

# Gloria Dei News

*The Newsletter of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church*

June 2009

2718 Dixie Highway, Crestview Hills, KY 41017

## *From our Pastor....*

Most of us know that times are difficult right now. It almost seems as though we are in a perfect storm; economic woes, war, changing values. Some of us are sick or angry or hurt. Some of us find it hard to let go of the things that burden us. Various people predict various outcomes for the problems of our world.

Others focus their energy on trying to analyze how we got into this state. There might well be a time for just such exercises, especially if we are going to try to understand how we as individuals and as a culture contributed to the mess in which we find ourselves and particularly if we engage in such a conversation in order to determine ways of preventing a repeat for the generations to come. But for now, I do not want to write about either blame or predictions.

Rather, I want to write about God's word for us in the midst of trouble. First, I think it is helpful for us to acknowledge the fear and anger and frustration that we experience when our security is threatened by forces that we barely understand and over which we most certainly have no control. Second, it helps if we see our commonality. We share a rather large boat of brokenness and worries and need to have compassion for one another. But chiefly we need to pray and to seek God's comfort and support—because that is the real, abiding, lasting hope in our lives.

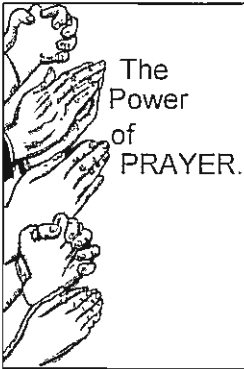
Time after time the Scripture affirms that God **desires** to help us; that our pleas do not fall on deaf, or absent, or vacationing ears. God's solution may not fit neatly into our plan but God knows what we **actually need** and what would **actually be best** for us, and desires for us to have that!

Several years ago my daughter Nicole made a little painting for me. In the painting she used only shades of blue. She made a dark blue sky over pointy grey-blue mountains with light blue jagged snow caps. The sky is dotted with very light blue stars and in cursive in light blue she wrote, "The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8". I don't know how she knew that that was a line from my favorite psalm but I know that just looking at it gives me hope and comfort, not only because God has promised it to be so but also because somewhere in the cadre of things that she has learned from me--she learned this. That's what we need *all* to know; that God is watching over our lives from "a to z", from birth to death, from coming to going.

Near the end of Psalm 46 is the line, "Be still and know that I am God!" The word there for 'be still' means literally, 'desist'. It is as if God is saying, "**Stop... stop worrying... stop fighting... stop thinking you can do everything on your own... stop blaming... stop arguing... stop keeping score... stop collecting trophies... stop thinking only of yourself... stop clogging your heart with hatred and junk and false gods and whatever else it is that clogs the arteries of real life and joy... because when you do, you will be able to know that I am God and that not only do I desire to be your strength and help but I can and I will!**"

God can help. God does help. God does understand. God does know what we need. So let us be still and turn to the Lord. It will make every difference.

*~Pastor Vicki*



"If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." *Psalm 66:18 NLT*

### THE SACRIFICE OF PRAYER.... *Sin*

The following insight by Elizabeth George is the second 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....

*Do you desire to pray powerfully and effectively? Such prayer requires that we deal seriously with our sin. God's standard for our prayers is clear: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear" (Psalm 66:18). "The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous" (Proverbs 15:29). "One who turns his ear away from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination" (Proverbs 28:9). The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayers" (1 Peter 3:12).*

*As believers who enjoy "new" life in him, we are called to "put off" and "put away" the sins that were part of our "old" life—our life before Christ (Ephesians 4:22-32 and Colossians 3:5-14). We are to sacrifice our favorite sins—to put them away, give them up, get rid of them. Can you think of any leftover behaviors from your former life? If so, identify, name and confess them. The pull them off and put them away. God will delight in helping you eradicate them.*

Use this insight as an inspiration for your prayer time this week and discover how freeing this can be, not to mention what a difference it will make in your relationship with the Lord!

There will be training for anyone interested in helping with the Outdoor Worship Service Sound Set-up on June 14th at 8:00 am. Additional Volunteers are needed so if you interested, please attend!

