

	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 25
Organist	Barbara Erickson	Worship Band	Stan Wold	Mary Garner
Assisting Minister	Kristen Hylenski	Conor Weberg	Linda Kalweit	TBA
Sound Technician	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich	Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich
Reader	Janet Worthing	Marcia Troy	Connor Weberg	Karen Bockelman
Acolytes	Morgan Wimer & Esmeralda Lew	Bryn Weberg & Raine Amundson	Deonta Lew & Christian Leight	Bryn Weberg & Samantha Stevens
Ushers	Shari Olson & Corrine Helmen	Duane & Alison Stucke	Per & Elaine Wickstrom	Paul Steklenski
Nursery Attendants	Cara Weberg	Daphne Amundson	Self Serve Children's program	Self Serve
Counters	Bob Forbort & Sharon Stenberg	Barb Renick & Joan Gunderson	Janine Dahlquist & Gerald Erickson	Lexie Cieluch & Janine Dahlquist
Coffee Servers	Roger & Judy Oman	Linda Kalweit & Paul Steklenski	Eve Gathering	No Coffee Hour
Communion Assistant	Brett Amundson	Brett Amundson	Brett Amundson	Brett Amundson
Altar Guild	Barb R. Kathy W. & Linda K.	Barb R. Kathy W. & Linda K.	Barb R. Kathy W. & Linda K.	Barb R. Kathy W. & Linda K.

O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
– ELW # 257



From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

In a book our Council and Long Range Planning Team are reading, Lutheran Pastor Heidi Neumark, who spoke at Gloria Dei last year, writes about Advent as a favorite time:

“Probably the reason I love Advent so much is that it is a reflection of how I feel most of the time. I might not feel sorry during Lent, when the liturgical calendar begs repentance. I might not feel victorious, even though it is Easter morning. I might not feel full of the Spirit, even though it is Pentecost and the liturgy spins out fiery gusts of ecstasy. But during Advent, I am always in sync with the season. Advent unfailingly embraces and comprehends my reality. And what is that? I think of the Spanish word, anhelo, or longing. Advent is when the church can no longer contain its unbearable, unfulfilled desire and the cry of anhelo bursts forth: Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! O Come, O Come Emmanuel!” (Breathing Space, 211).

This hymn is the basis for our Advent journey this year. The main verse will be sung each Sunday as we light a new candle, a practice some also do at home during the season. We'll sing the whole hymn in worship one of the Sundays. And on December 18 at 3:00 p.m., we'll get to dwell on the meaning of the verses with scripture readings and prayers during a special service with St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church. Each verse, originally written in Latin, evokes the Messiah under a different title derived from the Old Testament highlighting Christ's salvation in various ways:

- O *Sapientia* (Wisdom) – Wisdom of Solomon 9:1, 9-11
- O *Adonai* (Lord of Might) – Exodus 6:2-7a
- O *Radix Jesse* (Root of Jesse) – Isaiah 11:1-10
- O *Clavis David* (Key of David) – Isaiah 22:22; 42:5-9
- O *Oriens* (Dayspring) – Luke 1:68:79
- O *Rex gentium* (King of Nations) – Daniel 7:13-14
- O *Emmanuel* (God with us) – Isaiah 7:10-16

Commenting on this hymn, Paul Westermeyer from Luther Seminary notes that it is composed as an acrostic. The first letters of the key second words, when read in reverse order, spell *Ero cras*, which means in Latin: “I will be tomorrow,” – a promise building to poignancy on Christmas Eve. The meaning is clear, he says: “you get the Advent message of preparation by waiting for it day by day, letter by letter.” But, he continues, because you have to

read the acrostic backwards, the opposite is also suggested: "I was yesterday." Moreover, we sing these antiphons today, "between the times," and, as we do so with the knowledge of God's past and future presence in Christ, the paradoxes of Advent emerge: *Christ was and is, and is to come.*

What promises of Christ's coming "tomorrow" do you especially long for? Wisdom that guides actions... deliverance from bondage... hope of new life after being cut down... freedom from captivity... light in the darkness... humane rule that brings just peace... knowing God truly in our midst... these are the hymn's metaphors. But living "between the times" of already and not yet can be emotionally and spiritually challenging. Heidi says, "The distance between the world as it is and the world as it should be tears my heart."

