
◆ THE OLIVE PRESS ◆

GETHEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2015

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,

Should Gethsemane allow same sex weddings either in the sanctuary or conducted elsewhere by its Pastor? This question is now before us since same sex marriage is legal in the state of Oregon. The Oregon Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has left the decision on this matter up to each congregation of the Synod.

The congregation council has decided that we should initiate a "listening season" to give everyone in the congregation an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings about this question and to listen to the thoughts and feelings of others. The subject of the listening season would only be the question as to whether Gethsemane should allow same sex weddings either in the sanctuary or conducted elsewhere by its Pastor.

Here's how the listening season will work. Members of the congregation council have been trained to be facilitators. Working in pairs, the facilitators will lead listening sessions on different dates and at different times at the church so that everyone will have an opportunity to attend a session. The facilitators will bring the results of their sessions to the congregation council after all the sessions are over.

The council will then decide how to proceed. It will have a number of options:

- 1) *Call a special meeting of the congregation to make a decision.*
- 2) *Compose and approve a policy for the congregation concerning same sex weddings to reflect the congregation's stance as heard in the listening sessions.*
- 3) *Make adjustments to the congregation's present wedding policy to reflect the congregation's stance as heard in the listening sessions.*
- 4) *Other.*

The listening season sessions will begin in January. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the narthex showing the date and time and the facilitators for each session. If more than 10 people sign up for a particular session, another session for that time slot will be scheduled.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us during this process as we speak and listen to each other with love and unity in Christ.

In the Peace of Jesus Christ, Pastor Tom

Pastor Tom will be on vacation Friday, January 16, through Sunday, January 18.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of our congregation will take place at Noon on Sunday, January 25, 2015. A light lunch will be provided.

Who is eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting?

According to our constitution, "Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members shall have communed and made a contribution of record during the current or preceding year." Our constitution also states, "Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted." If you have any questions about these requirements, please contact Pastor Tom.

OREGON SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Along with Pastor Tom, we are allowed one male and one female person to serve as voting members at the Oregon Synod Assembly, which will take place May 17 through 19 in Eugene. Our voting members will be chosen at the Annual Meeting. If you would like to be chosen, please contact Pastor Tom.

NOTES:

- ◆ **Like Us on FACEBOOK.**
- ◆ **Dear GLC Folks:** You've come through again! We took 68 pairs of gloves, 34 hats and five scarves to SnowCap in mid-December. Your efforts are much appreciated. I'm not easing up on requests though. Please bring canned fruit for SnowCap this next month. Then, guess what? It will be time for Souper Bowl Sunday! Again, thank you for all your efforts for SnowCap. D/D Bemrose. P.S. SnowCap's dinner and auction is March 14, 2015.
- ◆ **2014** has not been the best year for us, but we got through it with all the prayers, cards and notes that so many of the family of Gethsemane sent our way. I am tardy in acknowledging your kind thoughts, but we were happy to receive all of them. I am making a slow recovery - thanks be to God! Carol and Harvey Steele

INTERGENERATIONAL GATHERING (COMING IN JANUARY)

More information will be coming soon regarding a new ministry beginning this January. We anticipate a once-a-month gathering that will focus on being **intergenerational, interactive, participatory, and relational**. Now is the time to be involved in the brainstorming and planning phases of this ministry. Please contact Jennilee Porch if you would like to learn more or be involved in shaping this gathering.

GETHSEMANE PRESCHOOL NEWS

Our annual Christmas program was Tuesday, December 16. The preschoolers practiced their songs and were so excited for Christmas. It was a wonderful event. I am so thankful for a wonderful staff of women who are so willing to go above and beyond in getting everything ready for this program: Christina Woods, Tammy Gover, Sherry Budge, Mary Baxter and Rebecca Lueck are a wonderful part of the Gethsemane community and do wonderful things with the children we reach through our preschool.

The preschool sponsored its annual Giving Tree for SnowCap again this year. We gathered items babies might need and will donate those items to SnowCap. This is a wonderful tie-in to bringing gifts to the Baby Jesus and teaching our children to give to others.

A reminder that our annual spaghetti fundraiser dinner for the preschool is Sunday, February 22, following the 10:30 a.m. service. We plan to have a silent auction and are requesting items again this year. This has been a popular fundraiser the past several years and we look forward to this fun and worthwhile event this year again. There will be a few changes and new activities, including a station to register your Fred Meyer Rewards card in the Community Rewards program, so mark your calendars now.

We continue to offer Papa Murphy Peel-a-Deal discount cards for \$5. Like pizza? These are a great deal with eight small coupons on a punch card and NO expiration date. See Katie in the preschool office to purchase a card.

You may also order Scholastic Books online at www.scholastic.com. *Our classroom code is GT8XC*. These books come directly to the preschool and for every order placed online the preschool earns a \$3 book credit and bonus points. These books are used to add to our preschool library and our bonus points are used to replace supplies. We were able to give a book to every preschooler for Christmas using bonus points. Please consider this if you need books; many titles may be accessed on their website.

Happy New Year!

Katie Strobel

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Sign-up in the Narthex to join the **Cross+Gen Gathering on Jan 30**. Transportation assistance is available. Let Jennilee know if you are coming. We will be ordering pizza, singing, fellowshiping, and continuing to strengthen our cross-generational bonds as we grow in faith.

The **Triennial ELCA National Youth Gathering** is in Detroit next July. This gathering seeks to energize high schoolers in their faith journey and helps them to discover their call to serve the world locally and globally. Two youth and two adults will be raising money now through July to cover the cost of registration, travel, and lodging. Special thanks to **Clara Shortt** for kicking off our fundraising efforts by selling Christmas items for the youth.

