

Gloria Dei News

The Newsletter of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

December 2009

2718 Dixie Highway, Crestview Hills, KY 41017

From our Pastor....

Christmas is coming. In the world around us it seems like Christmas is about gifts and food and parties and trees. But at its core it is really about following Jesus, from the beginning of life to its end. One thing that I have learned in my years of being a pastor is that following Jesus changes us. It makes a difference in the way that we live our lives. God comes, in the precious Christ child and in our day to day living to change us so that we might more fully love as God loves and that we might serve our neighbor. That is faith active in love. We are the 'frontline' of God's work in the world, the hands and feet of God's action.

Another thing that I have learned about following Jesus is that conversation, as it is used by the Holy Spirit, is the primary thing that creates change. That means that we who follow Jesus simply must learn to talk about Jesus. The must doesn't come out of a fear that if we don't talk about Jesus God will punish us; the must is for the sake of the world and because we love the Lord. The fact is those who don't yet know Jesus, can only come to know Jesus through our witness. And if we love Jesus, because he loves also those who don't yet know him, we also are called to love them as well.

There are a number of ways that we can do that. First, we can intercede for others in prayer. Prayer is our access to God. Prayer for the neighbor is grounded in love of the Lord and love for the neighbor. So who do you work with? Did you pray for them today? Do you always seem to get a particular clerk at the grocery? Did you pray for him? Teachers, do you pray for your students by name each day? Nurses and doctors do you whisper a prayer before you see your patient? Patients do you pray for your doctors and nurses? Anyone who passes through your life needs and deserves your prayers. Have you prayed today for the police who protect you, your dentist who is willing to risk a bite in

order to help you, our elected officials? Can you do at least *that* for the world?

Second, we can speak the gospel to them, with and without words. This might simply be a quiet and gentle question, a concern about their life, a word of celebration, but it always includes some connection with Jesus. For example, at the birth of your neighbor's grandchild, you could say, "Congratulations. I'll say a prayer of thanksgiving for your new grandchild." Likewise, when your neighbor asks you how you are, instead of answering, "Fine," you could say something like, "God has really blessed me today." Think of ways to speak the name of the Lord and be sure that what you say is invitational rather than judging.

Third, you could give something for the sake of another. This could entail being willing to be inconvenienced on behalf of another. Disciples intentionally and willingly pick the more difficult life if it makes a witness to Jesus and reveals love for others. After all, no good athlete or musician becomes extraordinary in their area if they don't choose to work hard... the same is true for followers of Jesus.

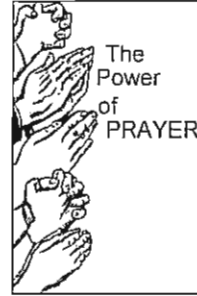
And remember, you don't get to pick the neighbor... Jesus says that your neighbor is anyone in need of God's love, whether or not you like them.

So as you hang that ornament, pray. As you go out to that Christmas party, talk about Jesus. As you shop for your loved ones, set aside something for those in need. As you consider getting and receiving gifts, do something for the sake of someone who just doesn't deserve it. Oh yes, and let Christmas change you!

~Pastor Vicki



It's time to order beautiful Christmas Poinsettias! Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex or complete the Tear n Share in the Sunday bulletin to place your order by December 6. The cost is \$12.00 per plant. The Poinsettias are available to take home after the 11:00 service on Christmas Eve. If you are willing to help deliver any left-over poinsettias to our shut-ins, please contact Jim Bianchi or Sara Kieffner



"So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and will find grace to help us when we need it most." *Hebrews 4:16*

COME BOLDLY....

Although God invites us to come boldly with our prayers, we still often find ourselves struggling with feelings of doubt and unworthiness. This either causes us to pray without confidence or not to pray at all. So, how do we know we can confidently approach God with our prayers? Because we are children of God and heirs to his Kingdom through Christ. The following words of Joyce Meyer remind us:

We do not have to tap on heaven's door, walk into His presence with our heads down, saying, "Umm, excuse me, God. Ummm, sorry, but do You have a second? I won't take long, I just wanted to ask You for—well, forget it—well, okay, if You don't mind, could You possibly help me?" No, we need to be secure enough in our relationship with Him to approach Him with boldness...

