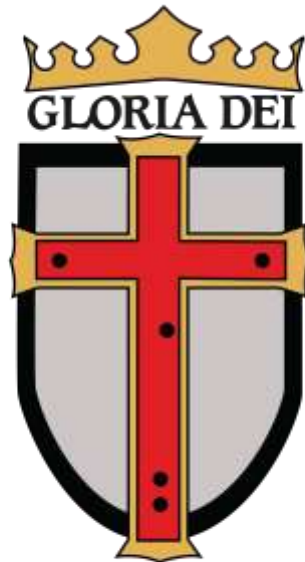


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Annual Report

Prepared for the 61st Annual Meeting

June 28, 2026

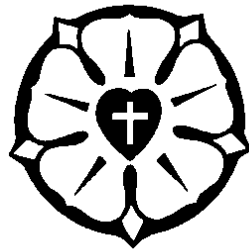


250 FOX HILL ROAD HAMPTON VIRGINIA 23669

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 61st ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
June 28, 2026

I. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Diane Washburn

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

Diane Washburn

Presentation and approval of annual meeting minutes

IV. New Business

Diane Washburn

A. Approval of new Constitution

B. Election of Church Council: Brown Cornwell, Eric Olsen, Kelly Redman

C. Reelection of Trustee: Bo Lomax

D. Presentation and approval of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 2026-2027 Financial Plan

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

Diane Washburn



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

June 22, 2025

I. Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

Meeting was called to order by Council President, Vivian Griese, at 10:45 a.m. It was determined a quorum was present. Michael Canny, serving in his position as Congregational Scribe, will be recording the minutes of the meeting.

II. Order for Opening of Congregational Meeting

Pastor Dave

III. Old Business

Presentation and approval of annual meeting minutes

Motion: Gary Hess Second: Rita Foringer. Motion carried.

IV. New Business

A. Election of Church Council: (Presented En Banc)

Don Glenn, Amanda Gonzalez, & Bill Swanson

Motion to approve as presented was made by Chip Lomax, and seconded by Gary Hess. Motion carried.

B. Election of Trustees

Ernie Atkins and Peggy Todd

Motion to approve made by Jenny Sutherland, seconded by Diane Washburn. Motion carried.

C. Presentation of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 2025-2026 Financial Plan

Presented by Rick Graves. Vivian Griese asked for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Financial Plan as presented. Motion: Aaron Sutherland Second: Dan Singer Motion carried.

Additional New Business

Rita Foringer Lifetime Achievement Award from Virginia Synod

Presented during worship service.

Closing Responses and Prayer

Meeting closed with scriptural responses and prayer.

Adjournment and Dismissal

Pastor Dave

Motion: Dan Singer Second: Rachel Lomax

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Michael Canny

Congregational Scribe

SENIOR PASTOR

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up."
— Galatians 6:9

As we reflect on the past year, it would be easy to focus solely on numbers, attendance trends, or the challenges facing churches across our nation. Those realities matter, and we should never ignore them. Yet Scripture reminds us God's people have never been called to measure success the way the world measures success. Instead, God calls us to faithfulness.

The Apostle Paul encourages believers not to grow weary in doing what is right. Why? Because God is always at work, even when the harvest is not yet visible. Seeds planted today may not bear fruit tomorrow. Ministries begun this year may impact lives years from now. Acts of kindness, worship, prayer, service, and generosity often accomplish more than we can see.

Over the past year, Gloria Dei has continued to worship faithfully, teach faithfully, serve faithfully, and love faithfully. We have welcomed children into our school, fed those in need, studied God's Word, celebrated baptisms, comforted grieving families, encouraged one another in faith, and proclaimed the good news of Jesus Christ.

The harvest belongs to God. Our calling is to remain faithful. Faithfulness comes before fruitfulness.

In many ways, that faithfulness is embodied by people like Peggy Sipes. This year, we give thanks to God for Peggy Sipes' 30 years of service with Gloria Dei serving much of that time as the Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor. Through three decades of faithful service, Peggy has been a steady presence, a trusted partner in ministry, and a source of encouragement to countless pastors, staff members, and congregation members. Her dedication, wisdom, and care have helped shape the life of Gloria Dei in ways both seen and unseen. WE thank God for her example of steadfast faithfulness and service.

As we look ahead, the question before us is simple: What does faithfulness look like in the year to come? One answer is found in worship.

This year we are launching the 52 Sundays Initiative – an invitation to intentionally prioritize weekly worship as part of our life of faith. This is not about perfect attendance or earning God's love. God's grace is already yours in Christ. Rather, 52 Sundays Initiative is about creating a rhythm of gathering with God's people to receive Word, Sacrament, encouragement, and hope week after week.

In a world that constantly pulls us in different directions, worship helps re-center our hearts and minds on what matters most. Through prayer, music, Scripture, Holy Communion, and community God continues to shape us, strengthen us, and send us into the world to serve. Faith grows best when it is practiced consistently, and worship is one of the primary ways we are formed as disciples of Jesus.

Throughout the coming year, we will share stories, encouragement, and reminders about why gathering matters. Whether you have been in the pew every Sunday for years or are hoping to reconnect with the habit of worship, this invitation is for you.

The first step is to take your calendar and block off every Sunday from 9AM to 11AM for worship. Treat that time as sacred. Making worship a priority helps us say no to the many things that compete for our attention and yes to the One who gives us life.

Paul's encouragement remains as relevant today as it was to the early church: "Let us not grow weary in doing what is right." The future of Gloria Dei will not be built on programs, personalities, or statistics alone. It will be built through ordinary acts of faithfulness—worshiping, serving, praying, giving, learning, and loving in the name of Jesus Christ.

Peace be the journey,
Pastor Dave

Pastoral Record

(July 1, 2025 through June 28, 2026)

New Member Transfers = 10

Baptisms = 16

Confirmation = 1

First Communion = 1

Funerals = 6

Weddings = 4



Pastor Dave's snowball fight with the littles.



CONGREGATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The church council is grateful for the many ways God has guided and blessed our congregation throughout this past year, through worship, fellowship, outreach, stewardship, and service for our continued growth together in faith and ministry.

The council holds regular monthly meetings to review church business, oversee finances, property matters, support ministry activities, and plan for events and seasons within the church year. These meetings provide opportunities for discussion, prayer, and thoughtful decision-making for the benefit of the congregation.

Among the highlights of the year:

- Continued to support church events for Christmas and Easter, to include Hanging of the Greens and Lenten Soup Suppers.
- Ongoing maintenance and care of the church for replacement and repairs post fire in the heating system, roof issues at the cross on the tower, and fellowship hall roof repairs.
- Support youth ministries, mission projects and outreach such as Wonderful Wednesdays, Community Bible Study at H.E.L.P., plus support of the Lutheran Relief, Angel Tree, and ELCA Good Gifts.
- Careful stewardship of finances and resources. Work and approval of school and church budgets, dredging projects, and review of the financial reports. The dredging project for Hampton City Gosnold's Hope Park has not been a benefit just for our church but saved the city thousands of taxpayers' dollars.
- Prepare and serve dinner to the teacher and staff of Gloria Dei School during teacher appreciation week.

The council also worked with the church staff and volunteers whose dedication and service continue to strengthen our congregation. We are thankful to everyone who give their time, talents, prayers, and support to our church. The council remains committed to the faithful leadership, open communication, and prayerful discernment as we seek to serve Christ and our community together. Thank you to all the members of the congregation for your continued encouragement, generosity, and participation in the life of Gloria Dei.

