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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2015

◆ 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

Interim Pastor:

Pr. Shelley Willem

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

Updates from Last Month

◆ **Call Committee Had Its First Meeting** Members of the Call Committee are Laura Britzius, Rachel Coughlin, Philip Dochow, Jonathan Herbert, Jay Rector, Melissa Solberg, and Annie Strobel, with alternates Dave Qualheim and Clara Shortt. Gethsemane is blessed with this group of folks. There are two major tasks they are responsible for: 1) Collecting data and writing the Ministry Site Profile that will be submitted to the Synod Office that describes Gethsemane and what it is looking for in its next pastor; and 2) reviewing Rostered Leader Profiles and interviewing potential pastors to recommend to council and congregation as candidates. Both tasks take time and thoughtfulness and probably compromise. There will be times they solicit your input and times when they won't be able to tell you what is going on because of confidentiality. Your prayers and patience throughout this process are much appreciated and necessary for the completion of their tasks.

◆ **Pastoral Care Team Is Formed!** On Reformation Sunday we recognized Colleen Barnett, Dick Bemrose, Carol Law, and Roseann Libonati for their willingness to serve with me on the Pastoral Care Team. Their kind and generous hearts and Stephens Ministry training are a gift to this ministry which is tasked with visiting and taking communion to Gethsemane folks who are not able attend worship, and to also provide support to those in crisis. Our initial list has 19 households on it. If you'd like your name on the list, please contact me.

◆ **New Computers are Coming** On October 20, Council approved the purchase of new computer hardware and software for the office. It is our hope to have the major transition complete before Thanksgiving. Again, prayers and patience are appreciated and necessary.

New Since Last Month

◆ **Lord's Prayer in worship** Someone asked me why we only use the 'new' Lord's Prayer in worship and could we please sometimes use the 'old' one. After a conversation at Worship and Music the answer is *pray the version that is closest to your heart*. If you want to pray the King James or some other version, even if it is different from the one your neighbor is praying or is written in the bulletin, feel free. God will hear our prayers even if it is not in unison.

◆ **Ask me about Via de Cristo** The October Sunday I was gone I was working a Via de Cristo weekend. Via de Cristo is the Lutheran expression of the Cursillo movement. If you're curious about this, ask me.

◆ **Pray for Daniel Wong, Our Confirmand** Daniel will be doing confirmation one-on-one with me this year with the goal of Affirming his Baptism on Pentecost, May 15, 2016. Thank you for your prayers and all the ways you will support him in his journey this year.

Looking to Next Month...

◆ **Advent Begins November 29!!!!** Given that the First Sunday of Advent is also a 5th Sunday Mingle, CYFM is encouraging everyone to stay/come for the time between services and bring your favorite holiday treat to share. I don't make Lefse but I sure hope some of you do and will bring it that day! There will also be a craft opportunity to make an ornament for the Jesse Tree we will be using during Wednesday worship and Sunday children sermons through Advent. If you are unfamiliar with this devotional practice there is more info. here: <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=545>.

THE STORY OF THE JESSE TREE

Jesse was the father of the great King David of the Old Testament. He is often looked upon as the first person in the genealogy of Jesus.

In Church art a design developed showing the relationship of Jesus with Jesse and other biblical personages. This design showed a branched tree growing from a reclining figure of Jesse. The various branches had pictures of other Old and New Testament figures who were ancestors of Jesus. At the top of the tree were figures of Mary and Jesus. This design was used mostly in stained glass windows in some of the great medieval cathedrals of Europe.

The Cathedral of Chartres (which was dedicated in 1260) has a particularly beautiful Jesse Tree window.

Another development in religious art during the Middle Ages was that of Mystery Plays—drama that depicted various Bible stories or lives of Saints and Martyrs. These plays were performed in churches as part of the liturgical celebrations. One such play was based on the Bible account of the fall of Adam and Eve. The "Tree of Life" used during the play was decorated with apples. (Quite possibly this is also the forerunner of our own Christmas tree.)

Combining the two ideas of the stained glass Jesse Tree window and the Tree of Life from the Mystery Play we come up with our Jesse Tree Advent project. This custom has been used for years to help Christians to prepare for Christmas.

