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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2018

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Clemons

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Katie Crouse

Commun.

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Strobel

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Tonia Lindquist

Fellowship:

Lyle Johnson

Worship: Mary

Jane Sauerwein

STAFF

Pastor:

Suellen Bahleda

Preschool Dir.:

Katie Strobel

Children, Youth,

Families:

Jasmine Anderson

Finance Mgr.:

Cathey Myers

Parish Admin.:

Judith Rykken

Choir Director:

Cameron Herbert

Organist:

Brooke Benfield

Custodians:

Dale & Ann Van

Horn

From the Pastor

In seminary, I took a class on the Holy Spirit. I was so excited, because honestly, I had never had a lot of exposure to the Holy Spirit in any of my church experience. Lots of Jesus, some God, but not a lot of Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, the class was not very interesting. But the Holy Spirit was alive and working, and teaching me, leading me, guiding me, and inspiring me, in spite of the class, because of the class. In that class, I met a student who was there from Kenya, named Daniel Mutanga. We spent a great deal of time together, learning each other's stories, and we stayed in touch after he returned to Kenya.

Daniel has just earned his Ph.D, and teaches in Nairobi. But he has never left his home village of Kithiani, in his heart, in his spirit. And the one thing he wanted for his village, his dream, was water. The people of his village walk miles every day to get water for everything---cooking, drinking, bathing. He wanted more than anything to some day bring water to his village.

One day he wrote to me---there was a possibility! There was a group that was interested in doing the work, if they had the money. They needed \$15,000. In some ways, that seems like a lot of money. For the people of Kithiani, it may as well be a million dollars. In a different perspective, it seems like so little in contrast to all that we have here in the States. After a great deal of prayer and conversation, my previous congregation trusted in the Holy Spirit, and undertook Daniel's Well as a mission, and raised the \$15,000. Work began, and we waited for that day when water would come to Kithiani.

We are still waiting. As with any project, especially one in rural Kenya, there have been delays and overruns. So much has been accomplished. They are so close, and yet still so far. Trenches have been dug, pipes have been laid, a water tower is under construction. But Kithiani still does not have access to water. They need \$8,000 to complete the project.

The truest thing I have learned about the Holy Spirit is how much it continues to surprise me. I would have never guessed those many years ago that nothing in that classroom would open me to the work of the Holy Spirit. Instead, I met a stranger who would become a friend. I love a village where I have never been. My friend's dream has become my dream, and I wait for the day water pours into Kithiani. The Holy Spirit connects Daniel, me, Kithiani, and the people of Resurrection Ju-neau.

I wonder---is it possible that the Holy Spirit will draw Gethsemane into this dream as well?

Blessings,

Pastor Suellen

- ★ **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!
- ★ **Save The Date: Preschool Closing Celebration is June 24 at Noon.** A BBQ lunch will be served with a short program. Please put it on your calendar.

Preschool News

Our April theme was "God's World in the Springtime". A special visitor from Talk About Trees spent a morning with us teaching us all about trees. It was terrific. Our students also learned about April showers and the changes of spring.

It's hard to believe that the end of the year is coming so quickly. May will be a busy month. We celebrate on May 10 with a Craft Night for preschoolers and parents. This will be a fun event with crafts and treats. At the end of the year we have graduation and promotion for our students. They are getting very excited. We will celebrate this milestone of preschool on May 24 in the morning. It's amazing to see the progress these little children make while in our program.

We have wonderful teachers and we have a chance in May to acknowledge them on Teacher Appreciation Day, May 8. If you are at the church and see a teacher, please thank her for her hard work. They really are amazing ladies and do fantastic work with our little ones. Thank you so much Mrs. Tammy, Mrs. Mary and Ms. Laurel. Gethsemane Lutheran Preschool and its families are blessed because of you.

As you know our program is also closing. Please save the date for our closing celebration on Sunday, June 24.

Katie Strobel

Did You Know?

There are lots of shut-ins who would love a sort visit or phone call. Once people are unable to drive, they become much more isolated. But they love to talk to someone. And do they have good stories to tell! How can we neglect to do something so easy that is so important to keep people connected?

LWR Kits Update

Awesome! With your donations of supplies and financial donations, separately and the Change for Good Jar (in addition to a matching donation), we were able to complete 70 Personal Care Kits for shipping out in early May. I was able to purchase 70 towels with the donated funds, in addition to a few other items to complete the kits! I am excited to have our shipments tracked and find out where they are helping others in our global community.

