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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2018

COUNCIL

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Stewardship:

Tonia Lindquist

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Worship: Mary

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Pastor:

Suellen Bahleda

Preschool Dir.:

Katie Strobel

Children, Youth,

Families:

Jasmine Anderson

Finance Mgr.:

Cathy Myers

Parish Admin.:

Judith Rykken

Choir Director:

Cameron Herbert

Organist:

Brooke Benfield

From the Pastor

For some reason, poetry and prayer come together most often for me during Lent. I hope this speaks to you as much as it speaks to me. It is written by Jack Reimer for the Jewish season of self-examination and repentance, which normally occurs in the fall. Hear the rhythm of the seasons, and the call to turn and return to God across all times and peoples.

Now Is The Time for Turning by Jack Reimer

To everything there is a season,
and there is an appointed time for every purpose
under heaven.

Now is the time for turning.

The seasons change
as does the balance of day and night.

*The birds are beginning to turn
and are once more heading toward the south.*

The animals are beginning to turn
to storing their food for the winter.

*For the earth, the birds and animals,
turning comes naturally,*

but for us, turning does not come so easily.

It takes an act of will
for us to make a turn.

It means breaking with old habits.

*It means admitting that we have been wrong;
and this is never easy.*

It means losing face;
it means starting all over again;
and this is always painful.

It means saying, "I am sorry."

*It means admitting that we have the ability to change;
and this is always embarrassing.*

These things are terribly hard to do.
But unless we turn, we will be trapped forever
in yesterday's ways.

Dear God, help us to turn—

*From callousness to sensitivity,
From hostility to love,
from pettiness to purpose,
from envy to contentment,*

from carelessness to discipline,
from fear to faith.
Turn us around, O God, and bring us back toward You.
Revive our lives, as at the beginning.
And turn us toward each other, God.
For in isolation there is no life.

Notes from the Pastor

- * **Gown Up Vacation Bible School Saturday, March 10 from 1-5.** One of the most disturbing yet hopeful stories in Scripture is that of the Valley of Dry Bones. Come learn about the fascinating prophet Ezekiel, whose words, deeds, and visions are unique in scripture, and how they found expression in Christian symbolism and art. Snacks, craft, games, and prizes, too!
- * **Building bridges, building connection, building our congregation...together!** Fifth Sunday One Service begins April 29, 2018. There will be one worship service at 9:30 a.m. Find out who sits in your pew at the other service! Put a name with a face! Celebrate with our whole congregation!
- * **At our annual meeting,** I proposed following the Chicago Cubs manager's practice of coming up with an annual slogan to inspire the team. His examples of "9=8" and "Try not to suck" don't really work in a church context, so we're going with "Do Good Better" this year. We do so much good---but how can we do good better, as individuals, as a congregation, as a community? Let's challenge ourselves to push a little more, to risk a little more, to love a little more, to share a little more...to do good better in 2018.
- * **Do you have ideas** for ministry or mission you'd like to suggest? Have you participated in a fun event or a spiritual practice or some kind of service that was faith-filled, that mattered to you? Wander down to the bulletin board across from the kitchen to share your ideas and possibilities....I wonder what Gethsemane might could do....
- * **The Special Change for Good Jar** to celebrate my 10th anniversary of ordination held \$615! Here's A list of what will be given through ELCA Good Gifts:
 - 3 drop latrine toilets**-because they matter!
 - 1 goat**-first thing ever bought with a change for good jar in my ministry
 - Bees**-first thing I ever bought on my own
 - 1 water filter/purifier**-because, water
 - 1 solar lantern**-because, light
 - 1 communion kit** for an ELCA missionary-because wine and bread
 - 1 rooster**-as a reminder that, like Peter, I am broken, and forgivenThank you, everyone!

General Notes

- * **Gethsemane** is a sponsor of SnowCap's annual auction. We'd love to have a table filled with Gethsemane folks on Saturday, March 17, 5pm at the Holiday Inn on Columbia Blvd. Tickets available online or call 503-405-4293 (Diane Liefeld) for more information.
- * **Grown Up VBS is coming March 10 from 1 to 5 p.m.** The Old Testament book **Ezekiel** will be explored.
- * **Marion Burgess** has a new phone number: 971.219.0248.
- * **Good Job!** We took 235 lbs. of soup to SnowCap as a result of our recent Souper Bowl collection of canned soups. We think this is a new record. Thank you, everyone. Dick/Diane Bemrose

* **East County Community Orchestra**, David L. Kinch, Director, and Portland Metro Concert Band, Glenn Taylor, Director, and Eben Fernando Heldreth, Asst. Director Will present a Concert Sunday, April 8, 2018, Downbeat at 3:00 p.m., at Horner Performing Arts Center, David Douglas High School. Free admission.

