

	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
Organist	Worship Band	Mary Garner	Stan Wold	Barbara Erickson
Assisting Minister	Kristen Hylenski	Linda Kalweit	Chelsea Froemke	Connor Weberg
Sound Technician	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Rick Troy & Scott Ruzich	Steve Dalager & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich
Reader	Kathleen Gates	Janet Worthing	John McDonald	Janet Schramm
Acolytes	Morgan Wimer & Christian Leight	Raine Amundson & Deonta Lew	Esmeralda Lew & Martha Carlson	Bryn Weberg & Morgan Wimer
Ushers	Per & Elaine Wickstrom	Deonta Lew & Sandi Johnson	Paul Steklenski & Linda Kalweit	Ed & Colleen Martin
Nursery Attendants	Daphne Amundson	Stephanie Carlson	Cara Weberg	Sherry Dalager
Counters	David Gangeness & Rod Dahlquist	Bob Forbort & Sharon Stenberg	Barb Renick & Joan Gunderson	Mary Gagnon & Gerald Erickson
Coffee Servers	Eve Gathering	Sherry Dalager	Church Council Not a Pot Luck	Sue Anderson
Communion Assistant	Craig Haugan	Craig Haugan	Craig Haugan	Craig Haugan
Altar Guild	Jackie DeVogel & Kathy Wimer	Alison Stucke & Marlaire Wilms	Corrine Helmen & Judith Oman	Pearl Johnson & Helen Wikblad



Blessing the Dust

*All those days
you felt like dust, like dirt,
as if all you had to do
was turn your face
toward the wind
and be scattered
to the four corners
or swept away
by the smallest breath
as insubstantial—
Did you not know
what the Holy One
can do with dust?
This is the day
we freely say
we are scorched.
This is the hour
we are marked
by what has made it
through the burning.
This is the moment
we ask for the blessing*

*that lives within
the ancient ashes,
that makes its home
inside the soil of
this sacred earth.
So let us be marked
not for sorrow.
And let us be marked
not for shame.
Let us be marked
not for false humility
or for thinking we are less
than we are
but for claiming
what God can do
within the dust,
within the dirt,
within the stuff
of which the world is made,
and the stars that blaze
in our bones,
and the galaxies that spiral
inside the smudge we bear.*
—Jan Richardson

From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Council member Laura Hoelter shared this poem at the prayer gathering in Gloria Dei's parking lot a month after the fire. Originally pertaining to Ash Wednesday, it speaks of *Easter's promise: of the blessing that lives within the ashes, and of what God can do with dust.*

It is such confidence in God's ability to bring life out of dust and ashes that sustains us in faith and ministry. Over 100 attended the prayer gathering to encircle the building in prayer and song with neighbors, including several clergy of other churches. "Brothers and sisters," I began, "We have come together in thanksgiving for the faithfulness of God. This is holy ground, sacred space, sanctuary. It has been a place for the gathering of the people of God, a place for proclaiming the Gospel through Word and Sacrament, a place for bringing life and hope to us and to this community. Today we reaffirm that this place belongs to God. For over 110 years, Gloria Dei's ministry has been housed here, and as I told a child a day after the fire, God is not done with it yet. *Its story of redemption has not yet fully been told – and neither has ours. Even in the midst of ashes, new life can emerge.*"

We are indeed grateful for *many ways in which new life is becoming visible* through the God who has accompanied us in ministry beyond our own walls:

- in the hospitality of Faith for worship, St. Mary Star of the Sea providing space for the breakfast, and other congregations organizing fundraisers.
- in our continued Lenten study with Jim Bailey on practicing the Sermon on the Mount and in other bible studies/circles happening elsewhere.
- in reestablishing our live radio broadcast in time for the anniversary.
- in the tireless efforts of council president Brett Amundson, other council members and staff, in coordinating necessary meetings and decision-making about our building's day to day needs, adapting to new spaces, and striving to keep God's mission our focus as we look to the future.
- in the faithfulness of members who are helping sift through for salvage, replacement, or cleaning our building's contents for ministry needs.

