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GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2018

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From the Pastor

Friends of mine recently decided to end their marriage. While it is always a difficult and painful time, they used the season of their faith, Yom Kippur, to help and guide them. It is a time of repentance, of asking for forgiveness, for being made new. They are broken, and yet they have been made whole and well, able to move forward in faith, and in peace.

The seasons, rites, and ceremonies of faith matter. This month, as we continue to walk in the green, growing days of the season of Pentecost, we will celebrate an affirmation of marriage vows, three baptisms, at least one new member, and the festival of Reformation. Each of these celebrations come with patterns that make us new, to help and guide us in our lives.

Marriage is hard and wonderful work: we need the poetry of vows---better, worse, richer, poorer, sickness, health, in good times and bad, all the days of our lives---to remind us that there have been couples speaking these words and living these words, in hope, in faith, in trust long before we began to wrestle with our own reality. We are reminded of the paradox of how strong, yet how fragile these bonds can be. We acknowledge that the work of loving another is easy, until it is not---and then we depend upon the presence and blessings of God to show us the way---a promise also given within the rite of marriage.

Baptism is that joyful moment of being marked as a child of God, a co-worker in the kingdom of God, complete with the story of God's salvation, revealed in the symbols of water, oil, and candle-light. New members are welcomed with the same vocational calling, to participate in the shared work of the congregation: Worship, meal, and service. We use particular words and prayers for these, not just what sounds or feels good in the moment. Words and prayers and blessings and symbols that define us, that mark us, that help and guide us.

Martin Luther knew the power of words, and of season, and rites. Every year we celebrate his courage in what became a difficult and painful break with the one church. He posted his 95 conversation points on All Hallows Eve, so that people who came to celebrate the next day, All Saint's Day, would see them, talk about them, and restore their trust in God's promise of life in Christ Jesus, not by merit, but by grace, for those who they were gathered to remember and honor---the cloud of witnesses, the communion of saints. Reformation Sunday is a time to remember the brokenness of the church, and of ourselves, as a time of repentance, of forgiveness, and of being made new. It is a day of heartbreak and rejoicing, as we acknowledge God's grace in renewing us, re-forming us as whole and well, able to move forward in faith, in peace, and in joy.

Celebrate! Pastor Suellen

Notes

- * **Quilters:** You're invited to come sew on Thursday mornings at 9:30 or the third Saturday of the month from 10a to 2p. Bring a lunch and join us. There are also stacks of quilt blocks which can be taken home and sewn together.

- * **Be Sure to Wear RED on October 28, REFORMATION SUNDAY!** We will celebrate with a youth-led service, the Adventists Men's Choir, and a between-services brunch.
- * **Reminder:** Martin Luther encouraged us to be an active part of civic life. Speak your piece, and your peace to our elected officials with the postcards in the narthex.
- * **Around our Cluster Congregations:**
 - October 3, at noon: Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers at Trinity Lutheran. Call (503) 665-3197 to RSVP
 - October 27, 10-4: Trinity Lutheran Rummage Sale
 - October 27, 6 p.m. Fall Festival at Resurrection Lutheran

Stewardship Thoughts

It's the time of year where, if you haven't already received requests for contributions to various nonprofits, you may in the next couple of months. There is usually a big push at the end of the calendar year.

The same thing happens in many congregations. Many do formal pledging and hold events to encourage individuals to give. The budget for the coming year is also put together at this time and we usually talk about the proposed budget prior to the annual meeting in January. Of course, if we are taking on a new or a larger major financial commitment, we hold conversations around that action and the need for additional funds.

At Gethsemane, we don't approach stewardship the traditional way because stewardship is really such a part of everything we do. I think all our decisions, those that do or don't involve financial resources, reflect our view of stewardship, including how we spend our time, what we buy, and where we shop, as a few examples. It's a part of being Lutheran, as reflected in the Small Catechism, both in Luther's explanation of the third article of the Creed, and the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer. Both support the old saying, *"Stewardship is everything we do after we say 'I Believe'"*.

The ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church must be defined. "God's Work, Our Hands" isn't just for one day in September. It is for our lives individually, as a congregation, as a Synod, and nationally via the churchwide organization.

So we the congregation need to answer the questions of what the ministry of this place at 117th and Market is, how we'll do God's work via our hands 52 weeks a year, and how we individually will support this work both financially and by our actions?

