

november 2009
Glad Tidings

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY

Gloria Dei has sponsored a "HOLIDAY TREE" at the County Visitors Center on Kennedy Avenue. The display is now open. The tree was decorated using "ANGEL KITS" to make ornaments for the tree by our congregation. Drop by the Visitors Center to see our congregations craft work project on display.



Wedding Announcements

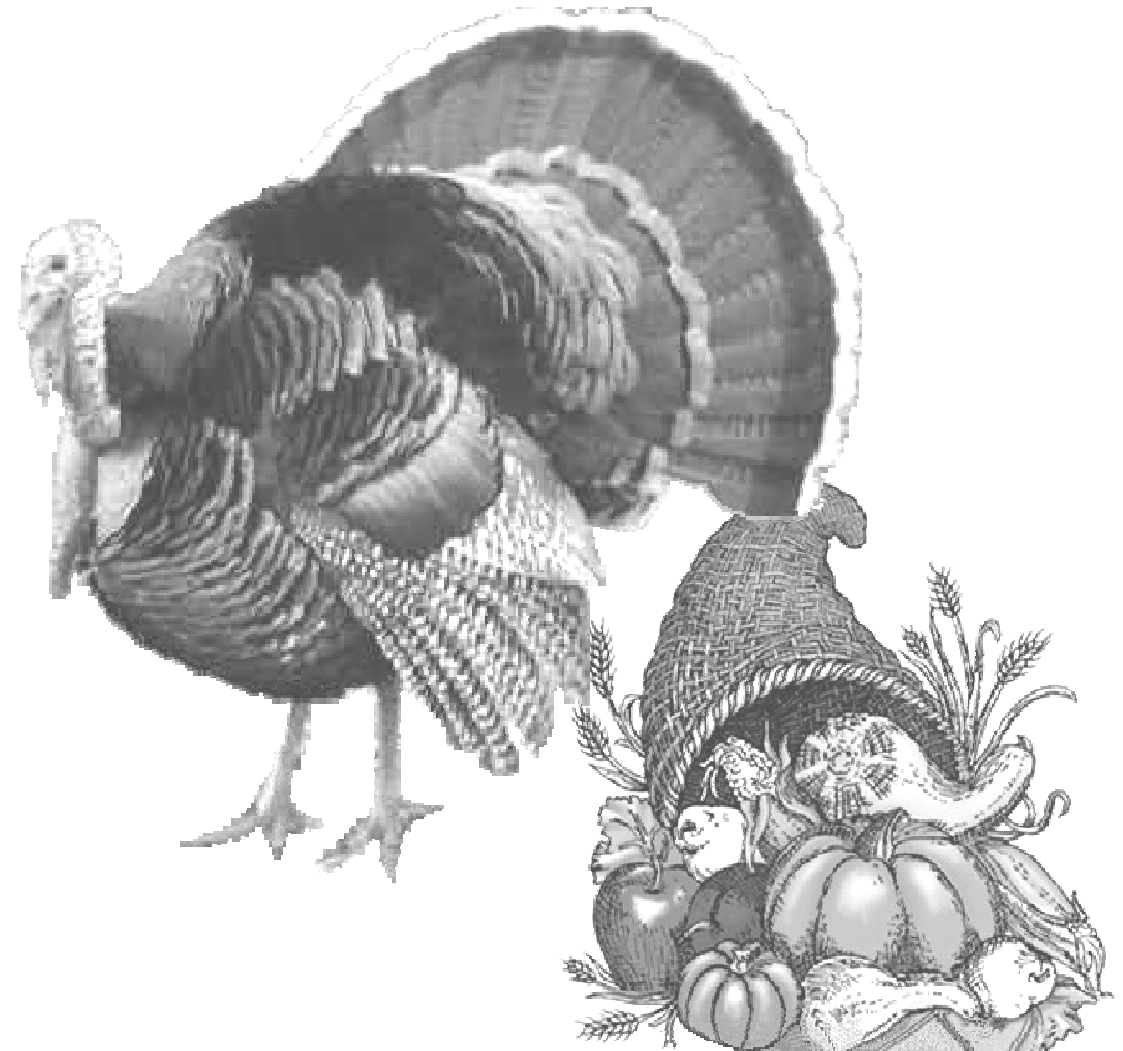


Proud parents Vicar Daniel and Jane Kerr are giving their daughter to Beau Kuhn on November 14.

