

DEI TODAY

VOLUME 26 | ISSUE 9

Coffeehouse Worship

September 6th | 9:00 am

Youth Ministry
Updates
Page 2

Operation Christmas Child

Now accepting donations of adult sized
shoe boxes!

"COUNCIL CORNER"

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

Cranfest Bus Parking

September 24th - 25th, 2026

Return to Fall Worship Hours

on September 13th, we will return to two
worship services at 8 am and 10:30 am

2026

From the Pastors

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www.gloriadeitomah.com



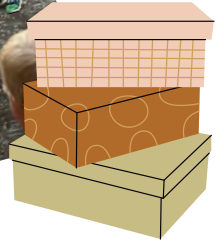
GLORIA DEI YOUTH PAGE

"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

CONFIRMATION

7th Graders: Join us on September 2nd at 6:45 pm for Confirmation Orientation.

9th Graders: Join us on September 12th from 8 am - 12 pm for a Confirmation Retreat



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

Vacation Bible School was a big hit, with over 30 kids joining in and everyone having a blast! This year's "Rock and Roll" theme came alive with upbeat music that set the tone. The kids embraced Jesus as their solid rock and foundation, while the adults and volunteers poured happiness and joy into every activity. Thank you, volunteers and kids!





- We are collecting school supplies for LWR kits. See list for specific items, you can leave your donations in the totes in the Fellowship Hall.
- 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 looking to change the date for the Advent Tea from November 29th to December 6th, watch for that update!
- October 10th will be LWR Quilt/Kit drop off in LaCrosse. We are looking for someone with a van/truck to help Gloria with that delivery!

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.**



Rally Sunday

*On September 13th, 2026 we
will return to two worship
services at 8 am and 10:30 am.*



The Blessed Life

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

A series that explores the
"Sermon on the Mount", as told in
chapter five of the Book of
Matthew.



COFFEEHOUSE WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2026

9:00 AM

FELLOWSHIP HALL



www.gloriadeitomah.com

COUNCIL

Corner

As summer comes to an end and we transition back to our fall schedule, I hope everyone had a great summer. Rally Sunday is September 13th so that means going back to two services on Sunday and the start of Sunday school.

HELP WANTED!

Please consider volunteering for one of the many groups we have that help with the different activities involved with the church services held on Sunday and Wednesday. If you think this is something you would like to try, please contact the Team Leaders or the office. Here is a list of some of the areas that can use your help. Usher/Greeters, Readers, Safety, Tech Booth, Communion Assistants, and Altar Guild.

A special thank you to the group of members who helped with the Feed My Starving Children event held on August 14th at the Fair Grounds. Your help was much appreciated.

Submitted by Bill Reneau, Council President



thank you

A sincere thank you for your generous support during the Mother's Day Flower sale!
-Ann Kiel, President of Monroe County Right to Life

Operation Christmas Child

Our Shoebox ministry is fast approaching. We are in need of shoeboxes. If you have some sitting around, just drop them off at church and we can use them for filling instead of purchasing shoeboxes. Also, if you are purchasing school supplies, just buy a few extras and we can use them in the shoeboxes. You can drop off any supplies at the church. Contact Linda Frye with questions. Thank you!

www.gloriadeitomah.com

**CONNECT.
GROW.
SERVE.**

Treasurer's *Report*

July 2026 Income & Expenses

Income.....	\$33,446.18
YTD Income.....	\$266,640.00
Expenses	\$41,187.81
YTD Expenses.....	\$274,943.10

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Our meal for the Tomah Community Meal on August 3rd went very well, everyone enjoyed the pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, fresh watermelon, chips, homemade pickles, fruit fluff and cookies! We have two dates picked for 2027, at the Masonic Temple.

The June Giving Jar donated \$471 each to "He Knows Your Name" and "WI Nurses Honor Guard".

The July Giving Jar donated \$609 to the TUSD Milk and Lunch fund thanks to your generosity.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

- We are planning a Heritage Meal on October 25th, to celebrate Gloria Dei's 80th birthday!
- We will begin with "Connections" with our recently graduated students.



Have you ever wanted to be a part of the Praise & Worship team?

Meet us in the sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at 4:15 pm to join!

HOMEBOUND

Care Center: Susan Kammerer
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

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)**

MISSIONS

Our Committee met in August and , among other items, discussed disbursement purposes for the Miscellaneous item (\$2,800) in our budget. We decided to donate \$800 to Feed My Starving Children-Tomah Mobilepack.

