



April 2009

Down By The Riverside

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

A message from the Rector's Warden

Vestry Elections and our Annual Meeting Spring is the time when we are asked to consider volunteering our time and talent by running for a seat on the Vestry. But you ask "what is vestry?" The definition: Vestry: An elective body of lay parishioners administering the temporal affairs of the parish. The rector is the presiding officer. Members are elected to terms at annual parish meetings. The vestry also serves as a council of advice to the rector.

There are four positions up for election and they are a 3 year commitment. Meeting are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month, starting at 7pm.

If you think you might be interested, I would encourage you to talk with me or a member of the vestry and find out what a worth while experience it is to serve.

Vestry Elections will be held Sunday May 3rd in Riverside Hall, between 8:30 AM and 1:00 PM. Nomination forms are available now—they are on the back table of the church or see me. There are four positions up for election and they are 3 year commitments.

Nominations are due to the Secretary of the Vestry, Jeannette Woehr, no later than Sunday, April 5th.

Qualifications and Nomination:

1. Those qualified to serve on the Vestry shall be baptized and confirmed lay persons of the age of eighteen years and upwards, who shall have been worshipers in this Church as their usual place of worship for at least two years prior to the date of the election and who shall appear by the books of the Corporation to have contributed towards the expenses of the Corporation, by payment in time, talent or treasure a sum of not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).
2. Each person to be voted for by the members of the Corporation must be nominated to the Secretary in writing by at least three (3) members, and at least four (4) weeks prior to the election; and the consent of the nominee endorsed on said nomination in writing.

(continued next page)

- Public notice of all nominations shall be given by the Secretary by posting the names on the Riverside Hall and Church Bulletin Boards and setting forth such names in the Church Bulletin during a period of four (4) weeks prior to the election. Spouses and life-partners may not serve on the vestry at the same time.

Our Annual Meeting will be held on May 3rd. There is 1 service at 10am and the meeting will follow immediately in the church. There will be reports by our many committees and the treasurer. Don't miss out on hearing about what is going on with our community. And as always Food will follow in the Riverside!

Yours in Christ -

Heather Myers

Camp 2009 Arrowhead

Kids are you interested in going to Summer Camp?

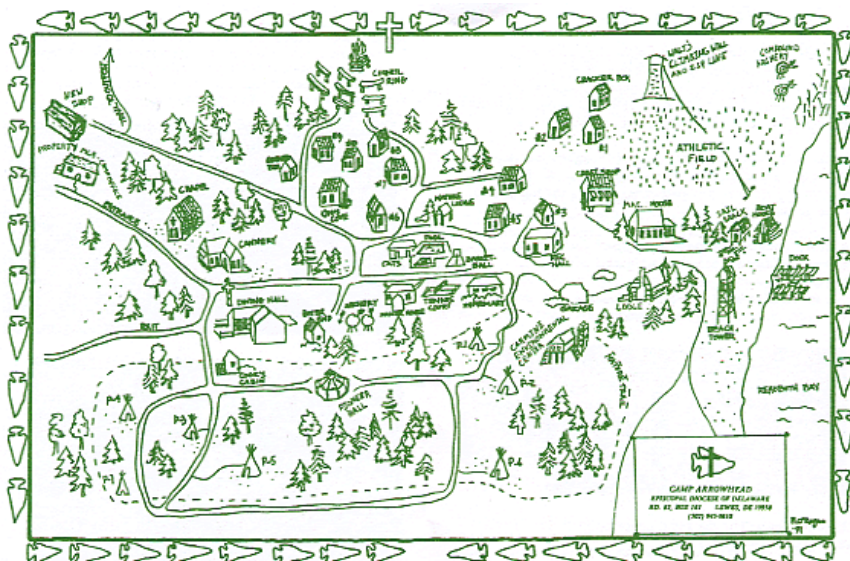
We are headed back to Camp Arrowhead.

Open to children entering 3rd through 9th grade.

Please contact Heather Myers for more information.

215-512-0363 or moosefamily@comcast.net

Visit www.camparrowhead.net for session dates.



Stewardship Committee

Members of the Stewardship Committee will once again help provide food for the parish's Christian Seder Dinner on Wednesday, April 8, 2009. Committee members see that Riverside Hall is prepared and provide the ceremonial food items and the main components of the meal. Donations of side dishes, salads, and the all-important desserts round out the menu.

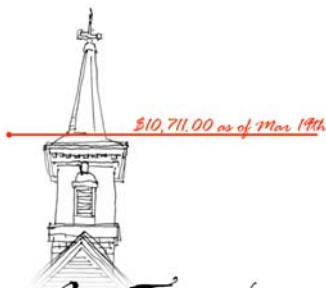
The Christian Seder Dinner is a fellowship dinner but a special kind of fellowship dinner – a dinner whose main purpose is to remember and pass on important scripture stories. It's "dinner and a story," a story about God's keeping promises, about God's work in our history, about the story of redemption and salvation. It's the dinner that Jesus instructed us to eat to remember Him.

