



Glory to God

Gloria Dei Lutheran
Church

1961 - 2011

50th Anniversary Commemorative
Book and Directory

637 Buckingham Road
Winnipeg MB R3R 1B9
204.832.4564

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Pastors



Rev. Russell Lempke
May 1961 - April 1965



Rev. Richard Gilmore
July 1965 - July 1967



Rev. George Strand
July 1967 - April 1968



Rev. Walter Lexvold
May 1968 - August 1973



Rev. James Buenting
November 1973 - April 1982



Rev. Dr. Dale Berg
May 1982 - May 1984



Rev. Rik Cherland
December 1984 - July 1989



Rev. Glen Krentz
August 1989 - June 2002



Rev. Leon Gilbertson
July 2002 - April 2004

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Pastors



Rev. Lanny Knutson
May 2004 - July 2009



Rev. Ted Chell
September 2009 - August 2010



Rev. Jennifer Marlor
August 2010

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Staff



Karen Hayden
Office Administrator



Lorne Turner
Custodian



History of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Gloria Dei, which translated from the Latin, means "Glory to God", is a congregation of The Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada in the Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Synod.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church began in November of 1960 and was one of the last missions to be undertaken by the former American Lutheran Church. Dedication of the church building (intended as the first unit of a someday larger structure) and the parsonage was on May 7, 1961. As yet there was no congregation. The first regular Service of Worship was held on May 14, 1961 and the first regular Sunday school session was held on June 4, 1961.



Church Building 1961

On September 30, 1961, Gloria Dei was officially organised under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Karl Holdfeld, then President of the Canadian segment of the American Lutheran Church. That day a constitution was adopted, a council was elected, and Rev. Russell Lemke was called to serve as Pastor.

On October 1, 1961 Rev. Lemke was installed as Pastor. Forty confirmed members signed the roll that Sunday and twenty-six more were to sign before the Charter Membership Roll was closed in March of 1962. Of the sixty-six charter members, many had children, but the charter roll was signed only by the confirmed members. As of May 2011 we still have some of those original members on our membership roll at Gloria Dei. They are Alma Riordon, Ben and Ethel Hutsebaut, Allen and Laura Isleifson and Verona Schattner. Many of our members, although not Charter Members, were there in those early years of the 1960's and still attend at Gloria Dei in 2011.

Rev. Lemke served Gloria Dei until April 18, 1965. Rev. Richard Gilmore was installed as Pastor on July 18, 1965. He served the congregation until July 16, 1967. Also in 1967, the congregation automatically became a member of the newly formed Evangelical Lutheran Church with headquarters located in the city of Saskatoon. Rev. George A. Strand, then Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, served Gloria Dei as Interim Pastor from July 23, 1967 to April 30, 1968.

History cont...

On May 5, 1968, Rev. Walter A. Lexvold was installed as Pastor at Gloria Dei and served the congregation until August 1973. During that time Gloria Dei procured the use of Dieppe School for Sunday School classes on September 1, 1969. In 1970 our congregation became self-supporting and we had the first Men's Retreat at Luther Village. Our 10th Anniversary celebration took place on October 3, 1971.



Church Building 1968

On November 25, 1973, Rev. James Buenting was installed as Pastor. During Pastor Buenting's service the Church Council commissioned a study on the adequacy of the existing facility and on December 1, 1974 a Building Committee was appointed. On April 1, 1976 our original debt was retired and then on August 18 the Gloria Dei congregation decided to begin immediately on the construction of the new church building. The contract was awarded to Gateway Construction Co. Ltd. and on September 3 excavation began. On May 8, 1977, the Fifth Sunday of Easter, the dedication of our new Worship Centre, furnishings, George Stevens pipe organ and Sunday school facilities took place. The George Stevens pipe organ was believed to have been built in the period 1850-1852.



Under Construction 1976

Pastor Buenting served the congregation until April 25, 1982 and then Dr. Dale Berg served as interim Pastor from May 1982 until 1984. During that time we delivered the Winnipeg telephone directories for the first time.

On December 2, 1984, Rev. Rik Cherland was installed as Pastor. During his service we celebrated our 25th Anniversary on September 28, 1986. Gloria Dei also became a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada in 1986, the year of inception of our ELCIC. One of our members, the Rev. Don Sjoberg, was the National Bishop of the ELCIC which was headquartered in Winnipeg.

Pastor Cherland served our congregation until July 2, 1989. Dr. Dale Berg again served as interim Pastor until Rev. Glen Krentz was installed as our Pastor on September 10, 1989.



History cont...

At the February 6, 2000 Annual Congregational Meeting it was determined that Gloria Dei would move toward the purchase of a new pipe organ to replace the George Stevens pipe organ installed in 1977. The work of the appointed committee bore fruit and a new Casavant Frères Opus 3822 pipe organ was installed and dedicated on February 16, 2003. A dedicatory concert, the first concert of many, was held on April 27, 2003.



Church Building 2000

Rev. Glen Krentz served Gloria Dei until June 30, 2002, the longest term of any pastor at Gloria Dei to date (2011). Rev. Leon Gilbertson then served us as interim pastor from July 1, 2002 until the installation of Rev. Lanny Knutson on May 1, 2004.

In the spring of 2004, stained glass windows were installed in the sanctuary of Gloria Dei, the "Gloria Dei Window" on the north wall, and the "Grace Window" on the south wall.

