



*January/February 2015*

# Down By The Riverside

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

## Thoughts from the Rector

### *In the bleak mid-winter*

As we begin a new year it's easy to see that lots of "old" stuff trails along with us. As much as we make resolutions and determine to turn over a new leaf, we more often than not find ourselves in the same places, with the same problems, and the same attitudes.

We have a Christmas hymn in our Hymnal 1982, number 112, called *In the bleak mid-winter*. It's a beautiful hymn but we rarely sing it. Why? Because it's not what folks want to hear at Christmastime. It's a melancholy hymn, carrying about it, in tune and words, not the "angels and shepherds and star" Christmas images but rather the darker, colder circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus.

*In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter, long ago.*

See what I mean? That's the first verse. Not the warm and fuzzy manger scene with loving humans and animals gathered, smiling, amazed at the wondrous Babe. No, this hymn invites us in to the place of darkness, coldness, aloneness. A place we all know, or have known sometime in our lives. A place we wish we could move from. And yet, a place where God comes to us.

The hymn continues for three more verses. I'll leave you to check it out. (You can hear it sung beautifully at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0aL9rKJPr4> ). But for me, the last verse brings me up short and reframes the possibilities inherent in our dark, cold, hard, new days.

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.*

Giving your heart means giving yourself. All of yourself. Your joys, your sorrows, your abilities, your wishes and hopes and dreams. In the time when failure looms large or happiness bubbles over. In the place where safety resides

(continued on next page)

or danger lurks. In our lives of busyness or idleness. In the rainy days and the days filled with sunshine. No matter where, or when, or what, or who we are....we can give our heart...if we choose.

So, let us ring out the old, honoring all that has been. Let us greet the new day, even if it looks and feels like the same old day, with the hope that resides at the manger, that shines like the brightest star, and that is affirmed as truly new at the cross and resurrection.

In this Epiphany season we celebrate, in the dark days of “mid-winter,” the ever-present light of Christ. In these days we are called to shine with hope, even in the midst of our own angers and hurts, our own fears and doubts. We are encouraged to give our hearts – to love each other, to love ourselves, to love God. This is the season of light and peace. Let us shine. Let us hope. Let us love.

Peace,

*Joy +*



**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, Jan 22 and Feb 26**

**7:30 to 9:30 pm - Riverside Hall**

## Thoughts from the Rector's Warden

It's hard to believe that 2014 is now a memory!

Lucia was a huge success this year. Sunday found us with beautiful weather and sold out shows. A huge thank you to all who helped out. Maybe you were with us the entire weekend or maybe just for a day. Perhaps you baked some goodies or made some soup. Each and every one of you are the reason we succeed!!!

I hope Christmas was memorable and you were able to take some time to enjoy it. With New Year upon us, hope and expectation for a great year is high. What will 2015 hold for you? Have you made any new year's resolutions? Maybe start a diet? Save money? Take up a new hobby? Perhaps go back to school? I always have high hopes, and try to stick to my new resolutions. Unfortunately most fall by the wayside by mid-February. I think this year I will try something different. My goal will be to find one thing in everyday life to make me smile, or something that makes me happy. I have a small wall calendar which I will write one or two words on each day. Just a brief note on what I was happy for that day. Maybe it sounds silly but I think in this day and age there is so much negative news and tragedy. I think it would be helpful to look for positive things in everyday life to be grateful for. I'm sure some days will be easier than others. Hopefully I will have a variety of things that will remind me of how blessed I truly am.

Wishing you peace and love for the new year.

*Carol Jenkins*



### Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2015

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.

## Honky Tonkin' 2014



## Honky-Tonk Holly-Dei

Thanks to y'all for making this years after-Lucia event a huge success! On Sat., Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 over 200 friends, neighbors, and people we've never met, gathered in Riverside Hall as we brought the Nashville sound to Philadelphia with the help from our son Dillion James! Partnering with the Philadelphia Folksong Society, For Pete's Sake, and Philadelphia Brewing Company we raised \$3,250!

Sexton SideShow wishes to extend a special thank you to all the volunteers who helped with this event, and all the events in 2014. We also appreciate the monetary support given by congregation members....you know who you are! With the help of everyone we raised over \$12,000 at Sexton Sideshow events for Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church.

