

# 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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## *Please Join Us*

- ◆ **Sunday Morning Worship** at 9:00am
- ◆ **Communion** on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) First Saturday of the month, 6-9pm. Contact Laura or Allen Mortimer for more information.
- ◆ **Lutheran Pioneers** (K-8<sup>th</sup> grade) Meets twice monthly September thru May.

**Scan this QR code in your banking app to make making your offering even easier**



## *From the Pastor...*

**C**hristmas is right around the corner. Can you believe it? Where has the year gone? With the passing of every second, every minute, every hour, time has moved us through another year. Yet not every minute has been pleasant. Not every hour has been enjoyable. But your LORD has never left you nor forsaken you. The Christmas account once again reminds us that God became flesh and lived among us. That baby lying in the manger is indeed the Son of God. He still promises to be with us always to the very end of the age. So go ahead and decorate. Put up the tree. Light the house. Bake the goodies. Worship the King – even on days other than Sunday. It is time to celebrate – a Savior has been born for us! Oh, what a wonderful time!

## *The Bible Is the Ultimate Authority*

Many people call themselves “spiritual” or “religious.” What that means is not always clear. Some think it means simply loving others and having a deep respect for a god or a supreme being somewhere. Those people depend on their feelings or personal spiritual insight. Some even claim that God continues to provide special revelations for them through visions and dreams or through mediums and spiritists.

Most of them refuse to believe that the Bible is the ultimate authority in spiritual matters. They look for direction and guidance from other places.

Those who deny the ultimate authority of the Bible in these ways are making the same tragic error made by many others centuries ago. God's Old Testament prophets called God's people to turn away from mediums and false

