





Please join us for a Mother's Day Breakfast on

Saturday, May 11th, 2024 at 9:30 am. This is a free event and all are welcome to attend. See the sign-up sheet at the kiosk. Happy Mother's Day to all!



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Summer Worship Hours

Resuming on May 26th, 2024

We are excited to announce that starting May 26th, 2024, our church will be returning to 9 am worship services. Additionally, Wednesday worship at 6 pm will continue (year-round). Please note that Education Hour and Confirmation Classes will not be held during the summer months. On September 8th (Rally Sunday), we will be back to having two worship services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am. Join us as we gather together for worship and fellowship!





GLORIA DEI

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

CFI FBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

- Paula Laugen -

"I would tell people who are thinking of volunteering to just jump in and start small. You'll never regret getting involved. It can lead to friendships and growing your faith. You learn something new everyday. I've never, not once, gone to church and come home and thought, 'I wish I didn't go'. Not ever."

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

-1 Peter 4:10

Meet Paula. She has been a member of Gloria Dei for over 30 years. In her time at Gloria Dei, Paula has faithfully served in many volunteer roles. Paula brings with her a feeling of kindness and acceptance for others, and a heart for serving Jesus faithfully. As the clock ticks gently on the wall and with the background noises of a bustling church atmosphere behind us, Paula speaks of the many roles that she has enjoyed volunteering for at Gloria Dei. In her soft-spoken and self-assured manner, she told me of the fond memories she has of singing in the church choir with Rhonda Zingler (and the laughter and quiet conversations when the choir director was otherwise distracted). Paula spoke of her favorite thing to do: decorating the church for Christmas and Advent. It's plain to see the love that she has for serving by the way her eyes sparkle and the smile that slowly spreads across her face while she recalls these fond memories of volunteering.

Ultimately, though, this article isn't about one person. It's about one person's heart for serving the church community and for following Jesus Christ. It's an encouragement to others that they have a place and a role within the church. Paula stated that she loves to volunteer because it takes the attention off of oneself and your own burdens long enough to help redirect your heart and mind, to put your attention on what's really important. "That's why we're here", Paula says, "to worship the Lord and to try to be an example." Volunteering does come with it's challenges sometimes, but it also comes with abundant reward - the kind of reward that isn't tangible, yet always present: A closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

LATEST NEWS

WOMEN OF GLORIA DEI

LWR Kits

From April - June, we will be collecting for the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) baby kits, which include:

- •2 Lightweight cotton tshirts (no snaps/onsies)
- •2 Sleepers/Gowns (without feet) *we can substitute pants and a shirt
- 2 Receiving blankets (36" to 52" square sized)
- •4 Cloth diapers
- •1 Jacket or sweatshirt with a hood. If no hood, add in a baby cap
- •2 pairs of socks
- •1 dark hand towel
- •2 bath sized bars of gentle soap
- •2 diaper pins

Sizes 6 - 24 months. No patriotic or religious messages. Wrap items in the receiving blanket and secure with a diaper pin. No plastic bags, please.

Upcoming

Mother's Day breakfast: May 11th at 9:30. Rebekah/Ruth Circle will be Hostess with a theme of Vintage Wedding! They are looking for your help with your wedding memories or items you would like to share for the morning.

We held a general meeting on April 9, 2024. We all enjoyed a pot-luck lunch hosted by Sara and Esther/Rachel Circles. Sharon Anderson read a beautiful devotion and gave the opening prayer. Glenna Rice and Sharon Anderson shared news from the WOW event that they attended. Laura Clay and Colleen Bolchen also attended from Church. They have tentatively set the date for April 4-5, 2025. On Father's Day, June 16th, we will serve cinnamon rolls at Coffee hour. Our next General meeting will be September 10th at 6:30. Hostess will be Miriam Circle.

Dorcas Circle

We will finish our study from the book, Favored One, in May. In September, we plan to start a new book, by Corrie Ten Boom called "The Hiding Place." Everyone is welcome to join us on this study. We meet the 2nd Wednesday at 6:45 in the evening.



Circle Name

Next Meeting

Miriam Circle

May 2nd at 1:30pm

Rebekah-Ruth

May 6th at 9 am

Circle

Dorcas Circle

May 8th at 7 pm

Sarah Circle

May 9th at 1 pm

Esther-Rachel Circle

May 9th at

1 pm



Gloria Dei Youth Page



Make a Joyful Noise!

Join us Sunday, May 12th at the 10:30am Worship service for a special treat from our Sunday School students!