As one of our members has said, *"We are grieving, but we are growing"* – growing closer in our relationships to God, each other, and our neighbors.

The church office has received many letters and gifts from congregations, organizations, and individuals in the Duluth area and far beyond. All gifts through the mail and the church web site have received a thank-you note. We are beginning to put letters and cards into *a format that can be more widely read by our members*, and providing a list of congregations, organizations, and individuals' names and city/state (beyond Gloria Dei) that have so far given gifts to support our ministry and rebuilding, so that more awareness of their support can be shared. These gifts, which now total over \$68,000, are very much appreciated, as some elements of our process of rebuilding will not be covered by insurance.

This amount includes a \$20,000 gift from Essentia Health's Community Contributions. Sister Joan Marie Stelman serves on that board and also on our parish nurse steering committee. In an internal newsletter at the hospital she wrote, *"Gloria Dei is an integral part of the Central Hillside neighborhood and provides essential outreach ministry to the poor."* When I spoke with her and other Essentia representatives, I could see how clearly they value Gloria Dei's ministry in its location.

While we still await the final report about the integrity of the building from the structural engineer, God's faithfulness continues – and so does our ministry. Throughout its history, *Gloria Dei has always asked the question about what God is doing and how we can participate in God's mission.*

THANK YOU for keeping this question in your prayers as we move forward in ministry together. Thank you for continuing to tell the story of redemption, and for living into Easter's promise, the promise of what God can do with dust.

Yours in Christ,
+ Pastor David Carlson

offering amount and a schedule for giving automatically. Forms for Simply Giving are available through the church office—722-3381.

EARTH STEWARDSHIP TIPS April 2016 Earth Stewardship Tips



- In 2011, Ad Week declared infants to three-year-olds to be "the next great American consumer." Studies show that by the time they turn three, U.S. children can recognize an average of 100 brand logos. See, <http://pbskids.org/dontbuyit/>
- Kids represent an important demographic to marketers because in addition to their own purchasing power (which is considerable) they influence their parents' buying decisions and are the adult consumers of the future. See, <http://mediasmarts.ca/>
- No, it's not your imagination. The amount of advertising and marketing North Americans are exposed to daily has exploded over the past decade; studies show, that on average, people living in urban centers see 3,000 to 5,000 ads per day. See, <https://www.newdream.org/programs/beyond-consumerism>
- Many European countries do not allow children's television programs of less than 30 minutes duration to be interrupted by advertising. Austria bans the airing of ads before and after children's programs, and Italy has made it illegal to show ads during TV cartoons.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

* * * * *			* * * * *
* 2 ~ Neil Weberg		20 ~ Latisha Ester	*
* 3 ~ Amanda Pokorny		20 ~ Richard Hewitt	*
* 6 ~ Rick Troy		21 ~ Joey Peterson	*
* 12 ~ Gloria Oja		21 ~ Bella Swanson	*
* 14 ~ Ruth Bakke		25 ~ Brita Dahlquist	*
* 17 ~ Tim Jorgensen		28 ~ Russell Wikblad	*
* 19 ~ Cassie Johnson		29 ~ Lori Ruzich	*
* 20 ~ Ainsley Aaseng		30 ~ Austin Wimer	*
* 20 ~ Katie Carlson		30 ~ Donna Gerdes	*
* * * * *			* * * * *

Well, that same committee just met again on March 13, to talk about the need to fund the rebuild of our sanctuary and the entire lower level of the church as the result of our recent fire. What a difference a month makes!

As I write this, there are still many unknowns. However, here are a few things that our committee wants all of us to keep in mind:

- God is faithful. “Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.” Psalm 126:6
- We have excellent insurance coverage. Let’s remember this. This relieves a lot of anxiety.
- Although we have that insurance, we know that the insurance will not cover all expenses incurred by the fire. We will still need to raise a considerable amount of money to not only rebuild, but also pay for the upgrades that had already been in the renovation plan.
- The extensive damage to our church building that causes us so much pain and sadness may also be creating opportunities to do things to the building that will improve accessibility, and provide us with the room and flexibility to expand the manner in which we use our building for both worship and mission.