Members of the Stewardship Committee will be working in the Riverside kitchen from about 2:00 PM on Wednesday, April 8, 2009. If you'd like to join us – feel free. There's always room for more hands!

The Stewardship Committee is also gearing up for its part in the Spring Flea Market – Saturday, May 16, 2009. The Flea Market is certainly a place for "many hands." There's set up to do, all day, on Friday May 15, and all sorts of things to do on the 16th – set up, sell sandwiches, baked goods, beverages, and pretzels, man the Church Table, and clean up.

You can sign up to donate meatballs, chili, soups, baked goods, or soda and water, or you can donate funds to purchase those items. Sign-up sheets are available in Riverside Hall.

Please, join us if you can. And if you'd like to become a member of the Stewardship Committee in a more formal way, please contact Jerry Buescher or the rector, Joy Segal, in person or through the church's office telephone number (215) 389-1513.



Steeple Fund
Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

The steeple needs painting! Can you help?

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church is an important and historic landmark of the city of Philadelphia, as well as a beloved place of sanctuary, worship, and community activity for generations past and present.

Our steeple is in need of painting and we hope to raise the funds needed, approximately \$18,000, in time to have the work done in the summer of 2009, so that we may continue to honor the building that as been given to us to care for, and to reflect the love and commitment of this community to generations to come.

Our donors will be listed in a special program when we bless the refinished steeple.

<i>Glorious Scrapers:</i>	<i>\$25 - \$99</i>
<i>Swedish Sanders:</i>	<i>\$100 - \$199</i>
<i>Philadelphia Primers:</i>	<i>\$200 - \$499</i>
<i>Passionate Painters:</i>	<i>\$500 and above</i>
<i>Friends of Gloria Dei</i>	<i>Any amount</i>

Please use enclosed envelope to send donations to the Church Office

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

April 5, 2009	Palm Sunday <i>Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Reading, Holy Communion Rite II</i>	9am and 11am
April 8, 2009	Wed. in Holy Week <i>Passover Seder for Christians</i>	6:30pm
April 9, 2009	Maundy Thursday <i>Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Holy Communion, stripping of the altar</i>	7:00pm
April 10, 2009	Good Friday <i>Good Friday Liturgy, Communion from the reserved sacrament</i>	7:00pm
April 12, 2009	Easter Day <i>Easter Vigil, Holy Communion, Rite II</i> <i>Holy Communion, Rite II, Baptism</i> <i>Easter Egg Hunt</i> <i>Holy Communion, Rite II, Baptism</i>	5:30am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am

All are welcome in the Lord's House



Easter Memorials

If you wish to make an offering to Gloria Dei this Easter, as a memorial or thanksgiving, please return the enclosed envelope with the information you would like to be printed in our Easter bulletins.

In order to insure your information appears in our bulletins please return the envelope as soon as possible.

April 2009 Sunday School Calendar

**Easter Egg
Hunt**
April 12th
at 10 am



Sunday School 10-10:45 am, every Sunday unless indicated.

April 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th
10am Sunday School



Photo of Noah's Ark Painted and Performed by GDC Sunday School

Guatemala Scholarships and Medical Fund – Update

We have raised enough money to make a contribution to the Medical Fund for the children of our sister parishes in Guatemala as well as enough scholarship aid for approximately ten students. If you are planning to help with these funds please let us know soon so we may let the Guatemala parishes know what to expect from us this year.

Also – please be sure to visit Riverside Hall sometime before April 19th. We are raffling two blankets – one from Guatemala and one hand-made by Connie and Ollie Twist. The drawing will be after the 11AM service on April 19th, and all proceeds will go towards the Guatemala Scholarship and Medical Funds.



Calendar

- April 1** Lenten Soup & Study - 7:00 - 8:30 PM
- April 4** Finnish Easter Service 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- April 6** Book Club Meeting 7:00 PM - Riverside Hall
- April 7, 14, 21, 28** Holy Family University Accelerated Degree Program
Evening classes, in Roak Room 6:00 - 10:00 PM
- April 8** Seder - 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Riverside Hall
- April 9** Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00 PM
- April 10** Good Friday Service - 7:00 PM
Easter Egg Dying - Riverside Hall - 10:30 AM - Noon
- April 12** Easter Sunday - 5:30 AM Vigil Service
9:00 and 11:00 Services (Baptisms at both services)
Brunch in Riverside Hall following all services
Easter Egg Hunt after 9:00 AM Service
Swedish Service 4:00 PM
- April 13** Closed
- April 15** Vestry Meeting 7:00 PM - Roak Room
- April 16** Swedish Colonial Society - 1:30-3:30 PM - Roak Room
- April 18** Riverside Hall Rental
- April 19** Norwegian Service 4:00 PM
- April 23** Plenary Session - Riverside Hall 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
- May 16** Spring Flea Market
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Historical Committee

The Historical Committee has resumed their weekly meetings on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Church. We are currently working on a timeline for Partners for Sacred Places. Anyone interested in assisting with this project are welcomed to join us. If you have any questions regarding the committee and their work, please contact Jeanette Woehr at 856-795-3781 or email jeanette@philarmh.org.

