

Gloria Dei Tidings

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Encourage

If the only prayer we ever say is thank you, it would be enough. Meister Eckhart

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Thank you, Lord, for all the moment-by-moment experiences of grace that fill my life. Even when the shadows of discontent, comparison or self-doubt pass over me, your grace outshines them. Amen.

You, Gloria Dei community of faith, are a tremendous and constant source of the grace for which I give thanks. Thank you for your prayers offered up on my behalf. Thank you for remembering me with good wishes, cards and kind gifts as we celebrated Christmas. Your support and show of appreciation throughout the year mean so much. I am filled with gratitude for the call to be a pastor amongst you. I give thanks for Gloria Dei leadership and dedicated staff for all they do. It is truly a collaboration that makes ministry possible.



Gloria Dei's Advent and Christmas season was full to overflowing with worship, fellowship and generous giving to others beyond our doors. In all this, you told the story of God's love coming to be born in a stable as Savior of the whole world. Thank you for your partnership in ministry.

Our understanding of the sacraments is that we receive God's grace in the Word and through physical means, like water in Holy Baptism and bread and wine in Holy Communion. Grace is experiential in these tangible means. Grace engages our senses. We hear the word, feel the sensation of water, taste the bread and wine. Vital to these experiences is that we gather together. Our individual bodies make one Body of Christ. We are a living and breathing and active community. We are a tangible means of grace to each other.

In Christmas we celebrate that God comes to us, as one of us in the flesh of Jesus Christ. By this incarnation, this embodiment, God is intimate and near. As we move into the season of Epiphany, the incarnate Jesus is revealed as not only your savior and mine but the savior of all. That is what epiphany means, a revelation.

As we enter 2024, together as a sacramental and tangible community, we are called to the ministry of revealing God's grace for one another and for the world beyond our doors. I look forward to all the ways, old and new, that God will work in and through Gloria Dei.

So following Meister Eckhart's lead... Thank you Lord for the abundance of grace that is revealed in the Body of Christ at Gloria Dei. Thank you, for the new year of grace that lies ahead.

**Your sister in Christ, blessed by God's grace and full of gratitude,
Pastor Trish**

Worship

- ◆ Join us in person and on Facebook Live each Sunday at 9 am
- ◆ Watch on YouTube - posted by 11 am each Sunday (GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH (gloriadeicr.com))



The Christmas Program and Advent Dinner would not have been possible without the incredible dedication and creativity of our volunteers.

Thank you all for giving of your time and talents.



We had the pleasure of hosting Coe College Chaplain, Pastor Jayne Thompson and her husband Jack, who treated us to a delightful guitar sing-along after the Advent Dinner.



Pray

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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Study

January 7

- ◇ Genesis 1:1-5
- ◇ Psalm 29
- ◇ Acts 19:1-7
- ◇ Mark 1:4-11

January 14

- ◇ 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
- ◇ Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
- ◇ 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
- ◇ John 1:43-51

January 21

- ◇ Jonah 3:1-5, 10
- ◇ Psalm 62:5-12
- ◇ 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
- ◇ Mark 1:14-20

January 28

- ◇ Deuteronomy 18:15-20
- ◇ Psalm 111
- ◇ 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
- ◇ Mark 1:21-28

Our cookie exchange provided joy to 10 homebound members of our Gloria Dei family.

Everyone got cookies, candy, a card and an ornament.

January Calendar

Monday, Jan. 1	New Years Day (church office closed)
Tuesday, Jan 2	Church office closed
Wednesday, Jan 3	No confirmation class
Thursday, Jan 4	7:00 am - Women's Study
Sunday, Jan. 7	9:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - Others First Breakfast
Monday, Jan 8	6:00 pm - Worship Committee Meeting
Tuesday, Jan 9	9:00 am - Quilting Group
Wednesday, Jan. 10	5:30 pm - BLAST Dinner - Sloppy Joes 6:00 pm - Confirmation Class/BLAST
Thursday, Jan. 11	7:00 am - Women's Study 6:30 pm - Council Meeting
Sunday, Jan. 14	9:00 am - Worship
Tuesday, Jan 16	6:30 pm - Circle of Faith
Wednesday, Jan 17	6:00 pm - Confirmation Class
Thursday, Jan. 18	7:00 am - Women's Study
Sunday, Jan. 21	9:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - GiFT
Wednesday, Jan 24	6:00 pm - Confirmation Class
Thursday, Jan. 25	7:00 am - Women's Study 11:30 am - Young at Heart gathering @ Meth-Wick in the Greenwood Terrace
Sunday, Jan. 28	9:00 am - Worship 10:15 am - Visioning led by Scot Reisinger
Wednesday, Jan. 31	6:00 pm - Confirmation Class



BLAST off in the new year:



Wednesday, January 10 at 5:30 p.m. - Sloppy joe supper followed by bible lessons and flash light games at 6:00 p.m.

Holiday Giving



Our Angel Tree provided gifts for 7 local Cedar Rapids families and raised funds for student scholarships in Tanzania. Thank you for your generosity.

Angel Tree

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

153 Cherry Hill Rd NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

Non-Profit Organization
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**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
153 Cherry Hill Rd NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
(319) 396-2641**

Send correspondence to:
pastortrish@gloriadeicr.com
office@gloriadeicr.com

www.gloriadeicr.com

Please remember to check
your mailbox in the church
fellowship hall.

And like us on Facebook!

Invite

Young at Heart, Gloria Dei's fellowship group for anyone over age 55, enjoys getting together monthly for breakfast or lunch. The group meets **Thursday, January 25 at 11:30 a.m.** at Meth-Wick in the Greenwood Terrace.

Please RSVP to Larry Bowen (319-396-4352) by Monday, Jan. 15 to let him know if you will be attending.

Save the Date to join the Mini Winter Retreat

led by Pastor Trish & Pastor Phil Jorgenson

February 10th - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

We will reflect on the Holy Days in the season of Lent
(Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday)