

# The Trumpet

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**

website: [gdlutheran.org](http://gdlutheran.org)

phone: (760)743-2478

## September 2017

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**Heather Seierstad and Kristen Lawson**,  
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*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1, 2)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Chapter 11 of Hebrews we hear the story of the heroes of the faith: the believers who stood strong in the face of temptation, enduring persecution and even martyrdom. They were patient and trusted that God would keep His promise to send the Messiah. Then, in chapter 12, we hear that those believers are a great cloud of witnesses. By their lives and confession of Christ, they bore witness to the fact that He is the Savior.

And now in our day, Hebrews exhorts us also to, "run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith..." We run together in the church. Others have run the race before us. Others will follow we are done. But all of us, in every generation are to look to Jesus. To "look to Jesus" means He is the Lord of the Church. He is the Word that we hear. He is the Light that we see. He is the Living Bread that we eat. He is the Living Water that wells up within us. He is the Good Shepherd who protects us. He is the Savior who died and rose again to give us eternal life. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one come to the Father except through Him. (John 14:6).

So, we need to stay focused on Jesus alone as we go through this world. That is not as easy as it sounds. Satan is real, and he uses a thousand lies to get individual believers and the entire Church to turn their eyes away from Christ and His cross. Satan doesn't care where else we look, as long as we stop looking to Jesus. Satan has lies, both ancient and modern, that he uses to attempt to turn people from Jesus.

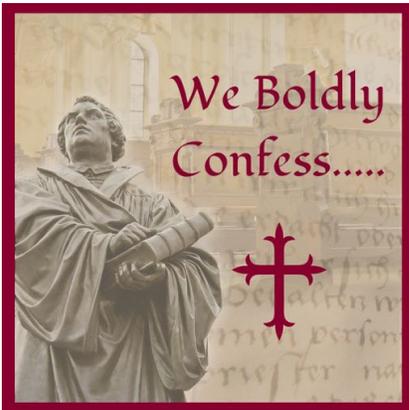
The Holy Spirit uses God's Word, the Bible, and the sacraments, to create and sustain faith in us. God's Word is important. It is vital that we hear it and understand it in truth. For God never changes, and His Word remains the same too. It means the same thing from generation to generation, for it speaks of Christ. (continued on next page)



**Your letters, articles, and photos are welcome! Please submit them for the next Trumpet to:**  
[gloriadei1981@gmail.com](mailto:gloriadei1981@gmail.com)

## Pastor's Page Continued

So when the faithful Church in a generation encountered a particularly noxious, deceptive lie that Satan launched into the world, the Church would counter that lie with a confession of what the Bible truly taught. The Church would go to the Word and craft a statement that spoke the truth of Jesus against that lie. Those confessions stood as strong statements of the truth of God's Word from generation to generation.



We have a number of such confessions: the Apostle's Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed, and the writings in the Book of Concord. These all stand as guiding statements for the Lutheran Church. We hold to Scripture alone, but we also confess that these Confessions are faithful to the unchanging Word of God. They all look to Christ, and they help guide us to do the same.

One of the writings in the Book of Concord is the Augsburg Confession. It is a bold statement of faith against the false teachings that had infiltrated the church in Luther's day. It is beautiful and concise, courageous, and comforting. The Augsburg Confession has guided the teaching and practice of Lutheran congregations for almost 500 years, and it still guides our congregation today.

But have you read it? If so, how long has it been? Do you remember what it says? I can give you a hint: it focuses completely on Jesus. It is the statement handed down to us from many in that great cloud of witnesses, saying, "In our day, Satan tried to lie to the people. But we held to the truth of God's Word. And this is what we confessed, even at the point of death."

This October will mark the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. So, this is a perfect time for us to start a study of the Augsburg confession. The study will run for five consecutive Saturdays, starting on September 23rd, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. It will help you grow in faith in Christ, and in appreciation of your heritage in the Lutheran Church. Plus, it will be interesting and fun. I hope you can attend!

In Christ,

Pastor Horn



**The Holy Baptism of  
Summer Ann  
Di Sabatino  
September 10, 2017**



May God bless and keep  
Summer always.



“in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another”

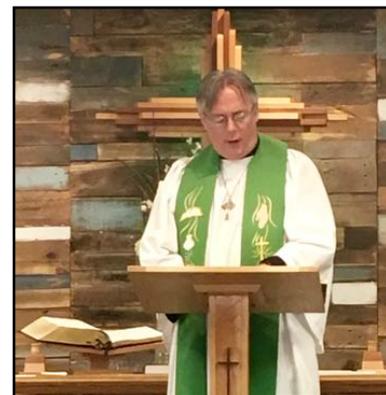
### Military Luncheon

Our latest military luncheon for the drill instructors of India Company was held on Saturday, September 2 at Camp Pendleton. It was a hot day, but everyone had a lot of fun.



### LWML Zone 22 Fall Celebration

On Saturday, September 9, Pastor Horn and some of our Gloria Dei women participated in the LWML (Lutheran Women in Mission) Zone 22 Fall Celebration at Community Lutheran San Marcos. After breakfast and LWML business, Pastor Horn, our Zone 22 chaplain, led Matins. Then Navy Chaplain Scott Shields gave a presentation about his role in the U.S. Navy here in San Diego. Chaplain Shields recently gave his presentation at Gloria Dei in August. He is doing very important work bringing Christ to people who have very difficult jobs and often suffer from stress, depression, and hopelessness. We thank God for Chaplain Shields and his ministry to our wonderful servicemen and women in the Navy. For more information on the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, go to: [www.lcms.org/ministry-to-the-armed-forces](http://www.lcms.org/ministry-to-the-armed-forces)



### Volunteer Needs at Gloria Dei

We could use volunteers in the following areas:

- Altar Guild
- Ushering
- Counting offerings after service
- Assisting with Sunday School
- Cleaning the bathrooms once a month
- Advertising subcommittee focused on reaching out to the community through advertising

## Alternatives Women's Center

Gloria Dei will be hosting a table for Alternatives Women's Fall Fundraiser, *An Evening of Alternatives*, this year. It will be held on Thursday, October 26 from 7-9pm at the California Center for the Arts. There will be light food and a dessert buffet. This year, they are featuring a very interesting speaker: Abby Johnson, a former clinic director for Planned Parenthood who turned into a pro-life advocate by the grace of God. Our library has her book, [Unplanned: The True Story of a Former Planned Parenthood Leader's Eye-Opening Journey Across the Life Line](#), in the biography section. It should be a really exciting and eye-opening talk. The fundraiser is free to attend. As this is a fundraiser, Alternatives will be asking for a donation, but you are not obligated to give.



**Please let Heather know if you want to come;** this will be a very unique opportunity to hear a great pro-life speaker. Thanks!

## Communicating with You

Gloria Dei has started putting out a weekly newsletter to your email. Information included is a link to a new article on the website every week, information about Divine Service this week, prayer requests, events and special announcements, devotional readings, celebrations, and volunteer needs. We really hope that you read and enjoy the e-news, and that it keeps you connected to Gloria Dei even when you can't be here on a Sunday. If you haven't been receiving the e-news, please contact Heather. If you have a friend who would be interested in the Gloria Dei e-news, please direct them to sign up on our website: [gdlutheran.org](http://gdlutheran.org).



We also work very hard to keep you updated through the Trumpet monthly, the calendar monthly, announcements in church, the website, Facebook, Instagram, and the Blue News. If you have any suggestions to improve communication within Gloria Dei, please let Heather know.

## Recent Pictures

