



God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship [koinonia] of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. – 1 Corinthians 1:9

From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Koinonia has been on my mind lately. I thought of it at our annual meeting, and at the recent Neighborhood Breakfast. I thought of it at the ecumenical worship service at St. Mark's A.M.E. Church during Martin Luther King Jr. weekend and during an adult forum led by Welcoming Ministries last month. I think about it in our worship each Sunday – when children gather at the font, when we pray for the church throughout the world, when we share the peace and break the Bread of Life. *Koinonia* is a biblical term, and several words help clarify its meaning: sharing, unity, community, fellowship. But what kind of fellowship is it? *What is the nature of Christian community?*

Koinonia is first of all a gift of grace. God calls us to this fellowship through the gospel, God invites us to belong to his community of faith, and the unity and friendship we experience in Christian community is a gift from God. Through Holy Baptism, we become part of this fellowship. We don't do anything to earn our way in; we don't do anything to deserve it. Belonging in the fellowship of God's Son is a free gift that we celebrate regularly in worship. Think of the greeting from 2 Cor. 13:13: "*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion [koinonia] of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*" Or think of Holy Communion, described in 1 Cor. 10:16: "*The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing [koinonia] in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?*" The deep unity we have in Christ exists here, and we are called into it repeatedly, to see it and contemplate it, even though it is shared by people of different families, different nationalities, and different experiences.

Koinonia is like family but also more than family. Many times in the New Testament, Paul describes his fellow co-workers as "brothers and sisters." Because of Jesus Christ, we are part of the same family, with the same heavenly Father and the same Lord. And this is a unity that is deeper than sharing a common language or ethnicity. We think of the Pentecost story in Acts 2, where people of every nation were gathered in one place and they could understand one another in their own language because of the same Spirit. I also think of Mark 3:31-35, where Jesus says, "These are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother." The unity of *koinonia* is deeper even than family. Its common purpose is striving to do God's will.

Koinonia is thus a contrast community. "Again and again, Jesus' words create communities that make a divine difference in the world, striving to be *contrast communities* that embody an alternative vision and way of life within their host societies." These insights are from New Testament scholar and Gloria Dei member Jim Bailey, whose book, *Contrast Community: Practicing*

| | February 7 | Feb 10 Ash Wed | February 14 | February 21 | February 28 |
|---------------------|--|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Organist | Stan Wold | Barbara Erickson | Mary Garner | Worship Band | Barbara Erickson |
| Assisting Minister | Cassie Borges | Bob Kelley | Patti Maguire | Lexie Cieluch | James Crane |
| Sound Technician | Steve Dalager & Scott Ruzich | | Rick Troy & Scott Ruzich | Doug Maguire & Scott Ruzich | Rick Troy & Scott Ruzich |
| Reader | Cassie Borges | Conor Weberg | Myrna Matheson | Chelsea Froemke | Nancy Gangeness |
| Acolytes | Sam Winesett & Raine Amundson | | Maggie Winesett & Esmeralda Lew | Shameka Johnson & Morgan Wimer | Christian Leight & Noah Winesett |
| Ushers | Ed & Colleen Martin | | Paul Steklenski & Linda Kalweit | Martha Carlson & Mary Gagnon | Nancy & David Gangeness |
| Nursery Attendants | Chuck or Katie Erickson | | Stephanie Carlson | Daphne Amundson | Cara Weberg |
| Counters | Barb Renick & Judy Bailey | | Mary Gagnon & Gerald Erickson | Lexie Cieluch & Janine Dahquist | Rod Dahquist & David Gangeness |
| Coffee Servers | Ryan & Julie Jagim & Jim & Judy Bailey | | Eve Gathering | Youth Group Camp Sunday | Nancy Gangeness |
| Communion Assistant | Steve Erickson | | Steve Erickson | Steve Erickson | Steve Erickson |

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.

The more informal page is GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH which has a black & white picture of the church. This one has comments from our friends and pictures of church events such as the softball team. Please be our friend on both pages; they serve different purposes.

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.

OFFERING ENVELOPES AND INITIAL OFFERING - If you used offering envelopes as part of your giving last year, a new box has been assigned to you. Thanks for remembering to pick it up in the narthex. In your offering envelope box, the first envelope is called the Initial Offering. We are encouraged to put at least \$3.00 in that envelope to cover the cost of offering envelopes. Thank you!

