

The Gloria Dei Grapevine

The *Gloria Dei Grapevine* is the monthly newsletter of Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church. For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact us.

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5005 McCandlish Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Please Join Us

- ◆ **Sunday Morning Worship** at 9:00am
- ◆ **Communion** on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month
- ◆ **Adult, Teen, & Children's Sunday School** at 10:00am, September thru May
- ◆ **Adult Bible Study** - every Thursday at 9:00am
- ◆ **Youth Group** (6th-12th grade) First Saturday of the month, 6-9pm. Contact Laura or Allen Mortimer for more information.
- ◆ **Lutheran Pioneers** (K-8th grade) Meets twice monthly September thru May.

Scan in your banking app to make your offering for

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church at
financialsec@gloriadeigb.com



From the Pastor...

Which is your favorite – Shrove Tuesday or Ash Wednesday? Shrove Tuesday, better known as Fat Tuesday, is all about Carnival, which comes from the Latin words meaning “farewell to the flesh,” has also been used to describe Mardi Gras. Closer to home here in Michigan we have our Paczki. Who’s not to love Shrove/Fat Tuesday? Ash Wednesday, on the hand, has nothing to do with party or jelly-filled pastries, but everything to do with sin and repentance. It is a reminder that we nothing but ashes. For me, I’m an Ash Wednesday guy. How refreshing to soberly consider who I am, what I have done and failed to do, and all the while remembering who Jesus is and what he has done – for me! Join me on Ash Wednesday, February 14, as we gather for worship at 7 pm to honor this day and our Savior. (Yes, we will be treated to a nice – don’t know about fat – meal at 6 pm).

I Need More... FAITHFUL FRIENDS

“A friend is someone who really knows you and still likes you.” Have you heard that description of a friend? That is my favorite definition. What is yours?

Are you happy with the friends you have? Do you wish you had more friends or different kinds of friends? Maybe you just wish that your friendships were healthier or more helpful?

People might define friends in various ways, but one thing is certain. God designed people with a need for friendship. When he created the first man, he offered this observation: **“It is not good for the man to be alone”** (Genesis 2:18). We naturally feel the need that God observed, but faithful friends might be hard to come by. In the internet world, friends often call each other BFF -

Best Friends Forever. But those same friends often turn on each other and end up more as enemies than as friends. No matter how well someone knows and likes you, there really is no friend who knows all about you. Your innermost secrets remain locked within you, and there are deeper feelings than anyone could ever understand.

God wants you to know what you might have suspected all along. He does know all about you. He observes that you need someone to whom you can pour out your heart, and he is willing to be that one.

But do you want God to be a BFF, when deep down you know what he knows about you? As his own Word says, **“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves”** (1John 1:8) Few of us would

Serving in February

February 4

Ushers: Eric Bessolo, Eric Metz, Paul Allar

Communion Set Up: Moore

Communion Assistant: Mark Moore

Power Point Assistant: Josh Thomason

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

Cleaners: Bessolo

February 11

Ushers: Jim Sharich, Jim Luisier, Joe King

Power Point Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Straub & Luisier

Cleaners: Mortimer

February 14

7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

Ushers: Kent Kerwin, Mark Moore

Power Point Assistant: Marshall Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Logan Moore

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

February 18

Ushers: Logan Moore, Harold Fox, Tom Furnner

Communion Set Up: Moore

Communion Assistant: Rod Davies

Power Point Assistant: Calvin Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Jeff Edgett

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

Cleaners: Davies



February 21

7:00pm Lenten Service

Ushers: Scott Mortimer, Allen Mortimer

Power Point Assistant: Owen Straub

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Mortimer & Major

February 25

Ushers: Rocky Bessolo, Eric Bessolo, & Eric Metz

Power Point Assistant: Mitchell Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

Cleaners: Gresock

February 28

7:00pm Lenten Service

Ushers: Paul Allar & Jim Sharich

Power Point Assistant: Noah Straub

Livestream Assistant: Logan Moore

Counters: Straub & Luisier



I Need More...FAITHFUL FRIENDS

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make such a claim, but the good news is that God still wants to claim us as friends, despite our shortcomings. That is why Jesus Christ, God's Son, came into the world long ago. He came to do what only the best of friends would do—he came to lay down his life for you. He came to stand in for you and take whatever punishment God's justice demanded for your sins. And God accepted his own Son's sacrifice to wipe out the guilt of your sin.

That is why God invites you to see him as your best friend. He knows all about you and everything that you need. He extends his love to you without conditions, for the sake of his Son's death on the cross.

You will not find a more faithful friend than God. Look to the living God and learn more about his faithfulness and love. The more you learn, the more you will find that he is a true Friend that you can always trust.

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged—Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.