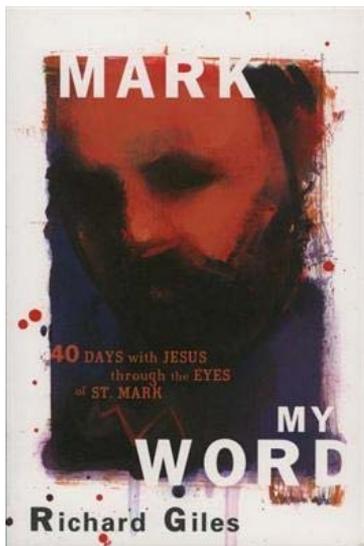
Our Facebook page has updated information for those interested in the Sexton SideShow events. We are planning the Sexton SideShow 2015 calendar, so please get involved. Stay in touch so you can be involved! Mark May 25th, June 21st, Oct 31st, December 19th, and December 31st 2015 as definite Sexton SideShow events.

Help make 2015 even better than this year!! You can support us by sending a check to Gloria Dei Church and "memo it" for the Sexton SideShow!

We will be counting on you, Peace and love, Your Sextons

*Jim & Paula Minacci*

## One Read at Old Swedes – Lent 2015



Our book for Lent this year will be *Mark My Word; 40 days with Jesus*, by Richard Giles. This is a daily reading of the Gospel of Mark with reflections, questions, and prayers. I hope everyone will consider reading along each day – just a page or two. As we journey through Lent I pray that this read, along with our other Lent program (see “New Lenten Program” article in this issue) will comfort and strengthen us as we realize we are on this journey together. The book will be a gift from the Rector’s Discretionary Fund. Please watch for the sign-up sheet in the back of church if you want a copy of the book. And please plan to take a bit of time each day, from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday, to consider Mark’s word’s to us, and our journey together in this place.



### Prayer Chain

#### Requests For Prayers Are Always Welcome

Please contact our Prayer Chain Coordinator, Megan Bartlett, with your prayer requests. You may email her ([megan77777@yahoo.com](mailto:megan77777@yahoo.com)) or phone her (267-251-3579), or you may contact the church office or the Rector at 215-389-1513. All request will remain confidential.

*Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need*



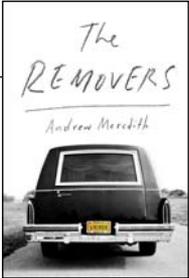
*Donate to Gloria Dei  
Make a pledge payment  
Purchase books  
Make Amazon purchases*



Now all these things can be done online at Gloria Dei’s website! Just visit us as [www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org) and find out what else we’re doing. Check out our Facebook page while you’re there.

## Calendar

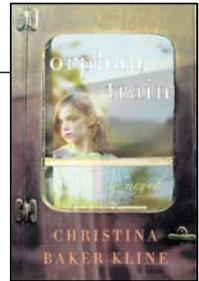
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- Jan. 2** Church Office re-opens
- Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27** Evensong - 6:30pm - 7:00pm- Church  
Bells 7:00pm  
Yoga - 7:15PM, drop in class, all levels welcome  
\$8.00 a session
- Jan. 7** A Thrill of Hope: The Christmas Story in Word and Art  
7:00pm - Session 4: The Epiphany
- Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28** Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10 - 11:00AM.  
All levels welcome
- Jan. 11** Swedish Service - 4:00PM - Church,  
Reception Riverside Hall
- Jan. 13, 20, 27** Mindfulness for Wellness, 7:15-8:15pm, suggested  
donation 5.00. Meditation classes - open to novice and  
experienced mediators alike
- Jan. 15** Swedish Colonial Society - Riverside Hall - 1:00-3:00PM  
Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room
- Jan. 21** A Thrill of Hope: The Christmas Story in Word and Art  
7:00pm - Session 5: The Presentation
- Jan. 22** *Jazz & Joe* - Special Event, 7:30pm  
at GIOIA DEI
- Jan. 26** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall  
*The Removers* —————  
by Andrew Meredith
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- Jan. 28** A Thrill of Hope: The Christmas Story in Word and Art  
7:00pm - Session 6: The Flight to Egypt

## Calendar

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- Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24** Evensong - 6:30pm - 7:00pm- Church  
Bells 7:00pm  
Yoga - 7:15PM, drop in class, all levels welcome  
\$8.00 a session  
Mindfulness for Wellness, 7:15-8:15pm, suggested donation 5.00. Meditation classes - open to novice and experienced mediators alike
- Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25** Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10 - 11:00AM.  
All levels welcome
- Feb. 8** Swedish Service - 4:00PM - Church,  
Reception Riverside Hall
- Feb. 18** Ash Wednesday, Simple Meal 6:00pm - Riverside Hall  
7:00pm Holy Communion and Distribution of Ashes
- Feb. 19** Swedish Colonial Society - Riverside Hall - 1:00-3:00PM  
Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room
- Feb. 23** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall  
*Orphan Train* —————  
by Kristina Baker Kline



**Feb. 25** Lenten Program 6:30 - 8:00pm

**Feb. 26** *Jazz & Joe* - Special Event, 7:30pm  
at Gloria Dei



**HGDPC**  
Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes')  
Preservation Corporation

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

# The Lectionary for January

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## January 4, Epiphany of Our Lord