So *our longing, our waiting, is active* rather than passive. It is participating in Christ's promises of tomorrow ahead of time, today. This month provides opportunities for anticipating Christ's coming "tomorrow" today:

- + Children marking each day reflectively with their own Advent calendars
- + Year-end gift giving to Chum, LSS, ELCA World Hunger, Companion Synods, and other ministries through the Poinsettia/Christmas Gift insert
- + Pushing with WELCA to fund solar power for Phebe Hospital in Liberia
- + Accompanying St. Mark AME Church as they support two outreach workers in the Hillside neighborhood
- + Continuing to envision and discern space for ministry in our rebuilding
- + Celebrating Santa Lucia during coffee hour on Dec 11
- + Hearing the Christmas story presented by the Sunday School on Dec 18
- + Gathering for worship each Sunday and at the Nativity of Our Lord:
 - Christmas Worship Schedule – Dec 24 & 25
 - Saturday, Christmas Eve: Communion & Candlelight – 5:00 & 10:00 p.m.
 - Sunday, Christmas Day: Lessons & Carols – 10:00 a.m.

The joint "O Antiphons" service with St. Mary Star of the Sea is also an *active anticipation* – a local example of growing Lutheran-Catholic cooperation that is reflective of the deeper unity we share in Christ. "We have the opportunity to mend a critical moment of our history by moving beyond the controversies and disagreements that have often prevented us from understanding one another," Pope Francis said October 31 this year at a joint Lutheran-Catholic prayer service in Lund, Sweden with the Lutheran World Federation. Bishop Munib Younan, LWF President said, "Our historic gathering... can lead toward peaceful reconciliation."

This Advent, in the midst of waiting and longing, we give thanks for signs of Christ coming into our world and sing the promises of faith: "*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come you, O Israel.*"

See you in worship!
+ Pastor David

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

You may want to give a gift to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on the occasion of Christmas this year. You may choose to give a poinsettia for the sanctuary. Each poinsettia will be \$11.00. Or, consider giving a gift (any amount) to a ministry fund:

- CHUM/Gabriel Project
- ELCA World Hunger
- Extra gift for the "General Fund"
- Ingrian Lutheran Church of Russia
- LSS Center for Changing Lives
- Mission Endowment Fund
- Neighborhood Breakfast
- Northeastern MN Synod
- Parish Nurse Fund
- Racial Justice Fund
- Radio Ministry
- Rebuilding Fund
- Sunday School offering (O'Neil Apts. & 500x500)
- Transportation Fund
- Youth Fund
- Other – Please Specify

*You may place your donation into the offering plate and be sure to mark it "Christmas Gift" with a designation. **All donations must be received by Tuesday December 13 with this completed form.** Poinsettias or gifts to funds may be given in memory or in honor and all names will be listed in the bulletin.*

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Gift: Poinsettia or Fund: _____

From: _____

Please fill in the information and drop this form into the offering plate with your donation or mail it to the church office.
Thank you.

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, Dec 4— 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.

EUCHARIST AT ST. ANN'S Dec 4 and LAKESHORE Dec 14 - Each month, Gloria Dei conducts a worship service and fellowship time at a senior residential home. This month, a service of Holy Communion will be at St. Ann's on Sunday, December 4, at 3:00 pm in the chapel, and a gathering is also planned there for Tuesday, Dec 13 at 3:00. A worship service will also be held on Wednesday, Dec 14 at Ecumen Lakeshore in the chapel. All are welcome to attend these events.

SANTA LUCIA, Dec 11 - After worship join us downstairs during coffee hour for the telling of Santa Lucia. All children are invited to participate too, with costumes, singing, and distributing treats. Though little is known about her, she is remembered as someone who devoted her life to God and her possessions to the poor. Her celebration became particularly important in Sweden and Norway, perhaps because the feast of Lucia (the name means "light") originally fell on the shortest day of the year. A tradition arose of a girl in the household, wearing a crown of candles, bringing saffron rolls to her family early in the morning on the day of Lucia.



CHUM HOLIDAY CONCERT, Dec 10 at Sacred Heart Music Center 201 W. 4th Street. Free will offering. Proceeds will go to CHUM programming at the Steve O'Neil Apartments. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments to follow concert.



