

June 2010 Glad Tidings



Our Gloria Dei Confirmands on Sunday, May 23.

Kaylee Trexler, Cameron Novak, Bethany Riddell, Christian Danner,
Matthew Tutto, Michael Vates, Kyle Scherer

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Dear Friends through Christ:

At our last congregation meeting in January we voted to move forward with a new sign. We voted to be 'good' Lutherans by translating the Latin of Gloria Dei into the language of the people, calling ourselves to the community "Glory to God"—where we truly hope to become A House of Worship and Prayer Where ALL People Are Welcome.

A couple of reasons given for this change are:

We are an aging congregation and denomination.

No longer can we put up a sign that says "Lutheran" and hope all the European immigrants know where to go. Another brutal but honest fact is that we are at a time when perhaps close to half of our members could be celebrating the Great Thanksgiving in heaven within the next 10 years. Therefore, if we are to not only survive, but hopefully thrive we must and I mean must be reaching out to those who do not speak Latin, who are not of Nordic descent and who do not understand our beautiful heritage.

We are also engaged in a battle with culture, a big world moving faster, getting smaller, who are increasingly disenchanted and even suspicious of our parent's and grandparent's church. Yet if we can convince some that we are a place where the Word of God is spoken, the sacraments offered freely to ALL people; then perhaps there is hope.

I truly believe this is a great time to be Church, because we are at a time in our history where there are more and more who do not know the wonderful stories of the Bible and their life-giving and life-saving power. That my friends is the mission of the church!

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

I truly believe that Mission is nothing but the one Church of God in constant motion, adjusting to the world, learning how to do theology in unaccustomed ways, asking hard, honest questions about our purpose and trying new and exciting ways of going about to fulfill that said purpose of Christ Jesus to “Go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them everything I have said.”

Like I said at the beginning of this letter, at our last congregation meeting we voted to move forward with a new sign. The time is right around the corner when we step out in faith and make this vision a reality. Sure it may not be the answer to all our problems, but it could be a step in the right direction. The sign will sit upon the existing brick and has been approved by the city. It is 10’ tall. The top 3’ will read, “Glory to God—A House of Worship and Prayer Where All People are Welcome.” The bottom 3’ will be an electronic colored message board, enabling us to communicate with the community not only some of our theology and beliefs, but enabling us to make known events and functions happening within our walls.

On Sunday June 27th we will hold a very brief congregation meeting at the beginning of worship to display the drawings of the new sign, to talk about cost and financing, and answer any question you may have. The meeting should take no longer than 15 minutes and I have vowed to condense my message to get all you home at about the normal time. Once we have approved the details we could have the new sign in approximately 6-8 weeks, proclaiming to the community “Glory to God!”

In Christian Love,

Pastor David Trexler

Dorcas Luncheon



June 2nd at 11:00 am.
SVAGO CAFE
 1103 Joliet St. Dyer, IN 46311
www.svagocafe.com.

Located just off US 30.
 Everyone is welcome.
 Just call Elaine VanProyen
 Phone (219) 924-4624

CAMP LUTHERAN HILLS

CALLING ALL YOUTH!!!



Monday July 5th thru Saturday July 10th

All young people going into the 7th thru 12th Grade are invited to join us for Camp at beautiful Lutheran Hills in Brown County.

7th-9th Graders will participate in “Trail Blazers”

10-12 Graders will participate in “Servant Camp”

As always—Bring a Friend!

It is a week you won’t forget. It is place to make life-long friends and grow closer to God.

Cost is normally \$295 However, for our members through the youth fund and making a deal with the camp we are able to lower the cost to \$200.

Such a deal for what your child will gain!

Brochures are in the Narthex with more information.

PS—If your child is younger than the 7th grade there are also plenty of opportunities for wonderful events and nearby Lutherwald. See brochure for info.

YOUTH TRIP

HOLIDAY WORLD



Mark your calendars for July 28nd and 29rd!

We will be leaving the Church at 4:00AM Wednesday July 28nd via Bus and traveling to Santa Clause Indiana to spend two days at Holiday World. (Voted the # 1 Theme Park in the country!)

We will return around 9:00 PM Thursday.

The trip is open to those entering the 7th grade through 12th grade.

Everyone is welcome to bring a friend.

The Cost for Gloria Dei members is only \$50.00 and for guest only \$70.00.

The trip includes transportation, two days of fun and rides at Holiday World, breakfast and supper, and lodging at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Jasper.

All you need to bring is your sleeping bag, \$ for lunch at the park, and your swim suit

Sign up is in the rear of the Narthex!

SERVICE COMMITTEE NEWS

Thank you for participating in the coin bank collection for the ELCA Hunger Appeal! Additional banks are available in the narthex..

We were informed recently that we only need the UPC section of the Campbell's soup labels. These are sent to benefit the Lutheran Mission School in Arizona.

Please continue to save the Oulll tabs from soda cans. These are turned in to benefit Camp Quality—a special week-long experience for children with cancer. Containers for the soup codes and pull tabs can be found in the kitchen next to the fridge.

