

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

Thoughts from the Rector

I invite you, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent. (Ash Wednesday) Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. (Palm Sunday) Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered... (Maundy Thursdsay) Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family... (Good Friday) The light of Christ. Thanks be to God. (Easter Vigil) Alleluia! Christ is risen! (Easter Day)

(Book of Common Prayer, Proper Liturgies for Special Days, p.263 and forward)

As I consider the church seasons upon us – Lent, Holy Week, Easter – I find it helpful and revealing to open my mind and heart to the entirety of these special days. While Ash Wednesday may not sound or feel anything like Easter Sunday, nonetheless when I remember the words that will be said during these six and a half weeks something of a complete picture comes into focus.

This portion of the biblical story, this season of self-examination, repentance, prayer, meditation, and celebration, reflects the entirety of the story of God and humankind - what we call The Bible. From Genesis to Revelation the many stories, poems, songs, and prophesies incorporate all that we hear and see and learn about ourselves and God during the seasons of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter.

Whether we reflect on our doubts, face our fears, become aware of neighbor or enemy in a new way, face unbearable challenges or recognize unfathomable blessings, we are repeatedly called into relationship with God and humankind. We are encouraged to trust, to hope, and to love – over and over again, both through the Scriptures as a whole and through the seasons of Lent and Easter.

While it is not a shortcut to avoid reading the Bible, the seasons upon us are a path on which we might be changed in some significant way, if we are willing. Always, if we are willing.

It is for each of us to decide to accept God's invitation to deeper relationship. We can say no thanks. But if we are just scared, or don't know where to begin, then let us hear the invitation for Ash Wednesday "to the observance of a holy Lent." It's a place to start, or start over again.

Then, one step at a time, as we travel literally and figuratively with Jesus through these days, we just might discover that as travel companions, reflecting each other's hopes and dreams, fears and woes, that we, like those in the story we tell, are part of this most amazing story. The story of God and humankind. The story of God's Good Creation.

Join us as we step out, bravely, courageously, joyously, on our journey, seeking God and each other, bravely marching to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Peace, Joy +

Assist us, mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts. whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, p.270)



Hospitality

"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give you will get back." (Luke 6:38)

Thank you to all who've extended themselves and made the effort to make hospitality so successful. There's never a shortage at Gloria Dei thanks to your generosity. We've had all sorts of tastings that have welcomed many visitors and sustained us as we interact with them. I always remind myself when doing hospitality that it's in giving that we receive. "Giving" takes effort and I need your help. I am so grateful for all those who share their time, talent, and treasure for hospitality. We continue to need people to step up and sign up on the hospitality sheet on the corkboard in Riverside Hall near the bathroom door. We strive to carry out the mission spelled out in the letter to the Hebrews: "Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Help us keep the doors not only "open" but also open to say "Welcome. Come in. Eat. drink, and feel blessed.

Love and Peace, Peggy, Re, Rita, Barbara and Linda

Stewardship Committee

A resolution was passed in the 1989 General Convention stating that *stewardship is the main work of the church*. We're committed to helping this parish understand and live by that resolution.

By now, we're beyond the Oh-God-I-have-to-fill-out-that-Stewardship-Form and get ready to put something into the basket every Sunday. We've been there for this year and we did well, much better than we had been doing for the past three or four years. Thank you, all of you, thank you for that.

What is this "main work of the church" that we're committed to?

Here's a quote from Pastor Michael Caine, Pastor and Teacher of Old First Reformed Church, our neighbor at Fourth and Race.

He says he's writing about "how stewardship works 'on the inside.' Not how it works collectively for us as a congregation, but how it works for us individually. How it makes a difference in your walk of faith."

We're about to enter the season of Lent, the season to take stock, to turn back to the God we may have distractions let us drift away from.

The Sunday liturgies will be a great help getting us to recover focus. But in the words of the late night TV commercials, "But wait! There's more!"

There's a special service on Ash Wednesday evening following a quick simple meal with each other. There's Dinner Church the other Wednesdays of Lent, a chance to share God's word and think about it in a meal that contains the Eucharist. The Diocese of Pennsylvania will sponsor two Lenten days – one on Saturday March 4 at St George church in Ardmore, and one on Saturday March 25 at Good Samaritan in Paoli.

