Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

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Pianist As Scheduled

Caring Sharing Serving Reaching



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JULY

- 7/06 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost w/HC Celebrated by Guest Pastor Martin Cornes
- 7/13 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost w/HC Celebrated by Pastor Matthew Cephus
- 7/20 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost w/HC Celebrated by Pastor Matthew Cephus
- 7/27 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost w/HC Celebrated by Pastor Matthew Cephus

Bible Studies

Gloria Dei will be taking a short hiatus from weekly Wednesday bible studies. We will resume after Labor Day. Please watch the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletters for updates on exact return dates.



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry – July 2025

Faithfulness: The Stewardship Standard

"Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful" (1 Cor. 4:2).

What is the standard to which a steward is held? Ask the average person, and they might talk about percentages, tithes, and commitments. Too often, the default mode of measuring stewards is by how much and how frequently they give. This is not helpful. Measuring activity without any connection to baptismal identity is a recipe for disaster. It can either breed a sense of superiority and self-righteousness or create a culture of scarcity and despair. Neither outcome is godly or helpful.

This is not to say that stewardship should be regarded as "no big deal." St. Paul, within his discussion of the ministry to which he has been called, sets the standard of accountability for the steward: faithfulness. This removes any sense of superiority or self-righteousness and dispels scarcity and despair. When a steward manages what the Lord has entrusted to them — resources and all aspects of life — for God's purposes, the focus is not on how much or how frequently they give.

This standard reflects the stewardship portrayed in the Gospels where Jesus entrusts varying amounts, each according to ability. The commended stewards were recognized for their faithfulness in their vocation, not the amounts they managed. Conversely, the condemned stewards were not castigated for their lack of performance but for their lack of faithfulness.

What does this mean for the steward in the pew? The Lord has entrusted you with various things. Luther captures them in his explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer. The familiar couplets of food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals and all possessions are the Lord's, and He has entrusted them to you for His purpose. This trust brings an active realization of thanksgiving.

This active thanksgiving is our stewardship. It can be distilled into two questions that the steward regularly needs to answer:

- 1. How has God blessed me?
- 2. How is He calling me to respond?

The first question is quite simple to answer: if the Lord has entrusted something to you, it is a blessing. This blessing is for God's glory and the benefit of your neighbor. The second question is more challenging to measure; it is not about percentages and charts. Instead, it is about a life of thanksgiving that flows from the mercies of God revealed in Jesus Christ. This thanksgiving starts at and flows from the cross and the empty tomb. Our stewardship of the Gospel drives our stewardship of everything else.

The standard, then, is faithfulness. Faithfulness flows from eyes focused on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. It does not come from our efforts but through the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives, through Word and Sacrament. It begins at the altar in the Divine Service but extends into the world — from hearth and home to workplace and classroom, from commerce to leisure. The mercy of God, freely given in Jesus, leads us to demonstrate a faithfulness that reveals to others the same mercy we have received in Jesus.

This faithfulness cannot be measured empirically. It is simply allowing the Holy Spirit to work in and through us for the glory of God and the benefit of our neighbor. Weekly, Daily, Faithfully.

From the Desk of Pastor Matthew Cephus ...

O Praise the Lord, Who Made All Beauty

Many years ago, a choir sang an anthem composed by Hal H. Hopson and is based on a French carol. They sang so beautifully that I have remembered it ever since:

O praise the Lord, who made all beauty,

Whose gifts of the senses we enjoy.

O may we live each day in constant wonder,

To see all of life in simple pleasure.

O praise the Lord, who made all beauty

Sing laude, laudeamus te.

There is a lilting melody that fits the text perfectly, calling us to remember that our creating God "has made everything beautiful its time." (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

As we head into the summer season, we see the beauty of God's glorious creation all around us. In truth, the beauty of what the Lord God has created is always there, but summer brings this out in full measure. As we travel near and far over the summer months, we find beauty at the ocean shore and consider the vastness of the sea that stretches out before us, teeming with all kinds of life. The sound of the waves crashing against the beach, the smell of the salt water — these are soothing to the soul. We also find beauty in the mountains, whether the Appalachians, Great Smokies, Rockies, or other places that show us the handiwork of the Master Artist. The rugged terrain of the mountains with its trees and hidden valleys causes us to stand in awe and wonder.

