

The *Gloria Dei* Grapevine

The *Gloria Dei Grapevine* is the monthly newsletter of Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church. For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact us.

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5005 McCandlish Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Please Join Us

- ◆ **Sunday Morning Worship** at 9:00am
- ◆ **Communion** on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month
- ◆ **Adult, Teen, & Children's Sunday School** at 10:30am, September thru May
- ◆ **Adult Bible Study** - every Thursday at 9:00am
- ◆ **Youth Group** (6th-12th grade) First Saturday of the month, 6-9pm. Contact Laura or Allen Mortimer for more information.
- ◆ **Lutheran Pioneers** (K-8th grade) Meets twice monthly September thru May.

Scan in your banking app to make your offering for
Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church at
financialsec@gloriadeigb.com



From the Pastor...

One-size-fits-all. It's an easy sales pitch. It might even take the guess work out of shopping. But is it true? I suspect that like me, you have found that not to be accurate. Somethings just don't fit everyone. However, gift cards do, don't they? They are simple. They are easy to give. They are easy to spend. But they are also so impersonal. On the other hand, God gift for you – it is guaranteed to be just your size. It is not in the form of some plastic gift card, but in the flesh and blood of his Son, Jesus. That is His gift to you. Pause again this Christmas to contemplate the wonder of it all. The LORD sent Jesus, just for you! You now stand as a forgiven, child of God who can touch the hearts and lives of others by sharing the one and only gift that truly does fit all – the baby wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger. Merry Christmas!

EVER WONDER?

Answers to Important Questions.

Where Can I Find God?

Christmas is a time for searching. People go from one store to another in search of one specific gift. When they finally find that special present, they feel a sense of relief and accomplishment.

What are you looking for this Christmas season? Many of us spend a lot of time looking but not finding. We look for peace in our lives, but the strains of work and stresses of our relationships bring tension and turmoil. We look for understanding about why our lives have taken the direction they have only to be left pondering and wondering. We look for happiness but find only sorrow. We ask the question, "What's life all about?" We wonder, "What have I accomplished?" We are left searching for

answers. All life's questions really boil down to one. Those who have found the answer to this question also have the answers to the question of peace, understanding, and happiness. This question may be asked more at this time of year than at any other. If your life needs meaning, peace, understanding, and happiness, then you need to first ask the big question: "Where can I find God?"

Long ago some ordinary blue-collar workers—some shepherds—were presented with the answer. These shepherds were told that the world's Savior was born in the small town of Bethlehem. Was it true? They went to investigate. And they found God!

Serving in December

December 1

Ushers: Eric Bessolo, Scott Mortimer, Allen Mortimer

Communion Set Up: Furnner

Communion Assistant: Rod Davies

Power Point Assistant: Owen Straub

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

Cleaners: Mortimer

December 8

Ushers: Rocky Bessolo, Eric Metz, Paul Allar

Power Point Assistant: Mitchell Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

Cleaners: Reinke

December 11—Advent Service

Ushers: Jim Sharich, Jim Luisier

Power Point Assistant: Noah Straub

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Mortimer & Major

December 15

Ushers: Mitchell Bessolo, Joe King, Kent Kerwin

Communion Set Up: Furnner

Communion Assistant: Wayne Pennell

Power Point Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

Cleaners: Gresock

December 22

Ushers: Mark Moore, Harold Fox, Tom Furnner

Power Point Assistant: Marshall Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Straub & Luisier

Cleaners: Hoppe/Edgett

December 22—Children's Program

Ushers: Eric Bessolo, Scott Mortimer

Power Point Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

December 24—Christmas Eve Service

Ushers: Allen Mortimer, Rocky Bessolo, Eric, Metz

Power Point Assistant: Calvin Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

December 29

Ushers: Mitchell Bessolo, Joe King, Kent Kerwin

Power Point Assistant: Mitchell Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

Cleaners: Major

December 31 – New Year's Eve Service

Ushers: Harold Fox, Tom Furnner

Power Point Assistant: Noah Straub

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Straub & Luisier



EVER WONDER?
Answers to Important Questions.
Where Can I Find God?