There's an ongoing Bible Challenge – an invitation to read the bible day by day throughout the year. At the present, there are something like 1,300 people in the diocese doing this and sharing their thoughts with each other online.

And then there's Holy Week ...

Again, following the lead of Pastor Caine: Let's concentrate this Lent on how stewardship – joyful, grateful giving – works for us individually, how it makes a difference in our walk of faith.

The Stewardship Committee:

Jerry Buescher, Barbara Potts, Mark Roberts, Richard Woehr

Sexton Sideshow 2017

Valentine's Dei Brunch and no snow...that was a first for us here at Gloria Dei Church! A lovely, windy, rainswept day attracted about 75 hungry pancake enthusiasts, and we raised \$756 for the church general fund. Thanks go out to all the "sidekicks" who helped make & serve throughout the day till 3pm. We were also especially glad to have Project Church Youth Group helping us out! All who attended were entertained by a host of performers, including our own Paul Fejko, and a lovely flautist named Frances. Other performers were C.C. Crabtree, Carolyn Thorn, Jamie Olson, Andrew Butler, Ognian Pavlov, Jessica Graae, Morgan Pinkstone, Will Williams and Kalob Griffin.

Join us March 12th for our follow-up St. Patty's Day all-you-can-eat pancake brunch celebrating all things green. We will have a different batch of singers, and Riverside Hall will be decked out in shamrocks!

Coming up on April 22nd is our third year of hosting Jesus Christ Superstar - One Man, 12 Guitars featuring E.J. Simpson in the church sanctuary. Tickets for this spectacular event are only \$12, and once again, benefit the Gloria Dei general fund. This is E.J.'s 11th year performing this piece.

I do hope you will consider spending some time at one of these wonderful community-minded musical events. It's so enjoyable to see the congregation joining together with the local community.

Peace & Love, Your Sextons,

Jim & Paula Minacci



Spring in the Churchyard



Join us for Lent Madness 2017!

We'll be passing out Lent Madness brackets and Saintly Scorecards in church on the Last Sunday after Epiphany, February 26th. Visit <u>www.lentmadness.com</u> or "like" Lent Madness on Facebook for more information. Poles open for the first vote on Thursday, March 2nd.

(from <u>www.lentmachess.com</u>): Lent Madness is a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints. The format is straightforward: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch. Lent Madness allows people to get to know some amazing people who have come before us in the faith and reminds us that there's no reason for a dreary Lenten discipline. If this helps people connect with the risen Christ during this season of penitence and renewal, and have a bit of fun in the process, then it continues to be worthwhile.

From the Rector's Warden

With the coming of spring is Gloria Dei's Annual Meeting, which will be held on Sunday April 30th, after our morning service. Yes, it's a week earlier this year. During this 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 5, 2017. These nomination forms must be submitted to the Secretary of the vestry (Leigh Jenkins) no later than Friday, March 31, 2017.

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 2, 2017.

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 three (3) three-year term openings. Since we are a parish in transition, the vestry has voted that I your rector's warden, will remain on the vestry for one (1) additional year. I am currently at the end of my second three-year term.

Completing terms this year are - Jill Duink, Re Henning, and Michael Phillips. All three are eligible for re-election.

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.

During our Annual Meeting, we will also be electing three (3) Deanery and Convention delegates and one (1) alternate. All are two (2) year-terms. Current delegates are eligible to be elected.

Now is the time to ask yourself how you can be of service to Gloria Dei.

It is important to remember that many people have given an enormous amount of time serving on the Parish Profile Committee and more getting ready to serve on the Search Committee.

We are a small congregation and need as much involvement from parishioners as we can get.

The future of Gloria Dei church is the responsibility of all parishioners!

Rector's Warden,

Carol Jenkins

Easter Flowers - In Memory, In Thanksgiving

If you wish to make an offering to Gloria Dei this Easter, as a memorial or thanksgiving, please return the enclosed envelope with the information (names, printed clearly) you would like to be printed in our Easter bulletins. In order to insure your information appears in our Easter bulletins we need to receive your envelope no later than Wednesday, April 12, 2017. 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.



