



March/April 2013

# Down By The Riverside

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

## Thoughts from the Rector

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
(Psalm 51:11)*

“Pray this prayer each day in Lent” was the instruction we were greeted with on Ash Wednesday. Those of us who are sharing our Lenten journey by reading the *Journey through Lent* calendar have been greeted each morning with a new suggestion. Some have been just for that day, others we’re encouraged to continue throughout the season. And so I have done, at least with this first suggestion. *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.* Turns out it’s a good way to begin the day. It focuses me, allows me to let go of whatever I woke up thinking I had to get done, encourages me to at least acknowledge God before going off on my own, and actually relaxes me, helps me to breathe deeply and reorients me towards the recognition of self-as-part-of-whole.

Truth be told, I have not been as successful at doing the other things suggested on the daily calendar, so I’ve got my “not perfect and not happy about it” self still working hard to bring me down. But, funny thing this Lent, I’m not so worried about such things these days.

I had planned to “take on” for Lent finishing reading the entire Bible. I fell three months short of accomplishing that last year. I even announced in church that was what I planned to do for Lent. But I’m not doing it. Don’t know why, but I suspect I’m not doing it because it just isn’t the right time for me to do it. Instead, I decided I wasn’t going to dedicate myself to any one thing this Lent. Not that I’ve given up Lent. But, like others I’ve heard from, I’ve sort of given up Giving Up.

And that has somehow opened me up to activities that I might have missed had I been determined to get done what I had set my mind to accomplishing during Lent. So, I am really enjoying Lent Madness, and have connected through this daily activity not only with saints past but current ones as well. If you haven’t joined Lent Madness yet I recommend you check it out. [www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org) will tell you all you need to know and it doesn’t matter that you’ve missed the first couple of weeks. You can read about saints, vote for a favorite if you wish, and read comments from folks from a wide and diverse background about how a saint has influenced their lives.)

(continued on next page)

I'm also reading a daily selection from N.T. Wright's Lenten devotional, *Lent for Everyone, Luke, Year C*. It also has fed me in ways I would not have foreseen. Just a bit of Luke's gospel, paired with a page of N.T. Wright's thoughts, has awakened in me a new, fresh, different hearing and understanding of Luke's gospel.

These are the things I find myself doing every day; and looking forward to every day. These are activities I did not plan to undertake for the season but came to my doorstep unexpectedly, unplanned. Perhaps the Holy Spirit has something to do with the fact that I still haven't finished my Bible reading yet find myself open to new ways in which to find God in each new day.

Of course I am participating in our annual Lent Soup and Study each Wednesday evening – sharing a simple meal and some time together. This year we are considering narratives from the gospels that tell the Passion story – those passages we hear every year from Palm Sunday through Good Friday. This activity has taken on a new feel for me. Gathering to listen and learn is truly a blessing, an opportunity, and a gift. Lent, it turns out, doesn't have to be about doing without, taking on, or even sacrifice. For me, this year, Lent has come as a time of hopeful renewal, faithful witness, and yes, even joyous connections. Imagine!

As a clergy person I have found it hard to be "in the season" – any season – because I'm always having to plan for the next season in the midst of the season at hand. So, in Advent I'm making plans for Christmas and Epiphany; in Epiphany I'm thinking about Lent, and in Lent I'm considering liturgies and music for the Easter season. I've always said that one of the things I look forward to when I retire is to be able to live into the season I'm in. Somehow, this Lent has allowed me to live not only into Lent but into the anticipation of Easter without losing the very valuable time of Lent – quiet liturgies, gatherings for shared meals and study, introspective time when I am consciously open to God, to the Holy Spirit's activity in me and around me. It is a wonderful time.

I pray your Lenten journey is proving to be renewing, enriching, revealing, restful, and maybe even joyful. I pray you will come to Holy Week and Easter with hearts full of God's redeeming love, minds open to new visions of God in our lives, and bodies ready to rejoice in the resurrection message that is always within us, around us, and beyond our understanding, but not our faith. And let us pray together, each day.

