



The Big Idea: The End of the Plan?

We remember this week that God's big idea, God's amazing plan, has a terminus, has an ending. But wait...His plan is eternal..right? We know that the plan, which began in the Garden of Eden, does have an ending in this world. However, as we consider His big idea, we also remember that the big idea of God, the "light" of the "light bulb" of God's idea, will some day go dark in this world. But we also remember that when the light of this world is extinguished, the light of the next will be lit. When the plan ends here, God's never-ending plan will begin. We therefore pray for the day when Jesus will return and we will experience "The End of the Plan."

Visiting today?

Welcome! We are glad you're here. There is a gift waiting for you at the Connection Center!

Got children? Awesome! We have a wonderful nursery for infant-3 years old. Please go through the "nursery" door in the southwest corner of the Gathering Area outside the Sanctuary. We also have an educational time on Saturdays at 5:45 p.m. and Sundays at 9:45 and 11:15 a.m. for children ages 3-grade 5.

Got questions? Please stop by the Connection Center where a friendly person will assist you.

Life Groups Informational Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 4 at 1 p.m.

Pastor Ben invites you to hear, learn, and give valuable input to the formation and upstart of a small group initiative called Life Groups. If you have questions, contact Pastor Ben at ben.johnson@gdlc.church.



Ash Wednesday: February 14

Traditional Worship at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Blended Worship at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The celebration of Lent begins with what we call "Ash Wednesday" on February 14. The old saying that accompanied this day, "Ashes you are and to ashes you shall return," is a reminder not only of the limitations of our humanity but also what brings the limitation, our sin. The Bible says it this way, "The wages of sin is...death." This year on Ash Wednesday we will remember both our finite nature and our infinite nature all in one evening. Through the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, we will remember that we are ashes and to ashes we shall return, but that in Christ and through Christ, we will be in the heavenly realm forever. In fact, we often say it this way at funerals, "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust...in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of all flesh!" Don't miss this opportunity to grow in your faith in Jesus as you not only begin Lent on Ash Wednesday but commit to growing in your faith week after week, all season long!

Please note: Faith Alive and ReCharge will not meet on Ash Wednesday; we encourage everyone to worship together.



Let's pray!

Prayer requests can be made on the back of the "Welcome" card located in the pews. Please indicate your prayer request and place the card in the offering plate. We have both e-mail and phone prayer chains available. Contact Pastor Phillips at 276-1700, or Diane Young between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 321-1566 with your request.

Rick Buhrke
Shirley Voshell
Paul Buttenhoff
Shannon Smuck
Maddie Wright
Bob Christensen
Tim McClelland
Ken Lee
Dan DeVries
Jennifer Dehnert
Larry Lewis
Jessica Kramer
Heather Kusel
Mike Burdick
Sandy Foreman
Larry Kinsey
Sarah Smith
Julie Bowie
Cooper Driscoll
Taylor Peterson

*For the Lord himself
will descend from heaven
with a cry of command,
with the voice of an
archangel, and
with the sound of the
trumpet of God.
And the dead in Christ
will rise first.
1 Thessalonians 4:16 (ESV)*

Lenten and Easter Worship Times

Midweek Lenten Worship

February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14 and 21 in the Sanctuary

Traditional Worship at 12:15 p.m. and Blended Worship at 6:30 p.m.

February 21, 28, March 7 and 21 in the Family Life Center

Youth-led worship at 6:45 p.m.

(Please note: ReCharge and Faith Alive will not meet on Feb. 14, March 14 and Holy Week.)

Holy Week

March 29 - Maundy Thursday (Sanctuary-Traditional) at 12:15 p.m.

March 29 - Maundy Thursday (Sanctuary-Blended) at 6:30 p.m.

March 30 - Good Friday (Sanctuary-Traditional) at 12:15 p.m.

March 30 - Good Friday (Sanctuary-Blended) at 4:30 p.m.

March 30 - Good Friday (Sanctuary-Blended) at 6:30 p.m.

Easter

Saturday, March 31 at 5:30 p.m. (FLC-Contemporary)

Sunday, April 1 at 7:30 a.m. (Sanctuary-Traditional)

Sunday, April 1 at 9:00 a.m. (Sanctuary-Traditional)

Sunday, April 1 at 9:00 a.m. (FLC- Contemporary)

Sunday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary-Contemporary)

Urbandale/Iowa State Singers Concert

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7:30-8:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary



You are invited to a shared concert with Iowa's top high school and college choirs. It is a wonderful way to enjoy great music and encourage these talented young men and women. For more information, contact Nick Prenger at nick.prenger@gdlc.church.

E-mail Newsletters

On Friday mornings, we send out an e-mail newsletter that highlights the weekly activities at Gloria Dei. From that digital newsletter, there are lots of links that will make it easier to register or to catch a message online. We also send out a mid-week boost that contains Pastor Joe's 10.27 podcast along with a few other reminders.

If you do not receive these e-mails and would like to, please contact Jenny Lappin at jenny.lappin@gdlc.church.

Spring Break VBS

March 12-15 from 9-11:30 a.m.

VBS is right around the corner! Registration is open! Simply go to www.GDLC.CHURCH/VBS and click on the VBS link in the menu bar.

Leaders and helpers are needed!

Sign up today by clicking the "registration" link at www.GDLC.CHURCH. Help for a day or all four days, or help set up or tear down. Leader and helper training will be Monday, March 5 from 6-7 p.m.

