



September / October 2017

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

The first, the last, the always

As I write this, my final *Thoughts from the Rector*, I cannot help but consider the broad expanse of days and experiences we have shared over these past eleven and a half years. Thinking back to that first Sunday, February 26, 2006, as I stood before you to lead you in worship for the first time, I remember praying that together we would learn to know and love each other in ways that would echo the words of Jesus to his disciples: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (*John 13:34b-35*)

Over the years we have shared so much; major life events of births, baptisms, confirmations, weddings, deaths; the joys of our lives broken open by new relationships and the sorrows of broken relationships; events that called us to work diligently, side by side; shared service in our calling to seek and serve the most vulnerable in our midst; worshipping together through the many and varied seasons of the church year; gathering in the midst of tragedies and celebrations; and so much more. These times in our lives that we have shared as a faith community over the years have brought us into an intimate fellowship, a relationship of trust and compassion, and a shared faith that God is with us now as we rejoice in the years that have past, mourn the end of our time together, and look with hope to the days to come.

And so, it is with both joy and sorrow that I write, one last time, to you, my sisters and brothers in Christ. Joy that I have been blessed to be here with you, working in the Kingdom of God alongside you, praying with you, laughing and crying with you, being fully human together as we found it easy some days and struggled other days to love each other as God loves us; and sorrow at this time of parting.

I can think of no better words, no better thoughts, no better prayer to leave you with than the one I have closed Lucia Fest with for so many years. May the words of the prayer ring with the truth of our time together, echo the experiences of the past, and embody the vision for the future of this place, and for all God's people.

(continued on next page)

May you know how much it has meant for me to be a part of this community. And may you know how much I love you and give thanks for you. You will always be in my prayers.

Grace beyond Our Grasp, by *Ted Loder*

Holy God, the mystery of your infinite loftiness is not greater than that of your immanent presence, and we gather in awe of both,
and of you.

In this moment we thank you for lacing eternity
into our time,

The longing for what lasts into our hearts, traces of your kingdom
into the round of our days,

The assurance that you have made us for yourself into the core
of our souls.

We praise you for the joy that renews us through the miracle
of each other,

The wonder of children, the sharing of bread, the occasions of justice,
the healing of music,

The sprawl of sunsets, the scatter of stars, the anchoring of prayer,
the gift of Christ,

The summons of your Spirit, making us small but blest partners
in your ongoing creation.

For your grace beyond our grasp we praise you and ask that
you deepen our faith and strengthen our faithfulness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings and Peace, *Joy +*



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.

FAREWELL CELEBRATION



You are cordially Invited to join us
as we celebrate the retirement of

Rev. D. Joy Segal

Sunday October 8th 2017

Service at 10:00 am

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church



A reception will follow immediately after
in Riverside hall

Thoughts from the Rector's Warden

Changing times are upon us.

Joy's retirement is quickly approaching. On October 8th, we will celebrate the retirement and departure of our 25th rector. We have spent the past 11 and half years working for the betterment and well-being of Gloria Dei church with Joy as our leader. When she arrived it marked a changing of the guard in a very different way. She became the first female rector at Gloria Dei. This was a major adjustment for our congregation. Many were very excited about a complete and totally new feeling at church. Church with a feminine feel. We changed from a strong fatherly feel and took on a calmer motherly feeling, not weak and mild but a comfortable guidance with encouragement. Of course, when needed she was bold and as outspoken as any male clergy and sometimes more so. This change was easy for some and difficult for others. People come around to change at their own pace and some take longer to adjust than others. We must have patience and understanding for people who process change differently from ourselves.

The retirement celebration also brings with it the realization that we must move forward and say goodbye to Rev. Joy Segal. Many emotions spring up for me and many of you have expressed a deep sadness and anxiety for the future of our church. We have been blessed by Joy's presence and spiritual guidance. Joy taught us to trust in God and to have faith, knowing that we are never alone. We walk this journey together and we will move to the next phase of life at Gloria Dei as one. The Holy Spirit is guiding us on our journey.

Change can be a scary but it can also open the door to new ideas and great possibilities.

I ask everyone to show kindness and understanding towards one another during this transition period. Myself and the vestry of Gloria Dei are always available to answer any questions or concerns that you may have.

In closing I would like to personally thank Joy and Alan Segal who have made Gloria Dei church a better place for having been with us. I wish you both much health and happiness in retirement. May you look back on your time spent at Gloria Dei as joyous and fulfilling.

The congregation of Gloria Dei church sends love beyond measure to you both. You will be missed!

Carol Jenkins



Project Church Kids
Young People ages 9 to 12
Join as we find ourselves within
our church yard & beyond looking
for ways to make an impact in our World.
What can we accomplish?
Bring Ideas and an Open Heart.
Let's get our hands dirty and find out!
Monthly gatherings start
Sunday, September 10th after church.



