

# **Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

## **Annual Report**

**Prepared for the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

*June 25, 2023*

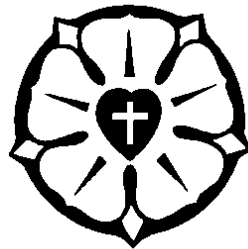


**250 FOX HILL ROAD HAMPTON VIRGINIA 23669**

# **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 58<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**June 25, 2023**

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

**Jason Green**

**II. Order for Opening Congregational Meeting**

**Pastor Dave**

**Invocation**

**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. Adoption of 2023 Constitution

B. Election of Church Council: Kent Morgan, Kevin Morse, Eric Olsen

C. Election of Trustees: Bo Lomax

D. Presentation and approval of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 2023-2024 Financial Plan

E. 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.**

## VI. Adjourn and Dismissal

Pastor Dave



# **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**June 26, 2022**

## **Call to Order/Determination of Quorum**

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was determined to be present. Carolyn Campbell was designated as Parliamentarian and Jenny Sutherland as voting moderator. Michael Canny, acting in his capacity as Congregational Secretary, will be recording minutes of the meeting.

## **Order of Meeting**

Motion to adopt Order of Meeting (as presented) made by Leonard Mayo, seconded by Jeane Fullen. Motion carried.

## **Old Business**

Motion was made by Rita Foringer to accept the minutes and standing reports as presented, seconded by Leonard Mayo. Motion carried.

President Jason Green asked for any other old business that had not been addressed. There was none.

## **New Business**

### **A. Election of Church Council: Gary Hess, Rachel Lomax, Ashley Zamora**

It was determined that the slate stands as presented, with no additional nominations.

### **B. Election of Trustees: Ernie Atkins, Anne Perry, Mike Riley, Peggy Todd**

It was determined that the slate of nominees stands as presented, with no new nominations. President Jason Green asked for a motion for a unanimous ballot for Council and Trustee slate at 10:40 a.m. Motion was made by Kent Morgan, seconded by Leonard Mayo. Motion carried.

### **C. Presentation and Approval of Church 2022-2023 Financial Plan**

Plan was presented by Rick Graves, Church Administrator. Motion to approve was made by Tom Clasen, seconded by Leonard Mayo. Motion carried at 10:50 a.m.

### **D. Special Recognitions**

President Jason Green advised the congregation that Paula Jones has been designated as Trustee Emeritus in recognition for her many years of service to Gloria Dei. (Her health has declined, and she was unable to be present.) He also recognized Garth Wallis for his service on a wide variety of committees and capacities during his period on Council. Mary Mace and Sandy Dunn were recognized for their service in providing music in the absence of a Music Director. Mike Riley was also recognized for his outstanding service to Gloria Dei.

## **Additional New Business**

Jason Green asked if there was any further new business or questions. There were none.

## **Closing**

Meeting closed with scriptural responses and a hymn.

## **Adjournment**

President Jason Green asked for a motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. Motion was made by Ernie Atkins and seconded by Wayne Sutherland. Motion carried.

Michael Canny  
Congregational Secretary

## SENIOR PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF



Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are names that should be very familiar to Jews and Christians around the world. These three men were appointed to a very high position under King Nebuchadnezzar. Interesting fact, there were four kings in Mesopotamia that were named Nebuchadnezzar; it must have rolled off the tongue a little easier at that time and in that place. The Nebuchadnezzar we hear about in the story of Daniel is the second King Nebuchadnezzar in history. He was a powerful tyrant and ruled for a very long time (approximately 57 years).

Nebuchadnezzar had this idea that he would have an idol made out of gold. He wanted all the people that he ruled in the Chaldean dynasty to bow down and worship the idol each time they heard a number of musical instruments played together. The King had three outsiders working for him; they were Hebrew men, who worshipped the One True God. Some of the other folks who worked

for the king, but not in as high of positions as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, were gunning for their positions and told the king these three would not bow down and worship the golden idol as it was decreed. The king was enraged at this idea.

He gathered the three Hebrew men together, had the musical instruments to play, and they would not bow down to this golden idol. So the king demanded the three be tied up and the furnace be fueled to where it was seven times hotter than normal. Though he liked the three Hebrew men, he had to follow through with the rule that he implemented, otherwise he would appear soft, rather than being the powerful tyrant he was. The Hebrew men were going to be tossed into the fiery furnace as punishment for not following the king's decree to bow down and worship the golden idol when they heard the sound of the instruments playing together.

The fire was so hot that even his guards could not stand going near the furnace. After tossing in the three Hebrew men, his guards perished. After a moment of time, the king looked into the furnace to see if the three Hebrew men had met their intended fate. However, when the King looked in, he saw not three men but four men. They weren't bound; they were free. They were walking around in this inferno. The fourth man, he said, looked like a son of the gods. The king was amazed. He had a hard time believing what he was seeing. He went down to the furnace; by this time the fire must have died down a bit, because he did not meet his demise as his guards had done previously. He began speaking to them through the door of the furnace. He called for the three Hebrew men, these three servants of the Most High God, to come out of the furnace.

They came out. By the time they came out the king had many other high officials there to see that not a hair was singed, not a piece of skin was scorched, they didn't even smell as if they had been around a fire. They came out unscathed. Nebuchadnezzar put an end to his decree and issued a new decree for all in the land of the Chaldeans to worship the God that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego served. And just like in a Disney movie, the three Hebrew men lived happily ever after.

The King saw how the men walked with their God in the fiery furnace, and he wanted what they had. God didn't keep them from going into the fiery furnace. Instead, God walked with them in the fiery furnace. People notice how you walk with God. When we are in step with God, especially in hard times, people want the unshakeable faith we display. Your walk points the world to the Most High God.

Because you are going through a struggling time, does not mean that you are going at it alone. Every time you pray, every time you thank the Lord, every time you call out for help, you are witnessing to the world that you are not in this alone. In the fiery furnaces of cancer, divorce, bankruptcy, addiction, and death, God is setting us free and walking with us.

