



September 2011

Down By The Riverside

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

Thoughts from the Rector

Where Were You? Where Are You Now? Where Will You Be?

Where were you on September 11th, 2001?
Were you at home? In school? At work? In church?
On a bus? In a store? At a friend's? In a park?

What were you thinking - just before...just after?
What were you doing - just before...just after?
Where were you going - just before...just after?

Did life change for you that day? Have you changed?
Did life change for anyone you know? Have they changed?
Are we different than we were? How? Why?

It is ten years since the tragic events of 9/11. The questions we ask ourselves as we prepare to remember that tragic day will be revealing. The answers will be as well.

As Christians we will gather for worship. We will hold up in prayer those who were lost that day, and those who suffered loss. We will ask God's help in our constant struggle to embrace forgiveness, to be about reconciliation, to love our neighbors, to love our enemies. We will worship the God and Father of all and sit in silence before the sacrifice of the cross, wondering how on earth we could make this a place that reflects heaven. We will sing and pray, be nourished by the bread of life, affirm our faith and our belief that together, friend and foe alike, we can do far greater things than alone. We will confront the brokenness of all humanity and bless the God who by grace alone claims us all, yes every one, as children made in the Divine image. We will affirm that we are all children of the God who placed us in creation and then called it good... very good.

For some, more than others, this day will be hard.
For some, more than others, this day will be important.
For some, more than others, this day will call forth the best in us.
For some, more than others, this day will call forth the worst in us.

(continued on next page)

We will gather at Gloria Dei as one family, one among many, having strengths to offer and weaknesses to admit. We will offer all our hopes and fears, praying together and knowing that what we cannot overcome we can give to God – the good, the bad, the ugly. God will take whatever we offer and make of it what is needed for the fulfillment of the Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. We need but show up.

Please join us at 10:00AM on Sunday, September 11th, 2011, as we offer ourselves, our souls and minds and bodies, to God. The *shalom* we seek, as individuals, as families, as communities, as nations, is the *shalom* God has in mind for all who dwell on earth. Come and see God at work in the work of God's people. Come and join in the prayers for the world. Come and be a part of remembering, of renewing, of revealing God's presence among us.

Lord Jesus Christ,

You have put your life into our hands;

Now we put our lives into yours.

Take us, renew and remake us.

What we have been is past;

What we shall be, through you, still awaits us.

Lead us on. Amen.

(from A Wee Worship Book, c.1999)

Peace,

Joy +



BIBLE STUDY – Begins September 26, 2011

EXODUS

We will continue our approach to Bible Study with a reading of the second book of the Bible, *Exodus*. As we have done with *Matthew*, *Acts* and *Genesis*, we're going to read *Exodus* out loud. Yes, once again, the whole book. We will gather for 45 minutes on Monday evenings at 6:00PM. We'll begin on Monday, September 26th. We will gather in the Roak Room, 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 this study you will have heard the entire book of *Exodus* and had an opportunity to deepen your understanding of this second book of the Bible. Consider joining us 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.



The Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia's 5th annual Bike Race

Sunday, September 11, 2011

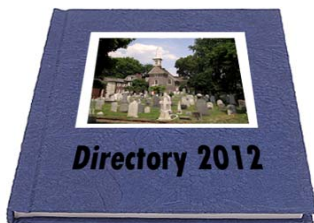
PLEASE NOTE:

This event requires the rolling closure of streets in our area. Streets will be closed on and off from about 8:00AM to 9:30AM between the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Columbus Boulevard and between Arch Street and Christian Street. This is not a "hard closure." The police will direct traffic in from time to time but you can expect delays.

**Leave early so you can get to church on time
for our special 9/11/11 service at 10:00AM.**



Gloria Dei Directory



In the coming months, we'll be gathering information to put together an updated church directory. If you received an orange insert in this issue of Down by the Riverside, will you take a few moments to fill it out and return it to the church? If you didn't get an insert, you can fill our your information online at www.old-swedes.org under the heading "People."

Information sheets are also available in Riverside Hall. We are including a business section as well and we hope that we can make this your "go-to" directory for many of your needs. Thank You!

Sunday School Registration!

Calling all children! Age 0 and up!

Sunday School begins on September 18, 10:30-11:30. All Little Glorias, Young Swedes, babies and parents, please stop by the Sunday School table in Riverside Hall following the September 11 service to register for Sunday School and babysitting.

We are looking forward to a fun-filled and spirit-filled year. Sara Eisenstein and Judy Lenhart will be teaching, creating, playing and praying with the Little Glorias (age 3 to 6). Jill Duink will be guiding, thinking, discussing, and praying with the Young Swedes (age 7+). Our weekly lesson plans are aligned with the lectionary and can be found at:

http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109452_ENG_HTM.htm.

We will also focus on the stories of the early church. We are looking forward to a wonderful year!