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
(Psalm 51:11)*

Peace,

*Joy +*

[www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org)

# LENT MADNESS

Who will win the Golden Halo?



"Lent continues throughout March so it's not too late to join in the Madness!"



## 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 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.

## Rector's Warden Report

Yesterday was the second Sunday of Lent – and today I need to write through Easter! I suppose eventually we'll all get used to writing for two months instead of one but it isn't yet easy.

We've had a mild weather, all things considered, but it has been a dark and dreary winter. I've had to go back repeatedly to the promises of "more light, more light" that we celebrated at Lucia Fest. The sun does rise earlier and set later and I'm thankful for that.

I take a walk in the graveyard most Sunday mornings. As you've probably noticed by now, the graveyard is one of my favorite things about Gloria Dei Old Swedes. The first outside-Sunday-morning-service activity I participated in was helping to rake the graveyard in the spring of 2005. But this time of the year, I have a special reason for walking the graveyard. I look for the appearance of the crocuses in the southeast corner – the place where the returning sun hits first. This year, I saw the first buds on Sunday February 16. This Sunday, there were several open blossoms. There will be more for the next couple of weeks.

These crocuses are the first of all the crocuses to appear. They're called woodland crocuses or Tommasini's crocus, named after a botanist from Trieste (sorry, not everything can be named by Swedes). They're from the Balkans. So they're here, in our graveyard, because someone, long ago, planted a few bulbs – maybe bulbs that they'd brought from home or that someone from that part of the world had given them – and those bulbs have grown and multiplied over the years until now, in a good year, they'll cover a good swath of our graveyard.



Walking in the graveyard always reminds me of that phrase "the communion of saints" that we say in the Apostles' Creed, the creed we say at baptisms. The communion of saints – all of us believers alive and walking, all our families and friends, all those who sleep in our graveyard and other graveyards, all connected, no matter our state, to the one who gives us life. And among them is the one who planted a few bulbs that produce, every year, those tiny, pale lavender blooms before any other flowers have appeared.

Lucia reminds us in December that we're cared for and nurtured and protected, that the light will return. Our crocuses tell us that again in February.

And on Sunday, March 31, before the rising of the sun, we'll start our Easter Vigil Service in that graveyard and sing that

*He is risen, he is risen!  
Tell it out with joyful voice:  
he has burst his three days' prison;  
let the whole wide earth rejoice:  
death is conquered, man is free,  
Christ has won the victory.*

See you in church - or maybe in the graveyard.

*Jerry Buescher*

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

March 24, 2013		
Palm Sunday	<i>Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Reading, Holy Communion Rite II</i>	10:00am
March 26, 2013		
Tues. in Holy Week	<i>Evensong</i>	6:30pm
March 27, 2013		
Wed. in Holy Week	<i>Passover Seder</i>	6:00pm
March 28, 2013		
Maundy Thursday	<i>Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Holy Communion, stripping of the altar</i>	7:00pm
March 29, 2013		
Good Friday	<i>Easter Egg Preparation Good Friday Liturgy and Communion from the reserved sacrament</i>	10:00am 7:00pm
March 31, 2013		
Easter Day	<i>Easter Vigil, Holy Communion, Rite II Holy Communion, Rite II, Baptism Easter Egg Hunt</i>	5:30am 10:00am 11:15am

**All Are Welcome, All The Time**

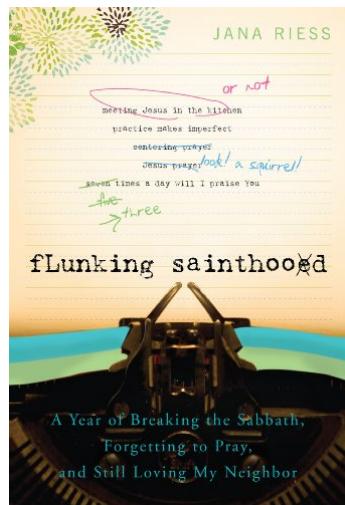
# Gathering Together for Growth

(Adult Education program)

Five Wednesdays – 6:30PM – 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15