So brothers and sisters, let’s commit ourselves to the mission of our congregation and give thanks to all who have generously supported us during this post fire journey. In the coming weeks, another plan will be composed to reflect how much money we will need to raise in addition to the insurance money. Be patient with us. As Mona recently said “We’re grieving, but we’re growing”. New adventures are ahead of us. As it says in Isaiah “Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”

FINANCE REPORT THRU FEB 2016

Needed per month \$17,833; per week \$4,115

Envelope Offerings:

Budget, 2 months \$35,667

Actual, 2 months \$34,806 97.6%

Difference, *behind* \$ 861



Our regular offering is a sign of worship and thanksgiving for all that God has done and continues to do. In our offering, we return to God a portion of what God has so graciously entrusted to us. THANK YOU for remembering your offering as a regular part of your worship!

SIMPLY GIVING - An increasing number of people at Gloria Dei are using Simply Giving, an automatic withdrawal process operated through Thrivent Financial. This process allows one to designate an

APRIL LESSONS

Sunday, April 3, 2016 Second Sunday of Easter

In spite of all we have heard and all that we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus’ victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the Lord Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of the holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

Acts 5:27-32, Psalm 118:14-29, Revelation 1:4-8, John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 10, 2016 Third Sunday of Easter

The disciples make a big splash and breakfast with the risen Jesus in the gospel. Wading in the water (remembering our baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating the holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us, with Peter, again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20], Psalm 30, Revelation 5:11-14, John 21:1-19

Sunday, April 17, 2016 Fourth Sunday of Easter

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

Sunday, April 24, 2016 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Lord is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today the Lord Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148, Revelation 21:1-6, John 13:31-35

PARISH CONVERSATION—Apr 17 - In an effort to increase communication and awareness in the parish, Pastor David and the Council have planned quarterly “parish conversations” after worship, during which everyone can hear updates about various ministries, receive a quarterly financial report, and become more aware of parish leaders, newcomers, and upcoming events. Please note: this will NOT be a potluck, but the council will provide bars and coffee. All are welcome!

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Worship God in proclamation of the Word and administration of the sacraments and through lives of prayer, praise, thanksgiving, witness, and service.

SAMARITAN SUNDAY, Apr 3 – Thanks for remembering: 1) canned food items to help replenish the CHUM Food Shelf, which are brought forward as part of our offering. 2) Our loose cash offering on the first Sunday has for several years gone to the Gabriel Fund, a ministry started by Gloria Dei and other Central Hillside parishes and managed through CHUM, for direct assistance to the needy.

ONE BREAD, Apr 3 - Thanks to One Bread, our worship band, for accompanying worship once a month. Other Sundays, the liturgy will be accompanied with organ, piano, and choir. We thank God for the gifts of all musicians at Gloria Dei!

MANY THANKS to the Rev. John Dietz, who is preaching April 3. A member of Gloria Dei, John serves as Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission in the Northeastern MN Synod.

EUCCHARIST AT EDGEWOOD VISTA, Apr 6 - Each month, Gloria Dei conducts a worship service and fellowship time at a senior residential home. This month, the service of Holy Communion will be at King Manor on Ash Wednesday, April 6, at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome.

CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00 pm on Wed., April 6, 7:00 p.m at Faith Lutheran Church Regular weekly rehearsals on Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

ALTAR GUILD NEWS In January, Pearl Johnson resigned as Chairperson of the Altar Guild after many years of service. Thank you so much Pearl for your dedication and hard work!! As of February 21st, Marlaine Wilms and Barb Renick have agreed to be co-chairs.

CARDBOARD ROLL CALL: when wrapping birthday or Christmas presents in the next year or so, would you please keep the Altar Guild in mind and save your empty paper rolls? We use them to roll linens and paraments in to store them in drawers for the church seasons when they are not being used. Needless to say, we had to dispose of all the old ones we had. Give them to Barb Renick. Thank you very much.

