

WEEKLY NEWS ~~ MARCH 3, 2023

COVID 19 MASKING FOR WEEK BEGINNING

March 3, 2023

OPTIONAL

Dear Gloria Dei Family,

How do we even begin to thank you for the very special send-off you gave us last Sunday. The "God Speed" blessing, the special coffee hour, the program that warmed our hearts in so many ways, your overwhelming generosity (gift cards, wine, prayer shawls) the notes from former interns and the words and cards from so many of you...the list goes on and on.

As we said, all the things you lauded us for doing, we were only able to do with the help and support of all of you.

You will always be family to us---we will come back to visit.

Thanks again for your radical generosity on our behalf.

Love & Hugs, Paul & Marilyn

PASTOR ALYSSA OUT OF TOWN

Pastor Alyssa will be out of town Sunday afternoon through Wednesday afternoon for a Dean's Retreat for the Synod. If you need pastoral care Intern Emily will be available.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our students are excited about promoting **40 Days of Giving** for ELCA World Hunger this Lenten season. We're decorating containers for families to take home and use to collect coins throughout the season. This year, we're raising money to purchase seeds, fruit tree saplings, garden tools, and agricultural training to support individual family gardens and larger community gardens in needy areas of the world. We hope everyone will participate in this small way. Adding a few coins in our container each day will help us remember how blessed we are: we have delicious fruits and veggies, we have the joy of gardening. Our small Lenten sacrifice will be a big blessing to others!

LENTEN BOOK STUDY AT GLORIA DEI

Intern Pastor Emily will be leading a book study on Renee Splichal Larson's book *A Witness: The Haiti Earthquake, a Song, Death, and Resurrection*. The book study will run weekly from March 5th to April 2nd, meeting at 11:30 am in the adult Sunday school room following Sunday services. If you plan on participating and have not yet received an email from Intern Emily, please let her or the office know as soon as possible so that you can be included in communications about the study. Books can be purchased online individually. Please contact Intern Emily or the office if you are interested in participating and the book cost is prohibitive to that; we will ensure you can participate.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Maundy Thursday, April 6	6:30 pm worship at Gloria Dei
Good Friday, April 7	12 noon Ecumenical worship at Gloria Dei
Ecumenical Easter Sunrise, April 9	6:30 am worship at Sunset Bay beach
Easter Sunday	10:00 am worship at Gloria Dei

LENTEN WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

We are excited to be sharing our Wednesday Lenten Midweek Soup Suppers and Services with the wonderful people at Faith Lutheran this year! We will alternate weeks at the two churches. Gloria Dei will offer the Taize Worship, and Faith will have Holden Evening Prayer. Gloria Dei will be asked to provide soup & bread (see note from Kitchen Team below) for our weeks, and people at Faith will provide soup & bread for their weeks. We hope you all enjoy this time of eating, fellowship, and worship together!

The remaining schedule is:

March 8:	at Faith
March 15:	at Gloria Dei
March 22:	at Faith
March 29:	at Gloria Dei

The time frame is Soup Supper from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm, worship at 6:30 pm, and Gloria Dei choir after the service.

FROM THE KITCHEN TEAM

We had a wonderful Soup Supper on March the 1st and have two more as well on March 15th, & 29th. In order to be more welcoming we have already invited Faith Lutheran to join us and we also plan to also invite the general public to join us as well.

In order to do that we need to have the Soups prepared in our commercial kitchen and the Bread either baked there or bought commercially. [How can you help?](#) An email has gone out where you can respond and Volunteer to prep the meal, to clean-up, or to bring loaves of commercially baked bread.

We also really encourage you to join us for a simple meal of Soup & Bread during this Lenten Season and invite Family, Friends, Neighbors and Co-workers to join us. The Soup Supper is from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and then it is followed by a meditative Taize worship until 7:00pm

Please plan on joining us :))

LENTEN RESOURCES

Lenten resources from ELCA World Hunger, including a devotional booklet and a calendar, are available on the table in the Narthex.

LIBRARY NEWS

Thanks to Marilyn Halvor's library background, Gloria Dei has one of the best church libraries around. Our library is very well organized and up to date. There have been a number of helpers over the years; now Doris Smith is the primary person tending to our library. If you'd like to help with the library, please reach out to the church office and we'll get you going in the library.

Most importantly, we want to *use* our library! There are many books on a variety of topics and many genres – we are not limited to theological tomes. We have fiction, non-fiction, history... check out the shelves and see what we have to offer! The library will remain open as long as possible before the carpet installation, then will reopen as soon as possible after the new carpet is put into the Fellowship Hall. There will be new books added to the library after the carpet is installed! The goal is to keep the library available for congregation use as much as possible around the carpet transition.