We're moving in a new direction this Spring. As we come together for adult education, instead of a Bible Study we will be reading a book and sharing our thoughts and experiences as we find echoes of our own lives in the story. Jana Reiss's book, *Flunking Sainthood: A Year of Breaking the Sabbath, Forgetting to Pray, and Still Loving my Neighbor*, will provide us with a way into our own stories of feeling inadequate to what God has called us to do, who God has called us to be. With humor and honesty she challenges us to look at our lives of faith with hope, humor, and humility. One reviewer had this to say about the book:

*In her wry memoir, Jana Riess shares a year-long quest to become more saintly by taking twelve spiritual practices, including fasting, fixed-hour prayer, gratitude, Sabbath-keeping, the Jesus Prayer, and generosity. Although she begins with great success ("Really, how hard could that be?" she asks blithely at the start of her saint-making year), she finds to her growing humiliation that she is failing – not just at some practices, but at every single one. What emerges is a vulnerable story of the quest for perfection and the reality of failure, which turns out to be a valuable spiritual practice in and of itself.*



Expense for the books will be covered by the Growth and Transformation Fund. Please let us know if you'd like a book. Please also plan to join us for five Wednesdays this Spring as we gather to share our own life experiences that are recalled as we read together Jana Riess's memoir.

## Easter Flowers

If you wish to make an offering to Gloria Dei this Easter, as a memorial or thanksgiving, please return the enclosed envelope with the information (names, printed clearly) you would like to be printed in our Easter bulletins. In order to insure your information appears in our bulletins we need to receive your envelope no later than March 27, 2013.



We're going to Guatemala again in April! We're going to paint one church, put a new roof on another church, and do some school projects with a lot of kids. We need to buy paint, roofing materials, and craft stuff. Will you contribute some money to help us buy those things?

## Calendar

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**Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**, Emanuel Lutheran Church Service at 8:00AM

**Mar 5, 12, 19, 26**, Yoga - 7:15PM, drop in class, all levels welcome \$8.00 a session  
Evensong - 6:30PM - 7:00PM Church  
Bells - 7:00PM

**Mar 6, 13, 20, 27**, Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10 - 11:00AM. All levels welcome

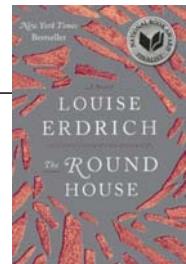
**Mar 6, 13, 20** Lenten Soup & Study - 6:30 - 8:30PM - Riverside Hall

**Mar 10** Swedish Service - 4:00PM - Church - Reception Riverside Hall  
Daylight Savings Time Begins - turn clocks 1 hour forward

**Mar 21** Swedish Colonial Society - Riverside Hall - 1:00 - 3:00PM  
Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room

**Mar 23** Finnish Service 2:00PM - Church - Reception Riverside Hall

**Mar 25** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall  
**The Round House** •  
By Louise Erdrich



**Mar 27** Seder - 6:00PM - Riverside Hall

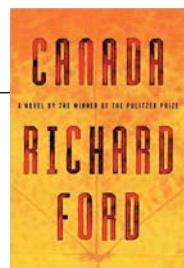
**Mar 28** Maundy Thursday Services - 7:00PM - Church

**Mar 29** Good Friday Services - 7:00PM - Church  
Dying of Easter Eggs - Riverside Hall - 10:00AM - Noon

**Mar 31** Easter Sunday Services - Sunrise Service 5:30AM  
Rite II Service - 10:00AM  
Easter Egg Hunt - following 10:00AM Service - 11:15AM

