

DEI TODAY

VOLUME 26 | ISSUE 10

Quilting Group Resumes

Tuesdays at 8 am | Lower Level

Youth Ministry Updates

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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

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Explorer's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 9 AM | Lower Level

Worship with Healing

October 11th

Confirmation Sunday

October 18th

2026

From the Pastors

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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



COATS FOR KIDS

Coats for kids WINTER apparel drive! Each year, "Coats for Kids" hosts a collection of warm winter coats, snow pants, mittens, hats, snow boots, and scarves. Items may be new or gently used and need to be in good clean condition. All donations can be placed in the bins located in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall of the church. The deadline for collection is Monday, October 5th. Distribution is on a first-come basis (no appointment necessary) on October 9th from 4-7 pm and October 10th from 10 am - 12 pm at Lighthouse Assembly of God, 762 West Clifton Street in Tomah, WI.



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On October 18th, 2026, we will celebrate our 9th Grade Confirmands. We wish to congratulate Khloe Habeck-Stepanski, Lyam Eno, Warren Spohn, Emilee Scholz, Fletcher Reiman, Jenna Steele, Maya Eirschele, and Haylee Hart. Thank you to the parents and mentors for supporting the youth of Gloria Dei.



We held a general meeting on September 8th. We gathered for a pot-luck lunch followed by a short business meeting. Thank you to Dorcas Circle for being Hostesses.

- October 10th will be LWR drop off for our quilts and kits that we have assemble through the year.
- Date change for the Advent tea: Our Advent Tea will be held on December 6th at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- LWR School kits-we will assemble these on September 27th during coffee hour.
- Thank you to everyone who donated items!
- Nominating committee-Linda Niebuhr will work on getting a committee together.
- We will hold elections for President and Secretary in October.
- Give your Handbook changes to Glenna Rice. We will have the new booklets available at the Advent Tea.
- October 25-Fellowship will provide a Harvest meal. We will start serving after the 10:30 Service. What for more on this.
- Glenna R will look into a Bus trip for 2027
- Our next general meeting will be October 13th at 12:00. We will have a pot-luck lunch followed by a short business meeting. Miriam circle will be hostess.

**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.**



SPIRITUAL FORMATION WORKSHOP

FACILITATED BY JENNIFER LAYTE
OF THE PILGRIMAGE INC



- 📍 FELLOWSHIP HALL OF GLORIA DEI CHURCH,
310 W ELIZABETH ST., TOMAH, WI
- 🕒 SATURDAY OCTOBER 17TH, 9AM -1PM
- 💰 \$ 35 PER PERSON (SNACKS & LUNCH INCLUDED)

RSVP

to Jodi Root
(608) 387-6114
jodiroot@msn.com

and invite a friend or two!

Contact Jodi with questions. Please also alert her to any food restrictions or sensitivities.

Water, tea, and coffee will be provided along with snacks and lunch. You may bring any other accommodations you need.

Payment may be made by cash or check at the time of the event, or by using the QR code. ➡



CONTEMPLATING LIFE'S CHAPTERS WITH JESUS

- Explore a Bible character's life chapters
- Outline the chapters of your life
- Consider where Jesus has met you in your story
- Ask Him where you might meet Him in His
- Learn more about The Pilgrimage Inc and how you can be involved



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COUNCIL

Corner

Some of you may have already seen this but in case you haven't Gloria Dei is now listed in the Monroe County Herald's church listings that is published in the Thursday edition each week. A question was asked as to why we weren't listed and after inquiring about how to get listed, all we had to do was send in our information and it cost us nothing. The page is paid for by the business listed at the bottom of the page, so if you visit any of these please thank them. A special thanks to Becky Grilley for bringing this to our attention.

Council has started our preparation for our Annual Meeting and one of things we need to do at our October council meeting is to appoint a Nomination Committee. The committee is made up of three members, one council member who is leaving the council and two other members. If anyone has an interested in serving of this committee, please let me know by October 12th.