The Lectionary for April

April 5th, Palm Sunday

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Palms: Mark 11:1-11

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm: 31:9-16

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

April 9th, Maundy Thursday

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 12:1-4

Psalm: 116:1, 10-17

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 10th, Good Friday

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm: 22:1-11

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:1-25

Gospel: The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ – according to John

April 12th, Easter Sunday

Almighty God, who through your only begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: John 20:1-18

April 19th, Second Sunday of Easter

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Psalm: 133

2nd Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

Gospel: John 20:19-31

April 26th, Third Sunday of Easter

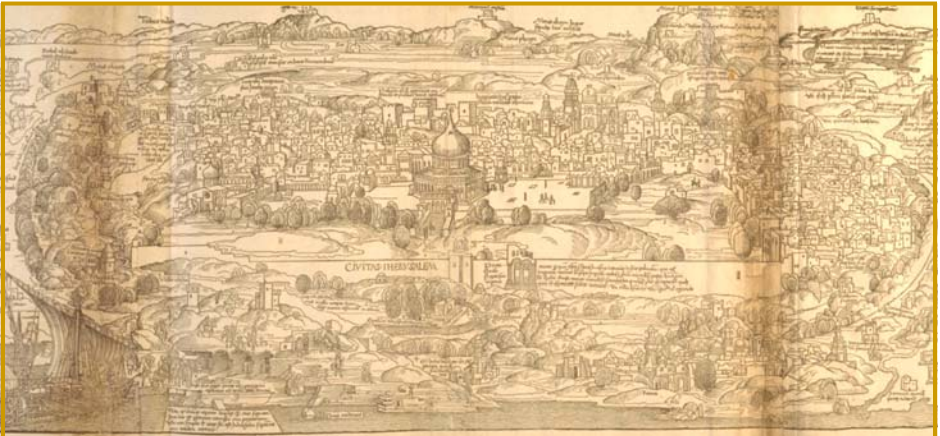
O God, whose blessed son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 3:121-19

Psalm: 4

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48



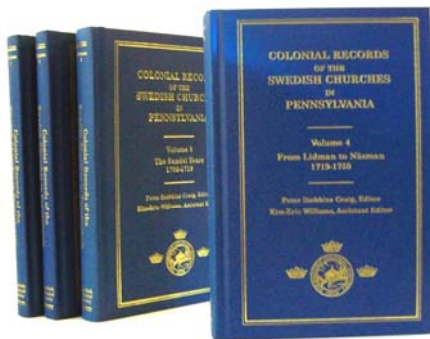
Pilgrimage to Israel

We are beginning to discuss a possible Gloria Dei Church trip to Israel next year. If there is interest then we'll continue to discuss the possibilities for a 10 day trip, leaving April 10, 2010. The approximate cost will be \$2500.00 per person which will include all travel, hotels, meals, tour guide, and entrance fees to many places of interest. We will visit Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Masada, the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, the Mount of the Beatitudes, the Dead Sea, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane and much, much more. Please be in touch with the Rector if you are interested in being a part of this trip.

Volume 4 of the Colonial Records Is Here

Vol. 4 of the Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania is available for purchase from our Church office.. The subtitle of this volume is "From Lidman to Nasman 1719-1750".

The book is a translation of various documents during this period. It starts with a letter from Queen Ulrica Elenora of Sweden to the American congregations in 1719 and ends with the Per Kalm's summary of Gloria Dei burials 1720 to 1750. This was an unstable period. A clergyman would be here for a short time and then there would be a period of vacancy. The attendance was low. And there is a definitive answer for question "Where did the baptismal font come from?"



These books translating the early records of the Swedish churches are our tercentennial project. The history of our early congregation is important not just for us but for the history of the United States and the World. The Swedish colonists were some of the only colonists in the history of the world who colonized with peace and humanity. We should each support this by project if at all possible. The books make great gifts for those who have an interest in local or colonial history.

The books normally sell for \$25. There is a special price of \$20 for Church members. Get yours by calling the Church Office, 215-389-1513. Reserve yours today.

Peg Berich

It's almost that time again.
Time for Gloria Dei's Famous, Fabulous, Fantastic
SPRING FLEA MARKET
May 16, 2009
\$25.00 for a space at this event is the bargain of the year.
Or just come to shop.
Lots of food, loads of fun, and a beautiful place to spend a day.
Mark your calendars – don't miss it!
Bring friends!

