
◆ The Olive Press ◆

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2012

CHURCH COUNCIL

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Laura Britzius

Vice President:

Lyle Johnson

Secretary/Treasurer:

Carl Perkins

Properties:

Ernie Butenschoen

Lutheran Liaison:

Tom Lewis

Evangelism:

Shar Giard

Worship:

Liz Blohm

CYFF Formation:

Karla Hills

CYFF Formation:

Christina Riehl

Community Action:

Hal Hingst

Stewardship:

Dick Bemrose

Fellowship:

Kim Stoffregen

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:

Tom Hiller

Child/Fam Min:

Maureen Hagen

Preschool Dir.:

Katie Strobel

Finance Mgr.:

Cathy Myers

Parish Admin.:

Judith Rykken

Choir Director:

Cameron Herbert

Organist:

Brooke Benfield

Custodians:

Dale/Anne Van Horn

Pastor Tom's Letter Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

In Mark 12, a scribe comes to ask Jesus, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answers, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength'" (Mark 12: 28-30). Jesus responds to the scribe's question with words from the Shema (so called after the first word of the passage which is the Hebrew word for "Hear") from Deuteronomy 6 that is recited daily by many of the Jewish faith. These words form a covenant between God and God's people and show us a way to respond to this God who so extravagantly loves us through the cross.

The first week of our Lenten series this year sets the stage with the Shema from Deuteronomy and the encounter between Jesus and the scribe in Mark 12. The following weeks center on how we can love the Lord our God with all our hearts, our souls, our minds, and our strength. The readings for the Sundays in Lent also contain covenants: through Noah, Abraham, the Ten Commandments, Moses, and the new covenant in Christ. These covenants will be incorporated into our reflection on the Shema, as a way to link Sunday and midweek worship during the Lenten season.

I hope that you will be able to participate in our mid-week Lenten series. See the schedule below for details. May your season of Lent be blessed with repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love.

Pastor Tom

WORSHIP PLANS FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH — YOU ARE INVITED!

FEBRUARY 19 — TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Bring your palms from last Palm Sunday. They will be used to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.

FEBRUARY 22 — ASH WEDNESDAY

Noon — Worship Service with imposition of ashes; soup and bread follows
7:15 p.m. — Worship Service with imposition of ashes

FEBRUARY 29, MARCH 7, 14, 21, AND 28 — LENTEN GATHERINGS

Noon — Soup and bread lunch with worship in the Community Hall
6:30 p.m. — Soup and bread meal in the Community Hall
7:15 p.m. — Worship in the Activity Room

Children, Youth & Families Update by Maureen Hagen

We are so blessed to have a long period of Epiphany this year because it allows us a gradual transition from Incarnation to the Journey to Jerusalem. During this period, we hear the stories of Jesus' ministry. Isn't it interesting that our Creeds speak of the Incarnation, Death, and Resurrection, but nothing about Jesus' ministry? What does that tell us about the theology of the (pre-)Nicene leaders? What words might you add to the Creeds to remedy this oversight?

Annual Meeting: Did you see the names of all the people on the bulletin board going into the community hall? These are the names of those who have contributed time, talent, and treasure to our children and youth. As the youth wrote down these names, they said, "There are a lot of names here!" Indeed! So many people have given so much to allow our programs to grow. If we missed your name, we left a marker so you can add it. (Or you may be one of the anonymous donors.) We are so appreciative of all that the congregation has done. We also know the budget contains a significant increase to cover additional costs because there are more kids.

Also at the Annual meeting, we elected **Karla Hills** as co-leader of the **Children, Youth & Family Formation** board. This new name reflects our understanding that formation is holistic and all that we do contributes to helping our younger members grow in faith. Karla will serve with **Christina Riehl**. With both of these amazing women helping to guide the direction of CYFF, we are in good hands. We also are so appreciative of all the work that **Vanessa Lindstrom** put in as leader of the Education board and we are happy that she will continue to serve on the CYFF board. (If you are interested in joining us, please see Christie, Karla, or Maureen.)