Congratulations and God's Blessings
to the Class of 2024!!

Please join us Sunday, May 19th at 10:30am
worship as we celebrate YOU and this
milestone!

Josie Bailey

Lydia Boettcher

Owen Gerke

Carter Habeck



Aime Eagen

Landon Pierce

THANK YOU FOR A FANTASTIC YEAR IN SUNDAY SCHOOL!!!



SUNDRY SCHOOL

TERCHERS

Last Day of Sunday School is Sunday, May 12th—

we return in September! Sunday School Teachers and Helpers... God bless you for your dedication! "For every lesson you have prepared, the love of God has been shared."

Colleen Bolchen Jen Conzemius

Jill Falk

Becky Grilley

Ike Grilley

Lucy Hall

Karli Hall

Klara Hall

Tiffany Hall

Mary Owen

Karson Randorf

Kate Simonson

Ashlev

Trent

Vandervort Vandervort



FLASHBACKS TO APRIL 2024... IT WAS A BUSY FUN TIME!



SMALL GROUPS

As we transition with the changing of the seasons, we invite you to seize the opportunity for personal development and enrichment through our small group sessions. Currently, we have 2 small groups that convene weekly to delve into our exciting new series, Living Into Eternity. The content is thoughtfully curated to facilitate an effortless entry for all participants. If you feel inspired to take on a leadership role and guide one of these small groups, we encourage you to reach out to one of our pastors. Let's embark on this journey of learning and growth together!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee has been working on numerous maintenance projects on the plumbing, HVAC, and electrical systems. We also are looking for someone to trim the lawn this year. Additionally, we are trying to select a painting contractor to paint the sanctuary sometime this year. We are also preparing for the eventual major overhaul of the original cooling system that currently cools the fellowship hall. We hope to do the upgrade in 2025 unless the system fails this year. Toward that end we are working on determining the costs of both of these projects so we can begin saving the money to cover their costs.

Please contact me if you have any suggestions to fill either the trimming or painting positions.

Mike Griffin, Team Leader



THANK YOU

Thank you for your prayers, support, and concern. It is very much appreciated.

-Barb Rang

QUILTING GROUP

From October 2023 - April 2024, the quilting group donated 92 quilts! 44 of those quilts went to LWR (Lutheran World Relief), 12 were baby quilts, and 23 were donated to people in need. The quilting group meets every Tuesday from Labor Day - Memorial Day at 8 am in the Heritage Room. Everyone is welcome.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

We connected with our post high school young adults with a bag of sunshine!

We are looking forward to hosting coffee hour on May 5th to welcome our new Members.

FELLOWSHIP

We are planning a special Congregational lunch on May 19th to celebrate our High School Graduates! We will start to serve the meal at 11:45 AM. Everything will be provided. All you have to do is plan to attend to wish the graduates well on their next step in life!

THANK YOU

Thank you for the prayers and prayer shawl.
-Barb & Gene Hansen

THANK YOU

Thank you for the quilt. It is a very nice quilt.
-Gary Grovesteen

Homebound Members

Morrow Home

Beverly Balliett
Dorothy Jessie

Tomah Care Center

Susan Kammerer
Velma Lutz
LaVerne Nelson
Sharon Jensen

Sunset Ridge

Laurie Olson

Liberty Village

Tim & Faith Callahan

LaCrosse, WI

TJ Waege

Greenfield House

Margaret Robertson

West Salem, WI

Flo Lloyd

Cranberry Court

Patricia Olson

Rolling Hills

Matthew Grovesteen

At Home

Victor Burnstad

Donna Tryggestad

COUNCIL CORNER

NEWS & UPDATES





Senior Pastor David Dahl	Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 4:30 pm
Sellioi Pastoi David Dalli	Friday: Day Off
Associate Pastor Kay Knight	Monday: Day Off
	Tuesday - Thursday: 8 am - 4:30 pm
	Fridays: 8 am - 12 pm



Income & Expenses for Mar. 2024

Income	\$26,545.04
YTD Income	\$101,742.29
Expenses	\$38,179.83
YTD Expenses	\$102,886.59



Greetings, I am writing to you as your new council president. I want to convey to you that I am excited to help guide the council in providing leadership to the congregation. Any time there is change, uncertainty arises, but let me assure you that this council is dedicated and poised to help Gloria Dei Connect, Grow, and Serve all of you and the community of Tomah.