O God, 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**

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm: 72: 1-7, 10-14

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 1-12

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

## January 11, The Baptism of the Lord

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

1st Reading: Genesis 1: 1-5

Psalm: 29

2nd Reading: Acts 19:1-7

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

## January 18, Second Sunday After Epiphany

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalm: 139:1-5, 12-17

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: John 1:43-51

## January 25, Third Sunday after Epiphany

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm: 62: 6-14

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20



# The Lectionary for February

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## February 1, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into our radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18: 15-20      Psalm: 111  
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13      Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

## February 8, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31      Psalm: 147:1-12, 21c  
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23      Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

## February 15, Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

1st Reading: 2 Kings 1:1-12      Psalm: 50:1-6  
2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6      Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

## February 18, Ash Wednesday

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

1st Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17      Psalm: 103:8-18  
2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10      Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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## February 22, First Sunday in Lent

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

1st Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm: 25:1-9

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15



## 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.



## The Book Club at Gloria Dei

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

January 26, 2015

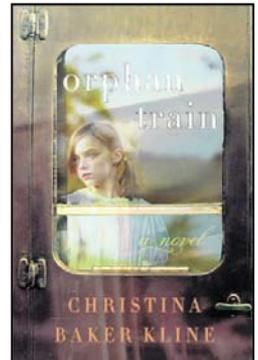
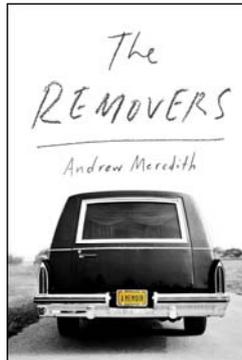
**The Removers**

*By Andrew Meredith*

February 23, 2015

**Orphan Train**

*By Kristina Baker Kline*



*Marilyn Johnson*

# Mindfulness for Wellness, with Amy Edelstein

Tuesdays 7:15 – 8:15 PM, in the Roak Room

Beginning January 13<sup>th</sup> 2015

Open to novice and experienced meditators alike.

- Have you heard about the benefits of mindfulness practice but never had the opportunity to find out what it really is?
- Have you had a long time meditation practice and missed having others to share a meditative space together?

Now, on Tuesday evenings, 7:15-8:15 PM, you can come and share the joy of focused awareness and calm abiding together with others.

Amy Edelstein, a 30-year practitioner, is an expert teacher and guide of meditation practice. These hour-long sessions will include basic instruction, guided meditations, and an exploration of why and how meditation practice can support a life of inner spaciousness, strength, and well-being.

Cost: Voluntary donation, suggested \$5 per session. Teenagers (16+) welcome.

Amy Edelstein teaches mindfulness in a variety of settings including to *Philadelphia Magazine's* staff and students at Bodine International High School.

For more info: [www.amyedelstein.com](http://www.amyedelstein.com)



SAVE THE DATE: May 2, 2015

# Colonial at Day Old Swedes



**Where:** Gloria Dei  
(Old Swedes') Church grounds  
Columbus Blvd & Christian St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19147

**Time:** 10am-6pm

**ENJOY** Plenty of homemade  
food and treats from the  
Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') cooks!

For more information:  
[www.preserveoldswedes.org](http://www.preserveoldswedes.org)

## PLANNED ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Opening parade for everyone with bag pipes and fife & drums
- ◆ Dueling Demonstration
- ◆ 18th Century Military Drill
- ◆ 17th Century Dance Demonstration
- ◆ Pony rides
- ◆ Hay rides
- ◆ Moon bounce
- ◆ Games and contests
- ◆ Children's craft projects
- ◆ Face painting
- ◆ Story-telling
- ◆ Music performances

## PHOTO OPS WITH:

- ◆ New Sweden Colonial King and Queen (CONFIRMED!)
- ◆ New Sweden Colonial Governor (CONFIRMED!)
- ◆ Ben Franklin (invited!)
- ◆ Thomas Jefferson (invited!)
- ◆ Betsy Ross (invited!)

Proceeds benefit Historic Preservation at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church  
All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.  
CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE! JOIN US!

# NEW!!! Epiphany Video and Discussion Program

## *A Thrill of Hope; The Christmas (and Epiphany) Story in Word and Art*

Our Advent program continues into Epiphany – the Season of Light! Come join us for three one hour sessions as we look at three important parts of our story: The Epiphany (when the Magi came to find the Babe), The presentation (when Mary and Joseph bring the baby to the Temple), and the Flight into Egypt (when because of the threat from Herod, Mary and Joseph took the newborn to Egypt for safety). The program includes a short video each week considering the art of John August Swanson depicting the scriptural events of those events along with biblical scholars presenting historical insights into the biblical texts. Below is the schedule and the topic for each of the sessions. Please consider setting aside just this bit of time in this season to gather in thanksgiving for the great gift of light and life and hope and joy that this season represent.

