



August 2007

# Down By The Riverside

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Columbus Blvd & Christian St, Philadelphia, PA 19147 215-389-1513

## Meeting of the Many ... INDEED!

On Monday, July 23rd, we nearly filled the church with congregation and community members with the long term health of Gloria Dei firmly in mind. Gloria Dei was well represented by Joy and members of the vestry and congregation. We also heard from Jane Cowley, Public Affairs Officer for the National Park Service; Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams from the Swedish Colonial Society; Gloria Dei lessees Young Children's Center for the Arts (YCCA) and Holy Family University; Queen Village Neighbors Association; Brian Abernathy, from Frank DiCicco's office; Dorothy Krotzer from Building Conservation Associates; Steve Ujifusa from Penn Praxis; and Gustave Rosario and Joseph Van Blunk from Longshore Films.

Joy started us off with a broad overview of anticipated challenges (some say - *opportunities* ...) facing Gloria Dei in the near future and longer term. These items ranged from the mundane such as painting the steeple, air conditioning Riverside Hall, fixing/replacing the heating/cooling infrastructure; to the visionary such as restoring the churchyard, providing expanded space for lessees; to the fearful with casino concerns and the need for fundraising; to the sublime with stories being written about Gloria Dei and perhaps even a documentary film!

It was gratifying to learn that we have such a warm response from our community members around us. Our neighbors share our concerns and want to be a part of keeping Gloria Dei strong for the next 300 years. Frank DiCicco continues to try and keep Foxwoods from building in our back yard, but realizes that if they cannot be stopped - then what can we do together to minimize the impact. The Queen Village Neighbors Association will continue to be an active partner in this fight. The Swedish Colonial Society continues to be a strong supporter of Gloria Dei. YCCA and Holy Family are so happy with Gloria Dei that they hope for more space. Building Conservation Associates has taken a preliminary look at restoring the church yard and sent us a proposal for consideration. Penn Praxis is writing the story of the waterfront where we play a prominent part. This will provide invaluable PR for us and will certainly bring visitors to our doors. And closing the evening - our touch of Hollywood! Longshore Films is putting a proposal together to create a film about the origin of the Swedish Colony in Philadelphia of which Gloria Dei is

(continued)

a centerpiece. They will be looking for funding from a variety of sources to tell the story. Get ready for the red carpet!

Gloria Dei is going to begin a visioning process this fall that will lead to a plan for safeguarding the future of this wonderful community and lovely patch of history. We must consider the physical realities of caring for very old buildings to dreaming about what we can be as a community in the modern world. This meeting was the first of many to come where we will need the views and thoughts from everyone who loves and cares for Gloria Dei.

Respectfully submitted,

*Candace Roberts*

## Greetings Everyone,

I intended to get this in an earlier newsletter, but things have been a bit hectic. I will give you a quick update. In May I graduated from Yale Divinity School with my Master of Divinity—a degree that ministers in the Lutheran tradition need to do ministry. Marissa and I moved back to Minnesota (where we both grew up) and into our apartment at the beginning of June. For a summer job, I have been working at a golf course on the grounds crew, which means I drive large lawnmowers and get my hands dirty. Come August 31st, I will start my work as a hospital chaplain intern in St. Paul Minnesota. Marissa has begun the ever-joyous job search in editing/communications and hopes things will fall into place soon.

I want to thank you all for an indescribably meaningful year. Thank you so much for the book and the monetary gift. All of you had a tremendous impact on my pastoral formation. Each of the times that I preached, I felt I learned more from you about what it means to preach God's Word. I also learned a great deal about what it means to lead an adult study session during the five weeks some of us met and discussed the Millennium Development Goals. The Sunday school kids (I have your picture in my room) and all those involved...thank you; I always looked forward to our Sunday activities. It was exciting to start the youth group up again, especially ending our year run with live music in the Riverside Hall. Again, thank you everyone for a reflective and formative year.