Preschool News

February, we talked about community helpers; several helpers came to our classroom for talks. The fire-fighters from Station 7 are always the highlight. Preschoolers are excited to see them with their gear and truck.

March will be a busy. We talk about God's world in the springtime and make some wonderful crafts to go along with the theme. We celebrate the season of Lent and use Godly Play during chapel to learn how much Jesus loves them.

Thursday, March 8 is our seventh annual Construction Night. Parents and friends are invited to come with the preschoolers for a night of cardboard box and duct tape building, always a fun night!

Fingers crossed that, while we are away during Spring Break, the playground will be constructed. What a great thing to come back to! Katie Strobel

Worship During Lent

Lenten Services

are at **noon**;

Soup and bread at 6:30 p.m. is

followed by the evening **Lenten service at 7.**

Sign up sheets for the soup and bread are in the narthex.

Flamingo Migration

Watch out for migrating flamingos! Gethsemane would like to host a whole FLOCK of flamingos! To sponsor a flamingo for yourself or a loved one, please contact Jasmine Anderson CYFM. Sponsorship includes food, water, and a safe place to sleep on one's lawn! Sponsorship for a week is \$10 or sponsor a flamingo friend for the entire duration of Lent for \$25!!

Lectionary for March 2018

| March 4 | March 11 | March 18 | March 25 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Exodus 20:1-17 | Numbers 21:4-9 | Jeremiah 31:31-34 | Isaiah 50:4-9a |
| Psalms 19 | Psalms 107:1-3,17-22 | Psalms 51:1-12 | Psalms 31:9-16 |
| 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 | Ephesians 2:1-10 | Hebrews 5:5-10 | Philippians 2:5-11 |
| John 2:13-22 | John 3:14-21 | John 12:20-33 | Mark 14:1-15:47 |

Stewardship Thoughts.....

"...were not our hearts burning within us, while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" Luke 24:32

Do our hearts burn? Are they on fire for Jesus? Have we taken all sorrows, fears, anxiety, joys, hopes, and dreams to the foot of the cross? Has life taken an unexpected path?

The road to Emmaus is one of my favorite passages in scripture. When I read it, I think of the two dudes dissecting the events of recent days and being so caught up in them, that they almost miss Jesus, not recognizing the one who walks with them on the road until they break bread. I wonder how many times I have missed an encounter with one who is holy while being caught up in my own stuff?

One of the points in Henri Nouwin's book "With Burning Hearts: A Meditation on the Eucharistic Life" is that, like the two on the road, we get so caught up in the paths of our lives, the sorrows, fears, anxiety, joys, and unfulfilled dreams - both the good and bad on the road of life - that it can bring about resentment. But we can choose gratitude rather than resentment, and that is what the Eucharistic life is all about. Living eucharistically is living life as a gift, a gift for which one is grateful.

Like the two on the road to Emmaus, Jesus meets us and we meet Jesus in Lent. Jesus' road to the cross is also our road. We are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection and our road will take us through struggles, disappointments, brokenness, fear and suffering. At times we may be as confused as the people who observed Jesus' road in the first century. But ahead of us is Easter, resurrection, new life, joy.

It is my hope that during this season of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter we open our hearts and let them burn while we are hearing and seeing Jesus on the road we travel.

Shalom, Tonia Lindquist

More Quilting Hours!

Have you always wanted to help the Gethsemane Quilters but couldn't because they meet on Thursdays? The quilters are going to **start meeting on the third Saturday of the month between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the community hall (in addition to Thursdays)** so that others can join in our fellowship. We would like to invite everyone 13 years and older to join us. No experience is necessary.

