



November 2010

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

Making Time, Marking Eternity

Our imitation of God in this life must be an imitation of God incarnate: our model is the Jesus, not only of Calvary, but of the workshop, the roads, the crowds, the clamorous demands and surly oppositions, the lack of all peace and privacy, the interruptions. For this, so strangely unlike anything we can attribute to the Divine life in itself, is apparently not only like, but is, the Divine life operating under human conditions.
(C.S. Lewis, from his book *The Four Loves*)

Have you ever felt like standing in the middle of your living room and screaming? Have you ever felt the need for everything to just stop for a moment? How about that feeling that you want to throw the covers over your head and stay in bed all day? Or the one where you think you may throw the phone out the window if it doesn't stop ringing?

These kinds of reactions are just some of the ways we can recognize "overload" in our lives. We lose patience with those who love us, give short shrift to acquaintances, and brush off strangers with barely a glance. Too busy, too busy we say. Just so much I can get done. Only so many meetings I can attend. Can't be in two places at once. Don't have time to talk right now. Scurry, scurry. Busy, busy. Rush, rush.

Not only do we do ourselves harm living like this, the cost goes much deeper than just us. When we become enmeshed in the busy-ness that seems to be life in the 21st century, when we stretch ourselves so thin that we have no room for the unexpected, when we manage to answer all our emails, voicemails, and twitters, when we've gotten our grocery shopping and laundry done, made it to work on time and stopped on the way home to pick up the cleaning, but have not managed to look another human being in the eye all day, we have crossed a line and entered a Twilight-Zone kind of place. This is a place where seemingly we can exist but which in reality is a fictitious alternate universe where we only think we're living, but really we're dying - dying from the lack of the basics of human contact - touching, seeing, feeling, knowing, sharing in being and becoming.

C.S. Lewis reminds us that Jesus came, fully human, to show us the way to be fully human. In his life, even the small part we know about, he gave us

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examples of how to live in the busy-ness of the world. Yes, busy-ness has been the bane of our existence for eons. It's nothing new. So, Jesus sets an example for us of how to discern the way in which we can live fully. And, if we are open to his ways, we will see that time spent with others – at meals, at worship, sharing the road, sharing insights, listening to one another, asking questions, gathering for fellowship, praying together – has everything to do with not an alternate universe created by humankind but with the very Kingdom of God, right here, right now.

As the days get shorter and the season makes its demands on our ever-shrinking free time, remember to stop, at least once a day, and think about whether you've made real human contact with anyone, contact that mattered, contact that filled you with the knowledge of love, of life, of God. If not, sit still for a moment and ask God to be with you. Of all the things you get done each day, be sure to make the time for this. If Jesus could do it, so can we. Listen to his words, follow his example, and take hold of the promise of new life – this day, right now.

*Come to me, all who that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.*

*Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.*

(Matthew 11:28-29)

Peace,

Joy+



All Saints Sunday November 7, 2010

All Saints Sunday is a major feast day in the church year. This year at Gloria Dei we will be celebrating it with the reading of the names of those who have died this past year. Friends, family, neighbors, companions, and those buried from Gloria Dei will all be included in the litany to be read at both services. If you would like a name included in our list, please call the office at 215-389-1513 by Noon on Wednesday, November 3rd.



Thanksgiving Eve at Gloria Dei

We will celebrate Thanksgiving at Gloria Dei this year on Wednesday, Thanksgiving Eve, November 24st, with a service of Thanksgiving and Holy Communion at 7pm. We ask that you bring a canned good or dry good to bring forward during this service to be placed on the altar and blessed. We will share this ingathering of food with those in our community who are in need.

We have much to be thankful for here at Gloria Dei. Hopefully many of you will join us as we thank God for the blessings of this place and this community.

*Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
(Psalm 95:2)*



Prayer
Chain

Requests For Prayers Are Always Welcome

Please contact the church office (215) 389-1513
or Florence Brook (215) 271-1091,
(865) 585-4768, or fbrook529@hotmail.com

Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need

From the Rector's Warden

You might remember that one of the things the vestry tackled last spring was a walking tour of the property. We tried our best to look at things the way visitors would see them, not as we see them with our “used to it being that way” eyes.

We saw many things ... Yes, we saw a restful, green, peaceful space in the midst of a bustling neighborhood. Yes, we saw beautiful historic buildings. But we also saw things that needed attention – shingles missing from roofs, bricks that need replacing, joints crying out for repointing, trim that needs painting, shrubbery totally out of control. We took pictures of what we saw and made a list of our findings.

We thought we'd have an organized summary of those findings to share with the parish “first thing in the fall.” We're well aware – it is now November and you haven't seen the summary. But we haven't forgotten and – right after the first of the New Year (when we've been enriched by and survived Advent, the Lucia Fest, and Christmas) – we'll share that summary with you.

