



September 2010

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

Living in the And

It's hard to begin again, isn't it? We have a penchant for wanting everything to stay the same. But everything around us indicates that change is the norm in our world. We do not live in a fixed, static, unchanging universe. The seasons of the year, the movement of the planets, weddings, funerals, baptisms, neighborhood revitalization projects, city clean ups and tear downs, our own ever-changing bodies all speak to life's constant evolution, change.

I've been thinking recently about the upheavals, changes if you will, in our faith communities. These can be particularly unsettling to many. Most of us go to church to find a safe, peace-filled place where we, along with others who seek such a place, may find strength in gathering for comfort and renewal, to worship God and be reminded that we are loved. We try to avoid noticing or discussing the angst-ridden disputes between national and international church bodies. We're not thrilled when our church makes headlines in the newspapers over local conflicts, whether they are theological, political, or personal. We don't like to admit to the conflicts in our own parishes.

The space between hope and despair, love and indifference, good and bad, right and wrong, anger and joy, tolerance and exclusion - the "and" space - is what we Christians call faith. Faith focuses us not on the extremes, the mountain top experiences or the valleys of darkness, but on the ever-present God with us. Living in the "and" gives us a perspective very different from the world around us. It allows us to let go of our inwardly, centrally focused selves and to consider creation as God-centered. When we see that everything flows from God, out of God, into God's good creation then it all takes on a different aspect.

True, conflicts don't evaporate, at least not immediately. Not everyone who is hungry gets fed just because I refocused on God. Wars don't cease, hatred and bigotry doesn't disappear from our lives, and the energy crisis isn't immediately resolved. So why bother to change? Why push myself to live in the "and"?

Rabbi Tarfon, who lived during the first century A.D. and witnessed the destruction of Jerusalem, says it better than I can: "It is not your responsibility

(continued on next page)

to finish the work [of perfecting the world], but you are not free to desist from it either.”

And so, we live in the “and.” We will continue to know both hope and despair, to be both angry and joyous, to be tempted to draw clear lines down the middle of things and label each other right or wrong, good or bad. But we will also gather as a faith community to remind each other that in the “and” we can see Jesus. In the “and” we can know peace. In the “and”, which is our faith, we will be drawn into a God-centered place where we discover anew the Kingdom in our midst. And there we will sing together.

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus.
Look full in his wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of his glory and grace.*

Peace,

Joy +



June 6th Outside Service



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



Sunday School Registration!

SIGN-UP

Sunday, September 12 following the 10:00AM Services in Riverside Hall
We will ask for Name, Age, Contact Information...

FIRST CLASS: Sunday, September 19

Ages 0 to 3 **Babysitting**
(10:30-12:30)

Ariel Towey
Volunteer Assistant (You?)

Ages 4 to 6-7 **Little Glorias**
(10:30-11:30)

The children will join the
congregation in church at the
Peace

Jill Duink
Laura Towey
Volunteer Assistant (You?)

Ages 6-7 to 11 **Young Swedes**
(10:30-11:30)

The children will join the congregation in
church at the Peace

Diane Honor
Tiia Reinvald
Volunteer Assistant (You?)

Ages 12+ - **Confirm not Conform**
(9:30-10:45, time to be confirmed)

We would love to have children ages 12
and older join the "Confirm not
Conform" class.

The Little Glorias and the Young Swedes will have an exciting curriculum that aligns with the Sunday lectionary readings heard in church. We are hoping that our families will share their learning and experiences! Lesson plans can be found at: http://www.ecusa.anglican.org/109452_115801_ENG_HTM.htm.

Adult/Teen Volunteers Needed! Please sign up as a volunteer assistant to join the Sunday School classes on a rotating basis. We need your help with crafts, music, prayer, working with children, escorting the children to church at 11:30AM, and we want to tap in to your special talents! Jill Duink and Laura Towey will organize a schedule. Your time commitment will be light and very greatly appreciated.

