



November 2012

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

November – My Most Challenging Month

As the daylight hours get shorter, as the days get busier, as the world around me gets geared up for holiday upon holiday, I find myself tossing and turning at night. Thoughts swirl around those things I need to get done, the folks I need to visit, the things I need to be sure are ready for parish and home as we move from All Saints Sunday, through Thanksgiving, onto Advent, Christmas, and the New Year.

One of the things they teach you in seminary is how important it is as a pastor to be “a non-anxious presence.” They teach you how important it is, but not how to do it. It’s another of my worries that I don’t do this very well, particularly during “busy” seasons – the exact time that it’s most important! Evidence my not sleeping well as proof.

It is always November that brings me to this anxious place. Once Advent begins I am usually able to breathe deeply, slow down, and allow the Holy Spirit to assure me, convince me, that all will be well. The anticipation of what is to come is the challenge for me. And so, November is my challenging month. If this is the case with you as well, let me offer some companionship and maybe some helpful remedies.

First, of course, is getting out of God’s way. This means prayer – perhaps more than is our usual routine. Getting ourselves out of the center of things and remembering that God is the center of all that we are, all that we do, all that we have, is enormously helpful. It relieves us of the burden we have falsely created for ourselves that we are actually running the show. And it helps us refocus on our own roles as stewards of God’s Kingdom and not owners. God can carry infinitely more and heavier burdens than I can, and I’m always so relieved when I remember this.

Second, by focusing first on God and then on “neighbor” we are also reawakened to how self-centered we have become and in so doing how we have been blind to the needs of others. Not always, but often, my night-time tossing and turning speaks more to my own self-centeredness than to my concern for others. Perhaps a hard thing to admit but once faced, this truth becomes a way

(continued on next page)

in which I find I am able to refocus my call to be God's steward, not God's "right-hand-woman/man."

And third, making time to be in community –to worship, to share meals, to spend time in Bible Study, to go to the movies with friends, to take an extra half hour on Sunday morning to sit with folks after church and just catch up, to offer precious time to the needs of the church, the needs of our neighbors, the needs of the community in which we live, to be vigilant about relationships whatever that means to each of us, to remember that we are part of a greater whole – helps us to regain our perspective.

These things are perhaps easier said than done. (Don't I know that!) We are, after all, human; prone to saying one thing and doing another; a mishmash of good intentions overlaid with layer upon layer of justifications, judgments, and avoidance. But sooner or later we realize, and sooner is better, we're better off when we are able to sleep soundly, trusting that in the darkness of our doubts, our worries, our failures, our anxieties, God is there, comforting, healing, making whole, making new .

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

(Ephesians 3:20-21)

Peace, *Joy +*



Thanksgiving Eve at Gloria Dei

Once again we will celebrate Thanksgiving at Gloria Dei this year on Wednesday, Thanksgiving Eve, November 21st, with a service of Thanksgiving and Holy Communion at 7pm. We ask that you bring a canned good or dry good to bring forward during this service to be placed on the altar and blessed. We will share this ingathering of food with those in our community who are in need.

We have much to be thankful for here at Gloria Dei. Hopefully many of you will join us, and bring family and friends, as we thank God for the blessings of this place and this community.

*Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
(Psalm 95:2)*



You are invited! To “Mutual Invitation Bible Study”

What is “Mutual Invitation Bible Study”? – It’s a structured format for exploring the Gospel (the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) in which members of the group invite each other to read the text and then share how it impacts them. Those who want to just listen and not share are also welcome.

When? - Every Sunday morning at 9:30am (beginning October 28th - no Bible Study on 11/11 when Gloria Dei members will be worshipping at St. John’s-Emanuel at 3rd and Reed Streets)

Where? - Riverside Hall

How long is the Bible study? – Each Bible study will be approximately 20 minutes (9:30-9:50am)

Who will lead it? - The first few weeks will be led by Jerry Buescher, Megan Bartlett, or Dave Hammond, but Mutual Invitation Bible Study allows for anyone to lead, if the Spirit so moves.

Who may attend? - Anyone and everyone

We hope you’ll join us!

