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# ◆ The Olive Press ◆

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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2012

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## CHURCH COUNCIL

### President:

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:

We've got a big project going on. A project the size of our Community Hall project has not been attempted at Gethsemane for more than 40 years. The amount of money needed and all the details and all the people involved can cause us a bit of anxiety.

But that's natural. That's the way that God made us. In fact, the anxiety is a sign of something good: *Things are happening at Gethsemane!* We are responding to the job that needs to be done. We are stepping up to make sure that the ministry needs of Gethsemane will be taken care of for years to come. We are in the process of making a gift to the people of Gethsemane in the future without burdening them with an unbearable debt. We are handing on a legacy that was given to us by those who originally founded Gethsemane, purchased Tiny Dumont's Dance Hall, and transformed it into a place of worship, education, service, fellowship, and mission.

We are working on this project because we know that *it's not about the roof, or the organ or the furnaces or the kitchen improvements or any other tangible thing.* It's about the mission that God has given to us to preach the Gospel, administer the Sacraments, strengthen the Body of Christ, and serve our community.

So we respond to our anxiety with patient, calm, understanding, thoughtful decisions, open communications, generosity, trust, and togetherness. All of these things are gifts from the Holy Spirit. That means that prayer is in order. We pray that the Holy Spirit will give us all of the things that we need as we work on our big project.

Trusting Together in the Holy Spirit – *Pastor Tom*

P.S. Please see the “*Stepping Out In Faith*” article from the Capital Campaign Core Team below. If you have any questions about the project, please ask me, any Council member, the Building Task Force chairs, or the Capital Campaign Core Team.

## STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

In order to continue to live out our Mission and Vision Statements, our congregation decided last January to step out in faith to keep our facility safe and functional. We authorized up to \$400,000 to make vital repairs to our aging and much used Community Hall as well as some other updates to the facility and the organ. Steps are now underway to make this a reality. The Church Council has stated the cause:

*We will create a safe and welcoming space, through structural improvements, in order to provide a legacy built on Jesus Christ for our church family and community.*

Kent Cumming has taken a leadership role for the construction portion of this project and is now finalizing construction bids and the city permit process. The Building Task Force (chaired by Shar Giard and Ernie Butenschoen) will continue to serve as oversight for the requirements of the project, including vacating the space and storing regularly used materials. The congregation has applied for and received provisional approval of a loan from the ELCA Mission Fund.

A Capital Campaign Core Team, consisting of Pastor Tom, Carol Law, Dick Bemrose, Shar Giard and Mary Curtis has been meeting since March. Working in consultation with Pastor Michael Keys of the Oregon Synod, they have developed a fundraising plan, utilizing resources provided by the church staff. The first people approached were the Church Council and the Core Team, all of whom have made "stretch" pledges of support for a three year period. The Core Team is now having conversations with members of the congregation in support of the cause. The more money that can be raised, the sooner we can pay off the loan and save interest expense. We'll keep you posted on the progress of this major undertaking which needs everyone's "stretch" participation.

## MAY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The council had the pleasure of gifting funds at the May meeting. The proceeds from the rummage sale were split 50/50 with half going to **Worldwide Water**, a project through World Hunger that provides clean drinking water and the remaining half towards our community hall capital improvement project. We should be proud of our accomplishments and give thanks to God for his gifts that we can share.

The drawings of the improvements we hope to have submitted to contractors for bids by the time you read this. There will soon be a presentation to the congregation of the actual expenses of the project. Or should I say projects, as there are other items such as the organ, the heating and the kitchen to be updated or completed as well. There are rumors flying that only the hall project is going to get done. Rest assured this is not the case. However, please keep in mind that the safety of the building and the people is the highest priority.

What are we going to do with all the things in the hall, classrooms, and kitchen during construction? Great question! Our options include renting Pods or containers, but we won't know until construction is closer how much storage space is needed.

At the meeting on April 22 Kent Cumming answered many questions regarding the construction project. Copies of a brief synopsis of that meeting can be found in the narthex.

Council also had the pleasure of accepting 13 new members into the congregation. We are blessed to have them join our family. Welcome! (*Note: Council minutes in the narthex list the names of the new members.*) Please see the draft of the meeting minutes for additional notes regarding the capital campaign, the youth, and coming events like the summer band concert.

Your servant in Christ, Laura Britzius, GLC President

## PRESCHOOL UPDATE

May was a wonderful time of celebration at preschool. We had a special *Mommy and Me Tea* just before Mother's Day, where the preschoolers had tea and scones with their moms and grandmas. It was a fun morning of crafts, snacks, songs and stories. Thank you to Kim Butenschoen and Dale Van Horn for the extra work they did to make it a success.

