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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2018

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Katie Strobel

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From the Pastor

Our church year follows the cycle of seasons, and we now begin the blessed work of growing into the gifts of God across the seasons that brought us to this moment...anticipation, birth, baptism, light, repentance, surprise, life, and spirit. It serves us well to pause, to remember these gifts, and give thanks for the way they move us forward into doing good better in the green, green days to come.

As we prepare to move forward, I would just like to say this church is having an awful lot of fun. We have been busy, you have worked hard, you have given so very much of yourselves....and you describe it as fun. I say thank you for the wonder of the rummage sale, and you say it was fun. Exhausting, but fun.

Confirmation students summed up the year with 'we had a lot of fun.' Tuesday morning Bible study—fun. Everyone who devotes time into the learning, practice, preparation and offering of bells, voice, organ, piano, and flute, proclaiming God's word with every note—fun. Council meetings....yes, fun! Preschool, Sunday School...teaching, learning—fun. Change for Good---filling the jar, voting---fun. Doing a new thing: hosting the Oregon Synod Assembly, sharing our church, hospitality beyond compare...so much work in preparation---from internet support to landscaping to baking enough communion bread...but in the end---fun!

Thursday morning quilting---there is a whole lot of fun there. You have no idea what you're missing! Grown-up Vacation Bible School—fun! Keeping up with Jasmine—fun!

There is no fun in the Bible. The word 'fun' isn't part of the language. I'm pretty sure 'fun' isn't in the Book of Concord or Luther's Small Catechism, either. Fun, in and of itself, is not enough. We need purpose. And so, we celebrate a rummage sale that helps to pay down our debt, and sends money to the Lutheran Disaster Response for aid to Puerto Rico AND to Adorned in Grace. We rejoice in quilts that find homes in local shelters across the world through Lutheran World Relief. We delight in hearing God's word through music. We smile at the little eager hands that want to light candles and drop coins into a jar.

It is a good thing for the people of God to have fun. Studies show that kids learn when they play, because playing is fun. We are children of God. We can learn how to love God and love others while having fun. We DO learn how to love God and love others while having fun.

Pastor Suellen Bahleda

- * **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.

Rummage Sale Wrap Up

Another amazing Rummage Sale is in the books! It was again a great success and we could not do it without all of you. Thank you to all who cleaned out a closet, a room, a garage, or a whole house; brought their neighbors' "stuff"; told a friend, baked some treats, came and bought stuff, hung a flyer, prayed for us, and saved bags.

Thank you hugely to those who set up tables, sorted items, hauled in truckloads, priced and arranged, cashiered, bagged, roamed, set up rooms, tables, and shelves of stuff, straightened things over and over, greeted guests, hauled things to cars or homes, fixed lunch, and then cleaned it all up at the end.

Our workers ranged in age from 3 to 95 (or more). People used vacation days, missed family birthdays, and scheduled vacations around the sale. We are so grateful for any and all of the parts people played!

Although we don't have the final total yet, we know we made around \$14,500! Half of that will go to the debt for our new roof we put on in 2013. The other half will be divided between Adorned by Grace and Lutheran World Relief Puerto Rico Fund.

But that's not all. We sent 13 boxes and bags of clothes and a few books to SnowCap. We sent 100s of brown grocery bags to Snow Cap. We sent 148 formals to Abby's Closet, where they will be given to girls who couldn't afford them otherwise. And then we filled Goodwill's largest truck with what was left over!

We met many of our church's neighbors and let them see who we are. We satisfied many a sweet tooth with homemade treats. We made many children happy with the "new" toys they got. We made a young lady tear up because she got the comforter she wanted at a discounted price. We sold so many old classic records to young people! So many stories played out. We kept mountains of discarded items out of the land fill at least for one more life. It was so fun to see all of the smiles.

Clara, Paulette, and Kim enjoyed working as a team leading the way, but again, we couldn't have done it without all of you! Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Preschool News

May was a celebratory time at preschool. At Craft Night on May 10 preschoolers and a special adult made a craft, shared a snack, and enjoyed the new playground.

During May we had camping and water week. Our children loved the tents, the pretend campfire, and the opportunity to wash chairs with water. We had birthday cake for all the Summer Birthday children.

At the end of the year the preschoolers graduated by going through a promotion ceremony and eating "finger food" at a potluck.

I can't believe the school year is done. It's always a bittersweet time when we say goodbye to our preschoolers and their families. We wish them the best and will continue to pray for their growth as they take the next step.

We've had a great school year. Our preschoolers have learned and experienced many things. At the weekly chapel lessons children consistently heard the message that God loves and cares for them. Our music program, run by Ms. Laurel, was a time to learn songs and move to music, a favorite part of the preschooler's week. Mrs. Tammy and Mrs. Mary taught a curriculum that included practicing shapes, colors, counting, number recognition, sequencing, patterning, letter recognition and sounds. Each child learned to write and recognize his/her name.

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

Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference
\$120,278	\$98,891	\$103,001	(\$4,110)
Attendance 2017:151; 2018:141		Cathey Myers, Financial Manager	

The dedication of our staff to our program is remarkable. Their energy and patience are truly a blessing to our program and the children and families we serve. I cannot thank them enough for their devotion to our program.

My wonderful board supported me this year. I thank Pastor Suellen, Kim Butenschoen, Jay Rector, Jan Cumming, Diane Bemrose and Liz Smith for their commitment to the preschool. The willingness of people to serve Gethsemane Lutheran Preschool is terrific.