If you have questions or are interested in becoming a Sunday School teacher or volunteer assistant, please contact Jill Duink (jillddd@hotmail.com) or Laura Towey (ltowey2010@gmail.com). For Confirm not Conform information please contact Julie Daye (Julie.Daye@dbr.com) or Bill Towey (willb58@hotmail.com)

HELP WANTED

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY – JUST HANDS AND HEARTS

Gloria Dei is in need of many hands as we tackle the needs of our growing parish. Please consider the many ministries in need of help and pray about where you might be able to offer your gifts. Then be in contact with the rector or any of the Committee Chairs to find out more.

Toy Collection Coordinator (New) See article in this issue.

Bulletin Boards/Back Table Coordinator (New) – Information presentation in public areas.

Hospitality Co-Chair – Many thanks to Ann Blackstone and Peggy Buescher for a wonderful year of Sunday morning hospitality and fellowship. Ann has decided to step down from this ministry at this time so we need a new Co-Chair to help Peggy continue this important ministry.

Stewardship Committee – After three years, and agreeing to be appointed as Rector's Warden this past May, Jerry has stepped down as Stewardship Chair. He has left a hard-working committee with lots of willing volunteers for the many events that the Stewardship Committee organizes. But we need a Chair to help keep this wonderful, large committee organized and focused as they move from Pledge Drive to Flea Market to Lucia to Seder this year.

Property Committee – This committee is faced with some very important property issues that need to be addressed this year. They consider the many issues involved with our historic and non-historic buildings and grounds, they seek professionals and quotes for work necessary to maintain the property, and they advise the vestry on decisions in these areas. (Property Chair: Jim Parsons)

Sunday School Volunteers – Whether you would be willing to commit to a season of teaching, or just a week here or there, or many be available to help with special events, we could use you! (Co-Chairs: Jill Duink and Laura Towey)

Inreach and Outreach – These ministries remain somewhat organic in nature, organized around individual needs and approaches. There is Prayer Chain Ministry, those who make phone calls and those who write notes, pastoral and Eucharistic visitors, drivers picking up parishioners unable to get to church on their own, collections for Seamen's Church Institute and St. Peter's Food Cupboard. There is some talk about organizing a cooking ministry this fall to cook meals in our kitchen, freeze them in our freezer, and take them to shut ins and those in need in our parish family. If any of these things interest you please talk to Joy about becoming active in one or more of these areas of ministry.

Finance Committee – See article in this issue. This committee is charged with analyzing, planning, and advising the Vestry on the financial matters of the parish. Particularly in these times of economic stress we need willing volunteers to help consider the present and future financial needs of our parish. (Chair: Jim Ufheil, Accounting Warden)



Toys Needed!

SOMEONE TO COLLECT TOYS NEEDED!

We need new toys for the back of church and for the babysitting room in the Roak House. In response to the concerns of many who worship with us that the noise created as our children play with the existing toys in church is distracting to those in prayer, we plan to replace the toys in church with appropriate “quiet” toys. And new this year - we will be using the downstairs center room at Roak House for babysitting between 10:30am – 12:30PM on Sundays and we need toys for the babies that can be kept clean and/or are washable. We also need someone coordinate this short term project. Please see Joy if you would be willing to help.



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



From the Rector's Warden

This June was the hottest June on record in Philadelphia and July was the second hottest July on record. A look at the grass in the cemetery or a recollection of Sundays in the Roak Room would make that clear.

But life at Gloria Dei went on. During the spring, the vestry embarked on a project to look, and look hard – with the eyes of strangers to our family, at the appearance of our grounds and buildings. We walked over the property from Christian Street to Water Street, looking for things that needed attention. Surprise, surprise – we found things, lots of things. A smaller committee of the vestry then began the project of organizing our observations, setting priorities, and deciding what “we” could take care of ourselves and what we’d need to have done for us. That work is ongoing, and in the fall the vestry will share with you their plans and assessments.

