

March / April 2018

Down By The Riverside

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

Rector's Message

Dear People of God

In my first month as your rector, I have felt the nip of anxiety at times pressuring me to try to learn everything at once. Which, of course, is impossible. So, I remind myself to slow down and simply pay attention.

Something I am excited about is the rectory, now that the first floor is ready for an expansion of ministry such as counseling, spiritual direction, hospitality and gatherings to plan our parish goals. Isn't it interesting to note that these ministries require slow, patient attention?

I want to welcome you to the rectory soon or, to make a time to visit you in your home over the spring and summer. By the way, visits and use of the first floor of the rectory can be made by appointment. My cell phone is 267-366-8692.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Riverside*. The content shows continuity and change at Gloria Dei. But, as everyone knows, change can bring anxiety. How people cope with change is very personal. However, may I recommend that one of the best ways to deal with anxiety is reflection and prayer. I have learned through these tools that anxiety can actually be a blessing when it stimulates us to turn to God. God can take away our anxiety and turn it into positive energy.

In Lent, we also hear that prayer is important and effective in our lives. Please pray for Gloria Dei as we begin our journey together. I am so happy to be here to experience springtime and Easter with you. Glory to God and thanksgiving for the opportunity to follow Jesus into the future that he calls us into.

Faithfully, *Patricia+*



Stewardship

In the previous issue, we told you about the pledge campaign part of Stewardship at Gloria Dei. We promised we'd share with you by the end of January where that campaign ended.

So here are "the facts, just the facts, Ma'am" -

- We received pledges from 29 pledging units
- The total amount pledged is \$46,274
- That amount is 90.7% of our pledge goal of \$51,000

As we pointed out last time, Gloria Dei has now begun another chapter during the 341st year of its existence. A new rector has joined us. We've welcomed her. We'll hear her share her ideas. We'll listen as she reflects back to us the ideals we laid out in six months of hard work in our Parish Profile. And then we'll Stand Up once again - stand up for our love for this place, for this place where the Kingdom makes its presence felt in South Philadelphia. Stand up - for our love and care for our brothers and sisters in this parish. Stand up - for our commitment to the community where we worship.

As Barbara Potts wrote in the second pledge request letter: "Thank you for being good stewards to Gloria Dei. Your attendance at church, your commitment to volunteer on behalf of the church and its year-long activities does not go unnoticed. We continue to hold each other up as we acknowledge the work and legacy of those who came before us, those who currently make up our church family, and for those in our future."

We've begun the season of Lent, a season with many calls, many requests on our time - all in the name of repentance. The Greek roots of the Latin-derived word "repentance" mean "to change



GOAL

STAND UP

(continued on next page)

one's mind," to make a fundamental change in the way we think about our lives, about the purpose of our lives, the focus of our lives, the conduct of our lives.

Being good stewards means being thankful for what God has given us. So repentance might include being aware of those gifts and making that awareness part of our purpose, our focus, our conduct. Would that mean skipping something and contributing the money we would have spent to Episcopal Community Services, or to hurricane relief in Puerto Rico? Maybe. Would that mean being here on Sunday morning for worship, praying along, singing along, sharing with one another? Maybe. Would that mean coming to the weekly Dinner Church to share not only food but also thoughts with each other? Maybe. Would that mean spending some time, when the weather warms a bit, cleaning up the graveyard or washing some windows, or dusting some pews? Maybe.

Stewardship. The General Convention of the Episcopal Church in 1988 passed this resolution: "that the statement 'Stewardship is the Main Work of the Church' be adopted by this General Convention and affirmed as a theological stewardship statement for the Church."

See you in church. See you at Dinner Church. See you on cleanup days.

The Stewardship Committee: Jerry Buescher, Barbara Potts,
Mark Roberts, Richard Woehr



Feed your Body and your Soul...