Many of you are walking in a way that points the world to the Most High God. Some of you are doing a marathon around here with how much you have been helping out. I sometimes think some of you spend more time at the church than I. The Stewards have been walking in a way that would have Nebuchadnezzar wanting what they have. The same is true for so many others in our congregation – those who help with Wonderful Wednesdays, the Tech Team, the Altar Guild, the choir, those who do things behind the scenes and would blush if I mentioned your name, the Ladies of Eggcellence, those serving as Council Members, the Constitution Committee, and those who brew coffee, cut cake, and serve bereavement meals.

Let all that you do be in step with God. Walk, even in difficult times, with a joyful heart. Let the world see that you serve the One True God. Our faith community is strengthened by your walk.

Peace be the journey,  
Pastor Dave

# CONGREGATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Already, it is later than you think, for your earthly life, at best, is only a blink of an eye between two eternities.*

-- Og Mandino

I cannot think of a better way to begin my Annual Report to the Congregation. It seems like only a short while ago I was entering the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade here at Gloria Dei. Linda Robinson was my teacher, Sally Stowe the Principal, and Pastor Stowe the Headmaster. I look at that moment in time and can scarcely recall how I felt. We had moved four times by then, following my dad's Air Force career. And now, as I complete what will most likely be my last month as President of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Congregation Council, it seems like only yesterday. So much has happened in that time. So few of the people who were around me at that time are even still here on this earth. I blinked once, and they were gone. But not this body of faith. This body of faith continues to be a pillar in the community through its outreach of mission, ministry, and school. It still makes me shake my head that I pass several other congregations on my way to this place, the place that God put me and my parents, and now me and my family.

As I pen what is my second, and likely last, report to the congregation as Council President, I look back over the past year in the life of our congregation; and I am again thankful and humbled. My favorite part of council meetings is the end. You laugh, but Pastor Dave always has a pastoral perspective that makes me say to myself, "Wow, this is why I am willing to give of my time, treasure, and talent." His positive message about what we have done well in the past month, makes me prouder still to be a part of this community of faith. And we all do have a lot of which to be proud. Many good works which we have done individually and together. But that does not mean our work is over or that we have even been successful. In the blink of an eye, the pats on the back can disappear as we see the need within our communities for more good works, more outreach, more compassion.

I am thankful and proud of what we have accomplished, 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 our annual retreat this past February to develop the next 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 be the people God intends us to be for both ourselves and our greater community. I would hope again 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 to see the roadmap become reality.

One of the major undertakings Council took on this year was the updating of our Constitution. I want to get out a huge THANK YOU to Carolyn Campbell, Tad Foringer, and Garth Wallis for all of their time, effort, and energy put into this. This is a real grind, going through line by line, comma by comma, and working in both the ELCA model requirements as well as integration of our bylaws into the document. After countless meetings and revisions, I believe a very strong, thought through, and accurate document was produced.

I and council 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 right direction!

As you elect or re-elect new members to the Council body, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone on Council, church leadership, and church and school staff through the years. There is not enough space in the report for me to do so properly and by name, but know that your guidance and input through my years on council were and are truly appreciated. To this congregation, thank you for putting your trust in me through the years. It has been an honor serving you and, hopefully, I did so admirably. I look forward to returning as a congregant again and helping in what ways I can to do the things I have asked of you.

In closing, remember that all we do we do in His name and that the only limits to our faith and service are our own.

Yours in Christ's service,



Jason A. Green  
Council President

## HEAD OF SCHOOL

On June 8, 2023, we completed our 50<sup>th</sup> school year, and what a year it was! This year, we had a total of 25 students graduate between fifth and eighth grades. At graduation, we recognized 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: Peyton LaRoche and Eliana Mbaiornonde*

*Eighth Grade: Madyssen Collins, David Peters, and Shane Weaver*

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 Mary Beth Mace and Allison Perry. Both ladies have left a special imprint on the hearts of the students and staff of Gloria Dei. I am so very thankful for their dedication and commitment to Gloria Dei. Both have been an integral part of our program and will be greatly missed. Please join me in holding both Mary Beth and Allison in prayer as they begin their next adventures.

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

### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Patty Jenkins

### **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Joyce Casavant

Kathy Dermanis



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 childcare program for our students. Thank you for your faithfulness and dedication to our ministry.

### **2022 – 2023 School Highlights**

- We were blessed with an enrollment of 331 students in our day school program (two-year-olds thru eighth grade).
- Gloria Dei Lutheran School was once again recognized in the Best of Coastal Virginia 2023 Reader's Choice contest. Gloria Dei was the Overall Gold Winner in the Best Child Development Center category, as well as the Best Summer Camp category. In addition, Gloria Dei Lutheran School received the Best Private School Peninsula Gold Award. Many thanks to all who voted for our school and childcare programs.
- It is with a grateful heart I extend my thanks to all involved in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Drive-thru BBQ Fundraiser. This event is a great way to connect with our school families, congregants, and our community. We raised \$4,725.00! These funds are earmarked for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund.
- In the fall, we held our Classic Cookie fundraiser with money raised going to our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund. Through the sale of cookies and popcorn, Gloria Dei profited over \$8,000.00! The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund will benefit both the Fox Hill and Willow Oaks campuses as we focus on playground improvements.
- Our school sponsored successful Scholastic Book Fairs in the fall and spring. Many thanks to Julie Allen, Rebecca Mahan, Donna Collins, Jeane Fullen, and Kelly Martin, as well as our many parent volunteers. Together they worked to set up and manage the fair, assist the children, and clean up.
- 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 \$2,000.00 for the American Heart Association. A special thanks to Breanna Burris for sponsoring and coordinating this special event.
- The Gloria Dei Stewards helped with many projects around both the Fox Hill and Willow Oaks Campuses. Some of their projects include:
  - Painted the two-year-old classrooms and hallway.
  - Relocation of furniture in the Willow Oaks Art and Computer Lab to allow annual floor stripping and waxing.
  - Replaced fluorescent lights with LED fixtures in Fox Hill Preschool and Prekindergarten hallways.
  - Ripped carpet from two preschool classrooms to prepare for new tile floor.
  - Repaired water-damaged Fox Hill classroom from roof leak.
    - Relocated all furniture during construction.
    - Ripped out and replaced wet sheetrock and insulation.
    - Added additional drain piping.
    - Painted classroom.
    - Replaced all fluorescent lights with LED fixtures.
    - Rebuilt water-damaged toy shelves.
  - Assisted teachers with Fox Hill classroom furniture moves.
  - Cleaned Covid "Social Distancing" tape from Willow Oaks' hall carpet to avoid replacement.
- New emergency exit door installed in Fellowship Hall.
- New set of double doors installed in Building B at the Willow Oaks Campus.
- Purchased a 2024 Chevy/Thomas Minotour EL 051MS – 29-Passenger School Bus.
- Exterior security cameras were installed at 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 193 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 (1<sup>st</sup> & up), gymnastics, Tumblebugz, and Lil' Ninjas.
- "Summer Adventures" – our summer program for children 16 months to 12 years old.

