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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 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:

Brandee Leibrand

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

The Third Sunday of Easter, April 10, will be Consecration Sunday. Please prayerfully reflect upon how you will participate in that ministry and mission throughout 2016 and bring the completed forms to worship on April 10.

Also in the Easter season, Gethsemane's Call Committee will begin interviewing candidates. The confidentiality requirements during this part of the process means they cannot 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 walk with the resurrected in this Easter season, may you see signs of new life all around.

Pastor Shelley

YOUTH & VBS NEWS

Sunday School Update: Thank you to everyone who has taught or will teach Sunday School this year! We only have one opening left! We are in need of a Sunday School Teacher for Sunday, May 15. The materials are already available and are very straightforward. Please sign up at the Youth Table in the Narthex: the lesson plan is in a basket on that table. Please contact Brandee Leibrand with any questions at glcyouth@aceweb.com.



TALENT SHOW
CLUSTER YOUTH CELEBRATION

SINGERS | MUSICIANS | COMEDIANS | DANCERS | MAGICIANS | SKIT ACTORS
...ANY TALENT YOU WANT TO SHARE!
(All acts must be approved by your youth leader.)

WHEN: Sunday, May 15th from 5:00-7:00pm
WHERE: Gethsemane Lutheran Church
11560 SE Market St., Portland OR 97213
Meet in the Community Hall

FOOD: Pizza!!
COST: \$2-\$5/person donation to cover cost of food
RSVP: Please send name & number of acts and number of attendees by May 1st. Acts need to sign up ASAP to guarantee an available spot.
CONTACT: Pastor Shelley - glcpastor@aceweb.com

VBS: The sun is shining, the birds are singing and the flowers are blooming! That means Vacation Bible School is almost here. Mark your calendars for the week of July 25-29 and get ready for a fun-filled week on a Deep Sea Discovery! We are looking for volunteers to guide our children on their journey. We already have some volunteers, so act fast to secure your favorite spot! We are looking for the following: Games Station Leader and Assistant, Class Guides for all ages, Kitchen Helpers, Registration Assistants, a Photographer, Skit Actors and a couple of Floaters to help where needed. We will also

need Helpers for the Friday BBQ: food, set-up/tear-down, and games. Please contact Brandee Leibrand with any questions and to reserve your spot! glcyouth@aceweb.com.

COMMUNITY ACTION AND OUTREACH

The last few months have been busy to say the least! As we say adieu to the winter season let us rejoice and celebrate the life of Jesus and his teachings and love through our giving hands of hope, love and compassion.

East County Family Center:

Human Solutions has purchased property at 158 and SE Stark for the East County Family Center, (formerly the Winter Shelter). As of February 1 the center has been opened 24/7. Homeless families and pregnant women in their third trimester will no longer have to sleep outside, in a car

or abandoned building, or in any other dangerous situation. This building will house homeless families year round. The Daybreak Day Center will also be moving there. The center's goal is to ensure that families without housing have a safe place to stay and, at the same time, have access to resources to find housing. Last year (2014-spring of 2015) the Family Winter Shelter housed 281 families (960 people), including more than 500 children. An average of 96 guests stayed each night; at times it reached 134 guests. It was the first season that Gethsemane participated in the program as the second overflow shelter.

During October 2015 Gethsemane stepped up to offer overflow shelter, but this time we were the only overflow shelter available to the ECFC. Our community hall was used almost every night for several months through the end of January. Gethsemane is now back as the second overflow and back up. Since the center opened, Gethsemane has not been needed.

Charles Hodge, Emergency Homeless Manager, Human Solutions says: *"The new Family Center opened in early February and has seen record numbers of people seeking safe shelter. One night in February saw 176 individuals, surpassing last season's historic record number of 134 people. Even with increased capacity we are overflowing most nights. Moving a fully operational shelter into a new facility was challenging but was accomplished without significant difficulty. The kinks are being worked through in the new building and as we learn to operate in the space and continue to bring more systems online working with the larger numbers is getting easier.*

"Aside from the higher numbers overall, the biggest challenge has been the significant numbers of newly homeless families. As the rental markets remain tight and market factors are driving prices up, we are seeing a significant increase in block 'no-cause' evictions. These families require additional assistance as they learn how to navigate the system for the first time in addition to assuring they have a safe place to stay, their kids are able to continue in school and they secure the assistance they are eligible for.

"In order to better serve our guests we are looking to lease an office trailer to be placed in the back parking lot of the new facility. This will serve as home base for our mobile housing team as well as a private meeting area for our guests to meet with community partners, as well as offering on-site A&D, budgeting, Rent Well, parenting and other classes."

Gethsemane will continue to be used as a second overflow as needed through the year and we will revisit our role as second overflow in the fall when our MOU is up for renewal.