Teen Group Update: We're on hiatus until **Wednesday, January 14**.

Merry Christmas to all!

Jennilee Porch

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| January Birthdays | |
| 1 Calvin Peck Dobson | 18 Bruce Wakeman |
| 3 Lilli Schulz | 20 Erika Rasmussen |
| Diane Liefeld | 21 Rachel Peterson |
| 4 Kayda Carpenter | 22 Brian Kovach |
| 9 Sentney Lindstrom | 23 Jack Bateman |
| 11 Helen Tilkens | Thomas Crouse |
| 12 Kim Butenschoen | 30 Tonia Lindquist |
| 15 Sharon Lee | January Anniversaries |
| Tracey Letmate | Jan 1 Bruce and |
| Daniel Wong | Alanna Wakeman |
| 16 Gary Urbach | (8th) |
| 17 Flodine Loe | Jan 2 Dave and |
| Paulette Kelley | Theresa Qualheim |
| Alexandra Riehl | (12th) |

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

Prayer Concerns—Ongoing: *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Bill & Cameron Herbert's goddaughter Carey; Randy Treanor; Lucille Langseth; Roland & Virginia Haacke; 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; Tiffany Herbert; 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; Calvin & Virginia Irby; Colleen Barnett's friend Ellen; Elmer Schmidt; Roseann Foster-Mikhail's mother Rose; Madison Goldbacher's friend Breanna; Jennifer Peck; Tyler Riehl; Lillian Huston; Nicole Poole; and Nettie Ubrick's nephew Troy, and her friends Tim, Juanita, Mary, and Ruby.

Urgent: *Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:* Jo Nelson's relative Allie; Liz Blohm's friend Karen; Darlene Kuehmichel; Rita Nesbitt; Marion Burgess' relative Wendy, Bonnie Aplin; Roseann Libonati's daughter in law Dawn; Theresa Qualheim's sister Carol; Judith Rykken's relative Rick; Dan Walter; Mickey Dochow; Shar Giard's friend John; Bud Qualheim; and Harold Hansen.

Those who are grieving: The family and friends of Pr. Terry Moe's father Arnie; the family and friends of Daniel Bauer; the family and friends of Reese Woods; the family and friends of Dorothy Coughlin's friend Dorothy; and the family and friends of Julianne Quigley's friend Shay McCune-Sims.

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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

JANUARY 2015 — GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <p>— GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH —</p> <p>Income & Expense Budget Report through November 2014</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Budgeted Expenses</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Actual Income</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Actual Expenses</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Actual Difference</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">\$333,509</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">\$301,950</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">\$314,995</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">(\$13,044)</td> </tr> </table> <p>Average Weekly Attendance: 2013: 141 2014: 141 Cathey Myers, Fin.Man.</p> | | | | Budgeted Expenses | Actual Income | Actual Expenses | Actual Difference | \$333,509 | \$301,950 | \$314,995 | (\$13,044) | <p>1 <i>Office Closed</i></p> <p>New Year's Day</p> | <p>2 <i>Office Closed</i></p> | <p>3 <i>1p-Woods' Service</i></p> |
| Budgeted Expenses | Actual Income | Actual Expenses | Actual Difference | | | | | | | | | | | |
| \$333,509 | \$301,950 | \$314,995 | (\$13,044) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>4 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHr/ SunSchool</p> | <p>5 9:30a-MHCC Ex 7p-Band</p> <p>PRESCHOOL RESUMES</p> | <p>6 8a-MensBrkfst 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-CYF Mtg. 7p-SwgBand</p> | <p>7 9:30a-MHCC Ex 5:30p-Clutterers</p> | <p>8 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls' Grp. 7p-Choir</p> | <p>9 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30a-MHCC Ex</p> | <p>10</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>11 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHr/ SunSchool 3p-Epiphany Concert here</p> | <p>12 9:30a-MHCC Ex 10:30a-B-Team 6:30p-Finance Meeting 7p-Band</p> | <p>13 8a-MensBrkfst 10-BibleStudy 1:30p-Mutual Ministry Mtg. 7p-SwgBand</p> | <p>14 9:30a-MHCC Ex 5:30p-Clutterers <i>6-7:30p-Way to Live Teen Group resumes</i></p> | <p>15 10a-BibleStudy 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls' Grp. 7p-Choir</p> | <p>16 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30a-MHCC Ex</p> <p>PT on vacation thru Jan 18 →</p> | <p>17</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>18 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHr/ SunSchool DAYBREAK HERE THIS WEEK →</p> | <p>19 <i>Office Closed - MLK Holiday</i></p> <p>9:30a-MHCC Ex 7p-Band</p> | <p>20 8a-MensBrkfst 10a-Bible Study 7p-SwingBand</p> <p>7p-Church Council</p> | <p>21 9:30a-MHCC Ex 5:30p-Clutterers <i>6-7:30p-Way to Live Teen Group</i></p> | <p>22 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls' Grp. 7p-Choir</p> | <p>23 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30a-MHCC Ex</p> | <p>24 Friends of Trees Staging, 7:30a</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>25 8 & 10:30a- Worship/Healing Services 9:30a-EdHr/ SunSchool NOON-Annual Meeting</p> | <p>26 9:30a-MHCC Ex 7p-Band</p> | <p>27 8a-MensBrkfst 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwingBand 6:30p-Mill Park NA Mtg.</p> | <p>28 9:30a-MHCC Ex 5:30p-Clutterers <i>6-7:30p-Way to Live Teen Group</i></p> | <p>29 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Girls' Grp. 7p-Choir</p> | <p>30 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30a-MHCC Ex Cross+Gen Gathering</p> | <p>31</p> | | | | | | | | |