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. This series will cover almost every chapter in the Bible over the next six years. The material is interesting, varied, and timely, and is written by a different author—professors, theologians, and pastors—every three months.

In June 2023, we started a study called, “The Righteous Reign of God,” written by a retired ELCA pastor named Catherine Malotky.

Our group meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Simeon Center. During the pandemic, we had some participants join us via Zoom. We are a small group of about 8-10 adults and would love to have new members.

Sharon Padula, Leader

### COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

With 2023 came a new vision of what Bible Study could be. We took Bible Study outside of our four walls and into the H.E.L.P. Day Center on Buckroe Avenue. The attendance varies week to week.

Since the beginning, we are slowly building trust and learning of the needs of the day center. We have been journeying through the Old Testament. At the time of reading this report, we will have finished Genesis and will have begun in Exodus.

With time, I believe we will begin to make a lasting impact on our neighbors.

### CONFIRMATION 2022-2023

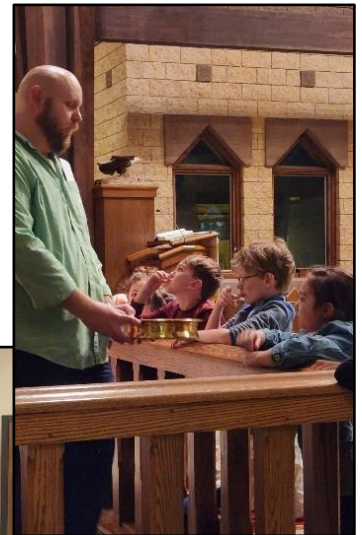
This year we had four confirmation students. One student completed his first year; three students completed their second year. Thank you to Rita Foringer for leading over half of the classes. Also, thank you to Sharon Bennett and Rachel Lomax for your assistance and support. The three students confirmed this year were: Ruth Hutchison, Hayley O'Neill, Eli Murphy.

Peace be the journey,  
Pastor Dave



## FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion class was filled with a lively bunch this go around. They had great questions to ask. A special thanks to Rick Graves for baking bread with the children. Also, thank you to our Altar Guild, who set-up the altar for both classes. Those who finished their First Communion class are: MacKenna Behan, Oakley Coysh, Abigail Hella, Harper Hurst, Nora Hurst, William Hurst, William Waldrop IV.



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

This year's Christmas Pageant told the story of Jesus' birth through a skit of the youth holding a birthday party for Jesus. Thanks to our youth Ruth Hutchison and Hayley O'Neill for playing the leads as well as support from Lola Atkins, Adalelyn Forbes, and Ollie Fox. Big thanks to Ashley Zamora who worked with the youth on the song, "Go Tell It On the Mountain," which they sang at the end of the pageant to encourage everyone to share the story of Jesus' birth. Thanks to Vicki O'Neill for writing the skit.



## WORSHIP MINISTRIES

2022-2023 has been a building year. We are officially out of the pandemic and trying to get back to some sort of normal life. In-person worship service is back for those who wish to attend, and the online option has been greatly improved with new cameras and equipment to make the experience run more smoothly and allow more interaction and more viewing angles.

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 Barry Hutchison, Derry Mace, Mike Riley, Aaron and Jenny Sutherland. The Altar Guild preps the Altar and the church paraments in advance for our services. The Guild is led by Renee Wells and includes Rowena Cornwell, Rita Foringer, Carol Godley, Vivian Griese, Pam Hess, Mary Mace, Ann Riley, Jill Ruhl, and Donna Vanorsdale. Let us not forget the Coffee Creators-Rowena Cornwell, Sandy Dunn, Dawn Lomax, Mary Mace, Lauren Malone, Kevin Morse, Debbi Ortiz, Vicki Venable, and Lorraine Watkins, who make sure we have coffee available to us both before and after the service for our social time...my favorite. Lastly, Peggy Sipes and Tammy Bialk for scheduling of the volunteer worship staff and coordinating 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, Choir, Bells, and Coffee Creators. Special thanks go out to Sandy Dunn and Mary Mace who have graciously helped by playing 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 let us know, and we will put you in touch with the right person to get you involved. Come join the fun.

Pastor Dave has completed his second year, and has adjusted well to the changes that have happened since restrictions of COVID and the reopening of the church for service. He brings with him new ideas to connect to the larger community. He has instituted nontraditional exposure for fellowship like "A Pint with the Pastor" at local breweries, which allows for a relaxed atmosphere to discuss anything of concern and brainstorm for future community service and exposure...or just have a cold beer and fellowship. It's always a good time, and the attendance is growing; come on out and have a drink and socialize with everybody. Overall, it has been a good year under Pastor's leadership, and we are looking forward to many more.

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

Yours in community,  
John H. Campbell

### ALTAR GUILD

This year, our Altar Guild has continued to adjust with changes for our worship space. We moderate the need for white grape juice and gluten free wafers each Sunday and have added additional communion trays for our higher-volume services. We welcome new ways to make our worship space beautiful.

Altar Guild members are Rowena Cornwell, Rita Foringer, Carol Godley, Vivian Griese, Pam Hess, Mary Mace, Ann Riley, and Lorraine Watkins. Thank you to Jill Ruhl for making our communion bread, Chrismons, and any special needs that arise; and thank you to Donna Vanorsdale for cleaning of the Cross and Crown gloves. 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 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 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 (757-851-2838) or Jeane Fullen (757-880-6932) with your request.

### Memorials (6/1/22-5/31/23)

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

Charles Lascola  
Joe Morrison

Don Riley  
Al Scherrer, Jr.



