

# ◆ THE OLIVE PRESS ◆

GETHEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2023

## COUNCIL

**President:** Dick Bemrose

**Vice President:** TBD

**Sec/Treas:** Laura Britzius

**Properties:**

Emie Butenschoen

**Lutheran Liaison:**

Mary Karter

**Evangelism:**

Rachel Coughlin

**CYFF Formation:** TBD

**Community Action:**

Gabriel Sprague

**Stewardship:**

Sharon Magnuson

**Fellowship:** Gloria Kelsay

**Worship:** Jay Rector

## CALL COMMITTEE

Gabe Sprague, chair

Colleen Barnett

Jan Cumming

Amy Deetz

Kelly Garrett

Karla Hills

Mary Starmont

Barbie Tew

## STAFF

**Bridge Pastor:**

Pastor Donna H-K

**CYFM:**

Jasmine Anderson

**Admin.:** Anna Lewis

**Organist:**

Brooke Benfield

**Custodian:**

Dale Van Horn

**A/V Engineer:**

Kevin Williams

From the Pastor

"Hope in 2023"

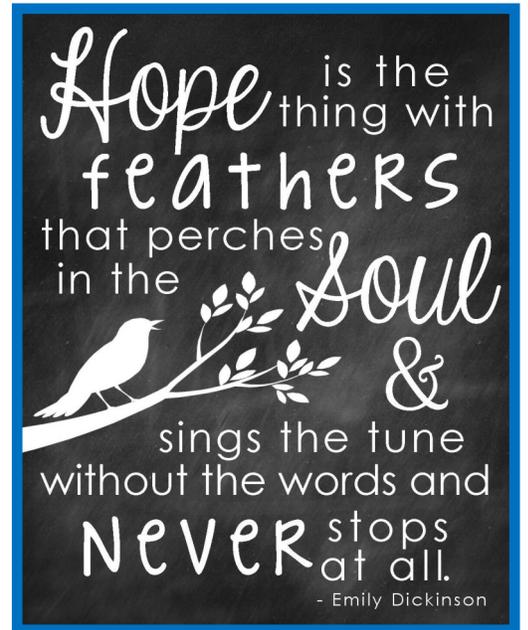
The beginning of a new year generates **fresh hope** in our hearts and community life!

You have a call process going that will generate the possibility of new relationship with a pastor this year! You have the chance to revitalize your congregation as people grow more willing to engage with each other after years of isolation and threat. You have the hope of the **Holy Spirit** – Jesus' gift to you!

Emily Dickinson describes this hope-filled Spirit as "the thing with feathers that perches in the Soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all." Do you take time to **listen** to that song and let it fill you?

The newness of the year invites you to grow and deepen your spiritual practices – all the ways you listen to God! Tessa Pinkstaff writes, "Spiritual practices are **hands-on** ways of living out our faith. They include common

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## From the Council President

Grace, peace and joy,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas celebration. Thanks to all who worked so hard preparing and presenting our Advent and Christmas eve services. All your hard work is greatly appreciated. Let us continue to celebrate Christ's birth through the 12 days of Christmas leading up to Epiphany on January 6.

Shortly, it will be a new year, 2023. What will the new year hold for us? What opportunities and challenges await? We don't know. But together we can continue to move forward and grow. Hopefully, before the end of January 2023, we will complete the process and call our next full-time pastor.

If you are planning year-end charitable financial gifts, please consider a special giving to Gethsemane, either to the general fund or to the capital fund. If you have already given a special gift, thank you.

Thank you, Pastor Donna, for continuing to walk with us. We are truly blessed.

Finally, please prayerfully consider a leadership role with the Council. We especially need someone to accept the position of Vice President. As an Officer of the congregation, the VP is a key member of the Executive Committee and Council.

I am a "glass" half full person. I am excited about the coming year and the things that with God's help and our newly called pastor, we can accomplish together.

Blessings, Dick Bemrose, President



## Worship Assistants for January

Yellow means we need your help!

If you need help signing up, contact Gloria.

