
◆ The Olive Press ◆

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2011

Church Council

President:

Laura Britzius

VP: Lyle Johnson

Sec/Treas: Bill Herbert

Properties:

Joe Rapp

Luth. Liaison:

Tom Lewis

Evangelism:

open

Worship:

Liz Blohm

Education:

Vanessa Lindstrom

Community Action:

Hal Hingst

Stewardship:

Dick Bemrose

Fellowship:

Kim Stoffregen

Child/Fam: Christina

Riehl

Church Staff

Pastor:

Tom Hiller

Child/Fam Min:

Maureen Hagen

Preschool Dir.:

Karla Hills

Finance Mgr.:

Cathey Myers

Parish Admin.:

Judith Rykken

Choir Director:

Cameron Herbert

Organist:

Brooke Benfield

Custodians:

Dale/Anne Van Horn

Pastor Tom's Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Take Off

What does it take to be a "Christian"?
What does it take out of you, away from you?
What does it take to you, for you?
Where does it take you?
How many takes do we get?
Take that!

What do we take to be a Christian?
What are we given?
God gives Life, Spirit, Word.
Life gives life.
Spirit gives trust.
Word gives presence.

What does it take to be a "Christian"?
100%
Can you take it?
Does that mean death? You bet!
Can you take it?
Word can, in you.

Give and take.

Take and give.
Give life, give spirit, give presence.
100%

Can you give it?
Does that mean death? You bet!
Can you take it?
Spirit can, in you.

Can you take it?
Can you give it?
Receive life. Give life.
You bet.

Worship Plans for March – You Are Invited!

- March 6 **Transfiguration Sunday** Bring your palms from last Palm Sunday. They will be used to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.
- March 9 **Ash Wednesday @ Noon** Worship Service with imposition of ashes followed by soup and bread luncheon.
Ash Wednesday @ 7:15 p.m. Worship Service with imposition of ashes.
- March 16, 23, 30 **Lenten Gatherings on Wednesdays**
Noon- Soup and bread with worship
6:30 p.m. – Soup and bread meal in the Community Hall
7:15 p.m. – Worship in the Activity Room

- **The Pastor's Class** continues on Sundays during the education hour for those who want to learn more about being a Lutheran and a Christian.
- **The Gateway Center**, a multi-service center for victims of domestic violence at 10305 E. Burnside, 97216, is in need of boy's clothing. If you can help, please call 503/988-6400.

Children & Families Update from Maureen Hagen

This Epiphany Season has been especially joyous. Easter is late this year, so we have the most possible Sundays dedicated to the life of Jesus. Because we are using the book of Matthew, we get to spend a lot of time listening, with his disciples, to the Sermon on the Mount. This has been a great time to introduce our new lectionary curricula in Sunday School. Both classes do well with the *Spark* and *Living the Good News* curricula. It's great seeing kids make the connection between Sunday School and what is said in church.

You may have noticed more children at services. We now have five acolytes-in-training: *Tyler Riehl, Brandon Schie, Logan Schie, Mandie Schie*, and *Christine Wong* who will be commissioned in May. We hope the younger ones can find mentors among the ushers and greeters so they too can participate in the service. Children learn better through active engagement. With more children at services, the energy level is much higher. It may prove somewhat distracting to some. I am reminded of Jesus' words: *Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me* (Mt 18.5) and *Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.* (Mk 10.14b-15). Let's see what we can do to welcome every child at Gethsemane with smiles and kindness.

Children, Youth, and Families: On Sunday Fun Day Feb 13, we had 16 kids in Sunday School; 20 later participated in *Operation: Spread the Love* where we made Valentines for friends and the homebound, decorated heart-shaped cookies, and prepared care packages for our college kids. It was a joyful place to be.

