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# ◆ THE OLIVE PRESS ◆

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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2013

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## **COUNCIL**

### **President:**

Dick Bemrose

### **Vice President:**

Lyle Johnson

### **Sec/Treas:**

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:** Patty Olson

### **Stewardship:**

Harvey Steele

### **Fellowship:**

Kim Stoffregen

## **STAFF**

### **Pastor:**

Tom Hiller

### **Child/Fam Min:**

Maureen Hagen

### **Preschool Dir.:**

Katie Strobel

### **Finance Mgr.:**

Cathey Myers

### **Parish Admin.:**

Judith Rykken

### **Choir Director:**

Cameron

Herbert

### **Organist:**

Brooke Benfield

**Custodians:** Dale

## **Pastor Tom's Letter**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

You can't imagine how meaningful and important your prayers, cards, and well wishes have been during the time of my mother's sickness and death, and now also during the time of my wife, Lisa's, health concerns. Then again maybe you can imagine it. Many of you have been through similar times and have felt the effect of the love of brothers and sisters in Christ. It serves to remind us again how important it is to be in a loving community, especially a loving community of faith, especially a Christian church, especially Gethsemane Lutheran Church. As I bring you pastoral care during your difficult times, I will realize again and even more how my efforts, and the efforts of others, make such a difference. It's all part of the wholeness that Jesus offers.

Speaking of wholeness, our Lenten journey, Holy Week, and Easter contribute to our wholeness in Christ in immeasurable ways. I hope you can join us.

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

#### **March 6, 13, and 20 – 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.

Our theme for the Lenten Mid-Week services this year is **Journey Into Lent 2013**.

We are using materials from Oregon Synod Bishop Dave Brauer-Rieke.

#### **March 17 – Consecration Sunday**

**March 24 – Palm and Passion Sunday** – 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – A procession of palms and the Story of the Passion of Christ in both services.

**March 28 – Maundy Thursday** – 7:15 p.m. – A service of absolution and communion.

**March 29 – Good Friday** – Noon – Stations of the Cross

7:15 p.m. – A service of Light and Darkness

**March 30 – Easter Vigil** – 7:15 p.m. – A service of Darkness, Light, Scripture readings, Renewal of Baptism, and Communion.

**March 31 – EASTER** – 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – A celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In the Peace of Christ, Pastor Tom Hiller

## **Council Highlights**

The meeting on February 20 was necessarily brief because the council was responsible for soup supper that evening. A few of the highlights were that the organ is almost complete and will be coming in close to budget; that a plaque for the Community Hall will be fashioned and ready by March 24; and that Gloria Kelsay was approved as a preschool board member. See below for more information, but the **Community Hall Celebration** is planned for Sunday, March 24, noon to 3, with Susan Kintner and the Swing Band involved in the party. Friends and members are all invited to join us!

# FaithWorks: Ministry with Children, Youth, and Families



We now find ourselves in Lent, a time for denial, self-examination, and reflection. For 40 days and six Sundays, we prepare to enter the mystery that is Easter. [Learn more by clicking <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3L3c23MfC0> or <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-6a25Yo2wE>.] Even in the midst of our Lenten wilderness, there is the hope of Easter. May your Lenten journey be blessed!

## **Looking Back:**

On February 10, we had a wonderful **Celebration of God's Love**. The congregation heard our children sing and sign "Jesus Loves Me," which theologian Karl Barth considered the summing up of the Christian message. Kids and youth made many Valentines and prepared care packages for several Gethsemane people – our college students, Jenece Butenschoen who has just moved to Montana, Bill Herbert who is helping clean up the devastation wrought by the hurricane, to a recent widower, and to someone who has been experiencing a difficult time. We have been shown the abundance of God's love and this was an opportunity to show others in our community that we truly love and value them.

Two days later, we had a successful intergenerational **Shrove Tuesday**. So many people helped. Thank you!! In addition, our kids made an Alleluia banner and masks and went to the Church and discussed the transition we were about to make, symbolized by the hiding of the Alleluia banner. They'll know to look for it on Easter!