Diane Washburn
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Council President

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

On June 3, 2026, our graduation service celebrated the accomplishments of our fifth and eighth grade students as they marked an important milestone in their educational journey, transitioning from elementary and middle school. It has been a joy to witness their growth, achievements, and development throughout their time at Gloria Dei.

During the service, we also recognized students who earned the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence. This prestigious award is the highest academic honor presented at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. It recognizes students who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement through their hard work, dedication, perseverance, and commitment to excellence.



This year's recipients are:

Koi Abney
King Oliver

Nolan Frazier
Richard Wilhelm

Kayla Grace Grant
Sanaii Williams-Lucky

Ronald Hayford
Peyton LaRoche

We congratulate these outstanding students on this well-deserved recognition and commend them for their academic accomplishments.

As our graduates begin the next chapter of their educational journey, it is our prayer that they carry with them the lessons learned at Gloria Dei and continue to use the gifts and talents God has entrusted to them. May they grow into responsible, caring, trustworthy, and faithful children of God who seek to serve Him and others in all they do.

In June, we said farewell to Lisa Maguire, Vickie Wiggins, and Anna Mary Vogt. These remarkable ladies have left a lasting imprint on the hearts of the students, families, and staff of Gloria Dei. I am deeply grateful for their years of dedication, service, and commitment to our ministry. Each has played an integral role in the life of our school, and their presence will be greatly missed.

Please join me in keeping Lisa, Vickie, and Anna Mary in your prayers as they embark on new adventures and opportunities. We pray that God richly blesses them and guides them in the exciting journeys ahead.

I would also like to recognize and congratulate the staff members who are celebrating significant milestones in their service and ministry at Gloria Dei:

10 Years of Service
Debra Waldmiller

15 Years of Service
Jessica Nolte

20 Years of Service
Anna Mary Vogt

25 Years of Service
Sharon Bennett

These milestones represent years of faithful dedication, commitment, and service to the students, families, and mission of Gloria Dei. We are grateful for the many ways these individuals have shared their gifts and talents to strengthen our school and ministry.

I am truly appreciative of these dedicated individuals, as well as all of our staff members, who so generously share their time, talents, and hearts each day. Together, we are blessed to provide a quality Christian education while nurturing the faith.

2025 – 2026 School Highlights

- We were blessed with an enrollment of 304 students in our day school program (toddlers through eighth grade).
- Gloria Dei Lutheran School was once again recognized as a Best of Coastal Virginia 2026 award winner. Gloria Dei was recognized in the following categories: Best Private School, Best Child Development Center, and Best Preschool. Many thanks to all who voted for our school and childcare programs.
- Our School sponsored two successful Scholastic Book Fairs, one in the fall, and one in the spring. Many thanks to the greatest Book Fair team - Julie Allen, 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 pack away the book cases.
- In the fall, students participated in the Classic Cookie and Popcorn fundraiser. In addition, school families had the opportunity to shop through School Store, an online shopping mall with over 300 nationally-known merchants. When family and friends made purchases of cookie dough, popcorn or through SchoolStore.com, Gloria Dei earned money for improvements on both the Fox Hill and Willow Oaks campuses.
- The following after-school programs were active: Art Club, Children's Choir, Lego Club, Gymnastics, and Ninja Zone.
- As we nurture and guide children, it is important they learn to care and give back to the community. Gloria Dei students have been busy this year giving back to others through service projects and activities.
 - The Fox Hill and Willow Oaks Campuses participated in a food drive for H.E.L.P.
 - The kindergarten classes made Thanksgiving blessing bags for H.E.L.P.
 - First and Fifth grade reading buddies collaborated to make kits with snacks and personal hygiene items for the homeless.
 - The second grade classes made Christmas care packages for our troops celebrating the holiday overseas.
 - In support of the Veterans' Care Project, students in preschool – 8th grade created holiday cards for the veterans staying at the Hampton VA Medical Center.
 - Middle School students participated in our Adopt-a-Spot clean-ups on Willow Oaks Blvd.
- Upgraded desktop computers in Willow Oaks computer lab.
- Added an art resource class for our Prekindergarten classes.
- Replaced two HVAC units on the Fox Hill campus, as well as one mini-split unit in a toddler classroom.
- In a measure to improve security, we made upgrades to the interior doors in the tower entrance on the Fox Hill campus.



- This winter, Gloria Dei School Staff voted on a new logo for the school.
- We are especially thankful for our Gloria Dei Stewards, who working in conjunction with Mr. Russell, completed several projects throughout the year. Their assistance with the following events is greatly appreciated.
 - Set up and take down of Fox Hill and Willow Oaks Field Day activities
 - Set up and take down of risers and boxes for all school practices and programs at Christmas and end of year
 - Lawn repair at Fox Hill campus following the removal of generator and air temp handler
 - Furniture moves and floor waxing
 - Carpet repairs at Fox Hill Campus following the flooded hallway.



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

“We Believe in Gloria Dei” Building Campaign

Gloria Dei Lutheran School is pleased to announce the launch of a major capital campaign to support the construction of new elementary school facilities on our Willow Oaks campus. This exciting initiative represents a significant investment in the future of our students, families, and community as we continue our mission of providing a Christ-centered, academically excellent education.

As we look ahead, Gloria Dei is strategically strengthening its focus on elementary education. With the planned transition away from middle school grades, we are dedicating our resources, facilities, and long-term planning to creating an exceptional Kindergarten through Fifth Grade experience. This renewed focus allows us to deepen our commitment to nurturing the academic, social, emotional, and spiritual growth of children during their most formative years.

This project is more than a construction effort—it is an investment in future generations of Gloria Dei students. We invite parents, alumni, church members, and friends of Gloria Dei to join us in this exciting journey through prayer, advocacy, and financial support. Together, we are creating a campus that reflects our commitment to educational excellence, Christian values, and the bright future of our school community.

Together, we are building more than new facilities—we are building a strong foundation for generations of Gloria Dei students to grow in faith, knowledge, and purpose.

CHILD DAY CARE

Gloria Dei Lutheran School offers child care for children ages 16 months to 12 years. There were 173 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 3rd through 7th.
- Additional after-school activities – Art Academy (1st & up), gymnastics, Tumblebugz, Lil’ Ninjas, Lego Club, and The Master’s Singers.
- “*Summer Adventures*” – our summer program for children 16 months to 12 years old.

Jeanene Nolte, Child Care Director
Janet Cole, Program Coordinator
Jessica Nolte, Program Coordinator

NEW MEMBERS

This year, we have received 26 new members to Gloria Dei. Sixteen of those were received by way of baptism and 10 by way of transferring membership from another Christian community of faith.

FIRST LIGHT (INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL)

In response to a need for Sunday School, I, Pastor Dave, launched First Light. This is a class for all ages. Each class has a little something for everyone.

My favorite part is the film integration, but others might tell you it is the discussion on the Scripture. This class has different themes each week. So, it's like a sitcom from the 90s - if you miss one you can jump in and not feel like you've missed a beat.

This class has a large swing in attendance – anywhere from five to sixteen. Most of the time it is between eight and ten in attendance.

August will be a full year of us doing First Light. I think it is safe to say, this ministry will stick around.

Thank you to my many substitute teachers who fill in while I am away!

