Kick-Off Sunday. Mark your calendars. We begin a new program year on September 10. We’ll gather for worship on our summer schedule of 8:15 and 10 a.m. Learners of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks for a special blessing during each service. At 11 a.m. will gather for food and fellowship on the front lawn (weather-permitting). Enjoy a potluck meal (and bring your best dish!), check out a new variety of animals at the petting zoo and reconnect with old friends while also making new ones. The day will include opportunities to learn new ways to get involved at Gloria Dei. Participate in five key activities and earn a chance to win a $100 gift card. It takes a lot of help to make the day happen. Sign-up at tinyurl.com/gdKick23 to be part of the crew creating the fun. To ensure a good distribution of food items at the potluck, we’ve sorted dish requests this way: if your last name starts with

- A-G salads, vegetables or side dishes
- H-N desserts & fruits
- O-Q breads and spreads
- R-Z main dishes.

But if you have something amazing you really want to bring, go ahead! All are welcome regardless if you bring a dish or not.

Holy Communion Sundays
at 8:15 & 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. live on YouTube

Welcome to Worship at Gloria Dei!

As we worship together, know that we are delighted you are here. We gather in both the church and online, one community in different places. We celebrate the gift of community and our mission to be a congregation that cares, heals, welcomes and does justice.

Parish Announcements - September 3, 2023

Worship, Music and Art

Gloria Dei Digital Directory. We’re a month into updating information for the new digital directory. Here’s what you need to know to get your information into this new format. Go to tinyurl.com/gdPortal to access the portal. It will ask you to set up a login and password. This will give you access to the Member Profile Section. In this section you can choose what information and photo to include in the Gloria Dei digital church directory. Only people who have put their information in the Member Profile Section will be able to see your information. You will find a button to view Gloria Dei’s directory at the bottom of the portal landing page. Your updated contact information and photos in your member profile will populate into the directory. Search the directory by the name of an individual or family and get to know the names and faces of people you see at church. Members of the Congregational Council will be available on Kick-Off Sunday, Sept. 10, between services in the Gathering Place to help folks navigate the process or have their photo taken. Email beverly@gloriadeistpaul.org, if you have questions.

Want to Become a Member? Are you new to Gloria Dei? Have you been thinking about becoming a member of the church? We invite you to a New Member Class on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 6-
7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We’ll talk about Gloria Dei—our mission and ministry, what we stand for, and ways to get involved, if you choose. New members will be welcomed in worship on Sunday, Oct. 1. Contact Pastor Jen at prjen@gloridadei to RSVP or get more information.

Choir Season Heats Up. Gloria Dei’s choirs will begin rehearsing in September, and we’re always looking for new singers or handbell ringers.

- **Chancel Choir** for adult singers starts with rehearsal on Wednesday, Sept. 6, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. This choir sings most Sundays at the late service.
- **Schola Cantorum** for grades 3-6 has its first rehearsal on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 5-5:45 p.m., in the Choir Room.
- **Alleluia! Choir** for grades K-2 also has its first rehearsal on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 5-5:45 p.m., in Room 100.
- **Matins Singers** for adult singers meets once a month prior to the first service at 7:30 a.m. to rehearse in the Choir Room and then sings at the 8:15 a.m. service. Its first Sunday to rehearse and sing will be Sept. 24.
- **Handbell Choir** rehearses two Saturday mornings a month and then plays in church once a month. More information will be sent to the current roster of ringers, but new ringers are always welcome.

For any questions and more information, contact Tim Strand, Director of Music, tstrand@gloridadeistpaul.org or 651-699-1378, ext. 3004.

Faith Formation

Sunday Morning Children’s Registration

- **Who:** Children ages newborn - 6th Grade
- **When:** Sunday mornings during the school year from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- **What:** Sunday Morning Children’s Registration includes a variety of classes for ages 0 - 6th graders on Sunday mornings: Sunday School (3yr-5yr), Water Tower (1st-4th grade) and GAPP (5th/6th grade). There is also an option for grownups and children 0-2 to play together in the nursery called Java with Junior. For more details about each specific class check out our website, tinyurl.com/gdKidsWeb.

- **Register:** Register for Sunday School, Water Tower and GAPP at tinyurl.com/gdKidsSunday. No registration needed for Java with Junior.

- **High Need for Volunteers:** There are still many volunteer positions open that we need to fill to make our programs run smoothly! We have positions that include no prep or little prep; positions that include being present most Sundays to positions that require only 1 Sunday a month, every other week or just 1 month a year. Can you help? Email kidsministry@gmail.com for more information.

