



November / December 2017

Down By The Riverside

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Columbus Blvd & Christian St, Philadelphia, PA 19147 215-389-1513

Thoughts from the Rector's Warden

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone who helped to make Joy's retirement celebration a joyous event. The day was filled laughter, lots of good food and a few tears. We are grateful for her 11 ½ years of devoted service to Gloria Dei. She will be missed.

We are now in the transition phase. The next couple months will be an adjustment for all of us. We must remember to be kind to one another and support each other through this change. Rev. Paul Harris will continue to lead us in worship on Sundays as well as during the holidays. We are truly blessed to have him with us.

The Search Committee of Gloria Dei has been working very hard interviewing candidates and sorting through resumes. Very soon we will be announcing the name of our next rector! Please keep this committee in your prayers.

October is now coming to an end and Lucia practice has already begun. Thanksgiving will be here before you know it then it will be Christmas. Where did the time go?

As we head into our busy season at Gloria Dei, we will be in need of lots of volunteers to help during Lucia. If you have some time to spare over Lucia weekend, Dec. 8th, 9th and 10th, we can certainly find a place to put you to work. Remember many hands make light work.

I will leave you with a quote from William James

*Act as if what you do makes a difference
It does*

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season,

Carol Jenkins



Christmas Thanksgivings and Memorials

If you would like to give thanks or remember a loved one this Christmas, consider contributing to our Christmas Flowers. The enclosed envelope may be filled out and mailed, or you may place it in the offering basket on upcoming Sundays. All names and contributions need to be received in the office by Friday, December 15th for names to be included in our Christmas bulletins.



Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for an upcoming Sunday please call the office and let us know. You may provide the flowers yourself or you may provide funds for flowers and a volunteer “flower person” will purchase and place the flowers for you.



Donate to Gloria Dei
Make a pledge payment
Purchase books
Make Amazon purchases



Now all these things can be done online at Gloria Dei's website!
Just visit us at www.old-swedes.org and find out what else we're doing.
Check out our Facebook page while you're there.

Presence (and Presents) in Prayer

As I write this article, I am trying to ignore many distractions and just be present to the task at hand. Lately, it has been difficult for me to stay in the present moment. My mind wanders to the things I have to do, to the emotional pain I don't want to feel, and to the Thanksgiving meal I need to plan. You, too, may be distracted from the present by the sadness of the end of Joy's tenure as rector of Gloria Dei or by anger about the state of our nation or by the many responsibilities of the holiday season.

In my role as coordinator of the Prayer Ministry, I am entrusted with stories every week ~ stories of people in pain, people in need of prayer. It is easy for me to write down their names and concerns, but harder to make time to be truly present with those names in an uninterrupted moment of prayer. But I believe that is what we are all called to do. In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul writes, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18). Paul recognized how easy it was for these early Christians to become distracted by thoughts about the past (i.e., their life prior to knowing the gospel) and the future (i.e., the impact that being new Christians might have on their lives). And he knew that joy, prayer, and gratitude would help.

Indeed, prayer is a gift, a "present" that helps us practice true "presence" with what is going on right now in our lives. As we approach Thanksgiving, enter Advent, and anticipate Christmas, I pray that we can all take time to truly receive and utilize the gift of prayer and be present to everything that this human experience offers.

Peace and presence,

Megan Bartlett

Prayer Ministry Coordinator

If you would like to share a prayer concern with us, please contact me at megan77777@yahoo.com or call the church office to leave a message: 215-389-1513. Our intercessors pray for individuals for 30 days unless a request for additional prayers is made.

Stewardship

By the time you receive this, we'll be about ready to celebrate All Saints Day on Sunday, 05 November 2017. All Saints Day is a major feast in the church. We sing:

I sing a song of the saints of God,
patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died.

All the saints of God. All those patient and brave and true. All those who toiled and fought, all those who lived and died. All our friends and relatives, all those sleeping outside the church windows in the graveyard, all of them ...

And that's the day we choose to celebrate our pledge gifts because they're our gifts to the church, the place that supports all the saints.

You've heard on three Sundays in October about our need to be grateful with our return of "treasure" for all God has done for us, given for us. We heard last month the scary yet comforting words of Jesus in Matthew's gospel:

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

Keeping this parish operating is part of the way we do for our brothers and sisters, those who sit in our pews and those who don't yet sit in our pews. Our pledges go to keep this parish operating and - in a small way that ought to be a larger way, we're working on that - reach out to all those people outside our walls.