## Calendar

- Apr 2, 9, 16,  
23, 30** Yoga - 7:15PM, drop in class, all levels welcome  
\$8.00 a session  
Evensong - 6:30PM - 7:00PM Church  
Bells - 7:00PM
- Apr 3, 10, 17,  
24** Tai Chi (Classes are \$10.00) 10 - 11:00AM All levels welcome
- Apr 7, 14, 21,  
28** Emanuel Lutheran Church Service at 8:00AM
- Apr 4-12** Rector away - The Rev. Kim-Eric Williams will supply
- Apr 14** Swedish Service - 4:00PM Church - Reception Riverside Hall
- Apr 17, 24** Adult Education - 6:30PM - location to be announced
- Apr 18** Vestry Meeting - 7:00PM - Roak Room
- Apr 21** Norwegian Service - 4:00PM Church - Reception Riverside Hall
- Apr 22** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall  
**Canada** •  
By Richard Ford
- Apr 23** National Park Service Thank You Luncheon 11:00AM - 1:00PM
- Apr 25** *Jazz* by *Joe* - Riverside Hall - 7:30PM



**Prayer**  
**Chain**

### 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*

## The Lectionary for March

## March 3rd, 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.

1st Reading: Exodus 3:1-15      Psalm: 63:1-8  
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13      Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

## March 10th, Fourth Sunday in Lent

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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: Joshua 5:9-12      Psalm: 32  
2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21      Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## March 17th, Fifth Sunday in Lent

*Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all 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: Isaiah 43:16-21      Psalm: 126  
2nd Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14      Gospel: John 12:1-8

March 24th, Palm Sunday

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



### **March 28th, Maundy Thursday**

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood; Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 12:1-4(5-10) 11-14      Psalm: 116:1, 10-19

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26      Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

### **March 29th, Good Friday**

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12      Psalm: 22(1)

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:16-25      Gospel: John 18:1-19:42  
(Passion Narrative)

### **March 31st, Easter Day**

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy; Grant us so to die daily to sin that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 10:34-43      Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26      Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

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## **The Lectionary for April**

### **April 7th, Second Sunday of Easter**

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body 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.

1st Reading: Acts 5:27-32      Psalm: 150

2nd Reading: Revelation 1:4-8      Gospel: John 20:19-31

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### **April 14th, Third Sunday of Easter**

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 9:1-6(7-20) Psalm: 30

2nd Reading: Revelation 5:11-14 Gospel: John 21:1-19

### **April 21st, Fourth Sunday of Easter**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 9:36-43 Psalm: 23

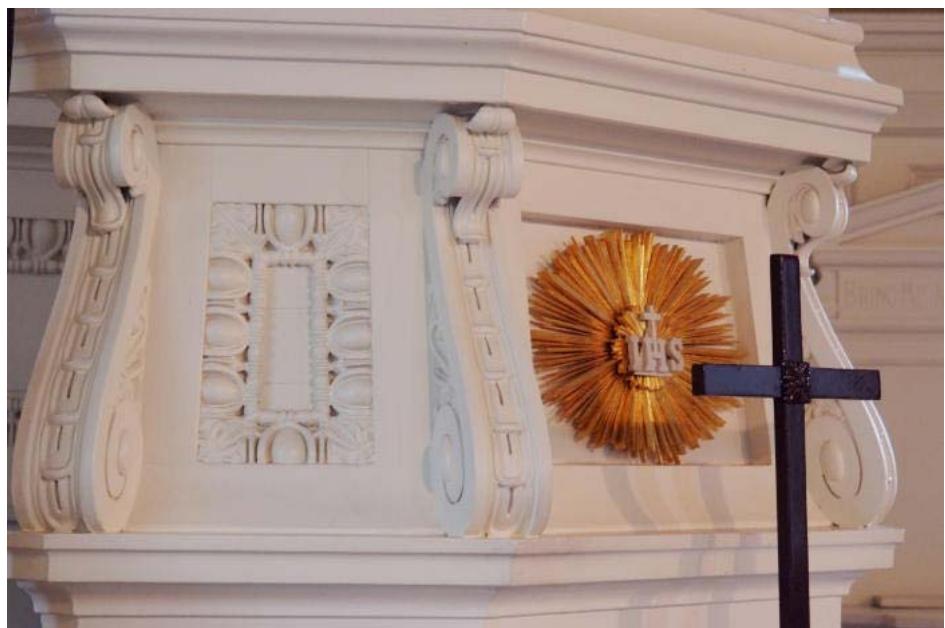
2nd Reading: Revelation 7:9-17 Gospel: John 10:22-30

