



January/February 2016

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

*For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold.
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.*

(The Hymnal 1982, Hymn #90)

A New Day

As we greet the New Year we tend to look back at the old year. Thinking about what was good, what was not so good, new friends we made, tearful goodbyes and joyous new births, blessings and regrets, we make resolutions, feel sad and happy at the same time. Time flows day to day, month to month, year to year, as we live our lives. Yet within these “ever-circling years” we also look forward.

It is interesting and intriguing to me that we stand always in the middle – a time before, a time to come, and here we are right now, with a view in both directions. And as we awaken to each new day we are challenged to see both past and future in the light of this day, this time, this place.

Within eternity, God’s time, we live and move and have our being. And within our earthly days we are always reaching both forward and backwards, both inward and outward, as we consider who we will be each new day.

The hymn says, “For lo! the days are hastening on...” It feels that way sometimes. “The ever-circling years” seem to move along without our ability to slow things down. Days, weeks, years flow by while we struggle to hold onto what we love, what we need, and rejoice in our new and renewed lives. The world moves beyond our grasp, maybe beyond our dreams and wishes. Yet, here we each are. Each person, made in the image of a loving God, each one of us unique, special, and loved. What good news to hear again this new day, this new year.

Maybe “all the world” isn’t ready to “give back the song” the angels sing. But each one of us can, on any given new day, decide we are ready to sing that song. The song the angels sang when Emmanuel came, the song the heavens sing continuously, the song that connects heaven and earth, God’s time and

(continued on next page)

our time. Join with me this New Year in rejoicing that we know this song! And we love this song!

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Glory to God in the highest!

Peace,
Joy +



Seasons Greetings from the Rector's Warden

Hopefully you have been enjoying the beautiful weather. It is such a rare treat to have 70 degree weather during December. Lucia was rather warm, and open church windows could be found between shows. This was a nice change, given the fact that just two short years ago we had a snow storm. Several performances were sold out!

With candles lit and voices raised, the Lucia Fest ushered in the spirit of Christmas. It is a joy to see so many people who love to share our wonderful tradition, and make it their annual family event.

A huge thank you to all who helped make it a success!

As Christmas approaches let us not forget the true meaning of the holiday. The Christ child is born this day! He arrives small and vulnerable, but full of love and hope. Let us receive him as our gift, with open hearts and open arms.

Remember holidays are a stressful time, filled with exuberant joy for some, and deep sadness for others. Take time to visit a friend or relative who might be shut in, or lonely. If you can't visit, a short call can brighten their day. Let them know that they are not alone. We are all in this game of life together. Make someone happy, it will in return make you happy.

Wishing you love and peace, this Christmas and a safe and joyous New Year!

Carol Jenkins

Liturgy Committee

The Liturgy Committee will meet on Sunday, January 24th, 12Noon, in the Roak Room. Anyone interested in being involved in crafting our Sunday liturgy for Lent is welcome to join us. We will review the Scripture selections for the season as we consider creeds, Prayers of the People, opening and closing acclamations, and post communion prayers from our own denominational sources and from sources within our common communion partners. Please consider if this may be a way in which you might serve Gloria Dei. Lunch will be provided so please let the rector know if you plan to join us for this fun-filled, worship-filled, spirit-filled work.



Ash Wednesday February 10, 2016

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, and the Church recognizes this with a special liturgy. At Gloria Dei we will come together for a simple meal, beginning at 6:00PM, in the Parish Hall on that evening. Following the meal we will move together into the church for the Ash Wednesday Liturgy which will include Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. Please join us as we begin our Lenten journey together.



Wednesdays in Lent Food, Fellowship, Study

We will gather once again on the Wednesdays in Lent, beginning on February 17th, at 6PM. We will share a simple fare of soup and sandwiches, some fellowship and worship, and a time of reflection and study. This year we will spend the five Wednesdays considering the Abrahamic faiths – Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Similarities, differences, and a deeper understanding of our inter-relatedness will be topics for teaching and discussion. Sign-up sheets for soup, sandwiches, and books for this study will be available in church by January 24th. Please consider taking some time this Lent to be a part of this gathering. (Dates: 2/17, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9, and 3/16)

JOIN US FOR

Spirits and History!