The purpose of sharing it is to make us all aware of the attention our wonderful spaces need. Once we're aware, then we can start to make decisions – decisions about what we can do ourselves, with your help, and what we need to have others do for us.

Even without the summary, we tackled some very obvious things ourselves this summer. The lush green grass that has sprung up in the burial ground is a vivid reminder of the hard work done to remove some of that overgrown shrubbery. And the perky flowers on the Simes memorial reflect the fact that two parishioners “adopted” that grave and put their stamp of care on it.



I continue to be amazed at the strength I receive from all of you, the people who make this place what it is – the living presence of the kingdom of God for all who come to see us in our little corner of Philadelphia. We celebrate our 300 years of history and reach toward the next 300 years. All of us on the vestry look forward – with your help – to another season of making our space even more beautiful and an even better presence of God's kingdom.

Jerry Buescher

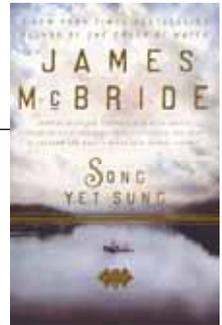
Blessing of the Animals and Pet Expo

In celebration of St. Francis Day we had our usual Blessing of the Animals service. As usual, all God's creatures were welcomed into the church for prayers and singing and blessing. We added a Pet Expo to our St. Francis festivities this year, welcoming many vendors of Pet products and services to Riverside Hall. This made for a wonderful time of fellowship, and the Queen Village community came out to enjoy a time of meeting new people and new companions as well as to learn about the many products and services available to our beloved companions in our area. We thank Walk It Like a Dog, our neighbor at 934 East Moyamensing, for making the event such a great success.



Calendar

- Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Ringers Rehearsals in Church – 7PM
- Nov. 3 Bible Study 6:00PM – In the Church – The Gospel of Matthew
- Nov. 4 Bible Study 7:30AM – In the Church – The Gospel of Matthew
- Nov. 6 Wedding – Licheski/Yablonski 4PM
- Nov. 7 All Saints Sunday
Daylight Savings Time ends – Fall Back
Lucia Rehearsal 12:45–3:30PM
- Nov. 9 Guatemala Meeting – 7PM – Riverside Hall
- Nov. 14 Swedish Service – 4PM
Lucia Rehearsal 12:45–3:30PM
- Nov 18 Swedish Colonial Society – Riverside Hall – 1:00–3:00PM
- Nov 21 Norwegian Service – 4:00PM
Lucia Rehearsal 12:45–3:30PM
- Nov 22 Book Club – 7:00PM – Riverside Hall
Song Yet Sung by James McBride ●
- Nov 24 Thanksgiving Eve Service – 7PM
- Nov 25, 26 Office Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov 28 Swedish Service – 4PM
1st Sunday of Advent



Another Glorious Flea Market

Thanks to all who helped make this a huge success!



The Lectionary for November

November 7th, All Saints Sunday

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

1st Reading: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm: 149

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:11-23

Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

November 14th, Proper 28

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 65:17-25

Psalm: 12

2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

November 21st, Proper 29 (Last Sunday after Pentecost – Christ the King)

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Canticle 4

2nd Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

November 24th, Thanksgiving Day (Evening Service)

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm: 100

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 6:25-35

November 28th, First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: 122

2nd Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

An article from “Old Swedes’ To-day”

In years past some of our parishioners have had an impact on the residents of Philadelphia. One of these people was Captain Peter Cruse. In 1918, Mary McCalla Evans, granddaughter to Captain Cruse, wrote the following article about her grandfather’s “queer cargo” for Old Swedes’ To-day. In the early 1900’s Old Swedes’ To-day was the monthly newsletter.

My memory often reverts to many statements of my dear Aunt Isabella Cruse, as to the fact of my grandfather Captain Peter Cruse, being the first conveyor of rubber in America.

He was a captain in the old merchant man service, and traded in the West Indies and South American ports. He was born in Gothenburg, Sweden, and was at first in the Swedish Navy, having run away to sea, as so often the Swedish lovers of the Great Deep were apt to do. Being Anxious to go to America, his mother, who taught him the love of the Bible, which he learned to read at her knee, urged him if he went to America, to go where her cousin, Rev. Nicholas Collin, had long since settled.

So Captain Cruse came to America, and Philadelphia. He at once attached himself to "Old Swedes" Church, and was a devoted attendant when on land. It is said of him if his vessel was returning from a voyage, near the first of any month, he would speed his boat to the utmost so as to be on hand at church on the first Sunday of the month, as the sermon on that day was always preached in the Swedish language. He himself wrote and spoke seven languages.

In Philadelphia the Captain fell in love with Catharine Simpson, daughter of James Simpson, a builder of vessels. Her favorite brother, James Simpson, Jr., became the founder of the large shipbuilding firm of Simpson & Neil, who built the first floating dry docks in America at the foot of Christian Street wharf. Catharine was only seventeen years old and as her parents had other matrimonial ideas for her, she resisted them, and married the Swedish First Mate, afterward Captain Cruse, and later a ship-owner of quite great repute.