From the Rector's Warden

I'm writing this on Friday October 26 and talk about the incoming storm "Sandy" has driven all election-talk off the airwaves – amazing. I imagine shelves at the various supermarkets are already thinning out. Whenever there's news of a big incoming storm like this, I think of how fortunate we are that our graveyard trees are well cared for and prudently trimmed. And how my trees (a monster Southern Magnolia, descended from a parent in the Christ Church Rectory yard, and an equally large Ginkgo male, so there's none of that horrid sidewalk debris) are also safely maintained by the arborist I met as he was doing the work at Gloria Dei. And how a member of his crew is from Guatemala and – though he's from a different area – knows very well where "our" parishes are.

Connections – my connection to Gloria Dei, though that connection to an arborist, through that connection to a native of Guatemala, who in turn is connected to the dozens of people we know in Guatemala.

We're coming to the Feast of All Saints – we'll celebrate it here on November 4. All the saints – thanks to Lisa Reeves and her hymn choice on Sunday October 14 – the words keep running around in my head:

*I sing a song of the saints of God –
They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still.*

Hundreds of thousands still – and some of them sit in our pews every Sunday. Others turn up in droves at our Flea Markets twice a year. Still others come once a month to Jazz and Joe. A thousand or more will join us for Lucia. A few come a couple of times a year to care for our trees. A few others come to help keep our graves safe and protected. Dozens come five days a week to start their children on a life's worth of education. Still more come to celebrate life and seasonal occasions at Sexton Sideshows. More come to care for their health at yoga and tai-chi.

And some come to spend time with us in our graveyard. There was a coffin burial in the graveyard a few weeks ago. That kind of burial leaves a large patch of bare soil that was seeded. I said to Joy last Sunday that you can't tell the grave was opened unless you look carefully – the grass has grown over it completely. The person has moved in, fixed up the place, and joined the saints who've been here for hundreds of years.

The year is winding down to the dark days of winter but it's "busy time" at Gloria Dei. The first Luca Fest rehearsal will have happened before you read this! It's an extra-special Lucia Fest this year, the 75th so I – among others – will ask you to really dig in to help it happen. People – "saints" – have been charged with making sure that various parts of the Fest come together – costumes, rehearsals, food to sell, food for the kids, tickets, parking, seating.

They'll be looking for other saints to help. Don't be shy, don't fret that you've never done "whatever" before - we all did "whatever" for the first time once.

That hymn's words are still running around in my head -

*They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,
And his love made them strong.*

We love the Lord, and we're strong. Let's do it!

Jerry Buescher



Requests For Prayers Are Always Welcome

Please contact the church office (215) 389-1513
or Florence Brook (267) 273-5175,
fbrook529@hotmail.com

Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need



Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for an upcoming Sunday please call the office and let Terry know. You may provide the flowers yourself or you may provide funds for flowers and our volunteer "flower person," Diane Honor, will purchase and place the flowers for you.



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



Now all these things can be done online at Gloria Dei's website!
Just visit us at www.old-swedes.org and find out what else we're doing.
Check out our Facebook page while you're there.

Dec. 7-9



& Holiday Shopping

www.old-swedes.com/luciafest.rhtml

Lucia Tickets on sale
from November 1st through the 30th, online
or by calling the church office
215-389-1513