Soul Food. Our Wednesday morning book discussion group resumes on September 13, 9:30-11 a.m., with a discussion of *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Potawatomi professor Robin Wall Kimmerer. Join the discussion!

See our reading list at tinyurl.com/gdSOUL23 and email Pastor Lois (prlois@gloridadeistpaul.org) so she can add you to our email list.

Confirmation Registration Open. Grown-ups of 7-10th graders, it’s time to register your student for Confirmation ministry small groups! We meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in person to explore faith. More information about Confirmation can be found at gloridadeistpaul.org/ministries/youth/. Confirmation will resume on Wednesday, Sept. 20. Go to tinyurl.com/gdConfirm23 to sign up.

Watch for Shared Ministry Booklets. Members of The Shared Ministry Committee will be greeting members and giving out the new Volunteer Opportunities booklets after worship services starting with our Kick-off Sunday, Sept. 10. Shared Ministry has prepared the new 2023-24 edition featuring complete descriptions of Gloria Dei’s ministries and including the yearly Gifts and Passions Inventory for all members to complete. This inventory is an opportunity to prayerfully discern what gifts you have been given by God and how your heart has been called to use those gifts for God’s kingdom in the coming year. Maybe you’ve been volunteering and there’s still work to be done... please continue! Or maybe it could be time to take
your talents and contribute to a ministry with needs you can fill. With the new booklet in hand, ask God to help make these choices clear for you, fill in the form and return it. Your responses will be noted, and you will be contacted shortly with an invitation and a way to get plugged into the right place. You probably completed an inventory last year, and that’s great. This is a regular thing, just like voting or filling out your pledge. We’d ask you to please do so again with a fresh outlook for a new season, with some renewals, some completions, or some new possibilities.

Fall Writing Class Starts. Writing is a way to reflect on your life story and to deepen your awareness of God. At Gloria Dei’s In Your Own Words, Contemplative Writing as a Spiritual Practice you can join with others to write and to share your words, if you wish. Come to listen with the ears of your heart. The fall series begins Thursday, Sept. 7, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Led by Nancy Agneberg, writer, spiritual director, and member of Gloria Dei, the sessions are free and open to all, regardless of writing experience. For details or to register, email nagneberg48@gmail.com or call 608-698-8100.

Writing Your Journey. Have you been curious about writing your family history, a memoir, an autobiography, spiritual journeys or creative nonfiction? You can learn more at “Writing Your Journey,” a free, one-afternoon orientation session on Monday, Sept. 18, 1-2:30 p.m. in the Mississippi Room. This session features writing processes and storytelling basics as well as planning for three future sessions in October. It will be facilitated by Merrie Sue Holtan, assistant professor at Minnesota State University Moorhead. She has an MFA in creative writing from MSUM and has been a contract writer for local, regional and national publications. To attend, please email Merrie Sue at msholtan@gmail.com or call 701-261-6144.

Health and Healing

All Movement Matters: 40 Days & Nights. All Movement Matters, our summer fitness program, finished up this week with a mighty 880 hours of activity reported from throughout the summer or the equivalent of nearly 40 days and 40 nights. How do you like that Noah?!? Thanks to everyone who kept moving this summer walking, swimming, biking, playing and dancing. Thank you for participating. We hope you had fun and are feeling healthy.

Yogadevotion. Registration is open for the fall season of Yogadevotion. Give yourself an hour of spiritual respite on Tuesdays, 6-7 p.m., beginning Sept. 12. Yogadevotion is a low stress slow flow class centered on gentle poses, breathing and meditation on a Christian devotion. Our class is for adults and teens. All levels of experience are welcome. Go to tinyurl.com/gdYOGD to register.

September is Recovery Month. Since 1989 September has been National Recovery Month, a time to promote and support new breakthroughs in addiction and mental health treatment as well as the nation’s strong and proud recovery community and the dedicated service providers and communities who make recovery possible. Gloria Dei’s Mental Health and Recovery Ministry will mark the month by providing a variety of resources each Sunday in September near the gallery on Gloria Dei’s first floor. Please stop by and take any materials you think may be useful to you and others. Go to tinyurl.com/gdRECOVER23 to learn of other ways Recovery Month is being celebrated around the Metro area.

