

DEI TO DAY

VOLUME 26 | ISSUE 8

Feed My Starving Children

Mobile Pack | 8/14 - 8/15

Youth Ministry
Updates
Page 2

Vacation Bible School

Rock and Roll!

August 2 - 5 | 5 pm - 7:15 pm

"COUNCIL CORNER"

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

August Giving Jar

Page 7

Red Cross Blood Drive

August 31st | 9 am - 3 pm
visit www.redcrossblood.org to make an appointment

2026

From the Pastors

Pages 9 - 10



www.gloriadeitomah.com

GLORIA DEI YOUTH PAGE

"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

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

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



While you are back to school shopping, please consider buying an extra item to donate to LWR kits (see the list on page 3) and Operation Christmas Child boxes. Thank you!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the date! Vacation Bible School will be held on August 2nd - 5th from 5:00 - 7:15 pm. A light meal will be served at 5 pm, with the program beginning at 5:30 pm.

We would like to thank all of the volunteers who have helped make this event possible for the children of Gloria Dei. This year's theme is "Rock and Roll". When you drop your children off at church, please be mindful that there will be road construction on West Elizabeth and Schaller streets, so use caution when parking. Thank you.



Our next General meeting will be September 8th at 12:00 pm with a Potluck and a short business meeting. Dorcas Circle will be Hostess.

In October we will hold elections for President and Secretary.

We are collecting school supplies for LWR kits. See the list below for specific items. You can leave your donations in the totes in the Fellowship Hall.

LWR School Kits

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10.5", no loose leaf paper
- One 30 centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One pair of blunt scissors
- Five unsharpened, #2 pencils with erasers; secure with a rubber band
- Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink), secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2.5" eraser
- Pack all items in the specified backpack

**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.**



Christmas In July with The Salvation Army

From June 29 to July 4, Gloria Dei and several local businesses joined in a campaign to raise funds for our community's social services. Together, we collected \$4,800 through the Red Kettles and direct donations to Families First from local businesses. This effort wouldn't have been possible without your support, and we're truly grateful for your participation!



#DoingTheMostGood

We wish to thank all of the volunteers who rang the bells, collected and counted the donations, and the parade volunteers who helped make this possible. We pray that we can continue this momentum into the Christmas Campaign. 80% of funds raised remain in Monroe County.

Thank you to Keene's Transfer, Taphouse Twenty, Murrays on Main, Hair Gallery, Hiawatha Golf Course, Tammy's Plate, Mandi's Cafe, Stroh's Barber Shop, Culvers, Walmart and Walmart DC, Toro, Hansens IGA, Cardinal Glass, The Breakroom, CCF Bank, Brick and Bean, and Kindness Community Inc. for their participation and donations.

www.gloriadeitomah.com

COUNCIL

Corner

It has been a busy summer, hard to believe it is coming to an end already!

The new Church Pew project in the Sanctuary is complete and looks amazing. Other things that happened are: the 4th of July parade, the Grand National Tractor pull, Monroe County Fair, and the VA Independence Day celebration. The church council would like to thank everyone who volunteered for all of these special events. Your help was very much appreciated and supports our local community.

Just a quick update on the bathrooms by the Sanctuary: The council voted at the July meeting to go ahead and install automatic push-button openers in order to make both of the them Handicap accessible.

The Red Cross will be holding a Blood Drive on August 31st here at Gloria Dei, so please consider supporting that if you are willing and able.

As a reminder, September 6th will be the last Sunday for only one service as we will go back to the normal services of 8:00 and 10:30 on September 13th.
Connect Grow Service

-Submitted by Bill Reneau, Council President

thank you

The Church Directory photo sessions are complete. Thank you to all who took the time and energy to make our directory as complete as possible. It is such an asset in so many ways for the congregation at present and new members joining our congregation. The completion steps are in progress and as soon as we get our copies, those who had their pictures taken will receive their free directory. They will be available for \$10 if you choose not to have your picture taken, but would like a directory. The committee thanks you for your cooperation in this effort to have an awesome directory.

-Sharon Anderson, Gloria Aarness, & Linda Frye

www.gloriadeitomah.com

**CONNECT.
GROW.
SERVE.**

Treasurer's Report

June 2026 Income & Expenses

Income.....	\$36,849.98
YTD Income.....	\$233,193.82
Expenses	\$38,877.37
YTD Expenses.....	\$233,755.29

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

We are looking into having a Heritage Meal this Fall to celebrate Gloria Dei's 80th birthday!

We will be serving a Community Meal on August 3rd at the Masonic Temple.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Thank you from Lyam Eno! His Faith project collected over \$700.00 in donations for Compassion International. That amount will purchase a goat, a pig, and chickens for families!

