



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

Thoughts from the Rector

Where Did That Come From?

Occasionally I have fleeting thoughts ... insights maybe, revelations possibly ... who knows. We all have them, I think. They're hard to pin down, much less put into words; like describing a dream.

Dependant on our own very individual, very specific and singular experiences we weave places of comfort and security, places where we live our lives, tell our stories, make our spaces and boundaries and definitions that we hope will get us through life with little risk and fear and much joy and peace and love.

And yet we have these insights, images, dreams that come from a mysterious place; a place beyond yet within. It seems there is an unseen, unknown, but oddly familiar place that we share; a place to which we are inextricably bound. A place that may ... just may ... be ... real.

Christians and Jews and Muslims and many others might call this reality "God's reality," or "The Kingdom of God." What do you think?

As we work our way from self-centered survival mode into some comfort zone defined by our conscious and well thought out decisions, we ... all of us ... at one time or another run into walls, or find ourselves lost in deserts, or up to our earlobes in swamps. We slog through the swamps, or break ourselves against the walls, or gasp a dry breathe as we cross the unending deserts of our doubts and fears. And we survive. We stand up, shake off the dust of our desperate attempts to climb the obstacles that cast the deepest shadows, and breathe deeply of life renewed through experiences that try our hearts and minds and souls.

We are born again, over and over, as we grow throughout our lifetimes, always balancing *being* with *becoming*. And we carry with us, in us, each step, each experience, each good or bad decision, every tragedy, every joy, every minute of every day. Every geography and culture and community of faith and fear, of hope and despair, born of love or hate or anger or fear that we have ever been a part of has something to do with who we are. Everything and

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everybody who has shared a moment with us, crossed our paths, or ran headlong into us ... every moment of our lives is a part of who we are now.

Including, I think, those fleeting thoughts and insights and dreams that leave us wondering *where did that come from?* We haven't a clue. Or do we?

Deep thoughts, I know, and muddled words. But hopefully you can recognize what it is I'm grasping at. What I'm attempting to describe is a common experience among humans; has been for at least as long as recorded history, and I suspect it goes all the way back to creation. Something of our DNA enables us to see what we do not know, to know what we cannot see, and to yearn for a way forward that will cast light on the mystery that is life.

Maybe it's God.

Peace,

Joy



Simply Eucharist



The short service of *Simply Eucharist* moves to Historic St. George's Methodist Church for the Tuesdays in July. This simple celebration of Holy Communion (no music, no sermon, one reading) is a wonderful way to share a half hour with each other mid-week during the summer. Please plan to join our brothers and sisters at St. George's on July 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th at 6:30PM and reconnect with new and old friends.

Historic St. George's is at 4th and New Street – just a few blocks from Gloria Dei. Traveling west on Christian Street from Gloria Dei make a right onto 3rd Street, go to New Street and turn left. The church entrance is on New Street just before you reach 4th Street.

Simply Eucharist will return to Gloria Dei for the Tuesdays in August (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st) at 6:30PM.

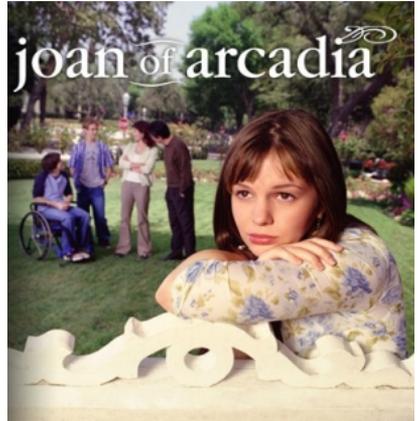
... with a Movie Night Twist

Join us for Movie Night on Tuesdays in July and August in the
air conditioned Roak Room at 7:15pm.

We will be watching the series "Joan of Arcadia" which follows the life of an average teenage girl as she develops a relationship with God. The show is full of heart and soul and packs a spiritual punch. Lively discussion follows over soda and popcorn.

Please join our happy, chatty group!

