

Gloria Dei News

The Newsletter of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

July 2009

2718 Dixie Highway, Crestview Hills, KY 41017

From our Pastor....

Have you ever tried to imagine what life might be like if God took a vacation from us? Suppose God went away to a nice sunny place in an alternate universe and left us unattended for a month or two.

Many of you know that I am a fan of 'disaster movies'. I know it is silly and completely unfeasible. That's probably what I like about them, they are a momentary diversion from the real problems that we can and must tackle.

Like the movie "10.4". "10.4" is the story of a series of mega earthquakes on the west coast that threaten all of life there. The quakes are caused by a previously undetected deep fault line. Scientists estimate that millions of people will die if the quakes go unchecked and so they work frantically to set nuclear charges in particular places to try and neutralize the quakes. At first it looks as if the charges are working and have thwarted the worst of the quake but then suddenly the quake continues with all of its force and essentially makes California an island. At the end of the movie the narrator reminds us that we cannot control the forces of nature.

Perhaps some people think that something like that would happen, the whole natural order would go haywire, if God went away for a time. I don't. I believe God created the universe with a beautiful natural precision and intricate interrelatedness. There might be times that humanity interferes with that, such as the way that fish die in polluted waters. But I don't think that nature would cease to operate if God were gone for a while.

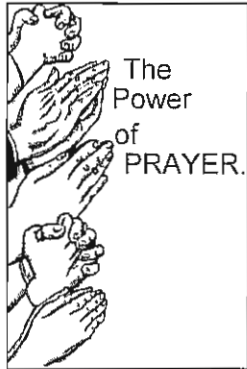
Instead, I think we can look at human history and see the types of things that would go splat if God were on vacation. We can see it in human history because while God never leaves us, we often leave God. Stalin's death prisons would be a good example. The killing of whole tribes of

people in Africa would be another. Hatred. Fear. Malice. Last year one of my best friends from Chicago, an African American woman who raised three decent, beautiful sons, called to tell me that her 12 year old grandson was standing on the street corner with some of his school chums; they weren't doing anything, just talking and listening to music, when they heard gunfire. Before the firing stopped her grandson was dead.

And then there is the more subtle evidence of our leaving God. It happens bit by bit, small effect by small effect. We let our prayer life lapse and we begin to sense a deepening emptiness in our lives. We choose sleeping in over worship and find that the more we do it the easier it is to do even as we don't quite put together the fact that we feel more restless and less settled than we used to. We start choosing making money over loving God, getting ahead over doing the right thing, hoarding over sharing, even as we sense that something is missing in our lives. We settle for less of God because we want more of what we want. And one day we wake up and think that we have been gone to long to come back to God... or maybe God doesn't want us anymore... or maybe it doesn't really matter anyway... and how did our life get into such a state as this.

Every encounter with God, wherever it occurs, in prayer, in worship, in service, every one is a small little foretaste of heaven. And fortunately, no matter how far we go God always wants us back. So if God never takes a vacation from us, why do we choose to take one from God? Why do we choose to skip those moments of heavenly peace and joy? Are the other things really all that great? If you have been away from God in any way, come back... it'll be the best decision you ever make.

~Pastor Vicki



"The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit. God, You will not despise a broken and humbled heart." Psalm 51:17 HCSB

THE SACRIFICE OF PRAYER....Your Heart

The following insight by Elizabeth George is the third and final in a series

of three begun in the May issue of the POWER OF PRAYER. Elizabeth George is an author, teacher and speaker whose inspirational messages air on national radio several times each day. We pray these insights will be encouraging and enlightening for you too....

Prayer involves the offering of your emotions and tears. It's a terrible, ugly thing. But when we don't pray, it's easy to become aloof, controlled, cool and distant. We are unattached, untouched and uncaring about what is happening around us and about the pain in people's hearts. But when we make the decision to pray it costs us our hearts. The only way to describe it is to say that the act of prayer breaks our hearts. Then...THEN!...our emotions spill over and our tears flow. We are burning the "incense" of our sincere prayers toward the Lord, offering up the sacrifice of our hearts. Scripture tells us that "the sacrifices" God is interested in "are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart"—a crushed heart (Psalm 51:17). Does this describe your heart?

Here's a prayer suggestion. When you pray tomorrow, make it a point to ask nothing for yourself. Of course, you'll want to deal any sin and take care of your "account" with God. But ask nothing for yourself. Instead spend the precious sacrifice of your prayer time praying for others. And go ahead—spend some of your tears, too!

