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### Sunday Holy Communion Worship

8: 15 and 10:45 a.m. in person and  
livestream on YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

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Join 10:45 a.m. Online Worship

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Stay Connected with Gloria Dei

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## Learn the Details of a Complex 2024 Church Budget

In preparation for the Congregational Annual Meeting convening in a couple Sundays, Pastor Bradley will present his annual State of the Congregation message during the Sunday Forum time this Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. This meeting is especially important this year as the 2024 budget planning is more complex than past years. The session will also take time to reflect on the life of our congregation as we embark on this year. What are our current strengths and joys? What challenges do we face in meeting our mission goals for 2024? Annual reports for 2023 will be available at this meeting and will also be shared via the eNews and by pick-up at the church office next week.



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## Annual Meeting/Potluck to be Held on Sunday, Feb. 4



Join us for our annual meeting, Sunday, Feb. 4, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We will celebrate the mission and ministries of our congregation, adopt our annual budget, consider our priorities, and share the dreams for God's work at Gloria Dei in 2024. All confirmed members and prospective members are invited to join the Annual Meeting in Fellowship Hall. Before the business starts, we'll enjoy a bountiful potluck meal.

**The Nitty-Gritty on the Potluck:** Can you help us serve before, during or after the meal? [Click here to sign up.](#) Wondering what to bring? If you have something amazing you really want to bring, go ahead! But here are some ideas, if your last name starts with:

- **A-G:** bring salads, vegetables, side dishes

- **H-J:** bring breads, rolls, spreads, condiments
- **K-S:** bring main dishes, meat, cheeses, vegetarian and vegan options
- **T-Z:** bring desserts

Please label if your dish is vegan, vegetarian, gluten free or includes nuts. Also, because our goal is to generate as little trash as possible, please plan accordingly. Use compostable or washable dishes, and limit the amount of packaging you use. Hope to see you there!

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## Counting Down the Days to Pr. Jodi's Arrival

The days are dwindling down until new full-time Associate Pastor Jodi Houge to starts her ministry at Gloria Dei. Her first Sunday participating in worship will be Feb. 4. She will be installed at both services on Sunday, Feb. 11, with the sermon being delivered by one of her closest friends, Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber. Pr. Nadia is an ordained Lutheran pastor, founder of House for All Sinners & Saints in Denver, CO, the creator and host of The Confessional podcast and the author of three New York Times bestselling memoirs on religion. Welcome receptions for Pr. Jodi will follow each service in the Gathering Place on Feb. 11.



## Wednesday Supper Features Tater Tot Casserole



This week's Wednesday Night Supper will feature tater tot casserole of sauteed beef simmered with corn, green beans, onions, and cream topped off with baked tater tots. Also served will be baked mac & cheese (vegetarian) and garden salad. Wednesday Supper is 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A free will offering is accepted. Next week's menu: Soup bar including chicken wild rice soup, tomato basil soup (vegetarian), fresh baked bread and garden salad.

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## Learn About Civil Rights Tour for Spring 2025

An informational meeting about a possible Civil Rights Tour in April 2025 will be held Sunday, Feb. 25, at 9:30 am in Room 203. A group from Gloria Dei is planning a Civil Rights Tour that would include stops in Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee and specifically Birmingham (Pettis Bridge and historic churches), Selma (Selma to Birmingham march) and Memphis (where MLK Jr was killed). Also part of



the trip will be meeting people who lived in and were influenced by the events of the 1960s and several interpretive museums. [Email Will Nordmark](#) with questions.

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## First Communion Class is Feb. 10

At Gloria Dei, families decide when their child is ready to

start participating in communion. Is your child asking a lot of questions about communion and showing interest? [Click here to sign up for the upcoming First Communion Instruction class](#) for children and parents on Saturday, Feb. 10, 9-11:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.