Sharon Anderson of our congregation shared information with us about her family members who are a missionary family (parents & 4 young sons) right now with Youth With a Mission, which is a “global movement of Christians from many cultures, age groups & Christian traditions, dedicated to serving Jesus throughout the world.”. They are serving in the South Pacific and are currently living in a grass hut in Vanatu. Their time will be spent working in a women’s & children’s shelter, helping with sports teams while sharing the gospel, ministering in churches & schools, and helping to rebuild homes. Their Facebook page is The Anderson Adventures (or, The Anderson Family Adventures). We are contributing \$200 to the Andersons for their mission work. Pastor Dave said when he was young, he also served with this organization.

Our Committee is considering designating funds for the tornado stricken areas in Wisconsin. Pastor Dave is gathering information from The Salvation Army and Samaritan’s Purse; both organizations have a presence in the disaster areas. On September 27th, Craig and Cherry Talsma from Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), will be leading our worship services. Our Committee is hosting Coffee Hour that day in their honor; be sure to stay and speak with Craig and Cherry. MAF’s mission is “to help bring the love of Christ to isolated people”. People living in isolation are cut off from the outside world, with little to no access to health care, education, supplies, and the hope of the gospel. The MAF fleet of aircraft flies over a million miles annually, partnering with over 400 mission agencies, churches, and humanitarian organizations so that people living in remote places have access to life-giving necessities and the love of Christ.

Another opportunity to serve: If you have a vacant guest room in your home, please consider offering the use of that space to one of our guest speakers from away. It would most likely only be once a year. When we have visitors like the Talsma family, who would need to be at Gloria Dei early Sunday morning, our congregation pays for their hotel room for Saturday night. It would be great if we could use those funds for other purposes instead, and, hosting a mission family would be cool! Just contact the office, Pastor Dave, or Colleen , if this opportunity would work for you.

Thank you everyone for all the ways you serve Jesus.
Colleen Bolchen, Missions Ministry Committee chair

Usher/Greeter (Hospitality)

8 am

Cheryl Frantz
Darlene Petska
Larry & Ruth Stoner

10:30 am

Jim & Becky Grilley
Kendra & Brock Brown
Larry & Roxanne Hall

Tech Booth

Sign Up to help in
the tech booth
today!

Communion Assistants

9/6 (9 am only):

Louis Lawrence	Karen Rezin
Linda Niebuhr	Dar Nelson

9/20 (8 am):

Mandi Reiman
Ruth Stoner

9/20 (10:30 am):

Sharon Anderson
Trina Bakken

Altar Guild

Laura Clay
Kathy Steele
Colleen Bolchen
Pat Jensen

Acolytes

8 am

9/6 (9 am): Mark Hall
9/13: Daphne Burnstad
9/20: Andrew Hart
9/27: Cayden Conzemius

10:30 am

9/13: Mark Hall
9/20: Konnor Hall
9/27: Blair Bailey

Readers

8 am

9/6 (9 am):
see sign-up sheet
9/13: Jim Stroh Sr.
9/20: Jason Reiman
9/27: Melissa Hart

10:30 am

9/13: Lenny Bakken
9/20: Sharon Anderson
9/27: Colleen Bolchen

Safety Team

8 am

9/6 (9 am): Jim Stefanski
9/13: Bill Wright
9/20: Clint Niebuhr
9/27: Bruce Aarness

10:30 am

9/13: Jim Grilley
9/20: Tom Curran
9/27: Jay Gerke

Keep and Live the Faith! -Pr Dave Dahl

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life.” John 5:24

The above Scripture passage is part of a trial scene recorded by John. Jesus has been identified as a public menace – accused of “healing on the Sabbath.” For that, He stands guilty on two counts: He restored a man who could not walk for 38 years, AND He commanded him to take up his mat and go home (John 5:8).

But pay attention. When Jesus is placed on trial, the crazy nature of human sin is unmasked. The most educated people are completely convinced they are defending everything good and life-giving. Jesus unmask their intentions revealing that it is their hearts that are filled with death.

This sounds like the morning news: A responsible citizen has brought healing to a suffering neighbor, But public leaders redefine the circumstances and judge this citizen as guilty of abuse.

This is the chilling nature of our human condition. Without God’s help, the most educated people cannot tell the truth from a lie. I’ll sum it up in the words of C. P. Snow, an English chemist who also wrote a novel or two: “Civilization is hideously fragile... there’s not much between us and the Horrors underneath, just about a coat of varnish.” Humanity left on its own is bent on death. For as smart and skilled as we are, you and I cannot save ourselves. In fact, strip away some of what keeps us stable – our financial security, our health – or for me, something as simple as a bowl of breakfast cereal slipping through my fingers and dropping on the floor – and we quickly become our own worst enemy.