Thank you for your gifts, your thankfulness for all of God's gifts to you. And rest assured - you'll hear from us about stewardship, being thankful, all the rest of the year.



The Stewardship Committee

Jerry Buescher, Barbara Potts,
Mark Roberts, Richard Woehr



Christmas Services at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24, 2017

7:00 PM Holy Communion, with Sunday School Tableau

Christmas Fellowship in Riverside Hall
will follow Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day – Monday, December 25, 2017

7:00 AM Julotta (Swedish Service)

10:00 AM Holy Communion

1st Sunday after Christmas – Sunday, December 31, 2017

10:00 AM Holy Communion

*1st Sunday after the Epiphany – The Baptism of Jesus –
Sunday, January 7, 2018*

10:00 AM Holy Communion and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Hospitality

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2

The Hospitality Committee thanks everyone who contributed his or her time, talent, and treasure during the past couple months. We had a visit from Bishop Michel for confirmation and dedication of the Memorial Garden space for the remains transferred from St. John's, our celebration of the Rev Joy's ministry to us, and the annual commemoration of the loss of the SS Poet. And people stepped in the help with those events.

Welcoming the guests that God entrusts to us those days in particular required **action**. And the Sundays coming up also require **action**. I'm asking everyone to find it in his or her heart to take that action and contribute. Contribute some part of yourself to make those events more special to all those involved.

Thank you to all who've extended themselves over the past few weeks.


Peggy Buescher for the Hospitality Committee: Re Hemming,
Rita West, Barbara Chilcott, and Susan Weinman

Calendar

- Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** **Chair Yoga with Kathy** - 9:00am Riverside Hall, chairs provided
Great opportunity to gently stretch and strengthen muscles, reduce stress, and develop better breathing habits. Drop in class, all levels welcome. \$ 10 per session
- Nov 5, 12, 19** Lucia Rehearsal - 1:00 - 4:00
- Nov 7, 14, 21, 28** Evensong - Tuesdays at 6:30pm
Meditation with Sheila - Tuesdays at 5:45pm, Riverside Hall.
Re-center and find your inner guidance. Drop-in class. Free.
Yoga with Sarah - 7:15pm Riverside Hall,
drop in class, all levels welcome, \$ 10 per session. A slow-flow mindful practice that uses the physical shapes of Yoga Asana to deepen your awareness of breath. Mats available to borrow.
- Nov 12** Church of Sweden - 4:00 service, followed by fellowship in Riverside Hall
- Nov 13** HGDP Meeting - 5:30pm, Roak Hall
- Nov 16** Swedish Colonial Society Meeting - 11:00am - 3:00pm, Riverside Hall
Vestry Meeting - 7:00pm, Riverside Hall
- Nov 22** Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:00pm
- Nov 23** Happy Thanksgiving!



Calendar

- Dec 3** Lucia dress rehearsal, 1:00 Dinner to follow
- Dec 4** Last day for all online Lucia ticket sales
- Dec 5, 19** Evensong – Tuesdays at 6:30pm
Meditation with Sheila – Tuesdays at 5:45pm, Riverside Hall.
Re-center and find your inner guidance. Drop-in class. Free.
Yoga with Sarah - 7:15pm Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$ 10 per session. A slow-flow mindful practice that uses the physical shapes of Yoga Asana to deepen your awareness of breath. Mats available to borrow.
- Dec 6, 20** Chair Yoga with Kathy - 9:00am Riverside Hall, chairs provided
Great opportunity to gently stretch and strengthen muscles, reduce stress, and develop better breathing habits. Drop in class, all levels welcome. \$ 10 per session
- Dec 8, 9, 10** Lucia Fest & St. Eric's Fair – Tickets are \$13 adult, \$7 under 12. Check website or call church office for show times and to purchase tickets.
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- Dec 14** Vestry Meeting – 7:00pm, Riverside Hall
- Dec 15, 16** Sexton Sideshow Honky Tonk & Hootenanny
- Dec 24** Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 Holy Communion, with Sunday School Tableau, fellowship in Riverside Hall following
- Dec 25** Julotta (Swedish Service) – 7:00am
Regular Service – 10:00 Holy Communion
- Dec 31** First Sunday after the Epiphany Service – 10:00 Holy Communion