After one of his voyages from South American he landed in Philadelphia, some ninety years ago, with what he called "a queer cargo," for it was composed of clumsy rubber shoes in the rough. The virgin rubber had been melted, and before hardening, the feet of the natives had been pressed into the rubber, after cooling into the soft substance, and they were to have the outside rough edges pared off with knives after reaching this country.

When the vessel reached Christian Street wharf, many of the prominent shipping men of Philadelphia were invited to visit the ship, and inspect the cargo. Among these shipping men one recalls the names of Thomas Earp, John F. Ohl, the Bernadous, and many others, all of whom were enthusiastic over the then mysterious substance in the vessel's hold, which they were told was to be converted into shoes which would resist rainy weather.

The local papers of that period made many favorable comments on the value of the cargo, and in the practical utilization of the product of the rubber tree.

In these days of motor cars, and the necessary rubber tires, what great strides have been made since Captain Cruse came up the Delaware River with his "queer cargo."



United Thank Offering (UTO)

I am happy to report that the total of \$406.80 was collected for the United Thank Offering.

As you know, this is an on-going mission of the Episcopal Church. I am asking once again that you take a "Blue Box" for your donation to this worthy cause—or you may take a UTO envelope for a one-time contribution. These can be found on the table at the rear of the church.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

UTO Coordinator

Doris Connor

UTO
& Me



Sharing Blessings

*with Thanksgiving
and Love*

Lucia Fest, 2010



Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

Columbus Boulevard & Christian Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147
(215) 389-1513

Friday, **December 10** - 6:00 & 8:00
Saturday & Sunday, **December 11 & 12**
2:00, 3:30 & 5:00

Tickets: Adults - \$10, Children under 12 - \$5

Available online from Oct 15 to Dec 1, 2010 at www.old-swedes.org

St. Eric's Fair

Imports for Sale; Coffee & Baked Goods



Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for an upcoming Sunday 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.

Vestry Highlights

(from October 20, 2010 meeting)

- The vestry will soon approve the formation of a 2nd tax-exempt foundation to solicit and administer funds for the preservation and development of the historic buildings and grounds of Gloria Dei.
- The energy audit, paid for by an anonymous gift, is nearing completion. Once completed, the vestry will examine ways to reduce Gloria Dei's energy use – not only saving funds but also making us more responsible energy consumers.
- Finances: We are running on a very tight budget and have had to use up some of our current funds to take care of ever increasing property maintenance expenses. The Accounting Warden presented a first draft of the 2011 budget for consideration and input. The Finance committee will be meeting to formulate the 2011 budget for presentation to the vestry at the November meeting.
- Watch for new signs on Water Street and Christian Street to keep our community up-to-date about Gloria Dei activities, and new signs in the churchyard that address protecting our old burial ground.
- On line giving has become a reality at Gloria Dei. People can now donate to Gloria Dei, purchase books, and buy Lucia tickets on line.
- The vestry approved a Yoga class to meet in Riverside Hall on a weekday evening. Dates and times will be posted on the bulletin board when determined.

(approved minutes for the September 2010 vestry meeting may be found on the bulletin board in Riverside Hall)



Donate to Gloria Dei
Make a pledge payment
Purchase books
Buy your Lucia tickets
Make Amazon purchases



Now all these things can be done online at Gloria Dei's website!
Just visit us as www.old-swedes.org and find out what else we're doing.
Check out our Facebook page while you're there.



CELEBRATE with the Newly **MARRIED**
Sandra Ann Capaldi and Steven Brian Rossiter
Joanna Elaine Carlsen and Eugene Augustus Milder

Welcome the Newest **MEMBERS**
 . . . of Gloria Dei baptized on October 10, 2010
Nilah Rein Cabuenos
Nathaniel Robert Rutkowski

In REMEMBRANCE of **Susan Marie Kennedy**
 (1965-1999)

Memorial Cards in loving memory of
John Keenan By: Jean & Bob Neill
 Bobby Neill
 Gary & Alexis Neill
Peggy Sullivan By: Jean & Bob Neill
 Bobby Neill
 Gary & Alexis Neill

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 Service:
 8:00 & 11:00 AM

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

C L E R G Y
 The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector

S T A F F
 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.

V E S T R Y
 Megan Bartlett
 Jerome Buescher, Rector's Warden
 Barbara Chilcott
 Carl Delia
 Diane Honor, Acct. Assistant
 Robert Jenkins
 Dolores Kromchad
 Heather Myers
 Barbara Potts
 Lisa Reeves, Secretary
 James Ufheil, Acct. Warden
 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 (1/9/11); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/24/11); Pentecost (6/12/11); and All Saints Sunday (11/6/11). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.