

# DEI TO DAY

VOLUME 26 | ISSUE 4

## Volunteers Needed Many Opportunities

See the kiosk or speak with the office for how you can help!

Youth Ministry  
Updates  
Page 2

2026 Bus Trip  
see page 4

## Creative Arts Sale

April 24<sup>th</sup> | 4 - 8 pm  
April 25<sup>th</sup> | 8 am - 4 pm

## "COUNCIL CORNER"

Get inspired by the vision and direction of the Church Council and stay in the know about new opportunities  
Page 5

## Easter Worship

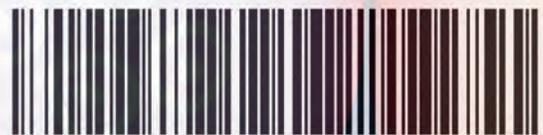
\*No Worship on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

Maundy Thursday, 4/2/26:  
10:30 am Worship followed by a lunch in the fellowship hall & 6 pm Living Last Supper

Good Friday, 4/3/26  
1:30 pm Worship  
6 pm Worship

Easter Sunday, 4/5/26  
6 am, 8 am, 10:30 am Worship

2026



[www.gloriadeitomah.com](http://www.gloriadeitomah.com)



Owen Rice, Andrew and Dylan Hart working on snow cleanup during Soup Supper on March 18<sup>th</sup>



# Rooted & Rising

*“Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.” -1 Timothy 4:12*

On Palm Sunday, we recognized students celebrating their First Communion. God's blessings to Olivia Kelly and Ava Vandervort on taking this next step in their faith journey!

Reminder to Confirmation students that there will be no class on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> for Holy Week. May 13<sup>th</sup> will be the last week of the class.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the date! Vacation Bible School will be held on August 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 - 7:15 pm with a meal served beforehand.

## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILE PACK

Feed My Starving Children's Mobile Food Pack is returning to Tomah on August 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026. See Jackie Kiel or Pastor Kay for more information.

Olivia Kelly & Ava Vandervort make Communion Bread with Education Director, Jackie Kiel





We held a General meeting on March 10th. We gathered for a pot luck lunch and short business meeting. Thank you to Rebekah/Ruth circle for being hostess.

\*We discussed the Ash Wednesday breakfast and Lenten meal.

\*Esther/Rachel will be Hostess for our Mother's Day breakfast on May 9th at 9:30am. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the kiosk.

\*Kitchen update on counter tops and 2 new sinks: replacement will take place after Easter.

\*Sharon and Cyndy gave us an update on the Creative Arts Sale for April 24th & 25th (see pg. 7).

\*We will have cinnamon rolls for Father's Day coffee hour on June 21st.

\*Looking ahead to fall, we are going to plan a Heritage Meal for Gloria Dei's 80th Anniversary. (We are waiting on the Packer schedule, ha!)

\*Our next General meeting will be September 8th at noon. Dorcas circle will be hostess.

## LWR Baby Care Kits

- 2 Lightweight cotton t-shirts (No Onsies)
- 2 gowns or sleepers (without feet) or top/pants sets
- 2 Receiving Blankets, medium weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted/knitted, 36" - 52" square
- 4 cloth diapers and 2 diaper or lg safety pins
- 1 jacket, sweater, or sweatshirt with a hood (or include a baby cap)
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- 2 bath size bars of gentle soap, in original packaging (no mini or hotel-sized)

\*Sizes 6 - 24 months may be used, and sizes can be mixed in each kit to allow for growth. Gently used, clean items are also ok. No patriotic or religious messages.

**AS A COMMUNITY OF WOMEN, CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD, CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP IN JESUS CHRIST, AND EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO GROWTH IN FAITH, AFFIRM OUR GIFTS, SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER IN OUR CALLINGS, ENGAGE IN MINISTRY AND ACTION, AND PROMOTE HEALING AND WHOLENESS IN THE CHURCH, THE SOCIETY, AND THE WORLD.**



# BRANSON & EUREKA SPRINGS

JUNE

8 - 13

Explore the beauty of Branson & Eureka Springs. We will tour the Thorn Crown Chapel, see the Great Passion Play, visit the Showboat Branson Belle, see the play 'David', go see the Presley's Country Jubilee, visit Dogwood Canyon for a tram ride, and much more.

Pricing Per Person:

**\$1650/single**

**\$1275/double**

**\$1100/triple**

**\$1000/quad**

Package Starts

**6 Days  
5 Night**

**\$1275.00**

/per person

for double occupancy

- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Hotel Accommodation
- ✓ One Lunch
- ✓ Two Dinners
- ✓ Morning Breakfast
- ✓ Tickets

**Deadline: May 1<sup>st</sup>**

JAG Tours, Inc. | Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

As Lent comes to a close and we celebrate Easter, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made the Wednesday night services such a wonderful/spiritual experience. Also a special thank you to all the groups who made the Wednesday night meals possible.