Some very fun themes in May included camping and water week. Our children loved the tents and pretend campfires as well as washing the tables and chairs with soapy water and sponges and watering our flowers. Graduation is May 24. We'll have a special promotion ceremony and a "finger food" potluck to celebrate.

I can't believe the school year is coming to a close, and that it's the time of year to say goodbye to some preschoolers and their families who are going on to kindergarten and other school programs. We wish the best for them and their families, and we continue to pray for their growth. Most of our juniors are coming back in the fall. We can't wait to continue watching them grow!

It's been a great school year. Our preschoolers have learned and experienced so many things. In the weekly chapel lessons the children consistently heard the message that God loves and cares for them. In our M & M room Mrs. Christina taught them songs and led them in active play, one of the favorite parts of a preschooler's day. Mrs. Margie and Mrs. Tammy helped our students learn by practicing shapes, colors, counting, number recognition, sequencing, patterning, letter recognition and sounds. They all learned to write and recognize their names.

The dedication these three women and our aide Ms. Jenece have to our program is remarkable. Their energy and patience are truly a blessing to the children and families we serve. I cannot thank them enough for their devotion to our program. We will miss Jenece next year and will pray for her continued success as she moves on to a new experience.

Thank you also to a wonderful board that has supported me this year: Pastor Tom, Carol Steele, Diane Bemrose, Maureen Hagen, Lyle Johnson and Kim Butenschoen. Their commitment to the preschool is appreciated. We'll miss Carol as she finishes out her term on our board and welcome the input of two new board members, Erika Rasmussen and Jay Rector. The willingness of people to serve Gethsemane Lutheran Preschool is terrific. I appreciate the value this congregation places on the preschool.

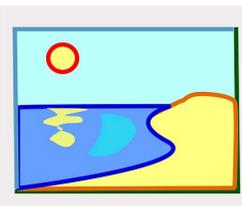
As we move on to a new school year I am excited about the potential to grow our program and offer the love of Christ to families in our community. Happy Summer! *Katie Strobel*

## CYFF NEWS

The Fifty Days of Easter are almost behind us. Unfortunately, Pentecost comes during the Memorial Day weekend and its specialness may be eclipsed. Just as our liturgical year calls us to engage in mission, our secular calendar tells us it is time to relax and enjoy the season. While times of refreshment are important, churches often miss an opportunity to play a more active role in their community. Perhaps we might reexamine this.

**General News.** We continue to have a growing core of young children (infants through grade 2). Some come from Bethlehem Lutheran Church; others come via friends' invitations. The CYF<sup>2</sup> committee has been meeting at McMenam's where we have lively discussions as we consider future directions. In addition to chairs **Karla Hills and Christina Riehl**, members include **Dick Bemrose, Jenece Butenschoen, Kim Butenschoen, Vanessa Lindstrom, Cathey Myers, Erika Rasmussen, Jay Rector, Michelle Schie, and Jacque Williamson**. At our monthly meetings we consider two or three major topics; the rest is discussed in smaller groups.

**Fundraising** has been off to a slow, but steady start. We continue to get requests for Flamingo Flocking which continues until Father's Day. At Pentecost's Brunch, there will be a freewill offering for the youth, so please be generous.



The **Mission Trip** is full with ten youth (nine from GLC) and 4-6 adults. We are returning to the Seashore Literacy Center in Waldport. The congregation is invited to participate by keeping the youth in prayer and donating school supplies for the Center. We have a wish list of the more expensive items if people want to donate them. The team will be commissioned at the service on June 17. We hope to have the youth debrief the congregation when we return.

**Sunday School** only has a couple more weeks. On Mothers' Day, **Dick and Diane Bemrose** helped kids plant flowers for their mothers and for the Daybreak mothers. In the past year we have had several teachers whom we plan to honor on June 10, including **Dick Bemrose, Ernie Butenschoen, Kim Butenschoen, Amy Deetz, Roseanna Foster-Mikhail, Karla Hills,** and **Vanessa Lindstrom.** Next year, we will continue the same curriculum for our younger kids, but come up with an alternative way to do formation for our older kids.

Because of **renovations**, we will not have access to Sunday School rooms and office for three months, which means (1) we will finish the year in June instead of going through the summer; (2) we will find it difficult to have summer offerings on site, but there's always a nearby park at which to gather; and (3) we need to be flexible in September. When the renovations are finished, we will have wonderful new classrooms, with new furniture!