March 23 and April 27 7:30 to 9:30 pm - Riverside Hall



Holy Week and Easter Schedule

April 9, 2017 Palm Sunday	Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Reading, Holy Communion Rite II	10:00am
April 11, 2017 Tues. in Holy Week	Evensong	6:30pm
April 12, 2017 Wed. in Holy Week	Passover Seder	6:00pm
April 13, 2017	Maundy Thursday Liturgy,	
Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion, stripping of the altar	7:00pm
April 14, 2017	Easter Egg Preparation	10:00am
Good Friday	Good Friday Liturgy and Communion from	
	the Reserved Sacrament	7:00pm
April 16, 2017	Easter Vigil, Holy Communion, Baptism	5:30am
Easter Day	Holy Communion, Baptism	10:00am
	Easter Egg Hunt	11:15am
All Are Welcome, All The Time		





Donate to Gloria Dei Make a pledge payment Purchase books 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.

Join Us for Dinner Church this Lenten Season

Food, Fellowship, Worship, Thanksgiving

Dinner Church is a time when we worship at the dinner table. We incorporate our worship, prayers, bible reading, discussion (not sermon!), and communion, as a part of our dinner. We break (gluten free) bread together, pass a (non alcoholic) cup to each other, and read and talk about a Scripture passage while we share dinner, blending our table fellowship with our worship fellowship. So, put aside the Wednesdays in Lent (3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 4/5) as we gather for these special Lenten meals and celebrate our journey together. Plan to join us at 6:30PM on these evenings – and bring friends!

All are welcome at our table!



Reminder

Ash Wednesday is March 1, 2017

Plan to join us for a Simple Meal at 6PM and a Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at 7PM, as we begin our Lenten journey together.



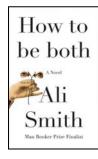
The Book Club at Gloria Dei

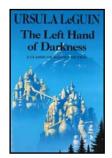
Here is our next book and meeting date. The Book Club meets at 7 pm

Fixed: Dope sacks, dye packs, and the long
welcome back by Doug PiotterMHow to be Both by Ali SmithApLeft Hand of Darkness by Ursula LeGuinM

March 27, 2017 April 24, 2017 May 22, 2017







Marilyn Johnson

Calendar

Mar. 1	Ash Wednesday We will share a simple meal at 6pm in Riverside Hall followed by a 7:00pm service, in church, of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes.
Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	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
	Sip n' Chat – light conversation and herbal tea immediately following Chair Yoga, 10-10:30am
Mar. 5	Project Church Youth Group- immediately following mass,
Mar. 8, 15,	Dinner Church from 6:30-8:00, Riverside Hall
22, 29	A special Lenten meal incorporating prayers, bible reading, discussion, and communion at the dinner table. Bring a friend!
Mar. 7, 14,	Evensong - 6:30pm - Sanctuary
21, 28	Bells Rehearsal - 7:00pm
	Yoga with Sarah - 7:15pm in Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class
	New Meditation with Sheila – Tuesdays at 5:45pm, Riverside Hall. Re-center and find your inner guidance. Drop-in class. Free.
Mar. 12	Sexton Sideshow St. Patty's Pancake Brunch –11:30am – 2:30pm, Riverside Hall
	Church of Sweden - 4:00 service, followed by fellowship in Riverside Hall
Mar. 13	HGDPC Meeting - Riverside Hall - 5:30pm
Mar. 16	Vestry Meeting - 7:00pm Riverside Hall
Mar. 19	Swedish Colonial Society Meeting -11:00am - 3:00pm
Mar. 19, 26	Confirmation Class - 11:30am – 1:00pm
Mar. 23	Jazz n Joe - 7:30pm Riverside Hall
Mar. 27	Book Club - 7:00pm Riverside Hall

