

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church



Annual Meeting

May 1, 2011

Agenda

Call meeting to order - Rev. Joy Segal	3
Election Announcements - Judges of Election	3
Approval of 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes - Rev. Joy Segal	3
Rector's Report - Rev. Joy Segal.....	5
Rector's Warden Report - Jerome G. Buescher.....	6
Financial Report - Jim Ufheil	7
Sunday School Report - Jill Duink	10
Property Committee Report - Rev. Joy Segal.....	12
History Committee Report - Jeanette Woehr.....	12
Hospitality and the Gift of Fellowship - Peggy Buescher.....	13
Sextons' Report - Jim and Paula Minacci	13
Guatemala Committee Report - Heather Myers.....	14
Music - Choir, Guest Musicians, Chimes - Paul Fejko.....	14
Inreach Ministry - Megan Bartlett.....	15
Altar Guild - Candace Roberts	15
Capital Campaign Update - Candace Roberts	15
Questions - All.....	15
Election Announcement - Judges of Election.....	15
Adjournment - Joy Segal.....	15

Call meeting to order - Rev. Joy Segal

Election Announcements - Judges of Election

Approval of 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes - Rev. Joy Segal

Annual Meeting Minutes, May 2, 2010

Call to Order

Rev. Joy Segal

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church was called to order at 11:10 am by The Rev. Joy Segal.

Election Announcement

Dave Hammond

Judge of Elections instructed the congregation on voting procedure. Vote for only four people from the below list with only one vote per person permitted.

Megan Bartlett
Ann Blackstone
Jerome Buescher

Rob Dieters
Marilyn Johnson
Dolores Kromchad

Mark Roberts
Barbara Sampieri
Gene Sweeney

Approval of Annual Meeting 2009 Minutes

Jeanette Woehr

A motion was made by Dave Hammond and seconded by Ann Blackstone to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2009 Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Rector's Report

Rev. Joy Segal

It was a year full of events some old and some new. New ministries were added and old ones were expanded.

For the first time in many years Gloria Dei has raised up and affirmed the call to ordained ministry for one of our own, Rhian Roberts. Rhian has been affirmed by our Parish Advisory Committee on Ministry (PACM) and the vestry, and has been accepted by the diocese as a postulant for Holy Orders.

We have much to be thankful for, and much to consider as we move forward facing challenging financial times, religious times, and societal times. We must be vigilant of what has been given to us and how best to maintain, preserve and grow into a place for future generations.

Christian Education Report

Paula Minacci

The children joined Paula to read the poem describing the events of the Sunday School for the past year.

Laura Towey and Jill Duink will replace Paula Minacci as Sunday School leader. Ariel Towey is the new babysitter.

The children read a poem of thanks to Paula and presented her with a picture of the children and a gift from the parish.

Rector's Warden Report

Heather Myers

The Mission Groups within the church community achievements and their people were acknowledged.

Treasurer's Report

There was a small increase in pledge, plate and offerings. Fundraising exceeded budget by \$4,086.84. Endowments were down by \$8,692.58. Holy Family decided they could no longer continue evening classes due to low enrollment, which cost \$6,500. YCCA Kreative Kids needed additional space, which cut the Holy Family loss to \$2,254. Witness Tree fund is now over \$6,000.

A motion was made by Ann Blackstone and seconded by Megan Bartlett to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Property Committee Report**Jim Parsons**

Both Roak House and Riverside Hall required roof work. The steeple has been painted but needs interior repairs. Two of the Church windows require repairs. Riverside Hall bathroom was rehabbed by parishioners.

History Committee Report**Jeanette Woehr**

The History Committee continues to meet weekly and everyone interested in history and preserving the Church's archives are welcomed. Unknown facts regarding our past clergy was reviewed. A writer is needed for the newsletter. Many requests for genealogy information have been received this year.

Stewardship Committee Report**Jerry Buescher**

The Stewardship Committee is the Martha of Mary and Martha. The kitchen worked well during Lucia. Three people spoke during the Pledge Campaign about not receiving as much money as before. The committee works hard.

Guatemala Committee Report**Julie Day**

A trip is being planned for next year. The committee had a table at the Spring Flea Market. The raffle for Guatemala items will be drawn today.

Music/Choir**Paul Fejko**

Parishioners who helped fund the purchase of the chimes were thanked. The chime choir will begin practice shortly.

Altar Guild**Candace Roberts**

Altar Guild members were thanked.

Pastoral Care Committee**Delores Collins**

The committee keeps in contact with the shut-ins.

Prayer Chain**Rev. Joy Segal**

Barbara Sampieri was thanked for her three years of leadership.

Capital Campaign**Candy Roberts**

Parties and meetings are needed for potential donors. The work on the 501c3 is being finished.

Recognition of Staff**Rev. Joy Segal**

Paul Fejko - Music make a difference.