LUTE CONCERT, Apr 2 - Lutenist Edward Martin, a Gloria Dei member, will perform a faculty recital on Saturday, April 2, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Music Hall, room 3625, in Tower Hall at the College of St. Scholastica. The event is a part of the Spotlight on Performing

THANK YOU RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

It takes \$1000 per month to fund our ongoing Radio Ministry. As of February 29, Radio Ministry received \$787, which is \$1213 behind our budget needs. Thanks to all who gave a total of \$2213 on the occasion of the 74th anniversary of the Radio Ministry in March, and to all who sponsor broadcasts and give regularly throughout the year. Gifts of \$230 to sponsor a Sunday or in any amount continue to make this an important outreach.



WORSHIP WITH THE RADIO OR STREAMING LIVE ON THE INTERNET

+ Live Radio Broadcast Sundays 10:00 a.m. on AM 710 - WDSM Radio
+ Listen live on the Internet. Please note that there is a new IP address for Internet streaming.

1. Download Windows Media Player for best software interface with the audio stream.
2. After opening up the media player, type CTRL U (Hold down CTRL key, then press U key) which will open a new window asking for "URL."
3. To play live audio stream, copy and paste the following into the URL window: <http://24.159.193.198:8080>

Note: you will only hear the live audio while the service is being broadcast, so if you are early just wait a few minutes and try the link again.

FACEBOOK CHANGES - If you are on Facebook, please check out and LIKE our page! The official/administrative page is GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH - DULUTH. You're on the right page if you see the gorgeous golden stained glass windows. This page has schedules and special information about services and church events. If you had been a friend of another page, Facebook recently required us to merge it with the main one above.



STEWARDSHIP

Our stewardship celebrates the abundance and the value of God's gifts, practicing sustainability and generosity as joyful expressions of God's love for all creation.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

By Sue Anderson, chair

On February 4th the Capital Campaign Committee met to set goals for a fundraising campaign to fund a renovation program at Gloria Dei. We plotted out a general outline of how to fund a \$900,000.00 renovation project that included moving bathrooms, constructing a commercial kitchen, replacing the elevator, and renovating the Hillside Room. Remember that project?

EVANGELISM - WITNESS

1) Proclaim God's saving Gospel of justification by grace for Christ's sake through faith alone, according to the apostolic witness in the Holy Scripture, preserving and transmitting the Gospel faithfully to future generations. 2) Carry out Christ's Great Commission by reaching out to all people to bring them to faith in Christ and by doing all ministry with a global awareness consistent with the understanding of God as Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of all.

RUSSIAN DEACONS VISITING, Apr 21 - May 5

This spring we are very pleased to welcome two Deacons from the Ingrian Lutheran Church of Russia as guests of our synod assembly 2016 – Evgenij Raskatov from the central office of the ELCIR in St. Petersburg, and Sergei Anikin from the Lutheran parish in Saratov, Volga Deanery.



During their two-week visit, they will be giving a greeting at synod assembly, speaking at congregations in different parts of our synod about God's work in and through the Ingrian Church, learning about the ministry of the Northeastern MN Synod, and visiting Luther Seminary.

Our Synod is funding all of their travel expenses, which total approximately \$2200. The Companion Synod Task Force welcomes any gifts from congregations, conferences, or individuals sent through the Synod Office and so marked in the memo, to help cover their travel. Two evening presentations will take place near Duluth: Sunday, Apr 24 at Immanuel Lutheran in Proctor, and Wednesday, Apr 27 at Bethlehem Lutheran in Two Harbors, exact times TBA.

ALMOST PICTURE TIME!! Coming soon – a new Gloria Dei member directory! We are gettin' with the picture and going high tech! We will be using Instant Church Directory Online (www.instantchurchdirectory.com) – a web service that will allow us to create our own directory, access it online, and print physical copies as needed.