### **April 28th, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

O Lord God you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, 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: Acts 11:1-18 Psalm: 148

2nd Reading: Revelation 21:1-6 Gospel: John 13:31-35





# spring *forward*

on March 10th

*don't forget to set  
your clocks forward  
this Sunday*



The Jazz Sanctuary, Inc. presents a Jazz & Joe event:

Sponsored by:

 **LPL Financial**

member FINRA/SIPC. : Kevin.supka@lpl.com; 215-572-4300

**PFCU**  
PHILADELPHIA  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
[pfcu.com](http://pfcu.com) | **better. honest.**  
K. Biederman: 215-934-3582

**Alan Segal Quartet**

[alan@alansegal.net](mailto:alan@alansegal.net) 215-208-7314

Eddie Etkins – George Sinkler – Alan Segal – Leon Jordan

**Thursday April 25 & May 23**

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

**(No Jazz during March due to Holy Week)**

## Gloria Dei Timeline: 1950-1999

- 2000 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Church Building
- 2006 D. Joy Segal, 2006 –  
Guatemala partnership  
It is the **oldest brick building** in Philadelphia.  
It is the **oldest church building** in Pennsylvania.  
It is the **oldest congregation** in continuous use in the United States.  
Although, the congregation was unable to use the Church building at times, it still met in parishioner's homes.
- 2012 Lucia celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## Philadelphia Timeline

- 2001 Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts opens.
- 2003 July 4, National Constitution Center opens
- 2005 Veteran's Stadium demolished in 62 seconds
- 2007 Eagles wear uniforms in City colors  
(Swedish yellow and powder blue)

*Jeanette Woehr*



## UNITED THANK OFFERING

I will be collecting the U.T.O. "Blue Boxes", and I am asking that you bring them to church. If you wish you can give a one-time donation by using the special UTO envelopes that are on the table at the rear of the church - OR just send your contribution to the church marked U.T.O. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.

At this time I would like to thank all the people for their support and cooperation throughout the years - this will be my final report for the February in-gathering. While I have had



great satisfaction working with this worthwhile endeavor, I feel it is time for someone else to continue in my stead.

If you would be interested in taking over, I would be glad to help with this transition. It doesn't require a lot of time and brings great help to a lot of people. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to become the next U.T.O. Coordinator at Gloria Dei.

UTO Coordinator

*Doris Connor*



## Hospitality – An extension of ourselves

Our fellowship has certainly grown over the past two months! The Hospitality Committee thanks everyone from Gloria Dei and Emanuel Lutheran Church for being welcoming and assisting in the transition process. Reaching out beyond our comfort zones is never easy. A great scholar once said "Nothing changes if nothing changes." Change can be a good thing. Being hospitable, for me, is doing God's will and sharing his love through ourselves to others. God's love is ever present in Riverside Hall.

Thank you – all of you who continue to share your time, talent, and treasure. Thank you to Lydia and Barbara from Emanuel Lutheran Church for making our combined hospitality process go smoothly. A special thanks to Jerry Buescher and Barb Turner for their continued efforts before and after fellowship. And how could I not mention Jerry's fruit salad? An extra mention of thanks to Carol Jenkins who has consistently helped motivate and assist in cleanup.

The sense of family and team effort reflects God's love for each of us each week. We look forward to continuing fellowship through our hospitality ministry.

Love and peace,

*Peggy Buescher, Re Henning*

## Vestry Elections at Annual Meeting

Gloria Dei Old Swedes' holds its Annual Meeting on the first Sunday of May – May 5 this year. The Annual Meeting includes reports on the state of the parish (mission, finances, and activities) and the election of a new class of vestry members.

The vestry is an elected body of lay parishioners administering the temporal affairs of the parish and serving as a council of advice to the rector. The rector is the presiding officer.

Gloria Dei can use your talents – on the vestry as well as in other places. As noted below, you're committing yourself to this work for a three-year term (or for a shorter term if you're elected to fill one of the unexpired terms). Most months, the vestry meets for about two hours on the third Thursday of the month.