Calendar

Apr. 4, 11,	Evensong - 6:30pm - Sanctuary	
18, 25	Bells Rehearsal - 7:00pm	
	Yoga with Sarah - 7:15pm in Riverside Hall, drop in class, all levels welcome, \$10.00 a class	
	Meditation with Sheila – Tuesdays at 5:45pm, Riverside Hall. Re-center and find your inner guidance. Drop-in class. Free.	
Apr. 5	Dinner Church from 6:30-8:00, Riverside Hall	
	A special Lenten meal incorporating prayers, bible reading, discussion, and communion at the dinner table. Bring a friend!	
Apr. 9	Palm Sunday	
	Church of Sweden - 4:00 service, followed by fellowship in Riverside Hall	
Apr. 10	HGDPC Meeting - Roak Room - 5:30pm	
Apr. 12	Seder – 6:00 – 10:00pm, Riverside Hall	
Apr. 13	Maundy Thursday –7:00pm Liturgy with Holy Communion & stripping of the altar	
Apr. 14	Good Friday – 7:00pm Liturgy with Holy Communion	
Apr. 16	Easter Sunday – 5:30am Easter Vigil with Holy Communion & Baptism 10:00am Liturgy with Holy Communion & Baptism. Easter egg hunt immediately following service.	
Apr. 20	Vestry Meeting - 7:00pm Riverside Hall	
Apr. 22	Jesus Christ Superstar – One Man, 12 Guitars, with E.J. Simpson in the Church Sanctuary. Tickets \$12,	
A	Book Club - 7:00pm Riverside Hall	
Apr. 24		
Apr. 27	Jazz n Joe - 7:30pm Riverside Hall	

The Lectionary for March

March 1st, Ash Wednesday

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen Joel 2:1-2,12-17 Psalm 10:8-14 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

March 5th, First Sunday in Lent

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen Genesis 2:15-17,3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

March 12th, Second Sunday in Lent

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121

Genesis 12:1-4a	Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5,13-17	John 3:1-17

March 19th, Third Sunday in Lent

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42

March 26th, Fourth Sunday in Lent

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1 Samuel 16:1-13	Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1 -4 1

The Lectionary for April

April 2nd, Fifth Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45

April 9th, Palm Sunday

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 26:1-27:66

April 13th, Maundy Thursday

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Exodus 12:1-14	Psalm 116:1,10-17
1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17,31b-35

(continued on next page)

April 14th, Good Friday

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 122:1-141
Hebrews 10:16-25	John 18:1-19:42

April 16th, The Great Vigil of Easter

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son, free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Romans 6:3-11

Matthew 28:1-10

April 16th, Easter Day

God of Mercy, we no londer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of like. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen like we share with Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Acts 10:34-43Psalm 118:1-2,14-24Colossians 3:1-4John 20:1-18

April 23rd, Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Acts 2:14a,22-32	Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31

April 30th, Third Sunday of Easter

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Acts 2:14a,36-41	Psalm 116:1-4, 10-17
1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35

The Revs. Slator and Jehu Clay

At Gloria Dei, when we think of the name Rev. Clay, Jehu Curtis comes to mind. However, Rev. Jehu Curtis Clay was not the first Rev. Clay to be connected to the Old Swedes' Churches. The Rev. Slator Clay, Jehu's father, was appointed assistant to the Rev. Dr. Nicolas Collin, rector of the United Swedish Churches of Wicaco, Kingsessing and Upper Merion. In 1792 Rev. Slator Clay was given charge of Christ Church, Upper Merion where he continued to preach until his death in 1821. The Rev. Slator Clay and Hannah Hughes (nee Holstein) were married in 1787 by the Rev. Collin. Hannah's Hulings forebears were early settlers in the Swedish colony on the Delaware.

Their son Jehu Curtis Clay was born on February 3, 1792 on Walnut Grove Farm in Upper Merion Township. At the age of seven Jehu and his family moved to Evans Burg (seven miles above Norristown. When he was eleven, Jehu was sent to a classical school in Norristown taught by the Presbyterian minister Rev. John Jones. Later Jehu Clay entered the University of Pennsylvania. At the age of nineteen Jehu began the study of Theology in Philadelphia. Bishop Kemper assistant minister to Bishop White offered the use of his library to Jehu. On Trinity Sunday 1813 Bishop White ordained Deacon Jehu Curtis Clay. Rev. Clay was sent out as a missionary to western Pennsylvania. In the six weeks that Rev. J. Clay was in the Pittsburgh area he raised \$1,200 toward the erection of a church there. When Rev. Clay returned to Philadelphia, he became assistant to Rev. Dr. Collin for one year. At the end of the year, he was called to St. John's Church, Norristown and the congregation in Germantown. In 1814 Jehu Curtis married Margaret Annan.

