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Monday 9:00 am To 2:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
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THE DAILY NEWS

September 2020

Karen's Korner—September 2020

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Always be joyful. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

In this time of change for Gloria Dei it might be easy to worry, doubt, and go into a state of hibernation. We can't do that. God has chosen this time and this place to lift us up, challenge us, and see what we can do! However, we can't meet any of those challenges alone. We need to follow the verse listed above. Pray and trust without ceasing. (Spoiler alert – I am leading service Labor Day week-end and you will hear more on this important topic!)

So, let us give thanks for:

The newly installed Call Committee: Jocelyn Aprill, Jim Herschleb, Michael Hetzner, David Hoban, Brenda Kobs, and Raeline Springstroh.

Pastor Jim for his Sunday services.

For the church council and committees that are taking on many of the duties recently held by the director of ministry.

The Task Force for Reopening for all their hard work. They hope to present their plan to the council at the September meeting.

For all of our congregation members who volunteer their time and talent.

Let us pray for:

The synod leadership that they may understand our needs as we move toward calling a new minister.

All our council and committee leaders that they may discern God's will for Gloria Dei.

The call committee as they begin their work.

All the confirmands as they become important adult members of Gloria Dei -Makala Gardner, Autumn Herschleb, Brooke Herschleb, Tyler Jeanty, Zachary Riebe, Noah Schumacher.

All members of Gloria Dei that they remain healthy and active participants in our mission.

All those on our Sunday prayer list. We don't need to know their particular concern, just that they are in need of God's grace.

DATE TO REMEMBER

09/08/2020 6:00 pm Church Council Meeting

Amen

GREETERS FOR SEPTEMBER

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| 9/6/2020 | Julie & Randy Schumacher |
| 9/13/2020 | Laurie & Tim Argall |
| 9/20/2020 | Dianne & Al Fett |
| 9/27/2020 | Kathy & Dick Welsch |

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From the Pastor,

August was an interesting month for me. First of all, my birthday was on the 4th and I turned 72. I also accepted a second preaching assignment. I am the interim pastor at Bethel United Church of Christ in Fond du Lac. Bethel UCC's service is at 11:00 on Sunday mornings.

I have finished my series on Gideon and how to hear and obey God. I am returning to using the lectionary as my focus for preaching. Since Betty and I are taking a week's vacation beginning on Labor Day weekend, Karen Ebert will be preaching on Sunday September 6th. Betty and I are planning on visiting friends in Tennessee for a few days of games and fellowship. Sermon titles, lessons and gospels for September are:

Sep 6 Karen Ebert preaching

Sep 13

Sermon Title: The Power and Problem of Forgiveness

Lessons: Genesis 50:15-21

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Sep 20

Sermon Title:

Lessons: Philippians 1:21-30

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Sep 27

Sermon Title:

Lessons: Philippians 2:1-13

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

Beginning on September 20 and going for four weeks, the epistle lessons are taken from Philippians. I have found Philippians one of the most challenging and comforting books of the Bible. Although I am preaching on the gospel lesson, I have a feeling some thought and quotes from Philippians might make an appearance in my sermons. I recommend it for your reading this month.

"But this one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13-14

God Bless,

Pastor Jim

Gloria Dei's COVID 19 Task Force (Michael Hetzner, Barb Spiegel, Coleen Allee, Julie Schaefer) is preparing a policy and procedures for return to worship, for Council to act on at its September meeting. This includes a covenant and procedure for safe behavior entering, attending, and leaving indoor events which we will ask everyone to read and agree to before coming, procedures for keeping the building clean, and supplies to be provided including masks and cleaning supplies. The Task Force is monitoring COVID 19 data and coordinating with local health departments and ELCA to determine a recommended date for safe return to indoor worship, possibly later in September or October. Online and parking lot services will continue as weather permits as an option for anyone unable to attend indoors due to their health or personal preference.

Any members of Gloria Dei who wish to provide input regarding safe return to indoor worship are encouraged to contact any of the Task Force members.

