

WEEKLY NEWS ~~ NOVEMBER 11, 2022

COVID 19 MASKING FOR WEEK BEGINNING

NOVEMBER 11, 2022:

OPTIONAL

Veterans Day is Today

November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

From the VA website: <https://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp>

WE THANK OUR VETERANS AND PRAY FOR THE END OF ALL WARS!

Stewardship: The Gift of Giving

Talking about money is not always easy. Asking for an increase in giving is also difficult. Life in the pandemic has not been easy. As we look toward resuming many of Gloria Dei's activities and ministries, we are finding ourselves challenged by finances. In order to do the ministries we are called to do, we must also pay the bills. As we all know, the costs of everything have increased significantly.

Giving is not only about maintaining membership status. Giving generously is also a spiritual discipline. It is a commitment to one's faith community—the community that God gathers together and sustains through fellowship, prayer, and faithful worship.

One of the biggest challenges for budgeting, as we look at 2023 and the years to come, is being able to count on contributions. Consistent, regular contributions are the best way to help us plan for the future of this congregation. Do you give weekly? Monthly? Quarterly? Yearly?

If you find it helpful to make a giving goal and to take a card to put on your refrigerator or mirror or wherever you will see it, you may pick one up at the Ministry Fair on Sunday after worship. This will remind you that you are an important contributor to the ministry of Gloria Dei.

If remembering your offering is a challenge or you are out of town frequently, online giving is easy to set up! You may set up one-time gifts or you may set up automatic giving. This is another way to help us plan for what will be coming in and when.

Thank you for giving of your financial resources. Your contributions are appreciated. As you ponder the spiritual practice of generosity and stewardship, can you commit to regular giving, if you don't already? Might you prayerfully consider an increase in giving?

I will not claim that giving more money will earn you increased blessing from God; that is not what we believe. Giving, however, in whatever amount, will contribute to your spiritual growth and allow us as a congregation to continue the faithful ministry and blessing of our community and beyond.

*In Christ's Peace,
Pastor Alyssa*

38TH ANNUAL GIRL SCOUT TREE OF JOY SERVICE PROJECT



The Girl Scout Tree of Joy Service Project was started in 1983 by a troop of 6th graders. It has grown over the past 39 years, with thousands of gifts having been distributed to agencies in our area. Most are given for Christmas, but some agencies save them for needs throughout the year.

Again, this year there will be a Tree of Joy annex tree in the Narthex starting Saturday November 19th. It will have tags with names and gift ideas from the Girl Scout tree Service Project in Pony Village Mall. You can still go to the mall and pick tags from the main tree, or if you prefer, for your convenience you can take tags from the annex tree, and return the presents to the church, or under the tree in the Pony Village Mall. If you are returning the gifts to the church, please have the gifts back by December 15th. If you prefer to simply make a donation and have Girl Scout elves shop for gifts, make a check out to Gloria Dei and on the memo, line write Tree of Joy and give it to Barbara in the church office. The Girl Scouts donates these gifts to many different agencies in Coos County, helping everyone from children to seniors. Any questions, contact Debbie Cox at 756-2250.

MINISTRY FAIR THIS SUNDAY!

Plans are underway for a **Ministry Fair** to highlight the various ministries of Gloria Dei and encourage members to identify a ministry to support and actively participate in. It will take place **during coffee hour THIS Sunday, November 13th**. Each of the committees/ministries have been invited to host a table where they can tell details about their ministry. All those who attend will be given a "passport" to have stamped by each ministry they visit. All those who fill up their passport will enter a drawing for special prizes! It will be a fun, informative event! We'll still be able to enjoy coffee and snacks, don't worry!

FUNDING THE INTERN - TIME TO STEP UP

At last January's Congregational meeting, we voted on the Intern budget separately because it wasn't clear we could afford them. As I recall, there were many who treasured the intern program and noted that giving had always risen to the occasion to support this program - and I was one of those voices.

This year we got a significant boost of \$15,000 from the Endowment fund to get the program restarted. But that will only carry us into December. We need \$17,000 more to complete intern Emily's term, and we will be planning fundraisers. But with our recovery from the pandemic going slower than anticipated, and our resultant current budget crunch, it seems to me to be time for all of us who said the intern program is important enough that the money will come, to step up and increase our giving. Please.

Ken Denton, Intern Committee member

GREETERS, READERS, USHERS, AND FLOWERS NEEDED!

Sign up sheets from October through the end of the year are available in the Narthex. We need greeters, readers, ushers, and flowers! Please sign up to help as you are able!

LOT UPDATE

Northwest Housing Alternatives (NHA) cleared the underbrush for the surveyors a few months ago, and the surveyors created a one-foot contour map with all the trees by size and species. This went to the architects (in Eugene) who produced a first draft, showing five three-story buildings, parking, and a drain pond (bioswale). They intend to keep all of the non-Port-Orford-cedar (POC) that aren't in the building or driveway footprints. (The site is riddled with POC root disease which is fatal to that species.) This plan was a first cut, just to get the city talking. We had a pre-application meeting with the city on October 6 and heard from city department heads about requirements for access (Yew St.), sidewalks, sewer hookup options, water, fire hydrants and the like. We received the city's input in writing last week, and the architects are working on a second iteration. We should see this around Thanksgiving. The Advisory Committee (including four church members) will meet again at that time. We are working under an MOU with NHA and expect to sign the Option Agreement, our formal commitment to sell to NHA, by the end of the year.

Ken Denton, Lot Committee Chair

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEERING

*Do you like crafts? Recent cleaning of Sunday School rooms has netted volumes of craft supplies! We would like a person who can organize a craft event for the Sunday School children to do occasionally according to the church calendar (like Reformation Sunday and of course Christmas and Easter).

*A second adult is needed in the room for Sunday School hour at 9 am. We have 3 volunteers who rotate and are looking for more to rotate in, so the commitment would be once every 4 or 5 weeks. No teaching needed, just be present in the room.

*We need help with streaming the service on Sunday mornings. No experience is necessary – we train! We are hoping to have enough people to work in teams so that each team's commitment would be once every 4 or 5 weeks.

*Altar Guild could use one or two more people to help prepare for and clean up after the service each week. This will include setting up for Communion, and changing paraments when the church seasons change. Again, if we find enough help, the commitment would be once every 4 or 5 weeks.

*We are trying to establish a Funeral Reception Committee. This committee would provide the food after any funeral or memorial service, along with the set up and clean up. Much like simple coffee hour duties, but dishwashing may be included.

Please call Lynn Danner (541-267-0693), Kathy Whitwer (541-756-4255), or the church office (541-267-2347) if you would like to volunteer for any of the above!

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE!

Gloria Dei's Firewood Ministry is alive and well! There is about a cord and a half of dry firewood available. If you or someone you know is in NEED of firewood, please contact the church office. The firewood is free with free delivery.

REMINDER!

As the days get cooler, 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!



Public response period: social message on climate care. A draft of the ELCA's forthcoming social message on climate change and how we are called to respond has been posted, and the public comment period is open through Friday, Dec. 2. The draft will be edited in response to your feedback and brought to the ELCA Church Council for a vote this spring. To read the draft and provide your input through our online form, go to elca.org/climatecare.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE: 47 in person, 14 online



STEWARDSHIP IS...LIFE!
LIFE IS STEWARDSHIP.

All we have is from God - our life & breath, our time, our talents, our possessions, and our money. How we choose to use all of what we have adds up to how we steward our lives - STEWARDSHIP.