Diane Honor



A Big Thank You

... to Peggy, Josh and Tyler for their hard work at City Camp 09. Job Well Done! You Up Lifted a Community!

Be sure to ask them about their experience - They have a lot to talk about!



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

Due to the many days of rain experienced this Spring and early Summer the schedule for repairing and painting the steeple has been delayed. The work is now scheduled to begin the week of August 3rd and be completed by the end of August.

We have not reached our monetary goal for this much needed work but we're close! Thanks to all who have been so generous in helping us to care for this treasure. We have faith that the balance needed will be pledged before the Summer is over.



Lucia Fest – Already??

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for the Lucia Fest 2009 organizational meeting scheduled for Sunday, September 13, 2009, 1PM, in the Roak Room.

Lucia Fest this year will be the weekend of December 11th through 13th.

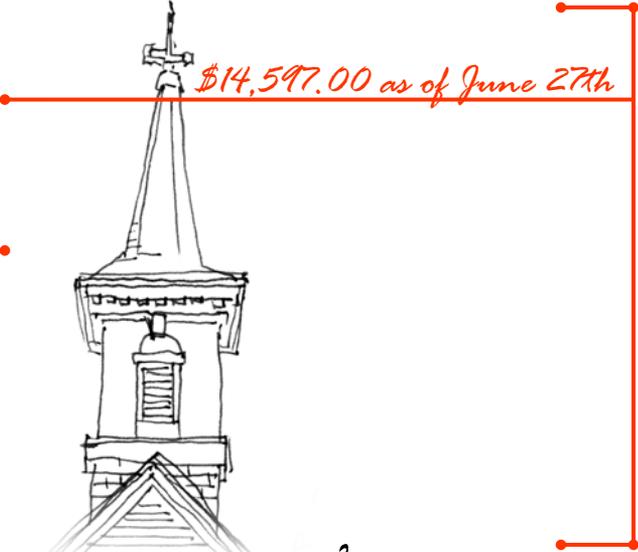
We need all the help we can get!!



Altar Flowers



If you would like to provide flowers for one of the Sundays in May or June please call the office and let Terry know. You may provide the flowers yourself or you may provide funds for flowers and our volunteer “flower person,” Diane Honor, will purchase and place the flowers for you.



\$14,597.00 as of June 27th

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 has 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

Calendar

- July 3** Office closed – celebrating Independence Day Holiday
- July 7, 14, 21, 28** Simply Eucharist – 6:30 PM (at Historic St. Georges)
... with a “Movie Night” Twist – 7:15 PM (at GDC)
- July 12** Rector leaves for vacation
- July 13** Book Club Meeting 7:00 PM – Riverside Hall
Etta by Gerald Koplan
The author will be there for discussion.
- July 19** 10:00 AM Service – Supply Clergy
– The Rev. James Von Dreele, Executive Director
and Port Chaplain, Seamen’s Church Institute
- July 26** 10:00 AM Service – Supply Clergy
– The Rev. Gregory Wilson
- August 2** 10:00 AM Service – Supply Clergy
– The Rev. Gregory Wilson
- August 4, 11, 18, 25** Simply Eucharist – 6:30 PM
... with a “Movie Night” Twist – 7:15 PM
- August 15** Woodstock Redux – 4PM – Midnight – Riverside Hall,
Church & Grounds
- August 17** Book Club Meeting 7:00 PM – Riverside Hall
The House at Riverton by Kate Morton
- Sept 4, 5** Philly Fringe Festival dance performance
at Riverside Hall at 8:00pm



The Lectionary for July

July 5th, Proper 9

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalm: 48

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

July 12th, Proper 10

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalm: 24

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Gospel: Mark 6:14-29

July 19th, Proper 11

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalm: 89:20-37

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 26th, Proper 12

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalm: 14

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

Gospel: John 6:1-21

The Lectionary for August

August 2nd, Proper 13

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a Psalm: 51:1-13
2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16 Gospel: John 6:24-35

August 9th, Proper 14

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 Psalm: 130
2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:25-5:2 Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51

August 16th, Proper 15

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3-14 Psalm: 111 or 34:9-14
2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20 Gospel: John 6:51-58