Our **Younger Adult Fellowship (Xs&Ys)** had a fun evening on Jan 20 and are currently making plans to do something off-site. If you want to be kept in the loop about these activities, please contact one of the attendees: Christina & Steve Riehl, Melissa & Russ Solberg, Amy Deetz, Vanessa & Ryan Lindstrom, Jacque Williamson, Po & Rachel Peterson, Erika Rasmussen, or Maureen Hagen. Many thanks to **Ryan & Jasmine Yuen** who watched the kids during this time.

FEBRUARY HAS A LOT OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF ANY AGE

Youth Overnight @ Gethsemane – Friday, February 3

Join youth from Gethsemane and the Portland area for a fun evening, including bowling at 12:30 a.m.!! (\$5 per attendee). We would love to have volunteers to help with setting up and clean up, or taking kids to the Rose Bowl (returning by 2 a.m.).

Multigenerational Event – Showing our Love – Sunday, February 12 at noon

After church come and do some activities relating to this time of Love. We will be making cookies and cards and sending them to our college students, our homebound parishioners, and our family members. Everyone is welcome to come and help out.

Shrove Tuesday – Tuesday, February 21, 5:00 to 7:00

Last year, the youth helped restore the tradition of Shrove Tuesday at Gethsemane. It was a wonderful time, enjoyed by people of all generations. We had pancakes, bacon, and other fun foods. There was also a short service when we put away the Alleluias. Come and see and you will return next year. ***Wanted: Grills and some pancake makers.***

Children's Day at the Cathedral – Saturday, February 25, 9:00 to 3:00

We had some kids attend the Children's Day at Trinity Cathedral (147 NW Davis) last year and they had a great time. This year, the kids go through the seasons of the church year and I know it will be something that all kids would enjoy. It is designed for K-5; older kids can attend as helpers and there is childcare for younger children. We need adult chaperones.

Preschool Update by Katie Strobel

This January we learned about "All the Children of the World" and talked about the arctic and tropical areas of the world. Pastor Tom came in and showed us pictures of his trip to Israel. Our preschoolers have learned just a little about several countries; I think their favorite part was learning what animals live in different places.

It's February and time for our annual Spaghetti Fundraiser for the preschool. Save the date and time: Sunday, Feb 26, noon, in the Community Hall. We will have a silent auction for baskets and other items and a spaghetti dinner, made and served by the Fellowship Opportunities Committee. The freewill offering will benefit the preschool, so we really appreciate your generosity.

Would you like to donate a basket for this event? Please let me know. We are asking for completed baskets to be turned in by Sunday, Feb 19.

In addition to the auction we have some items for a raffle. If you have gift certificates for services or products, time share/vacation time, or anything else you would like to donate, great!

Classes were full until January though we currently have one opening in our Seniors class (children that were 4 years-old by Sept 1, 2011). If you know of a family looking for an excellent preschool program for their child, please have them contact Katie Strobel in the church office, 503-256-1835.

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year will begin for current and alumni preschool families on Valentine's Day, Tuesday, Feb 14. Registration for families new to our preschool will be accepted starting Tuesday, March 5. Preschool will again be offered on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9 to 11:30 a.m.**, with lunch bunch available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children must be 3 or 4 years-old by Sept 1, 2012 and be toilet-trained.

An addition to our school week: We're offering a PreK Monday for our 4 year-olds, an optional, more academic, day without lunch bunch, where we will focus on some kindergarten skills.

Monthly tuition next year will remain \$140/month for 3 days/week. Adding the Monday option will increase tuition for those students to \$190/ month. Lunch bunch also remains the same, at \$6/day. Registration fees: \$50 until June 1; \$60 after June 1.