Currently, we're moving back to our Sunday School rooms. Many thanks to **Clara Shortt, Ernie Butenschoen** and others for painting. We have new furniture and we are striving to make the rooms as inviting as possible.

## **In March:**

Because of Lent, we are keeping our activities minimal, although we will have an **All Things Green Celebration on March 10** after church in honor of St. Patrick's Day (a week before the actual event), with green food, green crafts, and a special "green" project to help our kids be aware of the importance of stewardship of God's creation.

Our third annual **Journey Through Holy Week** will start with the congregation in the Palm procession, but then the children will have their own Holy Week experience before they rejoin the congregation for Eucharist. Not to be missed, **Easter** will continue its tradition of a brunch at 9:15 for everyone and an **Egg Hunt at 10 a.m.** for those in 5<sup>th</sup> grade or younger.

Finally, Christie Riehl, Karla Hills, and I will be attending a Christian Formation conference in SeaTac the first week of March so we can better prepare for a holistic, integrated program for years to come. On March 9, Karla and I will be having our initial training for this summer's Day Camp!

## **Looking Forward:**

- 3/5-7 Lifelong Christian Formation Conference @ SeaTac
- 3/9 Camp Lutherwood Training
- 3/12 Child, Youth, and Family Formation meeting at McMenamín's
- 3/10 All Things Green Celebration (11:45-1:00)
- 3/24 Palm Sunday – Journey Through Holy Week (10:30-11:30)
- 3/31 Easter (brunch at 9:15; egg hunt at 10:00)
- 7/14-19 Lutherwood Day Camp & Preschool VBS

Please continue to pray for children, youth, and families. Yours in Christ, Maureen

### **Weekly Faith Challenge**

*Have you noticed the WFC in your Gazette? The CYF<sup>2</sup> Committee invites everyone to participate in a weekly faith challenge designed to encourage people to try out spiritual practices. Our March WFCs focus on self-examination and reflection:*

**Week 1:** God has blessed you with many gifts/talents/strengths. How have you used these gifts to honor God?

**Week 2:** God has blessed you with special people in your life. How have you shown them you how much you love them?

**Week 3:** God has blessed us with Creation. How have you shown your love for God's creation?

**Week 4:** God has blessed us with loving people in our community. How have you shared God's love with others?

*After you try out a practice, take time to reflect on it. Was it helpful?*

*Did it help make you/your family more mindful about God's presence in your lives?*

## Holy Week at Gethsemane



**Sunday, March 24 (10:30-11:45)**

**Journey through Holy Week:** We invite all children and youth to join us on a journey through Holy Week. Starting with the Palm Sunday procession, we will spend time experiencing the Last Supper, Good Friday, the Vigil, and the joy of the Resurrection, then rejoin the congregation for Communion.

**Sunday, March 31 (9:15-11:45)**

**Easter:** Come join your Gethsemane family as we joyfully celebrate the Resurrection. The Easter egg hunt at 10:00 (breakfast is between 9 & 10. Services at 8 & 10:30 a.m.



## February Notes:

**Important Information for Thrivent Members!** As a Faith-based Organization, we're called to serve more people. Extending our common bond will allow us to help more Christians be wise with money and live generously. As members of a fraternal benefit society, we share something significant – a connection, such as ethnicity, occupation or religion. This common bond (being Lutheran) is one requirement of being a fraternal benefit society. This spring, benefit members can vote on extending that common bond to mean Christian. **Vote on Common Bond March 1 Through April 30.** Thrivent Financial is membership-owned, so benefit members get to make this decision (generally, benefit members are those 16 and older who own a Thrivent Financial insurance or annuity product). You have a voice in the future direction of Thrivent Financial. Vote March 1 through April 30:

- Online at [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com)
- By mail.
- By phone 1-800-THRIVENT (847-4836).