Blessings,

*Peter (and Marissa) Bauch*



## Thoughts from the Rector

*What if God was one of us? Just a slob like one of us?  
Just a stranger on the bus trying to make his way home.  
Just trying to make his way home.*

If you recognize the song lyrics above then you may also have watched at least one episode of *Joan of Arcadia*, a CBS series that aired for two years. The show's central character was Joan Girardi, a teenager who had occasional conversations with God, but not by her choice. God showed up as various people that passed through Joan's life; people such as the school janitor, an elderly woman waiting for the bus, a punk rocker sharing time in detention, or the trash collector passing by as Joan walked home.

It was a thought provoking show that challenged us to consider how, when and why God talks to us. It also had a healthy dose of doubt scattered throughout the characters' thoughts about God's interaction with humanity and how, when and why we might share those thoughts and experiences with each other.

But the bottom line of the show, as the opening lyrics of the theme song make clear, was the serious consideration that God just might be with us, right in our faces and our lives, more often than we realize or even wish to consider.

One of my favorite episodes opened in Joan's High School History class. They were studying the Hundred Years War and Joan of Arc was a major figure to be considered. The teacher assumed that everyone would agree that Joan of Arc was not so much talking to God as just plain nuts. "Just because God talks to her doesn't mean she's crazy," our Joan said out loud. The teacher and all of her classmates just stared at her, obviously thinking that she'd gone the way of her namesake. And of course our Joan shrank back in her seat, afraid to continue for fear someone might come and take her away and, if not burn her at the stake, at least assume that she was beyond any help and to be shunned by all sane people.

So, here's the really crazy, daring question; the one that might get me "shunned." Does God talk to you?

Okay, if that question makes you squirm let's put it another way. Do you believe that God communicates with us? Do you believe God is present in our everyday lives? Do you stumble upon God when you least expect His Presence? Is the Presence of God just a philosophically or theologically esoteric conversation or is it a reality in your life?

As we enjoy the final days of summer, I ask you to consider these questions. Consider when and where we talk about God's Presence with us here at Gloria Dei. Are we aware of God's Presence in our Sunday School rooms, our Fellowship get-togethers, our meetings and our worship gatherings? Do we

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regularly remember to invite God to be with us when we gather? Do we really expect His Presence with us? Are we prepared to encounter God in the ordinary everyday activities of our lives?

And, finally, and very personally, if you do see God, or hear God, or in some way know God's Presence, will you share this with someone?

Think about it.

Peace,

*Joy +*

## Thought from the Rector's Spouse

Joy and I are taking a vacation for three weeks. If anyone deserves and needs a vacation, Joy does. Me? I never looked forward to vacations. Joy had to drag me to each and every one, which of course I loved once I got to where ever we were going.

This year it's different. I have a somewhat different outlook on life in general. Of course it took brain surgery in December, thirty-two days in the hospital, sixty more flat on my back with some sort of a fever and different medications to alter my perspective. Not to mention therapy, both physical and vocal. These were in order and I actually look forward to my twice weekly visits with the therapists.

Now they tell me that I have to work harder! Work harder? I'm having a tough time just staying awake.

So what engendered this change in my attitude? Being housebound? Not being able to talk as quickly as I once did? Being dizzy 100% of the time? Well, to be blunt it's a little of all of that. But, there is one big but in here.

Being with Joy I thought I knew what faith, real faith, was all about. I knew so little it was pitiful. Of course I read and discussed faith with Joy. And I thought I understood.

But I didn't.

In December I was very sick. The response from both the clergy of the diocese and especially from the members of Gloria Dei was inspirational, to say the least. Both clergy and laity visited me in the hospital. All of them prayed with me, all asking my permission (as if anyone needed it) to sit and worship with me.

I was included on the Prayer Chains of several churches and I can say with

conviction that the wishes, prayers, cards and calls were so appreciated, more than mere words can say.

I do want to get back to where I was, not just for me but also for all those people that held me and prayed for me in my time of need, and continue to do so even now. I owe it to each and every one of you to make the most of my remaining life, to help where I can, and to be as full of faith as I can be because I am now sure that there is a power greater than me.

Through Joy and with all your help I am a person of faith and understanding. I and Joy certainly thank all of you.

