

To GDC Congregants:

On Thursday, I told the Congregational Council that I have chosen not to renew my contract with Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church. The contract will expire on June 30, 2023, and that will be my last day as Lead Pastor of Gloria Dei Church. Lots of tears and many prayers have led me to make this difficult decision. I have loved my seven years of being one of your Pastors so much and will miss you all very deeply. As I explained to the Council, my love for teaching in the Seminary and missing being a full participant in the Seminary has led me to this decision. Cindy and I have become close to so many of you and those dear memories will go with us on this next journey.

The following is from Dave Blanton, the President of the Congregational Council:

We know that Pastor Karyn's passion is teaching and that she misses that role in her life. While she loves Gloria Dei and its congregants, she's unable to give the congregation all that it deserves and still follow her love of teaching in the Seminary.

The congregation will miss her insightful and knowledgeable preaching and the care and love given to the church. We, the church council and the congregants will miss her and wish her the best of God's love in the future. The Congregational Council will continue to support Pastor Karyn as she makes her transition to teaching full time.

The Congregational Council will immediately be meeting with the Synod and concerned congregants to establish our way forward. Also, we'll be discussing and planning the process of finding a new pastor to help lead the congregation into the future.

We will need and welcome the congregation's love, prayers, patience, communication and insight more than ever to ensure our efforts and decisions are the best for the future of the congregation.

With the grace of God,



David Blanton
Church Council President



Karyn L Wiseman
Lead Pastor of Gloria Dei Church