



News from Gloria Dei

Sunday Holy Communion Worship

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

Join 10:45 a.m. Online Worship

Stay Connected with Gloria Dei

This Sunday: Buy Flowers; Help Fund Youth Programs

We are offering beautiful 12-inch hanging baskets of flowers for \$35 at Gloria Dei on Sunday, April 28 before, between and after worship. Get there fast to pick your favorite color! **If you ordered in advance, this will also be the new day to pick up your order.** If you wish to order and pay beforehand, [click here to place your order](#). All flowers have been generously donated by a member with all proceeds supporting our Gloria Dei youth ministries, including summer trips to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans and a mission/adventure trip to Duluth. Watch for signs to find out where you can get your baskets.



Youth
FLOWER
Sale

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 @
GLORIA DEI

**12" HANGING
BASKETS FOR \$35**

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT OUR
YOUTH MINISTRIES

Pre-Orders are Available and include
Mum Plants that will be available
September 1st



First-Graders Clean Up the Lawn for Earth Day

Gloria Dei's Care for Creation team is working with Sunday School classes on environmental lessons this spring. Last Sunday first-graders were taking it to the streets to pick up the winter's worth of trash and litter around the Gloria Dei grounds, clearing debris around the gutter drains along with getting some fresh air. Thanks first-graders!!!

Sunday Forum: A Climate Report from J. Drake Hamilton

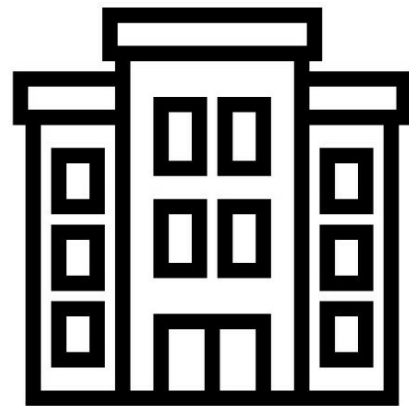


Climate change is a daunting topic. But it's much more approachable when looking at it through a local lens. Gloria Dei's Caring for Creation Team invites you to hear J. Drake Hamilton, Fresh Energy's senior director of science policy and an expert in climate and energy policy at the state and national levels. She will focus her talk of the Sunday, April 28, Forum in the Fellowship Hall (9:30-10:30 a.m.) on current action happening at the local and state levels. J. brings optimism and encouragement and spreads a message that there still is time to act and fight our climate crisis. When she's not presenting at national and international climate summits, J. also grows organic peaches, pears, grapes, apples and plums that have won 50 ribbons—mostly blue!--at the Minnesota State Fair. The

Hamilton orchard is only about two miles from Gloria Dei!

Supportive Housing for People with Mental Health Issues

Having a place to call home is key to good mental health. To mark May as Mental Health Month, Gloria Dei's Beacon and Mental Health and Recovery ministries invite you to explore this topic at the Sunday, May 5, Forum in Fellowship Hall (9:30-10:30 a.m.) As a Minnesota housing nonprofit committed to change, Beacon leads the way in creating supportive, deeply affordable housing in the Twin Cities metro area. Gloria Dei's Mental Health and Recovery Ministry works with staff to promote our faith community as a safe place to discuss mental health and substance abuse concerns and learn ways to address related issues.



April Second Offering Helps Homeless Youth Programs



April's Second Offering is going toward Lutheran Social Services' Metro Homeless Youth Programs. It offers a continuum of holistic services to runaway, homeless and street-dependent youth in the Twin Cities area. It's estimated that 3,000 youth experience homelessness on any given night in the Twin Cities area. Youth in Minneapolis and Saint Paul who are at-risk or experiencing homelessness can find non-judgmental support and assistance through shelter, outreach and transitional support. The in-service collection will be taken this Sunday. Any time before the end of the month, you can give [online](#) or drop off a

check to the church office with "second offering" in the memo line. So far we've collected \$2,045 to support the programs for homeless teens.