Date	Cantor	Reader	Usher/s	Communion Assistant	Altar Guild
Jan. 1	Dick Bemrose	Gloria Kelsay		Gloria Kelsay	Sharon Magnuson
Jan. 8	Ernie Butenschoen				Roseann Libonati
Jan. 15	Dick Bemrose	Youth		Youth	
Jan. 22	Gloria Kelsay				Gloria Kelsay
Jan. 29	Ernie Butenschoen				



## GETTING TO KNOW MARTIN LUTHER: Part 2

In 1501 Martin Luther enrolled for liberal arts at the famous University of Erfurt. He concluded his studies in 1505 with a master's degree of the Faculty of Arts.

Then his life took an unexpected turn. On July 2, 1505 he was caught in a thunder-

Ferdinand Pauwels, Akg-images, NTB scanpix

storm at Stottemheim near Erfurt. Terrified by bolts of lightning, he prayed: "Help me, St, Anne, I will become a monk!"

## Gethsemane Youth Happenings

This year our Gethsemane Youth will choose a word for Sunday School. This word will be our guiding light for the year - will they choose kindness? Integrity? Honesty? Faith? Compassion? We will also hang Epiphany Stars for everyone in the narthex on our bulletin board.



Epiphany stars are much like Gethsemane's "mini-vision" - Do Good Better. Real Talk. Thanks for That. Epiphany stars are personal mini-visions. Will you choose family? Holy Spirit? Peace? What attribute do you feel you could really focus on, and make the baseline for your actions and interactions with others for the year?

I am always in awe of our Gethsemane youth. They are wise beyond their years, they are considerate of each other and the people in their life, and they are really really good at expressing their emotions and the ways they interact with the world (and how they see the world interacting with them). I can't brag enough about the ways this group of kids makes Sunday mornings with them joyful and inspiring. At church, we celebrate all 12 days of Christmas - and although the kids don't think it's fair to only have one day



of gifts, they are always eager to share ways we can continue to celebrate the reason for the season: Love. 12 days takes us from Christmas day to Epiphany. Some of you may have noticed that the Bible Study ladies moved the three wise-men away from the manger scene in

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the narthex - because those 12 days represent the travel time for those magi. Astrologers that they were, they followed a bright star in the sky to find that manger scene and were not there the day Jesus was born and laid in that manger. They followed a 'guiding light' which came from a star; and now we have Epiphany Stars which allow us the opportunity to choose a guiding light for the year. Perhaps our guiding light should be Jesus for the year; perhaps we individually feel as if we should check in with our WWJD bracelets from the 90's as we navigate another trip around the sun. Maybe our guiding light for the year must be compassion; compassion for self, compassion for others, compassion for strangers. For some of us, choosing family as a guiding light is the reminder we need to put family before the stresses of work and paying bills and making it to the gym.

Whichever word, or star, you choose this year I encourage you to carry it with you. In your car, your wallet, hung on the front door so you peek at it each time you come and go - somewhere it can be in your way just enough to remind you on a regular basis of the guiding light you choose for yourself this year.

Some of the stars are blank. This is intentional, and leaves a space for you to fill in your own word in case none of the others speak to you. Each of us knows our own personal journey better than anyone else, and we are all able to pick out an attribute we'd like to pay more attention to. Please don't hesitate to ask for a blank star if there isn't one up there for you, and none of the other guiding lights feel right for you.

If you would like a star mailed to you, please let office staff know. As you are able over the next few weeks, please choose the star that speaks to you.

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## January Happenings:

**Quarterback Sundays** - Each Sunday in January will be a "Quarterback Sunday". If you bring the youth \$1 (or \$5 or \$10 bills), we will give you a "quarter back". These donations will supplement our donation to SnowCap for Souperbowl Sunday.

**SouperBowl Sunday** - February 12th is Super Bowl Sunday. We still don't know who will play in the game, but we do know that millions of people across the United States can use donations of soup. Please join us in participating in SouperBowl Sunday and beating Trinity and Resurrection Lutheran in donations to SnowCap this year. Donations may be brought in anytime in January, and through February 12th.



Join us for Bible Study on **Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am!**

In person in the Conference Room and on Zoom  
at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83076176257> Meeting ID: 830 7617 6257.



## **Gethsemane Vision and Mission**

We are forgiven and called by God to proclaim the Good News of Christ. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our mission is to serve both the physical and spiritual needs of all people in our changing society. We welcome all races, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations.

