

# GLORIA DEI CHURCH

LOVE ALL, SERVE ALL, IN JESUS' NAME

Gloria Dei Friends in Christ –

St. Paul wrote to his friends in Christ, ***“We have this treasure [the grace and hope found in Jesus as Lord] in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.”*** 2 Cor. 4:7 (NRSV) [notes mine]

Everything we do reflects this treasure that we have received: the grace and hope found in Jesus as our Lord. Treasure is often thought of as currency – money. But we all have many more treasures than money. Pastor and Kaleidoscope founder Eric H.F. Law describes 6 different “currencies” that every congregation can take advantage of: Wellness, Relationship, Gracious Leadership, Time & Place, Truth, and Money. Your use of many of these “currencies” is what makes so many ministries happen.

Here are some of the activities that point to the Jesus-inspired grace and hope, and the currencies flowing through them:

Gloria Dei provides welcoming worship, with different styles and times. (Time & Place, Relationship, Gracious Leadership, Truth)

We invite our community to a meal on Tuesday evenings, followed by community learning. (Wellness, Relationship, Time & Place)

At Gloria Dei people are eager to learn (Sunday School, Affirmation, adult study and small groups). (Wellness, Relationship, Gracious Leadership, Time & Place)

Our members give of their time and energy serving those outside our walls: Welcome Church ministry with the homeless in Center City; St. Francis Inn; OHAAT beds; so many others. (Relationship, Wellness, Money, Time)

170 families come to our campus each week for our outstanding preschool. (Wellness, Relationship, Time and Place, Gracious Leadership, Money, Truth)

How we care for our lovely grounds and buildings inspires us, the community groups who use our building, plus the thousands of drivers-by on Huntingdon Pike and Welsh Road. (Time & Place, Wellness, Relationship, Money)

People speaking to each other with love and compassion and many offers of prayer. (Relationship, Wellness, Truth)

The ministries of Gloria Dei rely on all these currency blessings. Soon we will be forming a transition team to guide Gloria Dei in discerning what pastoral roles will be filled by Pastor Karyn and another pastor. We hope some of you will consider using your currencies (Relationship, Truth, Wellness, Gracious Leadership, Time) to serve in this way.

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We thought we would share this from Melissa Whitman, new Director of Gloria Dei Preschool: “We are off to a great start at Gloria Dei Preschool! The children are busy with new routines, making friends and having fun in their classrooms! October is a busy month! We are looking forward to our schoolwide trip to the Pumpkin Patch, School Picture Days as well as a visit from the Fire Department. The month will end with our annual Halloween Parades! Looking ahead, we are excited about our Annual PTO Book Fair which takes place from November 8-14<sup>th</sup>. Please keep our students and teachers in your prayers as we head into a new school year. We wish them a year filled with success and preschool fun!”

And now a word from Pastor Donna: “My second week here I went to the “Give” page of the Gloria Dei website and filled out the form for my monthly offering. When I am convinced of the value of anything, I am willing to support it not just with my Time and Relationships but with my Money, too. I hope you will continue to support Gloria Dei with your financial offerings ~ and perhaps even increase your giving, so blessings will flow more freely through Gloria Dei to the world, on behalf of our Lord Jesus, who has given us all.”

Thanks to all of you who give generously of so many currencies!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastors Karyn Wiseman and Donna Wright, Church Council, and the Generosity Team