Jim and Paula Minacci - Take care of the property.

Terry O'Brien - Does a wonderful job as Parish Administrator.

Hospitality**Peggy Buescher and Ann Blackstone**

Everyone was thanked for their time, talent, and treasure. Help from others to set up and clean up is appreciated.

Vestry Report**Lisa Reeves**

The Vestry runs the business of the Church. The Parochial Reports over the past three years shows a downward trend in number of people attending services and number of members. This needs to be changed. We need to grow with more people joining us. We all need to go out and talk about Church. Many people think this Church is a museum. Tell people about events being held here and invite people to join us. Jazz and Joe, Flea Markets, picnics, and side shows bring people here.

Questions

Ann Blackstone praised Terry O'Brien.

Jill Duink reminded everyone that children are the future of the Church. All are welcome with children.

Sally Daly requested a microphone be purchased. It is hard to hear and concentrate with the noise of the toys in the rear of the Church. Quiet toys should be purchased.

Before Church talk to God, during Church God talks to you, and after Church talk to others.

Christine Amatto - bring in new life and new families.

Candy Roberts suggested for those having difficulty hearing to sit in the front of the Church.

Joy Segal - All are welcome at Church. If a parent wants time without their child, babysitting is available.

Bill Towey - Families need to be attracted.

Nancy Kroll - Bring other people with you. Offer to bring them.

Joy Segal - Life has changed in the past four years with weddings coming back. It has been a blessing to be here.

The meeting will continue after the Breakfast break.

Election Announcements

Dave Hammond

The following were elected to serve a three-year term on the Vestry:

Megan Bartlett
Jerry Buescher
Delores Kromchad
Barbara Sampieri

Katie Long received the Settlement Music School scholarship.

The following were elected Deanery and Diocesan Representatives:

Peggy Buescher
Dave Hammond
Mark Roberts

The following were elected Alternates

Jeanette Woehr
Barbara Chilcott
Carl Delia

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm

Jeanette Woehr, Secretary

Rector's Report - Rev. Joy Segal

February 26, 2011 was my fifth anniversary as rector of Gloria Dei. As we tend to do with events that mark our lives, this anniversary caused me to reflect on the past five years. As I write this report for our annual meeting my perspective is widened and my view encompasses more than just the past year.

When I think about these last five years what comes to mind first are faces. Faces of those we love but see no longer; faces of the children I've baptized here who now participate in our worship services and church events; faces of those whose marriages I was honored to officiate; faces of those I have visited in their homes; faces of parishioners who have moved on to new worship communities and faces of members of Gloria Dei who have joined us since I arrived; faces of all of you here now who were here long before me; faces of seminarians who have served us since my arrival; the face of Bishop Michel as he first joined us in our pews, then sat as our bishop on our altar step with our children; faces from St. George's Methodist Church with whom we have shared worship twice annually for the past three years; faces hard at work improving the property and grounds of our beloved church; faces enjoying our food and joyous events throughout the year; faces of those who bring their animals each year right into church to be blessed; faces and faces and faces that are the people we serve, year in and year out, here at Gloria Dei.

What also comes to my mind as I reflect on these past five years is the amount of energy this small but mighty parish possesses as we work and pray and play together, giving so generously of your time and talent and treasure as we work for the greater glory of God as a community open and inviting within the greater community of Philadelphia. So many events, some that raise much needed funds, take so much time and effort. Yet year in and year out these events have grown in size and in funds raised. New events have been added in these past five years while those events that have been a part of Gloria Dei for many years continue to expand. It's amazing, when you think about it: Lucia Fests, Sexton's Sideshows, Jazz & Joe evenings, Flea markets, Seders, Sunday services in the graveyard, Blessing of the Animals and Pet Expo, Seamen's Church Institute Christmas parties, shared worship services with St. George's Methodist Church, Lent Soup and Study, Bible Studies, and much more.

And then there are the amazingly productive work days we've had. Your willingness to contribute hard labor and valuable experience to the improvement and beautification of our magnificent property and buildings and saving us so much money is truly noteworthy. From removing bushes (and roots!) to rehabbing the bathroom in Riverside Hall, from polishing the pews to trimming the trees, from planting grass and flowers to raking leaves and sweeping paths and hanging new curtains, the work of your hands is so evident in this place.

And finally the generosity of hearts and minds as well as hands comes rushing to my mind as I think of the gifts of love that have been given to Gloria Dei these past five years. Gifts from generous donors wishing to remain anonymous as well as those gifts that are a part of the giver: Leigh Jenkins' awesome painting of Gloria Dei that hangs in Riverside Hall, our own Santa Lucia figure carved by a Mayan artisan in Guatemala, the table and stole and vase made by the hands of our Confirmation Classes, funds given that we might become a conscious and visible model for clean energy, new soft toys for the church, and so much more.