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 June Giving Jar
donated \$741 to "He
Knows Your Name" and
\$471 to "WI Nurses Honor
Guard" thanks to your
generosity.**

A message from Marilyn Kernall:
When calling her about the directory, she wanted to express this to the congregation: "We loved the church and loved the people! It was a wonderful community while we lived in Tomah!"

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)**
- **Rick & Annette Eagen (Tech)**

STEPPIN' OUT IN PINK

The August Giving Jar will go to Steppin' Out in Pink, a non-competitive, 4.5-mile walk open to participants of all ages and abilities, held annually in downtown La Crosse, Wisconsin. The event transforms the city into a vibrant celebration of breast cancer awareness, featuring a Survivor Social, live entertainment, a local vendor market, and community activities. The proceeds go to breast cancer research and patient support.

Your Support.....

- **Fuels the work of research and care teams at Emplify Health by Gundersen year-round**
- **Supports Paula's Purse which directly helps breast cancer patients with expenses**
- **Helped purchase three 3D Mammography units for area clinics in the past three years.**
- **Allows Dr. Kenny & his team of researchers to tailor treatments to each patient's unique genes and offering new hope.**



Usher/Greeter (Hospitality)

9:00 AM

**Laura Clay
Sharon Anderson**

August

Acolytes

9:00 AM

**8/2/26 - Cayden Conzemius
8/9/26 - Dylan Hart
8/16/26 - Hadley Steele
8/23/26 - Natalie Winchel
8/30/26 - Sam Grilley**

Communion Assistants

9:00 AM

**8/2/26 -
Karen Sheets
Lisa Stefanski**

**8/16/26 -
Ruth Stoner
Laura Clay**



Altar Guild

**Deb Rice
Karen Sheets**

Safety Team

9:00 AM

**8/2/26 - Louis Lawrence
8/9/26 - Jay Gerke
8/16/26 - Lenny Bakken
8/23/26 - Dave Lawrence
8/30/26 - John Lawrence**



Readers

9:00 AM

**8/2/26 - Brian Knight
8/9/26 - Jen Conzemius
8/16/26 - John Tessmann
8/23/26 - Kate Mathison
8/30/26 - Sarah Rezin**

Tech Booth

**Sign Up to help in
the tech booth
today!**



Keep and Live the Faith! -Pr Dave Dahl

25 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen. (Romans 16:25-27)

On July 11th of this year, we celebrated the anniversary of our chartering as a church. We are walking into our 80th year as a family of faith!

In the above Scripture passage, Paul points us to the glory and beauty of God. Even in the midst of beatings and imprisonments, Paul experienced the amazing Glory of God.

Paul unfolded all of the ways this is taking place -

- that in Jesus Christ, God is showing the Jews that He is faithful to fulfill every promise to their forefathers,
- and in Jesus, God is showing the Gentiles - of which we are a part - that He is drawing those farthest from Him into His kingdom, being generous in mercy and claiming them as His children.

Therefore God is bringing together the Jews - to whom He gave His promises and the Gentiles - those who are objects of His mercy, into the family of His unconquerable kingdom where we do not live by the lies the culture tells, where men and women know who they are in Christ, who raise their children to look to their Creator in discovering who they are, and where the strong are to deal gently with the weak. Glory be to God. The result is salvation and shalom - wholeness. Whole people, whole families, whole communities - to the Glory of God. "Gloria Dei" means "Glory to God". Our name reflects the attitude that is at our foundation. Christ is our cornerstone. Everything we do springs from Him!

In the early documents of Gloria Dei, repeated are expressions like, "Glory to God for sustaining us for another year." "Glory to God for growing us beyond our current building's capacity."

At the end of 1963, it was apparent that they had experienced frustrations in their desire for a larger facility. President Chris Stefferud placed the concern in these words, "In our effort to build a larger sanctuary, we must not forget that our first and primary goal is to save the souls of men." Then at the annual meeting of 1965, after experiencing God opening doors to the construction of this facility, they moved to officially change the name from American Lutheran Church to "Gloria Dei." Glory to God.

As Paul closed his letter to the Romans, he instructed them to fully embrace God's power and presence - to embrace His glory and step up and push forward. That has been your attitude as a family of faith from the beginning. It's time to take up that attitude again in these unsteady times. Glory be to God!

Living to the glory of God comes in the moments you are looked to for know-how and for guidance and for leadership. You may say, "I'm not up to this, but I know God is." And you step up to the plate.

- Living to the Glory of God is being bold enough to say that the skill that I bring to the table comes from God.
- The sensitivity and the wisdom that I bring comes from God.
- The solution to the problem has come from God.

Whatever impact I have is because of God. The glory is His. Gloria Dei. That is how I live.

Something deep in your soul is saying to you: I was made for this — to behold the glory of God and to become a glorious, God-reflecting person. Gloria Dei. Glory to God. That is how we live.

Today - this moment - is when the challenge of life meets the faith that God has poured into you, and by God's grace you are given the strength to meet the challenge. That is Gloria Dei. That is how you live.

