

---

---

# ◆ THE OLIVE PRESS ◆

---

GETHEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2016

---

## COUNCIL

### **President:**

Dick Bemrose

### **Vice President:**

Jonathan Herbert

### **Sec/Treas:**

Bill Herbert

### **Properties:**

Scott Blohm

### **Lutheran Liaison:**

Roseann Libonati

### **Evangelism:**

Rachel Coughlin

### **CYFF Formation:**

Brandee Liebrand

### **Community**

### **Action:**

Patty Olson

### **Stewardship:**

Shar Giard

### **Fellowship:**

Lyle Johnson

### **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

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

- ◆ **March 2, 9, and 16– 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.
- ◆ **March 20 – Palm Sunday – 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** – A procession of palms and Holy Eucharist
- ◆ **March 24 – Maundy Thursday – 7:15 p.m.** – A service of absolution, footwashing and communion
- ◆ **March 25 – Good Friday – 7:15 p.m.** – A service of Light and Darkness
- ◆ **March 27 – Easter – 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** – A celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ
- ◆ **Every Sunday** – April 3 through May 8 – The Easter Season continues – 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**From Pr. Shelley. . . Easter is coming!** I can tell because crocuses and daffodils are blooming in my front yard. I can tell because on Wednesdays I have great homemade soups for both lunch and dinner. I can tell because some days are full of sunshine and temperatures above 60° and last Sunday it was the first light of dawn as I drove to church. I can tell because choir is working on really good music to sing during Holy Week and on Easter morning. I can tell because I've had two inquiries about baptisms for Easter Sunday. How can you tell Easter is coming?

As I write this, we are anticipating that Jude will have her first hip surgery on March 28, the Monday after Easter. In addition to praying that there is a cancellation so she can get an earlier surgery date (and therefore be out of pain sooner), she and I are working ahead on worship bulletin production so that we have that covered while she's out recuperating. Earlier today I was working on the Easter bulletin and I've selected a Eucharistic prayer which includes the line "*We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.*" Jesus' death and resurrection renews the face of the earth. This thought inspires my contemplative questions for this Easter Season; "Are you seeing the renewal that is taking place?" "How are you participating in it?" "In what ways is Jesus' death and resurrection renewing your life?"

**The Third Sunday of Easter, April 10, will be Consecration Sunday.** Throughout March you will receive forms for Time and Talent and Estimate of Giving, and hear Temple Talks about how Gethsemane Lutheran Church utilizes the resources you give for God's ministry and mission. Please prayerfully reflect how you will participate in that ministry and mission throughout 2016 and bring the completed forms to worship on April 10. (If you want more on this topic, the next blurb is taken from our Confirmation materials).

Also in the Easter season, Gethsemane's Call Committee will begin interviewing candidates. The confidentiality requirements during this part of the process means they can not talk about how their work is going. Please do not ask them. Pray for them and the Holy Spirit's guidance and then respect them enough to do the work entrusted to them. When they have found the right candidate for Gethsemane you will be informed. Thank you for your understanding.

As you journey through Lent, Holy Week and Easter may you feel Jesus walking with you.

Pastor Shelley

## From 2005 Confirmation materials – “How to Pass the Plate”

Passing the offering requires physical flexibility and an ability to adapt to differing practices. The offering is a practice that dates back to Old Testament times, linking money and personal finance directly to one’s identity as a child of God. Giving of one’s financial resources is an integral part of a healthy faith life.

1. *Pay close attention to instructions, if any.*

The presiding minister may announce the method of offering, or instructions may be printed in the worship bulletin or projected on the overhead screen.

2. *Be alert for the plate’s arrival at your row or pew.*

Keep an eye on the ushers, if there are any. In most congregations, guiding and safeguarding the offering plate is their job, so wherever they are, so is the plate. As the plate approaches you, set aside other activity and prepare for the passing.

3. *Avoid watching your neighbor or making judgments about their offering.*

Many people contribute one a month by mail and some by automatic withdrawal from a bank account. If your neighbor passes the plate to you without placing an envelope, check, or cash in it, do not assume they didn’t contribute.

4. *Place your offering in the plate as you pass it politely to the next person.*

Do not attempt to make change from the plate if your offering is in cash. Avoid letting the plate rest in your lap as you finish writing a check. Simply pass it on and hand your check to an usher as you leave at the end of worship.

5. *Be sensitive to idiosyncrasies in plate types.*

Some congregations use traditional, wide-rimmed, felt-lined, brass-plated offering plates. Some use baskets of varying types. Some use cloth bags hung at the ends of long wooden poles that the ushers extend inward from the ends of the pews.

## Be Aware

- Some congregations place the offering plate or basket at the rear of the worship space.
- Your church offering may be tax deductible, as provided by law. Consider making your offering by check or automatic withdrawal; you will receive a statement from your church in the first quarter of the next year.
- Churches often depend entirely upon the money that comes in through congregational offerings. If you are a member, resolve to work yourself toward tithing as a putting-your-money-where-your-mouth-is expression of faith. (The term *tithing* means “one-tenth” and refers to the practice of giving 10 percent of one’s gross income to support the church’s work.)
- Everyone, regardless of their age, has something to offer.
- Offerings are not fees or dues given out of obligation. They are gifts of thanksgiving returned to God from the heart.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016!