"Market Day" Guatemalan Style October 2

Come see a selection of bags, table clothes, shirts, belts, jewelry, wood spoons and other things we've brought back to sell. Something for everyone! Start your Christmas shopping early.

From the Rector's Warden

The end of August, a month that will surely be the rainiest Pennsylvania August on record and that has a chance of becoming the rainiest month ever in Pennsylvania – surpassing September 1999, the month that hurricane Floyd did so much damage here and elsewhere.

Gloria Dei had a relaxed summer, I'd say. No, we didn't see everyone on Sunday that we see during the rest of the year, but we saw lots of visitors. One Sunday saw a group of visitors from Doylestown and another group from Kensington – and each group said they'd come back another time to learn more about us and our parish here.

Six of us traveled to Guatemala early in July to visit our sister parishes there on behalf of all the people of Gloria Dei who help support them. It was a great trip – my second and surely not my last. There’s a separate article about that trip in this edition of the Riverside.

We celebrated having Rhian, “our Seminarian” here with us for the summer. We heard her preach a few times; the highlight for me was hearing her preach about the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), on Fathers’ Day, outside in our graveyard with all our old, old parish members. We celebrated a special Sunday with her on July 17 to give thanks for her summer with us and to help us remember her as she returns to her studies.

In August, we’ve been celebrating “Simply Eucharist” on Wednesday evenings. Those celebrations are some of my favorites – I think they may most closely mimic what the very first followers did. I’ve seen the Rembrandt exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and learned – among many things – that the story of the disciples meeting Jesus on the road to Emmaus late on Easter day was a theme that Rembrandt and his students painted and drew and etched over and over and over. Since I’ve seen that exhibit, at those eucharists, I think of us, in a small room at dusk, recognizing Jesus among us and in each other.

Maybe ten years ago, Staples had a TV commercial at this time of the year that featured a big yellow school bus – to the accompaniment of the “Jaws” movie theme – rearing up over a dune onto a beach full of children who run away screaming – school is coming (and you can get your back-to-school supplies at Staples).

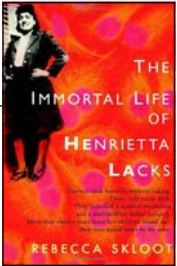
There won’t be any yellow school bus in our graveyard but “school is coming” for us, too, at Gloria Dei. Sunday school and the confirmation class will resume. Two services will return. Soon we’ll be asking each other to think about what stewardship means up close and personal – time, talent, and treasure. The fall Flea Market will take place, rain or shine. And sooner than we imagine at this point, Lucia will be upon us. And then Christmas. And then Lent. And then Easter. And then Pentecost.

And where can we get our supplies, for the school year that’s coming? Where else – in the Sunday eucharists, in the bible study that will start again on September 26 (the book of Exodus this time), in the time we spend with each other before and after services, in sharing with each other at the fall Flea Market, in helping with Lucia, in celebrating Christmas and all the coming feasts of the next church year.

See you at church.

Jerry Buescher

Calendar

- Sept. 6** Yoga – Riverside Hall – 6:00 – 7:00PM (\$8.00)
- Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28** Tai Chi (Classes are \$8.00) 10:00 – 11:00AM
Please dress for outdoor class – in the event of rain moves to Riverside Hall
- Sept. 11** Sunday School Registration today following 10:00AM Service
- Sept. 13, 20, 27** Yoga (Classes are \$8.00)
Beginners Class 6:00 – 7:00PM
Advanced Class 7:15 – 8:15PM
- Sept. 15** Swedish Colonial Society – Riverside Hall – 1:00–3:00PM
- Sept. 18** Return to two services – 9:00 & 11:00AM
Sunday School begins today – 10:30 – 11:30AM
Babysitting Services begin today – 10:30AM – 12:30PM
- Sept. 21** Vestry Meeting – Roak Room – 7:00PM
- Sept. 22** Jazz & Joe – Riverside Hall – 7:30PM
- Sept. 25** Lucia Meeting – Roak Room – 12:30PM
- Sept. 26** Book Club – 7:00PM – Riverside Hall
– *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*
by Rebecca Skloot • 
Bible Study – Roak Room
- Oct. 2** Guatemala Market Day
- Oct. 22** Fall Flea Market
- Oct. 29** Sexton Sideshow - Halloween

The Lectionary for September

September 4th, The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm: 149
2nd Reading: Romans 13:8-14 Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

September 11th, The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 19

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm: 114
2nd Reading: Romans 14:1-12 Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

September 18th, The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 20

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm: 105:1-6, 37-45
2nd Reading: Philippians 1:21-30 Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

September 25th, The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 21

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading: Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm: 78:1-4, 12-16
2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-13 Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

Guatemala and Grace

On Thursday, June 30, I stepped out of the air terminal in Guatemala City for the first time in my life and saw a mob of people waiting for arrivals from the United States. Who were all these people? How would we find our way? But then someone in our group yelled “There’s Victor” and all made our way toward him. I was greeted with a big hug from him and welcomed to his country, Guatemala. And so my adventure began ...