The new church pews project is still on schedule to happen this summer and some people have been wondering "what will happen to the old pews"? The committee has a couple of organizations that have shown interest in some of them and a few members also have inquired about getting one, so if you are interested or you know anyone who might be interested in them, please contact John Tessmann.

I know there has been talk about a new church directory as it has been 4 years since the last one, so at the council meeting, approval was given to go ahead. We will be going forward to make that happen sometime this year, more to follow as we work out the details. If there is anyone willing to help with this project please contact me or any of the council members.

I would like to invite anyone who may have a question or concern for the council to send it to me at [billreneau49@gmail.com](mailto:billreneau49@gmail.com) and I will get back to you with an answer. Just remember that if you have a question or concern others may be wondering the same thing! There are "NO DUMB" questions!

Wishing Everyone a Blessed Easter  
-Bill Reneau, Council President



[www.gloriadeitomah.com](http://www.gloriadeitomah.com)

**CONNECT.  
GROW.  
SERVE.**

## Treasurer's Report

### February 2026 Income & Expenses

Income.....	\$45,234.23
YTD Income.....	\$96,190.34
Expenses .....	\$41,892.98
YTD Expenses.....	\$82,472.26



# **BLOSSOM BOLDLY**

**Thank you for decorating our  
Sanctuary with Easter Flowers**

- **Sue Waege/McClelland Children in memory of Donald & Joanne McClelland**
- **Joyce Wagner in memory of Gary Wagner**
- **Duane Zingler in honor of grandchildren and great-grandchildren**
- **Gary & MaryAnn Grovesteen in memory of Matthew Grovesteen**
- **William Wright & Monika Jacobs in memory of their parents**
- **Keith & Paula Laugen in honor of their 7 grandchildren**
- **John & Jane Tessmann in memory of their loved ones and in honor of Poppy & Eliose (grandchildren)**
- **Kari Johnson in memory and in honor of loved ones**
- **Helen Knutson in memory of Harold and in honor of her family**
- **David E. Olson in memory of Bobbie Olson and Edward & Elizabeth Olson, Dale & Mary Johnson**
- **Greg & Kathy Steinmetz in memory of their parents**
- **Evanell Johnson in memory of loved ones and in honor of Mark & Suzy and Kevin & Kari**
- **Laura Clay and the Robertson Family in memory of Dale Clay, Margaret & Alva Robertson, and Larry Robertson**
- **Tom & Cindy Eder in memory of family that have passed and in honor of their children/grand & great grandchildren**
- **Liane Cummins in memory of John T. Cummins & Denise Stice**
- **Al & Julia Forde in memory of their parents and in honor of their children**
- **Sharon Anderson in memory of John Anderson**
- **Annette Owen in memory of Dewey**
- **Diane & Jim Garvin in honor of their 4 granddaughters**



# Save the Date! La Crosse Area Operation Christmas Child Celebration Event



**Saturday April 18th, 2026 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Olivet Lutheran Church,  
2100 Bainbridge St, La Crosse, WI**

In 2025: 12,205,900 shoeboxes/gospel opportunities were packed globally... 10,468 shoeboxes/gospel opportunities were sent from the La Crosse Area...

Join us as we celebrate what God has done! Come together for worship, prayer and thanksgiving, news and updates, fun and fellowship. Enjoy good food, share stories, and hear how God is taking the Gospel to the ends of the earth. We can't wait to see you there!

This is an event open to all volunteers and to anyone interested in learning more about Operation Christmas Child!

RSVP to [juliewanke37@gmail.com](mailto:juliewanke37@gmail.com) (608) 797-4311

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." Colossians 3:23-24, ESV

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## CREATIVE ARTS SALE UPDATE

You may start bringing your contribution of items to the church on April 1<sup>st</sup> and may do so through the morning of April 24<sup>th</sup>. Baked goods you may bring in on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the morning of the 24<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to everyone's contribution to the Creative Arts Sale. Funds earned will go to the Fix It Fund.

We also hope to see you on the evening of April 24<sup>th</sup> from 4 - 8 pm where we are planning some lessons on a variety of crafts as well as creations available. The full day on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8 am - 4 pm will give you the opportunity to purchase items from the many creations made by the Gloria Dei congregation. Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> you will also have the option to buy a delicious lunch as well as take home goodies from the Bake Sale. There will be a silent auction on a few items we are receiving.

