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# ◆ THE OLIVE PRESS ◆

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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2015

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## ◆ COUNCIL

**President:**

Dick Bemrose

**Vice President:**

Jonathan Herbert

**Sec/Treas:** Bill

Herbert

**Properties:** Ernie

Butenschoen

**Lutheran Liaison:**

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**Evangelism:**

Rachel Coughlin

**CYFF Formation:**

Brandee Liebrand

**Community**

**Action:** Patty

Olson

**Stewardship:**

Shar Giard

**Fellowship:**

Todd Sloan

**Worship:** Gloria

Kelsay

## STAFF

**Interim Pastor:**

Pr. Shelley Willem

**CYM Coordinator:**

Jennilee Porch

**Preschool Dir.:**

Katie Strobel

**Finance Mgr.:**

Cathy Myers

**Parish Admin.:**

Judith Rykken

**Choir Director:**

Cameron Herbert

**Organist:**

Brooke Benfield

**Custodians:**

Dale & Ann Van

Horn

## FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

First off, thank you to everyone who has welcomed me and helped me get oriented to Gethsemane these last few weeks. Your smiles of encouragement, words of welcome, wearing of name tags, answers to questions, willingness to let me sing with the choir and all the other ways you have been gracious and hospitable have been much appreciated. And the freshly painted walls and shampooed carpet in the office is really nice too. Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen. I also appreciate your continued patience as I learn names and faces.

My orientation to how Gethsemane does things has been a few meetings with staff, some committees (Worship and Music, Mutual Ministry, Finance), Council, the Tuesday Bible Study group, and choir rehearsals as well as three Sunday mornings so far. Everyone has been most helpful and I feel like I'm starting to get the picture. If you represent a part of the Gethsemane picture that I haven't been oriented to yet, please set up a time with me to talk about it. My Wednesdays and Thursdays office hours from 9am to 3pm seem to be flexible so far if you'd like to come here to talk. If you want to arrange a different time to talk, call me at church 503.256.1835 or on my cell 971.235.4432 or email me at [glcpastor@aceweb.com](mailto:glcpastor@aceweb.com) (yes, this is Pastor Tom's old email). If you would like to talk with me even if you don't have a part of the Gethsemane picture to orient me to, the same contact info applies.

The Call Committee was nominated at the September 15 Council Meeting and a formal announcement of the names and the beginning of their work will be coming soon. As I wait for that work to begin, I have two projects already beginning. The creation of a Pastoral Care Team, which will help me cover the visitation ministry to the homebound, hospitalized and others is, thus far, populated by three former Stephens Ministers. Please let me know if you are interested.

The second project is to upgrade the office computers to this decade. I was surprised to discover Office 2003 on my computer. I can't access files I brought with me from the last three churches I served because my computer can't open them. I won't tell you how long it took me to remember how to change a Word document from Portrait to Landscape in that version of the software. Rather than pushing this situation on to the next Pastor, the staff is excited and the council is agreeable to updating the hardware and software before Advent. If you have any contacts with good discounts on Microsoft Office Professional 2013 or the hardware that runs it, please let me know.

So after writing all this practical and administrative stuff for my October newsletter article, I've realized I don't want to miss saying something about Reformation Day coming up on October 26. It wasn't until I was at seminary that I heard the motto of the reformers back in the day, which was "Reformed, ever Reforming." This motto suggests that Reformation Day is as much a celebration of how we are continuing to be reformed as it is about celebrating how we were reformed. It is from that understanding that I have picked "You Are the Seed" as the sending song for Reformation Sunday. Originally written in Spanish in 1979, it was printed in With One Voice in 1995 and I think does a lovely job of expressing Reformation themes in fresh words and music. I hope you agree. (And don't worry, we will be singing A Mighty Fortress as well.)

**"Sois La Semilla"(You Are The Seed)** by Caesareo Gabarain, 1979

*You are the seed that will grow a new sprout;  
you're a star that will shine in the night;  
you are the yeast and a small grain of salt,  
a beacon to glow in the dark.*

*You are the dawn that will bring a new day;  
you're the wheat that will bear golden grain;  
you are a sting and a soft, gentle touch,  
to witness wherever you go.*

*You are the flame that will lighten the dark,  
so resplendent with hope, faith, and love;  
you are the shepherds to lead the whole world  
to water and pastures of peace.*

*You are the friends that I chose for myself,  
you're the word that I want to proclaim.  
You are the new reign of God built on rock  
where justice and truth are at home.*

*You are the life that will nurture the plant;  
you're the waves in a turbulent sea;  
yesterday's yeast is beginning to rise,  
a new loaf of bread it will yield.*

*There is no place for a city to hide,  
there's no mountain can cover its might;*

