

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis

Website

www.gloriadeilcms.org

Phone

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Pastor

Matthew Cephus

Phone

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Office Administrator Jeni Hofstede-Bryan

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Pianist

As Scheduled

Ministers: All members of Gloria Dei

**Caring Sharing Serving
Reaching**



2 0 2 6

AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August 2 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9 – 11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost, Daniel Carlson, Elder, Preaching

August 23 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Wednesday Bible Study is taking the summer off

No classes in July or August. We will resume on September 16th



A Message from Pastor Matthew Cephus

Back Yard, Back Porch

Everyone needs a place of respite and peace where our spirit can be nourished and fed. One such place for me is the back yard at my home. It's nothing fancy, but a porch, grass and good shade which make it a comfortable and an enjoyable place to go in the evening. But I find that the best time to be in the backyard is very early in the morning (sitting on the porch) as the day is dawning. In decent weather, this is my go-to place for daily devotions as I spend time in God's Word and come before the Lord in prayer.

There on the porch, in the quiet beauty of the early morning, and with a cup of hot tea nearby, I give thanks to God. I give thanks for the wonder and gift of God's good creation that I see all around me: the light of the rising sun playing on the leaves of trees; the ever-deepening green hue that is seen in the leaves of the trees as the season progresses. I see and hear birds busy at their tasks and singing their morning song of praise. I see flowers and plants that testify to intricacy of design and stunning color combinations from the hand of the Master Gardener. Sometimes I hear wild turkeys who live in the wetlands and woods nearby. Sometimes I see a tiny darting shadow among the flowers, and if I look closely, can even get a glimpse of that hummingbird. And I am reminded that I am not the only one who calls this place home. Home is shared with countless other creatures and plants – something which good stewardship reminds me that I can never forget. Even here in the populated area of the northern suburb of Minneapolis, there is solitude and stillness to be found that feeds the spirit.

The psalmist writes: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the earth proclaims his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). So true! This is the gift that I receive when I'm on the back porch early in the morning. It's a gift that changes with each day because no two days are ever the same. Our faith confesses this truth in the First Article of the Creed: "I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth." As Lutheran Christians, our "home base" is the Second Article of the Creed that focuses on the Person and work of Jesus Christ. That is where we are most comfortable. But before we can get to the Second Article, we must reckon with the First Article. "God has made me and all creatures..." as Luther puts it in his explanation of the First Article. And if that is true – and I believe that it is most certainly true – then you and me should be spending more time on our respective back porches observing what God has made that is right there before our very eyes. And in observing, we also give thanks to God.



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry - August 2026

Define Your Life by How You Give Originally Published in August 2023

Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For, giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living have on us. When we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others?” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, nor do we become less; rather, we have more and become more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the Divine Nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).



Spring Mission Offering Complete

This year's Spring Offering was allocated to **Trinity First Lutheran School** and Gloria Dei raised **\$700!** The money will go directly to support the daily operation of their ministry. With 70% of their students receiving full scholarships, donations for the school are always welcome. Trinity First School is in the heart of Minneapolis. The school believes it is blessed to serve God by providing a Christ-based education to children through the eighth grade. They are 100% faith-focused and class size is relatively small, averaging about 15 students per class. Which enables them to better meet the students' needs.

Thank you for your support.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Did you know you can now direct Choice Dollars on your schedule?

Choice Dollars are designated in full at the beginning of the year and can be directed any time until December 31. Balances are based on a member's prior-year qualifying product activity. Thrivent gives you a voice where they distribute millions of dollars in grant funding each year. By directing Choice Dollars®, you can support the causes and organizations you care about most.

To direct Choice Dollars by phone **1.** Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." **2.** Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice Dollars program Terms and Conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.) **3.** A client service professional will work with you to direct Choice Dollars®. When working with the representative tell them you want your choice dollars to go Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3014 NE McKinley Street, Minneapolis. 😊

Gloria Dei is Always in Need of Altar Care, Ushers and Readers

The summer months are always very busy for everyone. However, if your schedule permits, please consider signing up for a Sunday of Altar Care or to Usher. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the front lobby as you walk in. If you are interested, but need a refresher on what the duties include, please contact the church office and arrangements can be made for training.

We can also use your help reading the scriptures during Sunday services as well. If you would like to participate in upcoming services, please talk with Pasto Matthew and you can be added to the rotation.

National Night Out, Tuesday, August 4

Join Pastor Matthew, his family and our McKinley neighbors between 30th and 31st Streets for National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 4 from 6 – 8 pm.** Stop by the church's front lawn for this annual community-building event that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Visits from emergency personnel, including the Minneapolis Police K-9 Unit and a fire truck are scheduled to stop by.

Did you know that millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states each year? Get involved to help make our community safer and more connected.