After the 30th tickets are available only in Riverside Hall
during the festival



REUNION CELEBRATION



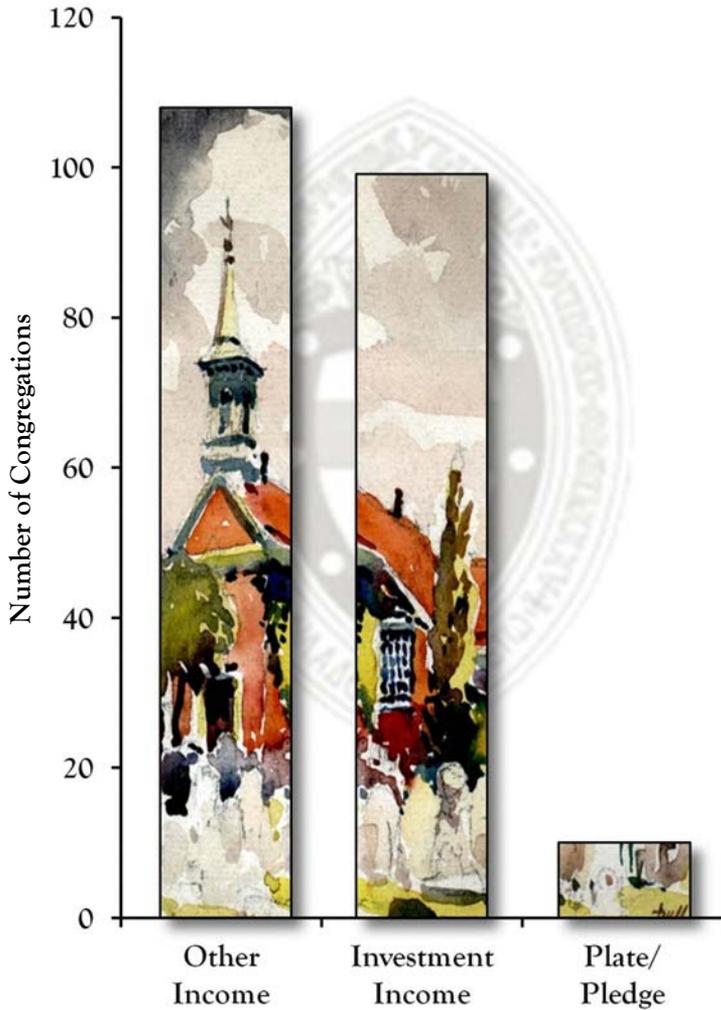
CELEBRATE, SAY HELLO!!

Attention all current and former Lucia participants and families, come celebrate the 75th annual Lucia Fest at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church.

We will have our own "special" Lucia Fest in the church and then move across the street to Penn's Landing Caterers for a cocktail party (hot hor dourves; beer, wine, soda) on Saturday, December 1st (5 to 9pm).

Tickets are on sale now through the Nov. 15th deadline!

Where do we rank in the Diocese in giving



Other
Income

Ranks 109th highest in Other Income which includes YCCA and Riverside rentals and all of our “fun” raisers

Investment
Income

99th in Investment Income.
Thanks to our long-term stewards

Plate/
Pledge

10th lowest in Plate/Pledge as a percent of operating budget

Calendar

Nov 1 Lucia Tickets go on sale today (online/or office)

Nov 2 Graveyard Boo-ga-loo
- Sexton Sideshow - Riverside Hall



Nov 3 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- Turn Clocks Back at 2:00AM

Nov 4 All Saints Sunday and Ingathering
of Pledges

Nov 4, 11, 18 Lucia Rehearsals - 1:00 - 3:30PM

Nov 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

Nov 7, 14, 21, 28 Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10 - 11:00AM
All levels welcome
Zumba Classes - 11:15AM - 12:15PM (\$10.00)

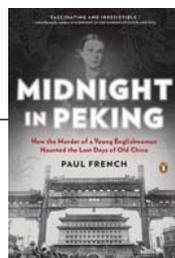
Nov 11 10:00AM Service at St. John's Emanuel,
1332 S. Third St.
Swedish Service in Church - 4:00PM

Nov 14 Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room

Nov 21 Thanksgiving Eve Service- 7:00PM

Nov 22, 23 Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov 26 Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
Midnight in Peking
By *Paul French*



Nov 30 Advance Lucia ticket sales close today

The Lectionary for November

November 4th, The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost - All Saints Sunday

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, 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: Wisdom 3:1-9

Psalm: 24 (5)

2nd Reading: Revelation 21:1-6a

Gospel: John 11:32-44

November 11th, The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: 1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalm: 146

2nd Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

November 18th, The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm: 16

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14

Gospel: 13:1-8

November 21st, Thanksgiving Eve

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Joel 2:21-27

Psalm: 126(3)