In 1816 Rev. Clay was ordained a priest by Bishop White. After two years at Norristown, Jehu received a call to the Church and Academy at Newbern, North Carolina. A call was received in 1818 to the Church at Hagerstown, Maryland where the Clays spent four years. During the fall of 1821 a call was received from the Church in Norristown. For ten years Rev. Clay officiated at the Churches in Norristown, Evans Burg and Upper Merion. April 1826 Margaret died leaving three girls Emily, Annie and Julia. On November 11, 1828 Jehu married Simmons Edey. Jehu and Simmons had four children Slator, George, Richard and Jehu Curtis. Dr. Jehu Curtis Clay was elected rector of the United Swedish Churches on December 5, 1831.

Rev. Clay was installed as rector of Gloria Dei in January 1832. Clay was Gloria Dei's pastor during some of the most difficult times in the history of the United States: the sectional controversy of the 1850's, and the first years of the Civil War. He also guided the congregation through an era of impressive growth and fundamental change.

During the thirty-two years that Jehu Curtis Clay was rector of Gloria Dei, many changes took place. When Dr. Clay arrived, Gloria Dei was part of the United Swedish Churches, which also included St. James Kingsessing and Christ Church Upper Merion. Dr. Clay had two assistants. The Rev. Samuel C. Brinckle was assigned to Kingsessing and Rev. William N. Diehl was assigned to Upper Merion. Dr. Clay officiated at Gloria Dei twice a month and once a month at the other two churches until 1843, when a separation of the churches took place. For a number of years Dr. Clay attended the Episcopal Diocese convention having no seat or voice. However, the Bishop of the Diocese regularly visited the three Swedish Churches holding confirmations. Gloria Dei joined the Episcopal Diocese in 1845.

When Rev. Clay arrived at Gloria Dei, the Church was as Rev. Clay referred to it "in a very feeble and depressed condition. There seemed little prospect of building up the parish." One of the first changes made was removing the high and uncomfortable pews. The arrangement of the pews was changed removing the center aisle. The aisle running across from the south door remained. The high old fashioned Pulpit with a sounding board was removed. With the Church more comfortable the congregation increased. So much so that four additional pews were added removing the aisle from the south door. With the increase in the congregation, plans were discussed for enlarging the Church. To add to the west end of the Church would have been too costly. It was decided to add Galleries at the cost of \$500. Windows were also added to the west wall. The stained glass window was also added. Also a new organ was ordered and built by Mr. Hunter. In 1858 another organ was purchased and built by Mr. Knauff at a cost of \$1,500.

Two services were held on Sundays – one in the morning and one in the afternoon and one on Wednesday evening. The Wednesday service was discontinued during May, June, July, August and September. On the third Sunday of the month the children were instructed in their catechism. Rev. Clay considered Sunday School important to the prosperity of the parish.

In December 1856, Dr. Clay preached his 25th anniversary sermon. In the following year a house was purchased for the sexton and a two story brick building was erected for the Sunday School (Roak House location). The cost of

improvements during his rectorate was about twelve thousand dollars. Dr. Clay averaged confirming twelve people each year. When he first arrived he administered the holy Eucharist to about eight people but by the 1860's the number was up to one hundred and fifty. During the 1860's a new building was erected for the Sunday School (Riverside Hall). On Trinity Sunday, May 31, 1863, Dr. Clay celebrated his 50th Anniversary of his ordination. He preached 6,750 sermons during those years. He baptized 3,440, married 2,370 couples, and buried 1,322 people. His last sermon was preached on September 27, 1863. That night Dr. Clay suffered a stroke and he died on October 20th.



hivits and Histor

JOIN US

When: May 5, 2017 7-10pm

Where:

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church 916 Swanson St. Philadelphia PA 19147

HELP US REWIRE THE CHURCH AND RECTORY!