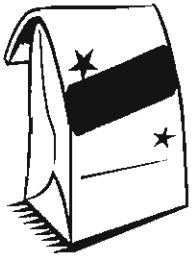


You might have noticed that a Service Coordinator is now scheduled for the 9:00 and 11:00 services. One of the ushers is assigned this responsibility and insures that those who are scheduled for a volunteer position at that service are present or finds a substitute for someone absent. By having the Service Coordinator finding substitutes for the service whenever necessary, allows Pastor Vicki and Rebecca to concentrate on the worship service and not scrambling to find replacements. When you are scheduled to serve in the worship service, please find the Service Coordinator for that service and let him/her know you are present and ready to serve!

With deep appreciation, we thank Jean Wetzler for her many years of service, playing the piano for the 5:30 service. Her musical talents and gifts will certainly be missed. We wish Darryl and her well on their move to South Dakota. Thanks, Jean!

If you have any interest in using your musical gifts and talents to play the piano or the guitar, please contact the Worship & Music team listed below. Share your talents with the congregation and use the precious gifts God has given you!

Worship & Music Team: Paul Goodridge, Jim Bianchi, Sara J. Kieffner, Lynn Goodridge, John Huenniger, Peggy & Vance Wolverton, Thom Bunnell, Paula Kiser



**United Ministries**

Now that school is out, families with school age children need to provide lunch at home. Many of these children received reduced or free lunches during the school year. Please pick up 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, canned pasta, canned fruit, juice, & beef stew will help.

Easter morning saw more than 100 Gloria Dei members and guests come in for our traditional



breakfast cooked and served by the Men's Group. Not only has the breakfast become a popular activity for families, it's also a good fundraiser. Money raised from this event helps us support the Angel Tree gift program and

sponsor the marionette show.

We always appreciate the volunteers who set up, cook, serve and clean afterwards. Again this year, everything was donated: from the meat, to all of the rest of the food, to the flowers on the tables, to the bright table coverings. With additional funds from Thrivent, we raised \$810.

Thank you to those who helped in so many ways: our leader Jim Eason, Seth Eason, Jim Corbit, Bob Byrne, Julie Weber, Jim Wolter, Gene Brown, Bob and Bonnie Handahl, Duane Skavdahl, Erik Hanson, Rebecca Brode, Ched Thornton, Jim and A. J Bianchi, Jim Eichinger, Kristopher and Kacy Corbit, and Thrivent Financial.



**Global Barnyard**

As a Lenten project this year the Social Ministry Committee sought to raise funds to purchase barnyard animals for families in Africa and South America. Our congregation responded

with enthusiasm and contributed \$2954 toward the project!

With those funds we will be able to send 1 Cow, 12 Turkeys, 20 Pigs, 21 Goats, and 220 Chicks to families around the world. The children of Gloria Dei's preschool participated in the project and were able to raise enough funds to build and stock a fish farm for a village. The animals will provide food, funds and fertilizer for their new owners!

The Global Barnyard project is sponsored by the ELCA Hunger Appeal, which is a comprehensive and sustainable program that uses multiple strategies—**relief, development, education, and advocacy**—to address the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Thank you for your gifts of hope for families trying to break the cycle of poverty! Anyone wishing to add to the barnyard can make out a check to 'ELCA Hunger Appeal', write 'Global Barnyard' in the memo line, and drop it in our collection plate.



Come join the Family Ministry for a fun-filled day of Bowling!! Join us Saturday May 30th at 4pm. Please sign up on the board in the Narthex by May 23rd

so we can get an accurate number. Look forward to seeing everyone then!!



## 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** will meet June 18th at the home of Virginia Stutzman, @ 5209 River Rd., Hebron. Call 689-4389 for directions or meet in the church parking lot at 6:30 to carpool. We'll begin at 7PM. Bring dish soap for United Ministries.

**Quilters** will meet Thursday, June 4th @ 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, June 8th and 22nd this month. See you in room F2 @ 7PM. Questions, call Jane Pharnar @ 331-7040.