Coat and Blanket Drive for the East County Family Center

Without much notice I was informed that many of the children and moms and dads staying at the shelter were in need of blankets and coats, especially for the children. We coordinated this fundraiser with the GLC choir members. **Through the loving kindness of our congregation we were able to donate 136 coats and 81 blankets!** We were given a very large donation through publication of this fundraiser on Facebook. While I expected some donations I was not prepared for such a sizeable donation. We were truly blessed and I found a wonderful way to reach out into the community through social media. Not only does it help us with our events and fundraisers, but it gives the community a snapshot of what Gethsemane is all about! Thank you everyone for your wonderful donations of coats. **Your generosity and compassion is truly appreciated!** Patty Olson

Daybreak News

Daybreak guests here the week of Christmas and it was wonderful. Not only were we able to give the families' privacy, shelter and a sense of safety and security, we shared delicious meals for which they were truly grateful and shared the joy of Christmas with them. Thank you to Karen Reagan, Dick and Diane Bemrose, Melissa and Russ Solberg and family and the Wong Family for the Christmas presents, gift cards and cash donations for the guests. The families were absolutely speechless! And my thanks to all of you who volunteered their time as dinner hosts, overnight hosts and meal providers. You make Daybreak a success and bring light and caring to those in need.

Next Date for Daybreak is the week of April 10th. Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex this Sunday. I will not be able to do as much volunteering as I have in the past for this week of Daybreak as I have my mom staying with me. I hope that others will be able to help out on some of those overnight host slots.

The Daybreak Spring Concert will be held Sunday, April 17. Please keep that date open. Thank you to Cameron Herbert for making this possible!

Rummage Sale 2016: Our committee has agreed that the benevolence portion of the receipts of this year's rummage sale, half of the total receipts, will be given as follows: Option 1: 50% to Daybreak Shelter, 25% to Habitat for Humanity Portland Chapter and 25% to Wells for Africa. Option 2: 50% to Habitat for Humanity Portland Chapter, 25% to Wells for Africa and 25% to Lutheran Immigration Services. Because the Epiphany Daybreak Concert Fundraiser was canceled we wanted to give some funds to Daybreak. Our committee decided that if there is not a Daybreak Concert/Fundraiser this spring, then Option 1 will come into play. If we do have the fundraiser, we will go with Option 2.

Adorned in Grace hosted **Dress for Freedom** at Gethsemane on Saturday April 2. It went well.

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths that we take but by the number of moments that take our breath away."

We are very blessed at Gethsemane to have so many people that give of their time and talents. We are a loving and gracious congregation that reaches out to those in time of need, but more importantly reaches out on a consistent basis without a blink of an eye, no second thoughts.

Through our tithing we support many organizations within the community as well as outside the community with monetary donations. These include Emergency Relief Fund, Good Spirit, Snow Cap, Meals on Wheels, Daybreak, Camp Lutherwood, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Community Services, Lutheran World Relief, World Hunger, Habitat for Humanity, Adorned in Grace and House of Zion.

But wait, it doesn't end there. We have members who are able to give of their time and volunteer at Snow Cap, Habitat, Camp Lutherwood, Meals on Wheels, Lutheran World Relief, Daybreak and Shepherds Door just to name a few whether it is to bandage a knee or sing songs at Camp Lutherwood, bring a smile and warm meal to seniors, building affordable housing through Habitat, provide shelter and compassion to homeless families through Daybreak, sew lovely quilts, help mend lives of young girls through Adorned in Grace or smiling and enjoying one another's company while sorting food at Snow Cap: **It is what we do.** But more importantly, it is God that has given us these opportunities, these talents to reach out with our hands to show his love and grace.

Sometimes I look around me and I see all these faces, these beautiful faces. All of us come from different backgrounds and different life experiences and yet you all have one thing in common, a willingness to give of your time to help others. You may never know the profound effect that you may have made on a person's life. A kind word, a gentle touch or a listening ear can mean so much.

I am humbled by your compassion and the spirit within you. It is all of you who give of your time, your warmth, your humor and caring that makes this possible. It is all of you who take my breath away.

Blessings and Peace,
Patty Olson

NOTES:

- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **Living Stones of the Holy Land:** A 15-day tour hosted by Pr. Curtis Zieske of Trinity Lutheran in Gresham is planned for November 1-15, 2016. For more information call 503.665.3197 or email tlpastor@msn.com.

- ◆ **SnowCap Thanks Gethsemane** for its monetary donations which continue to allow SnowCap to pay the electric bills and put gas in the mobile pantry, among other things. SnowCap greatly appreciates the valuable and continuing support of Gethsemane.
- ◆ **Meals on Wheels** serves and delivers 5,000 meals each day to seniors citywide. Gethsemane's donation of \$300 helps in this endeavor, and they are grateful for our continued support.
- ◆ **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** met with Pastor Susan Kintner from the SYNOD on April 4 and we were blessed with five candidate profiles. Our task now is to review, pray, discuss, and set up interviews with the candidates over the next few weeks. Please keep us in mindful prayer as we continue our work with the Holy Spirit to learn more about each candidate and how they might fit into our mission here at GLC.

