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# ◆ THE OLIVE PRESS ◆

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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2105

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## COUNCIL

### **President:**

Dick Bemrose

### **Vice President:**

Jonathan Herbert

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

Herbert

### **Properties:** Ernie

Butenschoen

### **Lutheran Liaison:**

Roseann Libonati

### **Evangelism:**

Rachel Coughlin

### **CYFF Formation:**

Brandee Liebrand

### **Community**

### **Action:** Patty

Olson

### **Stewardship:**

Shar Giard

### **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,

On May 17 about forty members gathered together for our "Let's Talk about the Future" event. We had some lunch, spent some time getting to know each other, and talked about Gethsemane's future in small groups. Thoughts were written on posters for all to see.

Here are some of the ideas that were shared:

1. Exploring ways in which families from our preschool can be invited into the life of our church.
2. Continue, strengthen, and increase our youth and family emphasis.
3. Begin small groups for things like evening Bible study, grief support, divorce support, and other concerns.
4. Improve communication of scheduling of groups (outside and church) use of our facilities.
5. Continue, strengthen, and increase our music ministry.
6. Continue, strengthen, and increase our outreach to the community.

Other ideas were shared as well, but these were the more common themes. The posters will be placed in the narthex for your perusal. Blank sheets will also be posted for new ideas to be shared.

Thanks to the Mutual Ministry Team (aka Transition Team) for their help in making this event happen including Bill Herbert, Todd Sloan, Roseann Libonati, Jay Rector, Kim Stoffregen, Dave Qualheim, and also support from council members including Gloria Kelsay and Patty Olson.

In the Risen Christ and in the Gift-giving Holy Spirit, Pastor Tom

**Pastor Tom will be on vacation from Friday June 26 through Sunday July 5.**

## THE HILLERS INVITE YOU TO AN OPEN HOUSE!

The Open House will take place on Saturday, June 13, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. The Hillers live at 7651 S.E. Cypress Ave. in Milwaukie. Directions: Take I-205 southbound to exit 12B Webster Rd. Turn right. Turn right again at the stop sign on to S.E. McKinley. This street will curve to the left and become S.E. Clackamas Rd. Turn right at the next stop sign on to S.E. Johnson Road. Turn left at the bottom of the hill on to S.E. Cypress Ave. Go about four blocks to 7651 Cypress, which is on the right. There's a big sequoia tree in front and a curving driveway around the tree. Pr. Tom and Lisa hope that you can come.

## WHY CAN'T THOSE PEOPLE GET JOBS? (part 4) -- by Pastor Roger Fuchs

*"Do you think I wanted to grow up to be a junkie? Do you think that when I was twelve I decided that was my highest ambition in life?" - Andrew, 2015*

"Andrew" has shared only a few bits of his life. I know his mother died when he was very young. "My father didn't have much use for me," Andrew noted, "although he only hit me a couple of times." At worship, Andrew has prayed for drug rehab. His comments at Bible study and his appreciation of Holy Communion might seem out of synch with his looks and attire. There is much more to Andrew than meets the eye. Jesus knew that about us.

Today, Andrew is homeless because he is jobless and jobless because he is homeless. He is both homeless and jobless because other things are broken in his life: relationships and his addiction. We couldn't fix one thing unless we and Andrew fixed everything. It's all related.

Two things in April gave me pause. First, State Sen. Tim Knopp (R-Bend) stated that homeless shelters in his district are increasingly serving clients with jobs. "There is virtually no (affordable) housing available," he said.<sup>1</sup> Second, Noelle Toland's April 3 letter to The Oregonian complained about Portland's "belligerent vagrants" and that "something should be done about it." She decried more shelter beds but called for job training.<sup>2</sup> Her words brought several points of light while overlooking whole bands of the spectrum. Response letters offered sharp criticism, zero solutions. Heat but no light; many words, little wisdom.

I've just finished a sobering book: When Helping Hurts—How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...And Yourself by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert. The book has great wisdom for churches and citizens on everything from mission trips and projects to budgets, donations and volunteer hours. The authors suggest an approach very different from solving problems, meeting needs or "loving on" other people. They suggest that we think instead of restoration. What happens to wholeness when our relationships with God, ourselves, other people and the rest of creation are broken? What happens when those relationships have never formed? How can followers of Jesus be about restoration? That's a game changer!