Plans for **Lutherwood Summer Day Camp** progress. Our greatest needs are:

- (1) host families to put up two college-aged kids for the week
- (2) people to provide lunches
- (3) volunteers to be with the groups
- (4) help with registration

*Upcoming*

- 27 May **Pentecost Celebration**
- 2 June **Gethsemane goes to the Starlight Parade!!**
- 5 June CYF<sup>2</sup> meeting at McMenamin's
- 10 June **CYF<sup>2</sup> Celebration – Picnic at Blue Lake follows**
- 17 June Commissioning Mission Trip
- 18-23 June **Mission Trip!**
- 16-20 July **Lutherwood Day Camp @ Gethsemane**

Please keep the children, youth, and families of Gethsemane in your prayers. Yours in Christ,  
*Maureen Hagen, Minister of Child, Youth, and Family Formation*

**Mission Trip to Waldport June 18-23, 2012**

Here's how you can help:

- \* Support our Flamingo Fundraiser
- \* Donate a Safeway gift card to cover costs (or bake some cookies!)
- \* Drop off some school supplies for the Waldport kids
- \* Pray for our youth who are going (*Alec Eason-Rasmussen, Hailey Long, Mary Long, Ryler Riehl, Brandon Schie, Logan Schie, Mandie Schie, Annie Strobel, Jasmine Yuen, and Ryan Yuan.*)

**Congregational Picnic June 10, 2012 at Blue Lake Park**



What a great way to celebrate the end of the school year! Join your family at Gethsemane for a fun afternoon, beginning at 12:30 p.m. We've reserved a covered area close to all the action, and we'll provide hot dogs, condiments, and drinks. Please bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. It's going to be a fun time for all!

**Starlight Parade June 2, 2012**

Come be a part of a new Gethsemane tradition. We'll gather at church at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 2, and head downtown to the Starlight Parade. Weather permitting, we'll take MAX there and back. Children under 10 need to be with a parent/guardian. Older kids must RSVP to make sure we have enough adults along. (If we're rained out, we go to Plan B.)



### June Birthdays

1 Elmer Schmidt  
3 Laura Britzius  
Leslie Johnson  
6 Jerry Tilkens  
Marion Burgess  
9 Jan Perkins  
11 Jan Cumming  
12 Bernice Hull  
Joe Rapp  
15 Brian Kelley  
Judy Montague  
Katie Strobel  
16 Alma Crouse  
17 Marilee Hansen  
26 Jonathan Herbert

29 Madge Buss  
Deb Postlewait

30 Steve Olson

### June Anniversaries

16 Dick/Marion Burgess  
19 Al/Ethel Marsh  
20 Carl/Jan Perkins  
22 Maureen Hagen/Rob  
Greene  
22 Larry/Kim Stoffregen  
25 Laura Britzius/Mary  
Curtis  
28 Pr. Tom/Lisa Hiller  
29 Karen/Patrick Reagan  
29 Bill/Cameron Herbert

### Homebound Brothers & Sisters

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

**Karen Stenberg**, 15521 SE Meadowlark Ln. Mil-  
waukie 97267

**Vera Koosman**, 1280 NE Kane Dr. #211, Gresham,  
97030, 503/661-0538

**Norm Thoreson**, Fairlawn Village, 1280 NE Kane  
Dr, Apt. 34, Gresham 97030, 503/912-1973

**Prayer Concerns—Ongoing:** *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Vera Koosman; Dick Boro; Katherine Eshleman; Lillian Huston; Scott Blohm's friend Pr. Doug Brushell; Stan Johnson; Roland Haacke; Wynn & Jim Stafford and their daughter-in-law Jennifer; Joan Ward; Marian Aleckson; Karen Stenberg; Maureen Hagen's friend Beth; Jo Nelson's relative, Heather; Alfhild Anderson; Jerry Tilkens; Bea Jarvie; George Willett; Cathey Myers' friend Beth; Tiffany Herbert; Alice Burnett; Roberta Vidlund's friend Terry; Kim Stoffregen's nephew Rick; Penny Thoreen; and Linda Babcock and her grandson Justin.

**Urgent:** *Those who are ill:* the Butenschoen's and the Qualheim's neighbor Aliah; Sharon Lee's niece, Terri; Kim Butenschoen's mother Flo; Nettie Ubrick's nephew Troy and her friend Tim; Randy Treanor; the Herbert's friend Brian; Julianne Quigley's friend Mandy; Ralph Nelson and his great niece Amelia; Collette Gill; Beth Deters; Kayda Carpenter; Michelle McGilvray; Aiden Lindstrom; Norm Thoreson; Ida Olson; Rita Nesbit's son John; Carol Steele; Kent Cumming; Galvin & Virginia Irby; and Scott Morency.