But – heat or no heat – the shrubbery along the brick paths was (literally) in our faces. A group of parishioners tackled that shrubbery in three sessions. You can now see the church from the entry walkway between Riverside and Sextons’ House. You can see the sweep of the cemetery when you come out of church. And we now have one cemetery, not two, as the overgrown hedge of yews that fenced off the western part of the cemetery from the rest of the cemetery was removed.



Speaking of the walkway between Riverside and the Sextons’ House – we also discovered that, on the 1895 map of the city, that walkway was part of Woodward Street, extending from Christian Street.

The group of relocated burials and monuments just off the southern end of the Roak Building was also cleaned of encroaching ivy and weed trees. Two parishioners that I’ll mention by name did that in one very hot, very dirty, very sweaty evening – Richard Woehr and Carol Jenkins.



We also saw “our” seminarian, Rhian Roberts, begin her journey, some of “our” children attend Camp Arrowhead (Jordan, Kaitlin, and Taylor Amato), some of “our” children and one adult parishioner participate in City Camp (Josh and Tyler Myers and Peggy Buescher), and one of “our” children (Tyler Myers) travel to Guatemala on the diocesan mission trip.

A hot summer but a lot accomplished and a lot begun. We look forward to the fall – a renewed Sunday School effort, the beginning of a two-year confirmation preparation class, a recommitment to stewardship, preparation for Lucia Fest, and the “grounds project.”

As we go forward, let’s do it the way Gloria Dei Old Swedes’ has always done it – with love and care for each other and for our neighbors and with joyful fellowship.

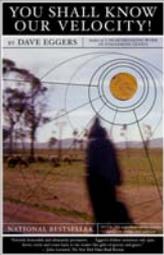
Jerry Buescher



A Gift of Love

On August 15th we unveiled Leigh Jenkins’ gift to Gloria Dei. Leigh presented us with a beautiful painting of our church. We were so blessed with Leigh’s presence with us all summer. She’s back at college now, but her painting will always remind us of her presence. We value this wonderful gift, from our own resident artist, and will treasure it for years to come. Thank you Leigh, and God bless you!

Calendar

- Sept 5** 10:00AM Service continues
- Sept 6** Labor Day Holiday (office & church closed)
- Sept 7, 14, 21, 28** Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal – 7:00PM Church
- Sept 8** Clericus Meeting Riverside Hall 9:30AM – 11:30AM
- Sept 10, 11** Fringe Festival
- Sept 12** 10:00AM Service – Historic St. George’s at Gloria Dei
Registration for Sunday School
Babysitting Services 9:30AM – 11:30AM
- Sept 13** Book Club 7:00 PM – Riverside Hall
You Shall Know Our Velocity •
by Dave Eggers
- 
- Sept 14** Guatemala Meeting – Roak Room – 7:00PM
- Sept 15** Vestry Meeting – 7:00PM – Roak Room
- Sept 16** Swedish Colonial Society 1:30 – 3:30PM in Riverside Hall
- Sept 19** **Return to two services** – 9:00AM & 11:00AM
Lucia Meeting – Roak Room – 12:30PM
Confirmation Classes – 9:45AM – 10:45AM
Sunday School – 10:30AM – 11:30AM
Babysitting Services – 10:30AM – 12:30PM
- Sept 22, 29** Bible Study (in the church) 6:00PM
- Sept 23** *Jazz & Joe* – Riverside Hall – 7:30PM – 10:30PM
at Gloria Dei
- Sept 23,30** Bible Study (in the church) 7:30AM
- Sept 26** No services at Gloria Dei – services at Historic St. George’s
11:00AM

The Lectionary for September

September 5th, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalm: 139:1-5, 12-17

2nd Reading: Philemon 1-21

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

September 12th, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 19

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray; Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalm: 14

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

September 19th, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 20

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another: Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Psalm: 79:1-9

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

September 26th, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 21

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world: Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Psalm: 91:1-6, 14-16

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31



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 Finance Committee is looking for help!

We will be initiating our annual budget review and planning for 2011 starting in September and the finance committee would like to have more congregational input into our budgeting process. While we've done an amazing job at managing our controllable expenses over the last few years, we have some major recurring expenses and continually run into those unanticipated repairs that have caused a significant drain on our "life savings". We need to keep an eye on the future and need more eyes available to do so.