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## Second Offering Supports Our Global Mission Partners



January's Second Offering supports Gloria Dei's global mission partners in Tanzania and Guatemala. Gloria Dei has partner congregations at El Divino Salvador del Mundo in Guatemala and also in Kilengapasi, Tanzania. Your generous offerings will help purchase books for 200 school children at Colegio Luterano Agustino de Guatemala. This photo shows young students lining up for the first day of school of the new year last week. [Click here for more photos and video from the special](#)

[day at the school.](#) Second Offering contributions will also help purchase windows for a new school in Kilengapasi. The in-service offering has been taken but you can also contribute online [by clicking here](#) or bring it in person to the church office. The Global Missions Committee and our partner congregations deeply appreciate the prayers and financial support for projects offered by Gloria Dei members. As of Sunday, the second offering has raised \$2,457. Thank you all!

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## Faith & Science Looks at Evidence for Intelligent Design

The next meeting of the Faith and Science Group will be Thursday, Jan 25, 7.p.m. in the Mississippi Room. You can also join online through the Zoom link below. January's topic is "Fingerprints of God: Evidence For Intelligent Design." Science bears significant examples of elements in our universe that suggest design by a super intelligent being. In physics, there are dozens of constants and parameters which, altered even by an infinitesimal degree, would make life impossible. In biology, a strong argument can be made that Darwinism is incomplete; natural selection, by itself, is insufficient in accounting for the complexity of living organisms. Could divine tweaking play a role in our path to existence? [Click here for the Zoom link.](#)



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## Lots of Appointments Open for Monday Blood Drive

Appointments are plentiful for the Red Cross Circle of Faith blood drive Gloria Dei is hosting on Monday, Jan. 29, from noon to 6 p.m. [Click here to sign up](#) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment. There currently is an emergency shortage of blood at hospitals and clinics. Giving blood is a simple thing to do, but it can make a big difference in the lives of others. Each donor can help save up to three lives. In addition to helping your neighbors, thanks to a special promotion, all January donors are eligible for a drawing to win two tickets to the Super Bowl. If you cannot donate, there are other ways to support the Red Cross. If you are interested in helping as a volunteer at the drive, please contact parish nurse Jill Stewart at 651-699-1378 ext. 3031





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## Week 4 of Winter Wellness: Generosity

One of Gloria Dei's principles is to be "Rooted in Generosity." Generosity and poverty can be spiritual as well as economic. Jesus always showed unexpected generosity towards others: feeding crowds of people, healing the sick or forgiving people who hurt Him. Following Jesus' example, the early Christian community made sure that everyone had enough. Poverty is a serious health issue. It contributes to acute and chronic illness, affects safety and makes it hard for people to attain their potential. When we help neighbors who are in need, we benefit too. Gifts that make a real difference do not have to be big donations or large amounts of time. Like the ripples from a pebble dropped into water, God will expand our acts into the world. If you or someone you know needs help with heat, housing or food, you can contact the parish nurse confidentially (651-699-1378 ext. 3031/[nurse@gloriadeistpaul.org](mailto:nurse@gloriadeistpaul.org)), contact Neighborhood House (651-789-2500) or call 211 First Call for Help, available 24 hours a day.



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## Hear Native Storytelling Program this Sunday

Gloria Dei members are invited to spend an afternoon of winter storytelling with community outreach and culture teacher, Hope Flanagan (Seneca) from Dream of Wild Health on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 2 p.m. at the Minnesota History Center (545 Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul). Storytelling is an integral part of Native American culture. Hope was at Gloria Dei for a Sunday Forum in the fall to share about *Dream of Wild Health*, the Native American farming and nutrition program Gloria Dei is developing a relationship with over the past year..



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## Gathering of Guatemala Friends is February 10



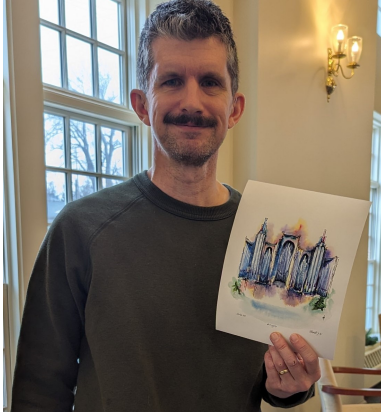
Have you been involved with the St. Paul Synod's outreach efforts to our siblings in Guatemala. Are you interested and want to learn more? A "Gather with Guatemala Friends" event will be Saturday, Feb, 10, at 10 am. at Augustana Lutheran Church, West St. Paul. As companions on the journey, those attending will join Pastor Karen Castillo and the Iglesia Luterana

Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG) staff to learn more about migration, family challenges, village church impact, ILAG support and response along with discussion and Q/A time.

