

AUGUST 2016

GLORIA DEI EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# GLORIOUS DEI . . .



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## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church the little church with a big heart!

### **THOUGHTS ALONG THE WAY...**

#### One Just Day (A Prayer)

For just one day may we have peace?  
May anger sleep, may fighting cease?  
May those in bondage know release  
For just one day? One just day.

One just day—a day of rest—  
To let the whole world catch its breath,  
To search our souls, each in our own way,  
For just one day, one just day.

For just one day no weapon used,  
No one coerced, no one abused,  
No one by hate or anger bruised  
For just one day. One just day.

One just day: no anguished tears,  
A pause from pain, a rest from fears,  
No hand or voice in anger raised  
For just one day. One just day.

For just one day, no stubborn pride,  
All wounded honor set aside,  
No one pursued or forced to hide  
For just one day. One just day.

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**GROWING IN  
FAITH, LIFTED BY  
HOPE,  
GUIDED BY LOVE**

**WWW.GDCLB.ORG**

**JOIN US  
FOR SUMMER  
WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM**

*Thoughts Along the Way Continues....*

For just one day let no one cheat:  
No theft, no guile, no mean deceit,  
A peaceful trust for all who meet  
For just one day. One just day.

One just day—a day of rest—  
To let the whole world catch its breath,  
To search our souls, each in our own way,  
For just one day, one just day.

One just day—no spin, no skew,  
When every word we hear is true.  
And if, somehow, we see this through  
For just one day, one just day,  
One Just Day  
Can we do two?

*Pro Gloria Dei, Pastor Steve*

*“Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right,  
Whatever is pure, whatever is lovely...  
Think about such things.” ~ Philippians 4:8*



# RECONCILING IN CHRIST—UPDATE

**In January our congregation voted to become a Reconciling in Christ congregation and adopted the following RIC affirmation:**

*"At Gloria Dei Lutheran Church we welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to the social, cultural or economic circumstances that too often divide us. Our unity is in Christ in whom we are all made new."*

**We base this affirmation on the following scripture:**

*"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us."*  
2 Corinthians 5:17-19.

**Activities completed:**

Reconciling Works: Reconciling Works – Lutherans for Full Participation notified of our decision to become an RIC congregation. Our church is now included in the list of Lutheran churches in the Long Beach area as an RIC congregation. Anyone looking for an RIC congregation will be able to find our church using the Reconciling Works Web site and searching the Long Beach area.

**Gloria Dei's Web site updated:**

A new tab on the Gloria Dei Website entitled "Reconciling" includes the affirmation noted above plus a link to the Web site for Reconciling in Christ – Lutherans for Full Participation and a link to the ELCA's statement on human sexuality. Also included on this page is our congregation's mission statement.

RIC logo added to Gloria Dei's Web site: The RIC logo has been added to 'home' page of the church's Web site and is linked to the site's 'Reconciling' page.

Mission Statement/Affirmation: The church's mission statement and Reconciling in Christ affirmation are posted in the Narthex.

**RIC Affirmation in the Service Bulletin:**

Our Reconciling in Christ affirmation has been added to our Sunday service bulletins.

**Next steps:**

RIC logo/'tag' line: The Reconciling in Christ logo and the text "A Reconciling in Christ Congregation" will be included in our Sunday service bulletins and added to the church's stationary. Advertising: Advertisements for Gloria Dei will include "A Reconciling in Christ Congregation".

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## CONGREGATION UPDATE

Our Church Council met last on June the 6<sup>th</sup>, with a full Agenda. As always, Pastor Beckham opened the meeting with prayer. Our devotional assignment was to consider and rate the statement, "The congregation is always ready to try something new". The consensus was to rate our congregation between "somewhat" and "very well".

Pastor Beckham offered Synod Assembly highlights and brought us current on those of concern. Pulpit supply during his vacation will be **Pastors Laurie Arroyo and David Hodgson**.

The discussion of *Video Monitors* was introduced with motion to postpone until September's meeting. The kitchen remodel had met a stalemate due to lack of funds for bids submitted and referred back to **Karen Como** and her committee for possible options to consider. She will research and meet with the committee in August and present their findings to Council in September.