FELLOWSHIP BIBLE STUDY

This class uses the ELCA Daily Faith Practices Bible Study. We meet every Tuesday in the Simeon Center from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Each Tuesday morning, we discuss a piece of scripture that was read in church two days earlier. We talk about the impact of these verses on the early Christian Church and the impact on our lives today. The material is interesting and varied. We are a small group of about a dozen adults and would love to have you join us. Everyone is welcome.

Sharon Padula, Leader

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

This marks four years of doing Bible Study at the H.E.L.P. Day Center on Buckroe Avenue. Since last year, we have studied Numbers, First Chronicles, Second Chronicles, and Deuteronomy.

Aside from the Bible study, our church folk who attend provided the Day Center with a meal. We have donated bags, water bottles, rain ponchos, snacks, etc.

We meet most every Wednesday at noon. If you'd like to be of help but can't attend, consider donating snacks for us to give to the Center.

CONFIRMATION

This year, we had four students in Confirmation Class. After completing her second year of Confirmation on Pentecost, we confirmed Micaela Ruhl. Thank you to Rita Foringer for teaching, assisting, and mentoring these young Christians.

FIRST COMMUNION

This year, one student completed the First Communion course. We thank Rick Graves and Jenny Sutherland for helping in this important event. And as always, we are thankful for Gloria Dei's Altar Guild. First Communion was celebrated on Transfiguration Sunday.

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

MINISTER OF MUSIC

I have been in service to the Gloria Dei faith community for nearly three years now (August 2023). And my, the time does go quickly.

During this time, I have become more familiar with worship styles and rhythms favored by pastor and parishioners alike. Things go well, very well, but as we all know, things can always be improved. Steps are being taken to strengthen and improve music in worship. A plan has been put in place (actual execution of that plan is underway). The key is to continue promoting attitudes and behaviors that keep us working together cooperatively.

In time, you may expect to see much more joint involvement with parish and school musical ensembles at worship. Gloria Dei's Mission Statement: Building Faith, Building Community, Building Lives, has provided the inspiration and destination for musical worship experiences at Gloria Dei. It remains the guiding principle for things being planned now and for the future.

The faith community will experience greater realizations/expressions of this put into action for liturgies celebrating Reformation Sunday 2026, Christmas Eve 2026, Holy Week and Easter 2027. Hymn concertos (congregation hymns set in a very exciting way that assigns singing parts to choir, congregation and instruments). You will also experience greater and more appropriate use of instruments and authentic interpretations of music in various styles in keeping with current Lutheran Theology.

In closing, I ask, if you like singing (I never met a Lutheran who does not sing) to consider participating in parish music ministry. We have a number of good male singers, but we need more to keep the choir sections balanced. Ladies, you are needed, too. Choir rehearsals are on Sundays, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Let us sing and minister together in "Building Faith, Building Community, and Buildings Lives."

Brandon D. Spence, DMA
Minister of Music

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

This year has been full of wonderful music-making from our students as they gathered together for Chorister Choir after school during the week. Our Chorister Choir, made up of Kindergarten through 5th Grade students, met every Thursday after school in the Simeon Center, where we would have a snack before learning fun new songs and more about singing together! This year, our Chorister Choir was made up of a staggering over 20 talented singers who arrived at every practice excited to sing and learn new songs! They learned songs from the sacred to the secular, including some fun Broadway numbers! Their musical repertoire was more challenging this year, but the students rose to meet each challenge with vigor and passion. Every year, the choir students learn and grow with the program, and each year is better than the last! Each future year is looking to bring some new ideas and new music. With the talented students at the wheel, we should look forward to the beautiful songs they share.

Shannon Schubert

ALTAR GUILD

The most visible part of the altar guild's work is when the table of the Lord is set for the sacramental liturgy. Not only Holy Communion vessels, but also the altar linens, paraments, and other items are carefully arranged on the altar and in the worship space for each service. After each worship service, these items are inspected and cleaned as needed in anticipation of their next use.

Throughout the year, we make sure the floor areas around the chancel area are clean, and we inspect the kneelers for any repairs that may be needed. In addition to our weekly tasks, we prepare the Nave for Lent, Easter and Christmas, decorating and making sure flowers are ordered and watered throughout these seasons.

Thank you to those who bake bread, wash the gloves for cross and crown, polish our silver and brass, those who make sure our flowers are shared with individuals who could not attend services, as well as individuals who show up every Sunday (and throughout the week) to prepare communion, set the altar, wash and iron linens, and make sure all supplies are ordered in a timely manner. We could not do all of this work without the help of so many individuals, both women and men.

Decorating the Advent Wreath



Preparing the Lord's Table



Participating in the Maundy Thursday Service



Thank you to all the men who faithfully work with the altar guild throughout the year. These men change out the sanctuary flags, hang banners, head into the attic to bring down seasonal items, hang the Advent wreath, put up the huge Chrismon tree, and prepare the crosses for Lent and Easter. They kindly do whatever is needed and are cheerfully only a call away.

Please consider joining our ministry. There are lots of ways you can be involved. We help and teach each other, so don't worry about not knowing what to do. You do not need to commit to every Sunday when you join the altar guild (men, you too), but be willing to help when needed. Even if you can help only in one area or once a year, we invite you to join us!

To the Glory of God!
Your Altar Guild

AESTHETICS MINISTRY

The Spiritual Gift of Artistic Design

"Blessed be the Lord God of our fathers, which hath put such a thing as this in the heart, to beautify the house of the Lord." Ezra 7:27 (KJV)

The ultimate source of beauty is the character of God. Often, as His people, we fail to reflect this aspect of God in our worship spaces. We tend to settle for the utilitarian and the functional. As a visible expression of our desire to honor God, we should thoughtfully strive to make worship areas reflect the beauty that is His character. This beauty inspires us to become closer to God and enhances our worship of Him.

The head of the Aesthetics Ministry is the Senior Pastor, supported by a limited number of individuals who work closely with him. The Aesthetics Ministry acts as a point of contact for providing input regarding the appearance of the church interior. Its purpose is to present a well-designed, high-quality environment with consistency in architecture and style, creating a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere for our congregation and guests. It seeks support of church members and other ministries to maintain and provide for the needs of our interior spaces. The scope of this ministry is limited to the church interior, identified as the Tower of the Triumphant, Koinonia Atrium and associated areas, and the Nave (Sanctuary).

In a continued desire to make our spaces more welcoming and functional, sofas and end tables were added this past year to our Rotunda area outside our Nave. Time and care were taken to select the appropriate design and colors of these items, so they would enhance the overall look of the space. These functional pieces serve as an invitation to sit and join in conversation with others. Conversations help build unity within our community.

We prayerfully ask that God guides us to use the spiritual gifts He has provided, as we continue to take care of His people and worship spaces.

The Aesthetics Ministry

MEMORIAL REPORT

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. 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.

Memorials (6/1/25-5/31/26)

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

Joanne Aheimer
Joan Hudgins
Melvin Lanning
Russell “Russ” Morrison

Conrad Soderstrom, Jr.
Annie Starnes
Roger Ward
Max Vanpelt

CARE MINISTRIES

HOME COMMUNION

Gloria Dei visits 17 shut-ins. Visits can be done by the pastor. However, there is a larger need than what the pastor can meet. The following people served in taking Communion to our shut-ins:

Rita Foringer
Jim and Jeane Fullen

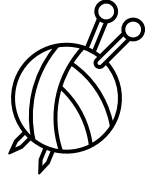
Carol Godley
Melanie Harris

Mary Jane Leckrone
Ann Myers

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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

Proverbs 31:13



The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to meet following worship on the Second Sunday of the month following worship service. We gather in front of the fireplace to work on our projects. Please stop past and say "Hi." We love to chat while our fingers are busy.