We have again been invited to sponsor an activity at the VA Center during 2027, and the council approved that request at our September meeting. As a sponsor, we would have to provide at least four volunteers to escort inpatient Veterans from their units and assist them during the activity. If that is something you would be interested in helping with, please let a council member know.

-Bill Reneau, Council President

Christmas Caroling is around the corner, if we can find enough interested people to be a part of this festive tradition! Please watch for the sign-up sheets in the hall or speak with a Pastor if you are interested in joining us this year to spread joy to others in the community!



www.gloriadeitomah.com

**CONNECT.
GROW.
SERVE.**

Treasurer's Report

August 2026 Income & Expenses

Income.....	\$29,945.73
YTD Income.....	\$296,773.40
Expenses	\$32,540.42
YTD Expenses.....	\$307,483.52

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

We are making plans for a Harvest Meal on October 25th.

Watch the kiosk for more information.



HOMEBOUND

Care Center: Susan Kammerer
Close to Home: Sharon Jensen & Wanda Baker

RBI Care: 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 August Giving Jar
donated \$626 to
Steppin' Out in Pink
thanks to your
generosity!**



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!

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

The October Giving jar goes to Operation Christmas Child. By filling ordinary shoeboxes full of toys and other fun items, you can be part of giving boys and girls what may be their first gift ever! Local churches in more than 100 nations hand out these Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts at festive outreach events where the Gospel is presented in a child-friendly way. Each box bursting with items such as a soccer ball, doll, or stuffed animal becomes a tangible expression of God's love to the child, their family, and their community.

How to Donate:

1. Find a Shoebox. Any shoebox will do.
2. Choose your label. You can use the preprinted ones available in the narthex or create your own. Whichever you choose, use the label to indicate on your shoebox whether it was packed for a boy or girl and which age category: 2–4, 5–9, or 10–14.
3. Select a medium to large "wow" item such as a soccer ball with pump or stuffed animal, then fill with other fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items. Don't forget to also include a personal note and photo—sometimes these are the child's favorite things to receive!
4. Pray. Most importantly, "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17) for the child who will receive your shoebox gift. Please also pray for:
 - Their family to also be receptive to the Good News of Jesus Christ.
 - The pastor of the church who delivers your shoebox gift.
 - Their community to be transformed by the Gospel.



Usher/Greeter (Hospitality)

8 am

Evanell, Suzy, Mark, and
Kari Johnson,
Kevin Arkeketa, Kim
Cherrier,
Ann Kerr, Joyce Thurow

10:30 am

HELP NEEDED ALL
MONTH! Please sign
up at the kiosk!!!

Tech Booth

Sign Up to help in
the tech booth
today!

Communion Assistants

8 am

10/4:
Bill & Ellen
Reneau

10/18:
Karen Sheets
Cheryl Schuster

10:30 am

10/4:
Kendra Brown

10/18:
Laura Clay
Becky Grilley

Altar Guild

Paula Laugen
Becky Grilley
Joyce Thurow
Kim Cherrier

Acolytes

8 am

10/4: Hadley Steele
10/11: Sam Grilley
10/18: Brielle Potter
10/25: Dylan Hart

10:30 am

10/4: Natalie Winchel
10/11: Karter Nelson
10/18: Oliver Jenkins
10/25: Nolan Steen

Readers

8 am

Oct 4th - Bill Reneau
Oct 11th - Sarah Rezin
Oct 18th - Kari Curran
Oct 25th - John Tessmann

10:30 am

Oct 4th - Bill Reneau
Oct 11th - Brian Knight
Oct 18th - Comfirmants
Oct 25th - Colleen Bolchen

Safety Team

8 am

10/4: Jason Reiman
10/11: Fletcher Reiman
10/18: Bill Reneau
10/25: Dave Olson

10:30 am

Lenny Bakken
Louis Lawrence
Brett Cornett
Brock Brown

Keep and Live the Faith! -Fr Dave Dahl

“... so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 3:10
Oh, here it comes ... “Dad, why you make us go to church?”