# CARE MINISTRIES

## PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Food Services

Church Funeral/Memorial Receptions

Andrea Cooper

Visitation

Eucharistic Ministry

Pastor Dave

Rita Foringer

Jim and Jeane Fullen

Bonnie Hess

Mary Jane Leckrone

Ann Myers

Aaron Sutherland

The knitters/Rita Foringer

Peggy Sipes and Tammy Bialk

Prayer Shawls

Prayer Chain

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 59 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.



This year on Wonderful Wednesdays, Sharon Bennett has taught a group of ladies how to crochet. The hope is that they will consider joining us in this ministry. We meet on the second Sunday of the month following Worship Service. Often, we then adjourn to Capri Restaurant for lunch and fellowship.

There is no pressure. One creation a year would be one more than we have now. 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 \$842.00, which is an increase of over \$200.00 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 the third Wednesday of each month. The luncheon begins at 12:30 with food provided by the Gloria Dei kitchen (donations accepted) and continues with chatting and activities. Watch the *Weekly* for dates and to sign up!

This past year found our group maintaining its attendance numbers, and we enjoyed a variety of activities:

What brings us JOY – displayed in our JOY pumpkin patch

Christmas Carols

Show and Tell

Bingo

An Island Beach Party with hula instruction

Games

Saxophone talent of Tom Clasen

Guest speaker on PACE/Innovage

Our JOY box of sayings and questions

Birthday recognitions

Anita and Ann will be planning speakers and games for the 2023-2024 year. We're also interested in entertainment, easy exercising, and crafts if you can share your knowledge and talent. If you have any ideas for JOY, 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). All women of the church are automatically members. So, ladies, that includes you!

On the fourth Monday of the month, the Women of the Church get together for fellowship and fun with fellow Christian women. We’ve arranged flowers, played B\*I\*N\*G\*O, created chrismons, and done other fun stuff. We also coordinate with the Girl Scouts of Troop 1041 to lead the Lenten Journey to create Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

However, WELCA does not end there. Since **ALL** women are by definition members of WELCA, think about all the things that the Women of the Church do:

- Altar Guild
- Ladies of Eggcellence
- Receptions for funerals, Confirmation, First Communion
- Organize the JOY group
- The Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Teach Children’s Church
- The Book Group

The list can go on. All of these groups involve the women of the church. All create fellowship. All serve a ministry within the congregation that is Gloria Dei.

So, thanks be to God for the women in WELCA!

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 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. We meet at the home of a different hostess who 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. This year, our reading emphasis has been on strong women and female trail blazers.

It was an exciting year for us as we had additional members join us. So, in addition to reading some excellent books, we became better acquainted with members of our church family. We continue to welcome newcomers and hope that 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.

If you read the books selected but are unable to join with us when we get together, feel free to send me a message and I’ll share your comments. Also, if you have a recommendation, please let me know. We’re always open to a good book!

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

Peace and blessings,  
Rita

## COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

### COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

Well, it has been another busy and fun-filled year in our Gloria Dei Community. Starting in October, our Drive-thru BBQ was a smashing success, bringing good fellowship and food together. All proceeds from this event were given to the School in celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> year of bringing quality education to the families of Hampton Roads. As the year went on, we gathered for our Annual Hanging of the Greens, a tradition cherished by all at Gloria Dei. The congregation was met with delicious soup and hot dogs to kick off the night; which was filled with caroling, decorating, and fun activities for all. We then dove into our Lenten season, ushered in by our scrumptious Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper. Each Wednesday night service had a great turnout, and there were several volunteers who helped facilitate the soup suppers beforehand as well as with cleanup. This spring, we introduced our newest event to the congregation, Hobby Sunday. This event served as a day where congregants could set up a station that represents their most cherished hobbies so they could share them with the rest of the congregation. Hobby Sunday brought about community fellowship that will hopefully spur the creation of new small groups focusing on such hobbies. We would like to say thank you to all who have helped in Gloria Dei events in any way this year. Thanks to your part, we were able to strengthen fellowship within the church as well as expand it outwards to our community!

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.

One of our larger support programs for H.E.L.P. is the annual coat drive for the homeless. During this year's collection, we have received a total of 1,773 items. Not only did members of the church give generously to the drive, but a portion of our donations came from members of our school with drop-off bins around the campus. Also, the majority of donations on our two drive-thru drop-off dates came primarily from our local community. This ministry has become a terrific community event in more ways than one! All adult items were given to H.E.L.P. where they were able to distribute through "A Nights Welcome" evening shelter. The Boys and Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula was very excited to receive the children's donations again this year.

### Categorized Donations Amounts

Men's items: 341                      Boys' items: 114

Women's items: 606                Girls' Items: 187

Socks: 165                            Shoes: 13

Belts: 38                             Hats: 75

Gloves: 72                          Scarves: 76

Bags: 14                             Blankets: 8

Professional Clothes: 26

Toiletries: 38                      Total: 1,773 items

In addition to our annual coat drive, our school families and members of our community donated six large boxes of food to the H.E.L.P. Food Pantry during Spirit Week.

Thank you, Gloria Dei, for everything you continue to do to uplift this community with such loving hearts!

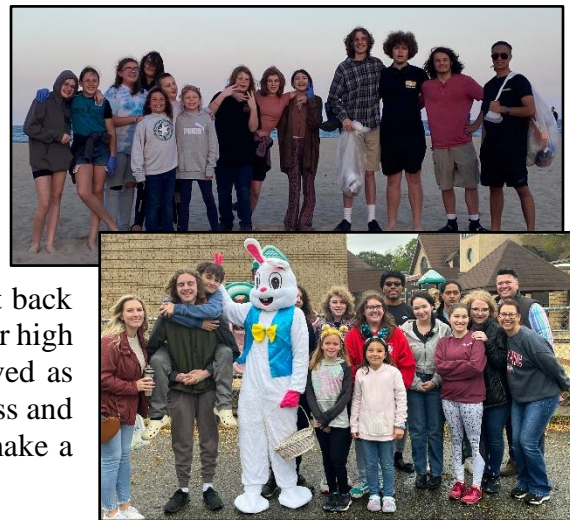
## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

The Senior High Youth were excited to gather again this year and get back to even more regular activities. Our Youth Sunday was led by two of our high school seniors, Charlie Venable and Alex Murphy. Other youth served as ushers, readers, greeters, tech team assistants, and members of the Cross and Crown. We were able to hold our Annual Christmas Tree Sale and make a profit, despite supply issues for the second year in a row.