Healthy Eating Cookbook. Do you have a healthy recipe that is a favorite with your friends and family? If it’s not a secret and you are willing to share, please contact parish nurse Jill Stewart, who is collecting healthy recipes for a cookbook. We may have a cooking class too; more information will be coming! Please send recipes to nurse@gloriadeistpaul.org or drop them off at the church office.

Social Justice and Outreach

Immigrant Justice Vigil. On the second Tuesday of every month, Interfaith Coalition on Migration sponsors a vigil in support of immigrants at the
Bishop Whipple (Federal Immigration Court) Building at Fort Snelling. A supporting congregation hosts the vigil each month. On Tuesday, Sept. 12, Gloria Dei will host the vigil, with the theme "Welcome Home!" under the leadership of the Immigrant Justice Team and pastoral and music staff. Our Room 99 guests, Stephanie and Luis, will also participate. The vigil begins at 7:30 a.m. and will last about 45 minutes. Please plan to attend, if you can, to support the vital work of immigrant justice in our community and at Gloria Dei! Go to tinyurl.com/gdIMJUSTICE for more information and directions to the vigil site.

Beacon Monthly Zoom. Please join the Gloria Dei Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative team on a monthly Zoom session on Friday, Sept. 1, at 8:30 a.m. The 30-minute meeting will provide updates on where initiatives stand at the legislature, how momentum continues to grow, and what action we’ll take together to keep moving Bring it Home, Minnesota forward! Go to tinyurl.com/gdBEACON9123 to register and receive further instructions on how to access the meeting.

Giving Garden Help. Thanks to everyone who has signed up to help with our Giving Gardens this season. We only have to fill three open weeks for the rest of the growing season. If you’re able to help weed the garden and deliver grown products the weeks of Sept. 8, Sept. 22 or Oct. 6, register at tinyurl.com/gdGARDENHELP. Our harvested produce goes to Frances Basket Food Market. We've been picking an average of 50 pounds of tomatoes and cucumbers each week. Important: Vegetables need to be delivered in person to Francis Basket only during these hours: Mondays 9-11:30 a.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. The address is 1293 E Maynard Dr. #410, St. Paul.

Help Needed for Pow Wow. Gloria Dei’s Racial Justice Committee is looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve the feast for the Mendota Mdewakanton’s 26th Traditional Wacipi (pow wow). Volunteers for food prep are needed on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Help is also needed to transport and serve the meal on Sunday, Sept 10, 4 -7 p.m. The pow wow is held at St. Peter’s Church, 1405 Sibley Memorial Highway, Mendota. In the week leading up to the pow wow there will be a Mendota Village on the site. Volunteers are needed to help set up the village. Organizers are also looking for teepees. If you are interested in helping in any way, email Karen Lansing at lansingkaren13@gmail.com.

Backpack Food Program is Near. The start of school is just around the corner, which means you have new opportunities to assist with the Highland Elementary Weekend Backpack Program. Here's what you need to know.
- Sign up at tinyurl.com/gdBACKPACK23 to deliver and/or distribute packed bags at Highland Park Elementary.
- Donate to The Second Offering in September.
- All donations go to the Weekend Backpack Program.
Our Sunday School children will pack the bags of nutritious food every other Sunday. We would like more Friday morning volunteers. Email Mary Jo Hallberg (mjhallberg33@msn.com) for more information.

Healing Stories Tour. All are invited to take part in a Healing Minnesota Stories tour, coordinated by Gloria Dei’s Racial Justice Committee. The stories will be told on a tour of three Dakota sacred sites all within 15 minutes of our church. These sites are part of Bdote or “meeting place of rivers,” a sacred place to our Dakota relatives. The tour is12:30-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, and costs is $25 per person with a $50 maximum per family. Register at tinyurl.com/gdSacredStories9. Go to tinyurl.com/gdSSinfo for more details on the tour.

Dream of Wild Health Anniversary. Dream of Wild Health, one of our partners in paying reparations, will be celebrating 25 years of growing seeds and leaders on Friday, Sept. 15, 2-4 p.m., with a celebration at its farm in Hugo. Guests can enjoy Indigenous appetizers as they learn about Dream of Wild Health's impact over the last decades to promote healthier living among Native Peoples. Visitors can also participate in a
farm tour. You can find the farm at 16085 Jeffrey Ave N, Hugo. Registration is free but required. Go to tinyurl.com/gdDWH25 to collect your free ticket!

**Community**

**In Observance of Labor Day,** the Gloria Dei church building will be closed on Monday, Sept. 4. There will be no church activities that day.