As we move on to a new school year I am excited about the future of children's ministry at Gethsemane. I am hopeful that educating children will continue here in some form and I ask for continued prayers as our program goes through the process of closing.

Part of this process is cleaning out the classroom, supplies and equipment. Parklane Christian Church is beginning a Christian preschool and they have bought lots of our furniture and equipment. This is a blessing for us and for them as they begin to build a program. We are also in the beginning stages of working with HeadStart, which wants to use a second classroom. Please pray for both these programs.

Happy summer! Katie Strobel

CYFM Debriefing and Plans

May was a great month for our Youth!

Parent's Night Out brought 10 kids in to play, eat popcorn, and watch movies with us. It was a lot of fun, and parents loved having a few hours to themselves on a Saturday night! This is an event I would like to host a few times a year going forward.

Pizza Baron Night was a huge success! Thank you to all who came out to have pizza with us. I am looking forward to hosting a partnership night with a local restaurant once a quarter, and include a lunch for us early birds.

Stock in Our Youth is back. Purchase your stock from Annie, CJ, or Natalie on a Sunday morning in and around the Narthex. In case you missed it, our youth have been selected to help assist with communion during the worship service for the ELCA Youth Gathering! All are welcome to the Youth Showcase on July 15, 6 p.m. Stockholders will be entered into a raffle, and have reserved seating at a Stockholder's Table. Come dressed for Houston and hungry for TexMex!

Sunday School is Over for the summer, I would like to continue pulling kiddos back during summer weeks to work on a fun project for fall! Details to follow. Please send jasmine@glcportland.org an email to be sure you are on the mailing list for YOUTH information!

Upcoming Events: *June 12- CYFM meeting at 6 p.m.*
June 16- Youth Car Wash (Houston Kids required to attend)
June 29- Jesus is the Light Glow in the Dark Party!

Lectionary for June 2018			
June 3	June 10	June 17	June 24
Deuteronomy 5:12-15	Genesis 3:8-15	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Job 38:1-11
Psalms 81:1-10	Psalms 130	Psalms 92:1-15	Psalms 107:1-3,23-32
2 Corinthians 4:5-12	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:26-41	Mark 5:1-20	Mark 5:21-43	Mark 6:1-29

June 2018 Calendar

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1	2 Community Hall in use, 3pm
3 Worship, 8 & 10:30a Edu.Hr. 9:30a VBS Mtg, Noon	4 Band, 7p Preschool Celebration Planning, 7p	5 BibleStudy, 10a Brass, 7p SwingBand, 7p	6 Clutterers, 5:30p WorkSnowCap, 6p	7 Quilting, 9:30a Orchestra, 12:30p	8	9 BusyBees, 10a GrownUpVBS, 1-5p
10 Worship, 8 & 10:30a Edu.Hr. 9:30a	11 Pr. Suellen on Vacation thru 6/14 Band, 7p Finance Mtg, 6:30p	12 BibleStudy, 10a Brass, 7p SwingBand, 7p CYFM Mtg, 6p	13 Clutterers, 5:30p SiteAcquisition Mtg, 6-7p	14 Quilting, 9:30a Orchestra, 12:30p MutualMinistry? 10 a.m.	15 Youth Showcase, 6p	16 YouthCar Wash, 11a-2p
17 Worship, 8 & 10:30a Edu.Hr. 9:30a <i>Father'sDay</i>	18 Band Concert/Ice Cream, 7p	19 BibleStudy, 10a Brass, 7p SwingBand, 7p Council Mtg, 7p	20 Clutterers, 5:30p	21 Quilting, 9:30a	22	
24 Worship, 8 & 10:30a Edu.Hr. 9:30a Preschool Closing Celebration & BBQ, Noon	25 Band, 7p MPNA, 6:30p	26 BibleStudy, 10a Brass, 7p SwingBand, 7p <i>Youth Gather at GLC at 9p to go to Houston</i>	27 Clutterers, 5:30p AfricanChildren's Choir, 7p	28 Quilting, 9:30a	29 Jesus is the Light Party, pm	30

JUNE Birthdays

1st Sam Hills
 1st Elmer Schmidt
 3rd Mary Baxter
 3rd Laura Britzius
 3rd Leslie Johnson
 6th Marion Burgess
 8th Hilary Hietpas
 9th Jan Perkins
 11th Jan Cumming
 15th Brian Kelley
 15th Patty Olson
 15th Katie Strobel
 16th Alma Crouse
 17th Ken Hansen
 26th Jonathan Herbert
 29th Deb Postlewait

JUNE Anniversary

June 18 Jim & Diane Liefeld (52nd)
June 19 Al & Ethel Marsh (64th)
June 20 Carl & Jan Perkins (60th)
June 22 Larry & Kim Stof-fregen (44th)
June 24 Jacob & Katlin Hills (6th)
June 25 Laura Britzius & Mary Curtis (37th)
June 29 Bill & Cameron Her-ber (44th)
June 29 Karen & Patrick Reagan (55th)

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. Suel-len's cousin Travis Brown; Roberta Vidlund's friend Laurie and mom Maribel Pairan; Bob Law; Pat Edwards; Randi Bate-man's cousin Nick; Becky Keiper's relative Judy Keiper; Joni Pokorny's friends Becky Folkner and Mary Dean; Jo Nelson's friends Emily and Mike; Kim Butenschoen's friends Debbie and Lana; Karen Reagan's grandson, Killian; Cynthia Carpen-ter; Matt Burk's friend, Cheryl; Pauline Coleman.

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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