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# ◆ THE OLIVE PRESS ◆

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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2015

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## COUNCIL

### **President:**

Dick Bemrose

### **Vice President:**

Lyle Johnson

### **Sec/Treas:** Bill

Herbert

### **Properties:** Ernie

Butenschoen

### **Lutheran Liaison:**

Roseann Libonati

### **Evangelism:**

Shar Giard

### **CYFF Formation:**

### **Community**

### **Action:** Patty

Olson

### **Stewardship:**

### **Fellowship:**

Todd Sloan

### **Worship:** Gloria

Kelsay

## STAFF

### **Pastor:**

Tom Hiller

### **CYM**

### **Coordinator:**

Jennilee Porch

### **Preschool Dir.:**

Katie Strobel

### **Finance Mgr.:**

Cathey Myers

### **Parish Admin.:**

Judith Rykken

### **Choir Director:**

Cameron Herbert

### **Organist:**

Brooke Benfield

### **Custodians:**

Dale & Ann Van

Horn

## FROM THE PASTOR Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The economy of the United States, if not the entire world, is based on the concept of individual, corporate, and national ownership. Individuals own things. Individuals own themselves. Corporations own things. Nations own things. Humanity owns the earth.

The economy of God is on a completely different basis. God owns everything, including us. God calls us to be stewards of everything that God owns. A steward is a caretaker. We are called by God to take care of our possessions, ourselves, our families, our relationships, and our time. God calls corporations, nations, and all of humanity to take good care of the things they own, and to take good care of the earth itself.

Much of the world has no idea that God calls it to such stewardship. But we do. The weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday on February 8<sup>th</sup>, are a time to prayerfully reflect on our sense of ownership and on the stewardship that God is calling us to. It is specifically also a time to reflect on how that sense of ownership and stewardship is reflected in our giving to our congregation's ministry and mission.

How much money will I give to Gethsemane? How will I make use of my time and talents in our life together at Gethsemane? We are called to make these decisions in light of the fact that God calls us to take good care of all that God owns. May the Holy Spirit guide you as you make these decisions.

*In the Peace of Jesus Christ, Pastor Tom*

**Pastor Tom will be on vacation Friday, February 14, through Sunday, February 16.**

### **Worship Plans for February and March – You are invited!**

**February 15 – Transfiguration Sunday** – Bring your palms from last Palm Sunday. They will be used to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.

**February 18 – Ash Wednesday** – Noon – Worship Service with imposition of ashes  
– 7:15 P.M. – Worship Service with imposition of ashes.

### **February 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25 – 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.

**Oregon Synod Assembly:** Pastor Tom and our voting members will be at the Oregon Synod Assembly, April 24 through 26 in Sunriver.

**Same Sex Wedding Listening Season:** If you would like to attend a Listening Season session on the subject of same sex weddings at Gethsemane, please sign up on a sign-up sheet in the narthex before the next council meeting on February 10. If the date and time of the sessions are not convenient for you please contact Dick Bemrose or Pastor Tom.

## NOTES:

- ◆ **Like Us on FACEBOOK.**
- ◆ **Rummage Sale 2015 News:** Dates have been set for Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2. I know many of you are cleaning, organizing closets, garages, etc., so save all those good, used treasures for the sale! We can only store things at church for two weeks beforehand. We need workers! Set up begins April 26, so plan your vacations for after May 2, please! It's confirmed that GoodWill will again furnish racks, hangers, etc. but save bags for us to use. If you have questions, please ask in the office or Clara.
- ◆ **Calling All Pinochle Players: Second Sunday Pinochle** is February 8 at 2 p.m. Use the south entrance to the community hall and we'll direct you from there. Questions? Ask Todd at 503.253.9420.
- ◆ **Thursday Morning Bible Study** continues on Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Portland Adventist Cafeteria. We will start by looking at *Women of the Bible: The good, the bad, and the little known*. Questions? Talk to Dick Bemrose.
- ◆ **SOUPER Bowl Sunday is Feb 1.** Bring soup for SnowCap to the tub in the narthex. This is a *national and inter-denominational drive*. We are part of a BIG undertaking!

