



July/August 2015

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

Seized by the Season

As I write this article in the midst of summer warmth I find it interesting, and thought provoking, to consider how the weather affects us. Having lived in a temperate climate my whole life I speak to this as one who, like most of you, has experienced the changing seasons – Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer – over and over, year in and year out.

So, the first thing to notice about the changing seasons is probably clothing. Yes, our outward appearance, as superficial as we might think of it, changes as we dress for cold and warm and hot and so forth. We expose more of our skin in warm weather. We see each others' feet, for instance, and maybe a shoulder or a knee that in other seasons are covered. Clothing is of a different material as well. I wonder how this exposure affects how we see each other, and in that seeing how our relationships might be affected?

Moving along with this thought process of how we change with the seasons, we eat differently as well. Our inner selves, our bodies, enjoy the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, and lighter fare, as the weather turns warm. Soups and stews, pot roasts and other thick and heavy comfort foods don't seem as desirable. Corn on the cob, watermelon, salads of greens and seeds and cold root vegetables appear more often. We grill instead of bake, barbeque instead of simmering all day. And we leave room for ice cream and water ice. If we are what we eat, I wonder how sharing a more natural and healthy fare affects us.

I know there is a great diversity in preference for warm or cold weather. I'm a warm weather person. I love it when I don't have to layer up to go out, when I can freely come and go in lightweight clothing, and when eating outside is an option. For me, I am opened up, body and soul, when the days are longer and warmer.

But what I'm thinking about as I write these thoughts is of a deeper nature than just creature comforts or preferences. I'm wondering how change in climate, change in food, change in daylight, change in customs, change in habits, change in schedules and venues (vacations), can change how we understand ourselves as a part of our surroundings and how we recognize our significance in the greater whole of nature, of creation.

Those of us who live in temperate climates get a chance to think about how weather affects us a number of times throughout the year. And in that awareness we have an opportunity, each season, to consider the magnificence of creation, the abundance of the natural gifts of the earth, the glorious summer sunsets and star-filled skies, the snow-covered majestic mountains, the stark beauty of the beach in winter, the overwhelming colors and tastes and smells of Fall, the new life that appears out of seemingly dead wood and plant life each Spring...and on and on and on.

May we revel in the Good Creation every season of our lives. And may we remember that the things of beauty that surround us are the gifts of our Gracious God, given to beloved children for their pleasure. The Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon attributed to St. Francis comes to mind. Hear just a small portion of that wonderful song, and rejoice:

*Praised be to you my Lord through Brother Sun...
through Sister Moon...
through Brothers Wind and Air...
through Sister Water...
through Brother Fire...
through Sister Mother Earth...
Praise and bless my Lord and give God thanks,
and serve God with great humility.*

Peace,

Joy+



Summer Bible Study

A Walk Through the Bible With Some Stops Along the Way

Five Wednesdays in July, 6:30PM

(7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29)

Join us for an hour a week as we look at the amazing diversity of story, people, and genre found in the Bible. We'll do an overview of both the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. We'll also stop along the way and read aloud a short book or two as interest and time allow. Join us in the air-conditioned Roak Room each Wednesday at 6:30pm. All are welcome! No experience necessary!

Thoughts from the Rector's Warden

The summer is now upon us, and if like most people it means that we get to see more of our friends and neighbors. Parties and BBQ's are filling our weekends along with trips to the shore. Unfortunately it also means less people in church for Sunday services.

When the weather is too hot we move services into the air conditioned Roak room. This makes for a more intimate service and tends to bring us attending parishioners closer together. It is a time when we can learn a little bit more about what is going on in each others daily lives. To reconnect with each other on a more personal level. So don't let the summer heat keep you away!

It's also vacation time. We all like and need to get away sometimes. If you attend services elsewhere on vacation, try to remember to bring a service bulletin back with you. The Liturgy committee might enjoy adding something from it for our own upcoming service. New material is always welcome as well as new members.

Lastly I would like each and every member, to practice random acts of kindness in thought word and deed. Let us put aside all the negative media coverage of hatred and violence, and live as good stewards of God's love for all. Sometimes we get tainted by all the negativity and become hardened and uncaring. Let us lead by example, and show our children and grandchildren what it means to be loving and caring Christians!

Wishing you a safe, happy and peaceful summer,

Carol Jenkins



*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 as www.old-swedes.org and find out what else we're doing.
Check out our Facebook page while you're there.



Colonial Day

As the last Riverside was going to press, we were about to embark on our first Colonial Day celebration and fundraiser for historic preservation at Gloria Dei on May 2nd. This event was re-imagined from the Colonial Day celebrations during the 1930's and 40's. Our Colonial Day was an enormous success. The weather cooperated and was sunny and dry (except for a worrisome 20 minutes at the end of the day). We were delighted that Episcopal Community Services sponsored the event by bringing in the mom's and children from the St. Barnabus Mission. The children and all our guests, enjoyed pony rides, moon bounce, crafts and games. We were entertained by re-enactors telling stories, sharing history, and our own Nora Melley demonstrating spinning.