FINANCE REPORT—ADOPTED BUDGET 2015

Thank you for supporting God's Mission through the ministry of Gloria Dei. A complete financial report for the year was included in the Annual Report, including maintaining offering commitments at 108% through December 2015. The adopted budget for 2016 increases our offering commitments from 202,000 to \$214,000, which translates to \$17,833 per month, or \$4,115 per week.

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

EARTH STEWARDSHIP TIPS

- If consumerism has one Achilles' heel, it's not that it is going to destroy the earth – it is, but that's not the Achilles' heel. The Achilles' heel is that consumerism



Sunday, February 07, 2016 Transfiguration of Our Lord

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see the glory of the Lord in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by the Spirit of God. Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99, 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 Ash Wednesday

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come. Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 51, 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sunday, February 14, 2016 First Sunday in Lent

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us. Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16, Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13

Sunday, February 21, 2016 Second Sunday in Lent

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek the face of the Lord again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 27, Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35

Sunday, February 28, 2016 Third Sunday in Lent

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Lent is a season of repentance. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God! Isaiah 55:1-9, Psalm 63:1-8, 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

Join us for a look at the text for the next Sunday every Tuesday at 12 Noon in the Hillside Room. 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.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL - The newly elected council was installed during worship on January 31, 2016. We give thanks to God for all who offer themselves for service in Christ's name. Please keep the Gloria Dei Council in your prayers throughout the year: Brett Amundson (President, Renovation); Julie Jagim (Vice President, Long-Range Planning); Cara Weberg (Secretary); Janine Dahlquist (Treasurer); Bob Kelley (Worship); Laura Hoelter (Evangelism); Cassie Borges (Discipleship); Craig Haugan (Fellowship); Chelsea Froemke (Service & Justice); Alice Lahti (Welcoming Ministries); Tom Uecker (Stewardship); Munda Forbort (Anniversary Committee).

CHOIR REHEARSAL 7:00 pm on Wed., Feb 3 Regular weekly rehearsals on Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

SAMARITAN SUNDAY, Feb 7 – 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 KING MANOR, Feb 10 - 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, February 10, at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome.

LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY, Feb 10

Our invitation to the season of Lent will include worship with ashes and Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A 1:00 p.m. service will also be offered this year at King Manor.

+ Sundays During Lent - Feb 14, 21, 28, Mar 6, 13

10:00 a.m. worship with Holy Communion

11:30 a.m. class for new members and seekers with lunch in the Lakeside Room

+ Wednesdays in Lent - Feb 17, 24, Mar 2, 9, & 16

5:15 Soup Supper (Hillside Room)

5:45 Dwelling in the Word: "The Sermon on the Mount"

led by Jim Bailey and Pastor David - see study book, below
7:00 Holden Evening Prayer in the sanctuary



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

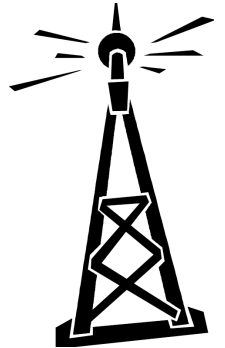
It takes \$1000 per month to fund our ongoing Radio Ministry. As of December 31, Radio Ministry received \$9466, which was \$2534 behind our budget needs. Thanks to all who sponsor broadcasts and give regularly throughout the year. Gifts of \$230 to sponsor a Sunday or in any amount continue to make this an important outreach. A reminder that a pink envelope for each month is included in each box for Radio Ministry.

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 using Windows Media Player - download Windows Media Player for best software interface with the audio stream.

+ **Directions at:** <http://www.gloriadeiduluth.org/worship/liveaudio.html>



EVANGELISM UPDATE

By *Laura Hoelter*

Karen Bockelman has been recruiting people for the anniversary committee and asks if Council wants to appoint a liaison. She also wondered if an individual or perhaps a small task group would be interested in sorting through the church's library materials. Some books could go to the new Northland GLBT Resource Center, some could be disposed of, and some could be sold online as a fundraiser for the anniversary or for renovation. Please see her if interested.

Doug Maguire notes an increase in online listeners, continued need for more volunteers and a Radio Ministry Coordinator successor. Anyone with gifts for this kind of work is always welcome to investigate this area of ministry.

DO YOU USE FACEBOOK? If you are on Face Book, please check out two Gloria Dei sites and LIKE us! The



RUBY'S PANTRY, Feb 18 - For \$20.00 those purchasing a share will receive approximately two large boxes of food. Cash only, no checks or EBT cards will be accepted. There is no "typical" food order and contents of a share vary depending upon what food is available to Ruby's Pantry at the time. You will need to bring your own boxes (laundry baskets work very well). There are no income guidelines. The Pantry operates the third Thursday of every month with distribution from 5:30-7:00 pm. We depend upon volunteers to help with the distribution process. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please call First Methodist Church at 727-5021 or talk with Sue Anderson.



NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFAST, Feb 27 - All are welcome to join us for our free fourth Saturday Neighborhood Breakfast on Saturday, February 27, from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the Hillside Room.

2016 CROP WALK

Sunday, February 28th 2-4 pm. United Campus Ministry sponsors the Duluth CROP Walk, Ski, Sled and Snowshoe event!

Registration begins at 2:00 p.m. at Bagley Nature Center on the UMD campus right off of St. Marie St. The trail is about 1 mile long and you can walk, or bring your skis or snowshoes!

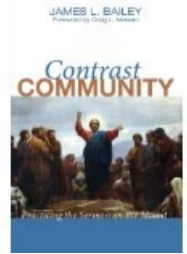
There is a sliding hill for kids to bring their sleds as well. We will have a few snowshoes on hand for people try out. We will also have an outdoor fire to warm up and roast marshmallows and cookies & hot chocolate for everyone. With the event we will raise money and awareness for those who do not have enough to eat around the world and right here in our own town of Duluth.

If you can't give any money we still want you to come and just be part of this fun community event! It is a rare time when all faiths, churches, congregations, and campus can join together and be united! It is an event for every age! Just come and hang out by the fire! You can also give a donation to the cause the day of the event when you register. Hope to see you there!



LENT WEDNESDAY STUDY BOOK

Contrast Community: Practicing the Sermon on the Mount by James Bailey (2013). The 2nd half of this insightful book will be our focus for Lent Wednesdays, co-led by the author and Pastor David.



No portion of Scripture has been more influential in renewing church and society than Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. This book invites us into a transformative engagement with the text, the cultural context, and its meaning for us today. Its approach challenges faith communities not only to study the Sermon on the Mount but to begin practicing these radical teachings of Jesus.

All sessions on Wednesdays, 5:45-6:45 in the Hillside Room:

- + Feb 17 - The Lord's Prayer as Model for Praying (Matt 6:7-15)
- + Feb 24 - Replacing Worry with Trust (Matt 6:24-34)
- + Mar 2 - Freed from Playing Judge (Matt 7:1-5)
- + Mar 9 - Discerning Prayerfully (Matt 7:7-12)
- + Mar 16 - Building on Solid Rock (Matt 7:24-27)

Jim Bailey is Professor Emeritus of Biblical Theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. He and his wife Judy now live in Duluth and have been members of Gloria Dei since last spring. We look forward to this rich opportunity for learning and growing in faith together! Books are not required for the sessions but will provide helpful insights for these and future conversations. A few are available through the author at the discounted rate of \$15.

CAMP SUNDAY, Feb 21 - This is our annual opportunity to hear from and talk with staff from VLM as well as a time to encourage families and campers to register for summer camps. The youth will again lead a **cinnamon roll fundraiser** to cover Gloria Dei's camp membership, camper discounts and camper scholarships. Each year, this one fundraiser has been able to cover our membership fee and provided a camper discount as well for all of members attending one of these summer camps. The Sunday always includes discussion at adult forum with camp staff and camp songs in worship.



ONE BREAD, Feb 21 - Thanks to One Bread, our worship band, for accompanying worship once a month. The next Sunday planned is February 21 using camp songs and the liturgy from Dakota Road (ELW Setting 8). Other Sundays, the liturgy will be accompanied with organ, piano, and choir. We thank God for the gifts of all musicians at Gloria Dei!

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, Feb 7 — “All God’s Critics!” 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!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS Feb 13 & 27 - 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 Feb 13 & 27. All families with students in grades 7 & up are welcome—please speak to Pastor Dave.*

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

Feb 7 - Intergenerational Sunday School

Feb 14 - Interfaith DVD discussion, “In God’s Name”

Feb 21 - Voyageurs Lutheran Ministries Camp Staff

Feb 28 - Interfaith DVD discussion, “In God’s Name”

TRAVELING TEXT STUDY, Feb 9 - Most “First Word” bible studies on Tuesdays at 12 noon are in the Community Room at Gloria Dei. But on Feb 9, 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!

CLASS FOR SEEKERS AND NEW MEMBERS,

Sundays Feb 14 - Mar 13, from 11:30-12:30 in the Lakeside Room.

