



November 1, 2023

Dear Friends,

I am excited to report that the call committee for the position of Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation has recommended a candidate. This candidate was presented to the Congregational Council on Tuesday, October 17. The Council happily and unanimously endorsed this recommendation and now forwards the candidate to the congregation for the approval to issue a letter of call.

You may be wondering why this search process became a call process.

In the early stages of the search, an ordained deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America emerged as a candidate. Deacons are members of the ELCA roster known as *Ministers of Word and Service* and are called to congregations through a process like that of a pastoral call. To position ourselves to move forward with all the candidates, the interview team needed to become a call committee. Therefore, the Council, pursuant to the Constitution and By-laws of Gloria Dei, appointed the following members to form a call committee for the position of Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation: Eric Kruger, Tom Masuda, Katie Russell, Pr. Bradley Schmeling, Kyrstin Schwartz, Angie Sherwood, and Annika Wilkowske. This group has worked diligently to bring forward this wonderful candidate.

And now it is your turn!

A congregational meeting is called for Sunday, November 19, 12:00 p.m., immediately following the second service, for a vote on issuing a letter of a call for the position of Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation. All confirmed members of Gloria Dei are invited and urged to vote. We know there is a fierce desire at Gloria Dei to have a connected and engaged community of young people walking with us in our mission. Come and take part in the conversation.

We will present the name and information about the candidate at confirmation on November 15, 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to join our confirmation classes for this short presentation. Young people, grades 7-12, are invited to meet the candidate in person at Gloria Dei on Saturday, November 18, at 3:00 p.m. Parents and all adults are invited to meet the candidate at 9:30 a.m. on November 19. A lot happening on November 19. Mark your calendars!

This has been a year of transition at Gloria Dei. Through all of it we have remained steadfast to our mission and to each other. I hope you will join us in the weeks and months ahead as we continue to move forward into a bright future, guided by our faith in each other and God's love.

In Christ.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Karli".

Scott Karli  
Congregational Council President