Consider it a spiritual challenge to offer God the sacrifice of your heart this week as you pray. It will bring you to a new level in your relationship with him, one that you may never have known before. But it's a great place to be because it brings you closer to the One who loves you more than you could ever imagine!!!

Thanks for your geranium orders! The geraniums graced the altar on Pentecost and are now being enjoyed by all at our outdoor worship service. Thank you for your donations!



On July 12th, the Worship & Music Discipleship will be sponsoring the Coffee Bar after each morning service. This is your opportunity to talk to committee members to have your questions answered concerning Volunteer participation during the worship services, singing in the choir or Praise Band, or serving on the Altar Guild. There are many ways to serve and volunteers are always welcomed and needed!

Are you interested in seeing that the church pews are kept tidy by helping out once or twice a month? Volunteers are needed to insure that the brochures are current and the registration books have ample sheets and pencils. Please let the office know if you are willing to be put on a rotating schedule in order to keep our sacristsy pleasing to God!



Fun, Food and Fellowship!

Sunday, August 16th 12:30-3:00pm on the Church grounds. Fried chicken will be served. We are asking each family to bring a side dish and a 2 lt. drink.

Also, feel free to bring a dessert for the cake walk! Look for sign-up in the narthex.



Ice Cream Social

News for the OLS!

On the second Sunday in June, we will head out right after church to go to Falmouth, Kincaid Theater to see "Guys and Dolls". After the show we will go to Bob Evans in Cold Spring for dinner.

In July we are planning on going to the Ft. Wright Civil War Museum. We understand this is very interesting to have this so close to home. If anyone would like to join us, we would love to have you. As always, we will go somewhere for lunch first.

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We are happy to report that thus far this year we are in good financial health. Thanks to all who are continuing to keep their financial commitments to doing the Lords work. Keep up the good work this summer by giving your pledges in advance, or mailing in your contributions, or better yet switching over to automatic check book payments.

We appreciate all of the volunteers who serve as counters, the memorial committee, our treasurer, financial secretary, accounts payable, stewardship, insurance, mortgages, budgeters, et al and the finance committee. They work behind the scenes in many cases but they put in an enormous number of work hours to support Gloria Dei each week.



DID YOU KNOW ?

How do we all make sure that the various initiatives in our Church are well publicised and that our members and visitors are well informed about our mission and ministries? The Servanthood of Communication oversees the collection, production and dissemination of all information regarding our congregation into the church media as well as into the outside community.

The Communication Servanthood is responsible for the following:

- ➔ Monthly Newsletter containing various articles and information about the various ministries, servanhoods and activities.
- ➔ Website which provides all members and visitors information at a quick glance. The website also holds resources such as Bible Study links, volunteer schedules and contact information for the servanhood chairs and church council
- ➔ Advertisement in local community media
- ➔ Recording the sermon on Sundays so that it can be posted onto the website available to those who could not be among us during worship.

The Spiritual Gifts Servanhood consists of Lisa Huddleston, Rainer Jaeschke, Rob Bosma, Gene Brown, Michael Patterson, Laura Beane and Emily Boomershine.

Please take a moment to thank each one of these servants for their time and efforts in serving.

Contributed by Hansel Ramathal



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.

Mary Circle – Charlotte Himmler will host and lead devotions at our July 16th meeting. We will be dining out at one of the area’s restaurants. Arrangements for dinner are still in the planning stages but it is already planned that the group will have a wonderful time. Taking a festive summer break from the traditional meeting agenda and allowing for more food, fun, and fellowship has been an annual event for many years for the ladies of Martha Circle.

Quilters will meet Thursday, July 2nd @ 6:30 PM in room F2. All interested women are welcome. You do not need to be skillful with a needle or sewing machine. We make a very basic quilt and will gladly show you how to join in. We meet before-hand at Bob Evans (off Orphanage Rd.) for supper at 5PM. You’re welcome to join us there, too.

Stitchers will meet Mondays, July 13 and 27 this month. See you in room F2 @ 7PM. Questions, call Jane Pharner @ 331-7040.

WELCA NEWS!

The Indiana Kentucky WELCA Convention "Your River of Faith" is taking place September 18 and 19th in Louisville Ky. Please contact your circle president or Judy Effler at 341-8190 for information.

All Are Invited!

Thursday, June 25th
10:00am-1:00pm

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Services office
10990 Marshall Road Independence, KY
Please call Tracy Deaton at 859-960-1620
by June 12th to RSVP

It’s a celebration! This educational fair hosts a wide range of vendors that will be on hand to provide information on:

- Baby care and products
- Motherhood care and products
- Financial planning and more...