Approaching God boldly in prayer can be likened to going to a bank to make a withdrawal. If I know that I have fifty dollars in the bank because I deposited it there last week, I will not hesitate to pull up to the drive-through window and cash a \$50 dollar check. I know I have the money, it's mine, and I can get out of the bank if I want to. When I present my check, I fully expect to get my \$50. We need to approach God with that same kind of boldness. We need to understand what is available to us because of Jesus and we need to pray confidently, with full expectation that we will receive what belongs to us. God has made incredible provision available to us in Christ and we simply need to ask for the blessings He has already purchased for us. When we struggle with feeling of unworthiness, all we need to do is ask the Holy Spirit to help us, because "the Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ..." (Romans 8:16-17 NKJV).

Please join us for dinner prior to the Advent services. Dinner will be served at PM in the fellowship hall. Donations will be accepted for the Women's Crisis Center on 12-2, United Ministries on 12-9 and Prince of Peace Food Panty on 12-16. Hope to see you there!



Marionette Show

This year's performance will be "Holiday Variety Show," presented on Sunday, December 6 at 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Kevin Frisch provides a one-man show featuring hand puppets and trick marionettes performing songs, dances and comical routines. He will introduce some new material with a Christmas theme. There is a suggested donation of \$10.00 per family. Don't miss this family entertainment!

November was a time for Preschool to be Thankful. We are so thankful for our wonderful students, families and staff. We enjoyed our time off - spending it with the ones we love.



This month, we look forward to working with United Ministries and helping families to have a wonderful Christmas. Our tree will be located in the Education Wing for the Preschool Families to "pick" from. Everyone looks forward to this opportunity to help others.

Next month, we will begin Registration for the 2010-2011 school year. Please look for more information on our website. Enjoy the holiday season! Debbie Bechtol



Due to the inability to have paying sponsors for the altar flowers every Sunday, the Worship & Music Discipleship has decided to purchase seasonal artificial silk arrangements to replace the fresh flower arrangements in 2010. If you desire, you still have the opportunity to purchase both fresh flower arrangements for the same price of \$20.00 per vase for your special dates and designations, by

contacting Anne Ellington directly at the Flower Basket @ 261-1867. You can also continue to memorialize or honor your loved ones by sponsoring the vigil light or the web page by signing up on the designated sheets in the narthex.

	Acolyte	Usher / Greeter	Lay Asst. / Scripture Reader
Dec 2	Anna Sittason	Dick Mueller Linda Moore	Tim Moore
Dec 9	Luke Huddleston	Steve & Sara Kieffner	Hansel Ramathal
Dec 16	Sam Wilougy	Dennis Huber Bob Dye	Jim Bianchi

Adult Sunday School Class



On December 6, we'll complete our series called "Galloping Through the Gospels." This is a fast-moving exploration of all the major sites featured in the Gospels. Next we will have a two-week DVD study on the history of some of our favorite Christmas carols.

Join us each Sunday at 9:50 a.m. in F-1. No class on December 27.

THE BUILDING FUND NEEDS YOUR HELP!



We have now completed a wonderful remodeled and expanded facility that we all enjoy and use. However it needs to be paid for. Contributions to the building fund have dropped off dramatically this year. For existing pledgers please examine where you are versus what you have pledged. If you are a long standing member who has never pledged please consider how you can help by making regular contributions to our building fund. If you are a new member, perhaps one of the reasons you joined was the welcoming nature of our facility. Please consider how you too, can make regular contributions to help us pay for what we all use.

Since 2003, Gloria Dei has participated in Angel Tree Ministry by purchasing and delivering Christmas gifts to children who have a parent in prison on behalf of the prisoner parent. Those who have volunteered to buy presents should bring them to the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, December 6. If you have an interest in delivering the gifts on Saturday, December 19, please contact Bonnie Handahl at 331-7137.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Every two weeks, our men's fellowship combines Bible study and watching NFL Monday Night Football in a participant's home. This year the topic is "Jesus on Leadership."

We'll meet this month on December 7 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. Check the bulletin for location and other updates.



Council met this past Sunday and elected new officers and delegates for the next year.

Congratulations to Don

Shattuck as Gloria Dei's new President. I hope that everyone gives him the same support that I have received during my term.

Also to Hansel Ramathal as the new Vice President. He will now be leading the Committee Joint meetings and that structure. I will be the new Council Secretary.

Amy Honnerlaw is now the Council Delegate to the Preschool Governing Board. My personal thanks to Steve for all the time and energy he put into this important roll.