At our Annual Meeting, the congregation voted to have VBS this year, even though we may not have a new CYFM Coordinator yet. What this means is we will need a lot of help! VBS will be July 25-29 and the theme is Deep Sea Discovery. Brandee Leibrand has volunteered to be the VBS Coordinator this year, with the help of Carolyn Graf. We will need volunteers to help us in many areas, including: **Marketing/Advertising, Decorations, Registration, and Teaching/Leading.** If you know you’d like to volunteer to help in one (or all!) of these areas, or you have any questions, please email Brandee at [bplmbld@gmail.com](mailto:bplmbld@gmail.com). Stay tuned to the Olive Press and Gazette for more detailed opportunities! We look forward to using our communal skills to make this year’s VBS program a great success!

## NOTES:

- ◆ **Order Easter Lilies Now!** If you would like to order an Easter Lily to grace our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, order envelopes are available on the poster display near the Sanctuary doors. Just fill out the information, place cash or check in the envelope, seal it and place it in the offering plate or turn it in to the office. The cost is \$8 each. **Today is the last Sunday to order. All orders must be in to the church office no later than Wednesday, March 2.** Questions? Ask Gloria or Jay.
- ◆ **Help Us Celebrate and Say Goodbye to Jennilee Porch!** As most of you know, Jennilee will be graduating this spring and moving forward to new adventures! We have been honored to have her in our lives. Her last day will be on Easter Sunday, March 27th. At the 10:30 service that day we will do her official sending. The Children, Youth and Families Ministry Committee will be hosting a Goodbye Party for her on Sunday, March 6th after the 10:30 service. There will be cupcakes (gluten free, too!) and a baked potato bar! We will also have activities for the kids (and adults). There will be NO Sunday School that day. Instead, for those who are unable to attend the party, Jennilee will be available to visit and say farewell between services: we invite you to bring a treat to share! If you have any questions, please email Brandee Leibrand at [bplmbld@gmail.com](mailto:bplmbld@gmail.com). We hope you will join us on the 6th!
- ◆ **Like Us on FACEBOOK.**
- ◆ **At the Conclusion** of our worship service, we invite you to remain seated and enjoy the organ postlude played by our wonderful organist, Brooke Benfield. Should you choose to leave, out of respect for our organist and as a courtesy to others who wish to listen to the music undisturbed, we ask that you reserve your conversations for the narthex area outside the sanctuary doors.
- ◆ **Easter is Early** this year, but we will (of course) have our Easter Egg Hunt. Donations are needed of wrapped Easter candy or plastic eggs for the candy. Drop off in the church office.
- ◆ **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.** Contact Diane Liefeld to help.
- ◆ **The Call Committee** has completed the GLC Ministry Site Profile and, with the council's blessing, it has been submitted to the Synod. The Synod will review our Profile and match it up with Profiles of potential call candidates. Our next step is to develop our interview processes and get prepared for when we receive our list of candidates. Our hope is to have a list of potential candidates by the beginning of May.

## PRESCHOOL EVENTS

If you haven't heard by now the **Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction is coming up March 13.** We will meet right after our second service in the Community Hall. The hospitality committee will prepare and serve a spaghetti dinner. Any freewill offerings will be part of the proceeds of this, our biggest fundraiser of the year. We need baskets to bid on in our silent auction and gift cards to win in our raffle. All proceeds from the day will go to the preschool.

If you would like to donate a talent, skill, time at a vacation home, or a basket for this event, please let Katie Strobel know. We are asking for donations to be turned in by **Sunday, March 6.** Having them the week before gives me time to get them ready for the auction.

March will be a busy month at preschool. We will talk about God's world in the springtime and make some wonderful crafts to go along with this theme. We will also talk about the season of Lent as it leads up to Palm Sunday and Easter. Godly Play during chapel teaches the children about how much Jesus loves them.

Thursday, March 10 is our Fifth Annual Construction Night at preschool. We will invite dads, grandpas, uncles and friends to come with their preschoolers for a night of cardboard box and duct tape building; a fun night for everyone.

— GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH —			
<b>Income &amp; Expense Budget Report through January 2016</b>			
Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference
\$30,659	\$28,248	\$28,106	\$141.71
Average Weekly Attendance: 2016: 101 2015: 124 Cathey Myers, Fin.Man.			