Our King, Herb Rambo and our Queen, Sally Bridwell, generously donated their time and support so that our guests could have photo ops at no charge. Our photographer, Carol Jenkins, created truly beautiful images to capture the memory of this marvelous day. You can view the gallery at: <http://preserveoldswedes.org/galleries/colonial-day-a-delight-for-all/>

A delightful video can be seen at www.preserveoldswedes.org.

To keep everything moving along so beautifully, was our Master of Ceremonies, Jerry Walker, amplified with donated sound equipment from Paul Fejko.

Linda Vitkow's donations of Barbie Doll Collectibles and homemade toys added to our silent auction and delighted the children in attendance. Every child went home with a toy and a smile!

Many thanks to our Event Chair, Jerry Buescher for taking on this months-long organizational task, and working with our volunteers to run the kitchen and food stations. We sold all the food and desserts.

And of course, an event of this magnitude takes all our resources! So, we wish to thank all our volunteers who donated items for the raffle, silent auction, food and beverages. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to work at the event - and in costume! Special thanks to Aleasa Hogate and the New Sweden Centre for the loan of period costumes. It was great fun to play dress up and truly added to the day's festivities!

Some children from St. Barnabus were overhead saying: "I didn't think Colonial Day sounded like fun. But this is great!" So perhaps we need a name change!

Candace Roberts



Calendar

July 1, 8, 15, 29 Yoga - 9:00am - drop in class - all levels welcome - \$10.00 a class

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Summer Bible Study - 6:30 to 7:30pm

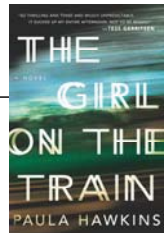
July 7, 14, 21, 28 Evensong - 6:30pm - 7:00pm - Sanctuary

Yoga - 7:15pm, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$8.00 a class

Mindfulness for Wellness - 7:15pm-8:15pm, open to all levels, \$5.00 donation suggested

July 12 Ronald McDonald House - 4:00pm

July 27 Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
The Girl on the Train -
by Paula Hawkins



July 30 Vestry Meeting - 7:00pm - Roak Room



Altar Flowers



If you would like to provide flowers for an upcoming Sunday please call the office and let Vicki 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.



Calendar

**Aug 4, 11,
18, 25**

Evensong - 6:30pm - 7:00pm - Sanctuary

Yoga - 7:15pm, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$8.00 a class

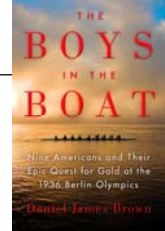
Mindfulness for Wellness - 7:15pm-8:15pm, open to all levels,
\$5.00 donation suggested

**Aug 5, 12,
19**

Yoga - 9:00am - drop in class - all levels welcome
- \$10.00 a class

Aug 24

Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
Boys in the Boat •
by Daniel James Brown



Notes from the Vestry Secretary

At the vestry's May meeting we welcomed some new and returning vestry members: Mark Roberts, Nils Van Amers and Rita West. We are excited to have them join us! We also appointed and elected officers for a one year term. Joy appointed Carol Jenkins as Rector's Warden for another year and Carol accepted the appointment. The vestry elected Jill Duink as Accounting Warden again and Leigh Jenkins as Secretary again, and they both accepted. And the vestry appointed Mark Roberts as Treasurer again, and he accepted. Two at-large members of the executive Committee of vestry were elected - Jeanette Woehr and Kim Goodwin - and both accepted.

At our June meeting we covered the budget in detail for the benefit of all, and especially those who are new to the vestry. We also discussed the first of the "12 Marks of Healthy Church Behavior." The first point was "Worship." And we approved the status of "Associate Clergy" to The Rev. Paul Harris, and welcome him to our community as a retired clergy person making his church home with us.

As always, the vestry would like to welcome all members of the church to attend vestry meetings whether you have comments or suggestions or would just like to be more informed. Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 7PM in the Roak Room. We do plan to combine the July/August meetings though, so our next meeting will be held on the fifth Thursday of July, the 30th.