PRESCHOOL EVENTS

In March we had Dad and Me Construction Night at preschool where preschoolers come with their dad, or other adult, and build with cardboard boxes and duct tape. It is amazing what families build together. We saw space ships, robots, castles and cars. We have also been using the Godly Play curriculum for our Lenten chapels, a wonderful way for children to learn about the Easter story. In the classroom we learned about God's creatures, big and small: Dinosaurs, snakes, lions, and lambs were our themes this month.

If you haven't heard by now, the Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction was a huge success on February 13. We made over \$4000 for operating expenses for the preschool. Thank you again to everyone who donated items for the auction and raffle. Also thanks to those who donated their time and labor for the success of this event. We could not have done this without you. What a blessing the community of Gethsemane Lutheran is to the preschool. We were thrilled to have the turnout that we did and are grateful that so many preschool families were able to come and meet some of our church families.

Spring break was March 21-25 for the preschool. Then we will begin getting ready for the changes of spring. Please remember registration is open for the 2016-2017 school year. If you know a 3 or 4 year old please consider our program for their preschool years. We are available for tours if you would like to come and visit us on a school day. Call Katie at the preschool for any questions you might have.

We also are having a preschool summer program for four weeks this summer. Please call Katie if you are interested in your child attending (503.256.1835) Katie Strobel

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Income and Expense Budget Report through February 2016			
Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference
\$61,318	\$52,609	\$53,540	\$931.57
Cathey Myers, Financial Manager		Attendance 2015: 123	2016: 113

April Birthdays

- 2 Amy Deetz
- 4 Diane Bemrose
- 5 Wynn Stafford
- 11 Carl Perkins
- 12 Jan Brown
- 14 Andrew Morency
- 19 David Qualheim
Kyle Qualheim
- 21 Rachel Coughlin
- 23 Sonia Blohm
Aiden Lindstrom
- 25 Roland Haacke
- 27 Kay Qualheim
- 28 Matthew Burk
- 30 Doug Glenn
Cameron Herbert

*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 relative, Dawn; Darlene Kuehmichel; Becky Keiper’s sister Barbara; Virginia McCormick’s relatives Ivan and Marlene; Lori Howell Bond; Ida Olson; Dorothy Shouse’s daughter Robin; 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; Brandee Leibrand’s uncle Ray; and Virginia and Roland Haacke.*

Urgent: *Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:* Rachel Coughlin’s friends Cathy and Edith and her friend’s daughters Angela and Dawn; Mary Curtis’ friend Vanessa; Sharon Lee’s friend Nancy Hoffman; Karen Reagan’s cousin Sherry; Colleen Barnett’s friends Ryan and Laree; Darlene Kuehmichel’s friend, Debbie; Jo Nelson’s great-grandson Zachary, nieces 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; Ginger Heater; Joyce Woods; Brandee Leibrand’s friend’s baby Ella, Karen Arendt and her son’s mother-in-law Judy; and the families and friends of Carlotta; the family and friends of Nick Dewall.

Homebound Brothers and Sisters:

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

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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
 11560 SE Market, Portland, OR 97216
 (503)256-1835
 glchurch@aceweb.com
 www.glcportland.org
 Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 8a-3p

APRIL 2016 — GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Dress for Freedom</i>	2
3 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHr.	4 1:30-TaiChi 6p- CallCommittee 7p-Band	5 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 6:30p-CYFMtg. 7p-SwgBand	6 1:30-TaiChi 2p-PastoralCare 5:30p-Clutterers 6p-SnowCap	7 7:30a-BibleClass 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbells 7p-Choir	8 <i>Office Closed</i>	9 Bev Sperling's Service
10 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EducHour Stewardship Sunday DAYBREAK here this week	11 1:30-TaiChi 6:30p- FinanceMtg. 7p-NOBand	12 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 9a-PreschoolBd 7p-NOSwgBand	13 1:30-TaiChi 5:30p-Clutterers	14 7:30a-BibleClass 9a-Quilting 10a-InterimMtg. 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbells 7p-Choir	15 <i>Office Closed</i>	16
17 8 & 10:30a- Worship/ 9:30a-EducHr. 3p- DaybreakConcert 5:30p- Confirmation	18 1:30-TaiChi 7p-Band 6p- <i>CallCommittee</i>	19 8a-MensBkfst 10a-Bible Study 7p-SwgBand 7p-Church Council	20 1:30-TaiChi 5:30p-Clutterers	21 7:30a-BibleClass 10a-Women's BibleStudy 10a-Mutual Ministry 1p-Orchestra 6p-Handbells	22 <i>Office Closed</i>	23
24 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-Educ.Hr. <i>Healing Services</i> <i>after each service</i>	25 1:30-TaiChi 7p-Band 6p-Mill Park Neighborhood Assoc.	26 8a-MensBkfst 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwgBand	27 1:30-TaiChi 5:30p-Clutterers	28 7:30a-BibleClass 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 1:30p-Chrysallis 6p-Handbells 7p-Choir	29 <i>Office Closed</i> Synod Assembly in Eugene at Valley River Ctr.	30