Guatemala, for me, was both enjoyable and rewarding. The lush countryside is full of charm and splendid colorful gardens. I particularly enjoyed the natural beauty of Lake Atitlan and its surrounding volcanoes. The ancient architecture and churches in Antigua were just as amazing.

The most rewarding part of the trip was interacting with the people. The people are full of gratitude coupled with humility and integrity. They are people of a culture that goes back thousands of years, a very proud culture. They may be poor – almost beyond comprehension – in material things but their children are so obviously loved and so very well taken care of. I was apprehensive that my definite non-fluency in Spanish would make it difficult to make contact. But as soon as I saw those children and the obvious pride of their mothers, I was home free and there was no language barrier. Holding kids on your lap in front of their mothers is all the language anyone needs. And when we needed to talk about something “technical,” Victor was there.

We worshiped with people from both “our” parishes, met Father Rene Rodriguez whom we’d never met before, shared meals, received their gifts and letters of thanks to you for your generosity to them, and shared with them some things we’d brought – some clothing, some craft items, a couple of soccer balls, and some books. They were so grateful for our small amount of care for them that I felt rewarded with God’s grace from the moment we arrived and all through our trip.

Our tour guide, Victor, was truly a Godsend. He kept us safe and taken care of and took us into places and to meet people we’d never have known about without his help. I am already looking forward to my return.

Heather, Sally, and I had great fun selecting the handmade Guatemalan treasures to bring back and share with you. They are perfect gifts and special because they are made with love. We need everyone’s help to make this a successful mission for us at Gloria Dei. Please come out and support us. We plan to “kick off” stewardship month with Guatemala Sunday on October 2. We look forward to seeing you there and we’ll have lots of letters, pictures, and – remember, this is Gloria Dei – food to share.

In closing, I feel very blessed to have been able to participate on this mission. My experience reinforced for me that it is truly in giving that

we receive.

With love and peace, Peggy Buescher – for all the pilgrims to Guatemala:
Tom, Heather, and Tyler Myers; Sally Daly; and Jerry and Peggy Buescher





The Jazz Sanctuary, Inc. presents a Jazz & Joe event:

Sponsored by:

 **LPL Financial**

member FINRA/SIPC. : Kevin.supka@lpl.com; 215-572-4300

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K. Biederman: 215-934-3582

Alan Segal Quartet

alan@alansagal.net 215-208-7314

Eddie Etkins – George Sinkler – Alan Segal – Leon Jordan

Thursday 9/22 - 7:30 to 9:30 - Riverside Hall



Vestry Meeting Bullet Points

- Paul Gibson, our new seminarian, will join us in September
- More shrubbery removal work scheduled – Saturday, September 17
- Sexton Sideshows coming up – October 29 and November 11
- Special 10-year remembrance service on September 11 – one service at 10:00 AM

(approved minutes for the July 2011 vestry meeting may be found on the bulletin board in Riverside Hall)



Fellowship: Gloria Dei Style

Food and fun are two words that come to mind when I think about fellowship at Gloria Dei. It just wouldn't be the same without our morning coffee, tea, cakes and other treats.

The Hospitality Committee (Laura, Re, and Peggy) thank all the people who extended themselves this past year to make our warm and inviting fellowship possible. It is truly rewarding to be of service, especially when visitors come in from the pouring rain and feel welcome. It has been said — and experience has proved — that it is in giving that we receive.

October is just around the corner and is Stewardship month and – yes, my friends, I'm going to mention the “Three Ts,” time, talent, and treasure. It's time to think about what you can do to be of service to others by sharing your time, talent, and treasure.

The Hospitality Committee has been fun and rewarding. We welcome anyone who would like to join us or participate by sharing your favorite treats with us. We look forward to hearing from you and welcome anyone interested.

With love and peace, the Hospitality Committee

Peggy Buescher, Re Hennigns & Laura Towey



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.



Requests For Prayers Are Always Welcome

Please contact the church office (215) 389-1513
or Florence Brook (215) 271-1091,
(215) 760-5878, or fbroom529@hotmail.com

Intercessors will pray on behalf of those in need



Memorial Cards in loving memory of
Leo Schneider
 By: Barbara Turner



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
 Deirdre Flint, Dir. of Comm.
 Mark Roberts, Treasurer; O.S.C.A.R.

VESTRY

Megan Bartlett
 Florence Brook
 Jerome Buescher, Rector's Warden
 Robert Dieters, Acct. Assistant
 Carol Jenkins
 Dolores Kromchad
 Heather Myers
 Barbara Potts
 Lisa Reeves, Secretary
 Mark Roberts
 James Ufheil, Acct. Warden
 William Towey

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.