This is for anyone interested in learning more about Christianity and the Lutheran Church, being baptized or confirmed as an adult, or joining our parish. Lunch and materials will be provided.

We will be using the helpful booklet, *Baptized We Live: Lutheranism as a Way of Life*, by Dan Erlander, to guide our discussions. Our class will meet for five consecutive Sundays, and new members will be received at the Easter Vigil service on Saturday, March 26.

Current members also welcome for a review! If interested in attending, please contact Pastor Carlson so we can plan accordingly.

Appointments for Gloria Dei can be made from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. by calling the church office. 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.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE UPDATE

- LSS is trying to collect 40,000 diapers community-wide. At our Service & Justice meeting in January, Gloria Dei was at 400 diapers out of our goal of 1,000.
- The LSS Center for Changing Lives is ready to break ground in May/June this year. Watch for signage going up soon!
- An Immersion Program for Duluth LSS services is now available. Staff can take small groups on half day experiences to learn first hand about individual services offered. The first immersion took place at Bethany Crisis Center. We are planning on finding out how big a group can be handled, and then plan on gathering interested Gloria Dei members to take part.
- Maury Aaseng, an LSS Ambassador from Gloria Dei, will be running Grandma’s half marathon in the hopes of raising money for LSS, one of the official charities this year because of the 100th anniversary of LSS in Duluth. Pray for him, at least a little bit!



ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL EMPHASIS IN LENT

During the season of Lent, Service & Justice encourages a special emphasis on World Hunger. A basket will be available during Soup Suppers on Wednesdays for this, and additional offerings during worship can be marked “World Hunger” in the memo. A reminder that the Sunday School’s “God’s Global Barnyard” project is also part of supporting World Hunger.

In 2016, ELCA World Hunger is extending an invitation to our congregations: Lift up the life-changing work of ELCA World Hunger through new levels of giving - spiritually, intellectually and financially - starting with Lent.

Beginning Sunday, Feb. 7, and extending through the season of Lent, congregations across the ELCA will join together to raise \$2 million to benefit the ministries of ELCA World Hunger. This support will enable crucial work to get underway and help us kick-start our year-of-emphasis.



mony for those who died in 2015. This year we remembered Fern Cooper and Tomas Velez. We prayed for them and their families. I am so grateful to the Care Team for faithfully calling, visiting and bringing communion to those who can no longer attend church or have health issues. Please keep Gloria Dei's health ministry team in your prayers. Let us know if you or someone you care about would like more connection with the church.

Recently a number of our congregation members have been ill with colds, flu or other viruses. Please remember that hand washing and /or using hand sanitizer is the best way to protect yourself. If you are feeling ill, have a cough or fever, stay home and rest. Sneeze into your sleeve and be sure to use tissues. During the "passing of the peace", it is perfectly fine to simply nod or bump fists rather shake hands. P.S. It is not too late to get your flu shot!

FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH

Prevent heart disease - You are never too young, or too old, to start caring for your heart.

1. Eat right - learn about heart healthy nutrition, portion control and balanced meals
2. Get moving - physical activity is important for cardiac health. Find an activity you like and do it regularly!
3. Stress management - how much stress is too much? Learn to balance your stress.
4. And, remember your children. Help them to develop heart healthy habits while they are young to enjoy a lifelong health. For detailed information see the American Heart Association's website www.heart.org.



NAMI - National Alliance of Mental Illness

Last month I had a short article in this newsletter about mental illness. One of our congregation wrote to remind me that there is a Duluth support group for folks with mental illness and their loved ones. If someone you know might be interested, they can find out more at <http://www.namidulutharea.com>



TAX SITE AT GLORIA DEI EVERY OTHER WEEK -

The CHUM AARP tax group will be able to have a tax site at Gloria Dei on Wednesdays on an every other week basis. We will be coming to Gloria Dei on Feb. 10, Feb. 24, March 9, March 23, and April 6. We will be at Grace Lutheran in Hermantown on the alternate Wednesdays.



RELIGION AND SCIENCE IN DIALOGUE, Feb 17 - 8 a.m. at Valen-tini's (London Rd). Through the College of St. Scholastica, Pastor Carl-son 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 pp. 1-61 of *Ecology & Religion* by John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker (2014).