ONE BREAD, Dec 11 - Thanks to One Bread, our worship band, for accompanying worship once a month. We thank God for all musicians at Gloria Dei!

CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00 pm on Wed., Dec 14. Regular weekly rehearsals on Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

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.

FINANCE REPORT THRU OCT 2016

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

Envelope Offerings:

Budget, 10 months \$178,333

Actual, 10 months \$189,576 106.3%

Difference, *ahead* \$11,243



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!

GIVING COMMITMENTS - THANK YOU - As of this publication we received 50 Commitment cards totaling \$160,916. Thank you to all those who turned theirs in, we are off to a great start! If you have not yet turned yours in please do so. It's not too late to complete a card. Your commitment is very important in planning our budget for 2017. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Wimer at 727-1987. Additional cards are available in the foyer.

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

EARTH STEWARDSHIP TIPS— DECEMBER

- "Advent is a penitential season, an occasion for self-examination and self-discipline. And nowhere is that discipline needed more than in our use and misuse of creation. Caring for creation is a matter of habit, and our habits need changing."
- The prophets decry how even the land itself suffers, when people turn away from God, neglecting justice and mercy. "The earth dries up and withers...the earth lies polluted...for they have transgressed laws." (Isaiah, 24). "How can you 'love your neighbor as yourself' if you don't know how to keep your waste out of his water supply and your air pollution out of her air?"
- "Jesus turned water into wine as his first miracle. We might marvel or wonder how he could do that. But it was, after all, a very small miracle. We so easily forget God's greater and daily miracle by which water, seeds, soil and sunshine are turned into grapes."



GIVE TO THE MAX, THANKS - This year Gloria Dei participated in “Give to the Max” on Nov 17, a statewide effort to raise awareness and funds for nonprofits. Many thanks to members and friends who contributed online that day – a total of \$775 was raised for our Rebuilding Fund. Gloria Dei’s page included the following story: “Rebuilding After Fire, Church Ministry Continues.”

“Inspired by Christ’s love, Gloria Dei reaches out as an inclusive, welcoming church through worship and social action.”

“Since Gloria Dei’s tragic fire on February 18, 2016, people of the church have continued seeking to live out this mission statement in service to our neighborhood and—with a little (or a lot!) of help from friends—to provide ministries there. The congregation has found a temporary place for worship at the east end of town, and temporary offices at the synod building. A neighboring Catholic church has provided space for Gloria Dei’s free monthly breakfast to continue.

Out of the ashes the congregation has received so much support, love and encouragement from the community, near and far. This has allowed us to renew and recommit our mission and ministry in an area of great need. As our church banner reads, “By God’s grace, we’re here for good.”

Gloria Dei is also committed to rebuilding. Although the sanctuary was destroyed in the electrical fire, and the rest of the building damaged, its structural integrity was intact enabling the congregation to rebuild using the existing walls. The congregation is working with architects to envision spaces with an eye for enhancing our ministry and outreach in the community. Gifts are needed for what will not be covered by insurance.

Throughout this journey, we are realizing it is relationships that matter most—relationships with God, one another, and the community. Thank you for prayers and contributions.

ONE VOICE CONCERT, THANKS - One Voice Mixed Chorus, a GLBT and straight allies choir based in St. Paul, performed an outreach concert, *Hand in Hand*, on Sunday, Nov 20, at Duluth Congregational Church. Many thanks to Sue Anderson, Sharon Stenberg, Bev Pehkonen, Julie & Ryan Jagim, and Carol Kelley for organizing the food for the event, Doug Maguire for printing posters, and Jim & Judy Bailey for helping with clean up. The concert was well attended and a total of \$2083 was raised for Gloria Dei’s Rebuilding Fund.

MOVING FORWARD – Thank you for your participation in the important Congregational Meeting on Nov 13, which included schematic design presentations and preliminary cost estimates by Bob Fern, architect, and a Project Team Organizational structure which clarifies how members can be involved and provide input in the design and rebuilding process. The Moving Forward Committee is taking very seriously both the excitement and the concerns that were raised when discussing these possibilities as it seeks further refinement, and invites your continued input throughout this process. Contact Ryan Jagim, Chair, Moving Forward Committee, 218-464-0675 or rdjagim@gmail.com.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, Dec 18 – The Sunday School again recreates the nativity story during the worship hour on December 20. Please note: there will also be a rehearsal for the Christmas Program on Saturday morning, December 17, at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Many thanks to Sunday School leaders for arranging this special service again this year—all children invited to participate!