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 6:25-33

November 25th, The Last Sunday after Pentecost - Christ the King

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalm: 93

2nd Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

Gospel: John 18:33-37

Gloria Dei Timeline: 1850-1899

- 1850** Jenny Lind sang from the historic organ loft, “I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” from Handel’s Messiah.
- 1854** Gloria Dei becomes part of Philadelphia.
- 1863-1865** J.W. Leadenham - Rector
- 1864** Parish Hall constructed for use of the Sunday School programs. It was used solely for a Sunday School and was seldom available for other uses until sometime after 1915. The hall was name Riverside Hall in honor of Rev. David B. Rivers in 2004.
- 1865-1868** J. Sanders Reed – Rector
- 1868-1915** Snyder B. Simes – Rector
- 1896** Downstairs seating was reconfigured with a center aisle added. Guild House may have housed the first parochial school in the city. (Public Ledger Aug 28, '96)

Philadelphia Timeline

- 1850** Philadelphia population 408,762. Philadelphia has more textile factories than anywhere else in the world. On July 9, fire began on Vine Street Wharf and destroyed 367 houses. Oct. 18 and 19, Jenny Lind, “the Nightingale” sang at Musical Fund Hall on Locust Street. The two concerts netted \$19,000, a sum unprecedented for such entertainment.
- 1851** Spring Garden Institute, for the teaching of useful arts to wage-earning youths, was organized.
- 1852** First degree of medicine was conferred upon women at the Female Medical College of Philadelphia (now Woman’s Medical College)
- 1854** Philadelphia county is consolidated into Philadelphia city. Southwark incorporated in County of Philadelphia. On July 1, the long wharf of Merrick & Sons, at the foot of Reed Street; frequently used as a recreation resort, caved in, ten person drowned.
- 1857** January 26, the Academy of Music opens for its first season, which will include the American premiere of Verdi’s opera *Il Trovatore* with Brignold and Gazzaniga in the principal characters.

- 1858 January 20, city passenger cars run for the first time in Philadelphia over 5th & 6th Street Railway.
- 1859 Dec. 28, Washington Street Wharf fixed upon as the Delaware Terminus of Pennsylvania Railroad.
- 1860 The Philadelphia Athletics is founded. Philadelphia population 565,529. On Oct. 9-11, the Prince of Wales visits Philadelphia.
- 1861 War excitement. First Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers march South.
- 1863 New post office building, Chestnut Street below Fifth opened for business. Mayor Henry issues a proclamation calling on the citizens to close their places of business and prepare to defend the State House.
- 1864 March 1, Ringing of State House bell for ordinary fires forbidden by Mayor Henry.
- 1865 January 28, Delaware River frozen over; people crossed over to New Jersey.
- 1866 January 7, Coldest night known; thermometer 18 degrees below zero. Delaware and Schuylkill frozen over.
- 1870 Philadelphia population 674,022. March 14, Old Glory seamstress revealed.
- 1871 Sept. 22, Lincoln Monument at Fairmount Park dedicated. Oct 30, Academy of Natural Sciences, S. W. corner Nineteenth & Race Streets cornerstone laid.
- 1876 The first World's Fair was held to celebrate the Centennial anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. United States of America Centennial Exposition opens
- 1877 Philadelphia Museum of Art founded. First Department Store in America John Wanamaker's. First Public Telephone use - installed in two Philadelphia drug stores at 8th and Walnut and 18th and Chestnut.
- 1880 Philadelphia population 847,170.
- 1883 Philadelphia Phillies begin play in Philadelphia.
- 1890 Philadelphia population 1,046,964.
- 1893 There are 212 miles of trolley tracks in the city.

Jeanette Woehr

Notes from the October Vestry Meeting

Thanks to the significant efforts of Candy Roberts, a new non-profit organization (501c3) called the “Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation” (HGDPC) has been approved!

What does this mean for Gloria Dei? Increased ability to access grant funding for property improvements, which will decrease the amount of money we’ll have to spend on the property each year from our own financial budget. New and closer relationships between Gloria Dei members and the community through their work together on the HGDPC board (7 board members will be Gloria Dei members; 6 members will be from the community). If you are interested in learning more, talk to Rev. Joy Segal or Candy Roberts (croberts@quantum-think.com; 215-592-6590) if you’d like to learn more about the HGDPC or if you’d like to be considered for a 2-year term on the board.

Welcome/Greeting Committee – Lisa Reeves and a small group of interested individuals met on Sunday, 10/14 to discuss ideas for how to be more welcoming to visitors and those seeking a church home. The first idea is to have a small group of Gloria Dei members attend each of the weddings that take place here, just to have a welcoming presence for visitors. Interested? Speak to Lisa Reeves or Rev. Joy Segal.

