

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Worship video online or request a DVD

402 Crawford St.

Kelso, WA 98626

(360) 577-1536



Pastor Cell (360) 718-1756

Pastor: Rev. Elten Zerby

Office Hours: Tue. 8am-2pm &

Wed. noon-2pm



Check us out on Facebook,  
[www.gloriadeilutherankelso.com](http://www.gloriadeilutherankelso.com)  
or email us at [gloriadei@cni.net](mailto:gloriadei@cni.net)

January  
2021

## Mission Statement

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is a family of baptized believers, created and chosen by God, united in the body of Christ and called to serve by the Spirit. We believe our mission calls us to share the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ through the word and sacrament, prayer, offering of gifts, welcoming the stranger and serving others.

## Standing Committees and Groups

2nd Sundays: Community House

2nd Sunday: Council 11am

**2020 Church Council Officers are:** President: Allan Erickson, Vice President: Boyd Burns, Treasurer: Jackie Erickson, Secretary: Dana Libby, Other members are: Jocelyn Price, Candace Kolberg, Joel Halverson, Terri Reichert, Greg Price, Peggy Winston, Candi Engebo, (Dana & Jackie are also voting members on council).

**Gloria Dei Outreach Programs:** Community House, FISH, Pull-tabs for Hospice & Box Tops (Education) for Jocelyn, Family Promise

# GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 CRAWFORD  
KELSO, WASHINGTON 98626  
PHONE (360) 577-1536



Hello Gloria Dei members & friends -

I am writing today to update the congregation on recent activity at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

I am sure all of you are aware that Pr. Lydia has resigned her position at Gloria Dei. We wish her the best as she moves forward with the COVID challenges and her busy family life.

We welcome Pr. Elten Zerby who has agreed to an extended interim service as our Pastor. Please be patient with Pr. Zerby as he deals with the challenges of moving to remote worship service. Also we get to welcome back PAULA!!!! At this time Pr. Zerby will not be doing bible classes. Pr. Zerby is available on an emergency basis and his number is (360) 949-9686.

At this time, we want to encourage you to send prayer requests to the church office by leaving messages by telephone, or our NEW email: [gloriadeikelso@gmail.com](mailto:gloriadeikelso@gmail.com) or to Seth Burns at: [seth@sethburns.com](mailto:seth@sethburns.com). Requests need to be made by Tuesday of each week to appear on the screen the following Sunday.

Your Church Council met on December 13th and discussed annual meeting details. Several decisions were made including postponing the annual meeting until such time that we will be able to meet in person. On an interim basis, a new budget was approved for 2021 that includes a small reduction over last year's budget. With the terms of two council members having been fulfilled (thank you Dana & Sue for your service) Seth Burns and Chuck Davison have volunteered to step into the roles. Council voted to appoint both of those members to serve until such time as the congregation can once again meet in person.

Wednesday Night Advent services have been held for the last 3 weeks with Seth Burns & Charlie Rakestraw providing music last Wednesday which was such a blessing. Please join us this Wednesday on Zoom for our final Advent service organized by Sue Akins-Fields. She will be focused on the peace candle and you are encouraged to have your own candle ready to participate.

Jackie has been continuing her porch drop offs for our children of Gloria Dei. Deborah put together an Advent calendar. Jackie gave each one a Christmas box to celebrate "Jesus birthday", she also had a Zoom cookie decorating hour with the kids with Dana baking the cookies to decorate. All these videos are on our website for you to check out. Our website is a great place to find sermons and videos to help us stay in contact at this time. [gloriadeilutherankelso.com](http://gloriadeilutherankelso.com)

Christmas Eve Service will be provided by Synod and because they are recorded you can tune in at your leisure on the Gloria Dei website or Facebook. website: [gloriadeilutherankelso.com](http://gloriadeilutherankelso.com)

A quick note on finances. Please plan to have your final offering for the year arrive at the church before **December 30th** to be credited to calendar year 2020. Of course, you all are aware that the financial needs of the Church have not gone away because of the COVID situation. Please contribute as you are able.