I am sure that we will return from vacation full of life and spirit; ready to meet life's challenges.

*Shalom,*

*Alan*

## Eucharist Visitors

Upon returning from the Holy Lands some years ago, I felt drawn to more spiritual involvement in church work. For many years I assisted with Eucharist at services. An ad in the *Episcopal Life* caught my eye - "One Day Training for Lay Eucharist Ministers." I received the training and was licensed for three years. I began to visit the shut-ins bringing them nourishment and news from Gloria Dei. After we were spiritually fed, we had an enjoyable visit catching up on the news of church. These shut-ins had been very active in the church for many years and missed the contacts with old friends. On some occasions other parishioners joined me at the request of the shut-ins. During our conversations happy memories of events at Gloria Dei were often recalled. Even though they were homebound, my visit connected them to their church. Since I was first licensed the title Lay Eucharist Ministers has changed to Eucharist Visitor. My license has recently been renewed and I look forward to once again visiting those unable to gather with us on Sunday mornings. This ministry is a way for parishioners unable to attend church on a regular basis to still feel connected to the church.

We could use more Eucharistic Visitors here at Gloria Dei. If you think you might be interested in this ministry I would be glad to share my thoughts and experiences with you. Please contact the Rector if you decide you'd like to be trained for this ministry.

*Jeanette Woehr*

# Calendar

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- August 5** Rev. James D. Von Dreele, Guest Clergy
- August 6, 13, 20, 27** History Committee meets in Church  
6:30–9:00 PM
- August 12** Rev. Glen Matis, Guest Clergy
- August 15** Vestry Meeting in Roak Room 7:00 PM
- August 19** Rev. Charles Penniman, Jr., Guest Clergy
- August 20** Joy returns from vacation
- August 7, 14** Holy Family University Information Sessions held  
in Roak Room 6:00–7:00 PM
- August 2, 9, 16**  
(no classes on  
**August 23, 30**) Holy Family University Accelerated Degree  
Program evening classes,  
in Roak Room 6:00–10:00 PM
- August 6, 13, 20, 27** Yoga Classes are held Monday evenings  
7:00–8:00 PM in Riverside Hall

## Holy Family University

Holy Family University is pleased to announce that in addition to the accelerated MBA program currently being offered at Gloria Dei (Old Swede's) Church, we will be offering an undergraduate degree completion program, beginning this fall.

Requirements for entering the undergraduate program include an associate's degree, or the equivalent (60 credits) and three years full time work experience. The degree offered is the Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration.

All Gloria Dei parishioners are eligible for a 20% tuition discount on both the MBA and the Bachelor's degree program, offered at the church.

For information on either of these programs, please contact Jackie Danay, Admissions Counselor, at 267-341-5012, or [jdanan@holyfamily.edu](mailto:jdanan@holyfamily.edu).



# The Lectionary for August

## August 5th: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Collect: O Lord, let your continual mercy cleanse and defend your Church...

Ecclesiastes 1:12-14; 2:(1-7,11) 18-23

Psalms 49

Colossians 3:(5-11) 12-17

Luke 12:13-21

## August 12th: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Collect: Grant to us the spirit to think and do always those things that are right...

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalms 33

Hebrews 11:1-3 (4-7) 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

## August 19th: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Collect: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of Jesus' redeeming work and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life...

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 12:1-7 (8-10) 11-14

Luke 12:49-56

## August 26th: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Collect: Grant that your Church may show forth your power among all peoples to the glory of your Name...