Don Shattuck will continue as the Council Delegate to the Gloria Dei Foundation Board. This continuity will help as other Board members transition in and out.

Finally, please join me in welcoming Donna Lancaster and Wayne Kennett to Council, as well as thanking Steve and Kelli as they end their terms on Council. As we complete this transition to the Council membership, some of the Committee Liaisons will be changing. Council will be making these appointments during the Council meeting scheduled for Dec. 6th.

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS KETTLE

As we did last year we again will have a Salvation Army Kettle (the large easy to see type) in the Narthex available for your donations. The army does very good work, at low cost, amongst the poor and disadvantaged in our community. It especially needs extra support this year with so many people suffering from the poor economy.

A member of our congregation has again offered to **DOUBLE** the amount donated by Gloria Dei members. Last year we were able to present the Salvation Army with \$3129 as result of your donations and the doubled match. Let's see if we can beat that number this year!



I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of you and to the church council for the opportunity to have grieving groupsoffered at Gloria Dei.

I just participated in the Daughters Grief Group, lead by VivienFinnigan of Hospice Care of St. Elizabeth. I don't know what I would have done without this group to help me get through the grieving over the loss of my mom in March and my brother in June. This group andLeader Vivien Finnigan have been extremely helpful and new friendshipshave been made that will continue in support for each other. I havebeen touched and nurtured in a personal way and someday I would liketo volunteer for these kinds of services at Hospice and at Gloria Dei.

I know that many people in the church and in the surroundingcommunities have and will continue to benefit from these services andopportunities offered and held at Gloria Dei Lutheran.

Please pass along my appreciation to everyone who is involved and responsible in getting the Grieving Groups organized and most importantly, to be held at such a wonderful community and facility of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

If there is a small spot in the newsletter, please include my appreciation and to remind others of this wonderful service.

Thank you so much. God Bless. Bette Wappner

ALTERNATIVE GIFTING

We North Americans engage in a lot of shopping at this time of year. Our society is so saturated with consumer messages that it is easy to lose sight of the reason for all this celebration: Jesus Birth! A consumer Christmas leads to stress and debt. A simple Christmas leads to freedom, joy, and a more meaningful life.

Add more meaning and enjoyment to your life and your Christmas celebration with Alternative Gifting this year. What is it, you ask? It's a tradition of honoring friends and loved ones with gifts to an ELCA sponsored charity.

Your gift will fight against hunger and poverty by providing health care, clean water, education, occupations, and at the same time proclaim God's message of love, forgiveness, and salvation, at home and world wide.

This Advent, look for ideas and opportunities to rethink your gift giving traditions at the Alternative Gifting Table in our Welcome Center. Have a BLESSED CHRISTMAS!!



Circle Meetings

All ladies are welcome to participate in any of the WELCA circles and stitching groups. Please contact Judy Effler at 341-8190 for more information.

Hannah Circle Our December meeting will be our Annual Christmas Party on Sunday - December 13th at 1pm at Christy Frey's house. We gather with appetizers and desserts, elect our new officers, plan the 2010 calendar and have an ornament exchange. Please contact Julie Southers @ 859-918-1136 or hannah@gloriadei-nky.org if you have any questions. Hannah Circle welcomes all women of the church to our meeting.

Martha Circle The December meeting of Martha Circle will be a pot luck Christmas dinner celebration on Monday Dec. 7th at the home of Sara Kieffner. Dinner begins at 6:00.

Mary Circle will hold its December meeting at the home of Marie McMillen for Christmas Dinner on Friday December 18th at PM. Please call Marie at 360*2371 for directions and to let her know you plan to attend. We hope to have a group picture taken at this time also.

Ruth Circle will be meeting at Karlo's Restaurant on Thursday, Dec 3rd, at 7:00 PM. This is our annual Christmas dinner with spouses and significant others. Call Pauline Kendrick (384-6546) with questions. Be sure to attend this joyful event. The January potluck planning meeting will be on Jan 7 at 7:00 PM at the home of Pauline Kendrick. Mark your calendars!