In the past month the council had the opportunity to participate in a workshop provided by the LCMC for church councils. This experience was greatly beneficial for us and provided great insight into how a church council should operate and serve the congregation. During our time together, we had very good conversations and brainstormed ideas on how to improve how the

council operates to provide more leadership and transparency with the congregation. We are all excited to continue these conversations and share with you our vision on how to grow our collective faith and service to Jesus. One task we have already begun working on is filling the vacant council seat as quickly as possible. Anyone interested can contact me, a pastor, or any other member of the council. Lastly, the council is currently looking into the many events and procedures that take place at our Church and how we can guide improvement, provide clearer communication, and foster a greater connection to God's will for our congregation. Please pray for the council to receive wisdom. -Respectfully, Scott Conzemius

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We would like to thank everyone who took photos of the Lenten events and sent them to the office. Photos of events are always welcome. If you have photos of special events that have happened at Gloria Dei that you would like to share, please email office@gloriadeitomah.com











PALM SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

On Palm Sunday, the men of Gloria Dei put on a wonderful pancake breakfast. We would like to thank everyone who helped, and a special thank you goes to Glenna Rice for picking up the groceries for this event. \$261 went to Chosen People Ministries due to your generous donations.

We have received wonderful feedback all around about the Lenten season, including all 7 worship services and the Lenten Dinners. Our volunteers make Gloria Dei a wonderful place to be!



ACOLYTES (Leader: Jackie Kiel)

DATE 8 am 10:30 am

5/5/24 Alivia Moseley Piper Mathison

5/12/24 Klara Hall Lucy Hall

5/19/24 Jackson Habeck Seth Gordon

5/26/24 9 am only Jackson Habeck

SAFETY TEAM (Leader: Jim Grilley)

DATE	7:30 - 9:30 am	9:30 - 11:30 am
5/5/24	Dave Lawrence	David Hall
5/12/24	John Lawrence	Tom Curran
5/19/24	Louis	Jim Grilley
5/26/24	(9 am) Jim Stefanski	(9 am) Lenny Bakken

HOSPITALITY (Leader: Ruth Stoner)

8:00 am 10:30 am

John & Jane Tessmann LouAnn Niebuhr

Ruth Stoner

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>8 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
5/5/24	Gloria Aarness Shannon Boettcher	Kelly Gordon Shelly Griffin
5/19/24	Kari Curran	Kristen Gerke
-, - -, - .	Debbie Johnson	Paula Laugen

ALTAR GUILD (Leader: Jane Tessmann)

MONTH OF MAY Cheryl Frantz Shannon Boettcher Sue Storkel

TECH BOOTH						
YOUR NAME						
GOES						
HERE!						

DATE	8:00 am	10:30 am		
5/5/24	Ken Kuhn	Colleen Bolchen		
5/12/24	Brian Knight	Lenny Bakken		
5/19/24	John Tessmann	Sharon Anderson		
5/26/24	9 am Only	Dan Erickson		



FROM THE DIRECTOR:

This is the second production of the Living Last Supper that I have been privileged to coordinate. I'm grateful for this opportunity to work with so many of our church members, some of which I hadn't met until our first rehearsal. During this Passover meal, we see Jesus washing the feet of His disciples. After showing this example of humility, love, and service; Jesus then commanded his disciples to go and serve likewise. I am thankful to the men, women and youth who joined me on this journey once again as examples of God's servants; some of which stepped out of their comfort zones and offered their time, talent and contribution to make this event a reality.

-Jennifer Conzemius, Living Last Supper Director

Here is a glimpse into the magic of the 2024 Living Last Supper production! A heartfelt thank you to all the talented cast, dedicated crew, and passionate attendees who made this year's performance an unforgettable experience. The emotional impact was palpable, with tears flowing and hearts touched by the powerful message delivered. Thank you for joining us in celebrating the artistry and depth of this moving production that left a lasting impression on all who witnessed it.

GRADUATE SUNDAY

Get ready to toss your caps in the air and toast to the future because on May 19th, 2024, we are throwing a spectacular celebration for our Graduating Seniors!

Join us for a day filled with achievements, memories, and of course, a delicious picnic lunch at 11:45 am. Let's make this a graduation day to remember!



PEDER EIDE FUNDRAISER

Peder Eide is a Christian Musician. This past fall (2023). Peder was having some severe abdominal pains and after tests, it was discovered he had cancer. Peder has been on an aggressive treatment plan and has had a deep trust and faith that Jesus will reign in this situation. He has been courageously battling and encountering every opportunity in front of him. They have come to a time where they need help financially as medical care and chemotherapy are quite expensive. They both have taken time off work to fight this, with Peder recently being admitted to the hospital on Easter. Please prayerfully consider donating if you are able. You can visit https:// givesendgo.com/PederEide to donate.