As I ponder what I am thankful for on Turkey Day, I will most assuredly include the warm and friendly reception I have had here. Thank you for your reception of me as your pastor during this time of transition.

Blessings, Pastor Shelley

NOTES:

- ◆ **Like Us on FACEBOOK.**
- ◆ **Begin Your Christmas Season** by hearing the Dicken's Carolers at a concert they plan to have on Sunday, November 29, at 2 p.m. It is their way of saying "thank you" for the use of Gethsemane for their practices; a concert which is always eagerly anticipated.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **On December 6 and 13,** some Christmas items will be offered for sale in the Narthex Hallway, with all proceeds to benefit the youth program.
- ◆ **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
- ◆ **Worship Assistant "Thank You" Reception** Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 8,** and plan to attend our annual Worship Assistant "Thank You" Reception after each service. We will serve brunch goodies, and Worship Committee members will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about serving. Everyone is welcome to eat and consider serving in this easy and rewarding way.

NOVEMBER PRESCHOOL EVENTS

At our Trike-a-thon on September 23 we raised \$318 each for Talk About Trees and the preschool scholarship fund. It was a fun night with many people cheering on the riders and watching our children have a wonderful time. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped: Dick and Diane Bemrose, Liz, Scott and Kevin Blohm, Kim Stoffregen, Burke and Annie Strobel, and Pastor Shelly.

We are two months into our preschool year and classes are going well. We have room for ten more kids because we're below our target number. Please pray that families find their way to our program. Our PreK Mondays are continuing and are a wonderful addition to the program. An extra day of school is a bonus for the families and the children. Each class is busy learning Bible lessons from the Old Testament and fall songs, having fun with science lessons, and working on skills like cutting, following directions and math, as well as learning to recognize and

write his/her name. Our 4 year old class (the seniors) is learning a letter and its corresponding sound each week. Two and a half hours each morning goes by too quickly to get in everything we would like to accomplish.

Our field trip to the pumpkin patch and the Halloween party at the end of October will be fun events for the preschool. We will join the church for Trunk-or-Treating after our own Halloween party. About 30 families plan to participate. Trunk-or-treating begins at about 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 29.

Please mark your calendars for the annual Preschool Spaghetti Fundraiser on Sunday, Feb. 21, following the second worship service. We will again have our silent auction for themed baskets.

Katie Strobel, Preschool Director

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Looking back at October, we had a number of events and ministries. Four of us went to the corn maze on Sauvie Island. They seem to make their maze better every year. The next week, 12 kids and adults at Liepold Farm went running through the corn maze, rode the hay ride, launched apples, and enjoyed other fun fall activities. The teen ministry officially started, based on the *Story of Stuff* curriculum. Here teens learn about the whole life cycle of their stuff, how it impacts God's creation and other people, and how our faith interacts with this important issue. (Watch the free 20 minute film here, so you too can be informed: <http://storyofstuff.org/movies/story-of-stuff/>)

Thanks to Pr. Shelley, we have connected with the Oregon Trail Cluster of ELCA churches and will join their monthly combined youth event. This means that every third Sunday from 5-7p, one of the churches in the cluster hosts an activity and Bible lesson for middle schoolers and high schoolers. The next cluster event will be November 15.

This year, CYFM is hosting a Christmas Pageant on December 13 during the 10:30 a.m. service. We have lots of characters kids can play, many of whom have only two or three lines to say in the play. Check the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. We will schedule rehearsals soon.

Jennilee Porch, CYFM Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUN, NOV 1ST

Teen Ministry, 12:30p

FRI-SUN, NOV 6-8TH

OLYO High School Retreat

SUN, NOV 15TH

MS/HS Youth Cluster Event, 5-7pm

TUES, NOV 17TH

Teen Ministry, 6:00pm

SUN, NOV 29TH

Advent Event, 9:15am

TUES, DEC 8TH

Teen Ministry, 6:00pm

SUN, DEC 13TH

Children's Pageant, 10:30am

SUN, DEC 20TH

Happy Birthday Jesus Party, 9:15am

TUES, DEC 24TH

Kid-Friendly Christmas Eve Service, 4:00pm

— GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH —			
<u>Income & Expense Budget Report through JULY 2015</u>			
Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference
\$279,483	\$235,249	\$250,086	(\$14,806)
Average Weekly Attendance: 2014: 120 2015: 124			
Cathey Myers, Fin.Man.			