*let your light shine so that your loving works give honor and glory to God.*

*Refrain:*

*Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaim the great love of God; messengers to tell the way of life, peace and pardon for all.*

*Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead Christ arose; "Lo, I'll be with you forevermore, till the end of the world."*

Pastor Shelley

## NOTES:

- ◆ **Like Us on FACEBOOK.**
- ◆ **Gethsemane Work Group at SnowCap:** A group from GLC meets at SnowCap Community Charities, 17805 SE Stark St., to work on projects from **6 to 8 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month.** To participate, please contact Diane Liefeld.
- ◆ **Gethsemane Gardens** As you all know, this summer was hard on many plants, shrubs and trees. Only with the diligent efforts of several people who put in countless hours working on the gardens, including watering, was the damage minimized. Please help us in maintaining the property by contacting the Properties Committee before you plan to plant something, even as a memorial, so that the best location can be chosen and one that fits in the watering plan. The sprinkler system is no longer operational and so consideration of how the plant can and will be cared for is a must. Thank you for your support. The Properties Committee

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

September 13 was Sunday School kick-off including a puppet show written by Brandee and performed by Annie and Laurel Strobel. Thank you all for sharing your talent! Then we enjoyed a classic Sunday School song and went on to paint ten stepping stones. The kids painted, with bright colors and a little bit of chaos, the stones you can now see near the breezeway. The hope is that our stepping stones will provide a safer passage for those crossing the rocky section on the north side of the church. We may add more as kids have opportunity to decorate them. After second service, we enjoyed a sandwich lunch provided by members of our CYF Committee (*thank you all!*). Then, we went to Tiki Putt for black-light mini golf. *Whew- what a day!*

Sunday School now involves a new element provided by Brandee and Scott: They will lead music at 9:15am every Sunday to open our Sunday School sessions. Sunday School then starts at 9:30am. Please come a few minutes early to sing, move, and praise God. Continue to check the Sunday School teacher sign-up in the narthex as there are a couple of open Sundays left. Special thanks goes to those who have already signed-up!

**October Birthdays**

3 Al Marsh  
 Kraig Fletcher  
 Jacque Williamson  
 4 Liz Blohm  
 5 Dale Van Horn  
 8 Darlene Kuehmichel  
 9 Dorothy Shouse  
 Harvey Steele  
 10 Evelyn DeHaven  
 14 Nancy Carpenter  
 17 Todd Sloan  
 Rod Hills  
 18 Ann Van Horn  
 20 Shirla Rapp  
 Ryan Lindstrom

22 Colleen Barnett  
 23 Christina Riehl  
 29 Nettie Ubrick  
 30 Debra Olson

**October Anniversaries**

1 Dick/Diane Bemrose, 51st  
 2 Steve/Debbie Olson, 44th  
 12 Brandee/Paul Leibrand, 2nd  
 27 Vanessa/Ryan Lindstrom,  
 14th  
 28 Mary/Mr. Starmont, 26th  
 29 Lee/Clara Shortt, 54th

*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; Dorothy Shouse's daughter Robin; Tiffany Herbert; Wynn & Jim Stafford; Jo Nelson's friend Greg; Ginny Barton's friend Golda; Marian Aleckson; Dick Burgess; Paulette Kelley's brother Randy; Carol Steele and her cousin Arlan Scott; Dwain Estes; Linda Babcock's grandson Josiah; Pr. Randy Shutt; Aiden Lindstrom; Galvin Irby; John Skuzeski; Roseann Foster-Mikhail's mother Rose; Jennifer Peck; Tyler Riehl; Randy Treanor; Jeff Deetz; Lucille Langseth; Sharon Lee's niece Terri; and Virginia and Roland Haacke.*

**Urgent:** *Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:* Bonnie Aplin; Rachel Coughlin's friend Pete and her friend's daughters Angela and Dawn; Dorothy Shouse; Mary Curtis' friend Vanessa; Becky Keiper's sister Barbara; Magnuson's relative Michael Benson; Lori Howell Bond; Cameron Herbert; Jan Cumming's neighbor, Chris; and Darlene Kuehmichel. Bill Herbert's friend Phil Boreen; Roseann Libonati's relatives Roger, Marylou, and Barbara; Leslie Scheltzke, her dad, Jesse, her daughter Alina, and her aunt Dorene; and Virginia McCormick's relative Marlene.