### Learn More

Hear from other members, see the rationale behind extending the common bond and get answers to frequently asked questions. All are available at [Thrivent.com/vote](http://Thrivent.com/vote). Also, don't forget, if you are a Thrivent Benefit Member, you have Choice Dollars to designate. If you do not designate your Choice Dollars by March 31, they will be lost. Currently, of the 23 members eligible for Choice Dollars in our congregation, only 14 have made a designation so far. Don't let your Choice Dollars go to waste! If you have any questions about Choice Dollars or the Common Bond vote, see one of your Congregational Advocates—Marion Burgess or Gloria Kelsay or contact Thrivent directly.

- \* **Needed: Wooden Clothes Rack** for the rummage sale to display purses. Please contact Nettie Ubrick at 503.760.0979.
- \* **Rummage Sale News:** Spring cleaning time! Save things for our sale on May 3 & 4, we'll take just about anything! However, Mattresses, large appliances & old TV's are difficult to get rid of, so don't save those! Having things be as clean as possible will help too. Beginning Sunday, April 21st, you may bring some smaller things to store in Room 6. However, on the next Sunday (Apr. 28), someone will be here 12-5p to collect all "treasures" for the sale. If you need someone to pick up larger items, call Clara Shortt @ 503-252-0568. We also will need lots of helpers! Signups begin in April...watch for that in Narthex. Goodwill is again furnishing racks & hangers. Save grocery sized plastic & brown bags..we'll need those. Join in helping make it a fun, fellowship experience & to bring funding to the various mission projects we're supporting.
- \* **Thank you, Gethsemane** for coming through, again. We had 136 pounds of just soup, and \$70 in cash for Snowcap. We put out a challenge, and you guys come through. What could we come up with next? D&D Bemrose
- \* **Our Rededication Open House** is scheduled for noon on March 24. If you'd like to help out we are looking for volunteers. Sign up to bring fruit or veggie trays, cookies or dessert bars on the sheet in the narthex or let Kim Stoffregen or the office know. We are setting up Saturday at 2 p.m. if you'd like to get involved that way; or help put food out at about 11:15 on Sunday (during second service). As always, clean up help is appreciated.
- \* **Easter Breakfast:** We are continuing our tradition of serving Easter Breakfast between services this year, from 9 to 10 a.m. If you'd like to help out, please see the sign up sheets on the narthex counter. Hope you can join us for great food and Easter Fellowship.
- \* **Place Your Order Now for an Easter Lily** to beautify the church altar at Easter. Sign up in the narthex. Lilies are \$8 each. Please pay Liz Blohm or Denise Johnson. Thanks! Lilies may be taken home after Easter Sunday on March 31.

*If you are on "Facebook" "like"  
Gethsemane Lutheran Church*

# Preschool Notes

The **Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction** was a huge success on Feb 17. We made over \$3500 for the operating expenses of the preschool. Thank you again to everyone who donated items for the auction and raffle. Also thanks to those who gave of their time and labor for the success of this event. We couldn't have done it without you. What a blessing the community of Gethsemane Lutheran Church is to the preschool ministry. The turnout was gratifying, and we're grateful that so many preschool families were able to come and meet some of our church families.

March will be a busy month at preschool. We will use the Godly Play curriculum for our Lenten chapels, which is a great way to teach preschoolers the lessons of the season and how much Jesus loves them. We will talk about God's world in the springtime and make some wonderful crafts to go along with this theme.

Thursday, March 14 is our second annual Dad and Me event. Dads, Grandpas and Uncles are invited to join their preschoolers for a night of cardboard box and duct tape building, which is lots of fun!

Please remember we are enrolling for our 2013 school year. We will continue to have our 3 day per week program for 3 and 4 year olds and also our 4 day a week Pre K Monday for 4 year olds. All the information is on the website, [www.glcportland.org/preschool](http://www.glcportland.org/preschool) or in the office. **Registration for the 2013-2014 school year has begun!** Monthly tuition next year will be \$140 per month for 3 days/week. Adding the Monday will make tuition \$190/ month. Lunch bunch will be \$6 per day. Registration is \$50 until June 1 and \$60 after June 1.