August 23rd, Proper 16

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: 1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11)22-30,41-43 Psalm: 84 or 34:15-22
2nd Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20 Gospel: John 6:56-69

August 30th, Proper 17

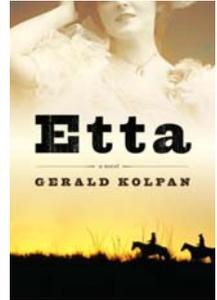
Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Psalm: 45:1-2-10 or 15
2nd Reading: James 1:17-27 Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Book Club at Old Swedes

Gerald Kolpan, author of Etta, will attend the meeting of the Book Club at Old Swedes' Church on Monday, July 13, 2009. We meet at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome to join us. **Please bring questions to ask the author.** You can learn more about the book by visiting his website at www.geraldkolpan.com

Marilyn Johnson



In an effort to accommodate our parents and children of Gloria Dei, Paula, a group of teachers and parents met in the summer to discuss changes to the Sunday School schedule and curriculum. It was decided that most parents would like Sunday School to begin at 10:30 and end at 11:30. The first 15 minutes will be devoted to crafts, followed by 45 minutes of instruction. We also discussed changes to the curriculum for both the older and younger groups. For the older kids, instruction will include more preparation for Confirmation Classes, i.e., recitation of specific prayers and exposure to specific bible stories, in addition to the pre-set curriculum. The younger kids will have an interactive story board curriculum to keep them active and engaged. At 11:30, teachers will bring children in to church to participate in the peace and communion. Additionally, we are offering babysitting for the wee ones from 10:45-12:30. We are looking for parents to help out on a rotating schedule. Look for the sign-up sheet at the Sunday School breakfast.

We hope these changes reflect the good of our community. It will allow parents more freedom and peace during worship, as well as provide a more structured and balanced curriculum for the students, and make for a happy, healthy congregation in all. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me or Paula.

Peace, *Diane Honor*

Save the date . . .

The Stewardship Committee will once again sponsor a “Welcome Back” spaghetti dinner on Saturday evening, September 19, 2009.

We revived that tradition last year and everyone said “Let’s do that again”! So we’re doing it again, but – this is Gloria Dei – with a twist: We’re inviting the congregation of Historic St. George’s Methodist Church to join us as we welcome them back to worship with us on Sunday, September 20, 2009.

Please come, join in the fellowship, see old friends, and meet new friends.

The Stewardship Committee

Outside Service

We had a perfect day for worship outside on our beautiful grounds.

We’ll be doing this again in early September,
so bring friends and relatives and neighbors. Bring all the kids!

Come and give God glory in the midst of God’s glorious creation!



SEXTON SIDESHOW PRESENTS

Woodstock "Redux"

40 YEARS ON

Saturday - August 15th 2009

DOORS OPEN 4 PM, EVENTS BEGIN AT 4:30

**UKE
Ellington**

7:00 PM
In the Church

**The
Dillon & Ray
Show**

8:00 PM
At the Amphitheater

**Interstate
76**

9:00 PM
In Riverside Hall

Poetry Readings - Performance by Elysian dance company

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church

Columbus Blvd. & Christian St.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

\$5 UNDER 21 / \$10 OVER 21

Food Available - Beverages Included for Over 21

*Dress Appropriately in Woodstock
Era Clothing - Tye-dye, Fringe,
Mud. No Shoes. Whatever . . .*





WELCOME the Newest MEMBERS
 . . . of Gloria Dei Church baptized on June 14, 2009
Jessica Lynn Beatty
Hailey Lynn DeHaven
Moses Orsini, Jr.

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
 Carl Delia
 Dave Hammond
 Diane Honor
 Robert Jenkins
 Dolores Kromchad
 Heather Myers, Rector's Warden
 James Parsons
 Lisa Reeves
 James Ufheil, Acct. Warden
 Jeanette Woehr, Secretary

**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.

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.



Sunday Service:
 10:00 AM thru August

Office Hours
 Tuesday-Friday 9:30-2:30