Rev. Lanny Knutson retired after 40 years of faithful and fruitful ministry on July 31, 2009. A retirement banquet was held to honour him, complete with music, skits and speeches by Gloria Dei members. Rev. Theodore Chell then served as Interim Pastor of Gloria Dei from September 1, 2009 until the ordination and installation of Rev. Jennifer Marlor on August 6, 2010.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church had the privilege and blessing to host the 13th Biennial Convention of the ELCIC Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Synod from April 22 to 25, 2010. This was a large project and a "first" for Gloria Dei. The delegates of the convention were overwhelmingly grateful for the welcome they received from our congregation.

Nurtured by the grace of God this community at Gloria Dei has grown from the original sixty-six Charter members to over five hundred baptized members who work together in community to achieve Gloria Dei's Mission Statement: "Gathering regularly for worship, fellowship, and study, our mission is to be people of God who embody the gospel of the cross in all that we say and do in our community and beyond."

History cont...

The special Bible passage of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church: Psalm 15:1: "Lord, who may enter your Temple? Who may worship on Zion, your sacred hill?"

As we move into our next fifty years, may we as individuals and families celebrate and exercise, in our breaking bread and sharing wine together, our wholeness in Jesus Christ through faith to the "GLORY OF GOD."



Church Building 2011

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP ROLL OF CONFIRMED MEMBERS 1961

Hadie Becker	Mitchell Martin	Erica Schmidt
Ken Becker	Carl Matzolic	Anna Schultz
Audrey Bell	Theresa Matzolic	Amelia Schwartz
Alf Eide	Elisabeth Maurer	George Sherlow
Delphine Eide	Frederick Maurer	Kal Sherlow
Len Gusdal	Reinhard Oepkes	Anne Smith
Elsie Hay	Renate Oepkes	Cynthia Smith
Robert A. Hay	Shirley Paradis	Edward Smith
Allen R. Isleifson	Linda Petlikau	Wilma Somerville
Laura K. Isleifson	Rudy Petlikau	Erick Sounurm
Helen Jensen	Elsa Plye	Ida Stewart
Paul Jensen	Ernest Plye	Charlotte Thiem
Alfred Kempf	Henry Radke	Einar M. Tomasson
Christine Kempf	Lavina Radke	Harry Topnik
Mrs. Kroeger	George Reichert	June Topnik
Peter Kroeger	Theresa Reichert	Olga Topnik
Lillian E. Lemke	Audrey Ross	Carl Tramer
Russell G. Lemke	Ian Ross	Winnifred Tramer
Cheryl Liebrecht	Benno Schattner	Elsie Wilde
Elza Liebrecht	Hermann Schattner	Gerald Wilde
Lawrence Liebrecht	Lisbeth Schattner	Svava Woodard
Esther Martin	Verona Schattner	

CHURCH COUNCIL - 1961

George Sherlow - President	Herry Topnik - Vice-President
Gerald Wilde - Secretary	Henry Radke - Treasurer
Ernest Plye	Ed Smith
Erick Sounurm	Carl Tramer



CHURCH COUNCIL - 1986

Joan Berg - Chairperson
Ken Hanssen - Secretary
Bob Beck
Gary Danielson
Carol Maruk
Larry Ring

Al Jacksteit - Vice-Chairperson
Brian Ormonde - Treasurer
Nancy Caldwell
Terry Hansen
Wayne Preusentanz
Ted Wittenberg

CHURCH COUNCIL - 2011

Abe Flaming - Chairperson
Barbara Ardern - Secretary
Torsten Bethge
Patricia Caron
Kim Dorn
Marion Krause
Ralph Oswald

Lillian Tendies - Vice-Chairperson
Rudy Beyer - Treasurer
Marlene Buffie
Ali Cianflone
Tyler Hansen
Edgar Lach
Larry Ring

"FIRSTS" BAPTISMS - WEDDINGS - FUNERALS

1961

Baptism: June 18 - Pamela Dorothy Hay -
Parents Robert & Elsie Hay
Wedding: December 28 - William Richard Fuller & Betty Anna Isfeld
Funeral: November 17 - Burton Woodard

1986

Baptism: January 12 - Kristian Alexander Pleuschow -
Parents Michael and Susan Pleuschow
Wedding: April 12 - Cindy-Lou Anne Hutsebaut & Roland Edward
Joseph Bouchard
Funeral: January 5 - Anne Zelisney

2011

Baptism: March 6 - Cade Wayne Tyerman -
Parents Clayton & Candace Tyerman
Wedding: March 18 - Cassandra McLaughlin & Curtis Gerbrandt
Funeral: April 20 - Arla Klingbell

Stained Glass Windows

The Stained Glass windows in the sanctuary of Gloria Dei were dedicated on April 25th, 2004. The original design was created by Ingrid Magnuson and the glass was crafted by Richard Magnuson.



“The Grace Window”
(south window)

The Grace of God flows to us through the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. The flow is downward merging into a tumbling river. The colours of red and green; the shape of the wheat and grapes, offer the viewer an opportunity for personal insight and contemplation.

“The Gloria Dei Window”
(north window)

The upward-reach flame-like design suggests the people of the church praising God. The colours represent the Liturgical Year beginning with Advent blue and continuing in a clockwise direction to the green of Ordinary Time.

The light of God, above, streams down through this community of worship and praise.