**Homebound Brothers and Sisters:**

Lucille Langseth, Marian Aleckson, Dick Burgess, Jenn Peck, Dorothy Shouse, Bev Sperling, Ida Olson, and Wynn Stafford. *(Refer to your directory or call the church office for contact info.)*

## OCTOBER 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  
 (503)256-1835  
 glchurch@aceweb.com  
 www.glcportland.org  
 Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 8a-3p

# OCTOBER 2015 — GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 7:45a-Bible Study @AdvCafe 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 6p-Handbell Practice 7p-Choir	2 <i>Office Closed</i>	3
4 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EducHr. 6-10p-Practice	5 7p-Band  <b>8-5-MEDIATION SKILLS TRAINING INSTITUTE in COMMUN.HALL</b> 	6 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-CYF Mtg. 7p-SwgBand	7 5:30p-Clutterers 6p-Work @ SnowCap	8 7:45a-BibleStudy @AdvMedCafe <b>9a-MutualMin.</b> NO Quilting NO Orchestra 6p-Handbell Practice 7p-Choir	9 <i>Office Closed</i> <b>Corn Maze/ Youth</b>	10          
11 8 & 10:30a-Worship/Pr. Jeff Olsgaard 9:30a-EducHr. 6-10p-Practice	12 10a-BusyBees 6:30p-Finance Meeting 7p-Band	13 8a-MensBkfst 9a-PreschoolBd 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-CYFMtg. 7p-SwgBand	14 5:30p-Clutterers	15 7:45a-BibleStudy @AdvMedCafe 10a-BibleStudy 1p-Orchestra 6p-Handbell Practice 7p-Choir	16 <i>Office Closed</i>	17
18 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EducHr. 6-10p-Practice	19 7p-Band	20 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand 6:30p-MPNAMtg <b>11a-Preschool Fundraiser/ Pampered Chef</b> <b>7p-CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	21 5:30p-Clutterers	22 7:45a-BibleStudy @AdvMedCafe 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 6p-Handbell Practice 7p-Choir	23 <i>Office Closed</i>	24
25 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-EducHr. <b>Healing Services after each service</b> 6-10p-Practice	26 7p-Band	27 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-MPNAMtg 7p-SwgBand	28 5:30p-Clutterers	29 7:45a-BibleStudy @AdvMedCafe 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysalis 6p-Handbell Practice <b>6p-Halloween Party</b> 7p-Choir	30 <i>Office Closed</i>	31 <i>Halloween</i>

As you may notice when entering the sanctuary, we are providing activity bags for kids to use during service. Most recently, children's Bibles and a bejeweled box has been added. Please grab one of the children's Bibles to use during service and help kids to interact with the Scripture for the day. The bejeweled box is for the "Prayer Books" in the activity bags. These prayer books have blank pages inside for kids to write or draw prayers for themselves, for someone they know, and for thanksgiving. If they want others to pray with them over their request, they are invited to return the books to the bejeweled box each Sunday.

**Calling all kids:** You are invited to help lead in worship on Sunday as an **acolyte, communion assistant, usher, greeter, reader,** or through **special music.** Contact Gloria or Jennilee to get signed up.

**Upcoming Dates**

**Friday, Oct 9, 7 p.m.** - Corn Maze at The Pumpkin Patch (Sauvie Island) - RSVP on Facebook.

**Saturday, Oct 17, 3 p.m.** - Liepold Farm (hay ride, corn maze, children's pavilion, and a pumpkin!)

**Thursday, Oct 29, 6 p.m.** - Halloween Party at GLC + Trunk-or-Treat with the Preschool. (Please note the Halloween party is on **Thursday** and combines with Preschool's Trunk-or-Treat.)

**COMMUNITY ACTION AND OUTREACH**

As the days wane, the nights become longer, and the trees begin to don their vibrant hues, a chill creeps into the air. Not the harsh blustery wind of winter, but just enough coolness to let us know that a new season is upon us. I am blessed that I can curl up with a blanket on the sofa or my favorite comfy chair and enjoy the comforts of home. I love the changing seasons, especially summer to fall.

For many, unfortunately, it is a frightening time. Homeless families do not know how they will shelter their children and families from the elements of the season, how they will keep them warm and dry and safe. It is a scary time for them. There is an epidemic of homelessness in the city of Portland. On any given night about 4,000 people sleep on the streets or in shelters in Multnomah County. Some estimate four times that number.

Reasons for homelessness are many. The loss of income due to illness, layoffs due to addiction, domestic and family abuse — all can bring an eviction notice. Recently residents are being evicted for no apparent reason by many apartment complexes in the SE area. Once you become homeless it is an uphill struggle to find housing. Lists for low-income housing are growing. The wait for affordable housing can be six months to two-plus years.

According to one article, "Portland has the eighth highest number of chronically homeless people and the third highest rate of unsheltered people." Why is this? There is not enough housing for the low-income and poor. "Low-end units aren't being built, and they also aren't being preserved. Country wide, advocates estimate a 20,000 unit shortage – the population of Milwaukie or Ashland."

We, at Gethsemane open our hearts, our pocketbooks, and our doors to bring shelter and sanctuary and safety to many homeless families through the Daybreak program. I would like to share with you a letter written to me by a mom/grandmother who recently stayed with us. For me and for many, it is hard to fathom what it is like and why it happens.