Lois Boyd & Dean Seahausen are getting married at 3:00 pm here at Gloria Dei on Nov 14.

Congratulations to the happy couples!

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A LETTER FROM DAVID ADAMS

To: All Members of our Lamp Stand at Gloria Dei

It never ceases to amaze me – just how fast time flies by!

We're getting ready to enter that hectic – holiday filled time of the year when we spend time and money giving thanks and celebrating the birth of the Christ Child at Christmas (hopefully). It's the time of the year when we grow weary from all the work in celebrating that lies before us.

But the work of the Lord is never done. The work in His Church also must continue so that we can share the Gospel made known to us through God's Son – Jesus the Christ.

It doesn't take long to find scripture verses related to work – and certainly God's work in creation. The Holy Bible tells of the work spent by Moses in releasing God's chosen people from the Egyptians – Abraham fathering the nations of the World – and certainly the work of Jesus in following his Father's commands so he could save us from our own sinful nature.

The following verses are not usually used in our lectionary sequence for worship – but they hold meaning that should be very important to us as members of Christ's Church at Gloria Dei.

1 Timothy 3:10

¹⁰They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

Galatians 6:9

⁹Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

In the upcoming November Parish Council Meeting – your Council will be establishing the date when we'll hold our Annual Congregational Meeting in January. The day in which we'll look ahead to the New Year – and to the new membership on Parish Council who have been elected to positions of leadership. Right now is the time of the year in which we are actively looking for members of this Church to prayerfully consider "working" as members of Council.

Serving in Worship Schedule				
Sunday	Assistant Minister	Reader	Acolyte	Greeter(s)
Nov 1	Bev Arnold	Karen Achor	Kyle Polster	The Trexlers
Nov. 8	Doug Riddell	Greg Reed	Michael Vates	The Abaties
Nov. 15	Donna Antal	Lauri Novak	Brittney Choate	Carole Fozkos Olga Dahlgren
Nov. 22	Becky Tutto	Elaine Von Allmen	Christian Danner	The Adams
Nov. 29	Sandy Trexler	Carole Fozkos	Cody Novak	The Tallabays

November Birthdays



Nov		Nov	
1	Jeffrey Novak	21	Herman Biesen
8	Jeff Covault	21	Donald Scherer
8	Lois Evans	21	Lindsey Trexler
12	Carol Biesen	22	Charlene Partyka
14	Doris Boldt	24	Carole fozkos
15	Sharon Hamilton	25	Randall Vates
15	Karen Achor	28	Richard Armstrong
16	Bethany Riddell	29	Thomas Bakker
16	Kimberly Hawkins	29	Cameron Novak
17	Don Schaller		



Don't Miss



Men's Breakfast Club

We will meeting November the 7th at 8:00 am at Jedi's Garden.



ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR

NOVEMBER 7

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

We have been hard at work preparing for the HOLIDAY BAZAAR, have you? We are looking for crafts donated by ALL our members to make this the best bazaar yet.

We will be featuring items that will be for sale at the bazaar in the narthex in the weeks leading up to it. So get creative and also make plans to attend the Holiday Bazaar. We'll be looking for you.

Bake Sale and Home Made Food Items

JAMS	DRYSOUP MIXES	HOT CHOCOLATE
SALSA	BEER BREAD MIX	SPICE TEA
APPLE BUTTER	SOUTHWESTERN DIP MIX	

Have Lunch at the Café at Gloria Dei.

Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are on sale for a 9- Piece Longaberger Basket and Pottery Set valued at \$350. Tickets are \$1 or 6 for \$5.

NOTE: Take some raffle tickets home and sell them to you family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Just return the stubs and the money to Sandy Trexler or Elaine Von Almen. This is a fantastic gift and should be a great fund raiser.

Attic Treasures Room

We will have a special room to sell;

- ◆ Antiques
- ◆ Glass Ware
- ◆ Nick Knacks
- ◆ Trash or Treasure
- ◆ Re-gift Items (in new condition)

We will also have an Attic Treasure Room featuring non-wanted/little used items for resale. Please bring them by the church and give them either to pastor or place in storage room located in the last classroom on the right.

Please do not bring clothing items. These will be sold at the Annual Spring Sale.