*Those who are grieving:* The family and friends of Karen Reagan's mother; and the family and friends of Earl DeHaven; the family and friends of Jackie Rispler; and the family and friends of Joann Weaver's brother Gene.



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

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>JUNE 2012</b> GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH				1 <i>Office Closed</i>	2 12:30p- RecovInc.  <i>8a-Piano            Recital</i>
3 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a- EdHour 5:30p- <i>Confirmation</i>	4 7p-Band 6:30p- Finance Mtg.	5 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band 6:30p-CYFF@ McMenamins	6 5:30-7p- ClutterAnon.	7 7:45a-BBS 9:30a- Quilting 1p-Orchestra	8 <i>Office Closed</i>	9 12:30p- RecovInc.
10 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a- EdHour <b>Teacher            Recognition</b> 12:30p- <i>Church Picnic            @Bluke Lake            Park</i>	11 7p-Band 10a-B-Team 1p-Stephen Supervision	12 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 5p-Mutual Min.Bd. 7:30p-Band	13 5:30-7p- ClutterAnon.	14 7:45a-BBS 9:30a- Quilting 1p-Orchestra	15 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	16 12:30p- RecovInc.  <i>1-6p-Piano            Recital here</i>
17 8&10:30a- Worship 9:30a- EdHour <b>Mission            Trip Com-            missioning</b> 5:30p- <i>Confirmation</i>  <b>Father's            Day</b>	18 7p-Band  <b>Youth Mis-            sion Trip to            Waldport            thru June            22</b>	19 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band	20 5:30-7p- ClutterAnon. <b>7p-Church            Council</b>	21 7:45a-BBS 10a-Women's Bible Study 1p-Orchestra	22 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	23 12:30p- RecovInc.  <i>1p-Wedding            Reception</i>
24 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a- EdHour	25 7p-Band	26 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band	27 5:30-7p- ClutterAnon.	28 7:45a-BBS 9:30a- Quilting 1p-Orchestra	29 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	30 12:30p- RecovInc.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

### Summer Day Camp (a.k.a. Vacation Bible School) July 16-20

Come join us for a week of fun with Bible stories, crafts, music, art, drama and so much more!

⇒ **4's and 5's** meet from 9 to 11:45 a.m. each day (\$15/child, family discount)

⇒ **Entering First thru Sixth Grades:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day (\$25/child, family discount)

The registration deadline is July 1. All are welcome.

#### You can help by:

- \* Providing housing for the leaders Sunday thru Friday (two homes needed)
- \* Being a Group Leader for the older kids, or a teacher for the pre-K's.
- \* Prepare lunch a day or more
- \* Help with registration
- \* Bring supplies (pop bottle plastic tops, TP rolls)

## THANK YOU

A wonderful group of energetic quilters assembled and boxed 66 school kits, 61 personal care kits, 63 quilts, and a box of bar soap to be sent off to Lutheran World Relief. They were delivered to Peace Lutheran Church on Saturday, May 5 and, together with collections from many other congregations in our area, sent on to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Minnesota.

We are extremely grateful to all of you who made contributions to the kits, to our loyal quilters who meet weekly to sew and tie quilts, and to Thrivent for their financial support to buy items for the kits.

Thanks to Carl Perkins for the donation of toothbrushes, to Bob Magnuson and Carl for helping pack and weigh the boxes and to Bob and Dale Van Horn who delivered the boxes to Peace Lutheran. We recognize Dick Burgess has faithfully helped us on Thursdays for a number of years. Your donation of fabric keeps us going. Thanks one and all!

## MEET OUR NEWCOMERS

**Nicole Poole** was introduced to Gethemane by Rachel and Po Peterson whom she met at an Oregon Synod Young Adult group. She grew up in North Portland and in ninth grade became a baptised member of St. Paul Lutheran church in Southeast Portland. A single mother, she has a five-year-old son, Carter, and is happy to have him at Gethsemane because of the programs for children. Carter will start full-day kindergarten next fall at Creston Elementary School. Nicole, who lives near 39th and SE Powell, has been employed as a checker at Safeway. She is presently unemployed but hoping to go back to work with Safeway. She's done much volunteer work at St. Paul's, including serving on their council and doing web design for the church. She also volunteers with Carter's Head Start program and other community services. She really likes Gethsemane's dedication to community service. "It's what we should do as a church," she explained.

### OFFERING, INCOME & BUDGET REPORT THROUGH APRIL 2012

INCOME NEEDED	RECEIVED	ACTUAL EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE
\$118,888	\$128,064	\$77,962	\$19,078
<b>WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:</b>	2012: 177	2011: 178	CATHEY MYERS, FIN. MAN.