Join us for Dinner Church

A simple meal with prayer and discussion at the dinner table in Riverside Hall

Every Wednesday in Lent from 6 - 7pm

2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21

Dinner Church Topics

- 2/21 - What's Up With Giving Up? Chocolate, smoking, meat, etc. Can ancient practices renew us? (Abstinence)
- 2/28 - Confession - The Episcopal Church's Hidden Secret...Is the Rite of Reconciliation for you? (Repentance)
- 3/7 - Pay it Forward: To Sacrifice, or Not to Sacrifice? (Alms/Giving)
- 3/14 - Mindfulness, Attention, Whatever...(Prayer/Contemplation)
- 3/21 - Seder Segue - Is Jesus at Your Table? (Ritual)

Whatever your beliefs, you are welcome!

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

- March 25 Palm Sunday, service at 10:00am.
Take home fresh palms for friends & family.
- March 28 Passover Seder, 6:00pm. Partake of a meal & hear the story of a people moving into freedom.
- March 29 Thursday, service at 7:00pm. Jesus radically calls us to love, washes feet, gives us his body and blood.
- March 30 Easter Egg Preparations, 10:00am. All children & families welcome.
Good Friday, services at 12:00pm and 7:00pm.
- April 1 Easter Sunday, Sunrise service at 6:00am with breakfast following until 8:30am.
10:00am service with Easter Egg Hunt following.

All Are Welcome, All The Time



Spirits and History!

JOIN US

When:
May 4, 2018
7-9:30pm

SAVE THE DATE

3rd ANNUAL SPIRITS & HISTORY



“Welcome, Welcome, Welcome”

One phrase that drew me to the Episcopal Church over a decade ago was this: “All are welcome. All the time.” I am reminded of these words especially now, as we continue to welcome our new rector into our parish family. For me, welcoming Rev. Patricia Cashman comes easily. But for some of us, it is difficult to let go of the past and welcome in the present.

Being fully present to “what is, here and now” is certainly not easy. I am impacted by this in my call as the coordinator of Gloria Dei’s Prayer Ministry. Although I am honored and humbled to hear about the needs of our parishioners and friends, sometimes the needs feel too great for me to bear. I want to turn away from the sorrow of loss, illness, injury, and despair. I want to hide from the suffering of my brothers and sisters in Christ.

It is during these times that I fervently pray a prayer my spiritual director taught me last year. Known as “The Welcoming Prayer”, it is attributed to Father Thomas Keating and provides us with an opportunity to surrender our own desires to God, trusting that all experiences (whether welcoming someone we’re unsure of or bearing witness to those who are suffering) are for our ultimate good. I share that prayer with you today, trusting it will help you on your journey, as it has helped me:

The Welcoming Prayer (by Thomas Keating)

Welcome, welcome, welcome.

I welcome everything that comes to me today because I know it’s for my healing.

I welcome all thoughts, feelings, sensations, persons, situations, and conditions.

I let go of my desire for power and control.

I let go of my desire for affection, esteem, approval, and pleasure.

I let go of my desire for survival and security.

I let go of my desire to change any person, situation, condition, or myself.

I open myself to the love and presence of God and God’s action within.
Amen.

As you read the prayer, notice what words or phrases stand out to you. Perhaps you reject, resist, or have a strong negative reaction to a particular phrase. Perhaps there is a word or phrase that you are drawn to and find yourself agreeing with. Offer these feelings and words to God, just knowing that there is some good to be gained in praying them. May these words, contemplated and offered to God, bring you peace and welcoming surrender.

Peace and blessings,

Megan Bartlett, Prayer Ministry Coordinator

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* If you would like to share a prayer concern with our intercessors, please contact me at megan77777@yahoo.com or call the church office to leave a message: 215-389-1513. Our intercessors pray for individuals for 30 days unless a request for additional prayers is made.



Hospitality

“Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing.”

Letter to the Hebrews

We never know who or how many will come through our doors for an event or early Sunday morning. It gives me great joy to say we’re always prepared at Gloria Dei. There’s never a shortage because many of you have stepped up, signed up, and brought in something to share. Giving takes effort. We need to support each other as a community in many ways including hospitality.

Thanks to all who generously supported Rev Paul’s farewell and Rev Patricia’s welcome brunch. I truly feel confident that Rev Paul felt our gratitude and Rev Patricia was made to feel welcome.