**Just a
reminder...**

We will be starting our weekly Lenten Meals and Services on Ash Wednesday, which this year is February 14. We are looking for 3-4 families each Wednesday to provide a light supper at 6:00pm. Lenten Services will follow at 7:00pm.

A sign –up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.



Serving in March



March 3

Ushers: Jim Luisier, Joe King, Kent Kerwin

Communion Set Up: Richmond

Communion Assistant: Wayne Pennell

Power Point Assistant: Josh Thomason

Livestream Assistant: Jeff Edgett

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

Cleaners: Major

March 6

7:00pm Lenten Service

Ushers: Mark Moore & Logan Moore

Power Point Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

March 10

Ushers: Harold Fox, Tom Furnner, & Scott Mortimer

Power Point Assistant: Marshall Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Mortimer & Major

Cleaners: Allar

March 13

7:00pm Lenten Service

Ushers: Allen Mortimer & Rocky Bessolo

Power Point Assistant: Calvin Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Logan Moore

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

March 17

Ushers: Eric Bessolo, Eric Metz, & Paul Allar

Communion Set Up: Richmond

Communion Assistant: Jim Luisier

Power Point Assistant: Owen Straub

Livestream Assistant: Jeff Edgett

Counters: Straub & Luisier

Cleaners: Moore

March 20

7:00pm Lenten Service

Ushers: Jim Sharich & Jim Luisier

Power Point Assistant: Mitchell Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

March 24

Ushers: Joe King, Kent Kerwin, & Mark Moore

Power Point Assistant: Noah Straub

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

Cleaners: Bessolo

March 28

7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service

Ushers: Logan Moore & Harold Fox

Communion Set Up: Richmond

Communion Assistant: Gary Richmond

Power Point Assistant: Josh Thomason

Livestream Assistant: Jeff Edgett

Counters: Mortimer & Major

March 28

7:00pm Good Friday Service

Ushers: Tom Furnner & Scott Mortimer

Power Point Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Livestream Assistant: Logan Moore

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

March 31

Ushers: Allen Mortimer, Rocky Bessolo, & Eric Bessolo

Power Point Assistant: Marshall Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Straub & Luisier

Cleaners: Mortimer



Bible Readings for February

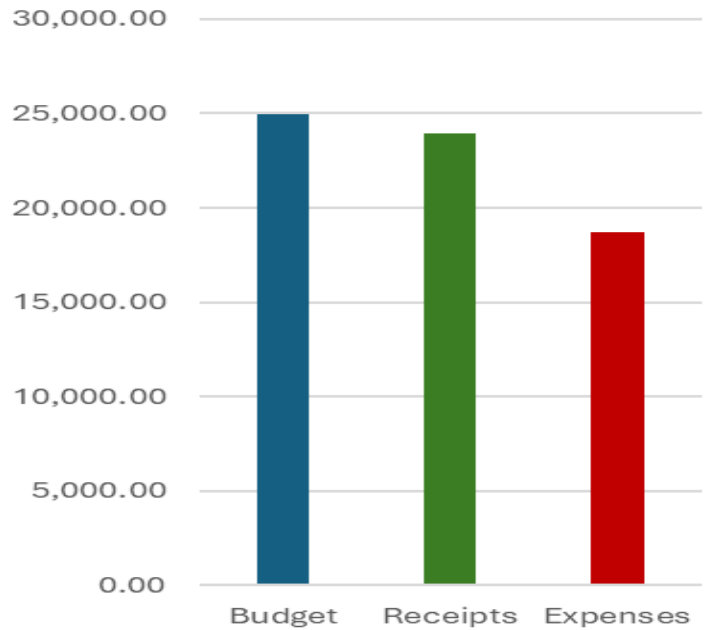
DATE	OLD TEST.	PSALMS	PROVERBS	NEW TEST.
1-Feb	Ex. 9, 10	29	1	Mark 9
2-Feb	Ex. 11,12	30	2	Mark 10
3-Feb	Ex. 13,14	31	3	Mark 11
4-Feb	Ex. 15,16	32	4	Mark 12
5-Feb	Ex. 17,18	33	5	Mark 13
6-Feb	Ex. 19,20	34	6	Mark 14
7-Feb	Ex. 21,22	35:1-16	7	Mark 15
8-Feb	Ex. 23, 24	35:17-28	8	Mark 16
9-Feb	Ex. 25, 26	36	9	Luke 1
10-Feb	Ex. 27, 28	37:1-22	10	Luke 2
11-Feb	Ex. 29	37:23-40	11	Luke 3
12-Feb	Ex. 30, 31	38	12	Luke 4
13-Feb	Ex. 32, 33	39	13	Luke 5
14-Feb	Ex. 34, 35	40	14	Luke 6
15-Feb	Ex. 36-38	41	15	Luke 7
16-Feb	Ex. 39, 40	42	16	Luke 8
17-Feb	Lev. 1-3	43	17	Luke 9
18-Feb	Lev. 4,5	44: 1-8	18	Luke 10
19-Feb	Lev. 6,7	44: 9-26	19	Luke 11
20-Feb	Lev. 8,9	45	20	Luke 12
21-Feb	Lev. 10,11	46	21	Luke 13
22-Feb	Lev. 12,13	47	22	Luke 14
23-Feb	Lev. 14	48	23	Luke 15
24-Feb	Lev. 15,16	49	24	Luke 16,17
25-Feb	Lev. 17,18	50	25	Luke 18
26-Feb	Lev. 19,20	51	26, 27	Luke 19
27-Feb	Lev. 21,22	52	28, 29	Luke 20
28-Feb	Lev. 23,24	53	30, 31	Luke 21



