	5,153	0	0.00%	same as current projection
Maint- Church Offices	796	1,000	(204)	1,000	204	25.57%	assumed amount
Maint Supplies - Atrium	2,755	2,000	755	2,000	(755)	-27.39%	assumed amount
Grounds Maintenance	3,021	2,000	1,021	2,500	(521)	-17.24%	assumed amount
Total 336 Utilities Electric	18,682	20,000	(1,318)	19,243	560	3.00%	same as current projection with inflationary increase
Total 337 Utilities Gas	2,086	1,600	486	2,148	63	3.00%	same as current projection with inflationary increase
338 Utilities Water	774	1,350	(576)	798	23	3.00%	same as current projection with inflationary increase
339 Utilities Sewer	667	1,200	(533)	687	20	3.00%	same as current projection with inflationary increase
Total 341 Property Insurance	13,517	15,981	(2,464)	14,058	541	4.00%	same as current projection with 4% increase
Total 353 Bank Charges	990	648	342	500	(490)	-49.49%	some coding changes; QB charges modified
<b>Total 300 Support Ministry</b>	<b>203,444</b>	<b>210,291</b>	<b>(6,847)</b>	<b>204,300</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>0.42%</b>	<b>right at same as current year projection</b>
400 Care Ministry							
401.0 Nursery Program	375	3,000	(2,625)	2,000	1,625	433.33%	returning to prior levels
<b>HELP</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>#DIV/0!</b>	<b>returning to Operations expense area</b>
<b>Annual Roadmap Projects</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>#DIV/0!</b>	<b>key new program area</b>
406 Synod Benevolence	15,000	15,000	0	15,000	0	0.00%	same as current projection
407 ELCA Disaster Relief	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	0	0.00%	same as current projection
408 ELCA World Hunger	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	0	0.00%	same as current projection
409 ELCA Mission Support	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	0	0.00%	same as current projection
<b>Total 400 Care Ministry</b>	<b>30,300</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>(2,700)</b>	<b>43,200</b>	<b>12,900</b>	<b>42.57%</b>	<b>large increase for added programs</b>
500 Community Ministry							
501 Junior Youth Program	0	500	(500)	500	500	#DIV/0!	same as current projection
502 Senior Youth Program	0	500	(500)	500	500	#DIV/0!	same as current projection
Christmas Tree Sales	(1,292)	500	(1,792)	(1,500)	(208)	16.10%	slight increase to current year projection
507.1 Youth Night Expense	1,017	150	867	0	(1,017)	-100.00%	moved to Education; Wonderful Wednesdays
Total 510 Parish Fellowship	1,852	1,800	52	1,852	0	0.00%	same as current projection
Total 500 Community Ministry	1,418	3,450	(2,032)	1,352	(65)	-4.61%	slight decrease from recoding
Total 600 Debt Service	162,707	162,707	0	162,707	0	0.00%	same as current projection
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>476,346</b>	<b>506,127</b>	<b>(29,781)</b>	<b>495,954</b>	<b>19,608</b>	<b>4.12%</b>	<b>majority of increases for new programs</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(4,145)</b>	<b>(14,541)</b>	<b>10,396</b>	<b>(5,055)</b>	<b>(910)</b>	<b>21.97%</b>	<b>this is our Challenge</b>

## ***Stewardship for All Seasons – Cultivating Generosity – 2021 Activities and 2022 Appeal***

The full year of 2021 and the first half of 2022 have been full of new and exciting stewardship activities. We started 2021 with our quick every member response campaign. We then had a stewardship challenge program where 10 family units challenged the congregation to create 10 new pledging units. We succeeded with 10 new pledges (actually think we ended with 13) and 10 challenge payments. A true win-win scenario for church fundraising.

During the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, the Stewardship Team began planning for our consultant-assisted 2022 program. We began with several temple talks, where we showed how our congregation actually changes lives and builds people up. The goals of these talks were to show impact and be inspirational. The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2021 and January-February 2022 temple talks were both impactful and inspirational. Many thanks to the participants as well as the coordinating team. The program also used coordinated scriptures, bulletin inserts, and even sermons where appropriate. We then distributed a brochure with our new ministry goals based on our vision and strategy. The most visual tool was an eight-panel professionally-designed and produced brochure including pictures telling our story. (The new ministry goal was an increase of \$45,000, for a total of \$485,000, with 107 family units.). We also had delicious brownies after the Church service made by the Ladies of Eggcellence and delivered by a faithful team. Yard signs also popped up around the city demonstrating support of our Church.

At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter results of the appeal were:

- Pledges - \$342,000
- Number of Pledges – 64 family units

The Stewardship Team and Church Council continued in March and April to try to reach individuals who had not yet returned a commitment card by making calls to over 50 family units. Revised and current results of the appeal are now:

- Pledges - \$370,000
- Number of Pledges – 73 family units

We are pleased with the initial results and increases; however, we missed our combined new ministry goals. An interesting discussion follows regarding commitments versus expense plan. The Stewardship program results in our calendar year pledge or commitment total. Our annual plan is our July-June expense plan. These two feed off of each other, are related, yet they are different numbers for different periods. The good news is that 2021 offerings totaled \$469,013 at year end. We continue to refine our stewardship activities to be impactful and inspirational. Look forward to more targeted appeals and discussions about how our congregation changes lives and builds people up.

*“The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose”*

- 1 Corinthians 2:8

# Statistics 2021 - 2022

## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Membership  
435

## Gloria Dei Lutheran School

Full-time Student Enrollment  
343

After-School Day Care  
223

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## Current Elected Leadership

		<u>Term Expires</u>
Trustees	Fred Bradley	2023
	Jim Fullen	2023
	Peggy Todd	2022
	Anne Perry	2022
	Mike Riley	2022
	Ernie Atkins	2022
Council President	Jason Green	2024
Council Vice President	Vivian Griese	2024
Council Members	John Campbell	2024
	Rachel Lomax	2022
	Kent Morgan	2023
	Eric Olsen	2023
	Aaron Sutherland	2024
	Garth Wallis	2022
	Ashley Zamora	2022
Treasurer	Dawn Lomax	2023
Congregational Secretary	Mike Canny	<i>(appointed)</i>





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.*

*Harry L. Hart, Jr.*

*Virginia "Ginny" Lee Melton*

*Charles Francis Lascola*

*Alfred "Big Al" E. Scherrer, Jr.*