Gloria Dei Church Council Meeting -August 4, 2020 – 6 PM

Present: Karen Ebert, Julie Schumacher, Barb Spiegel, David Hoban, Roxie Ruechel, Ruth Camomilli(arrived late)

Absent: Nealy Janicek

Call to Order: Karen called to order at 6pm and opened with prayer

Approval of Agenda -Motion Roxie, second Julie to accept agenda. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report- Motion Julie, second Bryce to accept secretary's report. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report-Motion Barb, second Roxie to accept treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Outreach- (Roxie) Farewell outdoor for Dave went well. Soup supper supplies will be donated to food pantries.

Property-(Bryce) Detailed report was emailed. Check lists are being developed for multiple aspects of safety, security and maintenance.

Stewardship- The process for fall pledge cards and Time & Talent forms to be shared and returned to ensure privacy is in the works for the next few months.

Worship- Parking Lot Service and taped for reviewing on Facebook continue. We are following the Sundays and Season lectionary.

Old Business

Call Committee resignation, replacement, and installation – Installation will occur Sunday. By email vote, council approved Raeline Springstroh to replace the void created by Al Ebert's resignation. Karen will contact another person from the ballot to be an alternate, should the need arise. She will report back next month.

Pentecostal Church- Karen has been in contact with Pastor Eric regarding building usage. The council has not approved indoor usage at this time. The Task Force has also included the Pentecostal reopening in their plans.

Task Force Update- Mike Hetzner shared a packet of info for council to review with plans and procedures for re-opening. The Task Force will meet several times in August and report back to council at the September meeting.

New Business – Closed session

Motion Bryce, second Roxie to go into closed session. Motion carried.

Motion Julie, second Bryce to return to Open Session. Motion carried.

Motion Roxie, second Barb to adjourn. Motion carried.

Adjourn with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Spiegel subject to approval at next council meeting

Next Meeting: September 8,2020

Children's Chatter

What some children learn in Sunday School completely unedited!

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark, which the animals come on to in pears.

Sampson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.

Minutes from Worship and Liturgy Meeting

Monday 6:30pm July 27th, 2020



Present: Karen Ebert, Barb S., Ruth C., Rev. Jim, Rev. Dave, and Raeline S.,
Jim opened us with a prayer.

Dave gave an update on plans to reopen church. The reentry committee is working on creating procedures to give the church tools to open safely. Our committee will be called upon to assist with drafting procedures for before, during and after worship. Each committee will submit their recommendations and guidance to the task force which will take the finished product to Council. It will be up to Council to determine when we will open the church back up to worship indoors. The task force is unsure of the timeframe but has warned that it may be a couple months yet.

After some discussion with members that were “regulars” on Wednesday evening for services, it was recommended by this committee to use the same Sunday worship message for Wednesdays. We will not be putting out any special Wednesday messages until further notice. At this time, the preaching schedule will be revamped to remove Wednesday assignments with the exception of Advent and the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving. All congregation members will be encouraged to watch the Sunday Facebook posting for each week at a time most convenient for them. We have also recommended that the use of social media continue even after the church is opened for services. This will allow members who do not feel safe to come into the church to continue to receive the message.

Council will be meeting on August 4th and will review all Dave’s current tasks to ensure someone has been assigned to take them over for a smooth transition after he leaves. Barb has offered to proof the weekly bulletins and announcements which will be put together by Ann, our church secretary. Ann has access to Sunday and Seasons and has been utilizing it to put together the bulletins prior. Doug will choose the music for the Sunday message and outdoor services. Any member wishing to make an announcement should email Ann at church by Wednesday mornings each week to have your announcement added. Barb has typed up the instructions on how to get into Sunday and Seasons for Karen and Jim to use in preparing the worship services. Barb will contact members that have previously completed and offered their time and talent. She will use these members to assign worship assistants to set up for and take down the Sunday parking lot services. In an effort to simplify the process for setting up for parking lot service, this committee also recommended that we have the participants drive into the lot and stop under the car port to pick up bulletins, the elements for communion and drop off offerings, etc to eliminate the need to set up table and take all these items out to end of driveway. We can use chalk arrows to direct traffic. We also felt that participants should be able to park themselves now that most have attended these services for a while. Those that are new can “follow the lead”. Council will ask for volunteers to facilitate script purchases.