Birthdays in February

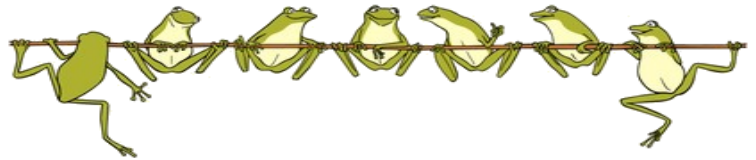
2/01	Samuel Mortimer
2/01	Michael Richmond
2/01	Brian King
2/02	Caleb Mortimer
2/02	Jamie Stevenson
2/02	Russ Faulkner
2/04	Terry Callahan
2/07	Garry Viele
2/07	Scott Mortimer
2/09	Paul Zoch
2/11	James Yake
2/13	Dianne Harris
2/16	Carly Bessolo
2/19	Bob Smith
2/20	Brenda Bessolo
2/21	Brian Reinke
2/22	Justin Neuwirth
2/22	Anna Hoppe
2/22	Lucas Stevenson
2/23	Pat Robertson
2/26	Tom Furnner
2/25	Rachel Corby
2/28	Lesa Neuwirth
2/29	Clara Buyack

Totals thru December 2023



General Fund is 19,258.39

Budget	Receipts	Expenses
24,962.90	23,964.35	18,709.93



It's a Leap Year...


Do you know what that means? Clara Buyack will have a birthday! Clara was born on February 29, 1928, so she will be turning 96 this year, but this will be only her 24th birthday. She doesn't get to attend church at Gloria Dei very often, and she misses the fellowship and friendships. If you would like to send her a card her address is:

God is Love



Clara Buyack
6356 W. Dodge Rd.
Clio, MI 48420

FEBRUARY 2024

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 9:00 am - Worship 10:30 am - Adult, Teen, & Children's Bible Class <i>Epiphany 4</i>	29 Cleaners for February 4: Bessolo 6:30pm—Confirmation Class 7:00pm—Choir Practice	30	31	1 9:00 am - Adult Bible Class	2	3 6:00pm—Youth Group
4 *Donation Sunday* 9:00 am - Worship with Communion 10:30 am - Adult, Teen, & Children's Bible Class <i>Epiphany 5</i>	5 Cleaners for February 11: Mortimer 6:30pm—Confirmation Class 7:00pm—Choir Practice	6	7 6:30pm—Board of Elders Meeting	8 9:00 am - Adult Bible Class 7:00pm—Church Council Meeting	9	10
11 9:00 am - Worship 10:30 am - Adult, Teen, & Children's Bible Class <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i>	12 Cleaners February 18: Davies 6:30pm—Confirmation Class 7:00pm—Choir Practice	13	14  6:00pm—Lenten Meal 7:00pm—Ash Wednesday Service	15 9:00 am - Adult Bible Class 7:00pm—Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00pm—Board of Education Meeting	16	17 Men Alive! Rally
18 9:00 am - Worship with Communion 10:30 am - Adult, Teen, & Children's Bible Class <i>Lent</i>	19 Cleaners for February 25: Gresock 6:30pm—Confirmation Class 7:00pm—Choir Practice	20	21 6:00pm—Lenten Meal 7:00pm—Lenten Service	22 9:00 am - Adult Bible Class 7:00pm—Board of Evangelism Meeting	23	24
25 9:00 am - Worship 10:30 am - Adult, Teen, & Children's Bible Class <i>Lent 2</i>	26 Cleaners for March 3: Major 6:30pm—Confirmation Class 7:00pm—Choir Practice	27	29 6:00pm—Lenten Meal 7:00pm—Lenten Service	29 9:00 am - Adult Bible Class 7:00pm—Board of Stewardship Meeting	1	2 6:00pm—Youth Group