Servant Schedule

8:00 Service	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 27	Jan 3
Lay Asst. / Reader / Comm. Asst.	Kuhse, Todd	Himmler, Bill	Watts, Tom	Quandt, David	Chapin, Mary
Usher / Visitor Host	Kuhse, Sara	Himmler, Charlotte	Sauser, Harold	Himmler, Tom & Linda	Chapin, Tom
Alter Set-up	Moses, Jane & Erv	Moses, Jane & Erv	Moses, Jane & Erv	Moses, Jane & Erv	Moses, Jane & Erv

5:30 Service	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 27	Jan 3
Lay Asst. / Reader / Comm. Asst.	Jaeschke, Rainer	Hayes, Leslie	Morgan, Kate	NA	Jaeschke, Rainer
Usher / V. Host	Kieffner, Steve	Hayes, Ken	Green Family	NA	
Musicians / Alter	Kieffner, Sara Coleman, Jim & Bev	Patterson, Michael Bianchi, Donna	Quant, Alane Land, Bob	NA	Wolff, JoAnn Coleman, Jim & Bev

9:00 Service	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 27	Jan 3
Coordinator	Eichinger, Jim	Nicols, Mike	Dick, Shelley		Zuziak, Rhonda
Acolyte	Shaffer, Leslie	Miller, Anna	Gray, Andrew	Rose, Kyle	Grimm, Jack
Reader/Sacristant	Kimball, Donna	Nicols, Jane	Lancaster, Donna	Honnerlaw, Shawn	Hester, Kelly
Children's Sermon	PV	RB	RB		PV
CC Leader	Frederick, Brenna	Huenniger, Ginny	Schmidt, Brad	Shattuck, Don &	Linnemann, Marsha
CC Helper	Eichinger, Kaitlyn	Zuziak, Katie	Schmidt, Kristin	Joy	Miller, Paige
Usher/Visitor Host	Eichinger, Jim Eichinger, Mary Beth McCarter, Jean	Nicols, Mike Budrick, Ed Budrick, Betsy Barker, Emily	Chandler, Carri Dick, Shelley Youtsey, Tom Youtsey, Cindy	Budrick, Ed Budrick, Betsy	Miller, Jordan Zuziak, Rhonda Grimm, LuAnn Grimm, Jeff
Communion Asst	Duffy, Kathy Dye, Suzanne	Auge, Roger Auge, Jean	Skavdahl, Duane Skavdahl, Jan	Fisher, Peggy Smith, Tina	Kiscer, Paula Washburn, Susan
Nursery Asst	McGlasson, Jennifer	Miller, Sue	Woods, Jana	Bosma, Andrew	

11:00 Service	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 27	Jan 3
Coordinator	Ramathal, Hansel	Eason, Jim	Bianchi, Donna	Huddleston, Ed	Miller, Claudia
Acolyte	Yaker, Abigail Vando, Melissa	Stivers, Shea Willoughby, Sam	Bautista, Emily Sittason, Anna	Huddleston, Luke Reiger, Lexy	Allen, Lindsay Berk, AJ
Lay Asst.	Ebert, Doug	Tubesing, Bob	Rieselman, Debby	Huddleston, Lisa	Allen, Bryan
Reader / Sacristant	Geisselbrecht, H	Mueller, Marjorie	Moore, Tim	Huenniger, John	Young, Ellen
Children's Sermon	PV	NA	NA	Cato, Gail	PV
CC Leader	Miller, Lisa	Fuller, Stephanie	Frey, Christy	Peasse, Matt	Amorello, Amy
CC Helper	Vando, Brendan	Barrows, McKayl	Hegna, Andrea	Beane, Laura	Corbit, Kacy
Usher	Ramathal, Hansel Ebert, Paula McDaniel, Lynn Thornton, Susan	Eason, Jim Webber, Julie Frey, Bob Frey, Judy	Bianchi, Donna Columb, Lynn Dye, Chris Dye, Robert	Huddleston, Ed Cato, Gail Cato, Warren Brinkman, Nancy	Miller, Claudia Corbitt, Jim Corbitt, Patty Dietz, Marian
Visitor Host / Offering Usher	Greber, Adam Greber, Jennifer	Mueller, Dick Mueller, Marjorie	Frey, Christy Mehling, Pat	Ellington, Anne Benken, Shirley	Byrne, Bob Byrne, Linda
Comm. Asst.	Geisselbrecht, L Kennett, Rae Lynn	Rylee, Joan Thelen, Marcia	Sittason, Becky Shattuck, Don	Patterson, Michael Reimer, Geneva	Young, Ellen Handahl, Bob
Nursery Asst.	Lewis, Abby		Sittason, Becky	Frondorf, Sharon	Lewis, Abby
Counters	Ebert, Paula Frey, Christy	Shattuck, Don Bianchi, Jim	Columb, Lynn Watts, Betty	Cato, Gail Benken, Shirley	Kieffner, Steve Shattuck, Don