"LIVING INTO THE DIFFICULT"

RACE, DIVERSITY & DULUTH FOR ALL

Join A.M.E. Pastor and Professor of Religion & Ethics Dr. Melanie Har-ris and Professor of Religion and American Baptist Minister Dr. Jen-nifer Harvey as they guide us in racial justice analysis of our communi-ty and the spectrum of ways we are called to heal from structural vio-lence as people of faith. Mark your calendars for two days of work-shops and preaching about dismantling oppressive social structures, the transformative work of reparations, an how to work together in the Spirit while being passionate about justice. Saturday, March 12, 9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Held at Peace UCC, co-sponsored by Gloria Dei and other congregations. Another opportunity leading up to this event:

- **"Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Reconcili-ation"** Discussion of Jennifer Harvey's book in 3 sessions, led by Jackie Falk and Sarah Holst at Peace Church. Feb 2, 9 & 16 at 6:30 pm. All welcome.

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.

GLORIA DEI QUILTERS - will meet on Tuesday Feb 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lakeside Room. New comers are wel-come. No sewing experience necessary. For questions, call Marianne Kjolhaug at 722-1493.



VLM ANNUAL MEETING, Feb 6 -

Gloria Dei is a member congregation of Voyageur's Lutheran Ministries. This year's annual meeting takes place Saturday, Feb 6 at First Lutheran Church, Aitkin. We'll review the year and look ahead to upcoming projects and programs. Registration begins at 10:30 am. The meeting will start at 11:00 am, followed by lunch and fellowship. RSVP by calling 218.666.5465 or email vlm@VLMcamps.org.



DRAFT DIRECTORY - A revised copy of the church directory will be made available mid-January in the Hillside Room after worship until Feb 7. If you are one of our homebound members, or haven't yet checked your contact information in the draft copy, please call Donna in the office (722-3381) and give her the necessary changes. Thank you. New paper directories will be available in February.



WELCOMING MINISTRIES meets after worship in the Youth Room on Sunday, Feb 14.

SWEDISH CULTURAL SOCIETY meets on February 21 at 2:30 p.m. in the Hillside Rm.

BOOK CLUB usually meets on the third Monday of most months at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room. Upcoming reads: Feb.21 - *All the Light You Cannot See* by Doerr. All are welcome to our Book Club meetings!

LGBT ELDERS - meets the 4th Saturday each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Lakeside Room. This group gathers for support and fellowship and plans to meet on a regular basis as part of Gloria Dei's Welcoming Ministries. For more information, please contact Kathleen Gates gatespea@centurylink.net or 624-4589.

ANNUAL VALENTINE PARTY Feb 13 — Gloria Dei's annual Valentine Party will be held on Saturday, February 14 from noon to 2:00 p.m. A picnic lunch will be served. Our favorite fun maker, Terrence Smith will be with us for music and a variety of rousing activities. You can decorate cookies and make a Valentine for that someone special. There will be treats and prizes for all ages.



Your help is needed. We can use some pans of red Jell-O, unfrosted heart-shaped cookies, colored frosting, cans of beans, liter bottles of soda, hot dogs and buns, and potato chips.

We also collect small prizes for all ages. These can be toys, games, etc. for children. For adults toiletries, (men and women), household items, etc. We will also have a Fish Pond once again for young children so small treats are welcome. We also need to have you there to lend a hand with these festivities. If you can help with any of the above, please contact Carol Kelley or Sue Anderson.

THANK YOU ALL for the cards and prayers while I was in the hospital. Joan McCall

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 renovation fund.

CHUM ANNUAL MEETING, Feb 16 - 6:30 p.m. Social - 7:00 p.m. Meeting. Eastridge Community Church Business Meeting includes voting on New Members of the Board of Directors.



LAKE SUPERIOR CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY, Feb 21

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Two Harbors, 3:00 pm



Northeastern Minnesota Synod



All pastors and voting members are asked to attend this assembly of congregations within the Northeastern MN Synod in Duluth and the North Shore. Agenda items include reports from Bishop Aitken and elections of synod conference leaders.

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

During these dangerously cold days, please keep the poor and homeless in your prayers that they may find warmth and safety this winter. We have been collecting warm hats, scarves and mittens for the folks at CHUM. There's a box in the Hillside Room.



On January 6th, the Pastor and Health Cabinet worshiped at Edgewood Vista with June Chesney and our friends there. Thanks to Eldora for the treats and to the staff for getting all the people to the Chapel for the service. On Wednesday Jan 27th, we are having a worship service at Lakeshore at 2:30 in the Chapel. Also, a special worship service with the imposition of ashes will be held on Ash Wednesday at King Manor at 2 PM. Please join us if this is more convenient for you who might not want to attend the Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary at 7 PM. In March we will be at St Ann's.

The Care Team met Sunday, Jan 17th for the annual memorial cere-