## **Community Covenant**

In recognition of God's greatest commandment, we will love God with all our heart, mind, and soul, and love our neighbor as ourselves. In that same spirit, we make this covenant:

- We will welcome all people with our hearts, actions, and words.
- We will talk with each other, not at each other.
- We will listen to each other, not for fault but for understanding.
- We will express our concerns and issues directly with those involved, rather than with others.
- We will support our pastor and staff and honor their efforts among us.
- We will seek to discover what is best for our Church as a whole, not what may be best for us individually or as a small group.
- We will pray with each other and for each other

## Notes

- \* **Pick up the *Living Lutheran* and Word In Season devotionals** for Jan.-Mar. in the office. Large print devotionals are available!
- \* Do you know someone in need of food pantry resources? **Oregon Food Bank's "Food Finder"** ([foodfinder.oregonfoodbank.org](http://foodfinder.oregonfoodbank.org)) can help! Enter an address to find all the free local pantries within 15 miles, including open days and hours.
- \* **SnowCap's winter needs** include the following: sugar, hearty canned soup/chili/stews, canned fruit & vegetables, quart-size zip-top bags, paper bags, dessert mixes (Jello/cakes/brownies), cooking oil & butter, pet food. Full-size items for care packages: toothpaste/brushes, deodorant, shaving cream/razors, body wash/soap, shampoo/conditioner, baby wipes, lotion, laundry detergent, hats, gloves, handwarmers. Go to [www.snowcap.org/donate](http://www.snowcap.org/donate) for more information or to send a contribution to be used to bulk-purchase goods. The donation drive-through is open Monday-Friday between 9 am - 3 pm at 17788 SE Pine Street.
- \* **Please remember to sign in on the contact-tracing sheet.**
- \* If you'd like to **run a message or announcement about a church event in the Olive Press**, please email Anna at [alewis@glcportland.org](mailto:alewis@glcportland.org) or mail it in to the office for formatting.
- \* **Participation in Thrivent Choice® & Thrivent Action Teams makes a difference!** Thrivent clients with membership have unique opportunities to help support Vacation Bible School and the ministry of planting seeds of faith! Consider making a **personal donation**, leading a **Thrivent Action Team**, or **directing Thrivent Choice Dollars**®. Go to [Thrivent.com/generosity](http://Thrivent.com/generosity) to learn more.



Pastor Donna & the GLC Staff

wish you a peaceful and joyous

*New Year 2023*



## January Lectionary

### **Sunday Jan 1 – Name of Jesus**

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 8 (1)

Galatians 4:4-7 or Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 2:15-21

### **Sunday Jan 8 – Epiphany Sunday**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

### **Sunday Jan 15 – Baptism of Jesus**

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

### **Sunday Jan 22 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (1)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

### **Sunday Jan 29 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15 (1)

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

## Vanco Contributions Procedure, Option One

Go to [www.glcportland.org](http://www.glcportland.org). On the homepage, there is a button that says "Online Giving". That button will take you to the Vanco website. On the Vanco homepage...

- Login in the top right corner.
- Select "contribute" under one of the categories:
  - a. Evangelism/Outreach
  - b. Building
  - c. General Fund
- After selecting "contribute", fill out the form
  - a. How much; any amount
  - b. How often; once, weekly, monthly
  - c. Select when to start the payment (a calendar will pop up)
  - d. The next page will ask for credit/debit card information
  - e. On the right side of the same page, click the "review information" button