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“When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger” (Luke 2:15,16).

Where can we find God? The Bible takes us back to Bethlehem, where we join the shepherds in beholding the Son of God who took on our human nature and was born into the world. On **Sunday, December 22, at 6 pm**, our children will have their Christmas program with words and songs that help us see this amazing find. Please make plans to attend this special night for the kids and for yourself.

Jesus came to seek and save all of us who had lost our connection with God. He came to give us the answer for finding God. We find God through him because he is the Savior who has opened the way to life with God.

No more searching. Jesus is the answer for finding God.



LIVING NATIVITY: Experience the sights and sounds of Bethlehem on that blessed night when Jesus Christ was born. This is a free, 30-minute outdoor walk, so be sure to dress for the weather. Fellowship and refreshments will follow.

Immanuel Lutheran Church.

8220 E. Holland Rd. Saginaw, MI

Friday, December 6, 7:00-9:00pm

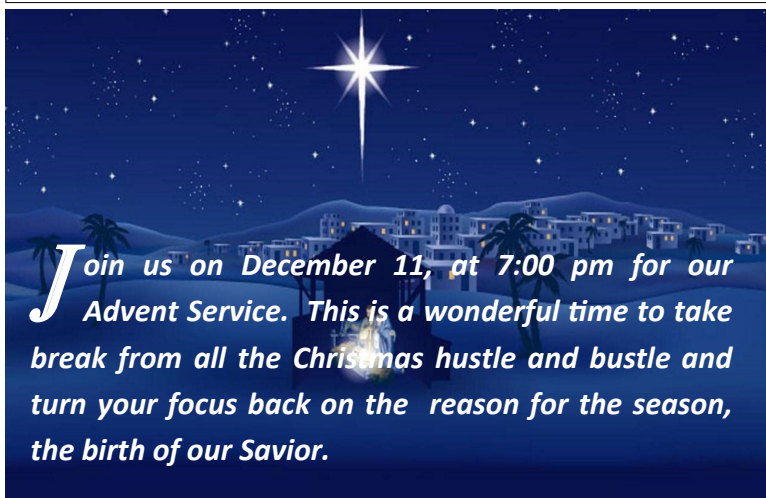
Saturday, December 7, 6:00-8:00pm

Sunday, December 8, 6:00-8:00pm

Women's Book Study - starting Sunday, January 12th (3:00 - 4:30 p.m.), we'll meet every two weeks to discuss Taboo by Mike Novotny. Sign up on the bulletin board. Cost is \$11, payable to Gloria Dei Ladies Guild.

The next Men's Breakfast and Bible Study will be on December 14, at 8:00 am.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



Birthdays in December

12-01	Devin Baker
12-02	Chloe Garfield
12-03	Dennis Hipps
12-03	Sharon King
12-04	Jonathon Smith
12-05	Lindsay Szecsodi
12-07	Lisa Hull
12-10	Terri Hall
12-11	Lilly Allar
12-12	Calvin Bessolo
12-15	Logan Moore
12-16	Josh Leplow
12-17	Julie McGowen
12-18	Eric Gresock
12-21	Patrick Tesler
12-21	Asher Tesler
12-26	Bob Kost Sr.

Anniversaries in December

12/06	Eileen & Bob Smith
12/08	Donna & Scott Freimark
12/09	Sharon & Joe King
12/26	Lynne & Brian Reinke
12/27	Erica & Eric Gresock
12/27	Jean & Hugh Eldred
12/29	Lori & Randy Neuwirth

Serving in January

January 5

Ushers: Marshall Bessolo, Eric Bessolo, Scott Mortimer

Communion Set Up: King

Communion Assistant: Jim Luisier

Power Point Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

Cleaners: Allar

January 12

Ushers: Allen Mortimer, Rocky Bessolo, Eric Metz

Power Point Assistant: Mitchell Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

Cleaners: Moore

January 19

Ushers: Paul Allar, Jim Sharich, Jim Luisier

Communion Set Up: King

Communion Assistant: Gary Richmond

Power Point Assistant: Calvin Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Mortimer & Major