We've painted the steeple and taken care of the Witness trees, we've placed new Bibles in the pews and new tables in the hall. We've added Inreach and Prayer Chain to our ministries. We've planted grass and flowers. We are now a presence on the Internet with our website and Facebook page.

What a truly amazing place this is. I am honored and humbled as I reflect on these past five years, to have been called to such a place, and to such a people.

Finally I wish to thank the staff for all they do to add to the character and personality of this place. They meet and greet visitors, answer questions, insure the property is well maintained, insure the safety of our grounds and buildings, and add to the quality of our worship. They are the face of Gloria Dei, week in and week out, and we would be so much less without them. Jim, Paula, Terry, and Paul – thank you so very much.

And now on to 2011!

Joy+

Rector's Warden Report - Jerome G. Buescher

It's a bit scary to look back over a year and see what's been happening. I think of where we started, where we said we'd like to get, then – the scary part – at how we did.

Late last Spring, Joy and the Vestry took a hard look at our facilities here – the buildings and the grounds. As we reminded ourselves, we tried to look with the eyes of strangers and first-time visitors so we'd see not only the “good” we're used to seeing, but also the “bad and the ugly” that we don't normally see. We saw, we made lists, we organized lists, and put together the beginnings of a way to tackle the problems.

In spite of the record heat of last June and July, we took down yards and yards and yards of shrubbery that hid the view of the church from the parking lot entrance and that also hid the fact that we have a cemetery that goes all the way from the Roak Building to the church. And the grass we planted in the Fall grew up then and came back wonderfully this Spring. For sure, the graveyard looks better this Spring than it did last Spring.

We had a couple of very nice services in the graveyard during the Summer. Lots of people attended those services and spent time among those who've gone before us and now sleep in that graveyard.

We took time to celebrate the departure of “our” seminarian, Rhian Roberts, for the West Coast and the beginning her formal journey toward ordination. She’s been able to return for visits a few times and will continue to do so – so we can stay in touch with her and watch her grow.

We started up the new program year in September with the third instance of our “Welcome Back” pasta dinner. The two-year program to prepare four young people for confirmation also got under way and has continued through the year.

Last year, Heather (in her Rector’s Warden report) wondered whether Gloria Dei would ever take credit cards. “Ever” happened this past year – people can pay pledges, buy Lucia tickets, make contributions, buy the history books, and even help Gloria Dei by shopping through our Amazon portal.

Gloria Dei also received a grant from a caring individual to help us reduce our energy and resource consumption and to help us become more “green.” We used some of that money to fund an energy audit to help us find ways to change. We found quite a few and are now working to do those things. We also had someone come to tell us about Recycle Bank to encourage our own and the church’s efforts at recycling.

So – after the scary look – where are we? We’re here, sharing our love for one another and for this sacred place in all the ways we know: worshipping together, working together, eating together. Maybe we didn’t get done everything we wanted to do, but we’re still here and we still care about each other and about this place. We’ll pick up again with a new agenda and new vigor. And we’ll continue to care for each other in the Lord’s name.

Financial Report - Jim Ufheil

2010 Financial Results:

Income – overall, just slightly ahead of what had been budgeted for the year

Regular Giving

- Our income from regular giving was far better than budgeted – about 10% better

Endowments – the good news is that we did not have to use as much of our savings in money markets and other liability accounts as we thought we would have to. The bad news is that the income generated was way below expectation.

- Endowment income was not only down from the year before but was well below our budget (more than \$15,000 below budget)

Fund Raising – another exceptional year in this area

- Over 25% over budget and it might have been more had we not had to purchase a lot of things to replenish our supplies to sell at Lucia.
- The flea markets were huge bringing in over \$11,000; the Sexton SideShows were also a big contributor at just over \$4,000.

Rental Income – also positive at \$11,560 over what we expected in the budget

Expenses – again, a good performance versus budget with Mother Nature providing some extra savings for us on our utility bills. While we again had to spend more than we took in, the deficit was less than anticipated so we were able to keep a little more money in our “savings” account to help us in 2011.

Fund Raising – the necessity to replenish supplies for Lucia that was mentioned above was about the only item outside of our Property Expenses (doing necessary but unbudgeted repairs on our buildings) that was out of line on the expense side of the budget.

2011 Budget:

The Vestry approved a balance budget for 2011 that is actually \$2,000 less than what we actually experienced in 2010.

Expense reductions in many areas took a lot of discussion before we came to agreement on the level of cuts that should be made and what was to be reduced. Some of these were painful decisions, but times required it be done.

We will have a few more dollars coming in from our endowments and investments in 2011 than we did in 2010 which will help save a few dollars from having to come from our "life savings".

That said, we are still forced to dip into our "life savings" - those investments that we have historically had access to but usually only needed to use the interest income. We have been doing that for several years now and the balances on these accounts are getting to a point where we must be even more prudent in our expenses going forward. We can perhaps get one more year after 2011 before we will need to make some major decisions as to the use of our endowment principal(s).