## GETHSEMANE PRESCHOOL NEWS

This January our theme was "It's a Small World". We talked about the arctic and tropical areas of the world, we did experiments with ice and played with sand, and we learned that people live in all different places and that many love Jesus.

February is coming and its time for our annual **Spaghetti Fundraiser** to benefit the preschool. **Sunday, February 22, noon, in our Parish Hall**, is the big day. We will have a raffle of gift cards so *gift cards are always a welcome donation*. There will of course be a spaghetti dinner served by our Fellowship Opportunities Committee, with donations requested for the meal and for our preschool. We'd like our auction items to be a little different than in the past. In addition to baskets we would like to auction off skills and talents. For example:

- ◆ If you sew and could offer alterations or lessons as a service, please add this to the auction.
- ◆ If you are a handyman or love yard work and could offer a few hours of your time, please add this to the auction.
- ◆ Could you teach someone to knit, or quilt, or cook?
- ◆ Maybe you like to host parties and you'd be willing to give a party and people could pay a set amount to be on the guest list.
- ◆ Perhaps you love wrapping gifts, or organizing spaces, or decorating spaces.
- ◆ Maybe you love to bake and could make fresh baked goods for someone.

These are all gifts that have value and could be auctioned off. The skills and talents at Gethsemane are many. Please try to think of something you could place a value on for us to auction. If you would prefer to put together a basket, please do. Remember if you have a time share or vacation home, time at them may also be donated for auction.

If you would like to donate a talent, skill, vacation home or basket for this event, please let Katie Strobel know. Please turn in your donations by Sunday, February 15. Having them the week before gives me time to get them ready.

**Registration for the 2015-2016 school year will begin for current and alumni preschool families on Monday, February 3. Registration for families new to our preschool will be accepted starting Monday, March 2.** Our preschool will operate on the same schedule as the current school year. Registration is \$50 until June 1 and \$60 after June 1.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

- ◆ **VBS Planning Meeting Sunday, Feb 1 from 9:15 to 10a.m.** Yes, VBS will be upon us in no time. Come learn about this year's curriculum and have a hand in planning and creating this awesome summer program for our kids. You'll get first pick on VBS positions, such as Music, Activities, Craft, Decoration, Registration, Co-Director(s), and more. **Meet in the Community Hall.**
- ◆ **The Triennial ELCA National Youth Gathering** is in Detroit this July. Two youth and two adults are raising money to go. More info. will be coming, but an early fundraiser is a Bake Sale being held at the Annual Meeting coming this Sunday, January 25. *(continued)*

- ◆ **A Big Thank You** for all who donated baby items along with our Sunday School children. Our donations are one of the many ways that this church community impacts our neighborhood as the Body of Christ.
- ◆ **Our Youth Projects:** This past month our youth have been involved in a number of other projects. First, our weekly teen group helped with Daybreak dinner, hosting as a way to practice what we learned about the principle of "Welcome". Second, one of our families joined the effort to volunteer for MLK Day of Service at the SnowCap Community Garden. Lastly, our kick-off *Cross+Gen* event at the end of January will involve youth and families in leading parts of this new gathering.

#### Coming Up in February:

- ◆ ***Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner*** is Tuesday, February 17, at 5:30 p.m. The pancake dinner will be provided by our Fellowship Team. We'll have activities for kids and youth and be decorating our Hallelujah banner before hiding it for Lent.
- ◆ ***Cross+Gen Gathering*** is Wednesday, February 25. For Lent, Cross+Gen will be involved in the Wednesday night Lenten service for February 25 and March 25.

Jennilee Porch

## ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

### **Cuba: ELCA leaders welcome renewing relations**

Lauding the decision by the Obama administration to reinstate diplomatic ties with Cuba, the Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla, executive director for ELCA Global Mission, said the move may lead to the reunification of families and follows more than 25 years of encouragement by the ELCA to normalize relations between the two countries. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7714](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7714).