The directory will be password-protected and accessible only to our church family. No more pressure to buy photos! There's even a mobile app! Look for Linda Kalweit to be taking pictures at church during May and June. Members may also choose to upload their own picture. A traveling photographer will be making house calls to nursing homes and our homebound members. There will be an opportunity to learn more about the online directory at the Parish Conversation on April 17th. It's not too early to start practicing that big smile!

Arts and Lectures. "Music of France, Italy, and the Czech Lands" features music from 16th and 17th centuries. The presentation will include works for renaissance and baroque lutes, both solo and in duo with tenor, CSS faculty member William Bastian. The works include those of Attaignant, Paladin, Losy, and French Airs de Cour. The entire program will consist of works very seldom heard in modern performance, and will provide a glimpse into some of the most subtly beautiful music for renaissance and baroque lute. Free and open to the public.

BENEFIT CONCERT, Apr 13 – The professional music fraternity of UMD, Mu Phi Epsilon, is holding a benefit concert to raise funds for Gloria Dei's rebuilding on Wednesday, April 13, 7:30 p.m. at Hope Methodist Church, 301 W St Marie St, Duluth. One student writes, "Since most of our members have been involved with Dr. Wold's choirs, Gloria Dei has held a place close to our hearts."



LUTE CONCERT, Apr 23 - Lutenist Edward Martin will perform a Concert on Saturday, April 23, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Music Center. This event, "Courante", will feature baroque lute duets with lutenist Thomas Walker from St. Paul. The presentation will include French Baroque Lute Duets, works included in their critically acclaimed recording, "Courante."

MINISTRY OF DISCIPLESHIP

Nurture members in the Word of God so as to grow in faith and hope and love, to see daily life as the primary setting for the exercise of our Christian calling, and to use our gifts of the spirit for our life together and for our calling in the world.

BISHOP CONVOCATION: LUTHERANS REFORMED AND

REFORMING, Apr 2-3 – an educational offering for the entire Northeastern Minnesota Synod as we gear up to the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Two identical opportunities to attend this year's Bishop's Convocation: Saturday, April 2, 2016 from 1-4 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Hibbing – OR – Sunday, April 3, 2016 from 2-5 pm at First Lutheran Church, Aitkin. Keynote Speaker: Bishop David Zellmer, South Dakota Synod, "How the Heck Did We Get to the Reformation?"

INTERGENERATIONALSUNDAY SCHOOL, April 3 — "All God's Creatures!" Human beings aren't God's only concern but throughout scripture we find how animals share in God's praise, accompany God's people as part of the web of creation, and even provide lessons about faith! Join us once a month for singing, bible dramas, crafts and conversations across the generations that will focus on God's creatures, great and small. See you there!

SIGN UP FOR CAMP – Camp is a wonderful place to grow in faith, and we want to help make it possible for every child at Gloria Dei to go to camp! Please register for summer camp at www.VLMcamps.org. Gloria Dei also has camperships that will provide \$75 per camper to help with the cost. And there are sibling and "bring a friend" discounts, and financial assistance is available. For more information, speak to Brett or Pastor Dave.



YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS Apr 9 & 23 - In addition to regular worship, our confirmation class will be focusing on the biblical story of God and God's people. *We meet every other Saturday from 9:00-10:30 a.m. All families with students in grades 7 & up are welcome—please speak to Pastor Dave.*

SYNOD CREATION CARE RETREAT, Apr 8-9 – “The Next Reformation: Gracefully Engaging Disciples for the Whole Earth,” at Camp Hiawatha, from Fri 4:00 to Sat 3:00. The theme of the 4th annual retreat explores creation care in light of: Reformation 2017, the concept of Graceful Engagement, the Marks of Discipleship, and Holistic Systems Thinking. Participants will hear about exciting creation care initiatives undertaken by congregations who received grants in 2015, talk with others practicing earth stewardship, learn from Lutheran Advocacy MN about state and local decision-making for a more sustainable future, encounter the 2016 Season of Creation scripture/worship resource, and understand how to start or strengthen a congregational team. Cost is \$60 (\$30 student) including lodging, meals, materials.