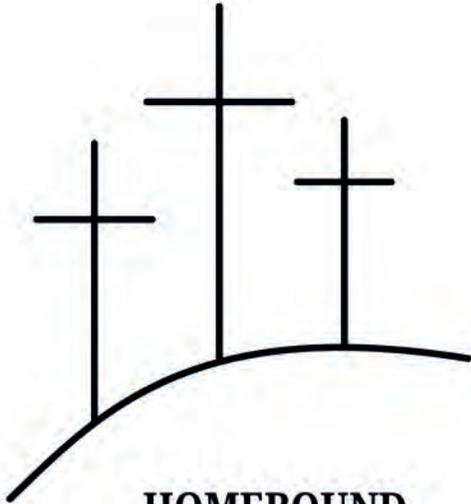
Thanks to all who are contributing to this congregational effort and those who will walk through the doors on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> to find a treasure or a useful item to take home. Advertising is out there, but your voice or any manner of inviting people to come is a positive and helpful advertising tool so please spread the word. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Sharon Anderson, Cyndy Hall, Ruth Stoner, Lynda Frye, Gloria Aarness, or Kari Curran.

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

On March 18th, we served a Lenten Meal. The meals have had such a great response this year! We are looking ahead to High School Senior Sunday for coffee hour and a lunch.

## FAMILY CONNECTIONS

We connected with our post high school graduates with an Easter card and greeting.



## HOMEBOUND

**Care Center:** Susan Kammerer & Velma Lutz  
**Close to Home:** Sharon Jensen & Wanda Baker  
**Sunset Ridge:** Laurie Olson  
**Liberty Village:** P.T. Melby  
**Morrow Home:** Cherlyn Moseley  
**LaCrosse, WI:** TJ Waege  
**West Salem, WI:** Flo Lloyd  
**Cranberry Court:** Patricia Olson  
**At Home:** Victor Burnstad

**The February Giving Jar  
donated \$679 to Bluff &  
Ridge Equine Assistance  
thanks to your generosity.**



The annual Mother's Day breakfast will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 9:30 am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### **Thank You to Our Volunteer Leaders:**

- **Ruth Stoner (Hospitality)**
- **Jim Grilley (Safety)**
- **Bill Reneau (Readers)**
- **Jane Tessmann (Communion)**
- **Linda Frye (Care Ministry)**
- **Jackie Kiel (Acolytes)**
- **Sue Waege (Coffee Hour)**



# MISSIONS UPDATE



Our Giving Jar for April 2026 will be The Caring Closet Inc., which Gloria Dei's congregation has supported for several years. Caring Closet is a non-profit organization that helps foster care families and works with different agencies within Monroe County. They now have a beautiful space in Tomah, where foster parents, agencies, schools, and local families can come for support. The center includes visit rooms, a sensory room, a cozy reading space, a stocked kitchen, and a large resource area filled with essentials for children. Families can access clothing, shoes, winter gear, bedding, furniture, infant items, toys, diapers, wipes, and so much more. Caring Closet is more than just supplies. It's about creating comfort and dignity for children going through some of the hardest moments of their lives. Every donation helps to continue providing essentials, support, and hope to children and families in our community.

**Faith in Action of Monroe County** currently needs volunteers! Specifically people able to help drive clients to doctor appointments, and, when spring arrives, people able to help with spring yard work. These volunteers would be called as needed. They are also looking for people to serve on the Executive Board, which meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 5:00 PM. And, of course, monetary donations. Please e-mail [faithinaction0939@gmail.com](mailto:faithinaction0939@gmail.com) or call 608-372-0939 on Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Faith In Action now has an office in the basement of Gloria Dei Church.

**Family Promise** is currently requesting these items: towels, pillow cases, toilet paper and paper towels. Please place donations in the designated box by the LWR donation shelf in the gathering area. Thank you!

And a Big Thank You to Renee Stroh, Martha Airth-Kindree, and Rebecca Deist for visiting Gloria Dei in February, and sharing about their program, **Bluff & Ridge Equine Assisted Therapies Inc.** The program serves individuals of all ages, and it helps improve balance, dexterity, communications and relationship skills. It offers joy, anxiety reduction, and a sense of calm. In Renee's words, "I believe God can use his creation, including animals, to bring healing, confidence, and hope to those who need it."

Please pray for all of our mission ministry partners. If you have Thrivent Choice dollars, please designate them. Caring Closet is an option for Thrivent Choice. Our next meeting of the Missions Ministry Committee will be on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 pm. The following meetings will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in joining us, we'd be pleased to welcome you. Please inform Colleen Bolchen or Pastor Dave.