We gave back to our community through service projects such as making blankets for local hospice patients, cleaning up Buckroe Beach, and hosting our annual Egg Hunt for young children and volunteering at VBS.

We were able to attend Winter Celebration at Eagle Eyrie in person for the first time since COVID and loved it. We had four youth in attendance and enjoyed every minute of it. We met in person for some local events: bowling, doing the Million Bulb Walk at Norfolk Botanical Gardens, and a couple of lock-ins.

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



and, of course, manhunt. As the year went on, the kids enjoyed outings such as Putt-Putt, Million Bulb Walk, ice skating, laser tag, Skyzone, and ended with another Lock-In.

Peace,

Jenny and Aaron Sutherland

## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Wonderful Wednesday has brought new leaders and new children to the youth groups of which it is so exciting to be a part. Josh Lowman, Rachel Lomax, Pastor Dave, and Peggy Todd led the Senior High Discipleship Group and had an average of five senior high youth in attendance to enjoy food, friends, and fellowship. The youth took turns leading various topics and participated in meaningful discussion. Pastor Dave also led Confirmation and First Communion with the help of Rita Foringer, Sharon Bennett, and Rachel Lomax. Our 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade Bible Study was led by Diane Washburn and Mary Jane Leckrone. Jack Adams led the *Growing with Jesus* (4<sup>th</sup> grade and under) Bible Study group. Ashley Zamora has continued with music. Pam Hess, Sheron Barnes, Vivian Griese, and Flo Forbes have done a great job with crafts for the younger group.

This year has been so fun, and these youth truly enjoy being at Gloria Dei. We just celebrated the Confirmation of three terrific youth. I found it so heartwarming to hear the Confirmands speak of youth night and VBS as being a part of their faith stories. I have said to my co-leads “it takes a village” but really, we give Glory to God for the opportunity.

The Wonderful Wednesdays Group also participated in some wonderful service projects, such as prepping food for the H.E.L.P. Food Pantry, making blankets for Hospice, and helping with separating coats for the homeless. They also volunteered a lot of their time making notes for shut-ins, stuffing stockings, selling Christmas trees, Christmas Pageant, Youth Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt, and trash clean up at the beach and on the church/school campus. The junior youth still have some things we are looking forward to, such as our upcoming VBS and the youth yard sale.

Please reach out if you have any questions about joining Wonderful Wednesdays as a youth or a volunteer. We have plenty of tasks and will help find the perfect fit for you. Come join us! We would love to have you be a part of this terrific ministry.

Peace,

Jenny and Aaron Sutherland

Oh, where does the fun begin! This year, we have been able to get back into the full swing of things. Last summer, the kids came together to connect with a super fun game night. It allowed us to all come and catch up with each other while having a blast playing indoor and outdoor games. In the fall, we were back up and running with our Wonderful Wednesdays program, where we enjoyed meals, music, and small groups. We welcomed back our younger members (K-4<sup>th</sup> grade), as well as our Junior and Senior High, to participate in the fun. We got to bring back the all-time favorite lock-ins this year, which made the kids happy. We had a great time with playing Nerf wars, a variety of games



## CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

As we moved into a somewhat more “normal” Christmas Tree season this year, it again would not have been successful 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). Christmas tree quality was up this year from last, and we are hoping for an even better lot this coming year. Jeremiah and I rode out to Bottomley Farms in Elk Creek, Virginia, to gather the load of trees and saw the massive expanse of their operation. After seeing this, I am hopeful we will not experience the issues we have had previously with vendor supply. In addition this year, we began accepting credit cards, and kudos to all involved for making this process a breeze! Many were thankful, and I think it helped push our sales to be completed sooner than anticipated. As in past years, there were so many comments of positive support for our youth and community of faith from those purchasing trees that it makes it a truly enjoyable event. 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 \$2,540.00 on sales of \$7,000.00 and expenses of \$4,460.00. 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

The Ladies of Eggcellence were thankfully back in pre-pandemic mode this year and created 2,976 delicious eggs. Proceeds from egg sales this year were approximately \$2,500. In addition to making the delicious eggs, we made 368 chocolate hearts in February for the School's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Fundraiser and raised \$1,600.00.

Thirty college care packages were sent in October, and we provided a lovely reception on December 4 for Celebration Sunday following the Stewardship Campaign.

Some of this year's proceeds and proceeds from previous years were used as follows.

- 1) Transformation of the front yard
- 2) Purchase of VBS curriculum
- 3) Purchase of 25 stacking plastic tables to replace heavy tables for fellowship use

Many thanks to all of our amazing volunteer “eggstras.”

Yours in Eggs,  
The Ladies of  
Eggcellence



## **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES**

Gloria Dei hosted three blood drives since the last report. Vicki O'Neill coordinates the drives, and Girl Scout Troop 1041 hosts the drives. Scouts checked in donors and also maintained the snack table. The church drives collected a total of 60 donations. That many donations can provide lifesaving blood of up to approximately 180 people in our community.

## **GIRL SCOUTS**

Girl Scout Troop 1041 is led by Vicki O'Neill as troop lead along with five co-leaders. The troop consists of thirty girls from 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Troop 1041 is helping to mentor a new troop at Gloria Dei consisting of ten daisies and two brownies (grades K – 2). Bringing our total number of scouts at Gloria Dei to forty-two.

As always, community service is a big part of what girl scouts do. This past year, Troop 1041 packed 25 teen toiletry bags which were donated to Hampton Social Services and made no-sew blankets for hospice patients. The October Trunk or Treat was once again hosted by Troop 1041 and open to the community. Girls packed and donated approximately 60 treat bags to go with kids' meals at the Gloria Dei BBQ. Troop 1041 hosted three Blood Drives at Gloria Dei manning the check-in table and earned hours toward their community service bars. Last but not least, Girl Scouts and their families once again joined WELCA to assist with collecting donations and making 160 care kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Girls enjoyed time at Camp Skimmino in Williamsburg. They participated in archery and rock wall climbing. The troop added two trained rock wall instructors this year and has plans to send two other leaders to canoe and paddle board training to expand our outdoor activities next year.