This is not a dire situation but rather one in which we feel that the congregation needs to be aware - recognizing that whatever can be contributed in terms of time, talent, or treasures in order to help is greatly appreciated and needed. Keep in mind that running a church with 5 buildings is not cheap or easy. Please do whatever you can to help keep Gloria Dei around for another 300+ years.

BUDGET

INCOME

03 - Regular Support

Christmas	3,000.00
Easter	400.00
Flowers	500.00
Plate	7,500.00
Pledge	48000.00
Thanksgiving	250.00
TOTAL 03 - Regular Support	59,650.00

04 - Endowments

Aethon	334.00
Church F 064786	1,252.00
Church F 064791	3,690.00
Church F 064934	36,227.00
Church F 065033	15,205.00
Citation (Old Sunoco)	50.00
Exelon	325.00
From Money Market Funds	12,000.00
From Other Sources	7,836.00
Phila Contributorship	535.00
PNC 16-35-035-0464262	0.00
PNC 16-35-035-0617188	8,098.00
PNC 35-35-011-0617201	698.00
PNC 35-35-011-0617219	2,874.00
Wachovia 1513091190	4,025.00
Wachovia 1519175748	11,601.00
Wachovia 1519178585	12,740.00
TOTAL 04 - Endowments	117,490.00

05 - Other Income

Burial Site	600.00
Donations	
Baptism	300.00

Funeral Services	200.00
May I. Young FD	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
Societies - Organizations	2,500.00
Wedding Services	5,000.00
TOTAL Donations	11,000.00
Fund Raiser	
Coffee	350.00
Flea Market	8,000.00
Jazz n Joe	750.00
Lucia	18,500.00
Guatemala Fund Raiser	1,250.00
The Sexton SideShow	2,500.00
TOTAL Fund Raiser	30,100.00
Memorials	
Mass Cards	200.00
TOTAL Memorials	200.00
Rentals	
Riverside Hall	5,000.00
Roak House	500.00
YCCA - Kreative Kids	44,160.00
TOTAL Rentals	49,660.00
TOTAL 05 - Other Income	91,560.00

11 - Designated Gifts

Designated Gift	1,000.00
From Fund Raisers	1,500.00
Good Friday	0.00
Guatemala Outreach	5,000.00
UTO	1,000.00
TOTAL 11 - Designated Gifts	8,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	277,200.00

EXPENSES

05 - Fund Raising	
Coffee	300.00
Flea Market	150.00
Lucia	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
The Sexton SideShow	250.00
TOTAL 05 - Fund Raising	3,900.00
12 - Diocesan	
Assessments	9,425.00
Fair Share	4,000.00
TOTAL 12 - Diocesan	13,425.00
13 - Outreach from Operating Budget	
Christmas Charities	1,000.00
Guatemala Outreach	1,000.00
Youth Camp	600.00
TOTAL 13 - Outreach from Op Budget	2,600.00
14 - Operating Expenses	
Clergy Expenses	
D. Joy Segal	1,200.00
Continuing Education	500.00
Telephone	1,650.00
TOTAL Clergy Expenses	3,350.00
Compensation	
Benefits	
Segal Health	18,660.00
Segal Life & Disability	375.00
Sexton Life & Disability	561.00
Sexton Medical/Dental Rider	3,000.00
TOTAL Benefits	22,596.00
Pension	
D. Joy Segal	14,535.00
TOTAL Pension	14,535.00
Salary	
D. Joy Segal	55,998.00
J Minacci	16,092.00
Lucia	600.00
P Minacci	16,092.00
Supply Clergy	1,000.00
Terry O'Brien	13,790.00
TOTAL Salary	103,572.00
Salary-Tax	
Medicare	765.00
Soc Sec	3,060.00
TOTAL Salary-Tax	3,750.00
TOTAL Compensation	144,489.00
General	
Adult Education	500.00
Advertising	1,200.00
Association Memberships	360.00
Baby Sitting	1,200.00

Bibles - Prayer Books	200.00
Church - Liturgical	700.00
Deanery/Diocese	500.00
Flowers	500.00
Forward Movement Publications	250.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00
Pledge Envelopes	150.00
Sunday School	500.00
TOTAL General	7,060.00
Insurance	
Comprehensive - Umbrella	9,000.00
Work Comp	625.00
TOTAL Insurance	9,625.00
Music Budget	
Music	600.00
Organ Maintenance	1,200.00
Tsunami Productions	23,337.00
TOTAL Music Budget	25,137.00
Office	
Bank Charge	250.00
Computer supply	1,000.00
Copier-Printing	1,000.00
Envelopes	150.00
Fax	100.00
Internet	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	300.00
Paper	750.00
Payroll Service	550.00
Postage	1,700.00
Telephone	1,525.00
TOTAL Office	8,825.00
Property Expenses	
Alarm	1,800.00
Lawn/Landscape Service	3,000.00
Terminix	650.00
Undesignated	8,000.00
TOTAL Property Expenses	13,450.00
Sundries	
Food	275.00
Miscellaneous	500.00
Paper Products	1,300.00
TOTAL Sundries	2,075.00
Utilities	
U-Gas	
1114501039 Rectory	4,500.00
2114501047 Church	3,500.00
3114501055 Riverside Hall	3,500.00
4114501063 Sexton House	1,500.00
5114501071 Roak House	6,500.00
TOTAL U-Gas	19,500.00