Finally, I know that you are all anxious to return to in person service, as am I. With the vaccine on the horizon there is light at the end of the tunnel. Please keep our Church family in your prayers as we continue this journey. If you have any concerns or questions feel free to contact me. 360-430-0273.

Blessings in Peace, Allan Erickson- Council President





1st Boyd Burns

3rd RJ Cruz

3rd Lincoln Demyan

5th Dana Libby

13th Skylar Clark

January

BIRTHDAY

15th Melinda Gapen

19th Amanda Little

20th Cassie Laprade

## Guessing Game Challenge for December

This month's candy contest winner is George Bixby with the guess of 81!!!! George gets a Papa Murphy's pizza gift card. Congratulations!!!! Watch for next months contest on the Gloria Dei Facebook page.



FISH was a great success on Dec. 22nd and 23rd. We fed 67 families for a total of 195 people. Thanks to our fantastic helpers. Next date for FISH are June 1st and 2nd. Happy new Year to all of you!

Mary Carter- FISH Chair

## Online Bible Study

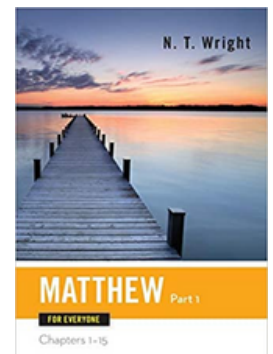
Cathy Halverson is leading a Bible study on the first 15 chapters of Matthew

**When: Tuesdays at 10 am**

**How: Zoom**

**Book: *Matthew for Everyone Part 1* by N.T. Wright**

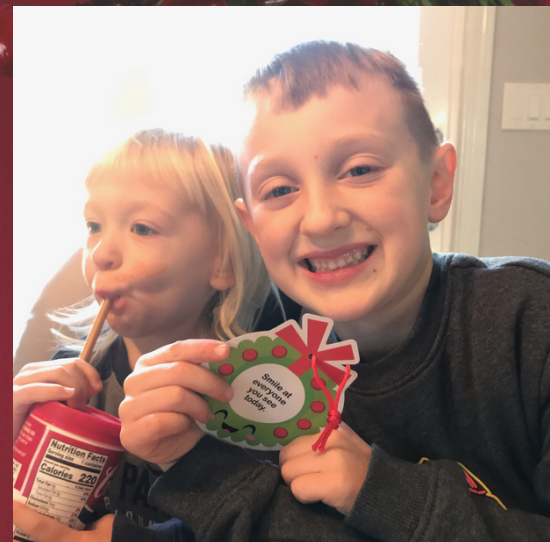
(Cathy can help you set up Zoom and obtain a copy of the book; \$12.19 paperback or \$8 Kindle + tax)





# Celebrating Children

Families, what are your children up to? Send in photos for posting!





**DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES  
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 8, 2020**

**Present:** Boyd Burns, Jackie Erickson, Terri Reichert, Joel Halverson, Candace Kolberg, Candi Engebo, Jocelyn Price, Greg Price, Lydia Brannon-Patterson, and Dana Libby

**Devotions:** Peggy presented the poem Footprints as it has gotten her through tough times, and it feels appropriate with the current issues.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer reported receipts for October of \$8,165, and expenses of \$8,951.86. Terri moved and Joel seconded the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented Jackie moved \$10,000 from savings to checking, to pay for painting, and to ensure coverage of bills.

Money has been received from Continental Investors for Scholarship so a negative no longer shows. Moved telephone service to Comcast. Settlement of Nelson Estate still in process.

**Christian Education:** Porch bags are a great hit. Deborah has volunteered to help with bags for Advent. Added jars for older kids in November to remember their talents, and daily items they are thankful for.

**Property Team:** Church is painted; gutters will be installed this week. Sign in front is still old color, will need to be painted in the future. Greg is aware and will take care of this spring. Doug Engebo has re-done a portion of the top. Doug is aware of other repairs needed and will take care of.

**Worship & Music:** Committee consists of Cheryl, Seth, Cathy and Lydia. The committee meets once a month to determine music for worship. Synod is providing music and scripture readings for Christmas season. Lydia will determine the date to utilize.