There are so many places in the world around us that testify to the Lord, who made all beauty. That beauty can be seen in our own backyard where plants and trees, birds and animals, insects and unseen microscopic forms of life, all containing the miracle of life, are witnesses to the Lord God who created them. Just sitting outside on a summer evening as day gives way to night (don't forget the bug spray!), the words of the psalmist ring true in our ears: "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?" (Psalm 8:3-4). Though the psalmist wrote these words thousands of years ago, they are just as true today as when they were first written. When we consider the vastness and complexity of the world around us, both on a macro as well as a micro level, we begin to understand that this is not some happenstance accident that caused all of this to come together in such a beautiful tapestry of life. No, something far deeper and truer is at work here. We cannot but help to do what the words of that beautiful anthem said, namely, to "praise the Lord, who made all beauty."

In the midst of daily life with all of its ups and downs, its demands and challenges, we long for those spaces apart at ocean's shore or mountain's height. We long for space and time to breathe deeply, and so rediscover the wonder, beauty, and joy of God's gift of life. We all need these times away to recharge our batteries; to step away from the everyday routines that at times make us feel boxed in. Without such time away, we become sluggish and weary; we feel depleted. The vibrant colors of life become muted and dull in us. I pray that you will have such time away over the course of this summer so that you can be renewed and refreshed in body, mind, and spirit. And even if a big trip is not in the works for you this summer, please do seek out some space "to see all of life in simple pleasure," as the anthem puts it. That space might be as close as your back porch or deck.

In praising the Lord who made all beauty, we are led to the realization that all of life becomes worship. No longer limited to an hour or so each week on Sunday morning, each and every day – each and every moment! – becomes an opportunity to give thanks and praise to our creating God.

Wishing you a summer filled with constant wonder that you may see all of life in simple pleasure. O praise the Lord who has indeed made all beauty!

Pentecost Sunday Joint Service, June 8























Garage Sale Update

Gloria Dei, once again, participated in the Annual NEighbors Garage Sales. By adding Thursday as an additional sale date, we got a jump start on sales. The sale was held at Mary Piper's garage. A big thank you to Mary for the use of her space! There were so many great donations that the garage was FULL and new items were added daily.

All items sold at the garage sale were donated by members, friends and neighbors.

The items that were not sold were boxed up and donated to local charities and thrift stores. Some of the seasonal items and clothes are being stored to start the "Fall Sale" collection. More to come on that sale!

Despite the rainy weather, the sale raised nearly \$1,900. Fortunately, the rain didn't discourage our shoppers. ©

Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and energy to the success of the garage sale. It was an enormous undertaking! It truly takes a village!

The three-day sale required significant effort from many individuals, who all came together to make the sale a success. Thank you to all the volunteers who generously gave their time and efforts in setting up, pricing, moving items, staging and organizing, moving tables out in the morning and back in in the evening, working the sale, feeding the workers, and for all the donations, whether big or small. Thank you also to all the various neighbors who stopped by to lend a hand and more importantly shop.

The sale was both a successful fundraiser and community event. Many shoppers visited multiple times, finding new treasures each time.

See you in the Fall!



It's Pienie Time!

Mark your calendars to attend the Fourth Annual "Taking it to the Streets" Picnic on July 19

Royal Family along with Gloria Dei's assistance, will host the annual Taking it to the Streets outreach event. All activities will take place outdoors on the church front lawn. Hot dogs and burgers will be on the grill as well as a variety of foods and desserts. There will also be live gospel music, dancing, fun family games and of course, a bouncy house! Plan to bring your friends and family. This FREE event is family-friendly and open to EVERYONE. The festivities begin at 3 pm, so grab a lawn chair and we'll see you there! What a wonderful opportunity to connect with people in the neighborhood and surrounding community and share the love of Jesus Christ.























Free Summer Concerts!

Salo Park Summer Concert Schedule

Thursday evening concerts are back at Salo Park, from 7-8 pm at the Salo Park Amphitheater located on 39th Avenue NE between Silver Lake Road and Stinson Boulevard. In case of inclement weather, the concerts will be cancelled. Visit www.saloparkconcertseries.com by 3 pm the day of the concert for cancellations.

JULY 3 - ST. ANTHONY CIVIC ORCHESTRA

Patriotic and summer pop music from the St. Anthony Civic Orchestra!

