



Gloria Dei Tidings

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church ELCA, Cedar Rapids

Volume 42 Issue 19

Worship: Sunday—8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Thursday—6:14 p.m.

October 1, 2011

Dear Sister and Brothers in Christ,

I don't like numbers. They just aren't my thing. It's not that I am bad at math. I was a solid math student. No, the work itself was never the problem. I just didn't like it. And so my mother would sit at the kitchen table pushing and prodding me through my math homework.

When I was in Sales, numbers were a constant part of my life. One number in particular was the cost of whatever I was selling. It is a fact of life in sales that sooner or later you will have to talk about price. I knew and accepted this fact and really it didn't concern me much. It was a means to an end. You see, every customer had a goal. The young couples I sold houses to weren't buying houses, they were buying homes. They looked at extra bedrooms and saw their future children playing on the floor. They looked at kitchens and tasted the meals they would cook and share with family and friends. My job was to help make all those things happen. The price was simply part of the process.

There are also numbers in the church. It is a fact of church life that doing ministry has cost attached to it. We have Sunday School supplies to buy and an electric bill to pay. But there is one very big difference between the church and the business world. God's grace is freely given. There is no price tag attached to the love and mercy we have received in Christ. Our offerings are freely given as a joyful and thankful response to God's abundant love and grace not as payment for services rendered. And living out our baptismal calling to love and serve our neighbor and share the Good News is the highest goal for which we reach.

Please join me in praying for our congregation as we each seek to give thanks to God and serve our neighbor and share the Good News through our annual pledge decisions.

Your fellow receiver of grace, giver of offerings and sister in Christ,

Pastor Trish

Have You Heard the Good News? Fall Campaign Schedule



- Did you read it? Thank you for reading your personal letter from your stewardship team this week!
- October 2-9 - **New!** Electronic pledge form available on-line. (One week only opportunity.) Please go to www.gloriadeicr.com and click on the link. Print out the form, fill out and return to Gloria Dei. *If you return the electronic form you will not receive the Relay Bag.*
- October 16 - Red Relay Bags Sent Out. (Please pass the bag within 24 hours.)
- November 6 - Commitment Sunday (All pledge commitments returned.)

Long Range Planning Task Force Update

- The Task Force has researched the benefit of hiring a general contractor as part of the land development process. The Task Force believes it is beneficial to have a general contractor available at the earliest stages of planning to work alongside the architect and offer valuable expertise in raw land development. It is the consensus of the LRP Task Force that Gloria Dei have the assistance of a general contractor as we move forward. The group has met with Rinderknecht General Contractors and will interview additional general contracting firms.
- The LRP Task Force is moving forward to develop a preliminary overall site plan. The purpose of the site plan would be to help visualize different phases of land development. Once the preliminary plan is completed by the Task Force feedback will be requested from the congregation and small group discussions will be held about future ministry possibilities and how the land might be used to provide a place and opportunity for such ministry.
- The LRP Task Force appreciates your feedback and questions. All members are invited to attend LRP meetings. The Task Force meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. The meeting dates for the rest of 2011 are Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Dec 13.

Please take a moment to read the upcoming Lessons:

Oct. 2—*Exodus 1:6-22; 15:20—16:8*
Oct. 9—*Deuteronomy 5:1-22; 6:4-9*

Medicare Made Easy

Kathy and Brent Rickertsen will present an educational meeting on October 13, 10:00 a.m. at Gloria Dei for those currently on Medicare or soon to be eligible for Medicare. They will explain the 2012 benefits for Part A, B, C, and D of Medicare. No sales presentation will be made. Open to members and guests.

Fall Bake and Craft Sale

All are invited to share their talents by providing baked goods or crafts for the annual Fall Bake and Craft Sale, Sunday, October 16. Proceeds will go to camperships for the youth.

"Others First" Opportunities

Gloria Dei serves the community meals at 1st Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 9, 3:45-6:00 p.m. and at 1st Lutheran on Saturday, October 15, 1:00-6:00 p.m. Please sign up on the office window if you are able to help.

Annual CROP Walk - The world produces enough food each year to provide a healthy diet to everyone on the planet, but over 800 million people in the world go to bed hungry. About one-sixth of the world's people lack access to safe drinking water. Please plan to walk in the annual CROP Walk or sponsor a walker in the Sunday, October 9 CROP Walk. You may still sign up on Sunday October 2nd.

Blood Drive - Please mark your calendars. The fall Blood Drive will be held Monday, October 24, 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church. Watch for the sign-up soon.