So, what can be done? How can death become life? Two simple things: Hear the Word of God and live it. “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life.” (John 5:24)

This is the time of year we pledge again to live out the Word of God in how we live. Blessing backpacks, installing Sunday School teachers, distributing Bibles, starting new Bible studies, praying for our kids . . . We ask God’s guidance and blessing on our little efforts to faithfully raise the next generation and join in God’s mission to save the human race one touch at a time. Join us in this effort. Encourage a teacher, help a child, deepen your walk with Jesus and love your neighbor.

We as devoted followers of Christ are the only hope for a world that is bent on killing itself. You and I have a job to do, and it is our aim as Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and our responsibility in God’s sight to equip you to serve fully in the capacity that God has given you.

Our world is troubled. But we can do something. We can reflect God’s light into the darkness.



EYES WIDE OPEN

"I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." Psalm 27:13

There are two unmistakable signs that summer is winding down around here. First, someone asks, "When does Sunday School start?" Second, downtown suddenly fills with cranberry smells and tastes as just the right reminder that Cranfest is almost upon us. Just like that, September is off and running. September is kind of like the Monday of the year. School starts. Football starts. Calendars suddenly fill up. Vacation mode comes to an abrupt halt, and many of us begin wondering how we ever had time to mow the lawn every week.

But September means we're getting ready for one of my favorite times of the year. Sunday School is about to kick off, and Confirmation classes are beginning again. There is something wonderfully energizing about hearing little feet running through the hallways (usually faster than the adults would prefer), seeing Bibles opened, and listening to the questions our young people ask.

Some of those questions are deep theological puzzles...and some are, "Pastor, do dogs go to heaven?" Both keep me on my toes! Then, just as we're getting into the swing of things, Cranfest arrives! Our quiet little community suddenly becomes the center of the universe, or at least it feels that way when you're trying to cross the street. It's a fun reminder that God has planted our congregation in exactly the right place. Thousands of people come through town, and every smile, every welcome, every act of kindness is an opportunity to let Christ's love shine.

It's easy to look at September and see a long list of things to do. But I'd rather see a long list of opportunities to learn.

Opportunities to serve. Opportunities to invite a friend to church. King David reminds us in Psalm 27:13, "I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." I love that verse because it reminds us to keep our eyes open. God's goodness isn't only waiting for us someday in heaven. It's showing up today in worship, around the dinner table, in conversations with friends, in children learning about Jesus, and even in the beautiful craziness of a Cranfest weekend.

So as we jump into another busy season, don't forget to slow down once in a while. Notice the changing leaves. Cheer on the kids. Eat a cranberry muffin (or two; I won't tell). Welcome a visitor. Sing a hymn. Laugh often. And keep your eyes open for the goodness of the Lord, because I have a feeling He's going to give us plenty to see.

God's blessings, Pastor Kay

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 - COMMUNION 9:30 am Worship at Perkins 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm: 7th Grade Confirmation Orientation	3 1:30 pm Miriam Circle	4	5
6 - COMMUNION 9 am Coffeehouse Worship 10:45 am Liberty Village Worship	7 The church will be CLOSED today in observance of the Labor Day Holiday	8 8 am Quilting Group 12 pm Women's General Meeting 7 pm Council	9 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship	10 1:30 pm Sarah & Esther-Rachel Circles	11	12 8 am - 12 pm: 9th Grade Confirmation Retreat
13 8 am Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour & Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 12:15 pm Liberty Village Worship	14 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 9 am Rebekah-Ruth Circle 6 pm Small Group with Bill & Deb Rice	15 8 am Quilting Group 9 am Explorer's Bible Study	16 - COMMUNION 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation Class	17	18	19
20 - COMMUNION 8 am Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour & Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 12:15 pm Liberty Village Worship	21 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 6 pm Small Group with Bill & Deb Rice	22 8 am Quilting Group 9 am Explorer's Bible Study	23 1 pm Prayer Shawl Meeting 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation Class	24	25	26
				CRANFEST BUS PARKING		
27 8 am Worship 9:15 am Coffee Hour & Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 12:15 pm Liberty Village Worship	28 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 6 pm Small Group with Bill & Deb Rice	29 8 am Quilting Group 9 am Explorer's Bible Study	30 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation Class			

GLORIA DEI STAFF

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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*
- *Glenna Rice*
- *Karen Rezin*
- *Greta Rice*
- *Ethan Habeck*
- *Bill Reneau*
- *Jody Kiel (Treasurer)*



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