<p><b><u>MARCH Birthdays</u></b>  5 Alec Eason  Josephine Crouse  Jacqueline Hills  7 John Skuzeski  Spencer Letmate  9 Joan Ward  10 RJ Treanor  15 James Liefeld  19 Henry Juilfs  21 Randi Bateman  Parker Letmate  22 Robert Magnuson</p>	<p>23 Tyler Riehl  27 Ken Hansen  Richard Burgess  29 Carter Pooole  30 Roseann Libonati</p> <p><b><u>MARCH Anniversaries</u></b>  24 Steve and Christina Riehl (9th)  24 Gavin and Raechel Hills (4th)</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: Roseann Libonati’s relative, Dawn; Darlene Kuehmichel; Bonnie Aplin; Becky Keiper’s sister Barbara; Virginia McCormick’s relatives Ivan and Marlene; Lori Howell Bond; Ida Olson; Joe Rapp; Dorothy Shouse’s daughter Robin; Wynn &amp; Jim Stafford; Jo Nelson’s friend Greg; Ginny Barton’s friend Golda; Marian Aleckson; Dick Burgess; Carol Steele and her cousin Arlan Scott; Dwain Estes; Linda Babcock’s grandson Josiah; Aiden Lindstrom; Galven Irby; John Skuzeski; Roseann Foster-Mikhail’s mother Rose; Jennifer Peck; Tyler Riehl; Randy Treanor; Lucille Langseth; Sharon Lee’s niece Terri; Dorothy Shouse; Betty Walklate’s husband Lionel, and daughter Valerie Walklate-Yasui; Bill Herbert’s friend Phil Boreen; Virginia and Roland Haacke.</i></p> <p><b>Urgent:</b> <i>Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:</i> Rachel Coughlin’s friend Pete and her friend’s daughters Angela and Dawn; Mary Curtis’ friend Vanessa; Sharon Lee’s friend Nancy Hoffman; Karen Reagan’s cousin Sherry; Brandee Leibrand’s uncle Ray; Colleen Barnett’s friend Laree; Darlene Kuehmichel’s friend, Debbie; Jo Nelson’s great-grandson Zachary, nieces Carlotta, Cathy, and Betsy, and sister Alice; Liz Blohm’s niece Claudette; Roy Roberson III; JoAnn Larson’s mother Mel; Wynn Stafford, Martha McMinn; Penny Thoreen’s daughter, April; Kay Qualheim’s nieces Sherry and Sue.</p> <p><i>Those who are grieving:</i> The family and friends of Eugene Keiper, Becky’s brother-in-law, and the family and friends of Bev Sperling.</p>
<p><b><u>Homebound Brothers and Sisters:</u></b>  Lucille Langseth, Marian Aleckson, Dick Burgess, Jenn Peck, Dorothy Shouse, Ida Olson, and Wynn Stafford. <i>(Refer to your directory or call the church office for contact info.)</i></p>		

**MARCH 2016  
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

# MARCH 2016 — GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 8a-Men's Brkfst 10a-Bible Study 6:30p-CYFMtg. 7p-Swing Band	2 12:30-TaiChi <b>LENTEN SERVICES</b> <b>Noon and 7:15p-Worship</b> 5:30p-Clutterers 6p-SnowCap? 8p-Choir	3 7:30a-BibleClass 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysalis	4 <i>Office Closed</i>	5
6 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHr. <b>Noon-Farewell Lunch for Jennilee Porch</b> 5:30p-Confirmatio	7 12:30-TaiChi 7p-Band	8 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 9a-PreschoolBd. 7p-SwgBand	9 12:30-TaiChi <b>LENTEN SERVICES</b> <b>Noon and 7:15p-Worship</b> 5:30p-Clutterers 8p-Choir	10 7:30a-BibleClass 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis	11 <i>Office Closed</i>	12
13 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> <b>NOON-Preschool Spaghetti Dinner</b> 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHour	14 12:30-TaiChi 6:30p- FinanceMtg. <b>6p-Call Committee</b> 7p-Band	15 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand <b>7p-Church Council</b>	16 12:30-TaiChi <b>LENTEN SERVICES</b> <b>Noon and 7:15p-Worship</b> 5:30p-Clutterers 8p-Choir	17 7:30a-BibleClass 10a-Women's BibleStudy 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbells	18 <i>Office Closed</i>	19
20 <b>HOLY WEEK PALM SUNDAY</b> 8 & 10:30a- Worship/ 9:30a-EducHr. 5:30p- Confirmation	21 7p-Band  <b>FILM CAMP HERE ALL WEEK</b> 	22 8a-MensBkft 10a-Bible Study 7p-SwgBand 6p-Mill Park Neighborhood Assoc.	23 5:30p-Clutterers	24 7:30a-BibleClass 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 6p-Handbells  <b>7:15p-MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE</b> 	25 <i>Office Closed</i> <b>7:15p-GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE</b>	26 <i>NO Easter Vigil</i>
27 <b>EASTER</b> 8 & 10:30a- Worship <b>9a-Easter Breakfast — Easter Egg Hunt</b> <i>Healing Services after each service</i>	28 12:30-TaiChi <b>6p-Call Committee</b> 7p-Band	29 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand	30 12:30-TaiChi 5:30p-Clutterers	31 7:30a-BibleClass 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbells 7p-Choir		