In this position – the Church looks to its council members to help lead the Church but also follow the lead of God as we continue to grow in grace through Jesus. We grow in grace through worship – through fellowship – through love taught by Jesus – and through the opportunity to share our gifts by working as members of the body of Christ.

In the next few weeks, you may be tapped by a Council Member to consider having your name put in nomination for council – or maybe – you'll be moved by God's Holy Spirit to let your Church know you want to serve and give back some of the time that God has given you in your creation.

You may look at this as a test – I hazard to say it is an opportunity to serve. An opportunity that might make you weary – but an opportunity to help reap a harvest here at Gloria Dei and in God's world outside our walls.

We look for our council members to attend our meetings so that the "business" of the Church can be developed – decided and passed on to our members who have asked us to "step up" and keep God's Church vibrant and active in our community.

I truthfully view being a council member as a privilege, an honor and an opportunity to demonstrate what God asks of all His children – to work together for His Church and the betterment of His world.

Look into your heart – pray for God's guidance – review your opportunity to spend time being a part of the leadership of our Church – feel the privilege of being a part of God's Church at Gloria Dei in a way that helps all who call this Lamp Stand their Church Home. As we all discern how we can give back to God – let us not forget he gave His life for us – so we can be saved through His freely given grace!

May Christ's Peace be with you now and forever!

Dave Adams

Gloria Dei Council President

A LETTER FROM VICAR DAN

Greetings yall,

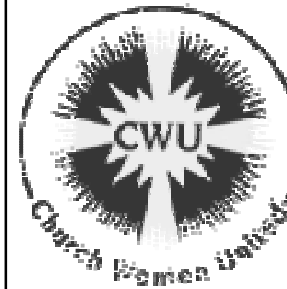
Well, this has been a busy time for the church and all that has been going on. It seems as though it will only get busier. I do not see how one person can possibly do it all. It has been an exciting time too. My days start with getting the next days schedule ready to go which includes planning for weeks ahead. Generally, I plan for upcoming events 2 weeks in advance because you just never know what will pop up. I now understand how seminary says that our schedule will be about a 60 hours week. Doesn't seem like enough time though. Time is very precious as the end of the church year rolls around as there are a myriad of things that must be accomplished prior to the Christmas season.

A typical week includes preparing for the Saturday and Sunday's worship, preparing for confirmation, performing my first funeral, preparing for the Revelation's classes, scheduling the computer dialer to go out for notifications like the confirmation classes, men's meeting, upcoming events and just a general myriad of things we have going on (be sure to listen when we call – it could be something you might want to know about), meeting with folks who come through the door needing our help, meeting with Pastor David on what the next issue is concerning our congregation and the church body as a whole, working on the databases that enable us to communicate to yall on a timely basis about upcoming events, working and planning for the upcoming Advent season, etc. If I am preaching for the weekend, the additional amount of time is almost like a part-time job in and of itself. The difficult question is always how the Gospel for this week means anything to us in today's times. Answering that question sometimes takes an enormous amount of time and discernment. Not like choosing what socks to wear in the morning. Although, that can be a challenge at times too.

Whew, I just don't know what I would do if I had to prepare a sermon every week in addition to all the above. That, I guess is where good volunteers become very valuable. It seems that when I came here I was glad to be getting away from school classes and studying and memorizing and such. While it seems like a lot to have on plates, I have found that if I can take each thing



Coming Events



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Nov. 6, 2009

World Community Day

At Woodmar Methodist
7320 Northeast Av. Hammond IN

Registration 9:30 am

\$ 8.00 Lunch

Call Clea McLeod or Elaine Van Proyen for more information

W/ELCA SUNDAY

Nov. 15, 2009

Thank You to all who donated for the School & Health Kits. We packaged 30 packages and delivered them to Valparaiso for Lutheran World Relief.

Your Sister in Christ
Elaine Van Proyen

Golden Opportunity Coupon Books

These books are available in the narthex for \$25 as much as \$9.00 will be donated back to the church. Buy one for yourself and a couple for friends and family. Sell them at your place of employment! They make wonderful gifts and at the same time teach us to be wise stewards. Last year alone Sandy and I saved over \$400 by simply using this book! Money for the books should be given to Gail Duro or Pastor .

Congratulations

Congratulations to Vicar Dan and his wife Jane on their 27th Wedding Anniversary on November 20th.