November Birthdays

3 Owen Solberg (5th!)
 4 Karla Hills
 Ryan Gilsoul
 15 Wayne Rippon
 16 Collette Gill
 19 Shirley Treanor
 21 Lucille Langseth
 22 Jack Lumber
 23 Katrina Myers
 25 Lee Shortt

November Anniversaries

9 Don/Shar Giard (36th)
 12 Robert/Sharon Lee
 (27th)
 19 Erika/Kelly
 Rasmussen (10th)
 20 Bob/Audrey
 Magnuson (55th)
 27 Lyle/Denise Johnson
 (34th)

**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.)

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: Roseann Libonati's relatives Dawn, Roger, Marylou, and Barbara; Darlene Kuehmichel; Bonnie Aplin; Becky Keiper's sister Barbara; Virginia McCormick's relative Marlene; Lori Howell Bond; 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; 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: Rachel Coughlin's relative Bill, friend Pete and her friend's daughters Angela and Dawn; Dorothy Shouse; Mary Curtis' friend Vanessa; Magnuson's relative Michael Benson; Bill Herbert's friend Phil Boreen; Lesley Scheltzke, her dad, Jesse, her daughter Alina, and her aunt Dorene; Sharon Lee's friend Nancy Hoffman; Karen Reagan's nephew Terry and cousin Sherry; Brandee Leibrand's uncle Ray; and Ken and Marilee Hansen's daughter, Beth.

Those who are grieving: The family and friends of Patty Olson's co-worker Tony; Jill Hansen Miller's fiance, Rob Kope.

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

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

NOVEMBER 2015 — GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHr. 12:30p-Teen Ministry 6-10p-Practice</p> <p>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS</p>	<p>2 7p-Band 6p-Call Committee</p>	<p>3 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-CYF Mtg. 7p-SwgBand</p>	<p>4 5:30p-Clutterers 2p-PastoralCare Team 6p-Work @ SnowCap</p>	<p>5 7:45a-BibleStudy @AdvMedCafe 9:30a-Quilting Noon-StaffMtg. 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbell Practice 7p-Choir</p>	<p>6 <i>Office Closed</i></p> <p>OLYO HIGH SCHOOL ← → RETREAT, Nov 6-8</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHr. 6-10p-Practice 9 & 11:30a- Worship Asst. Thank You</p>	<p>9 10a-BusyBees 6:30p-Finance Meeting 7p-Band</p>	<p>10 8a-MensBkfst 9a-PreschoolBd 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand</p>	<p>11 5:30p-Clutterers Veteran's Day Office Closed</p>	<p>12 7:45a-BibleStudy @AdvMedCafe 9a-MutualMin. 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbell Practice 7p-Choir</p>	<p>13 <i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>14 <i>Tiffany Herbert in Community Hall</i></p>
<p>15 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHr. 6-10p-Practice 5-7p-Cluster Youth Event</p>	<p>16 7p-Band</p>	<p>17 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand 6:30p-MPNAMtg 6p-Teen Ministry 7p-CHURCH COUNCIL</p>	<p>18 5:30p-Clutterers</p>	<p>19 7:45a-BibleStudy @AdvMedCafe 10a-Women's Bible Study 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbell Practice 7p-Choir</p>	<p>20 <i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHr. 6-10p-Practice</p>	<p>23 7p-Band</p>	<p>24 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-MPNAMtg 7p-SwgBand</p>	<p>25 5:30p-Clutterers 7:15p- Thanksgiving Eve Service</p>	<p>26 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed <i>Butenschoens in Community Hall</i></p>	<p>27 <i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-CYFM AdventEvent <i>Healing Services after each service</i> 2p-Dicken's Caroler's Concert</p>	<p>30 7p-Band</p>	<p>Dec 1 8a-MensBkft 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand 6:30p-CYFMtg.</p>	<p>Dec 2 Advent Services Begin — Noon and 7:15p</p>			