ADULT FAITH FORUM – All are welcome to join us at 8:45 in the Teaching House before worship.

Apr 3—Intergenerational Sunday School, “All God’s Critters!” - in church basement

Apr 10—Recap of “Living into the Difficult: Race & Diversity” Event from previous month

Apr 17 & 24—DVD discussion “National Parks” final disc

TRAVELING TEXT STUDY, Apr 19 - Most “First Word” bible studies on Tuesdays at 12 noon are in the Community Room at Gloria Dei. But once a month, we are invited to the home of Marianne Kjolhaug - either meet us there, or arrive at church by 11:45 to carpool. The Word is on the move!

ed at 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth. Ruby’s Pantry—Coppertop is a cooperative effort of several local congregations. Gloria Dei was one of the initial congregations that gave start up money so the distribution site at First United Methodist could be established. Over the years Ruby’s Pantry—Coppertop has been able to return that start-up money several times over in the form of grants to local charities, including Gloria Dei’s neighborhood breakfast.

NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFAST, Apr 23 - All are welcome to join us for our free fourth Saturday Neighborhood Breakfast on Saturday, April 23, from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at St. Mary Star of the Sea.



EAT KURDISH FOOD IN DULUTH, BUILD A LIBRARY IN SYRIA

When: Thursday, April 14, 5:30-8PM

Where: Damiano Center Dining Room, 206W. 4th St., Duluth MN

What: Traditional Kurdish Dinner by friends from Kurdish Community of America, Moorhead, MN

Cost: Free-will donation. Proceeds go to build a library in Kobani, Syria. Checks can be made out to Kurdish Community of America. Contact: Michele Naar-Obed (218) 722-2231

RSVP is not necessary but would be appreciated. You can also call to request a vegetarian plate. Meat plates are made with beef and lamb. The meal is pork free.

In 2015, Kurdish soldiers liberated the Kurdish city of Kobani from ISIS control. 50,000 refugees returned home. 70% of the city’s infrastructure was destroyed. An appeal was put out to help them rebuild so they can re-main in their homeland. The city has re-remained under Kurdish control for just over one year and is safe and secure. Our sister city Rania, Iraqi Kurdistan is financing the building of a school in Kobani. The Duluth communities of faith are invited to help build a library. Your free-will donation for this Kurdish meal will be delivered directly to an authorized representative of Kobani Syria and will be used solely in the building of the library.

LSS LUNCHEON AND GROUNDBREAKING, May 5 -

LSS will hold its annual luncheon on Thursday, May 5 at the Greysolon Ballroom. The event registration begins at 11:30 with lunch and the program beginning at noon. It is a one hour event. A donation of your choice is requested.

Make your reservation for the Gloria Dei table by contacting Maury Aaseng (464-0189) or Carol Kelley (525-6098). Following the luncheon the ground breaking will be held for “The Center for Changing Lives” at 14th Avenue East and Superior Street. An exciting day!



RELAY FOR LIFE, JULY 15th, at UMD

Please join the Gloria Dei Relay for Life team. Gloria Dei has been part of the Duluth RFL event for many years. Our teams have been large (over 20 participants) and small (2-3). It is much more fun when we have more folks involved! Come to the kick-off on Thursday, March 31st at the Hampton Inn in Canal Park, 6-7:30. Contact Patti to sign up for the team.



This year the theme is the Olympics and will be held at UMD on Friday, July 15th, from 4-midnight. This is a special time to celebrate cancer survivors, remember those who have died and to raise money to find a cure! The event is family friendly, fun, and a great community happening filled with music, games and luminary bags!

Every family has some connection with cancer. Help us raise money to fight cancer, it is a terrible disease!

WORLD HUNGER EMPHASES - THANKS to all for contributions to the ELCA Hunger Fund during Lent meal offerings and last Sunday's Noisy Offering (\$331.13), all totaling \$655.13. Your support is greatly appreciated!