Cleaners: Bessolo

January 26

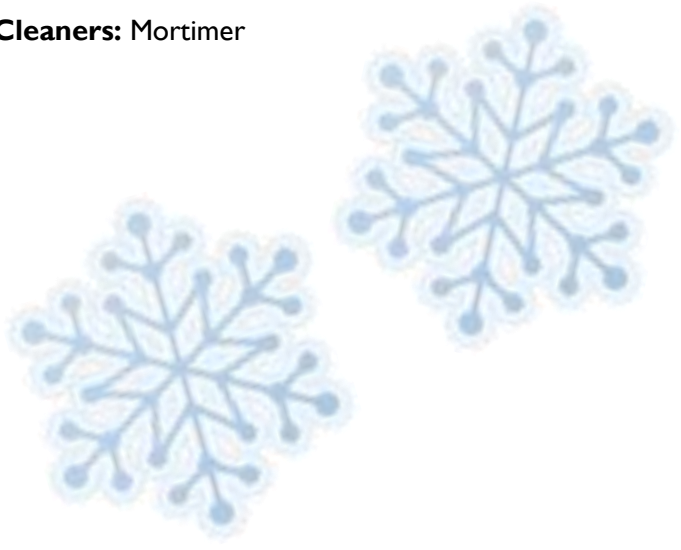
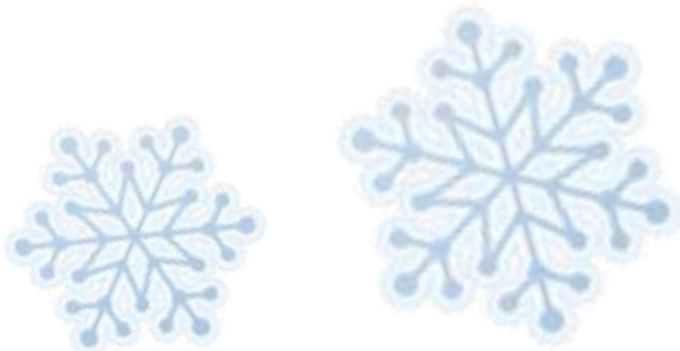
Ushers: Mitchell Bessolo, Joe King, Kent Kerwin

Power Point Assistant: Owen Straub

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

Cleaners: Mortimer





Bible Readings for December



Date	Old Testament	Psalms	Proverbs	New Testament
December 1	Ezekiel 38,39	119: 161-176	1	Hebrews 11
December 2	Ezekiel 40	120	2	Hebrews 12,13
December 3	Ezekiel 41,42	121	3	Titus
December 4	Ezekiel 43,44	122	4	Philemon
December 5	Ezekiel 45,46	123	5	1 Timothy 1,2
December 6	Ezekiel 47,48	124	6	1 Timothy 3,4
December 7	Lamentations 1,2	125	7	1 Timothy 5,6
December 8	Lamentations 3	126	8	2 Timothy 1,2
December 9	Lamentations 4,5	127	9	2 Timothy 3,4
December 10	Nahum	128	10	1 Peter 1,2
December 11	Ezra 1,2	129	11	1 Peter 3-5
December 12	Ezra 3,4	130	12	2 Peter
December 13	Ezra 5,6	131	13	1 John 1,2
December 14	Ezra 7,8	132	14	1 John 3-5
December 15	Ezra 9,10	133,134	15	2, 3 John
December 16	Zechariah 1-3	135	16	Jude
December 17	Zechariah 4-7	136	17	Revelation 1
December 18	Zechariah 8,9	137	18	Revelation 2
December 19	Zechariah 10-12	138	19	Revelation 3
December 20	Zechariah 13,14	139	20	Revelation 4,5
December 21	Haggai	140	21	Revelation 6,7
December 22	Nehemiah 1,2	141	22	Revelation 8,9
December 23	Nehemiah 3,4	142	23	Revelation 10,11
December 24	Nehemiah 5,6	143	24	Revelation 12,13
December 25	Nehemiah 7,8	144	25	Revelation 14,15
December 26	Nehemiah 9,10	145	26	Revelation 16,17
December 27	Nehemiah 11-13	146	27	Revelation 18
December 28	Esther 1-3	147	28	Revelation 19
December 29	Esther 4-7	148	29	Revelation 20
December 30	Esther 8-10	149	30	Revelation 21
December 31	Malachi	150	31	Revelation 22



Christmas for Kids

Christmas for Kids will be held this year on Saturday, December 7.