Service Committee News



Throughout November we will be collecting the contents of the coin banks (and accepting donations, too!) for the ELCA Hunger Appeal. There will be a marked container in the narthex as well as additional coin boxes, if needed.

Watch for the grocery sacks to be filled for the annual "Pack a Sack" food drive. A list of suggested items will be included but feel free to deviate from the. These groceries will be given to the highland and the Griffith food pantries for their holiday distributions. Please bring in your bags through Thanksgiving.



one at a time, somehow most get done. My day generally will end up being about 10 to 12 hours. I sure look forward to the times that I have off as I am sure most of you do.

The challenge is exciting and I look forward to being here each day as new things are always coming up. I hope that I have been inviting to each of you for your comments and concerns. I have enjoyed preaching on Saturdays and Sundays and look forward to more of the same. I hope to be able to insert a little Southern style into my sermons so get ready to roll.

I am excited about Christmas, even with all the things surrounding it. This time of year has always been special since my kids were little as they would always help us with putting just the wrong ornament on the right spot on the tree. If that makes any sense. Jane always makes a big turkey and the house smells like an earthly heaven. This year, my daughter is marrying on November 14th, so she and her new husband will be off doing their thing for the season. Oh well, time goes on.

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

Ladies' Birthday Club



Gloria Dei Women gather once a month at a selected date and Restaurant at 11:30 am. All women invited. Margaret Paulson selects the restaurant and time. This month the ladies will meet at Red Lobster in Munster on Nov 18th. Next month the ladies will meet at Tiebels on Dec. 16th.

Dorcas Circle

Dorcas Circle will be meeting at Gloria Dei in the kitchen on November 11th at 9:30 am.

All women of Gloria Dei are encouraged to attend.

- ◆ Business Meeting
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ Great Conversations
- ◆ Delicious Refreshments

NOTE:

For more information or for any questions call Fran Abatie at (661-0455)

Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday November 25 7:00 pm



What better way to start the Holiday Season than lifting up prayers of Thanksgiving to the One who gives us everything?

Gloria Dei November 2009 Events Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:00 am to 9:30 am Revelation Class 10:00 am All Saints Sunday Worship with Communion (Wear White) 11:00 am Coffee Hour Youth Education during Worship 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	2 7:30 pm AA Meeting 10:00 am to 11:30 pm Revelation Class 6:30 to 8:00 pm Revelation Class	3	4	5 10:00 am to 11:30 pm Revelation Class 6:30 to 8:00 pm Revelation Class	6 CWU World Community Day	7 9:00 am (Jedi's) Men's Breakfast 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Holiday Bazaar 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
8 8:00 am to 9:30 am Revelation Class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour Youth Education during Worship 10:30 am to 7:30 pm IUNW Reading Program 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	9 7:30 pm AA Meeting 10:00 am to 11:30 pm Revelation Class 6:30 to 8:00 pm Revelation Class	10 4:30pm to 7:00pm Confirmation Class	11 9:30 am Dorcas Circle 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Foster Parent Training	12 10:00 am to 11:30 pm Revelation Class 6:30 to 8:00 pm Revelation Class	13	14 3:00 pm Lois Boyd & Dean Seahausen Wedding 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion W/ELCA Fall Retreat
15 8:00 am to 9:30 am Revelation Class 10:00 am W/ELCA Sunday Worship with Communion Youth Education during Worship 11:00 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am to 7:30 pm IUNW Reading Program 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	16 7:30 pm AA Meeting 10:00 am to 11:30 pm Revelation Class 6:30 to 8:00 pm Revelation Class	17 6:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm Council Meeting	18 11:30 pm Ladies Birthday Club Red Lobster in Munster	19 10:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:00 am to 11:30 pm Revelation Class 6:30 to 8:00 pm Revelation Class	30	21 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
22 8:00 am to 9:30 am Revelation Class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion Youth Education during Worship 10:30 am to 7:30 pm IUNW Reading Program 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	23 7:30 pm AA Meeting	24 4:30pm to 7:00 pm Confirmation Class	25 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Worship Service	26 Thanksgiving Holiday	27	28 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
29 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion Youth Education during Worship 11:00 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am to 7:30 pm IUNW Reading Program 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	30 7:30 pm AA Meeting					