Short Notes:

- **Lillian Huston's new address:** 20 SE 103, #347, 97216. Lillian's phone number remains the same.
- **Are You Interested in a Trip to the Holy Land?** Pastor Nick Doversberger from Zoar Lutheran in Canby is putting together a trip for Nov 1-12 this fall to Israel/Palestine and Jordan, with an optional excursion to St. Catherine's monastery at Mt. Sinai, and continuing on to Cairo to the pyramids, museums, etc. Information is in the church office or contact Pastor Nick at 503-266-4061 or ndovers@juno.com. Laura Britzius can answer a few general questions.
- **SnowCap's Annual Dinner Auction is Saturday, Feb 4**, at the Holiday Inn (8439 NE Columbia Blvd. in Portland). The silent auction begins at 5; dinner is at 7 p.m. Tickets, by advance purchase only, are \$50 each or \$400/table of 8. Call 503.674.3695, ext. 17, or email dolores@snowcap.org.
- **Whoo-hoo!! We did it!** We turned in the second part of the money raised for peanut butter. Our total? \$400!! This is really great. Many thanks to all of you who participated. If you missed out on participating, don't worry, we'll do it again in a few months. Be prepared to see a display for "Souper Bowl Sunday" soon. If possible, we would like to get a can of soup from everyone, but will take whatever you can give. This is a National drive, participated in by many different denominations. Pastor Tom, is this called "ecumenical?"
- **"I am reminded in this ministry to expect to meet Jesus** every day, even in a crazy world. We also know the blessing of our supporters, like you, who are united in experiencing our ministry as a witness to the good news of Jesus' healing grace for a broken world. Thank you for your gift of \$329.39 for Malaria Bednets." Rev. Timon C. Iverson, Global Health Ministries.

- **VIRTUAL VISIT to the HOLY LAND** -- Pastor Nick Doversberger will present pictures and information on the Holy Land at the next Senior Luncheon. Come on **Wednesday, Feb 8, at 11 a.m.** to hear about past visits to this holy place as well as the proposed new tour he is leading next November. We'll meet in the Community Hall for the speaker, with a potluck lunch to follow at 12 noon. So bring a dish to share and bring a friend. (You don't have to be a senior to come -- all interested people are welcome!)

Council Highlights for January by Laura Britzius

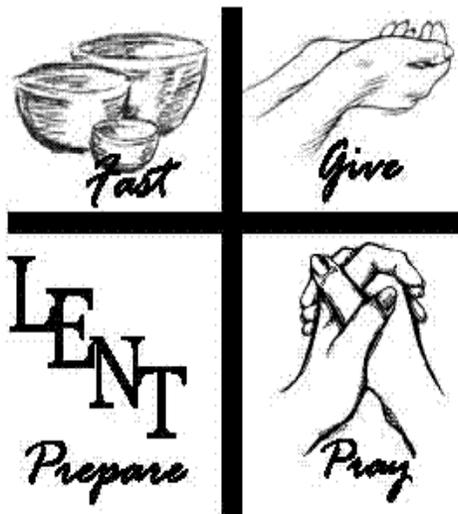
The January council meeting was our last review of the proposed 2012 budget before its taken to the congregation on January 22 to be voted on at the annual meeting. It was also Bill Herbert's last presentation to council as his term as Secretary/Treasurer of the congregation. (Our thanks to Bill, and to other out-going council members Joe Rapp and Vanessa Lindstrom.)

Seven new members were accepted into our Gethsemane family; Pastor announced he will start another "new member" class in the near future.

The community hall group presented an update to council. They are working with Pastor Michael Keys from the Oregon Synod on options for funding our capital improvement needs, something you'll be hearing more about in the coming months. The repair of the community hall roof is a must, as you know, not a want, and the time is coming for action. We will relay more details about what construction is going to happen and when as the information becomes available. Summer of 2012 is the target date for the repairs. Please see the draft of the council minutes for more details and upcoming events.

P.S. "Thank you all for making the congregational meeting a successful one. I look forward to serving you with your new council in 2012!"

OFFERING, INCOME & BUDGET REPORT THROUGH DECEMBER 2011			
INCOME NEEDED	RECEIVED	ACTUAL EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE
\$301,260	\$265,060	\$266,665	\$36,199
WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:	2011: 157		
	2010: 130		
			CATHEY MYERS, FIN. MAN.