**Hannah Circle** meets the fourth Thursday of every month. Our next meeting is on Thursday, June 25 at Barleycorns-Five Mile House in Lakeside Park, KY. Our service project this month will be Hosea House Service for the poor. Hannah Circle welcomes all women of the church to our meeting. Please contact Julie Southers at 859-918-1136 or hannah@gloriadei-nky.org if you need additional information.

**Martha Circle's** June meeting will be held June 22nd at the home of Donna Conner. Raelynn Kennett will co-host and Ellen Young will have the program. We have as a summer project the preparation or making of school kit bags for Lutheran World Relief. If you have any denim or twill fabric remnants you would like to donate to this project, please call Tollie Chavis 356-0503 or give them to a Martha Circle member.

**Ruth Circle** will be meeting on Thursday, June 4th at the Skavdahl's at 7 p.m. This is our annual "bring your spouse or significant other" picnic. Bring a covered dish and enjoy the fun! Also, on Saturday, June 20th, we will be seeing 'Guys and Dolls' in Falmouth, meet at Howard's Ice Cream at 6:00 p.m. Call Pauline Kendrick (859-384-6546) for directions.

Ruth Circle wishes to thank all those who contributed to the clothing drive and bake sales for Dress for Success.

## Dress for Success



Over \$500 will be sent to Dress for Success from the bake sales, plus including matching Thrivent

funds. Dress for Success is a non-profit organization that provides interview suits, confidence boosts, and career development to low-income women in over 75 cities worldwide. Thanks again for your generosity!

## WELCA Update:

### Lenten Dinner Fundraisers

My apologies for the delay in communicating the following information to the congregation. For the 2009 Lenten Dinners, \$200 was raised for each of the following charities: United Ministries, Brighton Center - Women's Recovery; Bread for Life Food Pantry and the Gardens of Greenup. In addition, Thrivent provided \$100 in matching funds for each of the charities. Thank you for making these donations possible by coming to the Lenten Dinners hosted by each of the Women's Circles - Ruth, Martha, Mary and Hannah. Tina Smith, Vice President, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church WELCA.



## DID YOU KNOW ?

What makes each worship service at our Church such a wonderful experience? How does each service run so smoothly? This is all made possible by various volunteers serving at each of the services in various capacities. It is exactly like the body of Christ. All parts working together to make worship to God such a memorable experience. Who identifies these servants? We are all "called to serve" by God as there are many needs in our congregation. Our worship services, alone, require over 55 volunteers! We give of our time and talents and these spiritual gifts are noted by the Spiritual Gifts Servanthood at Gloria-Dei.

As our congregation continues to grow with specific needs, the Spiritual Gifts servanthood responds by identifying the gifts of our members who could serve our congregation and our Lord and Savior in various capacities. From recruiting and calling members and/or chairs to be part of the various servanthoods at Gloria-Dei to recommending Church Council candidates, the spiritual gifts servanthood makes our calling to serve God very relevant.

Some of the past actions taken by this servanthood have included:

- ➔ Calling new members and explaining the Time and Talent
- ➔ Inserting the Tear & Share form in the bulletin requesting need for volunteers
- ➔ Several Temple Talks given requesting volunteer needs in our worship services
- ➔ Revision of the "Call to Serve" letter
- ➔ Further revision of the Time and Talent survey.

This Servanthood continues to look for ways to encourage all members to complete the Time and

Talent in order that every member participates somehow, somewhere in the life of the church.

The Spiritual Gifts Servanthood consists of Pat Mehling, Amy Honnerlaw, Ted Miller, Ed Budrick, Tom Watts and Bob Handahl.

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

*Contributed by Hansel Ramathal*

On June 7th the Social Ministry Committee will hold a food/toiletries drive for the new Food Pantry at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newport. St. Paul's is served by Fr. Matthew Young, son of Bob and Ellen Young of Gloria Dei. Grocery bags with lists of requested items will be handed out following each service on May 31, and we ask that you return the filled bags by Sunday, June 7.



St. Paul's is a struggling downtown church that has been enlivened by this project to reach out and help their neighbors. In the three short weeks that the pantry has been open, 75 household asked for help and St. Paul's was able to provide 2,675 food and cleaning items. In order to keep the food pantry open, St. Paul's must depend of the generosity of supporting members and friends. Please help us support St. Paul's by taking a grocery bag on May 31 and returning it by June 7.

