

Dear Day One Families,

Welcome to a new school year at Day One! The first weeks of school have been full of excitement, meeting new and old friends and getting settled into a routine.

Join me in welcoming Gloria Dei's Associate Pastor, Steve Garrabrant to the Day One family. Below are a few words from him.

"I am so thankful to get to walk alongside our Director, Mrs. Shani Vindas and her team in providing you and your children a nurturing Christian environment filled with love, learning, and faith-based values. May your family be blessed as we grow and thrive together!"

For those of you who do not know me, I am Pastor Steve Garrabrant, and I have recently joined the Gloria Dei team as an Associate Pastor after following 26 years in school ministry. Most recently I served as the Head of School and High School Principal of Lutheran South Academy. My wife, Rachel, is the Lower School Assistant Principal at Lutheran South Academy. We have 3 adult children: Silas (18) works for a company that cleans chemical plants and refineries; Eli (22) is a student at Concordia University Texas and is studying to be a lower school teacher; and, Jonah (23) works with special needs adults."

Labor Day – DOCA Closed

DOCA will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 2. School will resume on Tuesday, September 3.

Grandparent Chapel

Grandparents are invited to a special Grandparent Chapel led by our PreK classes on Wednesday, September 11 in celebration of Grandparents Day, Sunday, September 8. The students love seeing their grandparents at Chapel to worship and praise God together!

LifeTouch Holiday and Individual Portraits

Lifetouch will be on campus Sept. 17 & 18. Schedules for your child's class will be posted on the classroom doors and the parent board. Infants are asked to please provide a blanket to lay on for their photos. Due to limited days, only children whose form is submitted will be photographed. Picture Day forms will be sent home in the children's cubbies prior to the 17th. Please complete the form and return it to your child's teacher(s) before their assigned picture day. Volunteer opportunities for this event will be emailed separately.

Parent Chapel

Wednesday, September 25 is Parent Chapel! Our Cardinals class will be leading us in prayer for the September Parent Chapel. Parents are encouraged to attend and worship with their child. Lunch will be provided following our Chapel Lesson.

GDLC Shrimp Boil

Gloria Dei is hosting the Annual Shrimp Boil and Silent Auction Saturday, September 28. This event supports individuals in need. There are many ways you can get involved! You can help create a basket or goods that can be auctioned off, or you can attend and bid on some of the items provided! For more information on the shrimp boil please visit [46th Annual Shrimp Boil and Benefit Auction | Gloria Dei Lutheran Church \(gdlc.org\)](https://gdlc.org)

May our Lord bless and keep each of you and bless you with a wonderful school year!

Blessings,
Shani Vindas