Katie Strobel, Preschool Director

## Stewards of a New Creation

Consecration Sunday March 17 is almost here. You will be asked to fill out an estimate of giving card to our church, fill out our time and talent sheets and then we will have a special brunch. Stewardship is much more than money. It is part of all things that make Gethsemane Lutheran Church a church filled with the Holy Spirit. It is a response one makes in gratitude for what has been granted us. It is also an intentional planned proportionate giving of our time, talent and treasure.

Remember that stewardship asks that we help each other recognize the gifts and talents with which God has blessed us and the ways in which we have been blessed through the gifts and talents of others.

Stewardship invites us to help discern, call forth and continually encourage one another to use the gifts and talents with which God has blessed us according to His Will. We are challenged to share our time, talent and treasure beyond what we believe we can do so we can grow, individually and collectively, as God desires.

Think about some of these concepts, INTENTIONAL PLANNED PROPORTIONATE GIVING and respond to GOD'S CHALLENGE. Can we respond to that challenge?

Harvey Steele, Stewardship Committee

### Budget Report January 2013

Budgeted	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Difference
\$31,828	\$37,818	\$31,517	\$6,301

**Average Weekly Attendance:** 2012: 135 2011: 140

Cathey Myers, Financial Mgr.

### Join Us

as we Re-Dedicate our  
Community Hall  
on Sunday, March 24,  
from Noon to 3 p.m.

Food, fellowship, music, and a chance to  
show our gratitude for all our many  
blessings during the remodel.  
Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
11560 SE Market. 503/256-1835

**Birthdays**

5 Alec Eason  
Josephine Crouse  
7 John Skuzeski  
John Hurlman  
Spencer Letmate  
9 Joan Ward  
10 RJ Treanor  
13 Michelle Schie  
15 Cody Berg  
19 Henry Juilfs  
20 Doris Hansen  
21 Randi Bateman  
Parker Letmate  
22 Robert Magnuson  
23 Tyler Riehl  
27 Ken Hansen  
Dick Burgess  
29 Carter Poole  
30 Roseann Libonati

**Anniversaries**

24 Steve/Christina Riehl (6th)  
24 Gavin/Raechel Hills (1st)



**Prayer Concerns—Ongoing:** *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Marian Aleckson; Cathey Myers' friends Max and JR & his wife; Karen Stenberg; George & Louise Fogg; Jerry Tilkens; Aiden Lindstrom; Bea Jarvie; Joni Pokorny's father in law George; George Willett; Roberta Vidlund's friend Terry; Linda Babcock; Vera Koosman; Dick Boro; Suzie Rector's father Keith; Katherine Eshleman; Stan Johnson; Kent Cumming; Rita Nesbitt's son John; Galvin & Virginia Irby; Roseann Foster-Mikhail's mother Rose; the Butenschoen's friends Rebecca & Norm; Sharon Lee's niece Terri; Jo Nelson's friend Carol; Nettie Ubrick's nephew Troy, her friend Tim, and her friend Ruby; Randy Treanor; Rita Nesbitt; Roland and Virginia Haacke; the Sloan's friend Francis; Sharon Lee's brother in law George; Michelle McGilvray; Wynn & Jim Stafford; and Joan Ward.

**Urgent:** *Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:* Kayda Carpenter; Bill Herbert's sister Judy; Joni Pokorny's son Luke and her daughter's friend Rachel; Paulette Kelley's brothers Larry and Randy; Tiffany Herbert; Darlene Lewis' mom, Margie; Shar Giard's friend John and her relative, Heather; Pr. Paul Teyler; Vanessa Lindstrom; Pat Edwards; Madge Buss; Scott Morency; Dick Burgess; Lisa Hiller; Dorothy Shouse; Pr. Laurie Larson Caesar; Karen Arendt's daughter in law Karen; and Colleen Barnett's friend Diane.