Take it to the Streets, Community Outreach Event

Thank you to everyone who attended the Fifth Annual **"Take it to the Streets"** BBQ and Picnic on Saturday, July 25th. Special thanks to Chef Ken for another outstanding job at the grill, and to **ALL** the volunteers who helped with setup, serving, and cleanup—this was a BIG job! Despite near-record temperatures, everyone enjoyed the day. It was a hot one!

As in past years, the bouncy house was a favorite attraction, and new this year, the cakewalk and bingo, helped make the event a great success. This **FREE** summer gathering is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, connect with neighbors, and share God's love.

Building relationships and making disciples.

Annual Take it to the Streets- July 25, 2026





Fun and Games





FREE Community Dinner at St. Timothy's

August 11 @ 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Join St. Timothy's and the local community on Tuesday, August 11, from 5 pm to 6:30 pm (or until the food is gone) for their drive thru community dinner. All are welcome so spread the word! St. Timothy's Lutheran Church is located at 825 51st Avenue NE, Columbia Heights.

Free Community Dinner at Faith United Methodist Church

August 13 @ 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Faith United Methodist Church, 2708 33rd Avenue NE, holds a free Community dinner every second Thursday of the month, 5-6 pm. Everyone is welcome. Upcoming dates are Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12 and Dec. 10.

Ard Godfrey House Tours – Open Select Dates in August 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The historic Ard Godfrey house is the oldest surviving frame home in the Twin Cities, built in 1849. The Greek Revival house was the residence for the Ard Godfrey family. Godfrey was a Maine millwright who helped build the first dam and sawmills to take advantage of the water power of St Anthony Falls and was also the first postmaster of the Village of St Anthony. Originally built at Main Street and Second Avenue SE, the house was moved to Chute Square Park in 1907. It was restored by the Woman's Club of Minneapolis in 1975 to commemorate the U. S. Bicentennial in 1976. It is filled with furnishings and household artifacts authentic to the 1850s, with some original to the Godfrey family. **Open Saturdays and Sundays, 1–4 pm through August for free guided tours.**

Hollywood Theater Walking Tour - Thursday, August 13, 5:30-7 pm

With its highly coordinated interior color scheme and original detailing, the Hollywood Theater designed by the architectural firm Liebenberg and Kaplan is one of the most intact Art Deco theaters remaining in Minnesota. The Hollywood Theater operated as a movie theater from its opening in 1935 until it closed in 1987. Tour leader Quentin Collette worked with the building owner and the project team to rehabilitate the Hollywood Theater between 2018 and 2023. The theater is located at 2815 Johnson Street NE. Cost: \$15.

Summer Sizzle Indoor Art Fair

Northrup King Building, 1500 Jackson Street NE, Saturday, August 15, 10 am–6pm. Wander the halls, meet the artists behind the work, spark inspiring conversations, and experience incredible art around every corner in Minnesota's largest artist complex. Fine Arts • Painting • Photography • Jewelry • Sculpture • Wearables • Home goods • Wellness

Polish Picnic - August 15 @ 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sister Cities International Columbia Heights, Polish American Institute of Minnesota and Polish Saturday School will host the Second Annual Polish Picnic on Saturday, August 15, 11 am-5 pm in Huset Park West, 530 Mill Street NE. Polish food will be available for purchase à la carte. The Craig Ebel & DyVersaCo Polka Band will provide music, and the Dolina Polish Folk Dancers will perform traditional Polish dances. In addition to the planned activities for the children, there is an outdoor playground and splash pad in the park. Food tickets can be purchased ahead on the Polish American Institute of Minnesota website at PACIM.org or at the picnic.

REMEMBER TO BRING IN YOUR CANS!

We are always collecting cans with the proceeds going to the Mission of the Church Council's choosing.





The Great Minnesota Get-Together - Aug. 27 to Labor Day, Sept. 7

Did you know?

The Minnesota State Fair was named the No. 1 Best State Fair in 2025 by readers of USA Today and the No. 1 State Fair Worth Traveling For in 2026 by Travel + Leisure.

Fun Fair Facts:

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world. Celebrating Minnesota's agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minnesota Get-Together is always 12 Days of Fun Ending Labor Day.

Not including the Llamas and Alpacas, a new daily attendance record was set in 2025 on Monday, August 25 of 145,022 and a total attendance of 1,940,869 that same year. With a record total attendance of 2,126,551 set in 2019. Impressive!

What began in 1855 as a territorial fair to highlight agriculture and encourage farming in the region it became the Minnesota State Fair in 1859, a year after Minnesota was granted statehood. The State Fair's mission is to educate and involve guests by providing a world-class showcase that is innovative, entertaining and fun.