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## Prints, Cards of Organ Art are Now Available

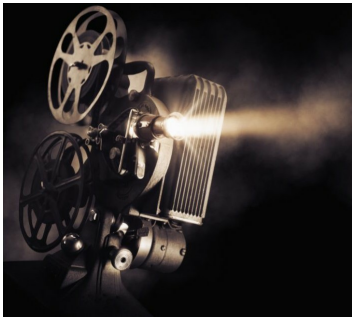
We're wrapping up our year of celebration for *Rise, O Church* by making watercolor prints of the organ in our renewed sanctuary available to everyone. Options include a limited run of 50 8x10 signed and numbered prints of Matt Nowaczewski's original watercolor painting of our new organ. Each print will be matted and secured in an



11x14 frame. Cost is \$75. One pack of five notecards, folded to 5x7 featuring Matt's original watercolor printed on the front and with envelopes included, costs \$20. [Click here to order prints.](#) [Click here to order note cards.](#)

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## Film Works to Bust Myths of Teen Suicide



Gloria Dei's mental health ministries invite all to become familiar with current myths about youth suicide and why it is important these myths are de-bunked by attending the screening of the film "My Ascension" It explores the life of Emma Benoit who survived a suicide attempt at age 16 that left her paralyzed but propelled her on a mission to use her experience to help other young people find hope and stay alive. Gain important insights from the story of Emma Benoit and how it has changed both her life and the lives of others. The screening will be Sunday, Feb. 4, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4100 Lyndale Ave S.

Minneapolis.

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## Invitation to Tribal Sacred Fire Ceremony/Potluck



The Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community invites members of Gloria Dei to an "Honoring Our Ancestors Sacred Fire Ceremony" and potluck. It will be held Saturday, Feb. 3, 11 a.m. at Fort Snelling State Park. The park entrance is off Highway 5 at Post Road near the Minneapolis / St. Paul International Airport. Please bring a dish to share for the potluck from 12:30-3 p.m. The potluck will be at the new office at 1200 Centre Pointe Curve, Mendota Heights. For more information, call the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community office at 651-452-4141. Dress warm, the ceremony is outside. Women should wear skirts with pants underneath to keep warm.

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## Work Permits Have the Rojas Parents Looking for Jobs

The parents of the asylum-seeking family living in Room 99, Stephanie and Luis Rojas, received the best Christmas present ever—work permits! They are now eligible and eager to seek employment and begin the next phase of their journey toward independence. Stephanie has recently started a full-time position as a classroom assistant at El Jardin, a child care center in St. Paul. Luis is currently volunteering with Gloria Dei's worship tech team to help with the livestream. While living in Perú, he gained broad experience in food service, and hopes to find a full-time position within that industry. As opportunities arise, he would also like to work in AV



communications. If you know of an opportunity that might fit their skills, or have a connection to someone who does, please contact [Lenore Franzen](#).

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## Help Make, Deliver Safe House Meals for Homeless Youth



Gloria Dei volunteers provide a meal every fourth Wednesday of the month for residents of Safe House, an emergency shelter for homeless youth ages 16-20 located in St. Paul's Frogtown neighborhood. Typically meals are dropped off by 6:30 p.m. and should consist of eight adult-sized portions that include a main dish, side dish, vegetable and 2% milk. Juice and/or dessert are welcome, but not required. [Click here to learn more about the program](#), how to make a delivery, see a list of menu suggestions or to sign up to serve a meal on an

available date in 2024.

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## A Day of Making Comfort Full of Quilts is Saturday

This Saturday, the St. Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization will once again hold "A Day for Making Comfort". Over the past few years, hundreds of quilts have been completed and given to places in need locally and around the world and you are invited to join the fun. This year the event will be held 9 a.m-3 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1616 Olive St., Stillwater. Everyone is welcome to join in for just an hour or two or to stay for the whole day. If you are staying for lunch, plan to bring your own. No experience is needed for this event. There is a job for all skill levels, including having no quilting or sewing experience.