**8:00 AM**

Usher/Greeter  
(Hospitality)

Jason & Mandi  
Reiman

**10:30 AM**

Keith & Paula  
Laugen

Acolytes

**8:00 AM**

4/5 - See Jackie Kiel  
4/12 - Dylan Hart  
4/19 - Sam Grilley  
4/26 - Cayden Conzemius

Tech Booth

Sign Up to help in  
the tech booth  
today!

**10:30 AM**

4/5 - See Jackie Kiel  
4/12 - Emilee Scholz  
4/19 - Mark Hall  
4/26 - Natalie Winchell

Communion Assistants

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM**

4/5 -	
6am: Bill & Shelly Pieper	Glenna Rice Jane Tessmann
8am: Sue Waege & Linda Niebuhr	
4/19 -	
Cheryl Schuster Joyce Thurow	Sharon Anderson Trina Bakken

Altar Guild

Laurie Lawrence  
Sue Waege  
Cheryl Schuster

Readers

**8:00 AM**

4/5 -  
6am: Bill Reneau  
8am: Ken Kuhn  
4/12 - Brian Knight  
4/19 - Scott Conzemius  
4/26 - Bill Reneau

Safety Team

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM**

4/5 - Dave Olson	Jim Grilley
4/12 - Bill Wright	Lenny Bakken
4/19 - Bruce Aarness	David C. Hall
4/26 - Clint Niebuhr	Tom Curran

**10:30 AM**

4/5 - Ethan Habeck  
4/12 - Brian Knight  
4/19 - Colleen Bolchen  
4/26 - Kate Mathison





# MESSAGE *for all* CONGREGANTS

*3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)*

It's almost Easter!!! It's time to buy malted milk eggs and Peeps! . . . But wait. . . Isn't there more to Easter than great candy?

The resurrection of Jesus is really important. It's easy to say that "Jesus died for my sins through his death on the cross." Thank God—that is true! But there is more!

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 makes it clear that what is of first importance is "that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures." Did you catch it? The whole Gospel has two main parts: Through the death of Christ, the price of our sins has been paid. And by His resurrection, we have been delivered out of our bondage to sin, the fear of death and the power of the devil. We have been transferred from darkness into God's light. Jesus' death and His resurrection is what saves us.

Think of Easter eggs. Eggs remind me of an oval. . . Okay, eggs aren't ovals but humor me. In geometry, a circle has one focus point, and everything extends out from that. But an oval has two focus points.

This is the Good News of Easter! Like the shape of an egg – I mean an oval – drawn from two focus points: Jesus died **AND** was raised.

We have been crucified with Christ – our old life is gone and our sins are forgiven. **AND**, we have been raised up with Christ – Christ now lives in us, we have new life in him. This is Paul's personal confession, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

That is to say that there's a deeper significance of Easter eggs. . . When you do the geometry, you're able to see two focus points: that Jesus' death on the cross was for you **AND** so is His resurrection. His death put to death your old self **AND** His resurrection has raised you to new life and opened the door for you to share in His presence and walk in His power to enjoy His company, to share His love, to stand for truth and resist evil for the sake of saving the human race until He fully brings us into His kingdom.

Let's live in the truth of Jesus crucified **AND** risen. Let us Keep and Live the Faith!

*Pastor Dave Dahl*

What a month March has been!

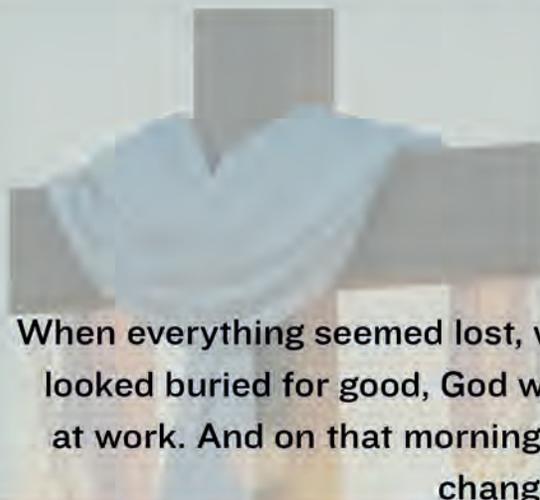
That blizzard was one for the record books. Many of us were stuck at home, digging out (and digging out again), checking on neighbors, and just trying to get through the day. It was exhausting - and at times, honestly, a little overwhelming. But even in the middle of it all, there were glimpses of grace: people showing up for each other and reminding one another, "You're not alone." Now things are starting to shift. The snow piles are melting, the days are getting longer, and you can almost feel spring trying to break through. And right in the middle of this transition comes a powerful word from God: "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs

up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19) That verse hits differently this time of year. After winter, it can be hard to imagine anything "springing up." We get used to the cold, the gray, the heaviness. We start to expect more of the same. But God says: Look again. Pay attention. Something new is already beginning.