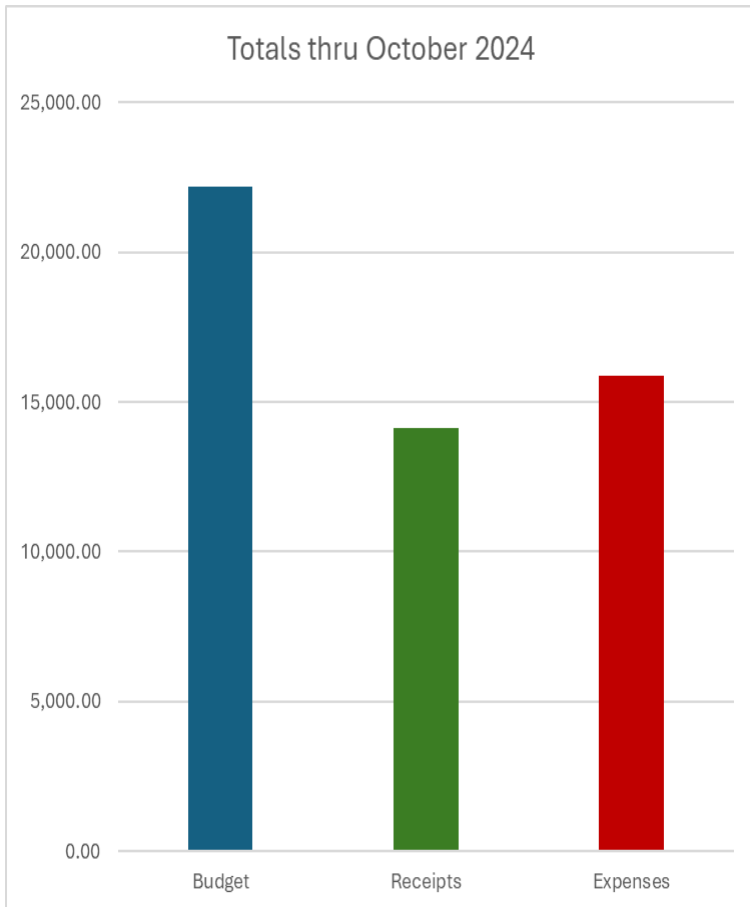
All children, preschool thru 6th grade, are invited, please make sure you tell your friends and family to save the date.

We will be needing a lot of volunteers to make the day run smoothly, so please prayerfully consider if you would be willing to help out.

You can register at: www.GloriaDeiGB.com



Our Gloria Dei Children's Christmas Musical will be on December 22, at 6:00pm. The kids (and adults) work hard every year and are so excited to share the joy of the Christmas story with you!







General Fund is 27, 898.93

Budget	Receipts	Expenses
22,177.50	14,145.76	15,881.00



DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>*Donation Sunday*</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 am - Sunday School Classes</p> <p><i>Advent 1</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>Cleaners for December 8: Reinke</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p> <p>7:00pm—Call Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Council Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 am - Christmas for Kids</p> <p>6:00 pm - Youth Group</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Sunday School Classes</p> <p><i>Advent 2</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p>Cleaners for December 15: Gresock</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00pm—Advent Service</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 am - Men's Breakfast & Bible Study</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 am - Sunday School Classes</p> <p><i>Advent 3</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Cleaners for December 22: Hoppe/Edgett</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Sunday School Classes</p> <p>6:00 pm - Children's Christmas Program</p> <p><i>Advent 4</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>Cleaners for December 29: Major</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>5:30pm—Service at Gloria Dei</p> <p>7:00pm—Service at Grace</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:30am—Service at Grace</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p><i>Christmas 1</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>Cleaners for January 5: Allar</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>5:30pm—New Years Eve Service at Gloria Dei</p>	<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00 pm - Youth Group</p>