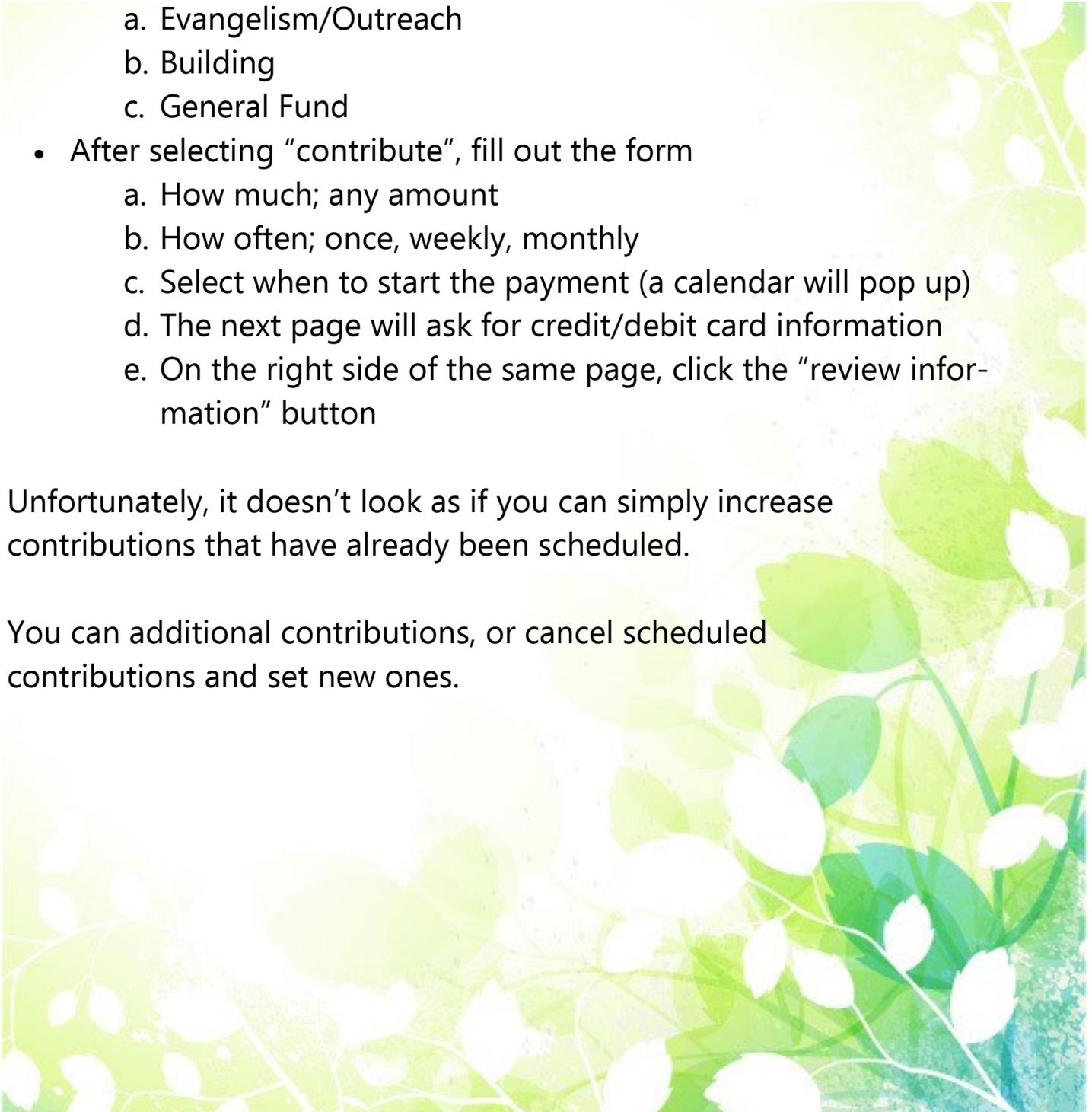
## Vanco Contributions Procedure Option Two

Go to <https://secure.myvancom.com/L-YRFX/home> on the Vanco homepage:

- Login in the top right corner.
- Select “contribute” under one of the categories:
  - a. Evangelism/Outreach
  - b. Building
  - c. General Fund
- After selecting “contribute”, fill out the form
  - a. How much; any amount
  - b. How often; once, weekly, monthly
  - c. Select when to start the payment (a calendar will pop up)
  - d. The next page will ask for credit/debit card information
  - e. On the right side of the same page, click the “review information” button

Unfortunately, it doesn't look as if you can simply increase contributions that have already been scheduled.