JULY 10 - VINNIE ROSE

An Acoustic guitarist and vocalist who covers a wide variety of musical styles. In addition to his own compositions, Vinnie is fluent in the musical stylings of some of the greats.

JULY 17 - ROSE DUFFY backed by PAUL BARRY BLUES BAND

Sax player Rose Duffy, backed by harmonica ace Paul Barry and his Blues Band will play a danceable mix of Chicago and West Coast Jump Blues.

JULY 24 - THE DOUBLE DOWN DAREDEVILS

Bluegrass and Americana music

JULY 31 - THE BACKYARD BAND

The Backyard Band specializes in fun, danceable rock 'n roll and country music drawing on decades of experience playing in rock bands, folk groups, jazz combos and bar ensembles.

Music at Father Hennepin Bluffs Park, Tuesdays from 7 – 8 pm The Park is located at 420 Main Street SF

JULY 1 - Phil Berbig

Phil Berbig will provide an evening of acoustic rock

JULY 8 - Jazz on the Prairie Big Band

Jazz on the Prairie Big Band will perform

JULY 15 - Matt Hannah

Matt Hannah will perform a folk/Americana concert

JULY 22 - Northeast Community Band

The Northeast Community Band will perform a free concert

JULY 29 - Jesse Street Duo

The Jesse Street Duo will give a jazz/pop concert

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Music at Huset Park, 3965 Jefferson Street NE, Wednesdays starting at 6:30 pm

Sonic Love Child

July 2 @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Sonic Love Child concerts are a joyful celebration of American roots and popular music. They spice their varied repertoire of folk, gospel, jazz, vintage country and classic pop tunes with original and local music. Wednesday, July 2, 6:30 pm. Cafe Cairo food truck will also be on hand.

Steve West and the Northern Stars

July 16 @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Steve West and the Northern Stars have been playing popular and classic, family-friendly songs from the '50's through today in the Twin Cities for most of the last two decades. Wednesday, July 16, 6:30 pm. Hada Foodie truck also on hand.

FREE Community Dinner at St. Timothy's | **July** 8 @ 5 pm - 6:30 pm

Join St. Timothy's and the local community on Tuesday, July 8, from 5 pm to 6:30 pm (or until the food is gone) for their drive thru community dinner. All are welcome, so please spread the word!! St. Timothy's Lutheran Church is located at 825 51st Avenue NE, Columbia Heights.

Free Community Meal at Faith United Methodist Church | July 10 @ 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Faith United Methodist Church, 2708 33rd Avenue NE, holds a free Community dinner every second Thursday of the month, 5-6 pm. Everyone is welcome. Upcoming dates are July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov 13 and Dec. 11.

HeightsNEXT 2025 Summer Garden Tour

Friday, July 18, 5-7:30 pm. The tour starts at Blooming Sunshine Food Forest located at Łomianki Park, 80 39th Avenue NE. You will get a map at the Blooming Sunshine Food Forest for the eight home gardens all located in Columbia Heights. Light refreshments will be served at the last stop on the tour, which is free and open to the public. Rain date: If there is a storm, the Garden tour will take place the next day, July 19, 2 pm.

Drop-In Tech Time | Wednesdays from 11:00 AM-12:30 PM (In-person)

If you have a specific tech question and want 1:1 support, please consider stopping by East Side Neighborhood Services Drop-In Tech Time!

They can help with day-to-day questions regarding things like how to search the internet, app functions, making text bigger, etc. It is appreciated if you let them know in advance when you plan on stopping by. If you need support and Wednesdays do not work for you, please feel free to call and they can try to find a different day that works better.

For all drop-in tech support sessions, please gather in the Tech Lounge at East Side Neighborhood Services. There's no cost for this service, but donations are welcome.

For questions and to register, contact 612-787-4086 or *VitalLiving@esns.org.*

In-Person Vital Fitness | Thursdays Weekly | 10:30-11:30 AM

All abilities are encouraged to come. Movements can be done seated or standing. A wide variety of balance, strength, and flexibility movements will be incorporated into this fun and social group class. Masks and physical distancing will be encouraged but not required. No cost. Preregistration is helpful for planning purposes but not required.

Questions? Contact 612-787-4086 or *VitalLiving@esns.org*.

East Side Neighborhood Services is located at 1700 Second Street NE, Minneapolis or by calling 612-781-6011 http://www.esns.org.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 a.m.