O ANTIPHONS, Dec 18 - The seven antiphons from the beloved Advent hymn, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” form the structure of this service of Lessons and Carols for Advent. Thanks to the choir and our organists for their leadership in this collaborative service held at St. Mary Star of the Sea on Sunday Dec 18, at 3:00 p.m. Feel free to invite friends to this special Advent service.

CHUM CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL, Dec 24 – 12:00 noon at City Hall steps, prayer for the homeless.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP, Dec 24

5:00 p.m. worship with Holy Communion and Candlelight

10:00 p.m. worship (prelude starts at 9:45) with Holy Communion and Candlelight. Live broadcast on WDSM Radio AM 710.

CHRISTMAS DAY, Dec 25 (Sunday)

10:00 a.m. Service of Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion. Patterned after the Service of Nine Lessons & Carols in Cambridge, England. Live broadcast on WDSM Radio AM 710.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS & POINSETTIAS - (See the insert in this month’s Dei by Day on [page 14](#). Tear out, fill in and drop it in the collection plate with your offering or mail it into the church office by the deadline.



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.

INTERGENERATIONALSUNDAY SCHOOL, Dec 4 - “Families in the Bible” From the very beginning faith has been nurtured in families of many shapes and sizes! Across generations and cultures, God’s promises through faith have blessed all the families of earth, and we’re part of God’s family through baptism, each with unique gifts. **This month:** Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth and both are expecting the birth of the Savior. See you there!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS Dec 3 & 17 - 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.—this month Dec 3 and 17. All families with students in grades 7 & up are welcome—please speak to Pastor Dave.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING 2016-17— In keeping with the intergenerational theme of “Families” this year, the Sunday School is raising funds to support two projects, one local and one global, with the goal of raising \$500 for each project.

+ Families at the Steve O'Neil Apartments, a wonderful initiative of Chum providing permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless families through programs and the recent building completion.

+ 500for500 - Located in St. Petersburg, Russia, a project of the Lutheran non-profit organization "Kazhdy" (Every), which works with families of children in Russia with disabilities or serious illnesses and has the goal of making a difference in 500 such children's lives in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation being celebrated in 2017.

ADULT FAITH FORUM – All are welcome to join us at 8:45

Dec 4 - Intergenerational Sunday School, “Families in the Bible”

Dec 11 - “And Who Is My Neighbor?” LSS study with video and discussion on race relations

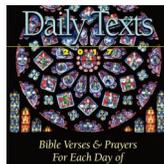
Dec 18 - “Luther and Music” with Karen Bockelman

Dec 25 - No forum planned, worship at 10:00 a.m.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR ADULT FORUM PLANNED DEC 25

RELIGION AND SCIENCE IN DIALOGUE, Dec 21 - 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 finishing *Galileo's Daughter* by Dava Sobel.

DAILY TEXTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE- Each 2017 paperback book costs \$7.00 and would make a great Christmas gift (checks payable to Gloria Dei). Available from Donna to purchase today – call the office or see her on Sundays.



SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE LIVING LUTHERAN MAGAZINE -

are available at a discounted rate through the church office, just \$11.00 per year. Renewals are due by Jan 1. If you are interested in receiving a subscription or renewing a subscription, please call the church office at 722-3381.



appealed to congregations and organizations for needed financial resources to initiate this ministry next year. \$4,200 is already raised, with only \$2,700 to go to trigger the matching grant by the end of November. The two positions are titled, Community Engagement Worker and Youth Worker. Both positions will report to Pastor Coleman.

Gloria Dei has had a long-term commitment to the Central Hillside neighborhood and more recently the Long Range Planning committee has supported events and groups (such as “Living into the Difficult”, “SURJ – Showing Up for Racial Justice”, “Cracking the Shell of Whiteness”) that are dedicated to supporting the needed “repair” agenda developed by the participating people of color. Some members of Gloria Dei, together with those of other congregations and the community, have become directly involved in these efforts working for greater racial justice.

