



October 2010

# Down By The Riverside

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

**You're Invited!**

## *Thoughts on Making a Commitment to Stewardship*

For as long as I've been going to church, be it Lutheran, non-denominational, or Episcopal, I've heard the word "stewardship" at least once a year. Since the word was so often mentioned in conjunction with asking me and other church members to increase our financial contributions (and I felt like I had little to no "extra" money to give), I got into the habit of rolling my eyes whenever stewardship was mentioned. In high school and college, I learned that stewardship was more than just giving the church 10% of my income; it was about giving to the church my time and talents, too. In more recent years, I've learned that stewardship is even more than what the words "time, talent, and treasure" can encompass; stewardship invites from us a commitment to each other, to the community, and to God. Yes, I said "invites", not "requires" or "demands". Just as God invites us into a personal relationship with him through Christ, God wants us to offer our time, talent, and treasures voluntarily, not out of duty and certainly not grudgingly.

So, let me be the first to say, "You're invited!" You're invited to make a commitment to stewardship this month, to make a pledge on Commitment Sunday (10/31/10) to share your God-given time, talents, and treasure with the members and visitors of Gloria Dei and our community. Now, I know that the word "commitment" has just as many negative connotations as the word "stewardship", but keep in mind two things: 1) commitments can be made for a day, a week, a month, a year, or a lifetime. (Thankfully for us, God's commitments are for eternity!) and 2) we make commitments to our friends, family, loan companies and employers every day, so why not commit to stewardship?

Making a commitment to stewardship requires thought and prayerful consideration. You might want to ask yourself or pray about the following questions: "How do I feel being a part of Gloria Dei?" "What activities and events do I look forward to that can't happen without the contributions of its members?" "Is it realistic for me to expect to get something for nothing?" "Do I have an 'attitude of gratitude' for all that God has given me?" "In what ways did I contribute my time and talents last year?" "Are there things I like to do or talents I have that I haven't shared with the church yet?" "Are there ministries

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that aren't happening at Gloria Dei that I really want to see happen?" "What percent of my salary did I put in the offering plate last year?" "Is there any way I can increase my monetary giving in order to ensure the continuity of our church community?"

When you've considered the answers to these questions, remember that God invites us to be stewards of all Creation, entrusting to us the earth, its resources, each other, and the community of faith that is the Church, hoping that we will choose to commit to that role. What will be your response?

*Megan R. Bartlett*



## A Generous Donation

### *A Call to a New Way to "BE"*

First a phone call to the rector, then some emails, and finally a meeting with the rector and someone who wishes to remain anonymous culminated in the following correspondence:

*"Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."*

*This grant of \$10,000 is made to Gloria Dei Episcopal Church for the purpose of reducing the church's dependence on energy produced by methods that abuse the earth and its atmosphere and to encourage members of Gloria Dei to reduce their own dependence on this harmful energy.*

This wonderful gift to Gloria Dei is also a challenge for us to become more aware, and perhaps to consider new ways in which we can respond as a faith community to the issues of energy costs, pollution of the earth's gifts, and what being good stewards of God's creation might mean for us right here at Gloria Dei.

We have scheduled an energy audit and will receive a report from professionals about what changes might help us to reduce our energy costs at Gloria Dei. Watch for news of this ongoing concern and how each of us might be able to apply what we learn to our own homes and businesses.

For now, we give thanks for such a generous and cheerful donor, and we assure our blessed donor that we will use this gift with humility, with thanksgiving, and with gratitude.

## Gloria Dei Enters 21<sup>ST</sup> Century! (ELECTRONICALLY)

Having begun our ministry in the 17th century, Gloria Dei has seen change upon change. We are happy to announce that, just like our forefathers and foremothers, we can survive change as well as they did. Gone are the days when months went by between letters, when for some folks it took half a day to get to church, on the water or by land, and when donations were made in sacks of grain and bushels of produce.

Today, Gloria Dei has met the challenge of the electronic age. Visit our website ([www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)) and see our new tabs - Donations; Bookshop; Amazon; Facebook. Thanks to the wonderful work of a number of parishioners we are ready to receive donations of pledge payments, general donations, and Witness Tree Fund donations by credit card on line. We are also now able to sell the books we have been involved in publishing (Colonial Records of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania) as well as other books made available by the Swedish Colonial Society, also by credit card payment.

As we continue to get better at updating our information we expect that technology will continue to challenge us. But we're up to it! We've been here over three hundred years and expect to meet the challenges for a few more centuries at least.

So, be brave, as we are, and check out our website and our Facebook page.

And stay tuned - Lucia Fest tickets will be available for purchase on line this year. My, oh my! What can be next!



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](mailto:fbrook529@hotmail.com)

*Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need*

## From the Rector's Warden

We're back! From all our summer doings and adventures. One of my adventures this summer was sitting in the Church of the Advent in Cape May, waiting for Sunday service to begin, and being tapped on the shoulder by our own Dolores Kromchad who asked what Peggy and I were doing in "her church." No matter how far you get from home ...