IN DEEP WATERS BOOK STUDY

It's not too late to join the *In Deep Waters* book study being led by Sister Cora Rose (a Gloria Dei member serving as a Deacon in Brookings) and Pastor Dana Gill. The focus is walking with young people growing up with the climate crisis. It's an ecumenical event on Zoom, March 15 and March 29 at 1 pm. Join the zoom at <https://smlc.live/deep>

PRAYER BEADS

Check out the prayer bead basket as it is refilled yet again. This month's offerings include sets that are **Pride** themed and **Puzzles and Games** themed!

COOS FOOD CUPBOARD NEWS

Coos Food Cupboard (CFC) continues to provide nutritious food to needy families and individuals in our community. Throughout 2022 they served an average of 276 households each month, representing 807 individuals. The Cupboard, housed at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, is open three days/week (Monday, Wednesday, Friday, noon – 2:00 p.m.) and Thursday evenings, 5:00 p.m.– 7:00 p.m.

Last month, January 2023, the numbers served increased significantly: 360 households representing 1087 individuals. During this difficult economic time, clients are welcome to come once a week.

CFC is grateful for the ongoing support of Gloria Dei: the annual monetary donation in our budget, and donations of nonperishable food throughout the year. We encourage our members to continue supporting the ministry of Coos Food Cupboard with their prayers and donations. A special need in recent weeks is breakfast cereal. Please consider buying an extra box to bring in to the collection cart in the narthex. Thank you!

Lynn Danner, CFC Board Member

AED DEVICE

There is an AED device at Gloria Dei. The AED can be used to help someone experiencing cardiac arrest. The AED is located under the stairs in the Narthex (the wide hallway with triple glass door at either end, between the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall). The device provides verbal instructions; don't be afraid to use it if someone is in distress and needs help!

SAVE THE DATES!

Vacation Bible School will be July 17 – 21. Please arrange your vacation days around this week. We'll be needing lots of volunteers those mornings, 9:30 – noon. Our curriculum will be "*Operation Restoration: Mending God's World*".

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FOR TURKEY & SYRIA

Lutheran Disaster Response and its partners are prepared to accompany our neighbors impacted by these earthquakes. One hundred percent of your gifts to "Middle East Crisis" go to supporting earthquake survivors and other people affected by disasters in the region. You can send checks directly to Lutheran Disaster Response (envelopes are on the table in the back of the Sanctuary), or write a check to Gloria Dei with notation Earthquake Relief, and we will send it on to Lutheran Disaster Response.

THRIVENT CHOICE

If you are a benefit member of Thrivent, you may have Choice dollars to direct. This money can be directed to Gloria Dei, or many other charitable organizations. Please check your Thrivent account—Choice dollars must be directed by March 31.

GIVING ONLINE

If you prefer to give online, visit our website, where you can choose our secure giving site (green GIVE button):

<https://www.gloriadeifamily.org/>

NEWS FROM CAMP LUTHERWOOD



Camp Lutherwood Oregon Spring Work Days: May 6 & June 3

Mark your calendar for Spring Work Days on May 6 and June 3 at Camp Lutherwood Oregon. Spend a Saturday (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) volunteering with friends or family to get camp spruced up for summer. Work Days are also a great opportunity to introduce new campers to the site. Lunch is provided. The June 6th Work Day will include the dedication of the new property and the new buildings at camp. Call 541-998-6444, email office@lutherwoodoregon.org or visit our website at lutherwoodoregon.org/workdays/ to RSVP.

Camp Lutherwood Oregon summer camps!

View the full camp schedule at lutherwoodoregon.org/camp and find the right fit for the campers in your life! Email office@lutherwoodoregon.org with questions about how to cover the cost of your camper's week away. **Gloria Dei also has money budgeted to help people attend camp! Please talk to Pastor Alyssa if you are interested in a Gloria Dei campership.**

COVID TEST KITS RESUPPLIED!

Covid Test Kits are available in the Narthex for those who would like to take some home to use. Extended expiration date is 5/16/23!

FREE COVID-19 TEST KITS

The Federal Government is once again shipping free test kits to people upon request. Visit this webpage <https://www.covid.gov/tests> to order, or call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489). Gloria Dei has also been given two cases of Covid Test Kits. Kits will be available in the Narthex for those who would like to take some home to use.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE: 72 in person, 8 online



STEWARDSHIP IS... reflecting on our relationship with God!

REMINDER!

Please remember to turn down the heat if you turn it up! Also, please double and triple check to make sure the doors are shut properly and locked behind you when you leave the building!