Please remember to sign up on the sheet on the corkboard to bring something. Help us keep the doors not only open but also open to say, “Welcome, come in, eat, drink, and feel blessed.”

Rev Patricia’s installation will be held Wednesday evening April 11th at 06:30 PM with a reception to follow. It will be a catered affair. The only hospitable thing necessary is to show up!

Joy and peace, Peggy Buescher, Re Hemming, Rita West,
Barb Chilcott, Linda Vitkow, and Susan Weinman



Easter Flowers

Easter flower donations may be made as a thanksgiving or as a memorial.

Use the enclosed envelope to mark your donation as “In Thanksgiving” or “In Memorium”.

Please return to the office by March 23. Easter flowers are always planted in the churchyard the week after Easter so know that your contribution will also add to the ongoing beauty of this special place through the Spring and Summer months.

Greetings, from the Rector's Warden

Gloria Dei's Annual Meeting, will be held on Sunday May 6th, after our morning service. During the Annual Meeting, we will discuss the work and workings of the church, with reports on our finances, our mission and up and coming events and activities. Mark your calendar and be sure to join us. This is also the time of year we elect new vestry members.

This is an open invitation to all qualified parishioners to run for vestry.

The Bylaws of Gloria Dei church state that vestry members must "be baptized and confirmed lay persons of the age of eighteen years and upwards, who shall have been worshipers in this church as their usual place of worship for at least one year prior to the date of the election and who shall appear by the books of the Corporation to have contributed towards the expenses of the Corporation, by payment in time, talent or treasure a sum of not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)

To be considered for election to the vestry at the Annual Meeting a person must meet the qualifications stated above and be nominated to the Secretary of the vestry in writing by at least three (3) members, at least four (4) weeks prior to the election. This nomination must be signed by the person being nominated to be valid. It is acceptable for a person to nominate themselves. So, don't be shy!

Nomination forms will be available in the church and in the parish office beginning on Sunday March 11, 2018. These nomination forms must be submitted to the Secretary of the vestry (Leigh Jenkins) no later than Friday, April 6, 2018.

Public notice of the nominated members will be posted by the Secretary of the vestry on the bulletin boards inside the church and Riverside hall four (4) weeks, prior to election, beginning April 8, 2018.

The vestry of Gloria Dei is composed of twelve (12) individuals. Four (4) members are normally elected each year for a three-year term. This year we have four (4) three-year term openings and one (1) two-year term opening.

Completing terms this year are - Carol Jenkins, Mark Roberts, Nils Van Ammers, Rita West and Jeanette Woehr. All are eligible for re-election except Carol Jenkins.

What exactly are the functions of the vestry? - *The vestry is a group of elected parishioners who administer the temporal affairs of the parish and serve as a council of advice to the rector. The vestry is the leadership body of the church and its voice. The vestry makes decisions with the best interest of the church in mind.*

Most months the vestry meets for about two hours on the third Thursday of the month.

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Please consider becoming a member of this important church body.

**The future of Gloria Dei church is blooming
with possibilities and hope!**

Faithfully, *Carol Jenkins*



Time to Get Married

Yes, it is Spring time. For many it's been a season to get married. Throughout the years Gloria Dei has been a popular place to get married. Rev. Nicholas Collin, who was the minister at Gloria Dei from 1786 - 1831 married 3, 375 couples. In 1795 he married 199 couples and 179 couples the following year. However not everyone that came to Church was guaranteed to be married. Collin kept very detailed records of his activities at Church.

MARCH 21, 1809 - A middle aged woman asked if I could marry a couple, and antedated the certificate for 11 yrs. They had been married by some minister who was dead, and had left no records, and a child of theirs was dead. The woman feared that in case of her demise the property come by her, would be carried from the husband by her brother. Answer Anted. is imposs. Advice to be qualified before a magistrate that they were married - If they really had not been to get married immediately. She said that in the country where they lived, probably was no minister, and that besides, they in that case; wished to be married here in order to conceal the time.