This year, there have been several baptisms, so we have been busy working white yarn. When a child under five is baptized, they receive a blanket for the parents, sponsors, and child to remember this special day. Children over five and adults receive a prayer square as their memento. Our hope is that each will be treasured.

As always, we welcome new members. Please prayerfully consider joining us. Remember it's God's work, but our hands. If you have any questions, contact me at rforinger@verizon.net.

Peace and blessings,
Rita Foringer

BLESSING TREE

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Blessing Tree initiative this year. Because of your generosity, we were able to provide clothing and toys to a local family in need.

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

ELCA Good Gifts provide a creative and meaningful way to support the ministries of the ELCA that make a difference in the lives of people around the world. Through direct monetary donations, you can help provide critical resources and support to individuals and communities in need.

During the Lenten season, the Senior Youth Group once again set up their Good Gifts Wishing Well to collect generous contributions from our congregation. Every donation, no matter the size, helps bring hope and assistance to those facing difficult circumstances.

We are grateful to share that this year's Lenten Offering for the Good Gifts Well raised a total of \$2,416.82! Thank you for your kindness, generosity, and commitment to this important ministry. Your support continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Rachel Bedford

WOMEN OF GLORIA DEI

“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)

For various reasons, the Gloria Dei chapter of WELCA is no longer an active group at Gloria Dei. However, that does not mean that the Women of Gloria Dei are going away! We will continue to have a Glass with the Girls the fourth Monday of the month and other get-togethers as occasions arise.

However, there are many opportunities for women to become engaged and participate in the activities at church. The fish fry, Wonderful Wednesdays, Coffee Creators, Lay Assistants, the Altar Guild, Bible Studies, to name a few. All are ways to plug into the various missions of the church. Bottomline, it’s “God’s Work, Our Hands.” Join in.

Peace to all,
Rita Foringer

WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB

“So many books, so little time”

This has been an exciting year for the book group. We’ve visited ancient Egypt, found what it’s like to live the life of a female Crow Indian, worked with spies during World War II, corresponded with a pen pal, and worked with crime writers in the 1930s to solve a mystery.



Yes, we’ve done a lot all through the wonderful world of books. Each month, we get together on the second Monday of the month to discuss the book we just completed. Not only does this enable us to explore new worlds, but it also gives us an opportunity to share in fellowship with fellow Christians.

If you are not part of a book group, consider joining ours or creating one. It’s a wonderful way to explore new worlds and form lasting friendships. Of course, you are always welcome to join us on Monday nights. If you have any questions or want more information, contact Rita Foringer at rforinger@verizon.net.

Peace and blessings,
Rita Foringer

LIFE GROUPS AT GLORIA DEI

Life Groups are small groups that focus on Scripture, prayer, and fellowship. There are currently three Life Groups offered within the Gloria Dei Community. One meets on Sunday evenings, another on Tuesday evenings, and another that meets once a month.

If interested in joining a Life Group, contact Pastor Dave.

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

I closed out the 2024/2025 Community Fellowship report with a shout-out to the vast array of Gloria Dei volunteers who make Gloria Dei such a rewarding and uplifting community experience.

This past year has seen a continuation of this high level of commitment from a vast array of Gloria Dei Council Members; financial wizards; building repair, restoration, and management crews; exceptionally skilled cabinet maker; church service Tech Crew and music makers; culinary arts extraordinaires; Altar Guild members; Bible campers; and more. These Gloria Dei members are all volunteers who continue to donate their time and talents to the benefit of the Gloria Dei community.

On September 28, 2025, the second annual Gloria Dei remote outdoor church service was held at Gosnold's Hope Park. This event was a combined church service and was attended by members of both Gloria Dei and St. Paul's Lutheran Churches. Many of our Gloria Dei volunteers donated time, decorations, food, and music for this event. The natural setting and beautiful weather provided the perfect venue for the church service and the community social that followed. The tremendous turnout, combined with the positive interaction of church community members, made the event a resounding success.

The 2025 Gloria Dei 60th Anniversary was encompassed by several anniversary celebratory themes and events. The "60 Days of Change" and "60 Days of Acts of Kindness" challenge themes encouraged Gloria Dei Members to take spontaneous actions to talk to people outside of our community about Gloria Dei. The anniversary celebration included decorating the Church Coffee Bar area in a bowling alley motif, as a throwback and remembrance of the earliest beginnings of the Gloria Dei Church community meeting area.

To me, the Gloria Dei "Hanging of the Greens" is the annual kickoff to the Gloria Dei Community Fellowship Christmas season. This effort would not be possible without the 30 - 40 Gloria Dei Church and School volunteers who carve out time from their busy schedules to be here. These volunteers are not just "hanging greens;" they are using this event to interject their talents and their spirit into the transformation of all corners of the school and church into an expression of the love and joy of the Christmas season.

The Lenten season provided additional opportunities to socialize and to attend Wednesday night services together. Community members were treated to a soup and salad meal and fellowship before attending the evening service.

As always, the Lenten season is capped off with the celebration of Easter at Gloria Dei. The Gloria Dei Church Services and social events of Easter are made all the more beautiful and enticing by:

- the volunteers who create the floral arrangements and decorations that adorn the church,
- the music by our choir director and choir members, and the church members who share their vocal and instrumental talents during the service,
- the wonderful treats made by the Gloria Dei Ladies of Eggcellence,
- the culinary creations by so many of our members for after-service gatherings.

The Gloria Dei School Staff Banquet was, once again, held at Gloria Dei and was well attended by teachers, staff, and their family members. The dinner buffet included several types of pasta entrees, salad, and desserts. The wonderful selection of food and beverages was a direct result of the efforts of so many of our Gloria Dei volunteers.

In the first two paragraphs of this report, I made it a point to highlight the extraordinary efforts of so many generous and caring members who give of their time and their talents to the benefit of the Gloria Dei community as a whole. We need all our community members to recognize there is a need for an additional influx of more of our Gloria Dei community members to join us in supporting these community events. In order to continue to

have exceptional church services and community events, more of our members need to join us in planning and execution. The time commitment is minimal, compared to the fellowship, satisfaction, and joy that is garnered from participating as a Gloria Dei volunteer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Morse, Gloria Dei Visioneer

POWER IN THE SPIRIT

Power in the Spirit is a retreat held each year by the Virginia Synod. It's usually held in the middle of July. Each year's theme changes but is usually based on what the Holy Spirit does in one's life as well as the life of the world.

I began attending in July 2001 and have been most years since. Because they are in the middle of July, I oftentimes celebrate my birthday there with friends from Gloria Dei as well as friends who I have made over the years at the event. What fun!

In 2025, the theme was "Wings of Hope." The Bible Study Leader, The Rev. Bobby Morris, based his lessons on readings from Isaiah, illustrating the hope that the Spirit brought to the Hebrews in exile as well as the hope we have in God's promises today. The Keynote Speaker, Maryn Olson, spoke to us about the hope that Lutheran Disaster Response brings to people in the midst of natural disasters and war.