The Lectionary for November

November 5th, All Saint's Sunday

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Revelation 7:9-17

Psalm 34:1-10,22

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12

November 12th, Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through like with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Wisdom 6:12-16

Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

November 19th, Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Psalm 90:1-8(9-11)12

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

November 22nd, Thanksgiving Eve

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Psalm 65

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Luke 17:11-19

November 26th, Last Sunday after Pentecost

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24

Psalm 95:1-7a

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

The Lectionary for December

December 3rd, First Sunday of Advent

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

December 10th, Second Sunday of Advent

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

December 17th, Third Sunday of Advent

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24th, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Canticle 15 The Song of Mary

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

December 24th, Christmas Eve

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96:1-9

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-20

December 25th, Christmas Day

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Isaiah 62:6-12

Psalm 97

Titus 3:4-7

Luke 2:1-20

December 31st, First Sunday after Christmas

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 147:13-21

Galatians 3:24-25, 4:4-7

John 1:1-18



*To support the historic preservation of the properties
and grounds for Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church
so that future generations may share in
this historic and architectural treasure.*

100 HGDPCC

Founding Lifetime Member

This opportunity is for those who wish to support The Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation and for those who wish to honor an important person in their life by making a gift in a loved one's name. The **HGDPCC 100 Founding Lifetime Member** program will be offered to the first 100 individuals who pay \$1,000 or pledge \$1,000, to be paid quarterly or monthly over 12 consecutive months by check or credit card.

There are many benefits to becoming a HGDPCC 100 Founding Lifetime Member

Benefits to enrich our society:

- You will be contributing to the long-term preservation of this historic property
- Your gift will inspire others to join in this mission to preserve Old Swedes
- You will have the satisfaction of knowing that your gift will be safely invested to provide support for decades to come

Benefits to share our story:

HGDPCC 100 Founding Lifetime Members will be acknowledged for their contributions in the following manner:

- Names will be permanently displayed and honored on the website, in Annual Reports, and in selected HGDPCC publications
- Receive a beautiful lapel pin to wear and identify yourself as a supporter of Old Swedes
- Receive a certificate of appreciation, suitable for framing
- Free attendance to one HGDPCC event each year and offered discounted tickets to other events as may be appropriate
- Will be able to build marketing exposure by offering door prizes at events



*Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Preservation Corporation
Columbus Blvd. & Christian St., Philadelphia, PA 19147
Please join us Today by check or online at www.preserveoldswedes.org*

Lucia Fest, 2017

St. Eric's Fair



Friday, Dec. 8 - 6:00 & 8:00
Saturday & Sunday,
Dec. 9 & 10
2:00, 3:30 & 5:00

Tickets: Adults - \$13
Children under 12 - \$7

Tickets available online to Dec. 1, 2017
at www.old-swedes.org and then at door

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

Columbus Boulevard & Christian Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147
(215) 389-1513





Welcome the Newest Members

Baptized on *September 17, 2017*

Peyton Rose Bryson
Mason Thomas Bryson
Brooks Eli Webb
Leland James Richardson

Confirmation & Reception

on *September 24, 2017*

Jordan Amato
Isabella Eisenstein
Victoria Viera
Eric Soltzcki

Celebrate the Newly Married

Michael Campanese & Kimberly McKenna
on *September 16, 2017*

Memorial Cards:

Joseph Squillocti
By: Marge Kucinski

Anthony Francese
By: Mike Stolinski, Geri Howlett,
Marge Lord, Bert Kubiak,
Joe & Dolores Collins

Carol Mapes

By: Bert Kubiak
Jeanette Ketterlinus
By: Bob & Jean Weill



Sunday Service:

10:00 AM

Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM

Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30-2:30

CLERGY

The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector
The Rev. Paul Harris, Assoc. Clergy

STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director
Christine McBride, Parish Admin.
Paula & James Minacci, Sextons
Mark Roberts, Treasurer

VESTRY

Peggy Buescher
Jill Duink, Accounting Warden
Carol Jenkins, Rector's Warden
Leigh Jenkins, Secretary
Jamie Konowal
Lisa Reeves
Mark Roberts
Eric Soltzcki
James Ufheil
Nils van Ammers
Rita West
Jeanette Woehr



STANDING NOTICES

Weddings

Weddings at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church must be scheduled with the clergy at least three months in advance. All weddings in the church will be governed by the Canons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Book of Common Prayer. Pre-marital counseling is a prerequisite. No weddings will be conducted during Lent.