Our faithful treasurer **Gary Bockman** reported a shortage to the spending plan of \$11,250. Discussion to revise the 2016 spending plan was considered but the decision was to stay as planned, as many gift at year end. The annual internal audit has been completed by David Kahakauwila and Dondi Buchrucker and sent to our Synod office.

### GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES For the Period January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
<b>Revenue</b>			
Contributions	101,000	88,090	(12,910)
Hall Use	1,250	860	(390)
Interest Income	163	207	45
Rental Income	18,600	18,000	(600)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>121,013</b>	<b>107,157</b>	<b>(13,855)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Missions*	15,250	15,250	(0)
Properties	11,218	11,681	(464)
Worship	61,790	60,780	1,010
Administration	30,455	28,949	1,506
Church Programs	2,300	2,253	47
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>121,013</b>	<b>118,914</b>	<b>2,099</b>
<b>Revenue less Expenses</b>		<b>(11,756)</b>	

Respectfully submitted by Gary Bockman, Treasurer

\* In addition to the budgeted gifts shown above, members of Gloria Dei have given another \$6,675 to LSS, World Hunger, ELCA Disaster Relief and other mission partners.



## Congregation Update Continues....

Council officers for the June 2016 to May 2017 fiscal period were elected. **Stephanie Siemer** will be your President, **Everett Parker** your Vice President and **Bob Siemer** your Secretary.

**Margie Brown** offered to complete a newsletter report on the Synod Assembly for the congregation's information. I hope this becomes a tradition, because there are so many impressive ongoing efforts, in both our local and national synods, that you would be pleased to know about.

Upcoming events will be the visit from **Dorcus Wang** in early August, the annual Progressive Dinner on August 13 at the Lynch home for "hearty appetizers" and then to Marilyn Bittle's home for desserts. The annual church picnic is scheduled for September 18, with our creative picnic planner **Peggy Bockman** in charge. She will be recruiting committee members soon! More info will be in the bulletins.

I would also like to commend Phil and Karen Como's small group for their wonderful work for **Lutheran Social Services** in Long Beach. They have accomplished great things. If you are interested in becoming part of a small group please let Pastor know.

In closing, these past years as President have been a humbling and yet a growing experience and I have so many to thank. Pastor Steve, Marilyn Bittle, Bob Siemer, Mike Lynch, Sandy Irvine and all of the Council members. Thank you so very much.

All of us at Gloria Dei are indeed blessed and I pray those blessings grow and reach out to others to be welcomed into our "Little Church with a Big Heart".

Blessings to you and have a Glorious Dei.  
**Barbara White, Outgoing Council President**



## NEW COUNCIL PRESIDENT



As I begin my service to our members, I would like to thank Barbara White for her contribution of time and talent to Gloria Dei over the past 3 years as Council President. I would also like to thank the members of council who will be continuing their service this year.

As your incoming council president, I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. Bob and I are in Nova Scotia traveling the Canadian Atlantic provinces with a motor home group.

See you in September...  
**Stephanie Siemer**

**MADAM  
PRESIDENT...  
BARBARA WHITE**



**THANK YOU FOR  
SERVING AS OUR  
CONGREGATION LEADER...  
THANK YOU FOR THE  
COUNTLESS HOURS OF  
COMMITMENT & DEVOTION  
TO GLORIA DEI !**

# ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE DINNER—AUGUST 13



## SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday @ NOON**  
**September 18, 2016**

## MARINA VISTA PARK (near Marine Stadium)

**Bring a friend & help  
us build our community  
of faith!**



## COUNCIL COMMITTEES

**Property:** **Danny Bach-chair**, G. Anderson,  
(kitchen improvements) K. Como, C. Irwin

**Finance:** **Beth Rotsel-chair**, Bittle, G. Bockman, W. Eidam, Karkut, R. Seimer

**Counting Subcommittee:** Huggard, Bittle, K. Caldwell, K. Como, D. Kahakauwila, T. Karkut, B. White

**Promotion/Invitation:** **Marilyn Bittle-chair**, K. Como, E. Eidam, Graber, Wood

**Worship:** **Phil Como-chair**, Bittle, Huggard, Montague, Sansum, Wood

**Invitation:** **Marilyn Bittle-chair**, Huggard, Karkut, Sansum

**Education (youth):** **Marilyn Bittle & Candy Wood co-chairs**

**Shephards:** **Cathy Schneider-chair**

**Congregational Health:** **Danny Bach-Robert Siemer co-chairs**, Bittle, K. Como, Karkut

**Mission Support/Connection:** **Mike Lynch-chair**, P. Bockman, S. Fuller, Karkut, Lane, Wright

**Governmental Ministry, South Coast Interfaith council:** **Marilyn Bittle-chair**

**Live in love,  
as Christ loved us.**

**~ Ephesians 5:2**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS — AUGUST 2016



**AUGUST 1-5 9AM- NOON**  
**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**370 JUNIPERO AVE. LONG BEACH**

**1 — Monday**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MTG @ 7 PM**

**2 — Tuesday**

**3 — Wednesday**

**4 — Thursday**

**5 — Friday**

- A.A. MTG.@ 1:00 PM
- D.A. MTG @ 6:00 PM

**Happy Birthday Janet Sims**

**6 — Saturday**

**7 — SUNDAY**

**SUMMER WORSHIP**  
**@ 10:00 AM \*\*\*\***

**MESSAGE: DORCAS WANG**  
**MISSIONARY FROM CHINA**  
**(LUNCHEON FOLLOWS)**  
**HOLY COMMUNION**

O.A. MTG. @ 7:00 PM

**8 — Monday**

**Donna & Mike Malbon Anniversary**

**9 — Tuesday**

**10 — Wednesday**

**Happy Birthday Janeene Conter**  
**Eric & Christy Berg Anniversary**  
**Happy Birthday Mike Lynch**

**11 — Thursday**

**Happy Birthday Kay Berg**

**12 — Friday**

- A.A. MTG.@ 1:00 PM
- D.A. MTG @ 6:00 PM

**13 — Saturday**

**PROGRESSIVE DINNER**  
**5:30 PM (LYNCH HOME)**  
**7:30 PM (BITTLE HOME)**

**14 — SUNDAY**

**SUMMER WORSHIP**  
**@ 10:00 AM**  
**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**PRAYERS OF HEALING**

O.A. MTG. @ 7:00 PM

**Happy Birthday Edie Graber**

**15 — Monday**

**Happy Birthday Gus, Elijah & Casey White**

**16 — Tuesday**

**Happy Birthday Sandy Irvine**

**17 — Wednesday**

**18 — Thursday**

**19 — Friday**

- A.A. MTG.@ 1:00 PM
- D.A. MTG @ 6:00 PM

**20 — Saturday**

**LSS WORK PARTY**  
**10AM—NOON**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**21 — SUNDAY**

**SUMMER WORSHIP**  
**@ 10:00 AM \*\*\*\***  
**HOLY COMMUNION**

O.A. MTG. @ 7:00 PM

**Happy Birthday Danny Bach**  
**David & Nancy Kahakauwila**  
**Anniversary**

**22 — Monday**

**23 — Tuesday**

**24 — Wednesday**

**25 — Thursday**

**26 — Friday**

- A.A. MTG.@ 1:00 PM
- D.A. MTG @ 6:00 PM

**Happy Birthday Judy Griggs**  
**Jim & Nancy Brown Anniversary**

**27 — Saturday**

**Phil & Karen Como Anniversary**

**28 — SUNDAY**

**SUMMER WORSHIP**  
**@ 10:00 AM \*\*\*\***  
**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**COOKIE SUNDAY**

O.A. MTG. @ 7:00 PM

**29 — Monday**

**30 — Tuesday**

**31 — Wednesday**

**Happy Birthday Peggy Huggard**

**There is joy in the**  
**well of God's heart**  
**for you today--and**  
**the best bucket to**  
**retrieve it with is the**  
**one that says,**  
**"GIVE."**

**GLORIA DEI EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**5872 Naples Plaza**

**Long Beach, California 90803**



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Long Beach, California

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