Please let Joy, Jim Ufheil (Accounting Warden and Finance Committee Chair) or Mark Roberts (Treasurer) know if you're interested in helping out on the finance committee.

Thanks,

Jim Ufheil

Well Ring My Chimes!

The Gloria Dei Ringers, having had their informal debut on a hot Sunday in July, shall continue to rehearse and create for the fall and Christmas Eve. By the time you read this they will have performed again August 22 in celebration of our college and seminary bound young people.

The Ringers' next appearance will be on Sunday, September 12th, at our last 10AM service for the season. The folks at Historic St. George's Methodist Church will be joining us for worship that Sunday. The Ringers will continue to offer music once in both October and November, and will be offering a special new creation planned for Christmas Eve.

Rehearsals are on Tuesday nights at 7pm in the church up in the balcony. We seem to have a core of six for the moment and four more would be VERY welcome. Should you wish to join in, let me know!

Fej

LUCIA Organizational Meeting
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2010, 12:30PM
ROAK ROOM

Everyone is encouraged to get involved in this largest and most important Gloria Dei fundraiser. Plan to come to the meeting and find out how you can help!



Graveyard Restoration and Renewal

Some parishioners have been hard at work this summer removing bushes and cleaning up our graveyard. Thank you to all who came together to get this work done. (Check out the pictures on Gloria Dei's Facebook page!) The graveyard is really looking good.

So good, in fact, that we have begun to consider how we will begin the gravestone restoration that is so needed in our historic space. As a beginning, we have contracted with Milner + Carr Conservation to raise the two large gravestones that lie face down in the part of the cemetery closest to Riverside Hall.

Milner + Carr will be raising and restoring these stones on Saturday September 11th. This will be a full day project. All those interested in this work are invited to come and observe this work. John Carr and his associates will be talking as they work, teaching us some valuable information concerning restoration work. Thank you to the Gloria Dei History Committee, who have offered their funds to have this work done.

With the removal of some of the bushes surrounding the graveyard, the tombstones have become more prominent. Many of the tombstone beautiful inscriptions have long worn away. Below are some inscriptions of tombstones placed in our graveyard over the years in the month of September.

Beneath
repose the earthly remains of
Hannah wife of
Nicholas **Collin**,
Rector of the Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania
departed on the 29th September 1797,
Aged 48 years and 2 months.
He erected this monumental
record of her piety kindness
economy neatness; her faithful
affection to him in many trying
scenes; of his grief, which shall not
cease until they meet in the land
of the living.

Sacred to the memory of **Miss Sophia Fisler**
who departed this life September 3rd 1816 aged 65 years.
Regretted by numerous
Relatives and friends
Particularly N. Collin
Having lived with him.
And his wife, her sister,
Eleven years, and since
Her decease, been for
Nineteen, a prudent
Neat and trusty manager
Of his household.

In Memory of **Sarah Fox**
who departed this life September 6th 1853 In the 65th year of her age.
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.
Even so saith the spirit;

Sacred to the memory of my husband **Benjamin A. Rose**
Born May 21st 1783 Died September 23rd 1853.
Farewell beloved partner of my life,
Thou tender husband to thy loving wife,
When everlasting joys succeeds to this,
I hope to meet thee in the realms of bliss.
For they rest from their labors.

Guatemala Updates

Tyler Myers had the opportunity to travel with other youth from within the diocese to Xix, Guatemala. This is a small town in the Western Highlands. The group stayed at The School For New Mayas and built houses with a group called Contru Casa.

They lived in the dormitories' and ate with the students at the school. Traveling each day to the work site by foot. They worked on 3 homes and were almost finished when their time was up. Contru Casa is proud to celebrate the 400th clean new home made out of bricks and concrete built in Guatemala. Tyler's experience was life changing. Next time you see him ask him about it - just don't offer him beans and rice!