It happened on short notice, but happen it did – the third annual parish "Welcome Back" spaghetti dinner, on Saturday September 25, 2010. About thirty people attended. A difference this year was the seating arrangement – Paula suggested making one very large table out of six tables so that everyone could sit around one table. We did that, and it worked well – people were able to talk to people next to them and across from them, just as we do at home. Food items were contributed by many people and, in the best Old Swedes' tradition, there was enough food for take home packages.

We're about to embark on a month-long reflection on our commitment to Gloria Dei Old Swedes'. You'll find a brochure on this topic along with the Riverside in this mailing. The brochure will help everyone look at many different ways to focus our commitment – Stewardship – endeavors. As another help to our reflections, four members will speak, one on each of the first four Sundays of October. As in the past, each person will speak from his or her background and interest about some aspect of commitment to the mission of our parish. On the last Sunday, we'll celebrate Commitment Sunday. Please remember to bring your list of things you're willing to commit to for Gloria Dei this coming year so we can offer those together.

Speaking of commitment and stewardship: Gloria Dei needs a person, or a couple of people, to chair the Stewardship Committee. That committee plays an important part in life at Gloria Dei. Please, think about your ability to chair that committee or to share that commitment with one or two other people.

It's great to have everyone back, and hope to see everyone at church, at the Flea Market, and at Lucia.

*Jerry Buescher*



### 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.

**THE BEST FLEAS AT THE OLDEST CHURCH**  
*Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church*

# FALL Flea Market

*Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>*  
*8:00am to 3:00pm*

*Spaces - \$25.00 Paid at the Door*

*BAKED GOODS, HOMEMADE  
CHILI, HOTDOGS, MEATBALLS,  
SODA, PRETZELS*

**HISTORICAL CHURCH TOURS AVAILABLE.**  
**BEST FLEAS IN SOUTH PHILLY!**  
**COME JOIN THE FUN!!**

*Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church*

*Columbus Boulevard & Christian Street*

*Philadelphia, PA 19147*

*For information (215) 389-1513 [www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)*

# Calendar

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- Oct 2** Wedding - Capaldi/Rossiter - 4PM
- Oct 3** Two services - 9:00 & 11:00AM
- Oct 4** Blessing of the Animals 6:30PM  
Queen Village Pet Expo - 5:30-6:30 and 7:00-8:30PM
- Oct 6** Clericus Meeting Riverside Hall 9:30AM - 11:30AM
- Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27** Bible Study 6:00PM - In the Church - The Gospel of Matthew
- Oct 7, 14, 21 and 28** Bible Study 7:30AM - In the Church - The Gospel of Matthew
- Oct 10** Two services 9:00 & 11:00AM - Baptisms at 11:00AM  
Swedish Service - 4:00PM
- Oct 16** Wedding - Carlsen/Milder - 4:00PM
- Oct 17** Norwegian Service - 4:00PM
- Oct 18** Book Club - 7:00PM - Riverside Hall
- Oct 21** Swedish Colonial Society - Riverside Hall - 1:00-3:00PM
- Oct 23** Fall Flea Market - 8:00AM - 3:00PM
- Oct 28** Jazz & Joe 7:30 - 9:30PM - Riverside Hall
- Nov 7** Daylight Savings Time ends



**Daylight Savings Time Ends  
November 7th  
Fall Back**

# The Lectionary for October

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## October 3rd, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 22

*Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

1st Reading: Lamentations 1:1-6      Psalm: Lamentations 3:19-26  
2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14      Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

## October 10th, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 23

*Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

1st Reading: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7      Psalm: 66:1-12  
2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15      Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

## October 17th, Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 24

*O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:27-34      Psalm: 119:97-104  
2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-5      Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

## October 24th, Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 25

*Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

1st Reading: Joel 2:23-32      Psalm: 65  
2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18      Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

## October 31st, Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 26

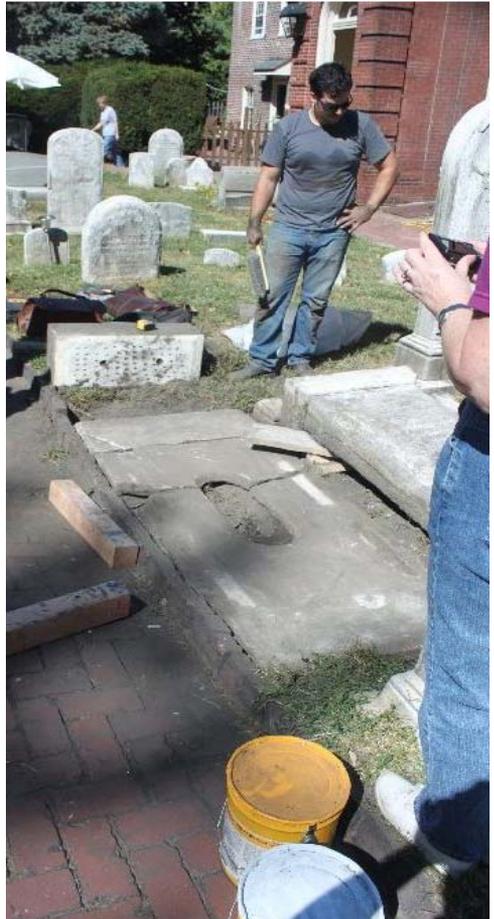
*Merciful God, gracious and benevolent, through your Son you invite all the world to a meal of mercy. Grant that we may eagerly follow his call, and bring us with all your saints into your life of justice and joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