The workshops each year are about a variety of subjects such as current events, congregational growth, a focused Bible Study, the role of women in the church, a craft project, the list goes on. Sometimes it's difficult to decide which workshop to take or choosing because the ones you want are at the same time. Over the years, I've learned I've never been disappointed in my selection. And if all else fails, you can always take advantage of the Meditation Chapel. This year, I had the opportunity to enjoy the Meditation Chapel alone. To walk the labyrinth and talk to God out loud while doing so was an experience I won't soon forget.

This year, the theme is "The Spirit Empowers, Equips, and Enlightens." Once again, it is held at Roanoke College from July 16 – 18. Not only will this once again promise to be an enriching experience, we will also have the opportunity to meet the newly-elected Presiding Bishop, The Rev. Yehiel Curry.

Please prayerfully consider attending. If you have any questions, please contact me at rforinger@verizon.net.

Prayerfully yours,
Rita Foringer

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

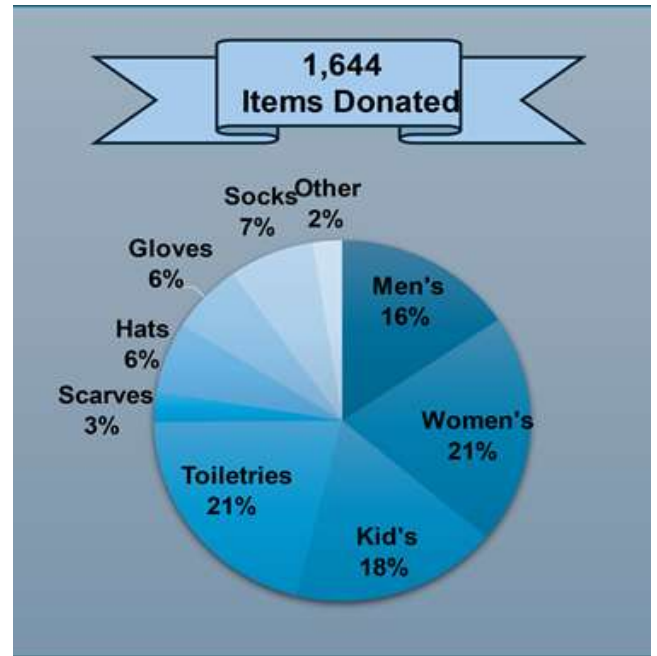
Thank You from Gloria Dei's Coat Ministry!!

I would like to thank Gloria Dei for continuing to support our annual winter gear drive. During the 2025 collection cycle, we received a **total of 1,644 items!**

Donations come from our amazing church, school, and Fox Hill communities, all of whom donated using our drop-off bins or scheduled drive-thru drop-off. Updates to the ministry's signage and social media messaging have continued to help grow this ministry far beyond the bounds of our buildings. We are proud to partner with H.E.L.P. in distributing all adult donations at local shelters, as well as the Boys and Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula in doing the same for children's donations.

Gloria Dei, thank you for doing your part to ensure a greater access to the most basic and urgent needs of Hampton Roads' unhoused, underserved, and underprivileged.

Lovingly,
Andrew Sutherland



SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

The Senior High Youth were excited to return for another year of ministry together. We met weekly for Wonderful Wednesdays with an average attendance of eight senior high youth, gathering for food, fellowship, and meaningful connection. During Discipleship Group, we reflected on Bible lessons and shared our weekly highs and lows, encouraging open conversation, and providing a supportive space for youth to grow in their faith together.



We gathered for several local events throughout the year, including pumpkin carving hosted by the Todds, volunteering for Trunk or Treat, viewing the Christmas lights at Newport News Park, laser tag, and participating in a couple of lock-ins.

In February, eight of our youth attended the Virginia Synod's Winter Celebration at Eagle Eyrie, a retreat that brought together Lutheran youth from across Virginia for worship, fellowship, small group discussion, and engaging activities. The weekend offered a meaningful opportunity to deepen faith, strengthen relationships, and connect with other congregations across the region.

Our Annual Christmas Tree Sales were successful, earning approximately \$2,000 to support youth programming and events.



We also served our community through a variety of outreach projects including making blankets for local hospice patients, organizing coat donations for those in need, assembling care packages for individuals experiencing homelessness, hosting our annual Egg Hunt for young children (with over 1,000 eggs prepared and hidden), and volunteering during Vacation Bible School.



It has been a wonderful year with the Senior High Youth. As we look ahead to the summer, we anticipate continuing our fellowship and serving through this year's Vacation Bible School, supporting young children as they grow in faith and experience the teachings of Jesus in a fun and joy-filled environment!

Ms. Rachel and Ms. Liz



JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Gloria Dei Junior Youth rocks!! Our nine youth gathered for Wonderful Wednesdays from September to May to enjoy meals, music, and small groups. This year, the kids enjoyed outings such as Laser Tag, two lock-ins, and we finished up the year with a trip to Gosnold's Hope Park. The fall lock-in included a pumpkin carving, and the spring included a Nerf battle which we did outside on the Bromley lawn this year. We encouraged the kids to bring a friend to both lock-ins, giving a total of 12 kiddos who came to have loads of fun at both events.





They also participated in some wonderful service projects, such as making blankets for hospice and helping with separating coats for the homeless. They volunteered a lot of their time selling Christmas trees and putting on the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Senior and Junior High Youth also put together bags of food and supplies for the homeless while the littles helped decorate the bags.

We celebrated with one youth who took her First Communion. Also, we loved seeing Micaela's Confirmation!

The group participated in a Virginia Synod youth event. In November, we attended Lost & Found with four of our 7th-8th grade students. We had a great time in the mountains.

Please reach out if you have any questions about joining our Junior Youth and Wonderful Wednesdays. We appreciate your love and support from all of you. Thank you for making our youth feel at home at Gloria Dei.

Peace,
Jenny and Aaron Sutherland

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

This ministry is in lieu of traditional Sunday School. We are holding strong at an average of 21 children/youth present each night. Wonderful Wednesday includes Growing with Jesus (Kindergarten-Grade 4), Junior High Discipleship (Grades 5-6), Confirmation (Grades 7-8), Senior High Discipleship (Grades 9-12), and First Communion (all ages).

This year's service projects were tie quilts for hospice, Andrew's Coat Drive, and snack packs for the homeless.

We traveled to Newport News Park for Christmas lights in December. We wrapped up the season with an outing to Gosnold's Hope Park.

Thank you to all who made and served meals, all who did crafts and music, all who taught, and all who walked kids from station to station. Truly, it takes as many volunteers as there are children to make this ministry a success. This ministry is always in need of volunteers, sometimes just as substitutes. If you are available and willing, please let us know so we can plug you in to help in this wonderful ministry.

This coming year, we will have to do without serving supper as there are not enough folks volunteering to provide and serve the meals.

Peace be the journey,
Pastor Dave Fox

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

“Road Trip” Vacation Bible School

We hit the road during Vacation Bible School 2025! We embarked on a trip of discovering that God is with us wherever we go! There were 90+ children at Gloria Dei traveling together. We learned how God is with us on the journey, when we get off course, when we are joyful, when we are lonely, lastly, when we are near and far. Our trip attendees were children ages 4 – rising 6th graders, our VBS featured a fun skit/Bible story, awesome outdoor games, crafts, a tasty dinner, and fun songs that were “fan favorites” and the new theme of the year!