**Family Promise Outreach:** Just finished our last host week. There were three families. Two families had just recently joined and one has graduated, and the other is close to graduating. Two weeks still remain open for hosting and Terri suggested that we propose for the weeks to be open to all volunteers to fill. With the static day center, serving dinner is easy, but unable to connect with the families.

**Old Business:**

**Oil Tank:** We received a second bid from Anderson Environmental. Anderson can do the whole thing including the excavation for \$39,332. Terri discussed with Allan, and he advised to proceed with Anderson. Anderson estimated the work would be complete by December 31st. Jackie moved that we accept the Anderson bid of \$39,332 to perform the mitigation on the oil tank. Boyd seconded, and the motion passed without dissent.

**In Person Church Service:** Communion kits have arrived and will be delivered to the office. Jocelyn ordered some velcro strips to use in place of the painters tape.

**Painting of Church:** Painting is completed. Greg noted that an upgrade of paint, painting of front and back doors, and we did not include tax in our approval, which amounted in an overrun.

**New Business:**

**Budget Committee:** New committee of Jackie, Jocelyn, Allan and Terri will meet in November.

**New Council Members:** Dana will complete her second term January 2021, and is ineligible to re-run for a year. Terri, Joel and Jocelyn will end their first term January 2021, and are eligible to run for an additional term. Terri, Jocelyn, Joel are willing to run for a second term. Sue resigned her position, so we will need two new members. will see if Hilary would be willing to participate. Candi has volunteered to take minutes at meetings that Dana is not in attendance. Boyd will talk to Cheryl and Chuck. Jocelyn suggested Seth, she will reach out to him.

**Boy Scout Memo:** Gloria Dei was the Charter for a local troop. We will need to complete the paperwork. Dana and Wes will complete the paperwork by the deadline.

**Christmas Family Adoption:** Boyd moved that we adopt the Hilary Dontmix and Robert Chapman families for Christmas. Terri seconded, and the motion passed without dissent.

**Basement Phone:** Phone is not working. Jackie will check into.

**CHURCH CAMP OUT 2021:** Due to Skamokawa going to on online registration system that allows people to book over a year in advance, I was unable to secure our "normal" weekend. The 2021 camp out will take place August 13-15. I have RV sites, and the Yurtz all reserved until March 1st. Please let me know if you will be able to join us this year. It is always a relaxing weekend, full of fun, food and fellowship!



## Kids porch drop off

Dana, Deborah & Jackie have been having fun keeping the kids focused on Advent and the meaning of Christmas. Deborah started the month off with a porch drop off with a Advent calendar and jar of things to do through Advent. The kids have been enjoying this each day. Two week's later Jackie had a porch drop off "Christmas Box" which included items (cake, frosting, streamers, balloons & more) to celebrate Jesus' birthday. Also, there were projects (games, coloring sheets, stamping items, & more) to do as a family. Then we topped it off with a Zoom cookie decorating time together. Dana made the wonderful cookies that we dropped off with frosting and sprinkles. It was so nice to see the kids decorating and to visit with them. I want to thank all of you members and council for agreeing we keep the porch drops going and allowing us the funds to keep this ministry going. I hope you enjoy the pictures included in this newsletter and the kid videos on our website & Facebook page.

## Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to submit anything to the newsletter please email Wendy at [gloriadeikelso@gmail.com](mailto:gloriadeikelso@gmail.com) by Jan. 25th

We need just a few more to complete this beautiful wall art! If you have a canvas checked out for painting, please paint and return to Jackie as soon as possible 😊



## Financial report

**Dec.: \$9,200.00 Nov.: \$6,790.00 Oct.: \$8,215.00 Sept. :\$10,570.00 Aug.: \$7,490.00  
July: \$5,655.00 June: \$5,575.00 May: \$11,635.00 Apr.: \$8,640.00 March: \$7,084.00  
Feb.: \$7,348.00 Jan.: \$8,249.00  
2020 monthly requirement: \$9,034.00  
YTD 2020: \$96,451.00, \$110,000.00 a year is estimated to cover Church expenses.**



## CHRISTMAS FAMILY ADOPTION

Due to the extreme generosity of our church family we had an enormously successful adoption again this year. We were able to provide a Christmas tree and decorations to the Hilary Dontmix family. Christmas decorations, a tree, clothing, shoes, toys, camping gear, kitchen items, blankets, and wall decor to the Robert Chapman family.