The Council approved a congregational gift of \$1000 from undesignated funds and endowment interest and offers the opportunity for Gloria Dei members and friends to contribute to the St. Mark's project. Checks can be payable to Gloria Dei with “St. Mark AME” in the memo.

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.*

THANK YOU RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

It takes \$1000 per month to fund our ongoing Radio Ministry. As of October 31, Radio Ministry has received \$7,860 which is \$2140 below our budget needs. Thanks 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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AVAILABLE - To benefit the post-fire rebuilding of Gloria Dei, these cards (5.5" x 4.25") are available in sets of 10 cards with 10 envelopes for \$12.00 per set, one design per set. Two designs are available, blank inside and printed in color by JS Print Group of Duluth:



1) Mary & Christ stained glass window from Gloria Dei, and 2) original artwork of Gloria Dei building in winter by Duluth artist Joel Cooper, used by permission. Initial set up made possible by a Thrivent action team grant. Cards can be purchased after worship on Sundays, or ordered through the church office—while supplies last. During a season of sending Christmas cards, why not send these this year?

ITEMS FOR THE FOOD SHELF - The

CHUM Food Shelf appreciates the food donated every month by the members of Gloria Dei. Some of the foods that are regularly distributed and most desired are: canned pork and beans, Spaghetti (and other like canned foods), macaroni and cheese, canned meats like Spam and tuna, canned fruit, cold cereal, canned vegetables, and rice or noodle side dishes. In addition to food, the Food Shelf also distributes personal hygiene items like soap and shampoo. I would like to call to your attention the ongoing need for toothpaste and toothbrushes to be distributed to individuals and families. The Food Shelf is frequently unable to give out toothpaste and toothbrushes because they don't have any on hand. The next time you're at a dollar store, consider picking up some toothpaste or toothbrushes to donate to the CHUM Food Shelf. Remember to bring your Food Shelf donations on the first Sunday of every month. Also, all loose offering on the first Sunday of the month is given to CHUM's Gabriel Project.

CHUM FOOD SHELF AT FAITH - We are still open at 51st and Glenwood. This is an emergency food distribution that is in connection with the downtown CHUM site. Distribution is held on Mondays from 11-1. We are in need of volunteers from the seven cooperating churches of the Lakeside-Lester Park community. On occasion a volunteer will be asked to go to the downtown site to pick up food. You can train the day you serve with someone who is already volunteering as we try for 3 people each week. To volunteer please contact Betty Wolterstorff at 728-2600 or Ruth Wittmers at 525-6273.

RUBY'S PANTRY, Dec 15 - Volunteers Needed At Ruby's Pantry—

Coppertop, 3rd Thursday of Every Month, 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. For a \$20.00 donation, people receive approximately two boxes

of food. Cash only, no income guidelines. If you are interested in volunteering at Ruby's Pantry-Coppertop, please contact First United Methodist Church at 727-5021, located at 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth.

NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFAST, Dec 17 (* Note: 3RD Saturday this month) - All are welcome to join us for our free fourth Saturday Neighborhood Breakfast from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at St. Mary Star of the Sea.



CONTRIBUTING TO RACIAL JUSTICE - Gloria Dei's neighbor in the Hillside, St. Mark AME Church, is hiring two part-time young church ministers to work with the congregation's youth and to develop relationships with people in the neighborhood. Approximately \$12,000 is needed for this ministry, with half the amount already promised by a matching grant. St Mark has

**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.

A REMINDER THAT ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE DEC. 15, 2016.

Please e-mail them to Donna at secretary@gloriadeiduluth.org or bring them in early for her to type. Thanks! Reports will be available in the narthex sometime mid January.

COFFEE HOUR ROTATION SIGN UP – the 2017 Coffee Hour rotation schedule is being created. Perhaps there is one specific Sunday that you or your group would like to serve. Now is the time! If you wish to be added or make changes in the rotation – please contact the church office by Dec 15.



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



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 Rebuilding Fund.

LGBT ELDERS - meet the 2nd Saturday of every month at First United Methodist Church (The Coppertop), 10 am in the Fireside Room. Note change in date. 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 LGBT Elders



THANK YOU to everyone who helped set up, tear down, donated baked items, craft items, general store items for this year's Fall Fair.. Thanks to everyone involved - too many to list. We are still adding up the totals from all the different areas of this year's WELCA Fall Fair.