Located midway between Minneapolis and St. Paul, the 322-acre State Fairgrounds is renowned for its park-like setting, beautiful gardens and architecture reflecting the art deco and Works Progress Administration eras.

The State Fair employs nearly 90 full-time staff year-round. During the summer, approximately 450 seasonal employees are added to complete preparations. More than 2,300 staff members work fair time in departments such as parking, ticketing and sanitation. Fair vendors employ an estimated 10,000 additional workers. WOW!

The fair is financially self-supporting and has not received state government funding since 1949. Revenue from ticket sales, percentages and fees paid by vendors, facility rental, sponsorships, grants from the Minnesota State Fair Foundation, and other sources brings the fair to life – powering memorable experiences, world-class year-round operations, and exceptional care of the historic fairgrounds.

Beyond the annual State Fair, the fairgrounds hosts more than 200 events throughout the year, including horse and livestock exhibitions, athletic competitions, merchandise sales, car shows, corporate meetings, special events and more.

The fair's annual economic impact in the Twin Cities in 2018 was a Super Bowl-sized \$268 million, plus additional unmeasured impact throughout the Midwest. Using an inflation calculator, \$268 million in 2018 would be equivalent to more than \$343 million today.

Time of Grace

Time of Grace connects people to God's grace—his love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don't satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever.

Pastor Mike Novotny

Pastor Mike Novotny serves as the lead speaker for Time of Grace, where he shares the good news about Jesus through television, print, and online platforms.

Sundays KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 AM

Subscribe to Time of Grace to be delivered to your email inbox daily. It's easy to subscribe to resources that'll keep you rooted in Jesus. Just select which types of resources you would like to receive and they will be sent right to your inbox www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe

Main Street Living

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am and is an LCMS program that features pastors from the WFTC, and can be viewed on channel 29/9-2, (On Comcast this is channel 10)

The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*, a Lutheran Hour Ministries program made popular in the 60s, 70s, and 80s. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally.

For more information or to watch the programs, visit www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.



JULY OFFICIAL ACTS

None

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 am

Hosted by Rev. Michael Zeigler (unless otherwise noted)

August 2, 2026 "Why Jesus Told Parables" Mark 4

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Archives August—Effective communicators tell stories to make a point. Hear how Jesus' parables point us to Himself.

August 9, 2026 "Extreme Neighborliness" Luke 10:25-37

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Archives August—Jesus is the ultimate "Good Samaritan," the unlikely Rescuer who binds our wounds, carries us to safety, and pays the price through His cross.

August 16, 2026 "Look at Me" Luke 18:1-8

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Archives August—God hears our cry for justice, not as an indifferent judge, but as our merciful heavenly Father.

August 23, 2026 "Real Riches" Luke 12:15

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Ken Klaus

Archives August—It's not wrong to have possessions, but to love anything in such a way that it takes the place of God is spiritually deadly.

August 30, 2026 "Tell Me a Story!" Mark 4:1-20, 26-34

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer

Archives August—God lavishly sows the seed of His Word. Responses vary.



Daily Devotions from The Lutheran Hour Ministries

With several ways to read and listen, you can get your daily dose of Scripture when you need it. Visit lhm.org/dailydevotions to subscribe for email delivery to your inbox, sign up for the podcasts, or download the app for your mobile device — all for **FREE!**

AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418 612-781-1989 website: www.gloriadeilcms.org email: info@gloriadeilcms.org						1 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
2 10th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	3 Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	4 6 – 8 pm National Night Out Block Party 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	5	6	7 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	8 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
9 11th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	10 Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	11 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	12	13	14 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	15 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 4 – 5 pm Living Word Board Meeting 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
16 12th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC & Elder, Daniel Carlson Preaching 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	17 Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	18 5 – 7 pm GDLC Council meeting 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	19 6 pm Neighborhood Block Meeting	20	21 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	22 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
23 13th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA Newsletter Deadline	24 Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	25 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	26	27	28 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	29 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
30 14th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	31 Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)					

Special Occasions for Special People



1st Carin Anderson
1st Roselyn Norman
6th James Sather
8th Keven Henslin
26th James Norman, Jr.

8th Keven & Robin Henslin
22nd Tim & Norma Harris

AUGUST SERVANTS			
Elder: Daniel Carlson and Jason Matasovsky			
Altar Care			
		2 nd 9 th 16 th 23 rd 30 th	
Ushers		Counters	
2 nd	Tom Harris and Dale Raschke	2 nd	Sandy Westling and Tom Harris
9 th	Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer	9 th	Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer
16 th	Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli	16 th	Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli
23 rd	Tom and Patty Lyrenmann	23 rd	Tom and Patty Lyrenmann
30 th	OPEN	30 th	Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather
Eternal Light		Flowers	
2 nd	Roselyn Norman, In Memory of Bob & Muriel Heyer Sandy Westling, Evie's birthday (sister) Shirley Holzinger, In Memory of Dad's birthday (27th)	2 nd	Roselyn Norman, In Memory of Bob & Muriel Heyer
9 th		9 th	
16 th		16 th	
23 rd		23 rd	
30 th		30 th	



AUGUST

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

CHURCH WORKERS — AUGUST 1-15

Pastors; deaconesses; Lutheran school teachers; directors of Christian education, Christian outreach and family life ministry; parish musicians. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) is blessed with many faithful church workers who assist and lead people in participating in the fulfillment of the Great Commission, while building up the Body of Christ.