Restoration sends me to the mirror for confession. I can't be about restoration if I am walking broken. I can't advocate for jobs and housing if my own way of life would not support those jobs and I myself would not live in that "affordable" housing. I can't lift up creation care if my own consumption destroys it. I can't help "Andrew" if my stuff is more important than he is. I can't embody Christ if my own expectations of church exclude rather than invite "Andrew".

At Mark 16.7, the angel announced that Jesus would go ahead of the disciples "to Galilee" where they would see him. Translation: they would see Jesus "back home" where "Andrew" lived. That's where, among two's and three's, Jesus would show up and stay. That's where restoration occurs. "Can't those people get jobs?" is a way of saying, "Why don't those people go away?" Jesus invites us home to Galilee instead. Let the restoration begin!

<sup>1</sup> Denis C. Theriault, "Housing crisis on Brown's agenda", The Oregonian, April 8, 2015, p. A2.

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/04/tolerance\\_of\\_aggressive\\_vagran.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/04/tolerance_of_aggressive_vagran.html)

## NOTES:

- ◆ **Like Us on FACEBOOK.**
  - ◆ **SAVE THE DATE!** Pr. Tom's retirement party is July 25, 2015 and you're invited!
  - ◆ **Words Can Hardly Express** the gratitude the Qualheim family has for all the love and support we received from the Gethsemane family. We would like to thank everyone involved in making Bud's memorial service so comforting. Special thanks to Pastor Tom for leading the memorial service and sharing a heartfelt message. We would like to thank Cameron, the choir, Brooke, Lyle, Cory, and Emily for sharing their musical talents. After the choir sang, Kay leaned over to me and said, "They let us sing with them!" The music was wonderful and "The Crew" that works so hard behind the scenes is remarkable. Thank you for putting together the reception and the desserts.
- The cards, hugs, prayers, and support provided by the congregation are greatly appreciated. We've been blessed by God with so many things, one of which is being part of the family of Gethsemane. Thank you for all you've done to support our family. The Qualheim's, the Cumming's, the Williamson's, and the Crouse's.
- ◆ **Gethsemane Work Group at SnowCap:** Since January, a group has been meeting at SnowCap Community Charities, 17805 SE Stark St., to work on projects from **6 to 8 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month.** We've had a great response; from 12-15 people come each month. We usually package fruits or vegetables in plastic bags or put together packets for soup or oatmeal. This activity is open to anyone but we need to know who is coming each month as SnowCap plans the activities for the evening based on how many are coming. If you haven't been part of the group, but would like to participate in this service project, please contact Diane Liefeld.