Kids' worship team members:

All ages welcome to help lead opening and closing during VBS. Rehearsals will be Sunday, March 4 from noon-1 p.m. and Saturday, March 10 from 10 a.m. - noon in the FLC. Contact DeAnn at DeAnn.McCue@gdlc.church.

VBS drivers for Laurel Village

Monday-Thursday at 7:30-8:30 a.m. and 12-1 p.m.

We would love to pick up a few of our friends from Laurel Village. All we need are responsible drivers to meet us at Laurel Village on Monday-Thursday at 8 a.m. to drive the children to GDLC and then drive them back to Laurel Village at noon. For more information, contact Karen Kennedy at karen.kennedy@gdlc.church.

February Class: Marriage on the Rock

Thursday, Feb. 15-April 26 from 6:30-8 p.m.

Whether you've been married for years or just preparing for the journey, Marriage on the Rock will transform your relationship. Nursery for children 3 and under is provided. For more information, contact Scott & Janet Strachan, Certified Marriage on the Rock Small Group Leaders, at j.strachan@mchsi.com. Registration is required.

Scrapbooking Fellowship

Friday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 10 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Come to room 131 and join a group of women who love to scrapbook. For information, contact Jenny Lappin at jenny.lappin@gdlc.church.

Camp Okoboji

Each LCMS congregation in Iowa District West has the privilege of sending one delegate to the Annual Meeting of Camp Okoboji. We could have two members go since the Camp Auxiliary meets at the same time and we would then be represented in both meetings. The Annual Meeting takes place in the Christian Life Center on Saturday, April 7 at 11 a.m. The meeting is normally adjourned by 4 p.m.

If you have an interest in representing Gloria Dei, or have any questions, please contact Chris Thomson at 777-3895 or at chris.thomson@gdlc.church.

Handbells

Would you like to ring with us? We'd love to have you join us! We're working on music for Easter! Questions? Contact DeAnn in the church office at 276-1700 or by at deann.mccue@gdlc.church.



Tiny Treasures' Playgroup - Accepting Registrations at GDLC.CHURCH



If you have a child between the ages of 2 and 3, Playgroup provides an excellent jumpstart into our regular preschool program. It is just one day per week, on Friday mornings from 9-11:30. There will be a maximum of 12 children in the class with 2 teachers. The cost for the class is \$70 per month and will begin Friday, Feb. 2.

Registration for Playgroup can be done on-line on our preschool page at www.gdlc.church.

Consider the possibilities of helping in Honduras

We are looking for individuals who would like to extend God's hand of love and mercy to those in Honduras from June 9-16, 2018. No medical experience is needed, just a willing heart. If God is tugging on your heart, contact Pastor Tim at tim.phillips@gdlc.church.



We will be helping in these areas:

- **Optical**—helping Hondurans receive glasses
- **Dental**—assisting Honduran dentists in treating patients
- **Concrete**—putting concrete floors in houses
- **Painting**—painting houses
- **Pharmacy**—helping the pharmacy distribute medicine
- **Medical**—seeing patients and giving a basic diagnosis
- **Children**—teaching the message of Jesus to children and washing their heads for lice
- **Evangelism**—sharing the Gospel with Hondurans.
- **Spiritual Growth**—many people come away from the trip with a deepened faith and understanding of God's love.

If interested, contact Pastor Phillips at tim.phillips@gdlc.church.

Photos Credit: Steve Kowbel

Hong Kong VBS supplies needed

The team going to Hong Kong from Gloria Dei is bringing supplies for the week of VBS with them. Please donate items in the bin by the coat racks or by DeAnn's office before Wednesday, Feb. 14.

- ➔ Old-fence boards or barn wood (at least 6-inches wide)
- ➔ Wash cloths
- ➔ Dimes
- ➔ Rubber bands
- ➔ Wooden rulers
- ➔ Disposable straws (non-bendable)

Outpouring of Love (Jan. 21-Jan. 27, 2018)	
General Fund Offerings	\$34,073
General Fund Offering Budget	\$29,100
3rd QTD Offering Total	\$143,932
3rd QTD Budget	\$161,300
YTD Offering Total	\$1,043,246
YTD Budget	\$1,033,600
Please note: Our fiscal year runs mid-year (July-June)	

* Communion is in the Sanctuary the 1st and 3rd weekend and in the FLC the 2nd and 4th weekend.

We are glad that you are worshiping with us today. We encourage families to worship together before children are invited to Grace Place on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 9:50 a.m. and 11:20 a.m.

Children:

(Infant to age 4):

Nursery: Located on the lower level, the nursery is staffed during all worship services for children ages 3 and under at no cost to the parent. The nursery can be accessed through the door on the southwest side of the Connection Center.

Communion:

The Lord's Supper or Communion is a Biblical event, given by Jesus for the strengthening of our faith and the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26). God's Word is very clear that when we receive the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper we also literally/physically receive the actual body and blood of Jesus (1 Corinthians 10:16 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-30). If you are a baptized Christian who trusts in Christ's presence, recognizes your sinfulness, and desires not only to be forgiven of those sins, but also needs strength from Jesus to amend your daily life, then you are welcome to join us! If you do not believe Christ is present, or are unsure of what you believe and want further explanation, then please feel free to speak with one of our Pastors at a convenient time. (We provide both non-alcoholic wine in the center of the tray and gluten-free wafers in containers.)