Around the Property: Take note of the new tiles in the Riverside Hall kitchen; the National Park Service has given us a historic lamp for use in the churchyard – to be installed in the near future; The new arbor vitae in the cemetery were stressed by the lack of rain in April. Many of them will be replaced in the next month.

Finances at Gloria Dei: We were over budget last month by \$4,861.63 - pledge and plate income were down, as were rentals of Riverside Hall. Please consider this as you prayerfully consider your 2013 financial commitment to Gloria Dei. Commitment cards will be collected during the offering on November 4th, Commitment Sunday.



EXILE ON MAIN ST : ROLLING STONES

K. RICHARDS guitar / M. TAYLOR guitar / C. WATTS drums / B. WHITMAN bass / M. JAGGER vocal
+ B. KEYS sax / J. PRICE trumpet / N. HOPKINS piano

Side 3.

Side 4

HAPPY

TORN ON T

VENT

JUS

L

IN THE LINE

ROLLING STONES™
"EXILE ON MAIN ST"
WATER

7243 039503 24

Sexton SideShow



BIEM/MCP

Virgin



oldswedes.org

12-12-12

SEE ARTWORK FOR DETAILS. © 1972 VIRGIN BENELUX B.V.



NORTH LAWRENCE MIDNIGHT SINGERS



An EPIC OCTOBER FLEA

Congratulations to everyone who made 10/20/12 a record-breaking flea-market event.

We sold a record breaking 169 spaces to our very generous public so they could sell their treasures around our property. This is truly amazing because we were competing with 3 other big flea markets in our vicinity. A fine reflection on our little circus of fleas.

On our grill we sold 400 hot dogs at \$2 a dog and 100 hamburgers for \$3 a pop. (\$4 for cheeseburgers). The bake table pulled in over \$800 by selling homemade baked goods, pretzels, soda and water at mostly a dollar each incredible. The kitchen had record numbers sold in addition by selling out of all soup, chili, and meatballs. Our parking crew turned in \$194 bucks in parking donations. A new record number for under 95 parking.

As always the church table sets new records for itself with each flea market and that money goes to support our Guatemala mission.

So to wrap it up nicely our flea market this fall generated over \$8,000 in monies collected and after expenses and start-up should net around \$7,500. This is a true all-church, all-inclusive event. Thanks to everyone who gave of their time, talent, and treasure this fall. You helped show the best Gloria Dei has to offer to all our neighbors and friends.

Gratefully, your Sextons

Jim and Paula Minacci







In **REMEMBRANCE** of:
Ellen Jane DiGenova
September 24, 2012

CELEBRATE the Newly **MARRIED**
Renee Michelle Lafferty and
Domenick Michael Oriolo

Nathan Cleland and
Christina DiLorenzo



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-Friday 9:30-2:30

CLERGY

The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

STAFF

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

VESTRY

Megan Bartlett, Secretary
Ann Blackstone
Jerome Buescher, Rector's Warden
Robert Dieters, Acct. Assistant
David Hammond, Acct. Warden
Carol Jenkins
Dolores Kromchad
Barbara Potts
Lisa Reeves
Mark Roberts
Jeanette Woehr



STANDING NOTICES

Weddings

Weddings at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church must be scheduled with the clergy at least three months in advance. All weddings in the church will be governed by the Canons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Book of Common Prayer. Pre-marital counseling is a prerequisite. No weddings will be conducted during Lent.

Funerals

When death occurs a family member is asked to contact the clergy so that timely arrangements for a funeral may be made. It is appropriate for the funeral of a Christian to take place in the church. It is also appropriate that funeral arrangements be made in advance and kept in a file in the church office. Burial plots are available for members of the parish in the church's cemetery. Consult the church office for costs and details.

Baptisms

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during one of the principle Sunday liturgies and is governed by the Canons of the church and the Book of Common Prayer. Baptism is normally celebrated on one of the four appropriate feast days designated in the Book of Common Prayer. These are: The Baptism of our Lord (1/8/12); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/8/12); Pentecost (5/27/12); and All Saints Sunday (11/4/12). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.