Isaiah 28:14-22

Psalms 46

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-29

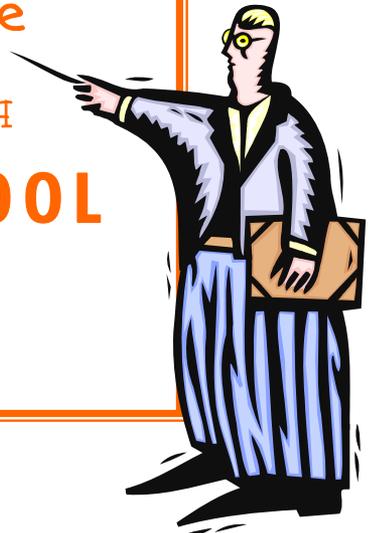
Luke 13:22-30

Remember this Date

SEPTEMBER 9TH

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
SIGN-UP

IN ROAK HOUSE



## A Spot Sacred to Peace and Solitude

Standing outside Old Swedes you will probably hear the sound of cars and trucks traveling on I-95 or Delaware Avenue. Step back in time and think of the church yard as a "spot sacred to peace and solitude, whither the charms of nature might invite the steps of the votary of the muses, and where the birds might sing over his grave."

Alexander Wilson was born in Scotland on July 6, 1766. He started out as a weaver, but his interests turned to poetry and walking in the countryside. Wilson used his poetry to comment on what he saw as the unfair treatment of the weavers by their employers. The subjects of several of his poems were judged to be inflammatory and libelous, and he got in trouble with the law more than once.

In May, 1794 he left for America and settled near Philadelphia, where he taught school. He met William Bartram, who got him interested in birds. By 1804, Wilson began working on a nine-volume book, *American Ornithology*, which included 268 illustrations, including 26 new species. He devoted time to observing and painting birds on a journey from Philadelphia to Niagara Falls and back again. He walked the nearly 1300 miles in 59 days. On the last day he walked 47 miles!



By 1813 his work began to take its toll. On August 12, Wilson saw a bird that he wanted. He followed it, swam the river with his clothes on and caught the bird. A severe cold followed. Ten days later the father of Ornithology died.

Wilson had sometime expressed the wish "to be

Plate 1 - Alexander Wilson's *American Ornithology*

buried in some rural spot, sacred to peace and solitude." He was buried in the church yard of Gloria Dei. The inscription on his tomb reads: This monument covers the remains of Alexander Wilson Author of AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY. He was born in Renfrewshire, Scotland on the 6th of July, 1766, Emigrated to United States in year 1794 and died in Philadelphia of the dysentery on the 23rd August, 1813, Aged 47.

Submitted by

*Bob Josuweit*



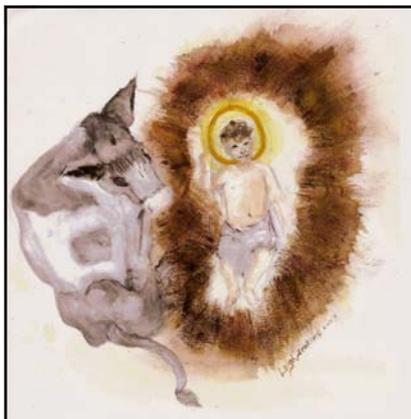
Plate 48 - Alexander Wilson's American Ornithology



*Quote* submitted by Tim Brislin

There is a destiny that makes us brothers.  
None goes his way alone.  
All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own.

*Author: Rev. Ruthledge*



## Anglican Communion Christmas Card Contest

Our very own *Leigh Jenkins* has submitted the above watercolor painting for the Anglican Communion Christmas card contest for 2007. It is a watercolor painting of baby Jesus being carefully watched by a young calf. Leigh was very happy to represent Gloria Dei with her entry. Leigh has been successful in several art contests and has received numerous scholarships. While we can't predict how well her painting will do in the contest, we feel that Leigh is a winner already! We are very proud of her; she has made some impressive accomplishments for a 17 year old. Leigh attends the High School for Creative and Performing Arts of Philadelphia, where she will be a Senior this fall.

Leigh has sold several pieces of her artwork, and currently has a painting on display at a local coffee house in Northern Liberties. You will also find her artwork on display at the Philadelphia Convention Center and at the School District of Philadelphia's main office

## Athenaeum of Philadelphia



To obtain a set of architectural drawings of Roak House, we went to the Athenaeum of Philadelphia; which contains the Edward Parnum Collection. Mr Parnum was an active member of the church as well as the architect of our "Guild House."