# Serving in December

## December 3

**Ushers:** Scott Mortimer, Allen Mortimer, & Rocky Bessolo

**Communion Set Up:** King

**Communion Assistants:** Tom Furnner & Mark Moore

**Power Point Assistant:** Marshall Bessolo

**Livestream Assistant:** Logan Moore

**Counters:** Mortimer & Major

**Cleaners:** Allar

## December 10

**Ushers:** Eric Bessolo, Eric Metz, & Paul Allar

**Power Point Assistant:** Calvin Bessolo

**Livestream Assistant:** Jeff Edgett

**Counters:** Callahan & Furnner

**Cleaners:** Moore

## December 13

### 7:00pm Advent Service

**Ushers:** Jim Sharich & Jim Luisier

**Power Point Assistant:** Owen Straub

**Livestream Assistant:** Allen Mortimer

**Counters:** Straub & Luisier

## December 17

**Ushers:** Joe King, Kent Kerwin, & Logan Moore

**Communion Set Up:** King

**Communion Assistants:** Gary Richmond & Rod Davies

**Power Point Assistant:** Mitchell Bessolo

**Livestream Assistant:** Paul Allar

**Counters:** Mortimer & Metz

**Cleaners:** Bessolo

## December 24

**Ushers:** Mark Moore, Harold Fox, & Tom Furnner

**Power Point Assistant:** Noah Straub

**Livestream Assistant:** Logan Moore

**Counters:** Neuwirth & Moore

**Cleaners:** Mortimer

## December 24

### 5:00pm Christmas Eve Program

**Ushers:** Scott Mortimer & Allen Mortimer

**Power Point Assistant:** Josh Thomason

**Livestream Assistant:** Jeff Edgett

**Counters:** Mortimer & Major

## December 31

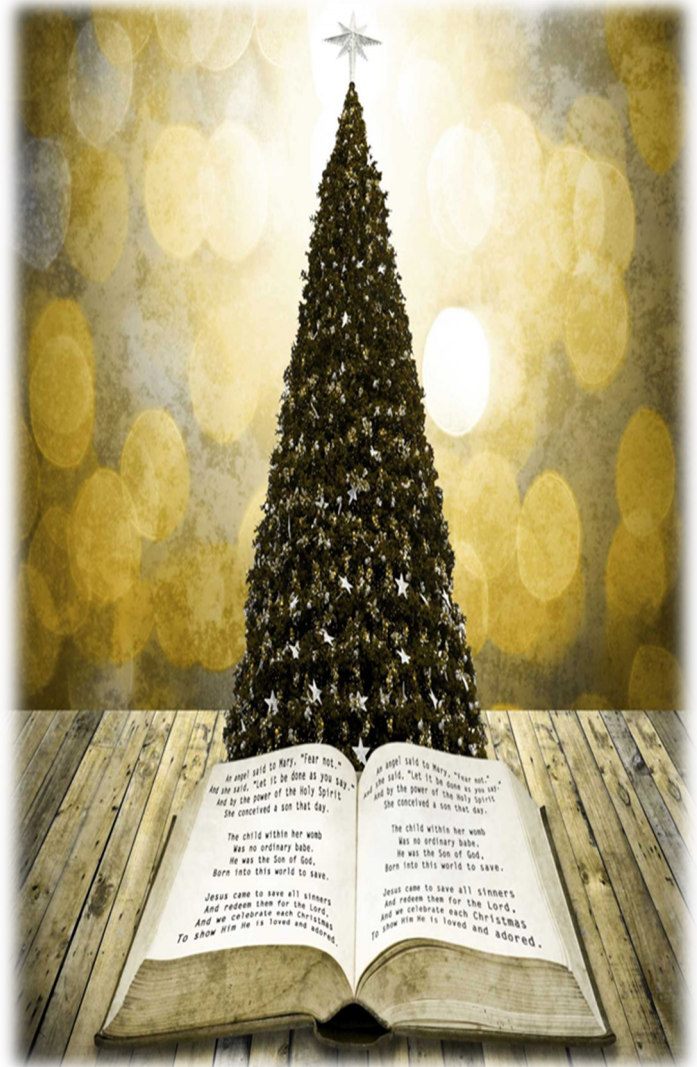
**Ushers:** Rocky Bessolo, Eric Bessolo, & Eric Metz

**Power Point Assistant:** Marshall Bessolo

**Livestream Assistant:** Allen Mortimer

**Counters:** Callahan & Furnner

**Cleaners:** Davies



# The Bible Is the Ultimate Authority

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prophets and to return to God's Word. In the New Testament the apostles also warned their readers to be on guard against false teachers and their false teachings. They urged their fellow Christians to use the standard of the inspired Scriptures to test those who claimed to be speaking for God. They pointed people back to the Bible because it is God's inspired and inerrant Word.

We believe what God's prophets and apostles did. Since the Bible is God's inspired and inerrant Word, it is also the only and ultimate authority in matters of faith and life. Our Lutheran Confessions declare: "We believe, teach, and confess that the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments are the only rule and norm according to which all doctrines and teachers alike must be appraised and judged, as it is written in Psalm 119:105, 'Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.'

And St. Paul says in Galatians 1:8, 'Even if an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we preached to you, let him be accursed'" (Formula of Concord, Epitome; Tappert, p. 464).

Because the Bible is the only and ultimate authority in matters of faith and life, any preacher we might hear and any book about spiritual matters we might read must be tested in the light of the Bible. If they do not agree with the Bible, we must recognize them as being false. False teaching never helps faith; it always harms faith in Christ. It is best for our faith to reject them and avoid them. If, on the other hand, those preachers, teachers, and books agree with the Bible, we can make good use of their insights and applications. We can take their messages to heart and rejoice in the truth.

May we always count as one of our greatest blessings the written Word of God.

It is the ultimate authority in all things.



## Christmas for Kids

Christmas for Kids will be held this year on Saturday, December 2.

All children, preschool thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade, are invited, please make sure you tell your friends and family to save the date.

We will be needing a lot of volunteers to make the day run smoothly, so please prayerfully consider if you would be willing to help out.