Leigh Jenkins

The Lectionary for July

July 5th, Proper 9

God of covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

2 Samuel 5:1-5,9-10

Psalm 48

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

July 12th, Proper 10

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalm 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

July 19, Proper 11

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalm 89:20-37

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34,53-56

July 26th, Proper 12

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21



The Lectionary for August

August 2nd, 2015

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us, we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalm 51:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

August 9th, Proper 14

Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in this world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

2 Samuel 18:5-9,31-33

Psalm 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35,41-51

August 16th, Proper 15

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

1 Kings 2:10-12;3:3-14

Psalm 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

August 23rd, Proper 16

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43

Psalm 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

August 30th, Proper 17

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalm 45:1-2,6-9

James 1:17-27

Mark: 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Memorial Dei Family Picnic

Be still and listen.... said one of the pallet signs on May 25th on the front lawns at Gloria Dei Church.

400+ people and families came to listen and picnic on our property this past Memorial Dei.

Sexton Stage, located on the front lawn, presented music by *The Sacred Cowboys*, *T.J. Kong and the Atomic Bomb*, *Emmett Drueding Band*, *Black Horse Motel*, *Fistful of Sugar*, and *Kalob Griffin Band*. Thanks to all these performers and our outside MC, local legend Kenn Kweder.

People also enjoyed food trucks and face painting. Cold beverages from Philadelphia Brewing Co. were served by our many volunteers.

Inside Riverside Hall on the Sideshow Stage, saw performances from our very own noisemaker *Paul Fejko*, newcomer *Gianna Lynn*, *Daniel and the Lion*-now known as *Canyon Spells*, came from Nashville, *Luke Preston* also from Nashville, local legend *John Faye* and newcomers *Hannah Taylor* and *The Rekardo Lee Trio*. Our MC inside was our very own Jerry Walker.

Whew...as if that was not enough, our headliner *No Good Sister* finished things up in style with grace, performing in the church sanctuary. They began their set singing a capella from the high altar and finished with a favorite of ours, "Honky Tonk Women". Truly a wonderful dei.

Thanks to all our volunteers who helped pull the day off together! We couldn't do this without the work and organization of our son Dillon who lives in Nashville. What would we do without the magic of the internet and social media?!

At the end of the day we grossed \$8,600.00 for the Gloria Dei Church Fund.

Check out the Sexton Sideshow on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Your Sextons,

Jim & Paula Minacci





Please Help Us Help the Children!!

As supporters of Episcopal Community Services (ECS) we are looking for folks to help us help the children at the St. Barnabas Mission in West Philadelphia and the Youth at Feltonville Middle School to prepare for the school year in September. Now is the time to collect funds and supplies for these children so they will be able to start school with everything they need. We will be collecting items (see list) through most of the summer at Gloria Dei. If you cannot make it here but wish to help us, you can mail a check made out to Gloria Dei Church and memo "ECS" and we will purchase those things that are most needed. Thank you for your help!

ECS Fill the Bus Shopping List

1. Empty NEW Backpacks (unisex) for middle schoolers/high schoolers (\$25 gift card in each) Goal: 100 --- supporting Seeing Youth Succeed (SYS) and Feltonville Middle School
2. 20 of each item for St. Barnabas Mission After School Enrichment Program:
 - Pocket dictionaries for school
 - Tri-fold posterboards
 - Sets of colored markers
 - Boxes of 64-98 crayons
 - Boxes of #2 pencils
 - Glue/glue sticks
 - Packs of colored construction paper
 - Tempura and watercolor paint
 - and art paper
 - Children's umbrellas

Deadlines for delivery to ECS – August 28, 2015 (We will deliver all that has been donated – please be sure your donations arrive at Gloria Dei before 8/28/15)



Welcome the Newest Members
Baptized on May 24th, 2015
Madison Elena McDowell
Logan Joseph Kohlenberg
Everlee Yvonne Hernandez
Connor David Webb

In remembrance of:
John Thomas deVecchis Jr.
1936 - 2015

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

We the Congregation of GLORIA DEI (Old Swedes') CHURCH, existing by and for the Glory of God, knowing that God, through this Congregation, helps us to find our way and to use our gifts, gather together

- To honor and celebrate the acceptance of our differences and uniqueness;
- To be an inviting, welcoming, sustaining, loving community;
- To respond to the needs of others;
- To preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition, and heritage of this sacred place.



Sunday Service:
10:00 AM
Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM
Office Hours
Tuesday - Thursday 9:30-2:30
Friday 9:30-12:30

CLERGY

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

STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director
Vicki Cusack, Parish Administrator
Paula & James Minacci, Sextons
Deirdre Flint, Dir. of Comm.
Mark Roberts, Treasurer; O.S.C.A.R.

VESTRY

Barbara Chilcott
Jill Duink, Accounting Warden
Kimberly Goodwin
Re Henning
Carol Jenkins, Rector's Warden
Leigh Jenkins, Secretary
Jim Parsons
Barbara Potts
Mark Roberts
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 (1/11/15); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/5/15); Pentecost (5/24/15); and All Saints Sunday (11/1/15). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.