Five of our junior-level girls earned their bronze award, the highest award at that level. They put in over 20 hours working on creating a picnic space and a recycled garden area at Bluebird Gap Farm with their story featured in the Girl Scouts magazine.

During World Thinking Day this year, girls learned about the environment. The cadettes and seniors took on the task of learning about how plastic and micro-plastics harm the environment and animals in and around the water. Girls collected trash and recycled it into art showcasing the topic. The art work was displayed at Gloria Dei for several weeks. The girls' hard work was featured on the Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast Facebook page. In addition, the Virginia Living Museum invited the troop to host a table to display their art work at the museum as part of their Earth Day event.

The women of Gloria Dei were invited to join the World Thinking Day world tour where each girl researched a country, created a display, and made a dish from that country. Everyone was invited to visit, learn, and taste new foods.

Troop 1041 held six cookie booths at Gloria Dei. This season was our best yet. Cookie funds are important as they assist the troop in paying for camp, activities, badges and journeys.

Girls earned a variety of badges this year to include: archery, public speaking, product design, painting, home science, independence, music, designing comics and more.

The troop began digging out the rocks along the edge of the walkway outside the Simeon Center at Gloria Dei, getting out the weeds and laying in new weed barrier. We hope to complete the task throughout the summer.

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. The 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> graders are exploring plans to spend a weekend up around Richmond in August with plans to go rafting down the James River, exploring Maymont Park, as well as exploring art murals around the city.

The troop goal is to keep girls engaged and provide a safe environment to grow girls of courage, confidence, and character.

We can't thank Pastor Dave and the entire congregation enough. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a large part of our success by providing us space as well as support. Special shout-out to Rita Foringer, Mike Riley, and Aaron and Jenny Sutherland for always looking out for us and ways we can assist with projects or activities.

Vicki O'Neill  
Troop Leader, Troop 1041



## BOY SCOUTS

With only four scouts, Troop 84 is small but has been big on heart.

Since last June, our fourth and remaining scout achieved the rank of Life Scout, the last before Eagle. Two of our young men accomplished all remaining merit badge requirements. They reached the point where their only remaining task to reach Eagle is to plan and execute a project and apply for the Board of Review.

Last summer, we trekked five days on the New River in western Virginia, accomplishing the Kayak and Camping merit badges. All scouts have also completed the Hiking merit badge in preparation for this summer's outing, a backpacking trip in the back country of the Washington and Jefferson National Forest.

The boys continue to be active in service, working beach cleanups, supplying muscle for church and school projects, while being good stewards in their various schools and communities. Notably, the troop helped tear out and dispose of damaged materials from the water-damaged Gloria Dei classroom last summer.

This fall will mark a sunset for the troop, as three of the four gentlemen will turn 18 on or around the new year. We will continue to strive to present a positive scouting experience for them and remain always grateful for the church's support.

Respectfully,  
Barry Hutchison  
Scoutmaster, BSA Troop 84



# GENERAL OPERATIONS

## *Our Proposed Plan for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024*

Each year, your Church Council produces an Annual Plan for our next fiscal year. We are presenting the Proposed Plan Budget for Congregational approval here at our Annual Meeting. While we continue to present our traditional spreadsheet budget, we want to emphasize our programs, our emphasis, our stories, goals, and the challenges that make this process important. Our plan is not just a spreadsheet. Increasingly, our plan is a way of announcing and creating change that is a collection of our desires, hopes, and actions allowing us to make our Church, our community, and our people better.

As we often state, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a people, not a building nor just a place. We are becoming our community. While we know that we must pay the electric bill, the mortgage, and all the expenses that come with operating a large organization, our real plan goals have to do with better serving our youth, our families, and creating services and programs that will make our community the best place for us all to live. Major elements of our new Plan include:

- Continue to improve our Stewardship efforts and meet the challenge of adding 8% over the current year for our next year's Regular Offerings results. Know that, for the current year, we are on track to exceed the prior year by 7.1%.
- Enhance our youth programs through our Vacation Bible School and the Wonderful Wednesday programs.
- Add a Music Director to our family and establish a more vibrant music program.
- Establish and add multiple small groups as faith groups.
- Directly involve more of our Congregation in service and activity programs taking advantage of their talents and strengths.
- Expand our H.E.L.P. and Pastoral Counseling program support and development.
- Continue to establish and support 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 that continue to be under more specific development.
- Add equipment and skills to our technical efforts and presentations to offer a more enriching experience.



## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Plan Budget for FYE 063024