Not someday. Not far off. Now it springs up. Maybe that "new thing" looks like small signs of life returning outside your window. Maybe it's a renewed sense of connection after helping each other through the storm. Maybe it's a quiet stirring of hope you didn't expect to feel yet. And maybe - just maybe - it's God doing something new in you.

That's what makes this so fitting as we head toward Easter on April 5th. Easter is the ultimate "new thing."

# Glimpses of Grace



When everything seemed lost, when hope looked buried for good, God was already at work. And on that morning, the world changed forever.

As Scripture tells us, "He is not here; He has risen!" (Luke 24:6). Resurrection isn't just something that happened once. It's something God keeps doing—bringing life out of death, hope out of despair, and new beginnings out of the places we thought were finished.

So as we move into April, I want to invite you to hold onto that question from Isaiah: Do you not perceive it? ... Where do you see signs of new life? Where might God be at work in ways you didn't expect? What is beginning to "spring up" in your own life?

Let's step into this season together with open eyes and open hearts. The snow is melting. New life is on the way. And Easter is coming.



# A P R I L

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 1 pm Book Club & Missions Meeting  5:30 pm Dress Rehearsal Living Last Supper  <i>No Worship or Confirmation Class tonight</i>	2 10:30 am Worship, lunch to follow  1:30 pm Miriam Circle  6 pm The Living Last Supper live production  MAUNDY THURSDAY	3 1:30 pm Worship  6 pm Worship    GOOD FRIDAY	4 PREPARE YOUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP. READ:  Colossians 3:1-4 & Matthew 28:1-10
5 6 am Easter Sunrise Service  8 am & 10:30 am Easter Worship  9:30 am Coffee Hour  12:30 pm Liberty Village Worship	6 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave  4:30 pm Foundation Meeting  6:00 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	7 8 am Quilting Group  9 am Prayer Meeting & EBS  5:30 pm Worship Planning Committee  6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall	8 6 pm Worship  6:45 pm Confirmation Class  7 pm Dorcas Circle	9 1 pm Esther-Rachel and Sarah Circles	10	11 PREPARE YOUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP. READ:  Acts 5:29 & John 20:19-31
12 8 am & 10:30 am Worship  9:15 am Education Hour & Youth Bible Study  9:30 am Coffee Hour  12:30 pm Liberty Village Worship	13 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave  6:00 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	14 8 am Quilting Group  9 am Prayer Meeting & EBS & Rebekah-Ruth  6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall  7 pm Council Meeting	15 6 pm Worship  6:45 pm Confirmation Class    TAX DAY	16	17	18 9 am Council Retreat  PREPARE YOUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP. READ:  Acts 2:14a, 36-41 & Luke 24:13-35
19 8 am & 10:30 am Worship  9:15 am Education Hour & Youth Bible Study  9:30 am Coffee Hour  12:30 pm Liberty Village Worship  COMMUNION	20 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave  10 am History Committee ( <i>Open to new members!</i> )  6:00 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	21 8 am Quilting Group  9 am Prayer Meeting & EBS  6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall	22 1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting  6 pm Worship  6:45 pm Confirmation Class	23	24 Creative Arts Sale, 4-8 pm	25 Creative Arts Sale, 8 am-4 pm  PREPARE YOUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP. READ:  Acts 2:42-47 & John 10:1-10
26 8 am & 10:30 am Worship  9:15 am Education Hour & Youth Bible Study  9:30 am Coffee Hour  12:30 pm Liberty Village Worship	27 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave  6:00 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	28 8 am Quilting Group  9 am Prayer Meeting & EBS  6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall	29 6 pm Worship  6:45 pm Confirmation Class	30		

### GLORIA DEI STAFF

David Dahl, Senior Pastor	608-387-5451	Pastordave@gloriadeitomah.com
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Jody Kiel, Treasurer		treasurer@gloriadeitomah.com
Deb Rice, Worship Leader		

### GLORIA DEI COUNCIL

- *Bill Reneau (President)*
- *Jim Grilley (Vice-President)*
- *Jane Tessmann (Secretary)*
- *David O. Hall*
- *Ethan Habeck*
- *Karen Rezin*
- *Greta Rice*
- *Shelly Griffin*
- *Glenna Rice*
- *Jody Kiel (Treasurer)*



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