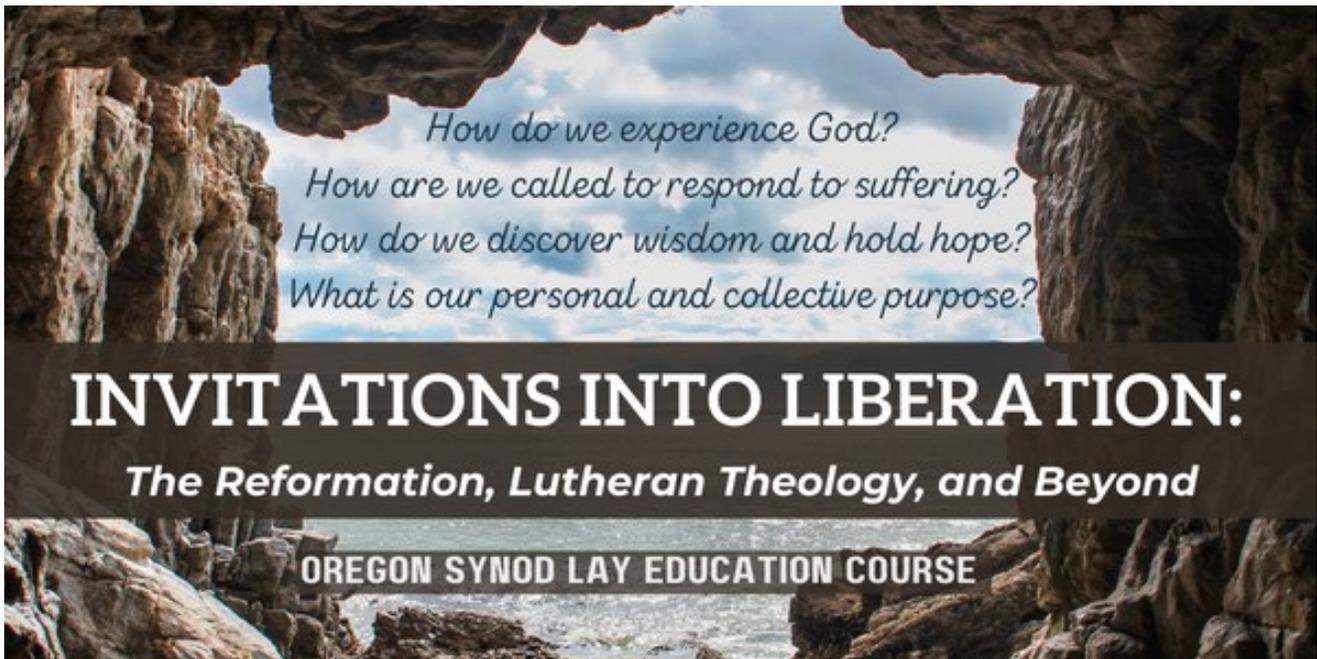
You can add additional contributions, or cancel scheduled contributions and set new ones.



## GLC Calendar for January

- **Sunday, Jan. 1st: Worship, 9:30am**
- **Monday, Jan. 2nd: Office CLOSED**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 4th: Bible Study, 10:00 am**
- **Sunday, Jan. 8th: Worship, 9:30am ~ Council Installation**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 10th: Bible Study, 10:00 am**
- **Sunday, Jan. 15th: Youth Sunday! Worship, 9:30 am**
- **Monday, Jan. 16th: Office CLOSED for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 17th: Bible Study, 10:00 am**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 17th: Church Council, 7:00 pm**
- **Sunday, Jan. 22nd: Worship, 9:30 am**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 24th: Bible Study, 10:00 am**
- **Sunday, Jan. 22nd: Worship, 9:30 am**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 24th: Bible Study, 10:00 am**
- **Sunday, Jan. 29th: Worship, 9:30 am**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 31st: Bible Study, 10:00 am**





**Invitations Into Liberation:  
The Reformation, Lutheran Theology, and Beyond**  
an Oregon Synod lay education course.

Gather with others from around the synod as we "do theology" together, seeking inspiration from Lutheran theologians, our communities, and beyond. Guest instructors will join us each week to share a theological nugget: a lens through which we will be invited to see, practice, and reflect as we go about our daily lives. Then we'll come back together to share, wonder, and explore meaning-making as beloved children of God.