Well, maybe it's because:

1. Life makes sense when you're connected to God.
2. Church is true family, and you need family to get through life. . .

I know ... no family is perfect – and kids are quick to point out the hypocrisy. Still, Church is what Paul explains as “the wisdom of God in its rich variety” on display for the world to see. Think of that! Our gathering together is displaying to the world just how smart God is! That's enough to make your brain explode! AND that makes “Church” one of the most mysterious and amazing miracles God has caused to happen since creation.

Church historians note that in the first three centuries, Christians had unbelievable challenges to face. One example: They submitted to the emperor but they refused to worship him as god. This painted them as unpatriotic. It was said that they made the nation weak. It was open permission to mistreat them both physically and economically.

So why did anyone become a Christian?

The Christian church was so “different” – in a good way – that people took notice.

- They embraced all of humanity. Look at the Christian church in Antioch (Acts 13). People of different ethnic backgrounds and social classes embraced each other as family. They came together often, ate together, and honored one another as equals.
- Forgiveness and reconciliation were lived out. These people were persecuted, tortured, imprisoned, and killed, yet they taught forgiveness instead of seeking revenge. This was unheard of. Even more so, within the Christian community, grievances were confronted, and relationships healed. Their families and their sense of community were strong.
- Hospitality to the poor and the suffering was given freely. During the plagues, Christians didn't flee the cities. They stayed and cared for those who were sick – regardless of the color of their skin, the tribe they belonged to or their economic class, often sacrificing their own lives

- Christians defended and celebrated life. Unwanted children condemned to death by exposure or to slavery were taken in by Christian people. Kids were valued as made in the image of God and not as property to be discarded.
- The sacredness of family was honored. In Roman culture sex was seen as a physical appetite that was to be satisfied. Those who followed Christ embraced sexuality as giving oneself wholly and exclusively to another in marriage as Jesus gave Himself wholly for us. As they supported one another, community was strengthened as trust grew and kids were raised in safety.

I know, these are broad brushstrokes. But do you see any similarities to our own time?

The early church challenged the people of their time with a Christ-like attitude that defended life and protected the most vulnerable, that built trust and showed mercy, and demonstrated the security built by unconditional love – a fulfillment of what Paul wrote of to the Ephesians – The wisdom of God was on display – a wisdom that was totally counter to the culture they were living in.

And yes, the culture made them pay, but it was a price they were willing to pay. . . As a result, life flourished.

There's a lot of challenges our generation faces. Our generation needs to see God's wisdom at work. The solution is getting together and opening ourselves to God working in and through us. When we come together, we learn how to support one another in the mission fields God has placed each of us in. We learn how to support those parenting kids. We learn how to support those facing the challenges of growing older. We figure out how to support those teaching the next generation. We discover the joy and beauty of exercising the variety of talents God has given each of us.

Dive deep into the life of Gloria Dei. As crazy as it sounds, let's show the world just how smart God is!

-Let us all keep and live the faith!



IT'S HARVEST SEASON

The restaurants are filled with pumpkin-spice flavored beverages of all kinds. Months of work for farmers and gardeners is finally paying off with all kinds of crops. The combines are in the fields, farmers are bringing in what they have worked so hard to grow, and gardens are giving us their last tomatoes and squash before the frost arrives. There is something satisfying about harvest. You plant a seed in the spring, water it, tend it, pull the weeds, and wait. For months, it can seem like not much is happening. Then, almost before you know it, there is something to show for all that work. Jesus often used seeds, fields, crops, and vineyards to help people understand what God is doing in their lives. Maybe that's because growing things teaches us something important about faith: we don't always get to see what God is doing. A farmer can plant the seed, but he can't make it grow. He can prepare the soil and provide what the plants need, but ultimately the growing is in God's hands. There is a certain amount of trust involved. Faith is like that, too. We sometimes get impatient with God. We want to see results. We want to know that our prayers are working and that the things we are doing for our families, our congregation, or our neighbors are making a difference.