Lutheran World Relief also sends out School Kits. In pricing school supplies, I thought it would be much better to concentrate on Personal Care Kits for the May shipping date and School Kits for the end of October shipping date. That way we can take advantage of the Back to School sales over the summer and get the most "bang for our buck". I will be watching the sales in July and August and will remind you of the needed items.

Again, many thanks for your support of this ministry!

Karla Hills, GLC Lutheran World Relief Coordinator

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

Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference
\$360,835	\$67,237	\$72,363	(\$5,126)
Attendance 2017:119; 2018:133		Cathey Myers, Financial Manager	



Community Outreach

The family of Gethsemane is constantly reaching out to and blessing its community. One of the most important ways it supports its neighbors may simply be through the sharing of its building. The beautiful gardening lifts the spirits of those who walk or drive by. The sanctuary offers an open invitation to come and worship God. And the facilities provide almost everything any group, effort, or mission could want or need, including large open spaces, a large kitchen, a variety of rooms, bathrooms, and even showers.

Adorned in Grace tells us every year what a blessing the use of our building is to their efforts to fight human trafficking. Their annual event Dress for FREEdom took place this April in our activity room, narthex, conference room, and nursery. The theme was "Beauty and the Best-Love Never Fails."

They served 92 girls, who filled our space with laughter, make-up, and fancy dresses and hair. And I mean FILLED. Many thanks to Patty, the Blohms, Ernie, and Dale for helping figure out the hosting. In the end, Adorned in Grace donated three full racks of beautiful dresses to our upcoming Rummage Sale. Thanks AiG!

The space and facilities at Gethesemane allowed our church to contribute in a way that many churches couldn't to the ministry of Daybreak for many years. Providing refuge to families in need with children strikes me as one of the most fundamental ways we can love our neighbor, which is what Daybreak did. The efforts to start a new Family Promise affiliation of churches in our area are continuing. We meet the third Monday of every month, and the number of people actively involved has slowly been increasing. If you are interested in this issue of families suffering from homelessness, you are heartily invited to come find out more. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on May 21 at Ascension Catholic Church. We can car-pool!

If you want to know about ways being considered to use our building to bless the lives of others, ask Jasmine! You'll be impressed at the opportunities!

The next Compassion Connect Mini-Health Clinic will take place on Saturday, April 28. If you know of anyone who needs, but can't afford, a medical check up, dental care, a haircut, or a first chiropractic visit, then make sure they know about this quarterly Mini-Clinic, held at Eastside Free Methodist Church.

And don't forget the amazing Gethsemane Rummage Sale, coming up on May 4 and 5. Some of the proceeds this year will be going to support Adorned in Grace and assist the recovery efforts in Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

Have a great May and, speaking of May, may God's guidance and strength go with you as you reach out and take action in big and small ways in our world. Burke Strobel

Lectionary for May 2018

May 6	Acts 10:44-48	Psalm 98	John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
May 13	Acts 1:15-17,21-26	Psalm 1	1 John 5:9-13	John 17:6-19
May 20	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104: 24-35	Romans 8:22-27	John 15:26-16:15
May 27	Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalm 29	Romans 8:12-17	John 3:1-17

CYFM News

- ◆ April was a busy month, with Easter being a highlight! Many thanks to Dick and Diane Bemrose for coordinating the Easter Egg Hunt again this year! Also thank you to our local Grocery Outlet and Safeway for donating \$75 in Easter candy.
- ◆ We moved Sunday school to take place during second service and we had ten kids the first week, plus attendance has gone up! Take a moment to thank Carolyn Graf, Matthew Burk, and Ernie Butenschoen for being rock star Sunday school teachers!
- ◆ Youth work day on April 8 was a success! Thanks again to the Greens and CJ for helping me spruce the place up a bit!
- ◆ Lutherwood on Location was a lot of fun, keep your eyes peeled for the next one!

I picked up six desktop computers and a printer from Free Geek to complete our hardware grant, and hope to have a computer lab and a LAN party during summer break. The Youth Gathering kids are on track to fly out June 26. We have a couple of fundraising events coming up the next couple of months. May 8 is the next CYFM committee meeting. Please come share you thoughts, ideas, what-ifs with me!