MARCH 30, 1807 - A decent couple came. The bride, the intended husband, and her brother affirmed that her first husband a sailor had died on a voyage to Ile of France, two years ago. But, as all the three had an interest in the affair, I could not rely on their testimony alone, and refused. She was 26 yrs. of age, by her account, and appeared so. Two other men, and one woman came with them, but had no knowledge about her first husband.

MARCH 30, 1808 - Early p.m. a man of good appearance and of middle age, came with a d of a gentleman well known to me. Gen. now holding a civil office and resid. in Phila. She appeared to be above 21 by some years. Her name and relation was freely acknowledged, and his consent was also by her affirmed, but not so clearly. On my refusal until I had seen him, they declined, saying that they would try to get married this ev. as they were going to leave town immediately afterwards.

APRIL 12 - An Irishman about 30 years, came with a young girl, in appearance 17, but as he said 20. They alleged that they had just come from Baltimore, but not in the same stage; that he had left her, but she had followed him, being pregnant by him and near her time. The appearance did not show

so much, and how fat it went, her dress concealed. The fellow was ragged and smelled much of the stable. Her name was that of a saddler and harness maker in this city; but she denied any relation to him. He went away after vain solicitation, saying that he must try to get married this night, to save the girl's reputation.

APRIL 13 - A young couple came; both being hired to the Swedish Consul; his father an Englishman; being hired to a gentleman in the city had not given his consent, as I required, because this son was a minor. Therefore, they were refused.

About this time a young man in trade, of good connections applied three times with earnest solicitations, and offers of reward for being married with antedating the certificate; in order to conceal his premature connection with the bride, for whose reputation he expressed great anxiety. I refused with ample demonstration of the necessity for official veracity, and the pernicious consequences of falsifying records. He was under great perplexity how to act. I strongly advised him by no means to delay the performance of the nuptial rites, though this misstep might not be concealable. He did not repeat the request. He offered a generous fee for my trouble, but I declined acceptance of it; being always happy to give salutary advice.

APRIL 11, 1808 - A man of 23, and a widow of 25 app. Her brother, whom I know in some respects, and a young girl of 15, who said she knew neither of the pair, came as evid. Her former husband was a sailor, and had died in the East Indies by her acct. The bridegroom and brother affirmed the same, but without expressing how they did know it. I refused. One motive was, that no previous notice was given; another stronger, that she said that she had come from her father's house in Jersey, 6 miles this day, which was very stormy with rain. The many examples of bigamy, indeed polygamy make all possible caution requisite.

Jeanette Woehr



March 22nd and April 26th
7:30 to 9:30 pm - Riverside Hall

Calendar

- Mar 1** Property Committee – 7:00pm, Riverside Hall
- Mar 4, 11, 18, 25** Sunday School - following Holy Communion (ages 4-8)
- Mar 6, 13, 20, 27** Evensong – Tuesdays at 6:30pm
Meditation with Sheila – On hiatus until March 6
Yoga with Sarah – 7:15pm Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$ 10 per session. A slow-flow mindful practice that uses the physical shapes of Yoga Asana to deepen your awareness of breath. Mats available to borrow.
- Mar 7, 14, 21, 28** Chair Yoga with Kathy - 9:00am Riverside Hall, chairs provided
Great opportunity to gently stretch and strengthen muscles, reduce stress, and develop better breathing habits. Drop in class, all levels welcome. \$ 10 per session
- Mar 7, 14, 21** Dinner Church – 6:00 – 7:00pm, Riverside Hall. Come share a simple meal with prayer and discussion at the dinner table. All welcome.
- Mar 8** HGDPCC Meeting / Community Design Collaborative – 6:30pm
- Mar 11** Church of Sweden – 4:00 service, followed by fellowship in Riverside
Sexton Sideshow St. Patty's Day Brunch - 11:30am – 2:30pm, Riverside Hall \$10 includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, fruit, pastries, treats, coffee & tea. Cider & mimosas available. Live acoustic music from 9 different local artists.
- Mar 12** HGDPCC Meeting – 5:30pm, Riverside Hall
- Mar 15** Swedish Colonial Society Meeting – 11:00 – 3:00, Riverside Hall
Vestry Meeting – 7:00pm, Rectory
- Mar 22** Jazz & Joe – 7:30pm, Riverside Hall
- Mar 25** Palm Sunday – 10:00am service. Take home fresh palm for your friends & family!
- Mar 28** Passover Seder – 6:00pm, Riverside Hall. Partake of a meal and hear the story of a people moving into freedom.
- Mar 29** Holy Thursday – 7:00pm service. Jesus radically call us to love, washes feet, and gives us his body & blood.
- Mar 30** Good Friday – 10:00am Easter Egg preparation for children & families. 12:00pm & 7:00pm services