Ruth has been in contact with someone that would like to donate a larger organ to our church. She has checked it out and stated that it works beautifully. Ruth will coordinate the moving of the organ to our church. Barb will talk with Doug to contact someone from Milwaukee that may want to pick up the organ that no longer works for use as parts. Raeline will make an announcement in our bulletin for anyone wishing to remove the large piano in the fellowship hall. If no one within the congregation wishes to take it, she will post it on Marketplace for a freewill donation. The smaller organ that was recently purchased will be moved to the fellowship hall.

Next meeting was set for August 31st at 6:30pm.

Dave closed us with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Raeline Springstroh

Winds of Change

Many changes have been occurring at Gloria Dei over the last several weeks. We will get a face lift to our building, our Director of Ministry has moved on to new experiences, and now it is with a certain amount of pleasure, and sadness that I share two things; one, the synod is sending a new interim pastor as of September 20th, and two, Pastor Jim will then end his time as our supply pastor. I have spoken with Pastor Harswick by phone and was impressed with our conversation. He will attend our September 8th council meeting and we will learn more about his goals for us, and council will have an opportunity to ask questions etc. I have no doubt that we will miss Pastor Jim and all the positive ways he has been an attribute to Gloria Dei. He will lead service on August 30th, and September 13th. He will be available to minister to congregation members until September 19th. On the 13th we will hold a socially distance send off for him. Please plan on attending. In all the things that have changed and will yet change, please remember that we, the congregation, are Gloria Dei. We must continue to be the driving force in making the future happen. We can not rest on the progress we have made, not can we let up on planning our own path to our future. Each and every one of you counts in making Gloria Dei work – and in our mission of Making Christ Known.

Karen



LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS:

If you can help out with your Vocal talents for the recorded Sunday Worship Music. Please Contact Barb Spiegel email is bas1217@yahoo.com. This would be a great way to show your support and contributing to the Weekly Worship. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.



The Journey of a Chaplain – Part 2, Beginning August 2020

Over the next few months, I would like to share some of the ups and downs, joys and sorrows, new learnings and remembering old lessons of my Chaplain Residency journey. Part 1 of my journey was some part-time experience at Sheboygan Aurora Hospital and at Gloria Dei. The intensive work begins in Part 2 of this journey at Gundersen Healthcare in La Crosse.

As of this printing, I have not even met my classmates yet. I have visited La Crosse a few times for administrative reasons; some orientation, filling out pre-assignment paperwork, and getting a health screen. I have been in contact with the Reverend Stephen Brunelle, manager of the Spiritual Care Department of Gundersen. He impresses me as an experienced yet gentle man, possessing great insight. I am in a cohort of six residents, coming from Wisconsin, Minnesota, lower Michigan, and New York City. I'm expecting the diversity of the group to challenge me. I'm also expecting to learn more about myself, through examining my past, and using that to pave my way into the future.

I don't know much more than that at this time. I'm already scheduled for 2 weekend days of on-call duty and 4 week nights of overnight on-call duty. I'm guessing there will be some class time and some one-on-one mentoring time as well.

I have rented a room in a home in La Crosse. My host is a 60-year-old male, who works for the local hardware store. He is technology savvy and has already taught me how to use 'Alexa' for turning lights on and off. He's not a bad cook either, making an excellent spaghetti sauce.

Admittedly, I'm somewhat nervous about Part 2 of my journey; however, with prayer, patience, and love, I'm confident that I will learn some great things to apply in future ministry. For anyone who wants to keep in touch with me, please feel free to private message me on Facebook, email, or snail mail [759 Losey Blvd North, La Crosse, WI 54601].

Peace and Strength!

+ Dave Kohls

NEW CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Does Gloria Dei have any students who would be **entering 7th grade** this year? If so, please contact Church Office at (920) 898-5333 or Karen Ebert at kebert@hughs.net, so that student can be registered for Confirmation Class. Confirmation is a two-year program to prepare students to affirm their baptism and join church.

■ Ann's Office Hours

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Wednesday - - 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

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