Let's Go Green!

Are you interested in helping Gloria Dei reduce it's "carbon footprint" and live a greener life? Come join the Green Committee and help us decide where to start and what to do.




Contact Julie Daye, Heather Myers, or Paula Minacci for more information.

Calendar

- Sept 3** Matsiko World Orphan Choir
- Sept 10** Return of Sunday School! - open house and registration following Holy Communion (ages 5-8)
Project Church Youth Group -immediately following mass, Riverside Hall (ages 9-13)
Church of Sweden - 4:00 service, followed by fellowship in Riverside Hall
- Sept 11** HGDP Meeting - 5:30pm, Roak Hall
- Sept 12, 19, 26** Evensong - 6:30pm - Sanctuary
Yoga with Sarah - 7:15pm in Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class. A slow-flow mindful practice that uses the physical shapes of Yoga Asana to deepen your awareness of breath. Mats available to borrow.
Meditation with Sheila - Tuesdays at 5:45pm, Riverside Hall. Re-center and find your inner guidance. Drop-in class. Free.
- Sept 6, 27** **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 (this month classes are on the 6th & 27th only)
- Sept 17** **Baptism** - during the 10:00am service
- Sept 21** **Swedish Colonial Society Meeting** -11:00am - 3:00pm, Riverside Hall
Vestry Meeting - 7:00pm, Riverside Hall
- Sept 24** **Bishop's Visit and Confirmation** - Bishop Rodney Michel will be with us to celebrate, preach, confirm and receive at our 10:00am service. A reception for the Bishop, the confirmands, and those being received will follow the service in Riverside Hall.
- Sept 27** **Diocesan Pre-Convention Meeting** - 5:30 to 9:00pm, Riverside Hall
- Sept 28** *JAZZ & Joe* returns!!! - 7:30pm, Riverside Hall

Calendar

- Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31** Evensong – 6:30pm – Sanctuary
- Yoga with Sarah** – 7:15pm in Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class. A slow-flow mindful practice that uses the physical shapes of Yoga Asana to deepen your awareness of breath. Mats available to borrow.
- Meditation with Sheila** – Tuesdays at 5:45pm, Riverside Hall. Re-center and find your inner guidance. Drop-in class. Free.
- Oct 4** **Blessing of the Animals** – 6:30pm. Please join us in honoring St. Francis by honoring the animals he loved so dearly. Bring your pets (leashed or caged, please).
- We will bless all animals, say a few prayers, and share some goodies in the Parish Hall afterwards.
- Oct 8** **Pastor Joy’s Last Mass**
- Church of Sweden** - 4:00 service, followed by fellowship in Riverside Hall
- Oct 9** HGDPCC Meeting – 5:30pm, Roak Hall
- Oct 19** **Vestry Meeting** – 7:00pm, Riverside Hall
- QVNA/HGDPCC Speaker** – 7:00pm, in the church
- Oct 21** **Flea Market** – 8:00am – 3:00pm.
Spaces paid for at the door, \$25
- Oct 22** **Tribute to the USS Poet** – during 10:00am service
- Oct 26**  **Jazz & Joe** – 7:30pm, Riverside Hall
- Oct 27** **Graveyard Boo-Ga-Loo**
- 5:00 – 7:00 FREE family fun, crafts & trick-or-treating
- 7:00 – 11:00 adults only! \$10 donation includes food & live music. Wear your costumes!
- Sponsored by Philadelphia Brewing Co.
- Oct 29** **First Lucia Rehearsal** – 1:00pm

The Lectionary for September

September 3rd, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalm 26:1-8

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

September 10th, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalm 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

September 17th, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalm 103:1-13

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

September 24th, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Psalm 145:1-8

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

The Lectionary for October

October 1st, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

October 8th, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Service for the Ending of a Pastoral Relationship

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

Ecclesiastes 3:1-7, 7:8

Psalm 119:89-96

Thessalonians 5:12-24

John 10:14-16, 27-30

October 15th, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm 23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

October 22nd, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-10

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

October 29th, Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost. S.S. Poet Remembrance

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalm 1

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

THE JAZZ SANCTUARY INC.

Come hear what you've been missing!

Special Performance
Celebrating Rev. Segals' Ministry at Gloria Dei

JAZZ & Joe

Sept. 28 Oct. 26

4th Thursdays



Stewardship

We're completing the year, the whole year, we said we'd spend talking about, thinking about, doing something about stewardship, rather than the once-and-done, month-of-October approach we'd done for many years.

The goal we of the Stewardship Committee set was to bring stewardship from the sideline into the center of our souls and minds, and to make it the main work of our faith-driven lives.