## Ways to Engage and Help in Outreach

In addition to the activities noted above, join Gloria Dei friends in one of these other ways to engage with outreach.

- **Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative** advocates for affordable housing options across the metro area. Contact Don Fulton ([revdfulton@comcast.net](mailto:revdfulton@comcast.net)).
- **Caring for Creation** helps lead worship with pastors, shares prayers and serves communion. Contact Stephanie Stegeman ([stephaniestegeman@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniestegeman@gmail.com)).
- **Giving Garden** vegetables grown in the Giving Garden are donated to Francis Basket Food Market.
- **Global Missions Team** coordinates global mission efforts with partners in Guatemala and Tanzania. Contact Kenton Johnson ([kentonmarkjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:kentonmarkjohnson@gmail.com)).
- **Habitat for Humanity** Partners with Interfaith Builders to build safe, affordable homes for families in need. Contact Matt Sherwood ([mgsherwood@yahoo.com](mailto:mgsherwood@yahoo.com)).
- **Immigrant Justice Team** is dedicated to guiding Gloria Dei's support for immigrants in our community through direct assistance and advocacy. Contact Claire Hoyum ([choyum@comcast.net](mailto:choyum@comcast.net)).
- **Loaves and Fishes** feeds an evening meal at the Dorothy Day Center in downtown St. Paul on the 4th Wednesday of every other month Contact Cheryl Stever ([mncinchouse@hotmail.com](mailto:mncinchouse@hotmail.com)).
- **Monthly Safe House Meals** Gloria Dei volunteers provide a meal every fourth Wednesday of the month for residents of Safe House, an emergency shelter for homeless youth ages 16-20 [Click here to learn more about the program](#).
- **Project Home Meals** serves supper and hosts Bingo for homeless families staying



at Project Home at Provincial House two Sundays a month. Contact Marie Hanson ([mariehanson63@gmail.com](mailto:mariehanson63@gmail.com)).

- **Racial Justice Committee** coordinates Gloria Dei's activities in support of racial justice and equality. Contact Deanna Thompson ([thomps38@stolaf.edu](mailto:thomps38@stolaf.edu)).
- **Weekend Back Pack Program** packs and delivers healthy snacks for students at Highland Elementary School. Contact Mary Jo Hallberg ([mjhallberg33@msn.com](mailto:mjhallberg33@msn.com)).
- **Welcoming Committee** works with ministries to evaluate and enhance signs of welcome to new faces coming to Gloria Dei. Contact Julie Printz ([jprintz123@gmail.com](mailto:jprintz123@gmail.com)).

**Next week:** More ways to engage with faith formation.

[See all Gloria Volunteer Opportunities at this link.](#)

## Rooted in Generosity, We Give

Your generosity continues to bless and enrich Gloria Dei's work and ministries of love, welcome, care, healing and justice. For every one of us who can't give more, we trust that someone else will step forward and fill the gap. We are the church together.

### Second Offering – January

As is our custom, on the second Sunday of each month we collect a Second Offering. Any time before the end of the month, you can give [online](#) or mail a check to the church office with "second offering" in the memo line.

January's Second Offering is going toward our **Global Mission Partners** in Guatemala and Tanzania.

### Online Offering

[Options for Giving](#) as you are able:

- [Electronically through Vanco Payments](#) (a third-party website).
- [Vanco Mobile App](#), a third party, or by text to 833-608-0559 with the amount.
- Mail your offering to the church office at 700 Snelling Ave. S., Saint Paul, MN 55116. Note on the memo line to designate your gift for a specific fund.

Electronic giving through automatic deductions provides a steady income stream that helps us the most.

Submit News

Click Button to Submit  
Gloria Dei News  
and Events

Reserve a  
Room

Click Button to  
Reserve Rooms  
for Church-Sponsored  
Events/Meetings

Prayer List  
Email

Click Button to Sign Up  
to Receive our Weekly  
Prayer List Emails

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church  
651-699-1378 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

Gloria Dei is a [Reconciling in Christ](#) Congregation

[Bible readings for this Sunday](#)

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Friday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Call our phone number above to reach staff.  
Select option "2" for the on-call pastor.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church | 700 S. Snelling Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55116

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