Linn Community Food Bank - Please place non-perishable food items in the grocery cart. Or make a financial contribution by so indicating on your offering envelope.

CrossRoads Mission "winter warmth" program. Needed: donations of gently used winter coats for adults and winter clothing for all ages. You can drop the items off at CrossRoads Mission at 1006 2nd St. SW. (Receipts for tax deduction will be given if you ask).

Gloria Dei Tidings
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Office Hours: 8:00 - 1:00—Mon-Thu. 8:00-12:00—Friday

Please remember to periodically check your mailbox in the church fellowship hall. This saves on mailing costs. Please contact us with your new address when you move!

Deadlines for articles are the 8th and the 23rd of each month.

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October 1-15

Su. Oct. 2 8:00 am - **Worship/Holy Communion**
 9:20 am - Sunday School and Youth Forum
 9:20 am - New Member Class in Library
 9:25 am - Adult Forum
10:30 am - Worship/Holy Communion
 2:00 pm - Westridge Service

Mo. Oct. 3 6:30 pm - Bible Study

Tu. Oct. 4 7:00 am - Men's Bible Study
 6:30 pm - Marindi Task Force

We. Oct. 5 5:55 pm - Confirmation
 6:00 pm - Tone Chimes
 6:45 pm - Choir Rehearsal
 8:00 pm - Midweek Break

Th. Oct. 6 6:45 am - Women's Study at *Panera*
 5:00 pm - New Member Class
6:14 pm - Worship
 7:00 pm - Evangelism

Sa. Oct. 8 9:00 am - Quilting

Su. Oct. 9 8:00 am - **Worship**
 9:20 am - Sunday School and Youth Forum
 9:20 am - New Member Class
 9:25 am - Adult Forum
10:30 am - Worship
 11:30 am - Hot Dog and Brat Sales
 1:30 pm - CROP Walk at Thomas Park
 4:00 pm - Serve meal at 1st Presbyterian

Mo. Oct. 10 6:30 pm - Bible Study

Tu. Oct. 11 7:00 am - Men's Bible Study
 10:00 am - Assemble LWR School Kits
 6:00 pm - Long Range Planning Task Force

We. Oct. 12 5:10 pm - 2nd Grade Pre-Confirmation
 5:55 pm - Confirmation
 6:00 pm - Tone Chimes
 6:45 pm - Choir Rehearsal
 8:00 pm - Midweek Break

Th. Oct. 13 6:45 am - Women's Study at *Panera*
 10:00 am - Medicare Workshop
 5:00 pm - New Member Class
6:14 pm - Worship
 7:00 pm - Council

Sa. Oct. 15 8:30 am - Load LWR Truck
 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Cook/Serve Meat at 1st Lutheran

New Member Classes

New Member Classes will be held Sundays, October 2, 9, & 16 at 9:20 a.m. in the church library and Thursdays, October 6, 13, and 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Please let one of the pastors or the church office know if you plan to attend either set of sessions.

Assemble School Kits

Lutheran World Relief school kits will be assembled on Tuesday, October 11 at **10:00 a.m.** Many hands will make the task quick! Thank you to all who donated supplies!

Youth News

Brat and Hot Dog Sales

Hot dog and brat sales will be held October 9, 11:30–noon. High school youth will be selling hot dog and pop or brat and pop as a fundraiser for the 2012 Youth Gathering.

Invite an Adult to Sunday School

The Sunday School youth are inviting parents, relatives, and friends to visit their classroom on Sunday, October 16, 9:20-10:20 a.m. This is a chance to meet the teachers and be part of the Sunday morning education with the youth.

Youth Sing During Worship

Nursery through 5th Grade will be singing Sunday, October 16 during the 10:30 a.m. Worship. All youth in those age groups are expected to share their singing talents for the Church family. Gloria Dei t-shirts can be worn on that Sunday.

Fall Family Fun

All families and friends are invited to Gloria Dei on Saturday, October 29 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Plan on a spooktacular time, food, games, face painting, Halloween fun, and more. Bring a picture of your favorite pet. Costumes are optional. Don't miss out! *It's no fun if you don't come.*

2012 Calendars for Sale

The beautiful 2012 calendars are for sale now. The cost is still \$6.00 each and proceeds help fund the high school summer trips. Thank you for your support!

Quilting and Stamping

Gloria Dei Quilters will meet on Saturday, October 8 at 9:00 a.m. Please bring a snack to share. All who are interested in sewing or quilting are invited to come!

Gloria Dei Stampers will meet on Saturday, October 29 at 9:00 a.m. All who are interested in stamping are invited to come!