Study the Book of Acts for the Easter Season

Join us on Wednesday evenings to explore the New Testament book of Acts, 6-7 p.m., meeting through May 22 in the Gathering Place. A light lunch of sandwiches will be served at 5:30 p.m. for those interested in eating before the Bible study. We read from this book during the season of Easter, which tells of the courageous and inspirational work of the early church. Why do we tell these stories? How do they speak to us today? This is a one-hour bible study with others who are interested in deeper reflection on how scripture touches our lives. No former expertise or knowledge needed. Bring a Bible or use one here at church. Have questions or need more information? Contact [Baya Clare](#).



Adopt and Beautify a Planter for the Growing Season



Our courtyard has 12 large planters that need to be filled with wonderful flora. If you or your household would like to adopt one or more, [make your intentions known by filling out this form](#). Six of the planters are predominantly in the sun; six predominantly in the shade. You can design your planter with your own favored plants and colors. All you need to do is complete your planting between May 15-31. Church staff will tend to them and take care of watering through the summer season. Don't wait on this opportunity. Seven of the planters are already spoken for.

Service Opportunities for Feed My Starving Children

Anyone age 5 and older is invited to serve together with others from Gloria Dei at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan this summer. We will help pack food bags that will be shipped all around the world. Children should be accompanied by an adult. This event is free but consider bringing a donation for Feed My Starving Children. You can help pay for a child to eat for a year for \$88. Register to attend with the link below.

- [Wednesday, June 12, 9:30-11:15 a.m.](#)
- [Tuesday, July 30 from noon-1:45 p.m.](#)
- [Monday, August 19 from 5-6:30 p.m.](#)



All Ages Summer Event

Meals packed locally by volunteers.

Food shipped worldwide by FMSC.

Open to ages 5 years and up.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday, June 12 from 9:30 - 11:15 a.m.

Tuesday, July 30 from 12:00 - 1:45 p.m.

Monday, August 19 from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Everyone Has a Place in the Assembly

Six blue "reserved" signs have been added to the sanctuary to alert congregants to the location of places in the sanctuary available for people with accessible seating needs. The seats with the blue signs are reserved for their companions or may be used by people keeping a walker or other mobility device close at hand.



We hope everyone feels welcome and can find a comfortable place to join the assembly's song.

A Few Open Slots to Serve Loaves and Fishes April 24

It's Gloria Dei's turn to serve Loaves and Fishes again. Every other month a team from Gloria Dei provides the evening meal at the St. Paul Opportunity Center in downtown St. Paul for people struggling with hunger and homelessness. Gloria Dei's next shift is Wednesday, April 24. There are three shifts, all with a few openings still to fill:

- Hot food prep (cooking the main meal): 1:45-3 p.m.
- Cold food prep (buttering bread, and preparing salad and other side items as available): 3-4:30 p.m.
- Serving the meal: 4:15-5:45 p.m.



You are welcome to volunteer for one, two or all three shifts! If you have helped with one of these roles before and would feel comfortable serving as a shift lead (helping direct other volunteers), sign up for the "Shift Lead" role. There should be at least one person there for each shift who knows the routine and can help guide other volunteers. [Click here to sign up for one or more shifts.](#)

Faith & Science Considers Divine Design



Our next Faith and Science meeting will be Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m., in the Mississippi Room. It will be in-person only, no Zoom. **Topic: "Divine Design."** Why is there a universe at all? Why is the universe organized by the laws of nature? Why have these laws been so delicately fine tuned that even the slightest variant would prevent the emergence of life? Why is math so good at describing nature? How do brains that evolved to fend off saber toothed tigers and thwart starvation find such fulfillment in art, music and literature? As

Christians we know the answers. We'll ponder these questions and discuss other elements of God's creation including the Fibonacci Series, the Mandelbrot set, the Golden Ratio and the ubiquity of Pi. Prepare to be blown away!

Learn Details of a Guatemala Trip in Fall 2024

Gloria Dei is planning a trip to Guatemala to visit our church partners in Guatemala City and San Lucas Toliman from Oct. 25 through Nov. 4, 2024. Please join us at one of our information sessions to learn more details about the trip after the second services on Sundays May 5 or May 19. If you can't attend but have

questions, you can [email Julie Printz](#). [Click here to fill out a form to express your interest in joining the trip whether you can or can't attend the information sessions.](#)