February Birthdays

2 Christine Wong
3 Priscilla Nelson
7 Lyle Johnson
12 Diane Kovach
16 Lois Boro
19 Sander Nelson
Miel Nelson
20 Kim Stoffregen
26 Denise Johnson
29 Kathryn Eshleman

February Anniversaries

4 Roger/Roberta Vidlund
11 Jack/Nancy Lumber
15 Jack/Randi Bateman
24 Brian/Paulette Kelley



Prayer Concerns—Ongoing: *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Stan Johnson; Roland Haacke, Wynn & Jim Stafford, and their daughter-in-law Jennifer, Linda Babcock, Dorothy & Gerald Shouse and their daughter Gloria Miller, Warren & Karen Stenberg, Maureen Hagen's friend Beth; Jo Nelson's relative Heather; Alfild Anderson, Jerry Tilkens, Norm & Dorothy Thoreson, Bea Jarvie, George Willett, Becky Keiper's son Paul, Cathey Myer's friend Beth, Kim Stoffregen's nephew Rick, Premwati Shelly's son Jitendra, Penny Thoreen, Debbie Olson's friend Paloma, Linda Babcock's grandson Justin, Vera Koosman, Dick Boro, Katherine Eshleman, Lillian Huston, and Evelyn Kimpton's granddaughter Terri

Urgent: *Those who are ill:* Deb Postlewait's friend Kay, Roberta Vidlund's friend Terry, Evelyn Kimpton, Karen Reagan's grandson Killian, Galvin & Virginia Irby, Scott Morency, Russ Solberg's sister Dani, Bev Sperling's brother Ron, Kim Butenschoen's brother Gary and her mother Flo, Randy Treanor, Joan Ward, Verla Langbecker, Scott Blohm's friend Pr. Doug Brushell, Lillian Huston's brother-in-law Ervin, Ralph Nelson, Kim Stoffregen's mother Phyllis, and Beth Deters.

Homebound Brothers & Sisters

Lucille Langseth Pacific Gardens, 17309 NE Glisan St., #402 Portland 97230 (503)256-0553

Warren/Karen Stenberg, 15521 SE Meadowlark Ln. Milwaukie 97267

Norm/Dorothy Thoreso, Faairlawne Village, 1280 NE Kane Dr, Apt. 34, Gresham 97030, (503)912-1973

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Gethsemane Lutheran
Church Newsletter
11560 SE Market
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www.glcportland.org
Church Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs. 8a to 3p

Save a tree! Save a stamp!
Please send us your email if
we don't already have it.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	FEBRUARY 2012 GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH		1 <i>Byberg Conf. ends</i>	2 7:45a-BBS 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir	3 <i>OfficeClosed</i> <i>Middle School Regionals thru Saturday</i>	4 12:30p-RecovInc.
5 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EdHour	6 7p-Band	7 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 5p-Mutual Ministry 7:30p-Band 6p-CYFF Board Mtg.	8 11A-SPEAKER NOON-SENIOR POTLUCK	9 7:45A-BREAK-FAST BIBLE STUDY 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir	10 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	11 12:30p-RecovInc. 9:30A TO 12:30P CONFLICT WORKSHOP
12 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EdHour <i>Noon-Intergenerational Activity</i>	13 7p-Band 10a-B-Team 10:30a-Pre-school Bd. 6:30p-Finance Mtg.	14 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band	15 4:30p-Endowment Bd. 6p-Community Hall Mtg. 7p-Church Council 3p-Stewardship Mtg.	16 7:45A-BREAK-FAST BIBLEST 10a-Women's Bible Study 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir	17 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	18 12:30p-RecovInc.
19 8&10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EdHour 5:30p-Confirmation	20 7p-Band <i>OFFICE CLOSED/ PRESIDENT'S DAY</i>	21 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band 5-7P-SHROVE TUESDAY PAN-CAKE SUPPER & WORSHIP	22 Noon & 7:15p-Ash Wednesday Services	23 7:45A-BREAK-FAST BIBLEST 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir	24 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	25 12:30p-RecovInc.
26 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EdHour; Adult Forum Noon-Spaghetti Fundraiser	27 7p-Band	28 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band	29 Noon-Worship, Soup/Bread 6:30p-Soup Supper 7:15p-Lenten Services	March 1		