U-PECO Energy		15 - Capital Expenditures	
34262-00609 Rectory	2,550.00	Undesignated	0.00
37355-01208 Church	1,200.00	TOTAL 15 - Capital Expenditures	0.00
40448-01504 Riverside Hall	2,100.00	17 - Charity	
43451-01700 Sexton House	2,300.00	Guatemala Outreach	6,200.00
49850-01702 Roak House	4,100.00	Miscellaneous	1,000.00
TOTAL U-PECO Energy	12,250.00	UTO	1,000.00
U-Water 012-75780-00904-xxx		TOTAL 17 - Charity	8,500.00
-003 Rectory	0.00		
-005 Church	0.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	277,200.00
-Rk-SRside	3,500.00		
TOTAL U-Water 012-75780-	3,500.00	OVERALL TOTAL	0.00
TOTAL Utilities	35,250.00		
TOTAL 14 - Operating Expenses	248,975.00		

Funds and Liabilities

Account	Balance as of 12/31/2010	Liability Accounts	Balance as of 12/31/2010
CHECKING TD Bank	35,736.30	Archaeological Study	100.00
Discretionary Fund Checking	1,247.63	Book 300th	7,581.34
PNC - 16-35-035-0464262	1,692,071.32	Capital Fund	2,444.39
PNC - 16-35-035-0617188	198,226.43	Century Walk	1,180.50
PNC - 35-35-001-0617201	17,782.55	Churchyard Renewal Project	4,205.90
PNC - 35-35-001-0617219	75,475.38	Green Fund	7,640.00
The Church Foundation - 064786	30,379.77	Guatemala Trip	219.83
The Church Foundation - 064791	89,461.73	Historical Committee	1,527.65
The Church Foundation - 064934	878,339.39	Memorial Fund	261.90
The Church Foundation - 065033	368,583.72	Sunday School Fund	291.13
Vanguard Money Market	16,241.65	Sunshine Fund	426.76
Vanguard Money Market Joint Acct	18,668.05	The Rhian Fund	1,246.00
Wachovia - 1513091190	114,878.88	Witness Trees	6,857.14
Wachovia - 1519175748	337,234.60	Youth Group Fund	878.45
Wachovia - 1519178585	364,389.19	TOTAL Liability Accounts	34,860.99
Petty Cash	519.92		

Sunday School Report - Jill Duink (with the help of our Christian Education teachers)

Gloria Dei's Sunday School is focused on Christian Education and fellowship. We want the children to enjoy their time together, we want to create a trusted and special group of friends with whom the larger issues of life can be explored, we want the children to learn about Christianity, and we want our children to explore their own relationship to God. We also recognize that our children are the future of the church. We want the children understand spirituality and to feel called to a Christ-focused and fulfilled life.

Last summer Laura Towey and Jill Duink visited the library at Church House and investigated different curricula. We selected "Lesson Plans That Work," developed by The Episcopal Church and found at http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109452_ENG_HTML.htm. The lesson plans follow the Revised Common Lectionary so that parents and children are learning about the same gospel message on Sunday.

- Sunday School is held from 10:30 to 11:30. Children are escorted to church at 11:30 to participate in announcements, fellowship, communion, prayers and the closing hymn.

- Confirmation Class is held from 9:45 to 10:45. Students often attended the 11:00 service.
- Babysitting – Arielle Towey provides babysitting from 10:30-12:30. She often has one child from about 10:30 to 11:00.

The Little Glorias, age 3 to 6, meet upstairs in the Roak House. Their teacher, Jill Duink, is sometimes assisted by Arielle Towey and Judy Lenhart. Attendance ranges from three to seven children. Class typically includes a greeting circle, learning time, story time, crafts, dancing, singing, and prayer circle.