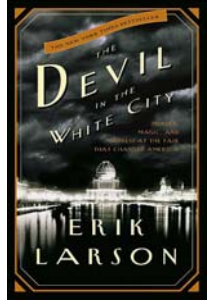
The Book Club at Old Swedes

Hello

We chose books and meeting dates for the next three month. This will allow people to plan their schedules and to get the books from the library if they want to. Here are the titles, the schedule and something about the books.
Marilyn

Devil in the White City by Erik Larson____Monday, April 6 @ 7 PM

Not long after Jack the Ripper haunted the ill-lit streets of 1888 London, H.H. Holmes (born Herman Webster Mudgett) dispatched somewhere between 27 and 200 people, mostly single young women, in the churning new metropolis of Chicago; many of the murders occurred during (and exploited) the city's finest moment, the World's Fair of 1893. Larson's breathtaking new history is a novelistic yet wholly factual account of the fair and the mass murderer who lurked within it.



Lush Life by Richard Price_____Monday, May 11 @ 7 PM

There's a crime at the heart of the story, in a few crowded blocks of Manhattan's Lower East Side, but you don't read Price for plot. Instead, you listen as he peels apart layers of class and history through the way his characters talk to each other: hipster bartenders who tell people they're really writers, homeboys from housing projects named after the Jewish immigrants who have long left the neighborhood, and cops, cops, cops, circling the streets looking for a collar, disappearing into their cases as their own lives go to ruin.

Brother, I'm Dying by Edwidge Danticat_____Monday, June 8 @ 7 PM
(two books that day)

In a single day in 2004, Danticat learns that she's pregnant and that her father, André, is dying—a stirring constellation of events that frames this Haitian immigrant family's story, rife with premature departures and painful silences.

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz _____Monday, June 8 @ 7 PM (two books that day)

The titular Oscar is a 300-pound-plus "lovesick ghetto nerd" with zero game (except for Dungeons & Dragons) who cranks out pages of fantasy fiction with the hopes of becoming a Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien. The book is also the story of a multi-generational family curse that courses through the book, leaving troubles and tragedy in its wake.

Marilyn Johnson

From the Historical Committee

Harris Sinclair Agnew 1842-1912

Harris Agnew was born on Second Street above Chestnut on November 30, 1842. His father, William Agnew, was a dry goods merchant. When the family moved to Washington Square they became members of a Presbyterian church at 12th and Walnut. He attended elementary school in the city public schools and later attended Lawrenceville Academy in 1853. He was the youngest member of his class. He started his business career with the firm Agnew and Smyser, a wholesale dealer in perfumes. He finished his career in the auditing department of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

He was a member of a volunteer fire company. He belonged to the American Hose, which was located near 7th and Market Streets. It was known as the "Silk Stocking Company." The Silk Stocking Company was made up of members of the upper class. He remained a member of the fire company until it was disbanded in 1870.

On June 13, 1883 Agnew was married at Old Swedes to Annie Deaney, a member of the congregation. Their son George Smyser was born March 15, 1885 and was baptized by the Reverend Simes. The couple moved to 1830 North 17th Street in 1902 and attended church on a regular basis. On April 1, 1910, Agnew was confirmed in the Church by Bishop Henry D. Robinson, D.D., Missionary Bishop of Nevada. Agnew died at the age of 70 on September 26, 1912. He was buried at Laurel Hill Cemetery.



Bob Josuweit

Prayer
Chain

Requests For Prayers Are Always Welcome

Please contact the church office (215) 389-1513
or Barbara Sampieri (856) 296-9752

Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need



Blanket Raffle

A Colorful Guatemalan Textile
brought back from Antigua

or

A Wonderful Throw Handmade by
our own Connie & Oliver Twist

Tickets: \$2 each

3 for \$5

Place ticket in container for the blanket
you wish to win!

**A Great Way to Support our
Brothers and Sisters in Christ
in Guatemala.**

**Proceeds benefit Scholarship
and Medical Funds.**

**Tickets Available until April 19th.
Drawing will be April 19th after 11am Service.**

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:

9:00 and 11:00 AM

CLERGY

The Very Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director

Terry O'Brien, Parish Administrator

Paula & James Minacci, Sextons

Candace Roberts, Dir. of Comm.

Mark Roberts, Treasurer; O.S.C.A.R.

VESTRY

Jerome Buescher

Barbara Chilcott

Dave Hammond

Diane Honor, Acct. Warden

Robert Jenkins

Dolores Kromchad

Rosanne Morison

Heather Myers, Rector's Warden

James Parsons

Connie Twist

Jeanette Woehr, Secretary

Rita West

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 (1/11/09); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/12/09); Pentecost (5/31/09); and All Saints Sunday (11/1/09). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.