EVE GATHERING will not be meeting in December, but will gather again in January.

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

After a fantastic autumn and a fierce snowstorm, I hope you all enjoyed a very happy Thanksgiving with loved ones. We are thankful for our homes, families, good health and good healthcare. We thank God for all we have been given and trust that God will be with us during these uncertain times. *"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His faithful love endures for ever"* Psalm 107:1

November has been a very full month. On the 2nd, the Health Cabinet met in the morning and worshiped with our friends at King Manor in the afternoon. I attended an all day Grief Support training session on "Transforming Shame" on Nov 10th and the next week there was a half day Spiritual Companions presentation on "Depression, Anxiety, and Addiction at the End-of-Life". Both of these programs offered practical examples of how to work with patients and families in a loving and caring way.

December 4th Pastor David will be preaching at St Ann's at 3 pm and on the 13th the Health Cabinet will be bringing treats to St Ann's fellowship. On December 14th we will worship with our friends at Lakeshore at 2 pm. All are welcome to join us at either or both of these events. During December, the Pastor and I, along with the Care Team, will be visiting and bringing communion to those who don't get to church often. If you or a loved one would like a special visit, call me. Also please let us know of any hospitalizations or health concerns.

FLU tips: Flu and cold season is here.

- 1) Be sure to get your flu shot! You may also need a pneumonia shot, ask your doctor.
- 2) Wash your hands often to defend against germs.
- 3) Beware of folks coughing or sneezing. Cough into your sleeve and avoid crowds if you are feeling ill.
- 4) Colds and flu usually last a week or so. See a doctor if symptoms last longer or you have difficulty breathing.

Discount Savings Cards - Check out www.singlecare.com for information on reduced pricing for doctor visits and prescription drugs. This is not an insurance plan and it is free, but you would need to enroll in their service. It might be good for you and your family.



Through the Wilderness of Alzheimer's - Nearly 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, a debilitating neurological disorder affecting memory that places great stress on sufferers as well as their loved ones. Robert and Anne Simpson have written an amazing book on Robert's condition and their journey together. In telling their story, the Simpsons offer families accurate, firsthand information about the disease, as well as support and practical help for patients and caregivers. The book is written as a journal by both of them as they trace the onset, diagnosis, and treatment of Robert's health. It offers understanding, compassion, practical advice, and spiritual hope. *We have copy of the book and some other resources for anyone who is interested.*

SOLAR FOR PHEBE HOSPITAL – WELCA, our Synod, and the ELCA encourage another push for solar installation on Phebe Hospital in Liberia, which copes with power outages while serving a community of 450,000. Checks can be made to Gloria Dei with "Phebe Solar" in the memo. *"The Sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings"* (Mal 4:2). ** NOTE: Bishop Tom has issued a \$100 Challenge — for background and further information, see the Northeastern MN Synod web site: www.nemnsynod.org.

HOLIDAY GIFTS Shopping for holiday giving? Please include a gift or two from this list. Loaves and Fishes is collecting children's gifts which can be displayed for parents who will be able to choose from them for holiday giving to their children. Contributions should not be wrapped. Gifts should be non-violent toys and games for children of the following ages; Birth to 3 years of age, 4-6 years, 7-10 years, 11 to 14 years, over 15 years. Gift bags, wrapping paper and gift tags would also be appreciated. Please bring your contributions to church or call Carol for pick up, 525-6098. They are needed by December 9th so parents can make their selections. Thank you!

TAX PREPARATION - For the past several years Gloria Dei has been part of a group offering free tax service. We have three tax preparers, 1 greeter, and 2 appointment takers. Free training is offered through AARP. The training usually takes about 2-3 days in December and/or January. We take appointments for the CHUM East Food Shelf and Gloria Dei (now housed at St. Mary Star of the Sea). We also go to Greysolon, Lenox, and Woodland Gardens. Please consider joining our team as a tax preparer or greeter. If you have questions or want further information, contact Tom Uecker.

FAIR TRADE: Fair Trade items for sale will be available after worship each Sunday during coffee hour.