What is this "main work of the church" that we're committed to? We quoted to you from Pastor Michael Caine, Pastor and Teacher of Old First Reformed Church, our neighbor at Fourth and Race. He said he was speaking to his congregation about how "stewardship works 'on the inside.' Not how it works collectively for us as a congregation, but how it works for us individually. How it makes a difference in our walk of faith." We shared those words at the beginning of Lent, with its enormous collection of services reminding us of repentance, "turning back" to being always aware of God in our lives, to being aware of the words of Jesus about our kinship with God and with each other, and the need to act on those words.

In the Easter season, as we heard the words of Acts every Sunday, we remembered that stewardship involves giving, giving back, in gratitude for God's gifts to us. The Stewardship Committee presented a report at the Annual Meeting. We can all be proud that our pledges of "treasure" this year reversed a long-term decline in those pledges. We thank all of you for that.

We talked about how the giving of time, talent, and treasure provides meals for the families of children being treated at the Ronald McDonald House. Giving time, talent, and treasure provides occasions where people who don't belong to the parish can gather, have some food, listen to some music, and enjoy one another's company. Giving time, talent, and treasure makes possible two of the city's largest flea markets, where vendors can make a dollar or two, where shoppers can find some bargains, where all of them can share an enjoyable time together. As the Message version of Matthew 18:20 puts it "And when two or three of you are together because of me, you can be sure that I'll be there."

As I began, we're closing out the year we all spent working to make Stewardship the main work of our faith-driven lives. Have we done everything we could? Probably not. Have we done a lot, become more aware of stewardship? Yes, most definitely yes. And that's been good for us as a parish, as the local visible sign of Jesus' continued presence in Weccacoe, the "peaceful place" as the Lenni Lenape called it.

Before the next *Down by the Riverside* is published, we'll be into round two: talking about the need for gifts of "treasure" as part of Stewardship. But, for now, thanks to all of you for what you've all done and brought about this year.

The Stewardship Committee

Jerry Buescher, Barbara Potts, Mark Roberts, Richard Woehr



September History of Gloria Dei

From the records of Gloria Dei

September 1, 1768 - Dr. Wrangel returned to Sweden. He arrived in 1759 and often preached in the open air. He died in 1786.

September 4, 1646 - Consecration of wooden church at Tinakong (Tinicum).

Remarkable Occurrences - Nicholas Collin

September 6, 1806 - At night a company knocked at the gate to be married, but went off quietly on my calling out, "It is too late."

September 30, 1807 - An Irishman age 45, came with a girl of 17, and her stepfather. On my inquiry whether he was a bachelor or widower, he answered evasively that he never was married in America. On further examination he confessed that he left a wife in Ireland, when he left it many years ago, but that she was dead. In proof of this he produced a letter from his brother there; but

this mentioned nothing of this, tho it related the death of his brother's wife. They were dismissed. The girl was advanced in pregnancy.

September 20, 1815 - A Portuguese seaman, decent, speaking well English, having been a while in England, came with a girl, lusty, and by appearance 22 years as she said. A large company also came, but all unknown to me. Her father was dead, as she and some said, very probable. She and some of them first said that her mother was dead, but afterwards that she was living, but had not taken care of her daughter, being a woman of ill-conduct. The bride lived with a married sister, but she could not attend on account of her small children. Refused. The levity of the bride and of some of her attendants also gave suspicion.

Articles from Old Swedes To-day, September, 1959

After the death of the Rev. John Curtis Clay and before the coming of the Rev. Snyder Binns Simes, there was a clergyman the Rev. Sanders Reed who served here as Rector for a brief period. While he was at Gloria Dei our present Parish Hall was erected in 1864. It was used solely for a Sunday School and was seldom available for other uses until sometime after 1915. As last as 1935, an opalescent figured glass filled the window frames and both water and cooked food were carried from the Guild House (where Roak House now stands) for dinners and entertainments.

Upon your return to church this Fall, the constant effort to make the Parish Hall more and more functional with the demands of today will reveal another chapter of progress.

The Women of Gloria Dei under the leadership of Miss Bertha Brown commenced raising moneys for an adequate kitchen in the Parish Hall. Frequently they consulted with Mr. Parnum and almost as frequently he came forward with a variety of plans. Costs multiplied more rapidly than the designs, therefore our Women were prevented in building their much desired kitchen.

Since Mrs. Raymond May became President of our "Women" the opportunity to purchase very fine kitchen equipment from a firm that was going out of business, revised the old plan. Mr. Parnum was called in again and asked to design partitions that would create a room around this new equipment and the wonderful range Mrs. William Peters obtained for us a few years ago.

A committee composed of Messrs. May, Gavin, Gaylert, Seaholm and Cork were given power to act and during the closing week of August the installation has been completed. One more feature will still challenge Mrs. May and her committee, the installation of a door in place of a window in the kitchen, to allow for deliveries and the removal of waste. Someone may be moved to help our "Women" complete these facilities. These convenience are going to mean much to our women in the preparation of lunches and dinners in the future.