FOCUS ON THE MASTER

I cherish getting together in worship. You never know what thoughts, memories and experiences are going to be shaken loose and put together with Scripture. That is the amazing nature of God's Word. It's always living and active (Hebrews 4:12). Through it, God is always at work turning the lights on in places we've left dark.

amount of the Christian life, a life lived in undistracted total devotion to God – a life of faith and trust and obedience.

The writer of the letter to the Hebrews wants us to see the truth and power of that kind of devotion. In Christ, we see the commitment

Just a few weeks ago, a few of us were sharing stories about the animals in our lives. That reminded me of a similar story from Martin Luther's life.

Back in the 1500's, Martin & Katie Luther took in a dog. Martin named him Tolpel. Tolpel meant "clumsy" or "tipsy" in German. Dogs were seen as street animals that were worthy of no more respect that a good kick, and initially, the street dog's name reflected that sentiment. But Martin and Tolpel bonded. Tolpel taught Martin much about real devotion to the master.

One day, Martin was cooking meat over a fire. He sensed a presence in the room. There was Tolpel, eyes locked on what his master was preparing. Martin saw in Tolpel's eyes nothing but faith, saying, "Oh, if I could only pray the way this dog watches the meat! All his thoughts are concentrated on the piece of meat. Otherwise he has no thought, wish, or hope." Martin often included Tolpel in the discussions with his students. The students saw how the dog

came over and sat at Martin's feet, tail wagging. Martin explained to his students that because Tolpel knows that good gifts come from the hand of his master, Tolpel's attention is completely centered on his master. Martin's dog became the prime example of the Christian life, a life lived in undistracted total devotion to God – a life of faith and trust and obedience.

The writer of the letter to the Hebrews wants us to see the truth and power of that kind of devotion. In Christ, we see the commitment and love of God. "Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess." (Hebrews 4:14).

"... Let us hold firmly to the faith we profess." What does that mean? For me it's a reminder to listen – listen regularly to God's Word (a reminder to grab a Portals of Prayer devotional book to help you through) and to pray (have a regular conversation with God about what we're doing together). Then comes the action part. What am I going to do about what God has shown me?

Martin Luther saw it all in his dog Tolpel – not a clumsy, tipsy creature, but a creature who paid attention to his master and who confidently took his place at his master's side. He was totally focused.

So may we all Keep and Live the Faith.

- Pr. David G. Dahl

SEASONS CHANGE

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." – Ecclesiastes 3:1

This week, I decided it was finally safe to put the shovels away. At this point, I certainly hope we don't see any more of that white stuff for many months! The season has dramatically changed in

the last few weeks, and for many of us, after the snowstorm on April 2nd and 3rd, it is a most welcome change.

We know that seasons change. We live them.

But the changes in our weather aren't the only seasons that we experience in our life. In fact, King Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes that "for everything there is a season." Solomon gives many examples of "changing seasons" in chapter 3. He says: our life in its entirety is but a season in the greater concept of time. There is a planting season and a harvest season, times of sadness and times of laughter, seasons to save and store, and there are times to spend and give.

For many of us, the warmer weather isn't the only change of season happening right now. We have some in our congregation getting married soon! Some of our families are expecting babies. Many of you are entering into a time each year that you define as "camping season." We have graduating seniors who are ending this season of life and heading off to college in the fall, and we have college seniors who are graduating and taking jobs — some in other places in the country. These are just a few of the ways that our lives change over the course of time, and these kinds of things happen all through life!

At the end of the list of seasons in Ecclesiastes 3, Solomon says God has made everything beautiful in its time. You know, these kinds of changes are often wonderful, but there are also changing seasons that are painful and filled with sorrow. Times of scarcity and hardship remind us that God (and not His good gifts) are all we need. Embrace it, focus on what is most important, and prepare for

times of plenty.
We may not
know why things
happen, but we
can rest assured
that God knows,
and it is all part
of His glorious
plan. Those
uncomfortable
seasons can last
days or weeks,
months or even

For everything there is a SEASON, and a time for every matter under heaven.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

years! But God is in control through all these seasons of life, and He is good to us. It may not always look like it, but God sees things from a different angle, a better and eternal perspective, and He makes everything beautiful in its time!

Because of that, Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 3:12 -13 that the best thing for mankind in whatever we do in any season is to be joyful, "do good" as long as we live, and take pleasure in our toil or work, whatever it is. He says that this is God's gift to man. In other words, He's in control so enjoy yourselves! Isn't that kind of a fun thought?!