<p><b><u>JUNE Birthdays</u></b>  1 Elmer Schmidt  3 Mary Baxter  Laura Britzius  Leslie Johnson  6 Marion Burgess  7 Kali Herbert  9 Jan Perkins  11 Jan Cumming  12 Joe Rapp  15 Brian Kelley  Patty Olson  Katie Strobel  Sydney Rasmussen  16 Alma Crouse  17 Marilee Hansen  18 Cooper Rasmussen  26 Jonathan Herbert  29 Deb Postlewait  30 Steve Olson  <b><u>JUNE Anniversaries</u></b>  12 Earl/Evelyn DeHaven  (67th)</p>	<p>16 Dick/Marion Burgess  (58th)  18 Jim/Diane Liefeld  (49th)  19 Al/Ethel Marsh  (61st)  20 Carl/Jan Perkins  (57th)  22 Larry/Kim Stoffregen  (41st)  24 Jacob/Kaitlyn Hills  (3rd)  25 Laura Britzius/Mary  Curtis (34th)  27 Wayne/Frances  Rippon (23rd)  28 Pr. Tom/Lisa Hiller  (35th)  29 Karen/Pat Reagan  (52nd)  29 Bill/Cameron Herbert  (41st)</p>	<p><i>Unless otherwise requested, people named in the prayers will stay on the Urgent list for 30 days. <b>Prayer Concerns—Ongoing:</b> Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers: Madison Goldbacher's friend Breanna; Jennifer Peck; Tyler Riehl; Nicole Poole; Randy Treanor; Lucille Langseth; Sharon Lee's niece Terri; Connie Smith's friend Joe; Roland &amp; Virginia Haacke; Ida Olson; Joe Rapp; Dorothy Shouse's daughter Robin; Tiffany Herbert; Wynn &amp; Jim Stafford; Jo Nelson's friend Greg; Ginny Barton's friend Golda; Marian Aleckson; Dick Burgess; Paulette Kelley's brother Randy; Marilee and Ken Hansen's daughter Beth; Kay Qualheim; Carol Steele and her cousin Arlan Scott; Dwaine Estes; Linda Babcock and her grandson Josiah; Pr. Randy Shutt; Lillian Huston; Aiden Lindstrom; Rita Nesbitt and her son John; Galvin Irby; John Skuzeski; and Roseann Foster-Mikhail's mother Rose.</i></p> <p><b>Urgent:</b> <i>Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:</i> Al Marsh; Ryan Lindstrom's father Tim; Rachael Coughlin's mother Idela; Pat Edwards; Darlene Kuehmichel; Christie Riehl's sister in law Kathleen; Coleen Barnett's friend Sheila; Anne Van Horn; and Todd Sloan.</p> <p><i>Those who are grieving:</i> The family and friends of Shar Giard's friend John Van Loo; and Kathryn Eshleman.</p>
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**Homebound Brothers and Sisters:**  
Lucille Langseth, Marian Aleckson, Dick Burgess, Jenn Peck, Rita Nesbitt, Dorothy Shouse, Bev Sperling, Ida Olson, and Wynn Stafford. *(Refer to your directory or call the church office for contact info.)*

# June 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

# JUNE 2015 — GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY								
	1 9:30a-MHCC 7p-Band	2 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-CYF Mtg. 7p-SwgBand 6:30-8:30p-Sanctuary in use  <b>9-11:30a Summer Preschool</b>	3 9:30a-MHCC 5:30p-Clutterers 6p-SnowCapVol  <b>9-11:30a Summer Preschool</b>	4 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra  <b>9-11:30a Summer Preschool</b>  <b>4-7p-DDHS EVENT</b>	5 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30a-MHCC Ex  <b>8-10a-DDHS EVENT</b>	6 <b>Youth to Lutherwood for CleanUpDay, 8a to 5p Make Your Own Pizza, 5p</b>								
7 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHr <b>TEACHER RECOGNITION Noon-Band Concert</b>	8 9:30a-MHCC 7p-Band <b>6:30p-Finance Mtg.</b>	9 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand <b>1:30p-Mutual Ministry Mtg.</b>	10 9:30a-MHCC 5:30p-Clutterers	11 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30a-Last MHCC Ex	13 <b>10 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Hiller Open House</b>								
14 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHr <b>Noon-Church Picnic@BlueLake</b>	15 7p-Band	16 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand <b>7p-Church Council</b>  <b>9-11:30a Summer Preschool</b>	17 5:30p-Clutterers	18 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra  <b>9-11:30a Summer Preschool</b>	19 <i>Office Closed</i>	20 <i>2p-Butenschoen Event</i>								
21 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHr <b>FATHER'S DAY Kids Craft, 10 a.m.</b>	22 7p-Band	23 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand 6:30p-MPNAMtg	24 5:30p-Clutterers	25 9:30a-Quilting 12:30p-Orchestra	26 <i>Office Closed</i>  <b>Pr. Tom on vacation thru July 6</b> →  <b>6-8p-Cross+Gen</b>	27								
28 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHr <i>Healing Service after each service</i>	29 7p-Band	30 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand  <b>9-11:30a Summer Preschool</b>	<p style="margin: 0;">— GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH —</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Income &amp; Expense Budget Report through April 2015</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Budgeted Expenses</th> <th style="width: 25%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Actual Income</th> <th style="width: 25%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Actual Expenses</th> <th style="width: 25%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Actual Difference</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">\$124,215</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">\$113,348</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">\$118,072</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">(\$4,724)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 0;">Average Weekly Attendance: 2014: 169 2015: 163 Cathey Myers, Fin.Man.</p>				Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference	\$124,215	\$113,348	\$118,072	(\$4,724)
Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference											
\$124,215	\$113,348	\$118,072	(\$4,724)											

## ANNUAL SPRING INGATHERING

**Lutheran World Relief's Spring Ingathering** took place the first week of May. Items were gathered and prepared the previous year for this worthwhile event. THANKS to all who helped gather items for the kits and make the quilts. The recent earthquake in Nepal magnifies the continued need for items such as these.