Now to God who is able to strengthen you through Christ, and open mysteries to you, who is actively saving the human race by bringing them to obedience to Him, to the only wise God, be the glory forever! Amen.



ROOTED IN CHRIST: BUILT ON THE ROCK

Does anyone else feel like August shows up uninvited? One day you're celebrating that summer has finally arrived, and the next you're wondering why school supplies are already on sale, football is back on TV, and someone has the audacity to mention pumpkin spice. Somehow June and July disappear faster than a plate of cookies at church coffeeshour.

This summer we've been walking through Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5–7. It's a beautiful sermon...and an uncomfortable one. Jesus tells us to love our enemies. Pray for those who hurt us. Forgive generously. Trust our heavenly Father instead of worrying. Seek first His kingdom. Then, just when we're starting to feel like we're making progress, He says, "Before you point out the speck in your neighbor's eye, how about that log in your own?" Ouch. Thanks, Jesus.

The Sermon on the Mount has a way of exposing our hearts. It reminds us that following Jesus isn't simply about trying harder or polishing up our behavior. We need something much deeper than self-improvement. We need a foundation. That's why I love how Jesus ends the sermon. He doesn't tell us to build the prettiest house or the biggest house. He says the wise person builds on the rock. Notice what He doesn't promise: He never says the storms won't come. In fact, He assumes they will. Rain falls. Winds blow. Floods rise. The question isn't if the storms will arrive. The question is what your life is built upon when they do.

That fits beautifully with our theme this year: Rooted in Christ. Paul writes in Colossians 2:6–7, "As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him."

I love that picture. Trees don't survive Wisconsin winters because they grit their bark and try harder. They survive because their roots reach deep beneath the surface. They draw life from a source stronger than themselves.

That's us too. We don't stand because we've finally mastered patience, conquered worry, or become experts at loving difficult people. (If you have, please tell the rest of us how!) We stand because our roots are sunk deep into Jesus Christ. He is the Rock beneath us and the life within us.

As summer gives way to fall, calendars will fill up again. Sunday School and confirmation begin. Choirs rehearse.

Schedules get busier, and before long we'll all be wondering where September went. Those are wonderful gifts from God—but they're not the foundation. They are the places where God strengthens our roots through His Word and Sacraments, continually drawing us back to Christ Himself.

So whether August finds you excited for a new season, mourning how quickly summer passed, or still hoping to squeeze in one more trip to the lake, remember this: Your life isn't built on a perfectly organized calendar, a completed summer bucket list, or finally finishing that project around the house. (Although if you've actually finished yours, again I'd love to know your secret!)

Your life is built on Christ. He is the Rock that never crumbles, the Root that never withers, and the Savior who never changes. That's a foundation strong enough for every season—and every storm.

I look forward to seeing you as we continue to gather around His Word and His gifts, continuing to grow ever more deeply rooted in Him.

Have a blessed end of summer!
—Pastor Kay

August 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 9 am Worship & Communion 10:45 am Liberty Village Worship	3 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 6 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	4 6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall	5 - Communion 9:30 am Worship at Perkins 1 pm Book Club & Missions 6 pm Worship	6	7	8
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, August 2nd- 5th from 5 - 7:15 PM						
9 9 am Worship 10:45 am Liberty Village Worship	10 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 9 am Rebekah-Ruth Circle 6 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	11 6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall	12 9:30 am Worship at Perkins 6 pm Worship	13 1 pm Sarah & Esther-Rachel Circles	14	15
					Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack	
16 9 am Worship & Communion 10:45 am Liberty Village Worship	17 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 10 am History Committee 6 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	18 12 pm Newsletter Submission Deadline 6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall	19 - Communion 9:30 am Worship at Perkins 6 pm Worship	20	21	22
23 9 am Worship 10:45 am Liberty Village Worship	24 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 6 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice	25 6:30 pm Small Group with Dave & Cyndy Hall	26 9:30 am Worship at Perkins 1 pm Prayer Shawl Meeting 6 pm Worship	27	28	29
30 9 am Worship 10:45 am Liberty Village Worship	31 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 9-3 Red Cross Blood Drive 6 pm Small Group w/ Bill & Deb Rice					

GLORIA DEI STAFF

David Dahl, Senior Pastor	608-387-5451	Pastordave@gloriadeitomah.com
Kay Knight, Associate Pastor	715-460-2131	pastorkay@gloriadeitomah.com
Jackie Kiel, Education Director		education@gloriadeitomah.com
Heather Davis, Office Manager	608-372-4758	office@gloriadeitomah.com
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*
- *Glenna Rice*
- *Karen Rezin*
- *Greta Rice*
- *Ethan Habeck*
- *Bill Reneau*
- *Jody Kiel (Treasurer)*



**Follow us on Instagram & Facebook & the Web:
Gloria Dei Tomah**