Remember God's work through the Synod's church workers as you pray:

1. *with thanksgiving for the many dedicated church workers in the LCMS, who share in our joys and sorrows. Ask the Lord to comfort and defend them from every assault of the devil.*

2. *for the Synod's pastors, that they would hold fast to the Word of God and find strength to continue preaching God's truth in an increasingly anti-Christian culture.*

3. *for the Synod's deaconesses. Pray that they would be equipped with all things needful to love and serve people in every situation.*

4. *that God would bless the work of directors of Christian education, as they develop educational ministries for children, youth, adults and families.*

5. *for the Synod's directors of Christian outreach, that God would guide their efforts to support a congregation's or organization's outreach and evangelism work.*

6. *for directors of family life ministry. Ask that God would guide their vital work to strengthen the families in our congregations.*

7. *for teachers and administrators in Lutheran schools, that they would model Christ-like behavior*

for students and incorporate the Gospel message into each and every day.

8. *for directors of parish music, that they would find joy and satisfaction in their work of enhancing the worship life of the church.*

9. *for the Synod's commissioned lay ministers, who work under a pastor's guidance to support a church's efforts in evangelism, Christian education, parish administration and other areas that are God-pleasing.*

10. *for missionaries, who leave home and family to work in faraway lands. Ask God to give them strength, wisdom and protection as they do His work.*

11. *for those involved in Specialized Pastoral Ministry, who serve the ill, imprisoned, aging, troubled and isolated. Give thanks for their service to people in the midst of tragedy or crisis.*

12. *for military chaplains, who put themselves in harm's way to minister to members of our armed forces. Ask God to keep them safe as they share Christ's love with our servicemen and women.*

13. *for the health and well-being of all church workers, that they would utilize opportunities for rest and renewal.*

14. *with thanksgiving for every person who volunteers in a congregation as an elder, an usher, a Sunday school teacher or in another capacity. Praise God that He calls His people to support full-time church workers in a variety of ways.*

15. *with thankful hearts for the blessings God gives to His people through full-time church workers. These faithful men and women care for us, pray for us and teach us the Word of God.*

THE CHURCH — AUGUST 16-31

“The Church is the congregation of saints [Psalm 149:1] in which the Gospel is purely taught and the Sacraments are correctly administered. For the true unity of the Church it is enough to agree about the doctrine of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments” (Augsburg Confession VII).

Remember God’s work through the Church as you pray:

16. *with thanksgiving to God for raising up voices in every age and generation as He continues to call people to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

17. *that God would raise up in our own time faithful pastors and church workers who will preach Jesus Christ crucified and risen, for the edification of His people and for the sake of those not yet of the faith.*

18. *with thanksgiving that God does His bidding through unworthy and unlikely people. Pray that He would keep us from thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought and keep us focused on the proclamation of the Gospel.*

19. *that God would give us faith so that we may not fear in times of trouble nor fall away in times of prosperity.*

20. *for the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above to be given to us, so that*

God’s Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edification of Christ’s holy people.

21. *that the Church would work together in God-pleasing unity and that their joint efforts would further God’s kingdom.*

22. *for Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and other institutions that prepare servants for the Church, that they would properly prepare men and women to serve God and His Church.*

23. *with thanksgiving for every person and organization that supports the work of the Church. The prayers and financial support of God’s people enable the Gospel to be shared at home and around the world.*

24. *for young people, that the Lord would lead them to serve Him and bless His people.*

25. *for us, that when we are tempted to focus on the things*



of the world or on ourselves, God would direct our attention to His Word and will.

26. *with thanksgiving that God continues to strengthen us through His Word and Sacraments.*

27. *with thankful hearts to God for sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross and rise again so that we might have the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life.*

28. *that we would joyfully study the Sacred Scriptures as a light to our path and gratefully make*



use of the Lutheran Confessions to help us understand and apply the Scriptures.

29. *with thanksgiving for shepherds in the Church’s history and pastors today, whom God uses to guide His flock.*

30. *that God would keep all Christians from being led astray by false teachings, and instead bring them to a deeper knowledge of Him.*

31. *that we all would be given a trust in the saving Gospel and a great passion to spread its joy with others in our lives.*



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