December 2009

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 50) 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
 51) 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
 52) 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
 53) 27 28 29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 29, 2009 No Sunday School 10:15am GodTalk (W) 1:00pm Youth Nivole	7:30am Prayer (C) 10:15am Bible Study (CR) 12:10pm Lunch Study (CR)	7:30am Prayer (C) 9:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Advent Prayer Vigil 6:00pm HS Bible Study 6:30pm Prayer Group (C) 6:30pm Praise Band (S) 6:30pm STARS (F, C, Ed Wing)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:00pm Advent Dinner 6:00pm JTG AD (CR) 6:00pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Advent Service 7:40pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:30pm Quilters (FZ) 7:00pm Ruth Circle 7:00pm Boy Scouts (F)	9:30am Marston Place (F1) 10:00am Praise Band (S) 12:00pm Henging of the Green (S)	05
Rec. New Members 9:15am Youth Choir (S,4,7) 9:50am Sunday School 10:15am GodTalk (W) 12:00pm PM - Gingerbread House Ma 12:15pm Council Meeting (CR) 3:30pm Fish Marlonette Show (F)	7:30am Prayer (C) 10:15am Bible Study (CR) 12:10pm Lunch Study (CR) 7:00pm Special Olympics (F)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:30pm Prayer Group (C) 6:30pm Praise Band (S) 7:00pm Preschool Dinner (F) 7:00pm Crahms/Coltus (FZ)	9:00am Ministerium 6:00pm Advent Dinner 6:00pm JTG AD (CR) 7:00pm Advent Service 7:40pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:30pm Boy Scouts (S) 7:00pm Friendship Bible Study 8:00pm Boy Scouts (F) Newsletter Deadline	9:30am PV @ Conference Council 10:00am Praise Band (S) 10:00am Babysitting Fundraiser 3:30pm HS Shopping for UM	12
9:50am Sunday School 11:00am Baptism - Greber 12:00pm OWLS (F1)	7:30am Prayer (C) 10:15am Bible Study (CR) 12:10pm Lunch Study (CR) 7:00pm PS Parent Board (CR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Council (F1) 7:00pm Stitches (FZ)	7:30am Prayer (C) 8:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm HS Bible Study 6:30pm Prayers Group (C) 6:30pm Praise Band (S) 6:30pm STARS (F, Ed Wing)	7:30am Prayer (C) 8:30am PS Breakfast (F1&2) 6:00pm Advent Dinner 6:00pm JTG AD (CR) 6:00pm Confirmation Class 7:00pm Advent Service 7:40pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:00pm Cantata Practice (S) 7:00pm Mary Circle 7:00pm Boy Scouts (F)	10:00am Praise Band (S) 10:00am Fibro Friends (F1&2)	19
Youth Bake Sale 9:00am Baptism - Jenkins 9:15am Youth Choir (S,4,7) 11:00am Cantata	7:30am Prayer (C) 12:10pm Lunch Study (CR)	7:30am Prayer (C) 11:00am Grief Support Group (CR) 6:30pm Prayer Group (C) 6:30pm Praise Band (S)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:00pm JTG AD (CR) 7:40pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	2:00pm Worship 7:00pm Worship 11:00pm Worship	RB - Vacation 10:00am Christmas @ Garbers	25 26
10:00am Worship	7:00pm Martha Circle 7:00pm Stitches (FZ)	6:30pm Praise Band (S)	RB - Vacation PV - Vacation 6:00pm JTG AD (CR) 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	RB - Vacation PV - Vacation 10:00am Christmas @ Garbers	Jan 01, 2010	02

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH
2718 Dixie Highway
Crestview Hills, KY 41017
(859) 331-4694
www.gloriadei-nky.org

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Return Service Requested

MISSION STATEMENT

We are saved by Grace through Faith and are called by the Holy Spirit to make Christ known. In joyful response, we strive to....

- ♦ Love God
- ♦ Love others as God loves them
- ♦ Live as disciples
- ♦ Grow spiritually
- ♦ Share the good news

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday worship services for everyone are offered at 8AM, 9AM, 11AM and 5:30PM. Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at all services. A nursery is also provided at all services. There will be no Sunday School during the summer months.