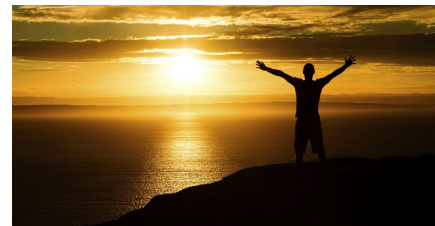
Beacon's Rent is Due Zoom Meeting is May 1



Join the Gloria Dei Beacon Interfaith Housing team for the monthly Rent is Due call on Wednesday, May 1, 8:30-9 a.m. Every month, over 200,000 households pay too much rent. Housing insecurity jeopardizes the health of individuals and families, drives the growing numbers of people experiencing homelessness and increases the racial disparities already present. We gather virtually the first Wednesday of every month as Beacon advocates to change this reality. Our goal is an efficient, clear meeting once a month for you to feel connected to the work and able to take impactful action. [Click here to register for the Zoom meeting with Closed Captioning available.](#)

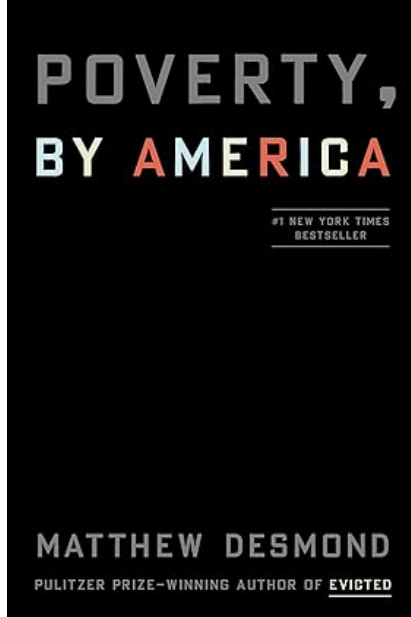
New Yogadevotion Session Begins April 30

Yogadevotion is a gentle flow class developed by Lutheran pastor Cindy Senarighi. It combines yoga poses and breathing with a Christian devotion. No prior yoga experience is required; do wear comfortable clothing. We have mats and blocks or you may bring your own if you wish. This session is eight weeks long and meets Tuesdays 6-7 p.m. in the Gathering Place. [Click here link to register:](#)



Beacon Book Discussion Wraps up This Thursday

Join the Gloria Dei Beacon Team in Fellowship Hall on each Thursday in April from 7-8 p.m. for a book discussion of *Poverty, By America* by Dr. Matthew Desmond. Each session will focus on three chapters. This event is open to members, friends of the congregation and the Beacon Collaborative (basically anyone who has an interest in the topic.) Registration is required. Email revdfulton@comcast.net with name(s) and number attending. There is a limit of 100 participants. The only cost may be the purchase of the book. A few copies of *Poverty, By America* are available in the Gloria Dei church library for two-week checkout. Softcover copies of *Poverty, By America* may be purchased from church library "at cost" while supply lasts.



Youth Summer Trip to Duluth Deadline is May 1

We'll need ten 6-12th grade youth to sign up for our Duluth youth trip by Wednesday, May 1. The trip runs Wednesday-Saturday, July 31-August 3, and will be a mission/adventure trip that will include service work, rock climbing, white-water rafting and a Christian music festival! This will be an amazing trip and we can help with cost as needed. The fee is currently \$225, with scholarships available. Contact Ashley with any questions or register your student yet this month. [Click here to register.](#)



Toilet Paper Tubes, Jar Lids Needed for Sunday School



The Caring for Creation team is leading an upcoming Sunday School craft activity for Water Tower students. It is asking for people to save and donate their TP rolls and jug/spice jar sized lids. Drop them off any time in the box by Kyrstin Schwartz's office. We will collect them now through May 15.

New Date of Baptism Orientation Workshop is May 18

Our next Baptism Orientation Workshop is on Saturday, May 18, from 9-10 a.m. If you are preparing for a baptism, we ask all parents (members and non-members) to attend a Baptism Orientation Workshop (on Zoom) before the child's baptism. [Click here to register for the workshop before your child's baptism.](#) Contact the church office (651-699-1378) to schedule the baptism.



Gloria Dei Church at the Baseball Parks!

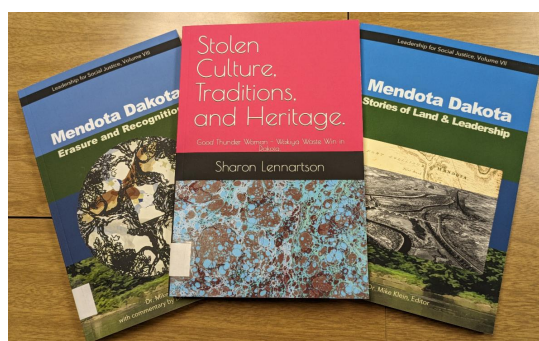
Let's share in fellowship and have fun cheering on the Minnesota Twins and the St. Paul Saints on group outings this summer. We will be attending the Saints game on Tuesday, July 30, at 7:07 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Deadline is June 26. Then in August, we will attend a Twins game on Saturday, August 10 at 6:10 p.m. Tickets are \$48. Deadline is July 8. Transportation isn't provided but we can help organize carpools if needed. It is very helpful if people sign up early in the summer.

- [Saints Game, Tuesday, July 30, at 7:07 p.m.](#)
- [Twins Game, Saturday, August 10, at 6:10 p.m.](#)



Mendota Dakota Partners Book Discussion in May 1

Gloria Dei's Racial Justice Committee Chair, Dr. Deanna Thompson, will help us to think robustly about our growing relationship with the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community. We'll look at the three books about this community that some of us have been reading and also reflect on the April 14 Forum presentations made by Sharon Lennartson and Dr. Mike Klein. Copies are still available in the Gloria Dei Library of the three books: *Stolen Culture, Traditions, and Heritage: Good Thunder Woman -- Wakiya Wasta Win in Dakota* by Sharon Lennartson; *Mendota Dakota: Stories of Land and Leadership* edited by Dr. Mike Klein; *Mendota Dakota: Erasure and Recognition* edited by Dr. Mike Klein, commentary by Dr. Chris Mato Nunpa. Here are three questions to consider in advance of the May 1 discussion.



1. What did you hear in the April 14 Forum conversation that would be important for this congregation to learn more about?
2. What is a takeaway from one of the books about the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community that you didn't know before?
3. How does our learning about the MMDTC help Gloria Dei imagine what it means to become a good partner with this community?

Yes, You Can Provide a Sunday's Worth of Donut Holes!



We depend on the generosity of members to help restock the bowls of donut holes for between-service snacking. It costs \$65 to purchase a Sunday's worth of donut holes. You can [sign up to sponsor the treats for a specific Sunday at this link](#). After you submit your order, you will receive a confirmation email that includes a link for online payment. You may also leave your cash or check payment in the offering plate or the church office in an envelope that is clearly marked with the date you selected, "donut holes" and your name. Thank your for considering filling the donut hole "hole."

Students, Volunteers Still Needed for VBS

Has the warming weather gotten you into a

Vacation Bible School mood? Gloria Dei's Vacation Bible School, scheduled for June 24-27 can take more students and needs more volunteer helpers. [Click here to check out the VBS website for all the info and to submit registrations.](#) We are partnering with Camp Onomia this summer. The ELCA camping organization will send its counselors to Gloria Dei for the week to help provide programming. One of the many benefits is that partnering with the camp will allow our volunteers to be more focused on relationship building and less on logistics! It also allows us to offer all-day programming for elementary students. VBS will take place Monday, June 24, to Thursday, June 27, with these hours:

- PreK: 9-11:30 a.m.
- Elementary: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (with an optional extension until 5 p.m.)



The poster features a blue background with white clouds and a yellow sun in the top right corner. A white cloud in the center contains the text 'GLORIA DEI VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL' in blue. Below this, it says 'June 24 - June 27, 2024'. Further down, it lists the schedule: 'PreK: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. \$40', 'Elementary K-5th: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. \$100', and 'Elementary optional extension: 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. \$30'. It also states 'Youth and Adult volunteers needed!'. On the left, there is a yellow church icon with a purple roof and a cross. At the bottom, it says 'Scan the code to register by May 19' and 'Contact: Kyrstin Schwartz kidsministry@gloriadeistpaul.org'. A QR code is located on the right side.