FREE TAX SERVICE - The CHUM AARP tax group has moved the tax site to St. Mary Star of the Sea, Catholic Church at 325 East 3rd Street. We will be using the fellowship hall and the entrance will be on the West Side of the Church. We will be at this location on April 6. Appointments for St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church can be made from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. by calling the church office at 722-3381. We will be at Grace Lutheran in Hermantown on the alternate Wednesdays. We will also be at the CHUM East Food Shelf on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting Feb. 2 and running thru April 14. Appointments at the CHUM East Food Shelf are from 9:00-2:30 and can be made by calling CHUM at 720-6521.

RUBY'S PANTRY – **April 21** Volunteers Needed At Ruby's Pantry—Coppertop, 3rd Thursday of Every Month Ruby's Pantry is an organization that distributes food to those who want to stretch their food dollar. For a \$20.00 donation, people receive approximately two boxes of food. Cash only. There are no income guidelines. Ruby's Pantry depends upon volunteers to help set up the food distribution site, assist with the distribution of food, and clean-up after the distribution. Volunteers are welcome for all or a portion of the distribution process. 3:30-5:30pm: Set up for food distribution, 5:30-6:45pm: Assist with food distribution, 6:45-7:30pm: Assist with clean-up. If you are interested in volunteering at Ruby's Pantry-Coppertop, please contact First United Methodist Church at 727-5021. First United Methodist Church is located

RELIGION AND SCIENCE IN DIALOGUE, Apr 20 - 8 a.m. at Valentin's (London Rd). Through the College of St. Scholastica, Pastor Carlson facilitates a monthly discussion group in the community on the topic of Religion and Science. The group is lively and engaging and connects our readings with current events and daily life. Newcomers are welcome! This month, we're reading part of *Ecology & Religion* by John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker (2014).

GET YOUR GARDEN PLOTS! Faith has a spacious Community Garden and invites anyone to consider renting a plot for the summer or adopting one of the CHUM plots that provides fresh produce for those in need. interest should be directed to Nancy Marschke 525-5143, who is in charge of plot reservations .

MAY BOOK STUDY with Pr. Carolyn, author of *Holy Purpose: The Blessings of Obedience and Service* (Augsburg Fortress, 2007). Join Pr. Carolyn for a 3-session book study as part of Tuesday Nights Together (TNT) May 10, 17, 24, 5:30 soup supper, 6:30 study. Books can be ordered by Apr 24 through Nancy M. 525-5143, or personally online.

FELLOWSHIP— "KOINONIA"

Manifest the unity given to the people of God by living together in the love of Christ and by joining with other Christians in prayer and action to express and preserve the unity which the Spirit gives.

NEW MEMBERS

On Easter Vigil, March 26, we joyfully welcomed these sisters and brothers in Christ into Gloria Dei's family and mission through Baptism and/or the Affirmation of Baptism.

+ Andy and Julie Ernst: We just began attending Gloria Dei just before Christmas. Having been married for 33 years, we have spent 22 of those years here in Duluth. We love living here! We do not have children, although we do have two charming rescue kitties. Andy has been employed at WLSSD as a plant operator for 22 years. I jokingly like to say I am "semi-retired" after working many years in the title insurance industry. Presently my time is spent helping aging parents (a true privilege!), and keeping booth space at a local antique store filled with vintage, retro, shabby and repurposed goodies. Andy and I both love traveling, camping, hiking, canoeing and tinkering around our house and gardens. We never seem to run out of projects, living in an older home! With such a gracious and warm welcome from this congregation, even in the midst of a tragic fire, we are so grateful to have found a new church family!

+ **Cal Metts, Sarah Lawrence, and Giulia Calland** - Cal, Sarah, and Gigi have been attending Gloria Dei for nearly four years and are very happy to make their membership official! Cal and Sarah travel frequently for work (sometimes with four-year-old Gigi) – singing with symphony orchestras and opera and theatre companies around the U.S. They also like to spend time at their cabin in northwestern Minnesota. They like to play outside as much as possible, and they attempt a vegetable garden every summer. Sarah and Cal are the General Artistic Directors of Lyric Opera of the North, a professional opera company based here in the Twin Ports.