Fundraising Events Upcoming:

- ◆ May 12: Parent's Night Out
- ◆ May 17: Pizza Baron Partnership Night.
- ◆ June 16: Youth Carwash
- ◆ June 29: Jesus is the Light - Buy-a-Bulb. Proceeds to replace lightbulbs in the sanctuary.

Check the bulletin board and the website for the newest news!



Jesus is the Light BUY-A-BULB

Gethsemane Lutheran Church's inaugural glow-in-the-dark party!
June 29 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Games — Prizes — Light Concessions — More!

Buy-a-Bulb at the event to hang in the sanctuary. All proceeds go to solar panel cook stoves, water heaters, and lamps for families in need.

This is a FREE Event!

*"Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness,
but instead expose them." Ephesians 5:8*

PIZZA AND CHURCH?!

Thursday May 17th, 2018
6:00-9:00 pm

It's true! May 17th join us at Pizza Baron for good food and good people! 30% of all food sales will come back to Gethsemane Lutheran Youth!! Come on in, present this flyer at time of purchase and enjoy the best pizza in Portland!! Long night at bell choir practice? Running late to choir Thursday night? Stop on in and take something to go!

2604 SE 122nd Ave, Portland, OR 97236

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May 2018 Calendar

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		May 1 <i>May Day</i> 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwingBand 7:30p-BrassEns.	2 4:30p-Confirmation 5:30p-Clutterers 6p-Work@ Snow-Cap	3 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilters 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Chrysalis 6p-Bells 7p-Choir	4 RUMMAGE SALE, 8-4	5 RUMMAGE SALE, 8-4 <i>Cincode Mayo</i> am-Pr. Office Hours
6 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-Ed.Hour	7 7p-Band	8 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwingBand 7:30p-BrassEns. 6p-CYFMtg.	9 4:30p-Confirmation 5:30p-Clutterers	10 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilters 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Chrysalis 6p-Bells 7p-Choir	11	12 10-noon-BusyBees 8a-2p-Divison MidwayAlliance 5-9p-Parent's Night Out
13 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-Ed.Hour <i>Mother's Day</i>	14 7p-Band 1:20p-Chrysalis	15 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwingBand 7:30p-BrassEns. 7p-CHURCH COUNCIL	16 4:30p-Confirmation 5:30p-Clutterers	17 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilters 10a-MutualMinistry 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Chrysalis 6-9p-YouthPizza BaronFundraiser 6p-Bells 7p-Choir	18 Synod Set-Up	19 SYNOD GATHERING here all day
20 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-Ed.Hour	21 7p-Band	22 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwingBand 7:30p-BrassEns.	23 4:30p-Confirmation 5:30p-Clutterers 5-9p-CityPortlandMeeting	24 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilters 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Chrysalis 6p-Bells 7p-Choir 7p-Preschool Graduation	25	26
27 8 & 10:30a-Worship 9:30a-Ed.Hour	28 7p-Band 6:30p-MillParkNA MemorialDay	29 10a-BibleStudy 7p-SwingBand 7:30p-BrassEns.	30 4:30p-Confirmation 5:30p-Clutterers	31 7:30a-BibleStudy 9:30a-Quilters 12:30p-Orchestra 1:20p-Chrysalis 6p-Bells 7p-Choir		

MAY Birthdays

3rd Linda Babcock
 3rd Cory Cumming
 7th Theresa Qulaheim
 10th Bill Herbert
 12th Dick Bemrose
 13th Virginia Haacke
 16th Austin Huggett
 23rd Linda Fletcher
 23rd Brianne Kelley
 24th CJ Butenschoen
 24th Kathy Lowe
 27th Philip Dochow
 30th Ernie Butenschoen
 31st Laurel Strobel

MAY Anniversary

15th John & Christy Hurlman

*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; 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 niece Linda; Barbara Keyes; Cathey Myers' friends Barbara and Cruz; Roseann Libonati's relative, Dawn; Pr. Suellen's 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 Judy Keiper; Joni Pokorny's friend Becky Folkner; Jo Nelson's friends Emily and Mike; Kim Butenschoen's friend Lana; Karen Reagan's grandson, Killian; Judy; Cynthia Carpenter; and Matt Burk's friend, Cheryl.

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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**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**

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