**Stewardship and Giving**

**August's Second Offering is For ELCA World Hunger.** ELCA World Hunger partners with local communities to break the cycle of hunger and poverty around the world working through Lutheran churches, congregations in the United States and other partners. You can support the second offering any time before the end of the month several ways: place a check in the offering plate with "Second Offering" in the memo, drop off a donation at the church office or make a payment online at tinyurl.com/gdAug232ndOff. Collections through Sunday total $2,427. September Second Offering collections will be earmarked for Gloria Dei’s Highland Elementary Weekend Backpack Program.

**Options for Giving to Gloria Dei.** Your generosity blesses and enriches Gloria Dei’s work and ministries of love, welcome, care, healing and justice. We have multiple options for giving as you are able:

- Electronically through Vanco Payments, a third-party website (tinyurl.com/gdvango23).
- Vanco Mobile App, a third party (bit.ly/VancoMobileChange), or by text to 651-400-8624 with the amount (example: 25).
- Share it in the offering plates during in-person worship.
- Mail your offering to the church office at 700 Snelling Ave. S., Saint Paul, MN 55116. Note on the memo line if you’d like to designate your gift for a specific fund.

**Other Ways to Engage with Gloria Dei**

In addition to the activities mentioned here, please join Gloria Dei friends in one of these opportunities:

- **Mental Health and Hope in Recovery** ministries meet the second Tuesday of each month. For more info email Patrice Vick at bevinsvick@comcast.net or call her at 651-447-3116.
- **Men’s Book Group** meets monthly on a Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Find the meeting dates and booklist on our website. Contact John Stendahl with questions.
- **Growing Stronger Fitness Group** meets on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-10 a.m. in the Gathering Place. This class uses light hand weights (provided), movement and stretching. Please contact Parish Nurse Jill Stewart to register. No cost to attend.
- **Gloria Dei Quilters** meet weekly on Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon in Room 100 at the church, with coffee at 10:30 a.m. No sewing skills necessary; everyone welcome.
- **Prayerful Knitters** meet the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Place; email Paula Hutchinson for details.
- **Good News 4U Bible Study** on Mondays at 10 a.m. in the church. Contact Miles Renaas with questions.
- **Yogadevotion** stretches out on Tuesday evenings from 6-7 p.m. Descriptions of the classes are available on the Yogadevotion website.
- **In Your Own Words, Contemplative Writing as a Spiritual Practice** meets every Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to noon in Room 203. Led by Nancy Agneberg, writer, spiritual director, and member of Gloria Dei.
- **20s and 30s – Young adults** meet for fellowship and community building, usually once a month outside of Gloria Dei. Send a note to 20s-30s@gloriadeistpaul.org for more information.
- **Volunteer Ministry Opportunities** Review all the volunteer ministry opportunities.
available Gloria Dei and let us know how you might like to be involved by visiting gloriadeistpaul.org/volunteer

**Gloria Dei News.** To receive our weekly eNews email and other emails, please contact the church office (office@gloriadeistpaul.org). You can also visit our website for news and other messages about our ministries and program (gloriadeistpaul.org/news).

**To receive our weekly prayer list email,** please sign up online (bit.ly/PrayerListEmail). On Friday mornings, you’ll receive an email that lists our brothers and sisters who have requested our prayers. You can opt out at any time.

**Submit Gloria Dei news and events by noon on Mondays.** Please use the online form at gloriadeistpaul.org/News. Your submission goes to the communications staff.

**Reserve a room for a Gloria Dei-sponsored meeting or event** through this online form: bit.ly/RoomRequestGDLC. Your submission goes to the office staff. If you have any questions, please contact Office Coordinator Karen Earhuff (office@gloriadeistpaul.org).

**Try our Technology for Improved Sound in the Sanctuary.** Upgraded technology helps us support individual sound needs. All you need is a smartphone with Wi-Fi capability and earphones, or your hearing device or cochlear implant. Download the Listening Technologies “Listen Everywhere” app (free app), and connect to the dedicated Gloria Dei Wi-Fi (network: Gloria Dei AV System, password: GloriaDeiAV3014). Plug in your earphones, or connect your hearing device with Bluetooth, and launch the app. If you have any questions, please talk with an usher on Sunday mornings. Learn more on the Listen Technologies website (listentech.com/listen-everywhere). Once you have used the Listen Everywhere app once, you should be able to easily connect the next time.