+ **Marilyn Thomas**: I graduated from St. Scholastica as an RN in 1979, worked for a year at Miller Dwan, and then moved to Santa Barbara, California, where I worked in all areas of hospital nursing. I had always wanted to come back home to Duluth and arrived two years ago when I retired. I volunteer at the the Depot Ojibway Museum as a docent and take several classes as a student in UMD's senior program. I like to travel and enjoy being among seekers of knowledge at Gloria Dei.

GLORIA DEI QUILTERS - will meet on Tuesday April 5 at 6:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran. New comers are welcome. No sewing experience necessary. For questions, call Marianne Kjolhaug at 722-1493.

WELCOMING MINISTRIES meets after worship on Sunday, April 3.

SALAD LUNCHEON, Apr 24 - Gloria Dei's Welcoming Ministries will be hosting a Salad Luncheon during coffee hour on April 24. A freewill offering will be taken. Faith members are cordially invited to join in. Proceeds will go toward funding Welcoming Ministries activities, which includes supporting the LSS Together for Youth program. If you would like to bring a salad, please contact Sue Anderson., 624-0171.

LGBT ELDERS - meets the 4th Saturday each month at 10:00 a.m. at First United Methodist Church (The Coppertop). For more information, please contact Kathleen Gates gatespea@centurylink.net or 624-4589.

HIV SUPPORT - The HIV Support Group meets once a month on the 2nd Monday at 6pm and is located at the office of Rural AIDS Action Network (RAAN) at 114 North First Avenue West.

PHOTO MAGNETS If you are a fan of Will Stenberg's greeting cards, then this is the next step for you. Will's photo images are now on magnets (about 2x3 inches). There are several images that sell for \$3.00 each at the coffee kiosk. Proceeds from these will go to the reno-

MINISTRY OF SERVICE

Purpose: Serve in response to God's love to meet human needs, caring for the sick and the aged, advocating dignity and justice for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among the nations, and standing with the poor and the powerless and committing to their needs.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT - Patti Maguire

What an incredible month! March rushed by like wild spring winds as we got settled in new work spaces, tried to clear out salvageable books and office supplies from the smoky building, and keep up with congregation members wherever they are. I've talked with snowbirds, folks in assisted living facilities, and in their homes about the future of Gloria Dei and their deep grief over the destructive fire. They marked the many special life events they experienced in our sanctuary and how Gloria Dei shaped their lives. Their love for our church is not diminished by the fire, however, and they cherish our church family. Everyone of them are delighted that the radio broadcast is still available to them so they can continue to worship with us.



In March we were journeying through Lent to Easter along with Faith Lutheran's wonderful congregation. We shared soup suppers, book study and prayers. The Pastor preached at St Ann's on March 3rd and the Health Cabinet brought treats and fellowship there on March 15th. On March 17th, I attended a grief conference on "Working with Families during periods of Grief". During the month before Easter, Care Team members make a special effort to visit, bring communion and re-connect with all shut-ins and others who are not able to attend services. I give thanks to God for all these folks who share their time and faith as part of the health ministry of Gloria Dei.

On April 6th, we will be worshipping at Edgewood Vista at 1 PM in their chapel. Also coming up in April is the Bishop's Gathering sessions in Aitken and Hibbing on April 2 & 3 (see article in this newsletter). At the end of the month the Synod Assembly will be held in Brainerd. The theme is the "Power of Forgiveness" featuring Anna Madsen.

PRAYER FOR EASTER - Joyce Rupp

Jesus, you are risen! You are with us. Keep us ever mindful of how you are a part of our lives in a deep and profound way. Surprise us with a touch of your love in places where we never thought that we would find you. Fill our hearts with hope. May the gift of your presence transform every ordinary moment of ours into a sacred place where you dwell. Help us to see this gift through the eyes of faith. fill us with your peace. AMEN