GLORIA DEI NEWS

The newsletter of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is published monthly. The deadline for articles is the 10th of the month. Articles may be emailed to Emily Boomershine at newsletter@gloriadei-nky.org.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Todd Kuhse.....President
Don Shattuck.....Vice President
Kelli Sittason.....Secretary
Jennifer Hegna.....Co-Treasurer
Christy Frey (Preschool).....Co-Treasurer
Paula Ebert.....Financial Secretary

CHURCH STAFF

Rev Vicki Garber.....Senior Pastor
Rebecca Brode.....Director of Youth & Group Ministries
Debbie Hoydal.....Church Secretary
Terri Chapman.....Custodian
Debbie Bechtol.....Preschool Director

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Vance Wolverton.....Chancel Choir Director
Lynne & Paul Goodridge.....Praise Band Leaders
Bob & Bonnie Handahl.....Adult Sunday School Coordinators
Shawn Honnerlaw.....Children's Sunday School Superintendent
Nancy Mlinarik.....Children's Sunday School Superintendent

Merry Christmas

Every year I struggle with what to say in my Christmas card to the congregation. I always wish that I had time to sit and write to each one of you individually. But since I just can't seem to do that, here's what I would say to you if I did.

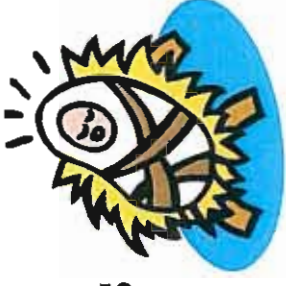
- Thank you for the joy that I find just by knowing you, for your commitment to the work of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and most especially for the witness that your love for God brings to me and to the world.*
- Thank you for the many things that you did this year that affirm that you are at work in the Kingdom of God, especially your attention to the needs of those who are less fortunate.*
- Thank you for your willingness to turn to God to grapple with hard times and difficult issues and for your support for me when I have had to grapple with hard times and difficult issues.*
- And Happy Christmas! Happy because this day celebrates the gift of God that is the beginning of the turning point of all history. Happy because this day celebrates the time when the Holy God intervened to bring peace and salvation to all humankind.*

I pray for you in this time of rejoicing. I pray that your lives will be filled with the presence of Christ that sustains, with the promises of Christ that bring hope, and with the joy of Christ that satisfies. I pray also that the small hand which reaches forth from the manger will be the hand that you take in your own.

The Blessings of the Lord be with you. Pastor Vicki



Youth and Family Ministries December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1. High School Bible Study @ Dewey's 6pm Bring \$5	2. Confirmation w/dinner and worship 6pm Bring \$3	3.	4.	5. Hanging of the Greens!
6. Gingerbread House Building 12pm Marionette Show 4pm	7.	8.	9. Dinner and Worship 6pm	10.	11.	12. *Babysitting Fundraiser 10am-3pm *HS Shopping for UM 3:30pm-?
13.	14.	15. High School Bible Study @ Dewey's 6pm Bring Gift	16. Confirmation w/dinner and worship 6pm Bring \$3	17.	18.	19.
20. Youth Mission Trip Bake Sale	21.	22.	23.	24. Christmas Eve Worship 2, 7 and 11pm	25. <i>The Savior is Born!</i>	26. Rebecca gone till Jan 2nd
27.	28.	29.	30. New Year's Eve	31.		

***For these events, please sign up on the board in the Sanctuary. Thanks!**



“Look, the virgin shall conceive and
bear a which means,
“God is with us.”
- Matthew 1:23

God is with us, God is present! The Christ child came to this world as an infant, a blessing from God. I love the Advent season and Christmas to remind me of the humble beginnings of our Savior. In the midst of a tirelessly busy world, I enjoy the time to step back and breathe in the presence of God. I get excited about gathering for worship twice a week. I love our dinners together, and the opportunity to share this season with the women's groups for their parties. The idea of community is very real and active at this congregation.

December 1st marks the beginning of my 5th year here at Gloria Dei. Words honestly can not describe what this community has done for me. I am blessed beyond belief at the love, support and encouragement I have received. I am thankful for what each and everyone here has given me. I look forward to a year of Christ centered missions and sharing the love that is freely given.

Blessings to you and your family! May you see that Emmanuel is in all that you do!

To a Joyous Advent, Celebration of Christmas and a Healthy New Year!

Rebecca