The vestry of Gloria Dei is composed of twelve individuals, of whom four are elected each year for a three-year term. The Bylaws of Gloria Dei state that those qualified to serve on the Vestry shall be 16 years of age or older, be an active communicant of the parish for at least 6 months, be a pledging member of record, be a confirmed Episcopalian or received by a bishop into the Episcopal Church from another Christian church within one year of election, and participate in the Eucharist every Sunday “unless for good cause prevented.”

To be considered for election at the Annual Meeting, a person must meet the qualifications above and “be nominated to the Secretary in writing by at least three (3) members, and at least four (4) weeks prior to the election; and the consent of the nominee endorsed on said nomination in writing.”

Nomination forms will be available in the church and in the parish office beginning on Sunday, March 10, 2013. Persons wishing to run for election to the vestry must secure the signatures of three members on that form, sign the form themselves (indicating their willingness to stand for election), and submit that form to the Secretary of the vestry (Megan Bartlett) no later than Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Public notice of those nominated will be posted by the Secretary of the vestry on the bulletin boards in Riverside and in the church and will be noted in the church bulletin for the four weeks preceding the election. This year, in addition to the four individuals to be elected for a three-year term, three additional persons will be elected to fill the unexpired terms of vestry members who resigned during the year.

Please – think about your ability to serve Gloria Dei as a vestry member. If you can make that commitment, get a nomination sheet on March 10, and put yourself in the running.



## The Holy Currencies and Cycle of Blessings

In the first half of 2012, several of us from Gloria Dei attended six workshops called, “Transforming Congregations”, led by Rev. Eric Law of the Kaleidoscope Institute. During those meetings we discussed what he calls, “The Holy Currencies”. Typically, we think of money as the only form of currency; indeed, small churches like ours are often in need of more money. However, there are other currencies that are equally important and translate into what Eric Law calls a “Cycle of Blessings”. Read on for a description of each of the currencies:

**Time and Place** – “time” indicates the time/effort that each of us devotes in service to each other for the glory of God and for bettering our church and our neighborhood; “place” denotes the buildings and locations that our church has to offer to the cultivation of blessings.

**Gracious Leadership** – “leadership” denotes any classes, workshops, or programs that church members participate in to become better leaders in order to deepen existing relationships or form new ones.

**Relationship** – “relationship” means any connection – individual to individual, group to group, tenant to landlord – which can serve to better the individuals, the church, and the community. Relationships must be built on trust and will lead to the exposure of Truth.

**Truth** – “truth” refers to that information which needs to be spoken out loud – be it gifts that need to be recognized and

honored or injustices and oppression happening in the church or community.

**Wellness** – “wellness” refers to any activity that promotes the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual health of the individual members, church, or community.

**Money** – “money” is the currency most easy to recognize as such, but as you can see, it is just one of six currencies that contribute to the cycle of blessings.

Stay tuned: Joy and the vestry will begin talking more about these currencies in the weeks and months ahead. Feel free to ask us for more information!

Information and graphic from the March/April 2011 newsletter of The Kaleidoscope Institute: [http://www.kscopecinstitute.org/2011-03\\_Grace\\_Margin.pdf](http://www.kscopecinstitute.org/2011-03_Grace_Margin.pdf)



## Notes from the January and February Vestry Meetings

“The Holy Currencies” being exchanged at Gloria Dei at the February vestry meeting, Megan Bartlett proposed that we begin to talk about other currencies as well as money (see “The Holy Currencies and Cycle of Blessings”). In the coming months, you’ll learn more about “The Holy Currencies” – time/place, relationship, leadership, truth, wellness, and yes, money. Going forward, the vestry meeting notes will be presented in terms of the Holy Currencies being exchanged here at Gloria Dei.