Are you a bargain shopper and want to get a head start on looking for items for the pantry? Our lists will include razors, cleaning supplies, diapers, peanut butter, crackers, boxed meals, canned meats, canned soups and stews, canned pasta, and dry milk.

For more information on how to become involved, contact/email Linda Blackwell or call 859-393-9020.

Volunteers are especially needed on Wednesday or Thursday

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*GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH*  
2718 Dixie Highway  
Crestview Hills, KY 41017  
(859) 331-4694  
[www.gloriadei-nky.org](http://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](mailto: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  
Peggy Wolverton.....Children's Choir Director / Organist  
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

## June



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1. Devotions @ Reality Tuesdays 10:30am	2. Devotions @ Reality Tuesdays 10:30am	3.	4. Leaving for SLINKY 9am	5. SLINKY in Ft. Wayne	6. Return from SLINKY 6pm
7.	8.	9.	10. High School Bible Study at Moe's 6:30pm	11.	12.	13.
14. High School Youth Love Letters	15.	16. Devotions @ Reality Tuesdays 10:30am	17.	18.	19.	20. Garden Time 9am
21. Leaving for Knoxville Mission Trip 11:30am	22. Knoxville Mission Trip	23. Knoxville Mission Trip	24. Knoxville Mission Trip	25. Knoxville Mission Trip	26. Returning from Knoxville Mission Trip 3pm	27.
28. High School Youth Love Letters <i>VBS Meeting 10am</i>	29.	30.				

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

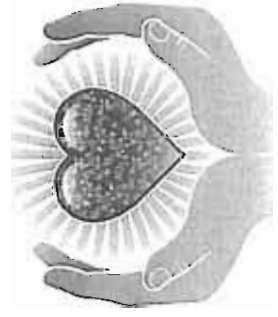
The Garden is planted, now it needs your help to grow! Stop by any day of the week to help weed and water! Make sure to stop in the office, and say “Hi” to Rebecca!

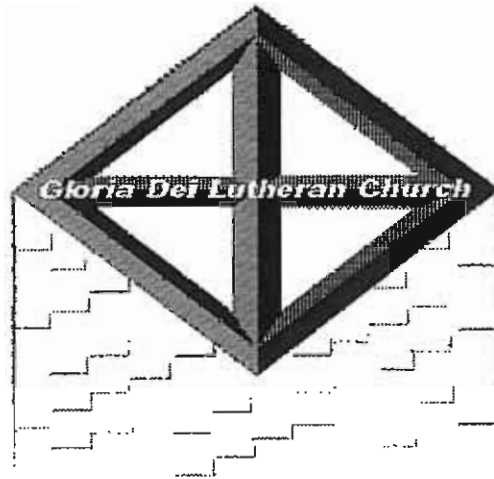


**THE YOUTH GOING TO NEW ORLEANS FOR THE NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING WILL BE SELLING LOVE LETTERS IN JUNE. HELP SUPPORT THEIR TRIP AND GET A LETTER ABOUT THEIR ADVENTURES!**

We have 22 people going to Knoxville to spread the love of God, and be a helping hand to all! Please join in prayer for:

- |                |                  |                 |                 |                |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Callie Budrick | Amanda Williams  | Abby Grimm      | Anna Miller     | Emily Bautista |
| Megan Bosma    | Kelsey Middleton | Courtney Davis  | Katie Eichinger | Paige Miller   |
| Kacy Corbit    | Leslie Schaffer  | Jessica Gresham | Derek Smith     | Matt Miller    |
| AJ Berk        | Jack Grimm       | Max Freyberger  | Mark Miller     | Sue Miller     |
| Steve Smith    | Rebecca Brode    |                 |                 |                |





# *YOU ARE INVITED*

**ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**JUNE 9, 2009 @ 7:00**

*Reception Following*

June 9, 2009 is the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination. Each of you has been an important part of the joy of my call to Word and Sacrament ministry and I would like to celebrate with you!

Please come for a Celebratory Worship Service followed by a reception.

This is my gift to you so no gifts please...just the joy and honor of your presence for worship and celebration.

Pastor Vicki