1st Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4      Psalm: 119:137-144  
2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12      Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

## Amazon.com Comes to Gloria Dei!

For everyone reading this who purchases things on Amazon.com, please now go to our website ([www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)) first. You'll find the Amazon logo on the bottom of our home page. Just click on it and you'll be into Amazon where you can proceed as usual. By entering through our website, Gloria Dei will receive a percentage of your purchase price. There is no additional charge to you - just an additional click on your computer. Thanks for your support.

**amazon.com**  
and you're done.™



**On a hot sunny Saturday**, several members of the congregation joined the History Committee to observe and learn the methods used to restore tombstones. The first stone to be raised was lying between two garden tombs outside Riverside Hall. John Carr, Seth Gartland, and Marco Federico from Milner + Carr Conservation began to work. The headstone, which weighs approximately 450 lbs., was thought to belong to the base of where the headstone was lying. However, after further examination of the base it was determined the headstone belonged to the garden tomb by the walkway. In order to place the headstone back on the base the rails of the garden tomb also had to be repaired. Over the years the rails and the foundations of the headstone and footstone had sunk and separated. This required digging up the garden bed of the tomb. Those of us observing were surprised to discover there was a hole in the bed of the tomb to allow for drainage. During the entire process John Carr and his crew were explaining to us the process they were using. The engraving on the headstone over the years has deteriorated and is mostly unreadable. The History Committee is now researching what little information that is legible on the headstone to determine whose grave has been restored. The second headstone to be restored was an easier process. The headstone of Joseph W. P. Roberts, born October 23, 1839 – died November 24, 1875 required redrilling holes in the base and headstones for insertion of the supporting rods. This tombstone is located by the walkway leading to Riverside Hall and the Rectory garden. We look forward to many other days of restoration in the graveyard.



# Witness Trees

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

## **BY YOUR GENEROUS OFFERING THE WORK & WORSHIP OF THIS, THE OLDEST CHURCH IN PENNSYLVANIA, IS PERPETUATED**

*This year the collections from our Lucia Fest services began a fund for the care and maintenance of the many trees on our property. Gloria Dei is over three hundred years old and many of the trees have witnessed much of its history. But many of them are in need of professional care if they are to continue to be a source of beauty and an integral part of our beautiful grounds.*

*These trees need your help so that they may continue to be our witnesses of history as it unfolds in this beloved place of sanctuary, worship, and community activity.*

*Glorious Trimmers: \$25 - \$99; Swedish Pruners: \$100 - \$199; Philadelphia Defenders: \$200 - \$499;  
Extraordinary Arborists: \$500 and above; Friends of Gloria Dei: Any amount*

*Send donations to:*

*Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church  
Columbia Boulevard & Christian Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147*



*For information (215) 389-1513 [www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)*



## **Guatemalan Coffee**

**\$10/Bag**

**The Guatemalan Coffee comes  
in approx. 1 pound bags;  
either whole or ground.**

**This is fair trade coffee and helps  
the San Lucas Toliman Project.**

**[www.sanlucasmision.org](http://www.sanlucasmision.org) is where you  
can find more info about the coffee  
and project.**

**Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church thanks you for your generous support.**

# JAZZ Joe

at Gloria Dei

*Last Performance til after the Holidays*

**Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>**

*between the hours of 7:30 & 9:30*

- Friendly conversation, a cup of coffee, and great jazz - who could ask for more ?
- Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church and the Alan Segal Quartet have partnered to bring this event to the public
- **BYOW** (Bring Your Own Wine if you choose)
- Cost: a donation to help Gloria Dei defray the cost would be appreciated
- **Free Parking** is available

*Enjoy live jazz with coffee and dessert!*

## Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

Christian Street and Columbus Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
215-389-1513 • [www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)





**Memorial Cards in loving memory of**

**Joe Siperko** By: Joe & Dolores Collins  
**Don Cancellarich** By: Marge Lord,

Florence Brook  
Joe & Dolores Collins

**Ethel Occhelino** By: Bob & Sally Daly

**Jane Theresa (Cassidy) VonFranzke**

By: Jim & Cathy Ufheil  
George & Donna Collins

Joe & Dolores Collins  
Marge Lord

Connie & Ollie Twist  
Susan Lewandowski

Doris Connor  
Carol & Bob Jennings

Amanda & Edwin Haury  
Maryann & Keith Frist



**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:**

9:00 & 11:00 AM

**Office Hours**

Tuesday-Friday 9:30-2:30

**CLERGY**

The 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**

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 (1/10/10); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/4/10); Pentecost (5/23/10); and All Saints Sunday (11/7/10). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.