Hosted by Rev. Michael Ziegler (unless otherwise noted)

July 6 "A Little Light, Reading" (Job 1:8) Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler The Book of Job is not light reading, but Christians read it in the Light of Christ.

July 13 "Fearless and Endless Growing" (Colossians 1:1-14)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola God's Word grows like a perfect garden, bearing fruit in every season.

July 20 "God's Plan = Jesus" (John 16:33) Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler God's plans for us are not me-centered; they are Christ-centered. Dr. Zeigler talks with "Soul Surfer" author, Bethany Hamilton.

July 27 "Getting the Talk Started" (Luke 11:1) Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler God's Law-talk prepares us for God's Gospel-talk. Author Tim Carter (The Executioner's Redemption) is featured.



JUNE OFFICIAL ACTS NONE

Dial-A-Devotion

There is a new devotion and prayer each day. Call 651-429-0078 and follow the prompts.

Accessible Transportation

East Side Neighborhood Services provides transportation for people 60+ living in North, Northeast, and Southeast Minneapolis and St. Anthony Village. Transportation is available for vaccine, medical, social need, and shopping trips. They are also available for small group outings.

Not sure if you qualify or if your destination is part of our service area? Please call and check. You may be pleasantly surprised. Available: Monday through Friday, 8am - 4pm. To make a reservation, call 612-787-4012. Cost: Suggested donations based on income



Time of Grace

Time of Grace connects people to God's grace his love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don't satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever.

Pastor Mike Novotny

Pastor Mike Novotny has served God's people in full-time ministry since 2007 in Madison and, most recently, at The CORE in Appleton, Wisconsin. He also serves as the lead speaker for Time of Grace, where he shares the good news about Jesus through television, print, and online platforms.

Sundays KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 AM

Subscribe to Time of Grace to be delivered to your email inbox daily. It's easy to subscribe to resources that'll keep you rooted in Jesus. Just select which types of resources you would like to receive and they will be sent right to your inbox www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe

Main Street Living TV Program

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 a.m. on Channel 29/9-2 (On Comcast this is channel 10). The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*, a Lutheran Hour Ministries program made popular in the 60s, 70s, and 80s. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally.

For more information see the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab. For more information or to watch the program, go to mainstreetliving.com.



Special Occasions for Special People



2nd Vicki Henderson 9th Mike Panning 14th Nanc Rixe

28th Jason Matasovsky

JULY SERVANTS								
Elder: Karmon Christopherson								
Ushers	Counters							
6 th 13 th 20 th 27 th	6 th Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli 13 th Tom and Patty Lyrenmann 20 th Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather 27 th Sandy Westling and Tom Harris							
Eternal Light	Flowers							
6 th 13 th 20 th 27 th	6 th 13 th 20 th 27 th							

If you sign up for flowers or candles after the newsletter is published, please let the Office know. We want to make sure that flowers are ordered and you are properly acknowledged in the announcement.

July 2025								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	NOTE: Bible Study will be taking the summer off, no classes in July or August	1	2	3	4 4th of July Church Office Closed 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	5 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night		
6 Fifth Sunday a. Pentecost 10 am Worship w/HC w/ Guest Pastor Martin Cornes 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	7 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs)	8	9	10	5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night		
13 Sixth Sunday a. Pentecost 10 am Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs)	5 – 7 pm GDLC Council Meeting	16	17	18 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	19 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 3 – 8 pm Third Annual Taking it to the Streets 4 – 5 pm Living Word Board Meeting 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night		
20 Seventh Sunday a. Pentecost 10 am Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs)	22	23	24	25 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	26 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night		
27 Eighth Sunday a. Pentecost 10 am Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA Newsletter Deadline	Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs)	29	30	31	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418 Ph: 612-781-1989			





THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS — JULY 1-15

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) School Ministry serves as a national voice for Lutheran schools, upholding the standards of Christ-centered schools that are academically strong and respectfully operated. Nationwide, there are 1,992 LCMS schools, which include 1,127 early childhood centers, 778 elementary schools and 87 high schools.

Remember God's work in Lutheran schools as you pray:

- **1.** for the children attending Lutheran schools, that their eyes, ears, hearts and minds would be open to God's Word.
- 2. for Lutheran school teachers, that they would correctly divide and deliver Law and Gospel to students through real-life applications each day.
- **3.** for Lutheran school principals, who lead people to passionately embrace the witness our schools provide to the community. Pray that pastors, principals, directors and teachers would work together in Godpleasing unity.