It is my hope that we continue to support Gethsemane's current ministry and look for new opportunities to make a difference in the lives of many, both inside and outside the congregation. God's Work, Our Hands. To that end, please pray about how God is calling you with your time and your financial resources and how you may want to share those gifts with others.

Shalom,
Tonia Lindquist

Lectionary for October 2018				
	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
October 7	Genesis 2:18-24	Psalm 8	Hebrews 1:1-4,2:5-12	Mark 10:2-16
October 14	Amos 5:6-15	Psalm 90:12-17	Hebrews 4:12-16	Mark 10:17-31
October 21	Isaiah 53:4-12	Psalm 91:9-16	Hebrews 5:1-10	Mark 10:35-45
October 28	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 46	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36

Gethsemane Lutheran Church — Income and Expense Budget Report through August 2018			
Budgeted Expenses	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Actual Difference
\$240,557	\$178,275	\$204,862	(\$26,587)
Attendance 2017:127 2018:114		Cathey Myers, Financial Manager	

CYFM@GLCPDX

September finds us back at school, back at church, and back at Sunday School. Have you noticed the youth bulletin board in the narthex? #GLCPDX is **planting seeds in TWENTY** young people! Which means we have 20 youth in pre-school, elementary school, middle school, and high school! What a blessing to be part of so many young lives.

But wait! There's more! In October there will be **THREE baptisms!** We'll welcome three children into the Christian faith to be loved and grafted into Christ. We, the people of Gethsemane, promise during the baptism to love, support, and pray for these newly baptized children of God.

Twenty-three kids. Twenty-three lives. Twenty-three of God's perfect creations within Gethsemane's walls, children hungering, as all people do, to hear about God.

Talking with youth ministers from Trinity and Resurrection, we've discussed a combined youth effort for our kids. Would you believe we have the most kids of all three churches? I am asking all of you to find it in your schedules and your hearts, to volunteer with these kids. Help me help them know God's love and God's purpose for us.

#growwithgethsemane is not just for our youth, it is for all of us as we remember we are to continually grow and be God's voice and hands in the world.

October is a really exciting month for #glcpdx in terms of #gethsemaneyouth and I encourage all of you to consider how we can better #growwithgethsemane during this fall month of harvesting and reaping what we sow. **Please join me at the next Children, Youth, and Family Ministry meeting on October 9 at 6 p.m.** in the conference room. If you cannot attend, please send me an e-mail with any thoughts, ideas or questions you may have!

Happy Harvesting!
Jasmine at CYFM@GLCPDX

Ministries at Gethsemane *(Volunteer sign-up table, staffed by Micah Morton)*

Serving one's neighbor is a key part of Christian life, and Gethsemane is living it up. A sampling of the many ministries of Gethsemane was on display between services in the narthex on August 27. Seventeen ministries were represented, including the Quilters, Lutheran World Relief school supply packs (with the amazing backpacks sewn by some of the Quilters), Altar Guild, Boxes of Love, SnowCap, Cans, Tabs, Camp Lutherwood, the Gethsemane Wellness Project, Lutheran World Hunger and Disaster Appeal, Habitat for Humanity, Gethsemane Youth Ministries, God's Work Our Hands, Adorned in Grace, Dress for FREEdom, Family Promise, and the David Douglas Compassion Mini-Clinic. Also present, but without official tables, were most of our church committees, worship volunteers, refreshments in the narthex, gardeners, and everyone who greeted another or asked how their week went. Thank you to everyone who participated and everyone who attended! If you want to know more about one of these ministries and aren't sure who to contact, then let me know and I can point you in the right direction.



Saturday, October 27 is the fourth quarterly David Douglas Compassion Mini-Clinic, taking place at Eastside Free Methodist Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. These mini-clinics are organized by Compassion Connect and provide free health care, social services help, and haircuts to those who might not be able to afford it otherwise. They are staffed entirely by volunteers (including the doctors and nurses). They are well-attended by grateful guests, but the more people the better, so get the word out! I'm leaving some fliers out in the narthex for you to take a look at. If you know of a good place to post one, especially in the church neighborhood, please take one or a few. The mini-clinic can also use volunteers to help with things like flow of guests to open care stations or even just sitting down and talking to or praying with guests. If you would like to volunteer for 2-4 hours, just go to compassionconnect.com/volunteer. Sign up is easy and volunteer orientation starts at 9:30 a.m. before the clinic.