- Children know about the Bible, the Old and New Testaments, that the Old Testament was about the time before Jesus and that the New Testament starts with the birth of Jesus. They know that the first four books of the New Testament, Mathew, Mark, Luke and John, are the stories of Jesus' life. We have been concentrating on the stories of Jesus' life for the past two months. The children are currently learning John 3:16. They have asked to hear the stories of the early church, Ruth and Esther.
- Story time may include reading, discussion, and enacting the story with objects, felt-board or costumes (our favorite, the children love to role-play).
- Crafts include individual or group projects that illustrate something in the story. Sometimes we make props for the story. Work is displayed in the room, come and see!
- The children often and sing and dance to "If You're Happy and You Know It." We love to dance in a circle and use our musical props.
- We always close with a prayer, holding hands in a circle. Everyone has a chance to contribute (usually something they are thankful for).

The Young Swedes, age 7 to 11, meet in the Roak Room with their teachers Tiia Reinvald or Diane Honor. Tiia and Diane were teaching on alternate months.

- Tiia led the students in a cooking project, meeting and beginning an outreach for Gloria Dei. Chicken and dumplings were prepared for those in need.
- Diane leads the students in interactive discussion. The class frequently shares their discussion with the congregation and posts a summary poster on the bulletin board in Riverside Hall.

Confirmation Class is led by Julie Daye and Bill Towey. Additionally, thoughtful mentors individually support each child. The four students are learning about our Church and are exploring their relationship with God. Confirm not Conform (found at <http://www.confirmnotconform.com>) is a confirmation program that emphasizes choice and provides a place to explore questions. The students are participating in and learning more about our church community as they perform acolyte service, attend meetings, and volunteer to serve at our feasts, gatherings and flea markets. The students are becoming familiar with the bible and during every class we focus on one Gospel. There usually is a movie segment that visually depicts the Gospel that is being studied. The class has made great strides in a short period of time in their understanding of the bible.

Special Events:

- The Halloween Party, held in the play yard adjacent to the Roak House was hilarious. Costumes, scary music, games and prizes! The children loved eating apples hung with string from the little trees near the playground.
- The nativity tableau on Christmas eve was lots of fun backstage (and we were delighted to have some holdouts jump in to participate at the last moment). The children's central part in the service is a delight.
- Easter egg decorating and Easter egg hunting are coming up.

Issues:

- I believe that Sunday School teaching would ideally be shared by four half-time teachers, Two sharing the Little Glorias and two sharing the Young Swedes. Currently Jill Duink is the only Little Glorias teacher and Diane Honor is the only Young Swedes teacher. We need two more part-time teachers.
- Student attendance is variable – sometimes we do not have any children in the Young Swedes age group. I've heard that boys do not want to come because there are no other boys in the class I'm so glad that we recently welcomed Seth to the Little Glorias' class!

Property Committee Report - Rev. Joy Segal

The issues of property maintenance – grounds and buildings – are always numerous and challenging at Gloria Dei. As we struggle to meet the demands inherent in both historic buildings and extensive grounds we are reminded daily not only of the great gift of this beautiful place but of the call to be good stewards of what we have been given.

This past year the vestry has been very pro-active in their approach to restoration and renewal as well as maintenance. Following the “walk around” that the vestry did, attempting to see with the eyes of a newcomer, they came up with an extensive list of items to be addressed. Some of these will remain on a “wish list” for future consideration as funding becomes available. Other issues required planning for repairs to be done within a year or two. Still others, it was decided, should be completed in 2011.

The results of this vestry walk-around was a tri-fold published for the congregation and friends of Gloria Dei to read and consider in what ways we all might contribute, through time and talent and treasure, to the physical needs of this place.

Last year saw the beginnings of the reclamation and restoration of the graveyard, and the overdue care of many of the largest trees within our grounds. These are things that unfolded before our eyes and contributed to the vision of the future growth and development of the property as well as responding to needs that had been put off for some time.

Just a few short weeks ago another major improvement was made as we had more of the overgrown bushes removed, a fence placed around the sexton’s house, and a large, formerly muddy area, tilled and planted with grass.

We are in the process of receiving quotes for repairs we hope to see accomplished before the end of this year – repair of the windows in the sexton’s house; sanding and sealing of the floors in Riverside Hall and the sexton’s house; signage for the graveyard, parking lot, and Water Street gate entrance as well as sidewalk signs announcing to the community outside our walls the many events and happenings at Gloria Dei; parking lot repairs; cabinet and shelves in Riverside Hall; roof repairs on the church; gravestone and tomb restorations; review and possible replacement of window air conditioning units in Roak House and sexton’s house; church repairs needed inside due to moisture migration.

More extensive and costly needs will need to wait for funds to be raised or acquired through grants for brick repairs and pointing throughout the property, interior and exterior painting of church, exterior painting of the rectory, the sexton’s house and the Roak House, repair of shutters on the rectory, leveling of brick pathways, leveling of the sexton’s house patio, internal repairs to the steeple, drainage issues throughout the property, brick floor in the sanctuary area of the church, repair or replacement of stockade fencing in parking lot area, repaving of the parking lot and driveway, and air conditioning of Riverside Hall.