But God doesn't always let us see the harvest. There may be prayers you have prayed for years without seeing an answer. There may be someone you have encouraged who never told you how much it meant. There may be a child or grandchild for whom you have prayed, wondering if the seeds of faith you planted will ever take root.

Keep planting. Keep praying. Keep loving. Keep trusting. Jesus reminds us that a seed can be growing even when we don't see it happening. There is a lot going on beneath the surface. (Mark 4:26—look it up!) The same can be true in our lives. God may be doing more than we realize.

Our calling isn't to manufacture results for God. We aren't responsible for making the harvest happen. We are called to remain connected to Christ; to hear His Word, receive His gifts, worship together, love our neighbors, and faithfully do the things He has placed in front of us. Then we trust Him with the harvest.

October gives us a wonderful opportunity to remember that. As the leaves change and the fields are harvested, we see reminders all around us of God's faithfulness. The farmer planted months ago, trusting that there would eventually be something to gather.

Perhaps we can learn to live with that same trust. Not every season of life is a harvest season. Sometimes we are planting. Sometimes we are tending. Sometimes we are waiting. And sometimes we are blessed to see the fruit of work that began long ago. Remember that you are not working alone. God is still at work.

Enjoy the beautiful October days. Enjoy the apples, pumpkins and yes—even the pumpkin spice. And when you see the harvest, let it remind you to give thanks. Give thanks for what God has provided, for the people who have planted seeds of faith in your life, and that even when we cannot see it, God continues to work.

We may not always see the harvest. But we can always trust the One who gives the growth. Feel blessed!

October 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 1:30 pm Miriam Circle	2	3
4 - Foundation Sunday 8 am Worship & Communion 9:15 am Education & Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship & Communion 12:15 pm Liberty Village Worship	5 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 6 pm Small Group with Bill & Deb Rice	6 8 am Quilting Group 9 am EBS	7 1 pm Book Club Meeting 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship & Communion 6:45 pm Confirmation Class & Bible Study 101	8 1:30 pm Sarah & Esther-Rachel Circles	9	10
LCMC ANNUAL GATHERING; WEST DEMOINES, IA						
11 - Worship with Healing 8 am Worship 9:15 am Education & Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship 12:15 pm Liberty Village Worship	12 9 am Rebekah-Ruth Circle 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 6 pm Small Group with Bill & Deb Rice	13 8 am Quilting Group 9 am EBS 12 pm Women's General Meeting 6:30 pm Small Group with David & Cyndy Hall	14 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation Class & Bible Study 101 7 pm Dorcas	15	16	17 Spiritual Formation Workshop 8 am-3pm See the flyer on the kiosk
18 - Confirmation Sunday 8 am Worship & Communion 9:15 am Education & Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship & Communion 12:15 pm Liberty Village Worship	19 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 10 am History Committee 6 pm Small Group with Bill & Deb Rice	20 8 am Quilting Group 9 am EBS 6:30 pm Small Group with David & Cyndy Hall	21 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship & Communion 6:45 pm Confirmation Class & Bible Study 101	22	23 5:30 pm Fall Movie Night, "Light of the World"	24
25 8 am Worship 9:15 am Education & Coffee Hour & New Member Class 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Harvest Meal 12:15 pm Liberty Village Worship	26 9 am Small Group with Pr. Dave 6 pm Small Group with Bill & Deb Rice	27 8 am Quilting Group 9 am EBS 6:30 pm Small Group with David & Cyndy Hall	28 1 pm Knit/Crochet Group 4:15 pm Praise Team 6 pm Worship 6:45 pm Confirmation Class & Bible Study 101	29	30	31

GLORIA DEI STAFF

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GLORIA DEI COUNCIL

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



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