**Time:** Thank you for the currency of TIME donated by so many of you in January and February: Rev. Cornelius Eddy and our brothers and sisters in Christ from Emanuel Lutheran Church for spending time with us in fellowship each Sunday; Peggy and Jerry Buescher, Re Henning, Barbara Turner and all who help with our fellowship hour each Sunday; Candy Roberts and all the members of the Board for contributing their time to our new non-profit organization: the Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation (HGDPC); Heather Myers and her fabulous crew for taking time to prepare another delicious Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast on 2/10/13; We thank each of you for donating your time to further Gloria Dei’s vision and mission. Thank you!

**Place:** The property reports for January and February were reviewed at the vestry meetings: Mike Duffy of Liberty Trees has offered us the same deal in 2013 as he did in 2012 ~ \$10,500 worth of tree-trimming work for only \$5000. Keep an eye out for upcoming trims to the London Planetrees and the silver maple!; We’re considering purchasing a larger flatscreen TV for Riverside Hall;

The floors in the Sexton's House will soon be refinished; Vestry members reviewed the preliminary designs/plans for an extension on Riverside Hall which would become our administrative offices, classrooms, and the new home of the Seaman's Church Institute. Stay tuned as this exciting project develops!

**Wellness:** There are several opportunities for physical and spiritual wellness at Gloria Dei: Yoga takes place on Tuesdays at 7:15pm in Riverside Hall; Tai Chi takes place on Wednesdays at 10am in Riverside Hall; Lent Soup and Study continues Wednesdays at 6:30pm in Riverside Hall; An adult education group will begin on 4/17 (Wednesdays, 6:30pm); Are there wellness events that you would like to see at Gloria Dei? Let us know!

**Truth:** Jerry Buescher presented information at the January vestry meeting about a possible "Truth Event" for 2013 which would help us determine how best to assist members of our community who are impacted by poverty. Stay tuned for more details.

**Money:** The 2013 budget was reviewed at the January meeting: We have received pledges in the amount of \$37,016. If you feel inspired to commit a portion of your money to the mission and vision of Gloria Dei, please fill out a Commitment Card, available on the table in the back of the church; The January 2013 financial report was reviewed at the February meeting; Expenses were down from what was anticipated; income was higher than expected – what a blessing!; Thank you to those who gave money in January and February!

**Leadership:** Members of the vestry and Joy met with Rev. Wally Fletcher on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> for a Mutual Ministry Review. As a result, we have several areas of focus for the future: Vestry Priorities - Education for and retention of vestry members; Communication within the vestry and between vestry and congregation; Stewardship; Congregational care AND Rector Priorities - Leading a new vision; Stewardship; Adult education. Megan Bartlett attended a "refresher course" with other churches who participated in last year's Transforming Congregations workshops. Her attendance at this meeting was the inspiration for the new emphasis on The Holy Currencies.

**Relationship:** Many opportunities to build and deepen relationships exist at Gloria Dei. Happening at Gloria Dei: Evensong – Tuesdays at 6:30pm, Bell chimes rehearsal – Tuesdays at 7pm, Book club – see insert, Jazz and Joe – last Thursday of the month (not in March), Spring flea market – May 18, 2013, Welcoming Committee – see Lisa Reeves for more details. Important partnerships between Gloria Dei and the community: Young Children's Center for the Arts (YCCA), Emanuel Lutheran Church, National Park Service, Queen Village Neighbor's Association (Do you live in or near Queen Village? If so, consider representing Gloria Dei at the monthly meeting.), Seaman's Church Institute.



In REMEMBRANCE of:

**Agnes Daly**

**John Howlett**

By: Bob & Sally Daly

**Gerald Edwards**

By: Bob & Jean Neill

**Charles Murphy**

By: Joe & Dolores Collins

## C L E R G Y

The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

## S T A F F

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.

## V E S T R Y

Megan Bartlett, Secretary

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



## WELCOME the NEWEST MEMBERS

baptized on January 13, 2013

***Mariah Marion Ortiz***

## 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.

## S T A N D I N G N O T I C E S

### 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 (1/13/13); The Great Vigil of Easter (3/31/13); Pentecost (5/19/13); and All Saints Sunday (11/3/13). 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-Friday 9:30-2:30