Cruise With Gloria Dei Friends on the Mississippi River



Save the date for a fun summer cruise on the Mississippi River to renew friendships and build new ones in our Gloria Dei community. We will cruise the on the Betsey Northrup riverboat on Friday, July 12,

from 7-9 p.m. Boarding starts at 6:30 p.m. on Harriet Island near downtown St. Paul. All ages are encouraged to come. Pricing is \$16 adults, \$15 seniors, \$11 children and youth ages 3-17 and \$0 free for children 2 and under yet still require a reservation. [Click here to reserve and pay for your spot.](#)

Music in May at Gloria Dei

Mark your calendars for a pair of musical events in May at Gloria Dei.

- **Organ Recital** on Sunday, May 12, at 3 p.m. featuring Trevor Good, a student at the University of Kansas, and Aaron Looney, a senior at St. Olaf College. They are the first- and second-place winners of Regional Competition of the American Guild of Organists. Come and hear these talented young players! Free and open to the public.
- **Minnesota Boychoir Annual Spring Concert**, Sunday May 19, at 4:30 p.m. This concert will feature all four choirs of the Boychoir from elementary through high school singers. Under the direction of Mark Johnson, these young singers always inspire with their beautiful voices and present a wide array of music in their concerts. Freewill donation. Come early to get a seat!



Volunteer Opportunities with Mendota Dakota

Here are some upcoming volunteer opportunities with the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Community:

- **Digitizing.** We are sorting through hundreds of pieces of information that need to be digitized. If you have an interest in digitizing and have a scanner, this might be something you can do from home. We will be starting up again in May.
- **Donate items** for the 30th Anniversary Silent Auction. They do not need to be Indigenous items--just items in good condition.
- **Volunteer** to help with 30th Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday, June 19, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Church, 1405 Sibley Memorial Highway, Mendota. It is a potluck celebration and charity fundraiser. Help will be needed in kitchen and at various tables for raffles and the silent auction.
- **Wacipi/PowWow** will be held Sept. 14 and 15. Everyone is invited! Volunteer opportunities include help with setting up during the week, working in the kitchen serving Indian Tacos, as well as helping prepare and serve the Sunday Feast that we have co-sponsored with Cherokee Park United Church.



[Email Karen Lansing](#) to get more information and get your name on the list to get to know this wonderful community! Thank you!

April is Alcohol Awareness Month



During April's Alcohol Awareness Month, Gloria Dei's Mental Health and Recovery ministry reminds us that this is a time to raise awareness and understanding of alcohol abuse. Information is available online to assess one's own drinking habits as well as to understand the physical and mental health dangers of alcohol abuse. [Click here to learn more](#) and get information on how to talk to someone you know is struggling with alcohol use or abuse is available on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's website.

Learn How St. Paul is Toughening Gun Storage Laws

Since May 2023, it has been the law in St. Paul that guns must be securely stored when not being used.. Secure storage measures, such as gun safes and gun locks, can play a crucial role in preventing unauthorized access to firearms and ensuring compliance with the city ordinance. [Click here to learn more about how this works](#) and why it's important through information provided by St. Paul Moms Demand Action.



Ways to Help With Facilities and Administration

In addition to the activities noted above, join Gloria Dei friends in one of these other ways to assist in reaching out to help with caring and healing.

- Facilities Committee meets the fourth Monday of each month. For more info email Alan Howell at alan.howell@mspm.org.
- Communications Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month to review communication efforts in the church. Contact Thor Carlson at communications@gloriadeistpaul.org.
- Art Committee prepares art shows in the Gallery and also maintains and rotates displays of art in other parts of the church. Contact Liz Knutson at lizknutson80@gmail.com or Mona Ahlf at mona.ahlf@yahoo.com.

- Landscape Gardening Team maintains the foundation plantings and perennial gardens on the grounds. Contact Bruce Agneberg at agnebergb48@gmail.com.
- Shared Ministry Committee meets the third Thursday of the month to coordinate gift, passions and interests inventories shared with congregation members to connect to volunteer opportunities. Contact Carol Engel at cjengel626@comcast.net.

Next week: Ways to help with Worship.

[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 – April

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.

April's Second Offering is going toward **Lutheran Social Services Metro Homeless Youth Programs** which offers a continuum of holistic services to runaway, homeless and street-dependent youth in the Twin Cities area.

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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