Working together, we sent 29 (99 sent in 2014) quilts, 31 (33 sent in 2014) school kits, 44 (39 sent in 2014) care kits, and 22 lbs. of bar soap. Thank you to Dale Van Horn and Bob Magnuson for taking the boxes to Beaverton to ship, to WELCA for helping with the freight costs, to Jan Perkins who sewed all the kit bags, and to all who helped assemble the kits and box them as suggested by LWR.

The need continues with a NEW IDEA! The list is long for the kits so we are going to suggest a couple of items in each monthly newsletter that you may consider giving for the project. We will bear in mind which items might be on sale during that time. For September we suggest **CRAYONS (16 count)** and **SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS (70 count)**. Place in the box in the narthex marked Lutheran World Relief. Thanks for helping us!

Have you considered helping quilt on Thursday mornings at 9:30? Lots to do, and not all of it sewing: Cutting material, tying quilts, sewing blocks together, assembling quilts, etc. A great group of ladies share the time together, committed to the task of preparing quilts to distribute where needed.

We are grateful to Thrivent for the money they provide to buy school supplies and items for the personal care kits.

## GETHSEMANE PRESCHOOL NEWS

- May was celebration month at preschool. We had a special Craft Night just before Mother's Day where the preschoolers had a fun evening of crafts, snacks, and songs with their moms, grandmas, aunts and others.
- May's themes included camping and water week where the children loved the tents and pretend campfires as well as painting the fence with water. We also had a big birthday party for all of the Summer Birthdays of children who don't have a day to celebrate during the school year.
- Graduation was May 21, with a promotion ceremony and a "finger food" potluck.

I can't believe the school year has ended and we say goodbye to some of our preschoolers and their families. It is always a bittersweet time. Some students are going on to kindergarten and other programs. We wish the best for them and their families as they leave and will continue to pray for their growth as they go to the next step. Most of our juniors will come back in the fall. We can't wait to see how they change over the summer.

We've had a great school year and our preschoolers have learned and experienced so many things. At weekly chapels the children consistently heard the message that God loves and cares for them. Our music program, run by Mrs. Christina, was full of songs and movement to music. It is a favorite part of preschooler's days. Mrs. Sherry and Mrs. Tammy taught the curriculum, including practicing shapes, colors, counting, number recognition, sequencing, patterning, letter recognition and sounds. Each child learned to write and recognize his/her name.

Our dedicated staff, including assistants Mrs. Mary and Mrs. Rebecca, make our program remarkable. Their energy and patience are truly a blessing to our program and the children and families we serve. I cannot thank them enough for their devotion to our program.

Thank you to the wonderful and committed board that supported me this year: Pastor Tom, Kim Butenschoen, Gloria Kelsay, Jay Rector, and Erika Rasmussen. Also thank you to the people of Gethsemane who willingly support the preschool. I appreciate the value this congregation places on the preschool.

As we look 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. Please refer preschoolers you know to our program. I would love to give them a tour this summer. Or invite them to attend our summer program and get a small taste of what it's like during the school year.

**We Are Offering a SUMMER PROGRAM** for four weeks this summer, beginning June 2-4. Registration is \$5/week; tuition is \$40 a week. We are open to students ages 3-5 who have not been to kindergarten. For more information and registration forms see [www.glcportland.org/preschool](http://www.glcportland.org/preschool) or Katie Strobel.

Happy summer! Katie Strobel

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Our last **Car Wash** fundraiser will be **Sunday, May 31 from 9 to Noon**.