The Tower of the Triumphant, Koinonia Atrium, and Coffee Bar area transformed into post cards that came alive, creating a trip to many states. The Tower kicked off the trip with a stop at the gas station and rest area. As we traveled through the “postcards,” we stopped in DC, Florida, Nevada/Las Vegas, and, of course, Virginia. The last stop was crossing the Brooklyn Bridge to New York City in the Nave with the Statue of Liberty and a taxi cab for the ride. Our amazing dinner was prepared with John Campbell as lead. Outside, the kids enjoyed science nights with Mike Riley, while Alison Phillips led the games activities. Indoors, Julie Hutchison and Dan Singer had the amazing skit/Bible story, and Vivian Griese led crafts. Finally, Mary Mace and the VBS Band jammed out music!

Thank you to the entire congregation for helping cut out windows for our skyscrapers. VBS would not have been possible if not for our amazing, and dedicated volunteers, which there are too many to list as we had 40+ adult and 15+ teen volunteers.

I thank you for trusting the VBS team to share the Word of the Lord during this amazing week. The kids LOVE it!!

Peace,
Jenny Sutherland

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

The Youth Group Christmas Tree sales were a great success this year and, again, would not have been possible without the help and support of Aaron and Jenny Sutherland (Junior Youth Advisors) and Rachel Lomax and Deacon Liz (Senior Youth Advisors). We made the trek to Floyd, Virginia, to our vendor, Slaughter’s Tree Farms, and found them to be in good shape after the passing of their leader, Lonnie. The family has stepped up to take over this aspect of the nursery and were great as always to work with. The tree quality is superb, as anyone who purchased a tree from us can attest. Credit cards and other electronic transactions made up 38% of sales, which is a 5% increase from last year. Many were thankful to not have to make a run to the ATM! 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. A special thanks to the numerous families, especially all those youth and parents who picked up extra shifts and made extra efforts. This event cannot be a success without the help you provide! Christmas Tree Sales were, as always, a positive success. We showed a net profit of \$2,005.00 on sales of \$7,400.00 and expenses of \$5,536.00. As in previous years, the math does not add up due to the generous donations toward the event. 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 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

We're delighted to share that The Ladies of Eggcellence enjoyed another fantastic year, and it's all thanks to your enthusiasm and support! This year, we created an incredible 4,529 cream-filled chocolate-covered eggs. The energy was contagious as we welcomed several new helpers, and our friends from Florida graciously made the journey once again to lend their expertise, making the egg-making process even more enjoyable. Remember, everyone is welcome to join us for this meaningful fundraiser and the wonderful time of fellowship that comes with it.

Due to a significant increase in the cost of chocolate, we raised the price of our large eggs to \$7, but kept the six-pack price steady at \$7. Despite these changes, after covering our expenses, we raised a remarkable \$4,800. Use of funds from this year is to be determined.

The proceeds from last year's egg sales were put to great use. We purchased an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the school, ensuring a safer environment for everyone. Additionally, we invested in materials to build beautiful and functional cabinets across from the kitchen—replacing the old mail slots—and in the entryway outside the fellowship hall. If you haven't seen these cabinets yet, be sure to take a look! They're a wonderful addition to our church and school. A special thank you goes to Derry Mace for his outstanding workmanship. Your time and talents truly make a difference.

Our group also hosted two receptions: we wrapped up the Stewardship Campaign with a celebration on December 7, 2025, and, on May 17, 2026, we welcomed four new members with a BBQ luncheon.

Lastly, the tradition of sending college care packages continued, with 14 packages delivered to students across five states (VA, NC, PA, MO, WA). We hear from many students how much they appreciate these packages, and our ladies always enjoy shopping for and assembling the goodie boxes.

A heartfelt Thank You to all the "eggstras" who helped make this fundraiser such a success. Your dedication and generosity are what keep our traditions thriving.



The young, the new, and the Eggstras - making Easter eggs and building friendships!

Yours in Eggs,
The Ladies of Eggcellence

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

Gloria Dei hosted four blood drives since the last report. Vicki O'Neill coordinates the blood drives. A total of 60 donations were collected. That many donations can provide lifesaving blood for up to approximately 180 people in our community. This was a small increase in donations over last year.

Vicki O'Neill

WHEELCHAIR RAMP PROGRAM

Are you aware we have a ramp program? Are you or someone you know in need of a ramp to get in and out of the house comfortably? Gloria Dei has a ramp program that will install a ramp at no cost to the homeowner. The ramps are made of modular aluminum, and can be installed in a matter of hours. Whether it's for rehabilitation from a surgery or a more long-term mobility need, we can help. Once the ramp is no longer needed, we will remove it from the property and either install it at another location or store it for future use. This is designed to be an outreach program to our local community and available to residents of Hampton. If you have a need or would like to make a donation to the ramp program, please contact the church office.

Thanks,
John Campbell
Ramp Program Coordinator

GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scout Troop 1041 is led by Vicki O'Neill and Kate King along with three co-leaders. The troop consists of 14 girls from 5th grade through 12th grade.

This past year, the Troop made no-sew blankets for hospice and made fall-themed cards for veterans. In addition, the Troop assisted with the Gloria Dei Easter Egg Hunt by hosting an arts and crafts table.

Cookie season sales went well. Troop 1041 held multiple booths at Gloria Dei, resulting in over \$2,000 in funding for their Troop.



Troop 1041 attended two encampments this past year, both at Camp Skimino in Williamsburg. Girls enjoyed doing their favorite camp activity - archery. They also completed activities to earn their "My Faith, My Promise" pins and had fun with the "Pringles Chip Challenge" where girls had to engineer a standing circle out of chips.

Troop 1041 once again hosted the annual Trunk or Treat for the community, and the youth groups at Gloria Dei assisted. The Trunk or Treat was a huge success and well attended. Numerous game and craft stations were hosted on the front lawn with supplies for the event almost completely depleted.

The Girl Scouts experienced multiple fun outings. The older girl scouts attended a self-defense class with Coach Kat at Five Crow and tried out yoga and a sound bathe with Rising Lotus Yoga Studio. Younger scouts took a donut tour at Krispy Kreme and learned about the business. In addition, older girls spent a day at Sandy Bottom Nature Park with rangers learning about survival skills to include building shelters, how to make rope from poplar trees, making fishhooks from wood, foraging for food, building a fire, what to do when lost, and much more.

Girls completed a variety of badges to include primitive camping, space science, outdoor art, new cuisines, first aid, photography, special agent, and comic artist, to name a few.

Troop 1041 had a wonderful year. They continue to offer many thanks to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and the entire congregation for their continuous support of our Girl Scouts. Troop 1041 will continue into next year and look forward to more fun adventures beginning in September.

Vicki O'Neill
Girl Scout Leader



BOY SCOUTS
No report submitted.

GENERAL OPERATIONS

Our Church and School

What we owe and what we are worth.

Celebrating Our Blessings and Looking Ahead

As we reflect on the past year, we can celebrate many blessings while also looking ahead to the year to come. Financially, our goals over the last twelve months have remained focused on the following priorities:

- Expand and improve the services we provide to our congregation and the broader community.
- Grow Church membership and strengthen our positive impact in the community.
- Enhance our stewardship program.
- Maintain and monitor reserve funds that help protect both Church and School programs.

Operational Highlights

During this fiscal year, both our Church and School continued to grow in the quality of service provided and in their impact on the community. We also took steps to strengthen and safeguard our financial position.

We continue to monitor and pursue enhanced interest earnings through TowneBank and its affiliate, Raymond James Investments. Current interest earnings range from 3.25% to 3.63%, which are projected to generate more than \$45,000 in income.