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Cont.Ed. Pastor Gone Band,7p	2 Cont.Ed. Pastor Gone Swing Band,7p	3 Clutterers5:30p Work@ SnowCap,6p Confirmation, 4:30p	4 Quilting9:30a Orchestra,12p Handbells,6p Choir,7p	5	6 SDAChurch10a
7 Worship 8&10:30a EdHour9:30a	8 BishopConvo. Pastor Gone Band,7p <i>ColumbusDay</i> Finance Meet- ing, 6:30p	9 BishopConvo. Pastor Gone SwingBand7p CYFM,6p	10 Clutterers5:30p	11 Quilting9:30a Orchestra,12p Handbells,6p Choir,7p	12	13 SDAChurch10a BusyBees,10a
14 Worship 8&10:30a EdHour9:30a	15 Band,7p	16 BibleStudy,10a SwingBand7p Church Council, 7p	17 Clutterers5:30p Confirmation, 4:30p	18 Quilting9:30a Orchestra,12p Handbells,6p Choir,7p Landscape Workshop6p	19	20 Quilting, 10-2p SDAChurch10a J/C Huggett Vows 1p <i>Combined YouthGrpTBD?</i>
21 Worship 8&10:30a <i>Baptisms</i> EdHour9:30a <i>Combined YouthGrpTBD?</i>	22 Pastor on Va- cation thru November 1 Band,7p MPNA,6:30p	23 SwingBand7p	24 Clutterers5:30p	25 Quilting9:30a Orchestra,12p Handbells,6p Choir,7p	26	27 SDAChurch10a Trunk-or- Treat 6p
28 8 & 10:30a Youth-Led Worship <i>SDAMen's Chorus to sing</i> EdHour9:30a	29 Band,7p	30 SwingBand7p	31 <i>Halloween</i> Clutterers5:30p			

October Birthdays

Liz Smith, 10/2
 Kraig Fletcher, 10/3
 Al Marsh, 10/3
 Jacque Williamson, 10/3
 Liz Blohm, 10/4
 Dale Van Horn, 10/5
 Oliver Smith, 10/6
 Darlene Kuehmichel, 10/8
 Harvey Steele, 10/9

Nancy Carpenter, 10/14
 Rod Hills, 10/17
 Todd Sloan, 10/17
 Ann Van Horn, 10/18
 Shirla Rapp, 10/20
 Colleen Barnett, 10/22
 Christina Riehl, 10/23
 Nettie Ubrick, 10/29
 Debbie Olson, 10/30

October Anniversaries

Dick/Diane Bemrose, #54 on 10/1
 Steve/Debra Olson, #47 on 10/2
 Paul/Brandee Leibrand, #5 on 10/12
 Ted/Gretchen Goodall, #39 on 10/20
 Vanessa/Ryan Lindstrom, #17 on 10/27
 Mary Starmont, #29 on 10/28
 Lee/Clara Shortt, #57 on 10/29

Homebound Brothers and Sisters:

Lucille Langseth, Marian Aleckson, Wynn Stafford, Virginia Haacke, Harvey & Carol Steele, Darlene Kuehmichel., Bob & Carol Law., Bob & Audrey Magnuson. *(Refer to your directory or call the church for contact info.)*

Prayer Concerns—Ongoing: *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Ginny Barton's friend Golda; Marian Aleckson; Linda Babcock and grandson Josiah; Aiden Lindstrom; Roseann Foster-Mikhail's mother Rose; Lucille Langseth; Sharon Lee's relative Terri and friend Sandy; Kay Qualheim's niece Sherry; Bob Law; Matthew Green; Virginia Haacke.

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; Roseann Libonati's relative, Dawn; Pat Edwards; Joni Pokorny's friends Becky Folkner and Mary Dean; Kim Butenschoen's friends Randy, Debbie and Lana; Matt Burk's friend, Cheryl; Pauline Coleman, Sharon Lee's friend Jan, Doug Glenn's cousin Lee; Robert Vidlund's friends Jim and Betty; Virginia McCormick's relative Veronica; Becky Keiper's friend Elinor; Elaine Walter's brother-in-law, Bob.

Those who are grieving: The family and friends of Phyllis, the mom of Patty Strutz, a friend of Cathey Myers'. The family and friends of Mike Pierce. He and his wife Carol were members of Gethsemane during the 80's.

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Gethsemane Lutheran Church

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