We have identified our needs and begun a plan for meeting them through the creation of a new 501(c)3 entity, The Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Preservation Corporation, which, as a subsidiary of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church, will be able to apply for grants to maintain, preserve, and improve this treasure we have been given. Meanwhile we will continue to rely on the great talent within our congregation and the wonderful offering of time and treasure from so many volunteers that have made it possible this past year to address so many issues.

Gloria Dei Church has been on this property, making a difference within the community, since 1677. Our conscious efforts to maintain it for future generations mirror the efforts of who came before us and, hopefully, set an example for future generations who will discover in years to come the sacred space we call Gloria Dei.

History Committee Report - Jeanette Woehr

The Historical Committee continues to meet weekly documenting the articles in the archives. Many of the documents mention repairs to buildings, purchase of materials, or events occurring at Gloria Dei. On occasion during the computerizing a document, the committee will stop working and go on a “field trip” around the Church property to locate what was mentioned in the document.

One of the documents computerized was for repairs to the parsonage in 1793-1794

The Vestry Debt to Nicholas Collin Money advanced for necessary expenses toward repairs about the parsonage

To Orpheus Keemer

For making pavement back of the house, laying the kitchen hearth, etc.	1.10.0
For eight hundred bricks, bought for this purpose by him from Mr. Crips	2. 2.0
For sand bought and hauled by Nich. Newlin	0. 9.0
For sundry work about the garden etc for moving as lower fence	2. 0.0
As by receipts 27 of June 29 of ditto 12 of September 1793, and 12 of May 1794	0.11.3
For mending the pump to wit to	
John Souder, as by recpt 19 of July 1793	0. 7.0
Joseph Saviz as by recpt 16 of Decemb. 1798	0. 5.0
To William Clark for a new lock and mending an old, as per rec. 20 of July 1793	0. 7.6
To Samuel Baker and comp. for carpentry work – the new front door closet shelves	
Two window shutters, cellar steps, etc as per recpt 18 of December 1793	9.17.4
To Daniel Andrews for sundry smithwork as per recpt. 24 of July 1793	<u>0.11.9-1/2</u>
	18. 1.4-1/2

This year the Historical Committee has been working with the restoration of the graveyard. The committee provided funds for the restoration of several of the tombstones. It was an informative and interesting day watching and learning about repairing of the tombstones. In the late 1800's a book of legible tombstone inscriptions was printed. However, since this list was created many of the tombstones are no longer in existence or are no longer legible and new tombstones have been added. The History Committee is researching information on the people whose tombstones are being restored.

If you are interested in the history of the Church, you are welcome to join us in the Church on Monday evenings.

Hospitality and the Gift of Fellowship - Peggy Buescher

The Hospitality Committee would like to extend its gratitude towards the members who have graced us with their time, talent and “treats” throughout the past year. We truly appreciate everyone’s generosity.

We have witnessed the fellowship in Riverside Hall, enhanced bonds in relationships in the community as well as provided welcoming open arms for newcomers and visitors. It has been an extremely satisfying experience. Our committee continues to grow and we welcome Ree Henning as one of our “Busy B’s”. We “aim to please” and can best meet that goal with your help. Please join our team to help us with any time and/or suggestions you may have.

Thanks again from all of us.

Love and peace, Peggy Buescher, Laura Towey, Maureen Long, and Ree Henning

Sextons’ Report - Jim and Paula Minacci

Good Day Gloria Dei!!

This is our first attempt at this annual report and I want to express our pleasure with being included in the final product. We have been on the job as your sextons for what is now 12 years; we have been parishioners since 1995 (16 years). We take great pride in our position/job at Gloria Dei and wish to thank each of you for your continued support of our mission.

First on our mission spotlight is our Annual Spring & Fall Flea markets. In fiscal year 2010 the combined total of our two flea markets was \$11,019.48, of course this was due to perfect weather conditions, an endless supply of volunteers, and the best soup, chili, and meatballs in South Philadelphia. We’ve come a long way from 2002 when our first flea market attracted just 35 vendors and raised just over \$1,000.00 dollars. Congratulations for all your hard work.

More recently we have initiated an event we call “Sexton Sideshow”. This is still a work in progress, but last year during 2010 we had three events – Memorial Day Family Picnic, Halloween Graveyard Boo-ga-loo, and our biggest event to date New Years Eve at Gloria Dei. The three events combined raised \$4,020.00 which showed a 25% increase over last years sexton sideshow events. Once again our success is due to a great team of dedicated volunteers,

our friends at Philadelphia Brewing co. for their in-kind donations of local beverages and also a few local establishments like For Pete's Sake, The Artful Dodger and Tattooed Moms who are very supportive when it comes to money and food donations. In 2011 we are planning events for Memorial Day, Halloween Friday Fright Nite 10/29/11, and our big event for this year will be Friday 11/11/11. Hope you can attend one or all of these fun events.