We also re-initiated dredging projects with two firms. Although the active dredging phase is complete for now, we have not yet received the final reports. Once those reports are available, the Council will share the results, recommendations, and related expenses with the congregation in a final accounting.

Projected Indebtedness as of 6/30/26

- We continue to service one remaining loan on a monthly basis.
- Consolidated Loan (previously the Atrium mortgage, Rice Land purchase, and Harris Creek property).
 - Projected balance as of 6/30/26, based on 6/6/26 figures: \$1,325,995.54, a reduction of \$98,192.46.
 - Current interest rate: 6.35%; Maturity date: 12/11/35.
 - Monthly payment: \$15,585.54. The plan is to use monthly interest earnings to supplement the budgeted amount of \$14,111.77. Payments are made from the Church Operating Account.
- We paid off the loan from Gloria Dei Ministries, Inc., which covered the remaining debt for the Sunrise House property. Because this loan was serviced through outside, non-Church funding, we no longer own or carry any liabilities related to GDML.

Estimated Value of Real Estate and Holdings \$13,102,090.

Current Liquidity

- Projected cash on hand for 6/30/25: \$3,461,726, an increase of \$767,794 from the prior year, primarily due to dredging funds and interest earnings.
- Funds were consolidated where appropriate to achieve the highest available interest rate.
- Liquidity includes the following accounts:
 - Columbarium Account: \$1,861 (operational account).
 - Legacy Account: \$1,096 (about the same total as last year).
 - Memorial Account: \$72,609 (about \$5,001 less than last year).
 - Church Operating Account: \$478,342 (about \$3,814 less than last year).
 - School Operating Account: \$238,325 (about \$146,087 less than last year, primarily due to spending grant funds received in prior years).
 - School Savings Account: \$1,082,046 (about \$55,546 more than last year due to interest earnings and transfers from the Operating Account).
 - School Fundraising: \$744,352 (about \$38,176 more than last year, driven mainly by interest income and fundraising efforts).
 - Pastor's Discretionary Account: \$903 (funded by designated gifts).
 - Dredging Accounts: \$768,514 (accounts established for designated use at high interest).

Projected Church and School reserves, excluding dredging funds, as of 6/30/26: \$1,096,538. This amount is included in the liquidity totals above and is sufficient to cover two months of expenses.

Our Proposed Plan for the Fiscal Year

July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027

We submit this proposed budget for your approval. While the figures are presented in our customary spreadsheet format, our church's mission extends far beyond the numbers. This plan, together with program funding, will help us continue growing as a meaningful presence in our church, our community, and the wider world. A strong plan should be both challenging and rewarding. As in past years, we must work to increase offerings by more than 3% to avoid ending the year with a deficit. One clear example of the rewards of this effort is our Vacation Bible School program, which serves both our congregation and the broader community. Through funding, volunteer support, and hard work, it has become a sustainable and expanding outreach ministry.

Financial Details

As in prior years, the Senior Administrator prepared the current-year projections using monthly actuals through April, along with May and June updates for each account. The initial projection was presented to Council and then updated for the April and May Council meetings to reflect actual results and revised inputs for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Key Assumptions

- **Offering revenue:** Offerings are projected to increase by 3% over the current year-end total.
- **Debt service:** Next year's debt service projection assumes the current monthly payment, excludes Debt Reduction Designated gifts from the congregation, and includes \$12,000 of increased interest income from our account balance (projected total interest: \$14,195).
- **Program support:** Program funding includes key increases: 3% more for H.E.L.P., 5% more for VBS compared with the prior plan, and 3% more for the Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center.
- **Staff compensation:** Employee compensation is projected to increase by 3% to help offset inflationary pressures.
- **Synod benevolence:** Synod benevolence is projected to increase by \$988.80, or 3%, to \$33,948.80.
- **Inflation outlook:** This year has brought significant inflationary pressures, and we expect those challenges to continue in the near term.

Financial Outlook

- **Projected result:** Even with the planned income increases, the budget still shows a net deficit of \$8,933.59.
- **Stewardship challenge:** Although this outcome is not ideal, it invites each of us to consider how we can strengthen our giving.
- **Offering scenarios:** A 4% increase in offerings would still leave a deficit of about \$3,500, while a 5% increase would result in a positive net income of about \$1,900.

We hope this proposed plan meets your expectations and inspires us all to continue accomplishing great things for God at Gloria Dei.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church July 2026 - June 2027 Proposed Plan Budget