Calendar

- Apr 1** Easter Sunday – 6:00am (sunrise service) & 10:00am
- Apr 3,
10, 17,
24** Evensong – Tuesdays at 6:30pm
Meditation with Sheila – On hiatus until March 6
Yoga with Sarah – 7:15pm Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$ 10 per session. A slow-flow mindful practice that uses the physical shapes of Yoga Asana to deepen your awareness of breath. Mats available to borrow.
- Apr 4,
11, 18,
25** **Chair Yoga with Kathy** – 9:00am Riverside Hall, chairs provided Great opportunity to gently stretch and strengthen muscles, reduce stress, and develop better breathing habits. Drop in class, all levels welcome. \$ 10 per session
- Apr 8** Church of Sweden – 4:00 service, followed by fellowship in Riverside Hall
- Apr 9** HGDPC Meeting – 5:30pm, Riverside Hall
- Apr 11** Installation of **Rev. Patricia Cashman** as the 26th rector of Gloria Dei, by The Right Rev. Daniel Gutierrez, 6:30pm. Reception to follow.
- Apr 15** **Sexton Sideshow Tax-Free Brunch** - 11:30am – 2:30pm, Riverside Hall Pay-what-you-can, God loves a generous giver! includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, fruit, pastries, treats, coffee & tea. Cider & mimosas available. Live acoustic music from 9 different local artists.
- Apr 19** Vestry Meeting – 7:00pm, Rectory
- Apr 20** **Jesus Christ Superstar One Man, Twelve Guitars** starring **E.J. Simpson** – doors open at 7:00pm, show starts at 8:00pm. Tickets \$ 12 sold at the door. Enjoy some delicious sushi from our sponsor Kisso Sushi.
- Apr 26** Jazz & Joe – 7:30pm, Riverside Hall

SAVE THE DATES

- May 4** 3rd Annual Spirits & History – a HGDPC Event
- Jun 8** Jenny Lind Concert – a HGDPC Event – 7:30-9:00pm



In Remembrance of:

Joseph Collins

July 3, 1936 - January 23, 2018

Richard Beltran

May 16, 1930 - September 23, 2017

Memorial Cards:

In loving memory of **Joseph Collins**

By: Jean & Bob Neill, Marge Lord,
Gary & Alexis Neill, Ed & Theresa Lord,
Bobby Neill, Floss Brook, Sally Daly,
Kayla & David Flood, Marge Kucinski,
Karen & Jack Noreski, Bert Kubiak,
Cathy, Michael & Mikaela,
Heide Alexander, Jackie & Ed Lord,
Michael & Gerri Stolivske, Irene Coghlan,
Kevin & Sheryl Coughlan & Family,
Renee & Billy Yocum,
Coleen, Andy, B.J., Jen, Geri & Karen



Sunday Service:

10:00 AM

Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM

Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30-2:30

CLERGY

The Rev. Patricia Cashman, Rector

STAFF

Paul Fejko, Music Director
Christine McBride, Parish Admin.
Paula & James Minacci, Sextons
Mark Roberts, Treasurer

VESTRY

Peggy Buescher
Jill Duink, Accounting Warden
Carol Jenkins, Rector's Warden
Leigh Jenkins, Secretary
Jamie Konowal
Lisa Reeves
Mark Roberts
Eric Soltzcki
James Ufheil
Nils van Ammers
Rita West
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 (1/7/18); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/1/18); Pentecost (5/20/18); and All Saints Sunday (11/4/18). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.