### **Holy Land: Palestinian Authority pays hospital**

A payment by the Palestinian Authority has relieved some of the financial stress on Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem. The hospital is a program of The Lutheran World Federation and provides crucial health care to Palestinians. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/NewsBlog/69](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/NewsBlog/69).

### **Burundi: Malaria care provides a safer pregnancy**

Aline Ndayizeye is having a healthier pregnancy thanks to your contributions to the ELCA Malaria Campaign. With help of a community worker, a position supported by the campaign, she has been treated for malaria. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/287](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/287).

### **Kenya: A live – and lively – nativity scene**

A white Christmas in Nairobi isn't a possibility for ELCA missionaries Michael Fonner and Leslie Weed-Fonner, but a lively nativity scene is guaranteed. The only question is – who will get to ride the camels? See [www.ELCA.org/Living-Lutheran/Stories/2014/12/141210-Who-gets-to-ride-the-camels](http://www.ELCA.org/Living-Lutheran/Stories/2014/12/141210-Who-gets-to-ride-the-camels).

### **Malaysia: Outreach among indigenous neighbors**

Despite encroaching development and other challenges, the Orang Asli (indigenous) communities in central Malaysia have growing Lutheran congregations that seek to preserve cultural traditions, develop their own pastors and offer their children educational opportunities. Learn how you can help at [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/471](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/471).

### **Mexico: Young Adults in Global Mission**

Eight young-adult missionaries are serving in a variety of urban and rural settings in Mexico. Learn more at [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/448](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/448). Support their work at <https://community.ELCA.org/mexico>.

### **Colombia: Support needed for new missionaries**

Your support is needed for Curtis and Katie Kline who work with the church in Colombia, by promoting human rights and peace building and by developing women's and youth ministries. The 2015 sponsorship goal for them is \$25,000 in covenant support. Learn more at <https://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/456> or by contacting [globalchurch@elca.org](mailto:globalchurch@elca.org).

<b>February Birthdays</b>	26 Denise Johnson
1 Kelly Rasmussen	29 Kathryn Eshleman
2 Christine Wong	
3 Priscilla Nelson	<b>February Anniversaries</b>
4 Frances Rippon	4 Roger/Roberta Vidlund (48th)
5 Po Peterson	7 Kelly & Mrs. Irby (28th)
7 Lyle Johnson	11 Jack/Nancy Lumber (15th)
Hailey Long	14 Carolyn Graf/Don Kelley (36th)
11 Mary Starmont	15 Jack/Randi Bateman (40th)
12 Diane Kovach	24 Brian/Paulette Kelley (36th)
16 Lois Boro	
19 Sander Nelson	
Miel Nelson	
Eric Letmate	
20 Kim Stoffregen	

**Homebound Brothers and Sisters:** Lucille Langseth, Marian Aleckson, Mickey Dochow, Katherine Eshleman, Dick Burgess, Jenn Peck, Rita Nesbitt, Dorothy Shouse, Bev Sperling, Ida Olson, Wynn Stafford, and Dorothy Hansen (Refer to your directory or call the church office for contact info.)

*Unless otherwise requested, people named in the prayers will stay on the Urgent List for 30 days. Prayer Concerns—Ongoing: Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Ida Olson; Joe Rapp; Wynn & Jim Stafford; Jo Nelson's friend Greg; Ginny Barton's friends Golda and Carolyn; Sharon's Lee's nephew Kevin, and her niece Terry; Jonathan Herbert's friend, Mitch; Marian Aleckson; Doris Hansen; Elmer Schmidt; Dick Burgess; Paulette Kelley's brother Randy; Bill Herbert's sister Judy; Carol Steele and her cousin Arlan Scott; Dwaine Estes; Linda Babcock and her grandson Josiah; Katherine Eshleman; Pr. Randy Shutt; Aiden Lindstrom; Rita Nesbitt's son John; Galvin & Virginia Irby; Colleen Barnett's friend Ellen; Roseann Foster-Mikhail's mother Rose; Madison Goldbacher's friend Breanna; Jennifer Peck; Tyler Riehl; Lillian Huston; Nicole Poole; Nettie Ubrick's nephew Troy, and her friends Tim, Juanita, Mary, and Ruby; Bill & Cameron Herbert's goddaughter Carey; Randy Treanor; Judith Rykken's relative Rick; Lucille Langseth; Bud Qualheim; Mickey Dochow; Dan Walter; Sharon Lee's great nephew Jace; Connie Smith's friend Joe; and Roland & Virginia Haacke.