**Homebound Brothers & Sisters**

**Lucille Langseth**, Pacific Gardens, 17309 NE Glisan, #402 97230, 256-0553  
**Karen Stenberg**, 15521 SE Meadowlark Ln. Milwaukie 97267  
**Vera Koosman**, 1280 NE Kane Dr. #211, Gresham, 97030, 661-0538  
**Marian Aleckson**, 15727 NE Russell #1115, 97230, 254-4264  
**Madge Buss**, 6125 SE Division, 97206, 257-0608

## March 2013

### The Olive Press



*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>MARCH 2013</b> <b>Gethsemane Lutheran Church</b> (See the website (glcportland.org) for updates on the calendar.				1 <i>Office Closed</i>	2 12:30p- RecovInc.
3 8&10:30a- Worship 9:15a-EdHour <b>Temple Talks</b>	4 7p-Band	5 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 9a-FirRidge Video Group 7p-SwBand 6:30p-CYFF Mtg.	6 5:30-7:30p- Clutterers <b>LentServices</b> <b>Noon</b> (with soup) and at <b>7:15p</b> (6:30- Soup)	7 7:45a-Bible Study 9:30a-Quilting 1:30-2:30p- FirRidge 12:30p- Orchestra 7p-Choir	8 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	9 12:30p- RecovInc.
10 <i>Daylight Savings Begins</i> 8 & 10:30a- Worship <b>TempleTalks</b> 9:15a-EdHour <i>1p-Confirmation</i> <i>College Build</i> <i>Habitat stay</i> <i>here thru</i> <i>March16</i> ←	11 7p-Band 10a-B-Team 6:30p-Finance Mtg.	12 8a-Men's Breakfast 9a-FirRidge Video Group 10a-Bible Study 7p-SwBand	13 5:30-7:30p- Clutterers <b>LentServices</b> <b>Noon</b> (with soup) and at <b>7:15p</b> (6:30- Soup)	14 7:45a-Bible Study 9:30a-Quilting 1:30-2:30p- FirRidge 7p-Choir 12:30p- Orchestra	15 <i>OfficeClosed</i>	16 12:30p- RecovInc. <b>9a-Gardening Party</b>
17 8&10:30a- Worship 9:15a-EdHour <b>Consecration Sunday/Lunch to follow late Service</b>	18 7p-Band	19 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 9a-FirRidge Video Group 7p-SwBand	20 <i>3p-StewardMtg.</i> 5:30-7:30p- Clutterers <b>5:30p-Church Council</b> <b>LentServices</b> <b>Noon</b> (with soup) and at <b>7:15p</b> (6:30- Soup)	21 7:45a- BibleStudy 10a-Women's BibleStudy 1:30-2:30p- FirRidge 7p-Choir 12:30p- Orchestra	22 <i>Office Closed</i>	23 12:30p- RecovInc. All Day—Floor Waxing/Dale
24 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:15a-EdHour <i>1p-Confir- mation</i>  <b>DAYBREAK</b> ←	25 7p-Band <b>9A-FIRRIDGE</b> <b>VIDEO GROUP</b> <b>WORKSHOP ALL</b> <b>WEEK DURING DAY</b>	26 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7p-SwBand	27 5:30-7:30p- Clutterers	28 7:45a-BibleStdy 9:30a-Quilting 7p-Choir 12:30p- Orchestra <b>Noon&amp;7:15p- MaundyThurs Services</b>	29 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>12:30p- ZayconFood Delivery</i> <b>Noon&amp;7:15p- GoodFriday Services</b>	30 <i>12:30p- Recov.Inc.</i>  <b>7:15p-Easter Vigil</b>
31 <b>EASTER</b> 8&10:30a- Worship 9:15a-EdHour <i>Healing Service</i> <i>after each</i> <i>service</i>						