Note: CYE= Current year-end projection	Total FYE 6/30/23		FYE 6/30/24			
	CYE Projected	CYE Plan	Plan Assumptions	Proposed Plan Budget	Selected Variances from CYE Projection	
<b>Total 1 Regular Offering</b>	<b>\$ 494,367.87</b>	<b>473,789.00</b>	Assuming 8% over CYE Projection	<b>533,917.30</b>	<b>39,549.43</b>	<b>8.00%</b>
<b>Harris Creek House Rental</b>	<b>16,507.75</b>	<b>17,110.00</b>	Increased both rents to monthly of 2100; 4918 PPT/SW&\$1000 Maint	<b>19,282.00</b>	<b>2,774.25</b>	<b>16.81%</b>
<b>Total 1.99 Total Operating Income</b>	<b>510,875.62</b>	<b>490,899.00</b>		<b>553,199.30</b>	<b>42,323.68</b>	<b>8.28%</b>
<b>100 Education Ministry</b>						
<b>107 Wonderful Wednesdays</b>	594.06	2,000.00	Increased activites planned	2,000.00		
<b>115 Vacation Church School</b>	4,508.64	3,026.00	Increases CYE & Plan	4,500.00		
<b>123 Weekday Bible Study</b>	0.00	80.75	Assuming \$200	200.00		
<b>124 First Communion Class</b>	50.00	2,000.00	Assuming \$250	250.00		
<b>Total 100 Education Ministry</b>	<b>5,152.70</b>	<b>7,106.75</b>	Increased programs	<b>6,950.00</b>	<b>1,797.30</b>	<b>34.88%</b>
<b>1000 Executive Committee</b>						
<b>1000.5 Council Retreat</b>	1,138.81	0.00	Departing from "gifts" to cover food and accommodations.	2,000.00		
<b>Gathering of the Ministerium</b>	0.00	150.00	Planning to become more active	750.00		
<b>Total 1000 Executive Committee</b>	<b>1,138.81</b>	<b>150.00</b>		<b>2,750.00</b>	<b>1,611.19</b>	<b>141.48%</b>
<b>200 Worship Ministry</b>						
<b>201 New Music</b>	786.86	785.07	5% over projection	865.55		
<b>204 Music Supplies</b>	403.32	113.85	10% over projection	423.49		
<b>207 Instrumental Accompanists</b>	2,800.00	1,250.00	Impact of new Music Director	800.00		
<b>Misc Worship Supplies</b>	2,995.26	2,342.10	Assuming 5% increase	3,145.02		
<b>210 Altar Guild Supplies</b>	45.88	25.42	Assuming \$100	100.00		
<b>211 Bulletins</b>	2,002.25	1,099.16	Same as projection	2,002.25		
<b>213 Decorations/Flowers</b>	417.92	429.30	Assuming 5% increase	438.82		
<b>Worship Ministry Staff Wages</b>	21,477.24	41,961.22	impact of Music Director addition	66,471.00	<b>44,993.76</b>	<b>209.50%</b>
<b>Worship Ministry Staff Benefits</b>	11,285.25	13,518.00	impact of Music Director add	24,974.21	<b>13,688.96</b>	<b>121.30%</b>
<b>250 Cross &amp; Crown</b>	0.00	56.00	Assuming \$250	250.00		
<b>254 Administrative Miscellaneous</b>	4,396.22	2,508.59	Assuming 5% increase	4,616.03		
<b>259 Seasonal Worship Supplies</b>	6,773.77	5,786.00	Assuming 5% increase	7,112.46		
<b>Total 260 Atrium Coffee/Expense</b>	362.84	525.00	Assuming 5% increase	380.98		
<b>261 Guest Pastor Fees</b>	1,000.00	750.00	Same as projection	1,000.00		
<b>262 Guest Pastor Expenses</b>	203.75	95.92	Same as projection	203.75		
<b>286 New Member Reception</b>	51.24	0.00	Same as projection	51.24		
<b>Total 200 Worship Ministry</b>	<b>55,052.62</b>	<b>71,337.09</b>	Filling Music Director position	<b>112,834.79</b>	<b>57,782.17</b>	<b>104.96%</b>
<b>300 Support Ministry</b>						
<b>Total 301 Supplies Office</b>	1,712.49	2,280.00	projection plus 5%	1,798.11		
<b>302 Copier Paper</b>	1,436.57	563.00	projection plus 5%	1,508.40		
<b>Total 303 Telephone Service</b>	3,473.50	4,648.00	projection plus 5%	3,647.18		
<b>Total 305 Copier Lease</b>	10,229.92	11,075.92	\$938.76 per month	11,265.12		
<b>305.2 Computer Upgrade</b>	4,728.00	1,500.00	\$5500 fpr tech upgrades	5,500.00		
<b>306 Postage Office</b>	379.67	750.00	projection plus 10%	417.64		
<b>342 Sexton Salary</b>	7,863.48	11,028.50	go to contractors @ \$12K	12,000.00		
<b>Support Ministry Wages</b>	110,029.98	111,695.00	Assume 6% as COLA; impact of timing	118,008.72	<b>7,978.74</b>	<b>7.25%</b>
<b>Support Ministry Staff Benefits</b>	11,688.15	12,402.00	Assume 6% COLA; changes in timing	12,151.80	<b>463.65</b>	<b>3.97%</b>
<b>Workers Comp Insurance</b>	1,308.26	1,098.00	projection plus 5%	1,373.67		

Note: CYE= Current year-end projection	Total FYE 6/30/23		FYE 6/30/24			
	CYE Projected	CYE Plan	Plan Assumptions	Proposed Plan Budget	Selected Variances from CYE Projection	
319 Stewardship Program	4,491.55	2,400.00	Assume \$3500; lowering printing	3,500.00		
320 Supplies EMR	718.63	500.00	projection plus 5%	754.56		
323 Database Maintenance	3,930.25	3,900.00	projection plus 5%	4,126.76		
325 Website Development	271.25	1,000.00	projection plus 5%	284.81		
331 Custodial Service	2,400.00	2,400.00	Same as projection	2,400.00		
332 Building Maintenance Nave	4,110.10	5,153.00	projection plus 5%	4,315.61		
Maintenance- Church Offices	1,097.84	1,000.00	projection plus 5%	1,152.73		
Maintenance Supplies - Atrium	1,856.03	2,000.00	projection plus 5%	1,948.83		
Total 334 Grounds Maintenance	3,371.74	2,500.00	projection plus 5%	3,540.33		
Total 336 Utilities Electric	21,183.35	19,243.00	projection plus 5%	22,242.52		
Total 337 Utilities Gas	2,719.70	2,147.62	projection plus 5%	2,855.69		
338 Utilities Water	787.12	798.00	projection plus 5%	826.48		
339 Utilities Sewer	669.20	685.97	projection plus 5%	702.66		
Total 341 Property Insurance	14,217.87	14,058.00	projection plus 10%	15,639.66		
352 Advertising	150.00	0.00	Same as projection	150.00		
Total 353 Bank Charges	544.00	500.00	Same as projection	544.00		
Total 300 Support Ministry	207,505.17	204,297.51		220,655.26	13,150.09	6.34%
400 Care Ministry						
Total 401.0 Nursery Program	929.26	2,000.00	Assume \$2000	2,000.00	1,070.74	115.23%
404 HELP expense	1,200.00	1,200.00	Committing \$100 per month	1,200.00	0.00	0.00%
Pastoral Counseling Center	0.00	0.00	Assume 1200; was Memorial expense	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Annual Roadmap Projects	5,000.00	10,000.00	Assume 7500; available for projects/programs	7,500.00		
406 Synod Benevolence	15,000.00	15,000.00	Assume \$31,500 5% increase	31,500.00	1500.00 5%	
407 ELCA Disaster Relief	5,000.00	5,000.00	Not Planning to continue separating into 4 funds.	0.00		
408 ELCA World Hunger	5,000.00	5,000.00		0.00		
409 ELCA Mission Support	5,000.00	5,000.00		0.00		
Total 400 Care Ministry	37,129.26	43,200.00		42,200.00	5,070.74	13.66%
500 Community Ministry						
501 Junior Youth Program	500.00	500.00	same as projection	500.00		
502 Senior Youth Program	465.16	500.00	same as projection	465.16		
Total 502.10 Youth Retreats	1,008.87	(1,500.00)	funded by Christmas Tree Sales	998.73		
507 Youth Night Income	(252.00)	0.00	not budgeted	0.00		
507.1 Youth Night Expense	15.50	0.00	not budgeted	0.00		
Total 510 Parish Fellowship	2,686.49	1,809.51	Assume \$3500	3,500.00		
Total 500 Community Ministry	4,424.02	1,309.51		5,463.89	1,039.87	23.51%
600 Debt Service						
610 Atrium Mortgage (P & I)	169,341.24	169,341.24	assume no interest change	169,341.24		
Total 600 Debt Service	169,341.24	169,341.24	same as prior years	169,341.24	0.00	0.00%
Total Expenses	479,743.82	496,742.10	Largest impact is Music Director	560,195.19	80,451.37	16.77%
Net Operating Income	31,131.80	(5,843.10)	Covering any shortfall with funds from Current Year savings from Music Direotor vacancy	(6,995.89)	(38,127.69)	-122.47%