- **4.** for pastors, who champion the Kingdom work happening in our schools. Pray that pastors would be excited to be an integral part of their school's ministry and the teaching of the children.
- 5. for the ability of Lutheran schools to serve every child in their care. Ask that the Lord would provide the means to help schools serve children who have disabilities, who have experienced trauma or who come from families with limited resources.
- 6. for Lutheran schools that are struggling to fill empty seats. Pray that God would revitalize their ministries, energize their staff members and bring more children through their doors.

- **7.** for parents who support our Lutheran schools with their time, talents and treasures. Give thanks for their dedication to the mission of the school.
- 8. for daily opportunities for our teachers and staff to show God's mercy, love and forgiveness both inside and outside of the classroom. Pray that God would maintain our ability to practice our faith in Lutheran schools.
- **9.** for church members who tell the story of their Lutheran school, that their recommendation might lead more students through the school's doors.
- 10. for the many non-Christians and exchange students who are coming to our schools. Pray that God would work through the Gospel that they will have faith in Jesus.

- **11.** for first-year teachers, that they may apply their gifts to demonstrate grace and mercy. Pray that God would give them strength and patience.
- **12.** for our early childhood centers that introduce young families to the saving love of Jesus. Pray that they are a faithful witness to the littlest of God's children and their families.
- **13.** for courageous Lutheran schools willing to take calculated risks that will result in significant rewards for students. Give the leaders of these schools wisdom in their decisions.
- **14.** for comfort and healing for school faculty and students during times of injury, illness and loss.
- **15.** for God to raise up wise and gifted leaders who are willing to serve in administrative roles at Lutheran schools.

JULY Pray For Us Calendar

CAMPUS MINISTRY — JULY 16-31

The challenges to Christians on our nation's college campuses are increasing exponentially. On practically every campus, objections are increasing to the biblical worldview, Christian doctrine, traditional ethics and moral practices. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) campus-ministry arm, LCMS U, aims to encourage, support and help students, faculty and staff in their response to these challenges so they can boldly bear witness to Christ.

Remember God's work through LCMS U as you pray:

- **16.** for the 200-plus LCMS U chapters around the country, that they would receive the support they need to effectively reach out to America's college students.
- 17. that more congregations and individuals would become involved with their local LCMS U chapters or start new ones.
- **18.** for the growth of LCMS U on urban campuses and at community colleges, two fertile mission fields. Pray that the Lord would open doors to the spread of His Word in these places.
- **19.** for all the dedicated staff and volunteers involved in campus ministry, that God would energize them for their work and use them to plant seeds of faith that will continue to grow.
- **20.** for students starting their first year of college, that they would find a church to attend.

Christian friends and make good decisions while living away from home for the first time.

- **21.** for the parents of college students, especially those who have an empty nest for the first time. Pray that they would find joy and contentment in the midst of life's changes.
- **22.** that Lutheran college students would be bold witnesses to their faith in Jesus Christ, even when faced with pressure from peers and professors.
- 23. that young people would hunger for the certain truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and not be deceived by the half-truths and lies of Satan.
- 24. for the 800,000-plus foreign students studying at American colleges and universities. Many come from countries where the Gospel is not freely preached. Pray that their time in the U.S. would provide the opportunity for them to learn about Jesus.





- **25.** for the international students who came to faith while studying abroad. Ask the Lord to provide support so that they can continue to grow in their faith after they return home.
- **26.** for busy college students, who are pulled in many directions with the demands of school, work, friends, family and other activities. Pray that they would make God a priority by setting aside time for worship, Bible study and Christian service.
- **27.** for the development of campus-ministry programs at institutions of higher education around the world.
- **28.** that God would bless and guide the work of all students

involved in mission work and volunteer opportunities both at home and abroad. Pray that this time would be a blessing to them and others.

- **29.** with thanksgiving for a new school year. Pray that students and campus-ministry workers would return refreshed and with renewed dedication.
- **30.** for recent college graduates, that they would find gainful employment as well as a church home where they can learn about God's holy Word in all of its truth and purity.
- **31.** for all students, that God would protect them and provide people to share with them the Word of God.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