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 summer months. Summertime can be challenging with people on vacation and hot, steamy days to contend with. Amazingly, however, whether hospitality was held inside or out, we always seemed to have enough.

We are looking forward to hosting the Matsiko Choir on the first Sunday of September and the confirmation class and Bishop Michel on September 24th.

Welcoming the guests that God entrusts to us those days in particular requires **action**. I'm asking for 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 in my absence over the past few weeks.

Peggy Buescher

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



Gloria Dei Sunday School

- Who:** Children age 5-8
- When:** Join Sunday School teachers in the back of the church after Communion
- Where:** Upstairs in the Roak House



**Parents are invited to an Open House and Registration
on September 10, 2017**

MATSIKO

WORLD ORPHAN CHOIR

A CHOIR OF INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S NETWORK

Returning on Sunday, September 3rd

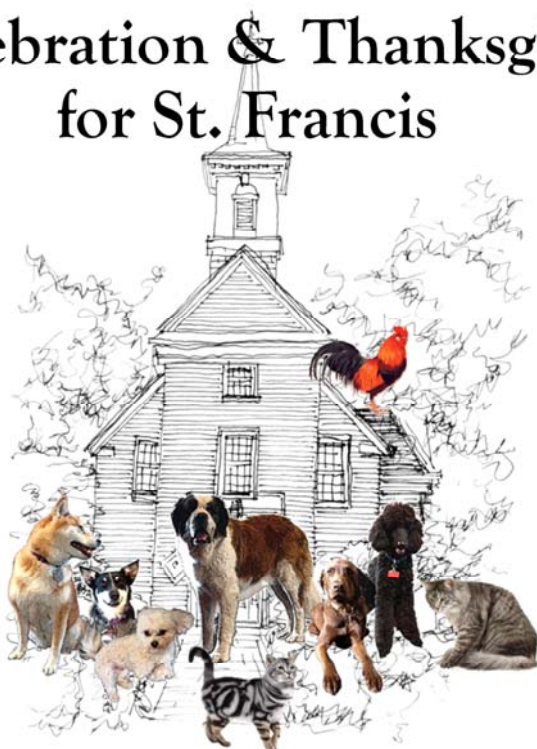
The World Orphan Choir will participate in the 10 o'clock service with a reception in Riverside Hall following. Tables for post performance sponsorship information and the sale of handmade items from around the world will be set up. The sale of these table items from partnering nations help earn the needed project funds and tour expenses.

Currently made up of some of the poorest orphaned and at-risk children from Peru, India, & Liberia, the Matsiko World Orphan Choir (the flagship vehicle of International Children's Network - ICN) captures the hearts of all who hear their hope-filled message. The kids sing with such passion and meaning that their hope of overcoming tragedy and the life-changing effects of an education is truly inspiring. The Choir's contagious energy and zeal shines through a powerful presentation of original songs, cultural dances, and multimedia testimony. Never before in the history of these three nations have orphaned or vulnerable children been allowed to travel outside of their nation. However, due to the great work of ICN for the children, a great trust has allowed this historic cultural opportunity to happen.

For more information about a tax-deductible sponsorship of a child, ICN, or Matsiko World Orphan Choir, call Don Windham directly at 253-217-7531 or visit www.matsikochoir.com.



A Celebration & Thanksgiving for St. Francis



" . . . renew our covenant with these
creatures in our care . . . "

October 4 - 6:30 pm

Gloria Dei Church

(Old Swedes')

Columbus Blvd. & Christian Street
Philadelphia, PA. 19147

●
All animals are invited and welcome in church,
but please be sure to leash or cage them for everyone's safety and comfort.

●
Light Refreshments in Parish Hall
Following the Service



**In Remembrance of:
Gloria Campese**

Memorial Cards:

Joan Mascuilli

By: Donna Collins, Joe & Dolores Collins,
Marge Lord, Bert Kubiak

Lucy Bernhardt, Ray Loverti,

Mrs. Roxanne Schiaro, John A. Martucci

By: Sally Daly

George Kelly

By: Bob & Jean Weill

Dorothy Schlemback

By: Marge Kucinski



**A Statement of Purpose
of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church**

We, the congregation of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes'), an Episcopal Church, honor God by following the teachings of Jesus to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

With God's help...

We express our faith through worship.

We honor and celebrate our differences and uniqueness.

We respond to the needs of others in the parish and in the community.

We preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition, and heritage of this sacred place.

We are an inviting, welcoming, sustaining, and loving community.



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 (1/8/17); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/16/17); Pentecost (6/4/17); and All Saints Sunday (11/5/17). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.