During April's Cross+Gen we planted sunflower seeds while discussing the theme of Resurrection. After the seeds sprouted people were invited to bring them back to Gethsemane to plant near the south fence. Now, we have over 30 sunflower sprouts planted at the church.

May's **Cross+Gen** will have a fun **dry-ice experiment, live music, faith discussions**, and the **theme of Pentecost**. All are invited to come. The mission of Cross+Gen is to help strengthen relationships between the generations. Dinner will be potluck style this time, so bring a dish to share. We will meet in the **Activity Room** so as not to disturb our Daybreak guests. (Please do not enter through the kitchen entrance or Community Hall, as our guests will be using these areas.) Also, bring gardening/cotton gloves for the experiment.

### Upcoming Events:

- ⇒ **Friday, May 29, from 6 to 8 p.m.** Cross+Gen Gathering. Dinner starts at 6:30, bring a dish to share.
- ⇒ **Saturday, June 6, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** - Serve Day at Camp Lutherwood (sign-up in Narthex).
- ⇒ **Sunday, June 7** - Sunday School Teacher Appreciation and 2015 Graduate Celebration.
- ⇒ **Sunday, June 14, Noon to 3 p.m.** - Annual Blue Lake Picnic: Meet at Chinook Shelter B. Hot dogs and drinks provided.
- ⇒ **Sunday, June 21, at 10 a.m.** - Father's Day Children's Craft. Celebrate the important men in your child's life.
- ⇒ **Saturday, June 27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** - VBS Decoration Work Day. Drop in when you can!
- ⇒ **TBD in June** - CYF Bowling with Pastor Tom. A fun day for kids to spend time with Pastor Tom before he retires. More info to come!

## COMMUNITY ACTION AND OUTREACH

On April 11 we hosted the Adorned in Grace Dress for Freedom Event. It was a quite an event with so many young girls having such a wonderful time. I am very pleased that Adorned in Grace came into our lives at Gethsemane. Not only is it a tremendous outreach program to young, at-risk teens, but it is a beautiful and inspiring ministry of God's love. During the program, young women, who have come out of a dark, evil world, spoke to the young girls in the audience and it was amazing. The girls sat and listened intently, their little precious faces glued to each speaker. The message they walk away with: No matter what, God will always be with you and loves you. It was very emotional and made each of us look deep within ourselves. Seeing scared, haunted little faces transformed into happy giggling girls as they try on dresses, have make-up applied and hair curled, cut and styled are memories I will cherish forever. I am thankful that Gethsemane can be part of this wonderful ministry.

**SnowCap** Don't forget the first Wednesday of the Month. Since January, a group has been meeting at SnowCap from 6 to 8 p.m. to work on projects such as packaging fruit or veggies or putting together soup packets. Thank you to Diane Leifeld for heading this up. Please contact Diane if you are interested in participating as they need to give SnowCap a 'heads up' as to how many will be there so they can plan that evenings activities.

Speaking of SnowCap, thanks to the huge turnout and monies from the GLC Rummage Sale. Fifty percent of the monies raised went to SnowCap this year. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this possible. I worked a few hours each day. What an enormous amount of work the Rummage Sale takes. I enjoyed every minute of it! My hat's off to Rummage Sale chairperson Clara Shortt. What an inspiration to us all! Thank you, Clara, for all your hard work in this massive project.

**Daybreak** We will have Daybreak families here the week of May 24. We have St. Tim's as a partner and, beginning in July, Resurrection will be partnering with us as well. Thank you to Ernie Butenschoen for making this possible. The **Daybreak schedule for the rest of the year: Weeks of July 5, August 30, October 25, December (TBA), and February 14**. If you have questions or would like to learn more about volunteering let me know.

**Winter Shelter Overflow** Since December Gethsemane has been an overflow shelter for the Human Solutions Winter Shelter on about 20 occasions. I am happy to say that it has been a success. Many did not know families were even here. There is a protocol that must be observed and so far it's worked out splendidly. The Winter Shelter has extended their operation through June 12. I am now working on getting an extension on our MOU to allow the Winter Shelter to use the community hall if need be for overflow through June 12.

**It is a blessing to see Gethsemane as Hands of Giving, Hands of Help and Hands of Hope.** Peace and Joy, Patty Olson