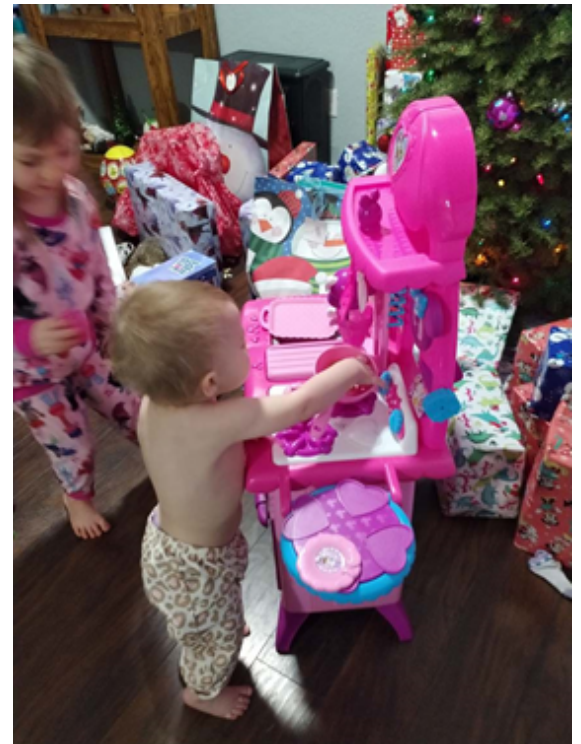
Santa Preparing for Delivery



Chapman Christmas Tree



Sierra and Ana

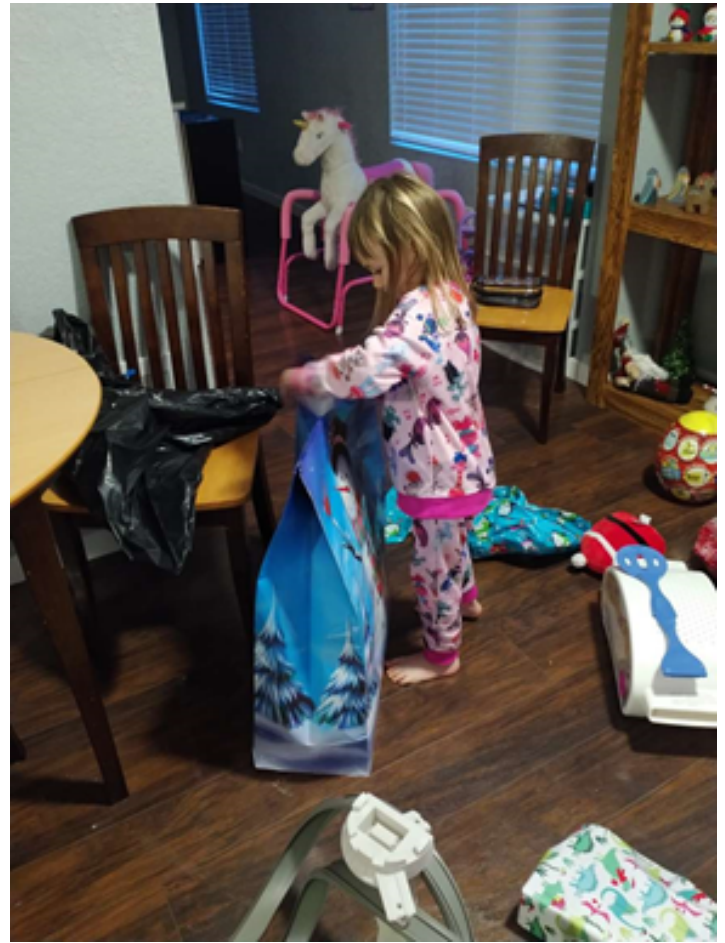




Trenton



Ana



Dontmix Christmas Tree