Would you be interested in going to Guatemala? We are in the development stages of planning a trip in 2011. We would visit our sister parishes in the San Carlos area and then maybe do some sightseeing or work with a group like Contru Casa. Please join us at our meeting on Tuesday, September 14th at 7pm in the Roak House as we discuss plans. Can't make the meeting - give me a call or send me an email.

Heather Myers

215-512-0363 moosefamily@comcast.net

Coffee - A new shipment of Coffee has been ordered - Buy your fair trade coffee off of the tea cart in the Parish Hall. Just \$10 per bag.

A Big Thank You to Peggy Buescher, Josh and Tyler Myers for once again representing Gloria Dei at City Camp 2010. This is a program run at St. James the Less at 32rd & Clearfield Streets. They worked hard to facilitate a Day Camp program for the neighborhood children and worked on improvement projects within the grounds of the church and the neighborhood.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to this worthwhile ministry.

Your guys Rock!



Opportunities for Hospitality

A big “thank you” to everyone who contributed their “time, talent, treasure” to our Sunday morning fellowship. We had homemade “goodies” provided on a good number of Sundays and we look forward to that continuing.

There is, effective September 5, an opening for a new co-chair. Ann Blackstone will be pursuing other ventures in the fellowship. This is a great opportunity to share with and be a part of the family at Gloria Dei. I have found it rewarding as well as a lot of fun.

Anyone interested please contact Peggy Buescher (267-456-4718) or Joy Segal (215-389-1513).

One of the “Busy-Bs”

Peggy Buescher



Unraveling the Lace

*Two distinct works produced by
Blind Faith Project's Artistic Directors,
Tiffany Delio and Daniela Galdi and
Independent Artist, Maria Urrutia. Dance Performance.*

Philly Fringe
September 10–11, 8:15 PM

Gloria Dei Old Swedes Church, 916 South Swanson Street

Box Office 215-413-1318

Tickets: \$12

www.livearts-fringe.org

Unraveling the Lace illuminates women and their battles with societal oppression in the early 1900's. Movement metaphors are used to explore picketing, persecution, and the marital meat market.

United Thank Offering (UTO)

Once again, I am asking you to bring your UTO “blue box” to church. If you care to make a “one time” contribution, please pick up a UTO envelope on the table at the rear of the church.

Thank you for your support for this important mission of the church.

UTO Coordinator

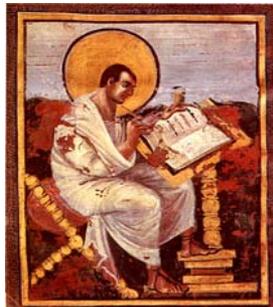
Doris Connor



Fall Bible Study

The Gospel of Matthew

This fall we will begin Bible Study with a new approach. We're going to read the Gospel of Matthew out loud. Yes, the whole Gospel. We're going to do this in six weeks, and we're offering two opportunities for you to join this once weekly reading. We will gather for 45 minutes on Wednesday evenings at 6:00PM and then again on Thursday mornings at 7:30AM. These will be identical sessions so you can choose which works better for your schedule each week. We'll begin on Wednesday, September 22nd/Thursday, September 23rd. We will gather in silence, offer an opening prayer, read out loud for twenty minutes, discuss or meditate as the Spirit moves us for twenty minutes, pray the Lord's Prayer together, and be on our way. Forty-five minutes once a week. At the end of six weeks you will have heard the entire Gospel of Matthew and had an opportunity to deepen your understanding of one Evangelist's presentation of the Good News. Consider joining us in church for this weekly gathering. You won't be called on to read or speak if it's not your wish. Just come and listen. And hear.





Memorial Cards in loving memory of:

- Arthur Smith** By: Bob & Jean Neill
 Gary & Alexis Neill
 Bobby Neill
- Edward Yost, Jr.** By: Doris Connor
- Charles Warner** By: Bob & Jean Neill
- Sarah Foy** By: Bob & Jean Neill

In REMEMBRANCE of

Sylvia Mary (Drozowski) Matkowski
1952-2010

**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

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.