May 13, 2016 *(Friday the 13th!)*

7-10pm

Featuring:

- Spirited tastings to match the times of eight of our illustrious permanent residents! (non-alcoholic beverages will be available)
- Jazz Trio courtesy of The Jazz Sanctuary
- Cocktail Party Hors d'Oeuvres
- Live auction at 8:30

Our residents include Artists, the Inventor of Rubber Boots, and a Pirate!

*Do you know who is which?
Join us and find out.*

Fascinating stories.

Wonderful food and beverages!

Where:

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

Event fee: \$50 per person

Proceeds benefit Historic Preservation at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church
Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation is a 501c3 charity.
All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



*We will be tasting
what they were
drinking!*

John Douglas, 1700's
– Craft Beer

Gustavus Hesselius, 1600's
– Vodka

George Ord, 1700's
– Rum

John Stille, 1700's
– Whiskey

Peter Cruise, 1800's
– Craft Beer

The Peales, 1800's
– Wine

Alexander Wilson, 1800's
– Scotch

Amandeus Johnson, 1800's
– Aquavit



HGDPC
Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes')
Preservation Corporation

*A Subsidiary of Gloria Dei
(Old Swedes') Church
Philadelphia*



*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.



The Book Club at Gloria Dei

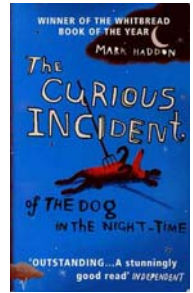
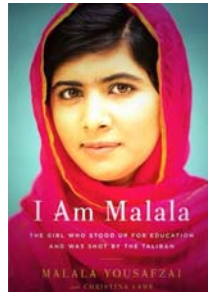
Here are our next books and meeting dates. The Book Club meets at 7 pm

January 25, 2016

I Am Malala by *Malala*

February 22, 2016

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by *Mark Haddon*



Marilyn Johnson



January 28 & February 25
7:30 to 9:30 pm - Riverside Hall

Calendar

**Jan. 5, 12,
19, 26**

Evensong - 6:30pm - Sanctuary

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm

Yoga - 7:15-8:15pm, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class

**Jan. 6, 13,
20, 27**

Yoga - 9:00am-10:00am, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class

Qigong - 10:30-11:30am, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class

Jan. 10

Baptisms at 10:00 service

Swedish Service - 4:00pm with reception to follow

Jan. 11

HGDPC Meeting - Roak Room - 5:30pm

Jan. 21

Swedish Colonial Society Meeting - Riverside Hall - 10:00am

Vestry Meeting - 7:00pm - Roak Room

Jan. 24

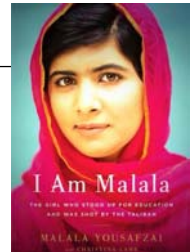
Liturgy Committee Meeting - Roak Room - Noon

Jan. 25

Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall

I am Malala •

by Malala

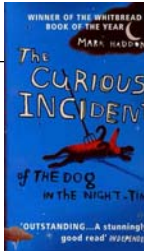


Jan. 28

JAZZ & Joe - 7:30pm Riverside Hall
at Gloria Dei



Calendar

- Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23** Evensong - 6:30pm - Sanctuary
Bell Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm
Yoga - 7:15-8:15pm, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
- Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24** Yoga - 9:00am-10:00am, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
Qigong - 10:30-11:30am, Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
- Feb. 8** HGDPC Meeting - Roak Room - 5:30pm
- Feb. 10** Ash Wednesday - Simple Meal 6:00pm
Ash Wednesday Service - 7:00pm
- Feb. 14** Swedish Service - 4:00pm with reception to follow
- Feb. 17, 24** Lenten Study - 6:00-8:00pm
- Feb. 18** Swedish Colonial Society Meeting - Riverside Hall - 10:00am
Vestry Meeting - 7:00pm - Roak Room
- Feb. 22** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
by Mark Haddon
- 
- Feb. 25** *JAZZ & Joe* - 7:30pm Riverside Hall
at Gloria Dei