Proceeds benefit Historic Preservation at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation is a 501c3 charity. All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

SAVE THE DATE

2ND ANNUAL SPIRITS & HISTORY Honoring Our Military Veterans

Featuring:

- Spirited tastings to match the times of eight of our illustrious permanent residents from the military!
- Jazz Trio courtesy of The Jazz Sanctuary
- Cocktail Party
- Fun in the Graveyard!

Learn the stories of our military honorees Revolutionary War War of 1812 Civil War Medal of Honor

> For more information: www.preserveoldswedes.org





A Subsidiary of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Philadelphia

www.preserveoldswedes.org

JOIN US ! History Mystery Bicycle Ride!

WHERE:

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Philadelphia, PA 19147

May 13, 2017 10am – Noon

ENTRY FEE: \$17/single \$25/couple

\$28/family

- Enjoy a casual bike ride starting at Historic
 Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church and follow the map through Old City and Independence Mall
- Most of the route follows marked bike lanes for families and novice riders
- The route is 4 miles long so you can walk it! Or take a bus!
- Hear 7 exciting stories from our Nation's past that connect to Old Swedes
- All riders/walkers who complete the circuit will be entered to win prizes with a \$350 gift certificate to Bell's Bike Shop as top prize!

Please Thank Our Event Sponsor!



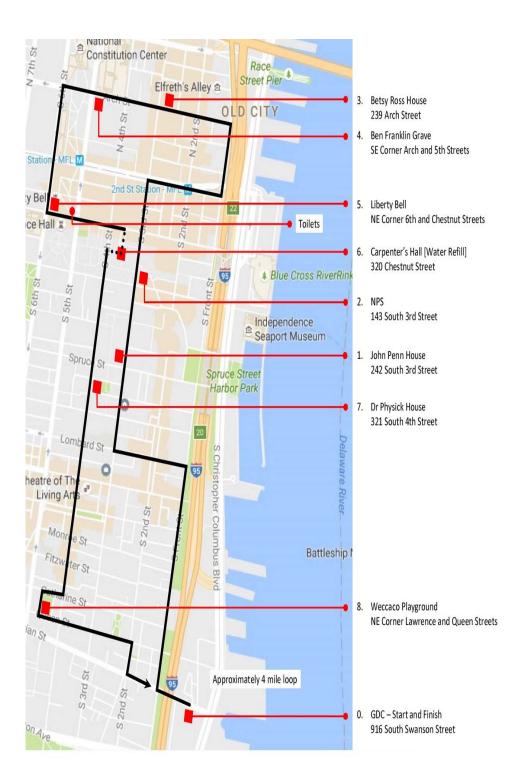
Our Bicycle Pro Sponsor will be on site to offer free safety checks and water bottles!





Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Preservation Corporation

Proceeds benefit Historic Preservation at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation is a 501c3 charity. All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.





In Remembrance of: Teresa C. Legerton October 25, 2016

Memorial Cards: Debbie Duffy

By: Marge Lord Bert Kubiak Jean & Bob Neill Joe & Dolores Collins Marie Buck By: Nick Silverstein

Celebrate the Newly Married Samantha Marian Beatty and Jason Michael Korhan February 18, 2017

A Statement of Purpose of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

We, the congregation of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes'), an Episcopal Church, honor God by following the teachings of Jesus to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

With God's help...

We express our faith through worship.

We honor and celebrate our differences and uniqueness.

We respond to the needs of others in the parish and in the community.

We preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition, and heritage of this sacred place.

We are an inviting, welcoming, sustaining, and loving community.



Sunday Service: 10:00 AM Tuesday Evensong 6:30 PM

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

CLERGY

The Rev. D. Joy Segal, Rector The Rev. Paul Harris, Assoc. Clergy

STAFF

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

VESTRY

Peggy Buescher Jill Duink, Accounting Warden Re Henning Carol Jenkins, Rector's Warden Leigh Jenkins, Secretary Jamie Konowal Michael Phillips Mark Roberts 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 elergy 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 (1/8/17); The Great Vigil of Easter (4/16/17); Pentecost (6/4/17); and All Saints Sunday (11/5/17). Other Sundays may be chosen, if necessary, with the advise of the clergy. Baptism instruction will be provided for parents and godparents beforehand.