Wednesday, 1/7/15, 7PM

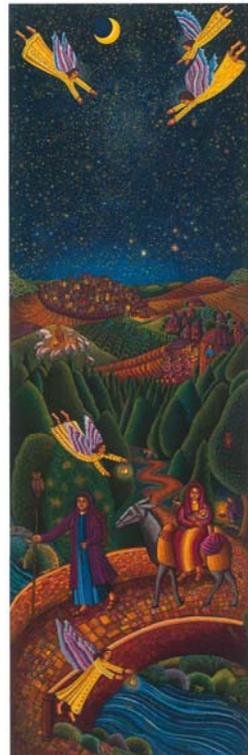
Session #1 – The Epiphany

Wednesday, 1/21/15, 7PM

Session #2 – The Presentation

Wednesday, 1/28/15, 7PM

Session #3 – The Flight into Egypt



## Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who made an annual pledge or contribution to Gloria Dei during Stewardship month. We have now received a total of 26 commitment cards pledging \$31,000 plus time and talent offerings as well. The goal for this year is \$45,000, so we still have about \$14,000 to go. If you have not yet returned your commitment card, please consider doing so. You can make an annual pledge or a one-time annual contribution to help support Gloria Dei. Now more than ever we need your support so that Gloria Dei can continue to serve Christ by serving others through outreach, worship, music, and so many other ministries. Commitment cards are available at the back of the church for you to complete and drop into the collection plate or you can call Vicki at the Parish Office at 215-389-1513 who can assist you. Thank you again to all who have given so generously to support Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church! Every gift makes a difference.

If you would like to donate online, please navigate to:  
<http://www.old-swedes.com/giving.rhtml>



## New Lenten Program – Dinner Church

For many years now we have gathered on the five Wednesdays in Lent following Ash Wednesday to share soup and bread and discuss a book, or watch a video, or both. Sharing a simple meal and allowing a place and time in the season of Lent to “go deeper” with each other and to consider our relationship with God is a blessing – a gift, really. It is time well spent and time to be treasured. This year we will continue to share a Gloria Dei “One Read” book during Lent (see article in this issue) but we will be doing something different on Wednesday evenings.

This year we will gather to do “Dinner Church” on those five Wednesdays. What is “Dinner Church” you ask? Well, the short description is that it’s a time that we worship at the dinner table – we incorporate our worship, prayers, bible reading and discussion (not sermon!), and communion, as a part of our dinner. So we’ll literally break bread together, pass a cup to each other, and talk about the gospel while we share dinner.

So, put aside those Wednesdays in Lent this year (2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25) and plan to join us at 6:30PM on those evenings for dinner and worship around the table in Riverside Hall.

*(Anyone who would like to help plan liturgy and meals for this program, please contact Joy)*

## 2014 Lucia Fest and St. Eric's Fair Update

With full participation of the Gloria Dei congregation, we put on a terrific Lucia Fest and St. Eric's Fair. The weather co-operated this year helping to bring in record crowds. Gloria Dei was shining in more ways than one - from our Lucias with their crowns of live candles, to our candle girls, star boys, and the always precocious tompatas - to the delicious food from our Gloria Dei cooks and bakers! This year we earned record donations in support of Gloria Dei with the ticket sales, food tent and the St. Eric's Fair. Gifts from the audiences will support the care of Gloria Dei's buildings and grounds. This is one event that took our combined efforts and everyone stepped up! Many thanks to our entire Gloria Dei team. We could not put this on without you! Overall, we raised \$27,000. Please take a bow!

Respectfully submitted,

*Candace Roberts*



### The Blue Box.

Our Change is on its way to make a Change in the Lives of Others. We raised \$160 during our fall in-gathering. Thank you for your generosity. Honor small Thanks by giving to your UTO box regularly. The next in-gathering will be in May. What will we be thankful for here at Gloria Dei!

*Heather Myers*





**Memorial Cards in loving memory of:**

**Toni O'Malley**

By: Bert Kugiak

**Barbara Brown**

By: Mike and Terry

**Gloria Glaviano**

By: Dolores Kromchad

**Welcome the Newest Members**

Baptized on November 2nd, 2014

**Genevieve Marie Figueroa**

**Giavona Marie Figueroa**

**Bridget Rose Villanueva**

**Nathan Andrew Cleland**

**Azilee Virginia Cleland**

**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

**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

Michael Phillips

Barbara Potts

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.