CAN YOU HELP?

Gloria Dei will be providing the noon meal for the needy on Monday, July 5th at the First Presbyterian Church in Hammond. We will be serving approximately 150 “guests” our famous Chicken A La King. Please sign up on the narthex board if you are able to make a recipe (or two). The directions will be with the sign-up sheet. Bring your donation to our church kitchen by 9:30 am on the fth. Call if you have any questions.

Thank You!!
Nancy Talabay

PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry meets the second Thursday of every month at 10:00 am. All are welcome to join.

For further information contact Elaine Von Almen.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Calling all men of the church to remind y'all of this Saturday's men's breakfast. We'll be dining on the delectable delicacies put forth by the dynamic duo of Barry Fry and Rodney Glenn. So put on your feed bag and be here this Saturday at 8 am. See y'al there.

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Two days!
Thur & Fri

June 17
9 am to 2 pm

June 18
9 am to 1 pm

Start cleaning your basements, attics, and garages for the annual rummage sale on June 17&18. Items to bring are furniture, electronics, exercise equipment, appliances, kitchen items, tools, fishing equipment, books, wall hangings, toys, games, baby items and clean clothing- no broken items please. You can begin placing these items in the prayer room. If you are able to help sort and price items starting on June 1, please call Deanna Jahnke at 923-1760.

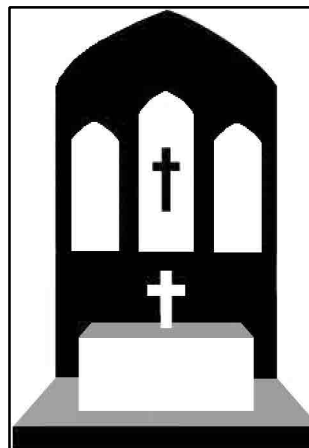
There will be a **BAKE SALE** along with the **RUMMAGE SALE**. There is a sign up sheet on the glass in the narthex. Best selling items are small breads, pies, muffins and cookies. Everyone's help is appreciated.

BIBLES FOR MISSIONS THRIFT STORE

The Bibles for Missions Thrift Store, which is located in downtown Highland, has been placing Bibles in Colombia, South America for the past 15 years. Our funds come from the sale of donated merchandise. The store is staffed by volunteers from churches of various denominations in the area.

The newly redecorated Bibles for Missions Thrift Store is located at 2821 Highway Ave. in downtown Highland. Come and enjoy our 10% Discount Sale, along with other in-store specials from June 1 through June 12.

New volunteers are always appreciated. Questions?
Call John Lagestee at [REDACTED] k you,



Serving in Worship Schedule

June	Liturgist	Reader	Greeter
6	Doug Riddell	Lauri Novak	The Pahrs
13	Vicar Dan	Elaine VonAlmen	The Glenss
20	Donna Antal	Greg Reed	The Abaties
27	Becky Tutto	Matt Tutto	Carole and Olga
July	Liturgist	Reader	Greeter
4	David Adams	Sandy Trexler	The Trexlers

Gloria Dei June 2010 Events Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship with Communion 11:00 am Dorcas Luncheon At Svago Café In Dyer	3 9:00 am to 11:00 am Foster Parent Training 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm Tri-Kappa	4 9:00 am to 11:00 am Foster Parent Training SYNOD CONVENTION	5 8:00 am Men's Breakfast SYNOD CONVENTION 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Kaftanic Bridal Shower 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
6 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	7 7:30 pm AA Meeting 7:00 pm Vicar Dan's Computer Class	8 7:00 pm Council Meeting	9 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship with Communion	10 10:00 am Prayer Ministry	11	12 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
13 9:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Community Worship at New Life In Highland (corner of Ridge and Duluth) Across Ridge Road from Main Square 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	14 7:30 pm AA Meeting	15	16 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship with Communion	17 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM Rummage and Bake Sale	18 8:00 AM TO 1:00 PM Rummage and Bake Sale	19 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion 3:00 pm Novak Wedding
20 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	21 7:30 pm AA Meeting 7:00 pm Vicar Dan's Computer Class	22	23 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship with Communion	24	25	26 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
27 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	28 7:30 pm AA Meeting	29	30 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship with Communion			



A LETTER FROM VICAR DAN

Greetings yall,

We go to work with others of another denomination or faith. We live next door to others of another denomination or faith. We do business with others of another denomination or faith. Yet, we sometimes have a real problem worshipping with others – even of another denomination. So, with this in mind, this month, **Sunday, June 13th, at 10:30 AM**, is an opportunity to join with 8 other area churches to commemorate 100 years of Highland, together, in a true celebration spirit. This will be an occasion to come together with other brothers and sisters in Christ in fellowship and worship. Since we are all part of the one true apostolic body of Christ, it is very important that we meet and greet others as true brothers and sisters in that vein. Since Gloria Dei is a part of this community and is called to join together with other believers, whatever their denomination may be, we have this occasion to rejoice in our shared belief in God. Your physical support is much needed to show that we surely are present in the whole body of Christ and the communion of believers in faith.