	Projected for 6/30/26 (actuals through April)			Proposed for Plan Budget for FYE 063027			Notes
	Plan Budget	Projected	Over Budget	Offerings @ 3%	Variance from Projection		
Total 1 Regular Offering	555,308.11	542,114.97	(13,193.14)	558,378.42	16,263.45	3.00%	4% would produce \$563,800
Total 1.6 Harris Creek House Rental	23,000.35	26,610.53	3,610.18	27,864.00	1,253.47	4.71%	just renewed both for May 2026
Total 1.99 Total Operating Income	578,308.46	568,725.50	(9,582.96)	586,242.42	17,516.92	3.08%	
100 Education Ministry							
107 Wonderful Wednesdays	600.00	107.69	(492.31)	110.92	3.23	3.00%	assume 3% over Prjctn
115 Vacation Church School	5,500.00	5,366.94	(133.06)	5,775.00	408.06	7.60%	desired increase 5% over Prior Plan
116 Baccalaureate expense	50.00	0.00	(50.00)	30.00	30.00	#DIV/0!	Assumed \$30
124 First Communion Class	53.01	0.00	(53.01)	30.00	30.00	#DIV/0!	Assumed \$30
Total Education Ministry	6,203.01	5,474.63	(728.38)	5,945.92	471.29	8.61%	elected program increases
1000 Executive Committee							
1000.5 Council Retreat	30.95	0.00	(30.95)	150.00	150.00	#DIV/0!	nominal costs assumed @ \$150
1001 Synod Assembly	1,500.00	185.00	(1,315.00)	200.00	15.00	8.11%	assumed \$200
Total 1000 Executive Committee	1,530.95	185.00	(1,345.95)	350.00	165.00	89.19%	over Projection from assumptions
200 Worship Ministry							
201 New Music	900.00	0.00	(900.00)	250.00	250.00	#DIV/0!	assume \$250
202 Piano/Organ tuning	1,005.00	967.50	(37.50)	1,000.00	32.50	3.36%	slightly below last Plan
204 Music Supplies	500.00	(650.00)	(1,150.00)	500.00	1,150.00	-176.92%	current year impacted by Gifts
207 Instrumental Accompanists	500.00	100.00	(400.00)	300.00	200.00	200.00%	current year impacted by Gifts
209 Miscellaneous Worship Supplies	500.08	1,141.55	641.47	500.00	(641.55)	-56.20%	Projection over Plan; 500 assumed
210 Altar Guild Supplies	462.80	266.65	(196.15)	266.65	0.00	0.00%	same as projected
211 Bulletins	1,157.50	1,000.14	(157.36)	1,030.14	30.00	3.00%	3% over Projctn
213 Decorations/Flowers	315.99	268.70	(47.29)	276.76	8.06	3.00%	3% over Projctn
Worship Ministry Staff Wages	76,675.10	75,966.88	(708.22)	80,176.12	4,209.24	5.54%	School surcharge was not changed
Worship Ministry Staff Benefits	20,619.89	21,503.61	883.72	22,976.01	1,472.40	6.85%	School surcharge was not changed
Administrative Miscellaneous	3,751.31	4,063.84	312.53	4,185.76	121.92	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
259 Seasonal Worship Supplies	14,571.36	13,592.71	(978.65)	13,592.71	0.00	0.00%	same as projected
Total 260 Atrium Coffee/Expense	440.46	307.92	(132.54)	323.32	15.40	5.00%	5% over Prjctn
261 Guest Pastor Fees	1,610.00	2,168.30	558.30	2,233.35	65.05	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
262 Guest Pastor Expenses	265.73	204.85	(60.88)	211.00	6.15	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
286 New Member Reception	156.00	0.00	(156.00)	0.00	0.00	#DIV/0!	
Total 200 Worship Ministry	123,431.22	120,902.65	(2,528.57)	127,565.52	6,662.87	5.51%	
300 Support Ministry							
Total 301 Supplies Office	1,654.72	2,041.95	387.23	2,103.21	61.26	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
302 Copier Paper	1,488.29	0.00	(1,488.29)	0.00	0.00	#DIV/0!	no longer coding to this account
Total 303 Telephone Service	2,925.12	2,844.99	(80.13)	2,930.34	85.35	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Total 305 Copier Lease	10,535.73	10,129.92	(405.81)	10,129.92	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjctn
305.2 Computer Upgrade	4,042.92	5,023.63	980.71	5,023.63	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjctn
Total 308.8 Support Ministry Wages	130,132.70	129,814.56	(318.14)	133,102.01	3,287.45	2.53%	
Support Ministry Staff Benefits	12,377.93	13,349.45	971.52	13,738.07	388.62	2.91%	
315 Workers Compensation Insurance	1,513.51	1,031.48	(482.03)	1,083.05	51.57	5.00%	5% over Prjctn
319 Stewardship Program	250.00	150.00	(100.00)	150.00	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjctn
320 Supplies EMR	269.85	334.88	65.03	334.88	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjctn
Total 323 Database Maintenance	4,831.74	4,461.66	(370.08)	4,684.74	223.08	5.00%	5% over Prjctn
325 Website Development	364.00	420.00	56.00	432.60	12.60	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
331 Custodial Service	5,757.00	5,736.00	(21.00)	5,908.08	172.08	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
332 Building Maintenance Nave	4,235.04	3,351.03	(884.01)	3,451.56	100.53	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Building Maint- Church Offices	792.79	887.00	94.21	913.61	26.61	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Maintenance Supplies - Atrium	1,556.82	3,374.45	1,817.63	3,475.68	101.23	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Total 334 Grounds Maintenance	1,684.68	1,602.46	(82.22)	1,650.53	48.07	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Total 336 Utilities Electric	19,766.93	22,008.91	2,241.98	22,669.18	660.27	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Total 337 Utilities Gas	2,071.59	3,399.41	1,327.82	3,501.39	101.98	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
338 Utilities Water	969.89	1,247.90	278.01	1,285.34	37.44	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
339 Utilities Sewer	863.13	947.56	84.43	975.99	28.43	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Total 341 Property Insurance	17,305.83	19,313.08	2,007.25	19,892.47	579.39	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
352 Advertising	400.00	282.12	(117.88)	290.58	8.46	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Total 353 Bank Charges	3,426.30	3,608.10	181.80	3,608.10	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjctn
354 Taxes Paid	3,286.40	3,345.78	59.38	3,345.78	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjctn
Total 300 Support Ministry	232,502.91	238,706.32	6,203.41	244,680.76	5,974.44	2.50%	

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church July 2026 - June 2027 Proposed Plan Budget

	Projected for 6/30/26 (actuals through April)			Proposed for Plan Budget for FYE 063027			
400 Care Ministry							
Total 401.0 Nursery Program	2,254.55	1,890.55	(364.00)	1,947.27	56.72	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
404 HELP expense	1,854.00	1,854.00	0.00	1,909.62	55.62	3.00%	3% over current Plan
405 Outreach programs	4,000.00	3,827.75	(172.25)	3,942.58	114.83	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
406 Synod Benevolence	32,960.00	32,960.00	0.00	33,948.80	988.80	3.00%	3% over current Plan
413 Peninsula Pastoral Couns Ctr	2,472.00	2,545.00	73.00	2,621.35	76.35	3.00%	3% over Prjctn
Total 400 Care Ministry	43,840.55	43,077.30	(763.25)	44,369.62	1,292.32	3.00%	
500 Community Ministry							
501 Junior Youth Program	500.00	0.00	(500.00)	250.00	250.00	#DIV/0!	assume \$250
502 SeniorYouth Program	500.00	0.00	(500.00)	250.00	250.00	#DIV/0!	assume \$250
Total 502.10 Youth Retreats	600.00	1,595.29	995.29	1,595.29	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjcn
506 Synod Youth Assembly	600.00	200.00	(400.00)	200.00	0.00	0.00%	same as Prjcn
Total 510 Parish Fellowship	1,099.61	609.38	(490.23)	627.66	18.28	3.00%	3% over Projection
Total 500 Community Ministry	3,299.61	2,204.67	(1,094.94)	2,922.95	718.28	32.58%	
Total 600 Debt Service	169,341.24	169,341.24	0.00	169,341.24	0.00	0.00%	
Total Expenses	580,149.49	575,337.31	(4,812.18)	595,176.01	19,838.70	3.45%	
Net Operating Income	(1,841.03)	(6,611.81)	(4,770.78)	(8,933.59)	(2,321.78)	35.12%	4% Offerings Increase would produce deficit of \$3,500; 5% produces +1,909

Stewardship for All Seasons

Thank you to everyone who supported our 2026 Stewardship Campaign. Our goal for 2026 was to increase pledges and add an additional \$25,000 in pledged support. Our 2025 benchmark was 72 family/household pledges totaling \$412,050, and this year's final result was 71 family-unit pledges for \$417,786. While we did not reach the goal, these gifts continue to sustain Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, and we are grateful for your faithful generosity.

As we prepare for the 2027 Stewardship Appeal, we look ahead with hope and confidence in the continued support of Gloria Dei and its ministries. Our plans remain rooted in our mission to **Build Faith, Build Community, and Build Lives**. We will continue strengthening outreach, supporting youth, and encouraging excellence across our ministries while also exploring new opportunities for growth.

The 2027 Stewardship Appeal will begin in August. In the months that follow, members will share faith stories in the weekly bulletin and through Temple Talks, offering encouragement and reflection for our congregation. You will also be invited to support our ministries and future initiatives with your time, talents, and resources. As Proverbs 3:9 reminds us, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops."

Amanda Gonzalez
Stewardship Chair

Statistics 2025 - 2026

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Membership
354

Gloria Dei Lutheran School

Full-time Student Enrollment
304

After-School Day Care
173



Current Elected Leadership

		<u>Term Expires</u>
Council President	Diane Washburn	2027
Council Vice President	Vivian Griese	2027
Congregational Scribe	Mike Canny	2027
Council Secretary	Tom Clasen	2027
Council Members	Don Glenn	2028
	Amanda Gonzalez	2028
	*Kent Morgan	2026
	Kevin Morse	2026
Treasurer	Dawn Lomax	(appointed)
Trustees	Ernie Atkins	2028
	Bo Lomax	2026
	Peggy Todd	2028

**Indicates second term.*

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.*

John "Roger" Ward, Sr.

Joanne Alberta Aheimer

Julia Michelle Mutch

Glenn Reich Taylor

James Allen Hudgins

Melvin Douglas Lanning