Best of all, **THE ENTIRE EVENT IS FREE!**

Join us for lunch, door prizes, lots of great baby tips, free gently used baby items and clothing, and fun! All new and expectant parents are welcome to come. Fathers are welcome or bring an adult female friend/relative with you!



United Ministries

Please continue to remember the many community families with school age children who need to provide lunch at home. during the summer. Many of these children received reduced or free lunches during the school year. Pick up some extra lunch items when you shop and leave them in the brown UM bins in the narthex on your way to the courtyard. **Items such as cheese, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, juice boxes, canned pasta, canned fruit, & microwave meals are needed.**

July 2009

27	5	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
30	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00am Youth Love Letters 10:00am VBS Meeting 10:00am Golf Outing 11:00am Baptism- Stetebuck 12:30pm Dedication Service	6:30pm FNC (W)	6:30pm Prayer Group (CR) 6:30pm Praise Band (S)	6:00pm JTG AD (F2) 6:00pm JTG AD (F2)	6:30pm Quilters (F2) 7:00pm Ruth Circle 7:00pm Boy Scouts (F)	8:00am Holiday - Office Closed	8:00am Independence Day
12:00pm OWAS (F1)	7:30am Prayer (C) 10:15am Bible Study (CR) 12:10pm Lunch Study (CR) 6:30pm FNC (W) 7:00pm Shishers (F2)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:30pm Prayer Group (CR) 6:30pm Praise Band (S) 7:00pm Crochets/Collis (F2)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:00pm JTG AD (F2) 6:30pm Bible Study (CR) 9:00pm Mail Bulk Mail Postage	7:30am Prayer (C) 9:00am Keyak Trip 6:59pm Mary Circle 7:00pm Boy Scouts (F)	8:00am PV-Off	6:00pm Lands Lutheran Church (F)
10:00am VBS Meeting	7:30am Prayer (C) 10:15am Bible Study (CR) 12:10pm Lunch Study (CR) 6:30pm FNC (W)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:30pm Prayer Group (CR) 6:30pm Praise Band (S)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:00pm JTG AD (F2) 6:30pm Bible Study (CR)	7:30am Prayer (C) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (F) 7:00pm Hannah Circle	8:00am PV-Off	9:00pm Communion Cups
12:15pm Council Meeting (CR)	7:30am Prayer (C) 10:15am Bible Study (CR) 12:10pm Lunch Study (CR) 6:30pm FNC (W) 7:00pm Martha Circle 7:00pm Shishers (F2)	7:30am Prayer (C) 11:00am Girl Support Group (CR) 6:30pm Prayer Group (CR) 6:30pm Praise Band (S)	7:30am Prayer (C) 6:00pm JTG AD (F2) 6:30pm Bible Study (CR)	7:30am Prayer (C) 8:00am Ft. Kings Island 7:00pm Boy Scouts (F)	8:00am PV-Off	Aug 01, 2009

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
Permit #277
U.S. Postage Paid
Covington, KY 41017

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 15th 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



Youth and Family Ministries

July



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1.	2.	3.	4.
5. Rebecca at Servant camp at Lutheran Hills	6. RB @ LH	7. RB @ LH	8. RB @ LH	9. RB @ LH	10. RB @ LH	11.
12.	13.	14.	15.	16. *Kayak Trip 9am at the church	17.	18.
19. VBS meeting @ 10am	20.	21. NYG meet at 7pm at Hopeful Lutheran <i>Heading to New Orleans</i>	22. NYG in New Orleans	23. NYG in New Orleans	24. NYG in New Orleans	25. NYG in New Orleans
26. NYG in New Orleans	27. NYG in New Orleans	28. Youth return from New Orleans trip 5AM	29.	30. *Kings Island Trip 9am at the church	31.	

***For these events, please sign up on the board in the Narthex.**



Vacation Bible School

August 2-6

Join the Luther Road team for a week of adventures!

Youth ages 4-5 will attend from 9am-1pm

Youth in K-6 will attend from 9am-4pm

Registration is online or in the Narthex!

Space is limited!

Kick off on July 2nd at 6:30pm!



Your Help is Needed!

Please pick up stickers off the Needs Board in the Narthex. We need items to make our VBS a great one. Pick a sticker, purchase the item and bring it back to the church with that sticker attached!

ALSO, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE LUNCHES AND DINNERS FOR THE STAFF (OR DONATE FUNDS TO PURCHASE THESE MEALS)!

Finally, we need help during the week with **preparing snacks, setting out lunches and with the preschool program.** If you can give a few hours of your time during this week, it would be a great help!

Please see Rebecca with any questions!!

Youth@gloriadei-nky.org

859-331-4694