## ***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. Striving to improve our services to our congregation and community.
2. Begin to grow our Church's membership and positive impact upon our community.
3. Revitalize our Stewardship programs.
4. Monitor our reserve fund levels that will continue to protect the Church and School programs.

Even with some of the lingering effects of the COVID situations, we have grown our Church and our School both in quality of service and in numbers. We continue to take the needed steps to react and protect our financial situations. We have continued to utilize grant funding that helps fortify our School and Daycare operations. We are carefully guarding our reserves for both School and Church and have actually increased these needed protection sources.

Our projected indebtedness for 6/30/23 includes a 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 6/30/23 as of 5/26/2023: \$1,604,793 (a reduction of \$88,027 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 6/30/23) \$2,649,802 (increase from prior year of about \$150,000) includes these funds:

- Columbarium Account: \$8,681 (an increase of about \$1,076 over last year)
- Legacy Account: \$1,096 (about same total as last year)
- Memorial Account: \$81,320 (about \$4,220 less than last year)
- Church Operating Account: \$298,302 (an increase of about \$42,603 over last year)
- School Operating Account: \$725,269 (a decrease of about \$203,281 a result of some spending of grants received in prior years and transfers to School Fundraising; see below).
- School Savings Account: \$774,345 (a decrease of about \$26,410 a result of some spending of grants received in prior years and transfers to School Fundraising; see below).
- School Fundraising: \$755,170 (an increase of about \$340,670; large grant impact and transfers from other accounts to better track the grant accounting).
- Linda Robinson Scholarship Account: \$4,419 (same as the prior year)
- Pastor's Discretionary Account: \$900 (funded by designated gifts)

**Total projected, dedicated Church and School Reserves projected 6/30/23: \$923,750** (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.

## Stewardship for All Seasons - Generosity Continues - 2023 Activities and Appeal

First, a big thank you to all our members who responded to our 2023 Stewardship Campaign. Thanks to your generosity, we had a very successful campaign that helps us move forward with our many ministries here at Gloria Dei.

We began our 2023 Campaign in June of 2022 with a series of Stewardship stories by members of our Church leadership. Over the course of the next two months, we read how Gloria Dei had met the needs of these members and had provided a means to join in supporting our Church and its many ministries. These stories, included in our church bulletins, were followed with a series of Temple Talks, appeal letters, and finally with the distribution of brochures and bulletins outlining our goals for the coming year. We sought to grow both the number and amount of committed pledges in order to support our four primary goals: Strengthen our Worship Experiences; Outreach and Evangelism Ministries; Children and Youth Ministries; and Sustaining Excellence. Our overall goal was to increase the number of pledges by ten and to increase the overall amount pledged by \$45,000. We celebrated our early successes with a “Celebration Sunday” luncheon in December. As always, our Ladies of Eggcellence outdid themselves in providing a celebration to remember.



As we wrapped up our Stewardship Campaign in early 2023, we had increased the number of pledges from 73 to 86, almost an 18 percent increase. Likewise, for total amount pledged, we increased from \$373,500 to \$405,876, an increase of \$32,376 or almost nine percent. Bottom line: we significantly increased pledge participation and made considerable progress toward our financial goals as well.

We are now entering the initial planning phase for our 2024 Stewardship Campaign and will be providing more information in the weeks and months to come. However, as we plan our program, the Stewardship Team asks that you prayerfully consider how you can best support our Church and the work necessary to accomplish the ministries that are so critical to our mission of Building Faith, Building Community, and Building Lives. Help us to continue to grow in our efforts to share the Gospel with all whom we meet.

Gary Hess  
Stewardship Chair

*“The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.” Proverbs 25:11*



# Statistics 2022 - 2023

## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Membership  
445

## Gloria Dei Lutheran School

Full-time Student Enrollment  
331

After-School Day Care  
193

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## Current Elected Leadership

		<u>Term Expires</u>
Trustees	Fred Bradley	2023
	Jim Fullen	2023
	Peggy Todd	2025
	Anne Perry	2025
	Mike Riley	2025
	Ernie Atkins	2025
Council President	Jason Green	2024
Council Vice President	Vivian Griese	2024
Council Members	John Campbell	2024
	Gary Hess	2025
	Rachel Lomax	2025
	Kent Morgan	2023
	Eric Olsen	2023
	Aaron Sutherland	2024
	Ashley Zamora	2025
Treasurer	Dawn Lomax	2023
Congregational Secretary	Mike Canny	(appointed)



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.*

*William “Billy” H. Coon, Jr*

*Robert “Bob” Schultz*

*Carolyn Jean Hitchcock*

*Antoinette Thomas*

*Thomas Grummell*

*Marjorie Elfman*

*Joseph “Joe” Hicks Morrison*