You can register at: [www.GloriaDeiGB.com](http://www.GloriaDeiGB.com)

## Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

Join us for the next Men's Breakfast on Saturday, December 16, at 8:00am.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



# Serving in January

## January 7

**Ushers:** Paul Allar, Jim Sharich, Jim Luisier  
**Communion Set Up:** Major  
**Communion Assistants:** Tom Furnner & Wayne Pennell  
**Power Point Assistant:** Calvin Bessolo  
**Livestream Assistant:** Logan Moore  
**Counters:** Straub & Luisier  
**Cleaners:** Gresock

## January 14

**Ushers:** Joe King, Kent Kerwin, Mark Moore  
**Power Point Assistant:** Owen Straub  
**Livestream Assistant:** Paul Allar  
**Counters:** Mortimer & Metz  
**Cleaners:** Major

## January 21

**Ushers:** Logan Moore, Harold Fox, Tom Furnner  
**Communion Set Up:** Major  
**Communion Assistants:** Gary Richmond & Mark Moore  
**Power Point Assistant:** Mitchell Bessolo  
**Livestream Assistant:** Allen Mortimer  
**Counters:** Neuwirth & Moore  
**Cleaners:** Allar

## January 28

**Ushers:** Scott Mortimer, Allen Mortimer, Rocky Bessolo  
**Power Point Assistant:** Noah Straub  
**Livestream Assistant:** Jeff Edgett  
**Counters:** Mortimer & Major  
**Cleaners:** Moore

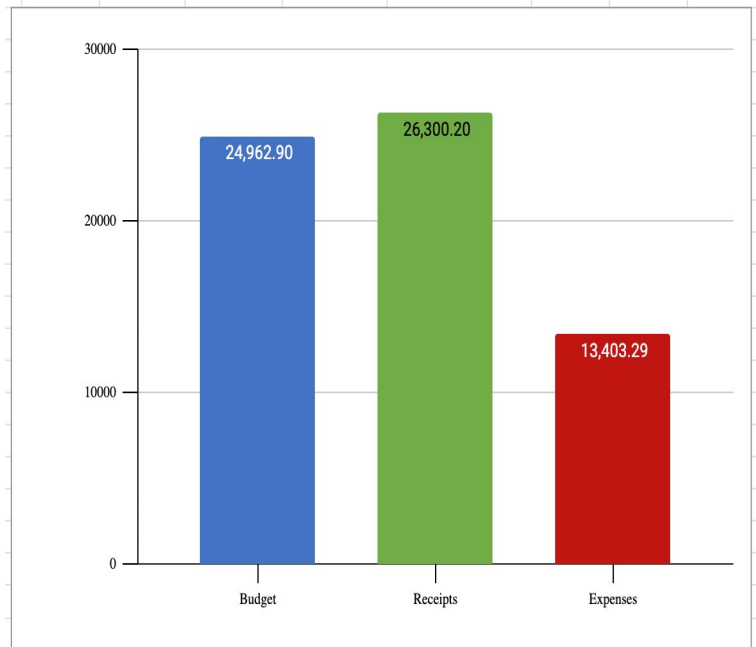


**F**or those of you who like to plan ahead... We will be taking down all the decorations on January 7, after the service and could use your help! **Remember, many hands make light work.**