Funerals

When death occurs a family member is asked to contact the clergy so that timely arrangements for a funeral may be made. It is appropriate for the funeral of a Christian to take place in the church. It is also appropriate that funeral arrangements be made in advance and kept in a file in the church office. Burial plots are available for members of the parish in the church's cemetery. Consult the church office for costs and details.

Baptisms

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during one of the principle Sunday liturgies and is governed by the Canons of the church and the Book of Common Prayer. Baptism is normally celebrated on one of the four appropriate feast days designated in the Book of Common Prayer. These are: The Baptism of Our Lord (1/7/18); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/1/18); Pentecost (5/20/18); and All Saints Sunday (11/4/18). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.

Gloria Dei Church

Every Sunday, every week, every month, every year – the doors of this church are open for worship.

Like food for our bodies, worship is how we nourish our faith so our faith is strong when we need it.

The message of this church is timeless. The message is about faith, hope, and love – the most sustaining words in any language on earth.

We can't avoid the hardships of life. But our faith, hope, and love make us understand that Jesus, the Christ, walks with us and keeps us.

**The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep
darkness – on them light has shined.**

(Isaiah 9:2)

*Inscribed under one of the angels
at the back of the church*



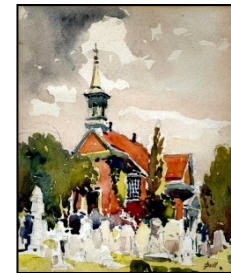
Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church
916 S. Swanson Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147

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To seek and serve Jesus
Christ in all persons

PLEDGE Card
2018

STAND UP



**Gloria Dei (Old Swedes')
Episcopal Church**
Columbus Boulevard & Christian Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147

Stewardship – it's not a word to hide the statement "Look out! The church wants money!"

No, "stewardship" means acknowledging what has been entrusted to us and acting accordingly. Our scriptures are clear: "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."
(Luke 6:38) We give not because the church needs money but because humans need to give.

God expects us to give back, not because a rule book says "You owe 10%," not because we feel pressured by other church people to do so, and not because we're trying to buy ourselves out of something we feel bad about.

Giving is one of the driving forces for spiritual growth. We pay attention to all God has given us, we are thankful for that. Thankfulness makes us, in turn, want to be generous, want to help what God is trying to get done in the world.

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

Please consider all God has given us and ask what we are called to give back to God through care for each other and for stewardship of God's good creation.

Please think about what you can give back to God. At the moment, we're asking you to think about what you can contribute financially and to fill in the items to the right.

As time goes by, we'll get back to you to ask about what commitments of the parish you can help by giving your time and your talents.

We ask you to bring this form with you to church on Sunday, November 5th, and to put it into the offering plate on that day, the Feast of All Saints, and Commitment Sunday.

If you cannot be here that day, then please mail it to the church office.



Tithing Your Pledge

To tithe is to give 10% of your blessings. Consider the chart below. Find your current giving and consider pledging 10% more in 2018.

Present Weekly / Monthly Giving	Suggested Weekly / Monthly Giving
\$1.00	\$1.10
\$5.00	\$5.50
\$10.00	\$11.00
\$20.00	\$22.00
\$50.00	\$55.00
\$100.00	\$110.00
\$150.00	\$165.00

What can you give towards the Church's financial obligations this year?

_____ weekly / monthly / yearly

Information for the Church Directory.

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

eMail Address: _____

Contributions, donations and pledges may be paid online at www.old-swedes.org

GLUE AREA. ANYTHING PRINTED IN THIS AREA MAY BE DESTROYED WHEN OPENED.

***Remember your loved ones with a Christmas Memorial
& In Thanksgiving gift to Gloria Dei this year.***

Enclosed is our contribution of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Please make checks payable to Gloria Dei Church.

Printing in this area is not recommended and will be subject to review

Please check one Flower Memorials In Thanksgiving

I / We would like to remember these names in the Christmas Memorials:

I / We give an offering In Thanksgiving for:

GLUE OVERLAP. ANYTHING PRINTED IN THIS AREA MAY BE DESTROYED WHEN OPENED.

www.old-swedes.org

A Christmas offering for Gloria Dei



Gloria Dei

Columbus Blvd. & Christian St.
Philadelphia, PA 19147

*Gloria Dei Church
Columbus Blvd. & Christian St.
Philadelphia, PA 19147*