Our project for March will be to select fabric squares to make up our quilting kits to be sewn at a later date. Please bring a sack lunch; we will have coffee and lemonade to drink. At the April meeting we will sew the squares into a quilt top, put the quilt together, and tie the finished quilts. We look forward to seeing you. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Reagan 503.257.7410. We hope to see you March 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church — Income and Expense Budget Report through January 2018

| Budgeted Expenses | Actual Income | Actual Expenses | Actual Difference |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| \$360,835 | \$23,446 | \$25,062 | (\$1,616) |
| Attendance 2017:88; 2018:118 | | Cathey Myers, Financial Manager | |

March 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | 1 Quilting, 9:30a Chrysalis, 1:20p Orchestra, 12:30p Bells, 6p Choir, 7p | 2 <i>Office Closed</i> Middle School Lock-In 8 p.m. | 3 <i>Pastor's Office Hours, 10:30 a to Noon</i> |
| 4 Worship Services at 8 and 10:30a EducHour, 9:30a | 5 Band, 7p | 6 BibleStudy, 10a SwBand, 7:30p | 7 Lenten Services, Noon and 7p; Soup @ 6:30p Confirmation, 4:30p Clutterers, 5:30p Work@Snow Cap, 6p | 8 Quilting, 9:30a Chrysalis, 1:20p Orchestra, 12:30p Bells, 6p Choir, 7p | 9 <i>Office Closed</i> | 10 <i>Pastor's Office Hours, 10:30 a to Noon</i> BusyBees, 10-Noon GrownUpVBS, 1 to 5 p.m. |
| 11 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> Worship Services at 8 and 10:30a EducHour, 9:30a | 12 Band, 7p | 13 BibleStudy, 10a SwBand, 7:30p CYFMtg, 6:30p | 14 Lenten Services, Noon and 7p; Soup @ 6:30p Confirmation, 4:30p Clutterers, 5:30p | 15 Quilting, 9:30a MutualMinistry, 10a.m. Chrysalis, 1:20p Orchestra, 12:30p Bells, 6p Choir, 7p | 16 <i>Office Closed</i> High School Lock-In, 9 p.m. | 17 <i>Pastor's Office Hours, 10:30 a to Noon</i> Quilting, 10a to 2p |
| 18 Worship Services at 8 and 10:30a EducHour, 9:30a | 19 Band, 7p | 20 BibleStudy, 10a SwBand, 7:30p Church Council, 7p | 21 Lenten Services, Noon and 7p; Soup @ 6:30p Confirmation, 4:30p Clutterers, 5:30p | 22 Quilting, 9:30a Chrysalis, 1:20p Orchestra, 12:30p Bells, 6p Choir, 7p | 23 <i>Office Closed</i> | 24 <i>Pastor's Office Hours, 10:30 a to Noon</i> |
| 25 PALM SUNDAY Worship Services at 8 and 10:30a EducHour, 9:30a | 26 Film Camp here all week Band, 7p MParkNA, 6:30p <i>Preschool Spring Break</i> | 27 BibleStudy, 10a SwBand, 7:30p | 28 Confirmation, 4:30p Clutterers, 5:30p | 29 Quilting, 9:30a Chrysalis, 1:20p Orchestra, 12:30p Bells, 6p Choir, 7p Maundy Thursday Service 7pm | 30 <i>Office Closed</i> Good Friday Services at Noon and 7pm | 31 <i>Pastor's Office Hours, 10:30 a to Noon</i> |

March Birthdays

Josie Crouse, March 5
Jacque Hills, March 5
John Hurlman, March 7
John Skuzeski, March 7
Joan Ward, March 9
Jim Liefeld, March 15
Henry Juilfs, March 19
Randi Bateman, March 21
Bob Magnuson, March 22
Gary Dayton, March 23
Tyler Riehl, March 23
Ken Hansen, March 27
Carter Poole, March 29
Roseann Libonati, March 30

March Anniversaries

Gavin/Rachel Hills, 24th (6 years)
Steve/Christina Riehl, 24th, (11 years)

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:* Darlene Kuehmichel; Ginny Barton's friend Golda; Marian Aleckson; Linda Babcock and grandson Josiah; Aiden Lindstrom; Roseann Foster-Mikhail's mother Rose; Jennifer Peck; Lucille Langseth; Sharon Lee's relative Terri and friend Sandy; Virginia Haacke; Kay Qualheim's niece Sherry; Wynn Stafford; Virginia Karin; Matthew Green.

Urgent: *Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:* Kay Qualheim's niece Sue; Nettie Ubrick's great-grandson Jacob and friend Becky; Shirla Rapp's cousin Julie; Colleen Barnett's relatives Linda and Ken; Barbara Keyes; Cathey Myers' friends Barbara and Cruz; Roseann Libonati's relative, Dawn; Pr. Suellen's uncle Bill Ignatuk and cousin Travis Brown; Roberta Vidlund's friend Laurie and mom Maribel Pairan; Bob Law; Pat Edwards; Randi Bateman's cousin Nick; Becky Keiper's relative Tom.

Homebound Brothers and Sisters: Lucille Langseth, Marian Aleckson, 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

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