## From the Treasurer

Totals for October 2023



General Fund is 20,179.15

	Budget	Receipts	Expenses
	24,962.90	26,300.20	13,403.29



***Ladies Advent by Candlelight***

Thursday, December 7

6:00pm

***Midweek Advent Service***

Wednesday, December 13

7:00pm

***Christmas Eve Program***

Saturday, December 24

5:00pm

***Christmas Day Service at Grace***

Sunday, December 25

10:30am





# Bible Readings for December



Date	Old Testament	Psalms	Proverbs	New Testament
December 1	Ezekiel 38,39	119: 161-176	1	Hebrews 11
December 2	Ezekiel 40	120	2	Hebrews 12,13
December 3	Ezekiel 41,42	121	3	Titus
December 4	Ezekiel 43,44	122	4	Philemon
December 5	Ezekiel 45,46	123	5	1 Timothy 1,2
December 6	Ezekiel 47,48	124	6	1 Timothy 3,4
December 7	Lamentations 1,2	125	7	1 Timothy 5,6
December 8	Lamentations 3	126	8	2 Timothy 1,2
December 9	Lamentations 4,5	127	9	2 Timothy 3,4
December 10	Nahum	128	10	1 Peter 1,2
December 11	Ezra 1,2	129	11	1 Peter 3-5
December 12	Ezra 3,4	130	12	2 Peter
December 13	Ezra 5,6	131	13	1 John 1,2
December 14	Ezra 7,8	132	14	1 John 3-5
December 15	Ezra 9,10	133,134	15	2, 3 John
December 16	Zechariah 1-3	135	16	Jude
December 17	Zechariah 4-7	136	17	Revelation 1
December 18	Zechariah 8,9	137	18	Revelation 2
December 19	Zechariah 10-12	138	19	Revelation 3
December 20	Zechariah 13,14	139	20	Revelation 4,5
December 21	Haggai	140	21	Revelation 6,7
December 22	Nehemiah 1,2	141	22	Revelation 8,9
December 23	Nehemiah 3,4	142	23	Revelation 10,11
December 24	Nehemiah 5,6	143	24	Revelation 12,13
December 25	Nehemiah 7,8	144	25	Revelation 14,15
December 26	Nehemiah 9,10	145	26	Revelation 16,17
December 27	Nehemiah 11-13	146	27	Revelation 18
December 28	Esther 1-3	147	28	Revelation 19
December 29	Esther 4-7	148	29	Revelation 20
December 30	Esther 8-10	149	30	Revelation 21
December 31	Malachi	150	31	Revelation 22



***J***oin us on Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00 pm for our Advent Service. This is a wonderful time to take break from all the Christmas hustle and bustle and turn your focus back on the reason for the season, the birth of our Savior.

### *Birthdays in December*





12-01	Devin Baker
12-02	Chloe Garfield
12-03	Dennis Hipps
12-03	Sharon King
12-04	Jonathon Smith
12-05	Lindsay Szecsodi
12-07	Lisa Hull
12-10	Terri Hall
12-11	Lilly Allar
12-12	Calvin Bessolo
12-15	Logan Moore
12-16	Josh Leplow
12-17	Julie McGowen
12-18	Eric Gresock
12-21	Patrick Tesler
12-21	Asher Tesler
12-25	Nathan Skene
12-26	Bob Kost Sr.
12-27	Skylar Cramer

### *Anniversaries in December*

12/06	Eileen & Bob Smith
12/08	Donna & Scott Freimark
12/09	Sharon & Joe King
12/26	Lynne & Brian Reinke
12/27	Erica & Eric Gresock
12/27	Jean & Hugh Eldred
12/29	Lori & Randy Neuwirth



# DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Potluck and Christmas Decorating</p> <p><i>Last Sunday of the Church Year</i></p>	<p>27</p> <p>Cleaners for December 3: Allar</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	28	29	<p>30</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p> <p>6:30pm Call Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm—Church Council Meeting</p>	1	<p>2</p> <p>10:00 am - Christmas for Kids</p> <p>6:00pm—Youth Group</p>
<p>3</p> <p><b>*Donation Sunday*</b></p> <p>9:00 am - Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Advent</i></p>	<p>4</p> <p>Cleaners for December 10: Moore</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	5	6	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p> <p>6:00pm—Advent by Candlelight</p>	8	9
<p>10</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Advent 2</i></p>	<p>11</p> <p>Cleaners for December 17: Bessolo</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	12	<p>13</p> <p>7:00pm—Advent Service</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	15	<p>16</p> <p>8:00 am - Men's Breakfast &amp; Bible Study</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Advent 3</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p>Cleaners for December 24: Mortimer</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	19	20	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Board of Trustees Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm—Board of Education Meeting</p>	22	23
<p>24</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p>  <p>5:00pm - Christmas Eve Program</p> <p><i>Christmas Eve</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:30 am - Christmas Day Service <b>at Grace</b></p> <p>Cleaners for December 31: Davies</p> 	26	27	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Board of Evangelism Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm—Board of Stewardship Meeting</p>	29	30
<p>31</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p>  <p><i>New Years Eve</i></p>	<p>1</p> <p>Cleaners for January 7: Gresock</p> 	2	<p>3</p> <p>6:30pm—Board of Elders Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Church Council Meeting</p>	5	6