*Photo by Tom Crane  
of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia Reading Room*

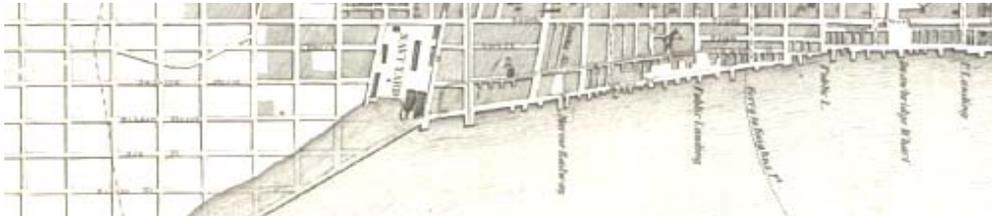
## Café is an upbeat note for Chester

“A baby grand piano, a shelf full of books, Christmas tree lights, New Orleans food and live classical music by a living composer. Life is good – ” So began an article by David Patrick Stearns, the Inquirer Music Critic, reviewing Paul Fejko’s André Café Acoustique.



For information on programming at the André Café Acoustique call 609-462-9000 or go to [www.andre-cafe.com](http://www.andre-cafe.com).

You can read the Inquirer article by going to <http://go.philly.com/davidpatrickstearns> and selecting the article dated June 27, 2007.



## WELCOME THE NEWEST MEMBERS...

...of Gloria Dei Church, baptized  
on July 1, 2007, Kayla Marie Nickolson,  
Jada Lynn Nickolson and Nicole Francis  
Nickolson .

## CELEBRATE THE NEWLY MARRIED...

...Emilie Pabellon and Jose Rivera  
on July 28, 2007.

## IN REMEMBRANCE OF...

...Wayne Allen, June 27, 2007;  
and Emma Virginia Whelan, July 5, 2007.

## A Statement of Purpose of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

We the Congregation of GLORIA DEI (Old Swedes')  
CHURCH, existing by and for the Glory of God, knowing  
that God, through this Congregation, helps us to find our  
way and to use our gifts, gather together

- To honor and celebrate the acceptance of our  
differences and uniqueness;
- To be an inviting, welcoming, sustaining, loving  
community;
- To respond to the needs of others;
- To preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition,  
and heritage of this sacred place.



## Sunday Services:

10:00 thru Labor Day

## Office Hours

Weekdays 12:00-4:00

## CLERGY

The Very Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

## STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director  
Mary Jo Jay, Parish Administrator  
Paula & James Minacci, Sextons  
Candace Roberts, Dir. of Comm.  
Mark Roberts, Treasurer

## VESTRY

Jerome Buescher  
Debi Chatman-Royce  
James DuBois  
Dave Hammond, Acct. Warden  
Robert Jenkins  
Dolores Kromchad  
Rosanne Morison  
Heather Myers, Secretary  
James Parsons  
David Sampieri, Rector's Warden  
Connie Twist  
Jeanette Woehr

## STANDING NOTICES

### Weddings

Weddings at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church must be  
scheduled with the clergy at least three months in  
advance. All weddings in the church will be governed by  
the Canons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the Book  
of Common Prayer. Pre-marital counseling is a  
prerequisite. No weddings will be conducted during  
Lent.

### Funerals

When death occurs a family member is asked to contact  
the clergy so that timely arrangements for a funeral may  
be made. It is appropriate for the funeral of a Christian  
to take place in the church. It is also appropriate that  
funeral arrangements be made in advance and kept in a  
file in the church office. Burial plots are available for  
members of the parish in the church's cemetery.  
Consult the church office for costs and details.

### Baptisms

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is celebrated during one  
of the principle Sunday liturgies and is governed by the  
Canons of the church and the Book of Common Prayer.  
Baptism is normally celebrated on one of the four  
appropriate feast days designated in the Book of  
Common Prayer. These are: The Baptism of our Lord  
(1/13/07); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/7/07); Pentecost  
(5/27/07); and All Saints Sunday (11/4/07). Other  
Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of  
the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for  
parents and godparents beforehand.