The Lectionary for January

January 3rd, Feast of the Epiphany

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your 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 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

January 10th, First Sunday after Epiphany, Baptism of Our Lord

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus as his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17,21-22

January 17th, Second Sunday after Epiphany

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. **Amen.**

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

January 24th, Third Sunday After Epiphany

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

January 31st, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

The Lectionary for February

February 7th, Last Sunday after Epiphany, Transfiguration of Our Lord

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36

February 10th, Ash Wednesday

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Psalm 103:8-14

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

February 14th, First Sunday in Lent

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 91:1-2,9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

February 21st, Second Sunday in Lent

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Genesis 15:1-2,17-18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

February 28th, Third Sunday in Lent

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Exodus 3:1-15

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9A

Lucia, Lucia, Lucia!!!

We had an amazing, awesome, wondrous, beautiful Lucia Fest this year!!! More people than ever joined us for this most special event at Gloria Dei. It was the 78th Lucia Fest at Gloria Dei and we look forward to many, many more. Thank you to all who made this year's Lucia Fest such a success.

Most especially - thank you to the children!!!



From an eMail to the Lucia Family

Hello Lucia Family,

As my family and I prepare for Christmas, I wanted to send out my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and joyous and peace-filled New Year.

After Lucia ended this year, I received an email from a new (but, not really, rather, a returning) family. With permission, I have included Marie's words.

"Hi Christine,

I didn't have a chance to find you after the last show, but I wanted to thank you for all that you do. Being part of this Lucia Fest is really special and I know that you sacrifice a lot to make it happen. It is very much appreciated, and I think you and your family have touched a lot more lives than you even know.

And I think people really love the fact that it never changes. Things change so frequently and move so fast these days that I think people crave traditions like Lucia. My sister came today and we were talking about how adorable it is that the girls still stand around in a circle playing the hand clapping games. That was what we did 25 years ago (before smartphones and ipads) and they're still playing the same games! Probably because they've been passed down through generations of candle girls.

My mother-in-law is hosting a 15 year old Chinese exchange student for the school year and they were able to come see the performance yesterday. I really wanted her to see it, but it took me a little while to realize why. I once heard a Chinese man explain one of his customs to an American man by calling it his way of honoring his ancestors. Then he asked the American what customs there are in his family or culture to honor their ancestors and the American felt foolish because he had none. Because America is such a melting pot, our culture, unfortunately, gets very watered down. What you do with Lucia gives people a way to honor their ancestors, regardless of their heritage. And in doing so, you've created a new family of people who are dedicated to making Lucia Fest happen. Gloria Dei feels like home, and I was really happy to feel so welcome to return.

I hope my girls will stick with it and have as many nice memories as I do! Thank you for all that you do, Marie (and Scarlett)"

While I thanked Marie for her kind words, they are really for all of us and they capture so nicely why so many of us dedicate so much to make this possible year after year. Thank you.

God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
Christine



Welcome the Newest Members

Baptized on November 1, 2015

Declan Michael Martin

Skylar Hope Dolley

Ava Lynn Cruz

Celebrate the newly married:

Charles Mattox and Dawn Barut

November 7th, 2015

Memorial Cards:

Clara Huston

By: Bob & Jean Weill

Dorothy Papasodora

By: Bob & Jean Weill

Bob Weill, Jr.

Boyd Burrows

By: Jean & Bob Weill

Andy Kruc

By: Bert Kugiak

Joseph Fratentona

By: Sally Daly

Claire Ahern

By: Joe & Maureen Collins

Edward Dover

By: Joe & Maureen Collins

Gertrude Connor

By: Doris Connor

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

Mark Roberts, Treasurer

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 (1/10/16); The Great Vigil of Easter (3/27/16); Pentecost (5/15/16); and All Saints Sunday (11/6/16). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.



Sunday Service:

10:00 AM

Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM

Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30-2:30