**Urgent:** *Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:* Shar Giard's friend John; Jo Nelson; Todd Sloan; Dorothy Shouse's daughter Robin; Darlene Kuehmichel; Tiffany Herbert; Denise Johnson's mother Margie; Colleen Barnett's nephew Ken; Rita Nesbitt; and Bonnie Aplin.

*Those who are grieving:* The family and friends of Stan Anderson; the family and friends of Colleen Barnett's half-brother Willis; and the family and friends of Doug Glenn's sister Billie.

## February 2015 The Olive Press



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

Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
11560 SE Market, Portland, OR 97216  
Pastor Tom Hiller, (503)256-1835  
glchurch@aceweb.com  
www.glcportland.org  
Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 8a-3p

# FEBRUARY 2015 — GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

(See the website (glcportland.org) for updates on the calendar.)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>SouperBowl Sunday</b> 8&10:30a-Worship 9:15a-VBS Planning Mtg. 9:30a-EdHr/SunSchool	<b>2</b> 9:30a-MHCC 7p-Band	<b>3</b> 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy <b>6:30p-CYF Mtg.</b> 7p-SwgBand	<b>4</b> 9:30a-MHCC Ex 5:30p-Clutterers 6-7:30p-Way to Live Teen Group	<b>5</b> 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls'Grp. 7p-Choir	<b>6</b> Office Closed 9:30a-MHCC Ex	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>CONSECRATION SUNDAY</b> 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EdHr/SunSchool <b>2p-Pinochle</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30a-MHCC 10:30a-BTeam 7p-Band	<b>10</b> 8a-MensBkfst 9a-PreschBd. 10a-BibleStudy <b>1:30p-Mutual Ministry Mtg.</b> 7p-SwgBand <b>7p-Church Council</b>	<b>11</b> 9:30a-MHCC Ex 5:30p-Clutterers 6-7:30p-Way to Live Teen Group	<b>12</b> 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls'Grp. 7p-Choir	<b>13</b> Office Closed 9:30a-MHCC Ex	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day
<b>15</b> 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EdHr/SunSchool Healing Service after each service	<b>16</b> Office Closed President's Day NO School 7p-Band	<b>17</b> 8a-MensBkfst 10-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand <b>5:30p-Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper</b>	<b>18 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 9:30a-MHCC Ex <b>Noon &amp; 7:15p-Ash Wednesday Services</b> 5:30p-Clutterers 6-7:30p-Way to Live Teen Group	<b>19</b> 7:30a-BibleStudy 10a-BibleStudy 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls'Grp. 7p-Choir	<b>20</b> Office Closed 9:30a-MHCC Ex <b>Sunriver Stay thru Feb 22</b>	<b>21</b> 
<b>22</b> 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EdHr/SunSchool <b>PRESCHOOL SPAGHETTI DINNER AND AUCTION @ Noon</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30a-MHCC 7p-Band	<b>24</b> 8a-MensBkfst 10a-Bible Study 7p-SwingBand	<b>25</b> 9:30a-MHCC Ex 5:30p-Clutterers 6-7:30p-Way to Live Teen Group <b>Noon&amp;6:30p-Soup &amp; Lenten Services</b> 8p-Choir	<b>26</b> 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls'Grp.	<b>27</b> Office Closed 9:30a-MHCC Ex	<b>28</b>

— GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH —			
<b>Income &amp; Expense Budget Report through December 2014</b>			
<u>Budgeted Expenses</u>	<u>Actual Income</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	<u>Actual Difference</u>
\$363,828	\$340,711	\$347,348	(\$6,726)
Average Weekly Attendance: 2013: 2014: 135			
Cathey Myers, Fin.Man.			