This online course will meet on **seven Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 pm beginning January 5** and then on **one Tuesday evening, February 21**. The course is designed with a Lutheran lens and inclusive heart; all are welcome. Course participants and/or their congregations are encouraged to donate as they are able, on a sliding scale between \$20 to \$160, but donations are not required to participate. [Register here](#).

Questions? Contact our Lay Education Coordinator, Christie Bernklau Halvor at [learningtogether@oregonsynod.org](mailto:learningtogether@oregonsynod.org).



## January Anniversaries

David & Theresa Qualheim 1/2

## January Birthdays

Diane Liefeld	1/3	Alexandria Liebrand	1/17
Kayda Carpenter	1/4	Flodine Loe	1/17
Kim Butenschoen	1/12	Alexandra Riehl	1/17
Sharon Lee	1/15	Thomas Crouse	1/23
Daniel Wong	1/15	Brennan Cumming	1/25
Gary Urbach	1/16	Tonia Lindquist	1/30
Paulette Kelley	1/17		

Image by FreePik

### Worship online with us!



- **Zoom on a computer:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81476436505> Click on the link or enter the following numbers – Meeting ID 814 7643 6505, then wait in the waiting room until Kevin lets you in.
- **Zoom on a phone:** call 1 253 215 8782 (no long distance charges will apply) and enter the meeting ID 814 7643 6505. You might get a prompt to hit the pound button.
- **Livestream on Facebook:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>
- **On YouTube:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/@gethsemanelutheranchurch8452>

## Financial Update

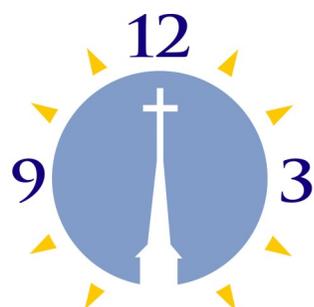
December 2021 contributions: \$17,108.38

December 2022 contributions: \$15,104.51 through 12/22

**venmo**



Thank you for your faithful support of Gethsemane through pledges and gifts of time and service. Contributions can be mailed, handed to Anna during office hours, or dropped off in the locked mailbox (checked often). Many credit unions and banks will automatically mail checks at your request. To give online, go to [www.glcportland.org/give](http://www.glcportland.org/give) or scan our Venmo code.



**CHURCH**  
OFFICE HOURS

**The GLC Church Office hours are**

**Monday** 1:00 to 4:00 pm

**Tuesday** from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Wednesday - Thursday** 9:00 - 4:00

**Please sign in when you come to the office.**

Disposable masks are available on the counter.

Anna works from home Monday mornings and Tuesday afternoons (reach her by email), and is off on Fridays.

## **Homebound**

Ginny Barton, Virginia Haacke, Carol Law, Jo Nelson.

Please help us keep our prayer list up to date:  
email Anna at [alewis@glcportland.org](mailto:alewis@glcportland.org) or call 503-256-1835  
with prayer requests or changes

**Concerns—Ongoing:** *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Colleen Barnett's friend Shane and niece Tami; Ken Hansen; Karen Arendt; Rachel Coughlin's neighbor's daughter Ashley; Sharon Lee's niece Terri; Doug Glenn; Rod Hills's mother Betty; Becky Keiper's friend Gary; Sharon Lee's sister in law Judy Fleming; Rachel Coughlin's friends Jodi Cofer and Jodi Schultz; Kim & Ernie Butenschoen's sister-in-law's mother Shirley; Shirla Rapp's cousin Mike; Russ & Melissa Solberg's dad Dan Solberg; Todd & Peggy Sloan's grandnephew Hunter; Kim Butenschoen's friend Bre; Sharon Lee's brother-in-law Larry Heaston; Virginia McCormick's son Gary

**Urgent:** *Those who are ill or in need of other prayers:* Virginia Haacke; everyone who's ill with Covid

January Olive Press



**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**, 11560 SE Market, Portland, OR 97216  
(503) 256-1835      [www.glcportland.org](http://www.glcportland.org)      [pastor@glcportland.org](mailto:pastor@glcportland.org)  
Church Office Hours: Mon. 1:00-4:00, Tues. 9:00-1:00; Wed/Thur 9:00-4:00