One last note worth mentioning is about the Lucia Hospitality Tent. While this doesn't fall under the "Sexton Sideshow" events banner it is run similarly. The tent behind our house is donated, the beverages are largely donated, and most of the food is donated. We charge a nominal fee of \$10 per day and have successfully raised \$1,000 each of these last three years. Our hope is to extend the hospitality tent reach not only to our Lucia families and church family but to our general public who attend the show. The 75th year of Lucia at Gloria Dei is coming in 2012. . . . let's be ready.

Guatemala Committee Report - Heather Myers

We DO Make a Difference! We have been dedicated to bringing education and medical resources to the children and families in our sister parishes of La Ascension and La Annunciation for another year and we full filled our goal. We raised over \$7,000 which allowed us to support the mission.

Last summer we sent one of our own go to Guatemala. Tyler Myers had the opportunity to travel to a small village called with the Diocese Youth Group. There he worked with a group of masons and built a house! This work was meaningful and an awesome teaching tool. Tyler learned not only building skills but life skills and the importance of giving back.

An itinerary is in place for a June 2011 trip. There will be 9 of us traveling to this beautiful country and visit with our sister parishes. We will also be volunteering at a local mission and doing some sight seeing in the village of Chi Chi Castinango. Stay tune for more details.

Just a reminder - We need your support again this year in order to continue this very worth while ministry. These people need our support through action.

Watch for our table at the Spring Flea Market as we once again sell "stuff" in order to raise money for the mission.

Music - Choir, Guest Musicians, Chimes - Paul Fejko

Joyful Noise From the Musician!

2010/2011 has been a good year for music at Gloria Dei. The 'Gloria Dei Ringers' - our new bell group - has offered music once each month since October (skipping January). Thanks to generous contributions from individual parishioners, I have been able to add singers to some of those presentations.

Those same parishioner contributions made possible the Christmas Eve chorus. Should there be others willing to contribute to the musical life here at Gloria Dei, they would be most welcome. With such, more could be done to enhance Christmas, Easter and other special moments in the church year. Help keep music alive!

Many Thanks to our regular ringers: Barbara, Marilyn, Jeanette and Richard; and our occasional ringers: Lisa, Megan, Jim, Judy, and Maureen. All will take the summer off and return with vigor next season!

Megan also wrote the text for the special Christmas Eve piece entitled "Eternal Peace" for Bells, Chorus, Violin and Organ. An MP3 recording of this performance can be found at: <http://fejko.com/Audio/peace.mp3>

Keep the noise coming!

Inreach Ministry - Megan Bartlett

Purpose of the Inreach Ministry: Believing that we are "one body in Christ" and that every member of the body contributes to the vitality of our congregation, we seek to identify and meet the needs of Gloria Dei's parishioners.

Co-chairs: Megan Bartlett and Bill Towey

The Inreach Ministry began in February 2010 with a needs assessment that was distributed through the Riverside newsletter and made available to everyone at the back of the church. The following needs were identified:

- Transportation to/from church (on Sundays, for meetings & rehearsals, etc.)
- Occasional grocery shopping
- Social connection

Current services:

- Transportation: There are currently 3 people who need a ride to church every Sunday and another 7 who need rides occasionally. These needs are being met by 6 drivers. More drivers are welcome!
- Grocery shopping: 2 individuals are driven to grocery stores on occasion.
- Meals: In June 2010, some members thought we could also provide homemade meals to our parishioners in need. This ministry got started in early 2011. Thanks to the generosity of our members, 1 individual and 1 couple are receiving meals on a weekly basis. Meals have been provided to other individuals as needed. We have 2 individuals who deliver meals regularly and 5 others who have expressed an interest in helping on occasion. Again, more deliverers are welcome!

Future services:

- Resources list: We're working on creating a list of community resources (e.g., food pantries, low-cost produce places, soup kitchens, etc.) to give to individuals who need help locating such resources.
- "Can Can Sunday": Look for more info soon about this monthly canned goods drive.

Procedures for requesting a ride:

- If you don't already know the names and numbers of individuals you can call for a ride to church, please call Megan Bartlett (267-251-3579) and she will assist you in finding a ride.

Procedures for donating, requesting, and delivering meals:

- Those who are willing to make meals, please bring them (labeled as "inreach") to Riverside Hall on Sundays for storage in the freezer.
- Those who are in need of meals should call Terry O'Brien in the church office on Wednesdays (215-389-1513) to let her know of your need.
- Terry will call Megan Bartlett, who will contact those in need and coordinate delivery of meals; meals will be delivered sometime between Thursday and Sunday.

Thank you for your efforts to help us create and sustain this important ministry! We are truly "one body in Christ".

Altar Guild - Candace Roberts

Capital Campaign Update - Candace Roberts

Questions - All

Election Announcement - Judges of Election

Adjournment - Joy Segal