*"When dealing with "the homeless", please remember that each of us brings emotional and physical baggage that cannot be understood by those who have never been without a home. "Home" is much more than walls and a door. Home is a state of being, feeling. Those of us without this bring shame, fear, anger, desperation and hopelessness. On top of that many may be battling alcoholism, drug addiction, mental illness and the effects of prolong poverty. We develop unusual behaviors and beliefs designed to protect us and our families. We crave privacy and space we can claim as our own, even temporarily. We are finally free to be a family, sleep securely and pretend everything is okay for a little while. It hurts so bad to be without a home. Please try to understand or acknowledge the many layers of disruption to a family when "Home "is not there anymore."*

As this new season unfolds with the vibrant beauty of trees, changing from lush green to gold and scarlet and autumn's sweet breath chills the morning air, keep those without homes in your hearts and prayers. They are part of our family. Patty Olson

— GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH —			
<b>Income &amp; Expense Budget Report through JULY 2015</b>			
Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference
\$248,430	\$211,919	\$227,945	(\$16,025)
Average Weekly Attendance: 2014: 121 2015: 100			
Cathy Myers, Fin.Man.			

## DAYBREAK NEWS

We now have a refrigerator for Daybreak! What a blessing. Not only that but this fridge can also be used for other functions when Daybreak is not here. But remember food items for Daybreak will be stored in the freezer.

**I plan on painting the Daybreak host room the week of September 28.** Anyone interested in helping please let me know. I will need help moving furniture from the room after service on the 27.

**October 4 at 9:30 a.m.** we will have a Daybreak meeting for volunteers. If you want to know what Daybreak volunteers actually do, please come I will have someone from Daybreak at this meeting who can answer any questions. Patty Olson

### **Our Daybreak Guests will be here October 25th!**

Thank you to all of you for your kindness and support. I would like to thank Dale Van Horn for always being there to set up the rooms at the beginning and move furniture back when our guests leave. Thank you to Tom Lewis and Dale for always picking up the mattresses from the previous church. Thank you to Doug Glenn for picking up the guests every afternoon from the Day Center. Thank you to Ernie Butenschoen, Tom Lewis, Dave Qualheim and Burke Strobel, people I can count on to overnight host. (We need just a few more volunteers). Thank you to Clara Shortt, Roseann Libonati, Colleen Barnett, Kayda Carpenter, Dick Bemrose, Gloria Kelsay, Denise Johnson and Stewart Dedlow for always signing up as dinner hosts. I hope that at the meeting October 4 we get a few more volunteers to give these folks a rest! Thank you to Marion Burgess and Gloria for the Thrivent gift. Thank you to everyone who prepare delicious meals and provide staples and monetary gifts. Each of us has something to give: Wealth, talents, time. Share these gifts from God! Large or small what a blessing! Patty Olson

## OCTOBER PRESCHOOL EVENTS

The school year has begun and our preschoolers are busy learning colors and shapes, recognizing their written names, and getting used to going to school, and developing new friendships. Preschoolers are also learning how God made each of them special.

Our preschool program still has room for more kids, both 3 and 4 year-olds. Come into our preschool hallway on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday morning and you will see and hear lots of young children having a great time learning.

This year we hired a new music teacher. After several applicants and interviews, we hired Laurel Strobel. The kids love their Music and Movement time and having Laurel around is a breath of youth that they are all drawn to. After her first class I heard kids' telling their parent's how excited they were about their time in the M&M room. "She plays the piano," "we got to dance," "we learned a new song." It was obvious from their joy we made the right choice. Welcome, Laurel.

Some fun events to watch and/or help with are:

- ◆ **The Annual Trike a Thon** to support the Preschool Scholarship Fund and Talk About Trees is on Wednesday, Sept. 23. We let kids vote on who our outreach donations go to this year. Talk About Trees is a nonprofit with a representative that comes into our classrooms twice a year and gives age-appropriate lessons on trees and nature. Our preschoolers love them and we are happy to share our fundraising with a group our students see in action. Another difference: We'll sell pizza slices this year to increase our fundraising. Dinner starts at 6 and we start triking at 6:30. We love for people to come and cheer on the preschoolers. Everything will happen in the west parking lot. For this reason we do not allow parking in the west parking lot that evening.
- ◆ **The Preschool Halloween Party** is Thursday, October 29, Trunk-or-Treating with the CYFM again this year. **If you would like to set up your car for 30 preschool families and Gethsemane Youth families please do.** Trunk or treating will start about 7:00.

Thank you for continuing to support and pray for our preschool. We are off to another great start.

Enjoy the changes of autumn, Katie Strobel