We will also enjoy some wonderful music by our very own David Markley and a choral from the high school. It will be an experience you will not want to miss. This event will be an exciting chance to support the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana with a free will offering. The food bank serves many who are the most in need during these severe economic times. This occasion will be held at 3010 Ridge Road right across the street from the Main Square. Be sure to mark your calendars for this very special time.

For those of you who wish to have a regular scheduled worship, in addition to the joint community fellowship or in lieu of it, we are moving the 10:00 AM service to 9:00 AM with our brand new seminary student, Joyce Partyka, preaching that morning. Joyce will be going off to Trinity Seminary in Columbus, Ohio this summer to begin her own faith journey along this path that we all share. We will take up our regular offering at this 9:00 AM service. If you plan on attending the joint worship at 10:30 AM, and not the 9:00 AM service at Gloria Dei, please remember to give your offering either the week before this event or the week after.

After the service is over shortly before noon, the town of Highland is hosting an old-fashioned family picnic in the Main Square so we can just walk across the street to enjoy those festivities.

Till next time. Keep the front porch light on and the dogs on the leash.
Vicar Dan Kerr

june birthdays

Day	Name	Day	Name
5	Doug Riddell	25	Joshua Carlasscio
6	Joel Novak	25	Deanna Jahnke
9	Scott Polster	26	Raymond Hansen
13	Carl Banek	26	Olivia Geiger
20	Lois Seehausen	27	Raymond Pollalis
20	Charity Riddell	28	Diane Adams
22	Mildred Latimer	29	Connor Gaines
22	Annette Holtan	30	Evan Schreiber
23	Joan Ray	30	Tracy Kocian
24	Eleanor Socin		

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: gloriadeiluth.com

Dial A Story: (219) 838-2576

A LETTER FROM JOYCE PARTYKA

I have been blessed – now I want to be a blessing
I have been loved – now I want to bring love
I've been invited – I want to share the invitation
I have been changed – to bring change, to bring change

To My Church Family,

The above are lyrics to a song by Aaron Niequist entitled "Changed". Change seems to be a theme in my life lately. It's an exciting and scary time, but as I have mentioned before it has really made me think about who and what has shaped me into the person I am today. And these song lyrics have most certainly been helping me to think through some of that.

I have most certainly been blessed. I have been blessed with the life that I have, the education that I have received and the gifts and talents that God has given me. You as a church have always reinforced the phrase "blessed to be a blessing." I am now coming to an understanding of what that phrase truly means. As I have graduated from Wittenberg University and now move on to Trinity Seminary it is yet another time in my life when it is time to turn around and use these blessing to praise God and be a blessing to others.

I have also been loved. I have been loved by you, my immediate family, and my God. Each and every one of those loves is a love that I cannot get from anywhere else. And the love that you have given me, the love that my immediate family has given me and the love that God has given me has taught me that I am called to love others. You have taught me to bring love.

I have been invited into a family, into a church family. This family is connected through Christ's love and God's sacrifice of His Son. As you have taught me to love and as you have been a blessing to me you have also taught me to share this blessing and this love with other people in the world. We are living in a time where less people go to church and more and more people need to be invited. It is our job as members of God's family to share the invitation to others.

As I have been reflecting I have realized that I have been changed. I have been changed by your blessing, by your love, and by your invitation. Through the grace of God you have changed me and knowing God has changed me. Because of the changes that have occurred in my life I am hoping and praying to bring change to other people. It's amazing how sharing God's word can change lives, how knowing God can change lives. I thank you all for changing my life and the one thing I ask you to remember is that we have all been blessed to be a blessing, loved to bring love, invited to share the invitation, and we have all been changed to bring change to other people!

Thank you for changing me! I wonder where else you are planting seeds and changing lives (you never know).

Love,
Joyce

Congratulations!!!!

To all our High School graduates:
Joshua Danner, Sophia Pollalis, Katie Schiller, and Lindsey Trexler

To our College graduates:
Joyce Partyka and Lauren Brechner

We at Gloria Dei wish you all the best in your next adventure. May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you all Peace!



You are invited to a Graduation Open House honoring Sophia Pollalis on Sunday, **June 6, 2010**, 3:00pm to 9:00pm at 2301 Robin Hood in Schererville. [REDACTED]

Everyone is invited to a Graduation Open House honoring Lindsey Trexler on Sunday, **June 27th** from 2pm to 8:00pm at 3047 Lakeside Drive in Highland. Food and Drink will be provided. Please let Pastor or Sandy know if you think you may be attending, so we know how much food to supply. [REDACTED]

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Web site: www.gloriadeiluth.com
Email: gdlc3711@sbcglobal.net
Phone (219) 838-5313
Dial a Story (219) 838-2576
3711 Ridge Road
Highland Indiana 46322

Gloria Dei

GLORY TO GOD

A New Kind of Church With an Old Message!
A Loving Congregation That Welcomes All People.