Sometimes, changes in our life cause fear. By nature, we don't always like change especially when we don't see the "good". But whether you're graduating from high school or college or changing long-time careers, getting married or having a baby, moving or retiring, or even moving into the twilight of this life, remember that God is in control, He's good to you, and He'll take care of you, so enjoy whatever God has in store for your next season of life! And always feel blessed

-Pastor Kay





MAY - JUNE 2024

ONGOING EVENTS

MONDAYS

- Small Group Bible study with Bill & Deb Rice at 6 pm at their home
- 2nd Monday of each month: Rebekah-Ruth Circle meets at 9 am
- 3rd Monday of each month from May August:
 Prayer Shawl Knit/Crochet group meets at 1 pm

TUESDAYS

- 8 am 12 pm Quilting Group meeting (does not meet May - September)
- 6:30 pm Bible Study at David & Cyndy Hall's home (Does not meet May - September)
- 2nd Tuesday of each month: Council Meeting at 7 pm

WEDNESDAYS

- 6:45 pm Confirmation Classes (follows school schedule, doesn't meet during Summer)
- 2nd Wednesday of each month: Dorcas Circle meets at 7 pm (no meeting June - August)
- 4:15 pm Praise Team Practice

THURSDAYS

- Prayer Meeting at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall.
 Everyone is welcome.
- 1st Thursday of each month: Miriam Circle meets at 1:30 pm
- 2nd Thursday of each month: Esther-Rachel and Sarah Circles meet at 1 pm.

WORSHIP TIMES

- *Wednesday Evenings at 6 pm
- *Sunday Mornings at 8 am & 10:30 am through May 19th (9 am Worship resumes on May 26th)
- *Worship at Liberty Village: Sundays at 12:30pm (10:45 am beginning May 26th)

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- ☐ May 5th at both services New Member Celebration & Recognition, Foundation Sunday
- ☐ May 11th, 2024 at 9:30 am Mother's Day Breakfast served in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend.
- ☐ May 12th, 2024 Mother's Day with roses for sale during coffee hour. Roses are supplied by Right to Life and all proceeds to go life-giving charities. Sunday School kids sing at the 10:30am worship service
- ☐ May 15th Last Confirmation Class until fall
- ☐ May 19th Graduate Sunday, Picnic @ 11:45am
- ☐ May 26th, 2024 9 am Worship services resume
- May 27th, 2024 Memorial Day, Church Closed
- ☐ June 10th 14th: Ark Encounter and Creation Museum Trip





Sun	Mon	Tue		Wed		Thu		Fri	Sat
Monday - Thi	DFFICE HOURS ursday: 8 am - 4:3 from 12—1 pm idays: 8 am - 12 p	30 pm, Closed		1 pm Book Club 3 pm Missions Meeting 4:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation	1	9 am Prayer Meeting 1:30 pm Miriam Circle	2	3	
5 8 am & 10:30 am Worship/ Communion 9:15 am Education Hour 12:30 pm Liberty Village FOUNDATION & NEW MEMBER	6 9 am Bible Study with Pastor Dave 9 am Rebekah- Ruth Circle 6 pm Bible Study with Bill & Deb Rice at their home	8 am Quilting Group	7	4:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation 7 pm Dorcas Cir	8 rcle	9 am Prayer Meeting 1 pm Esther- Rachel & Sarah Circles	9	10	9:30 am Mother's Day Breakfast
8 am & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Education Hour 12:30 pm Liberty Village Happy Mother's Day!	9 am Bible Study with Pastor Dave 9 am Rebekah- Ruth Circle 6 pm Bible Study with Bill & Deb Rice at their home	8 am Quilting Group 7 pm Council Meeting	14	4:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation	15	9 am Prayer Meeting	16	12 pm June Newsletter Deadline	18
8 am & 10:30 am Worship/ Communion 12:30 pm Liberty Village GRADUATE CELEBRATION 11:45 AM PICNIC 26 9 am Worship 10:45 am Liberty Village Worship	9 am Bible Study with Pastor Dave 1 pm Prayer Shawl Group 6 pm Bible Study with Bill & Deb Rice at their home 27 MEMORIAL DAY: CLOSED	8 am Quilting Group 8 am Quilting Group	21	4:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6 pm Worship 4:15 pm Praise Team Practice 6 pm Worship	22	9 am Prayer Meeting	30	31	24

GLORIA DEI STAFF

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