The youth will be taking leadership of the **Shrove Tuesday dinner on March 8**, which will include a pancake dinner for the congregation (including Daybreak), mask-making, and a "putting-away-the-alleluias" liturgy. **Come join us!**

Education: All good educators are continually learning. I've been attending "webinars" put on by Augsburg to make sure we get the most out of our curriculum. I also went to Charlotte, NC for a meeting of Christian educators to learn more about best practices. As Gethsemane grows, we need to be able to offer the best in terms of teachers and programs.

Since January we have been most blessed by teacher *Roseann Libonati* who brings a wealth of experience to the middle schoolers. We also had parents present Bibles to *Brandon Schie* and *Aiden Lindstrom* who will be using them in their education. This visually showed the congregation the fulfillment of parents' pledge at Baptism to put the Holy Scriptures in the hands of their children.

Opportunities to Get Involved: There are so many ways you can help. Here are some of our present needs:

- ◆ Teach middle school two Sundays a month
- ◆ Help with Shrove Tuesday (buy ingredients, set up, clean up, cook)
- ◆ Help with snacks on Sundays
- ◆ Share your coupons to OMSI, the zoo, Eagle Crest, bowling
- ◆ Write postcards, birthday cards, etc.
- ◆ Wash acolyte robes once a month
- ◆ Serve on a fundraising planning committee
- ◆ Serve on the Education and/or Children&Families boards
- ◆ Teach a skill (knitting, sewing, woodworking)
- ◆ Share your story
- ◆ Help at Sunday Fun activities on second Sunday afternoons or at Friday Fun Nights on the last Friday of the month
- ◆ Be part of the VBS planning team

It takes a congregation to raise a child of faith. Please do what you can, and continue to hold our children, youth, and families in your prayers.

Coming Up:

- Feb 25 **Friday Fun Night** - dinner & games - bring your favorite game to share
- Feb 25 **Girls Overnight!!** (starts at 8 p.m.; ends at 9 a.m. Saturday)
- March 5-6 **Synod Gathering** for middle schoolers in Eugene
- March 8 **Shrove Tuesday Dinner**, along with mask-making, and putting-away-the-alleluias
- March 13 **Sunday Fun: OMSI**
- March 25 **Friday Fun Night** is cancelled because of Spring Break



Shrove Tuesday!! Our **Confirmation Class** invites *everyone* to a traditional Shrove Tuesday dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, with pancakes and all the fixings. There will be a special program for children and youth involving art and liturgy. Come and see! We need lots of help and donations. See the sign-up list in the narthex. For more information, contact Maureen at maureenhagen@gmail.com.

Council Notes - February Meeting Highlights

We gathered together for the first time with new and returning council members and briefly touched on the expectations of each council member. We handed out a copy of the constitution and job descriptions for the new members.

Four new requests for building use were discussed and approved: Two groups have used the building before: Human Solutions' Holiday Store and Growing Gardens. Both are a great way for us to be involved with our community.

Many more items were discussed, so please refer to the draft copy of the minutes on the shelf in the narthex for more details. Also, details of the Community Hall structural engineering report follows.

God Bless you, Laura Britzius, Congregation President

Engineering Report of 8 Feb 2011

Bill Herbert and I met with Hamid Afghan and David Sandahl, both from Afghan Associates, Inc. (AAI) along with Bill Jorgens of Jorgens Construction. We discussed Mr. Sandahl's findings after his review of the community hall structure, based on an inspection of the roof, the trusses via the attic space, the footings of the walls and flooring via the crawl space, and the blueprints of the structure which we supplied.

(continued)

Please note that his inspection did not open any wall spaces to determine the strength or ability of the walls to sustain additional weight. His inspection was not conclusive on current code issues. With the assistance of Bill Jorgens, AAI determined four plausible recommendations for replacing the community hall roof.

Recommendation 1: Repair the existing trusses. This option would include but not be limited to additional vertical supports and adding cross supports between trusses. It might also include straightening the existing trusses. This option would be very labor intensive.

Recommendation 2: Add a sister truss to each existing truss. This option would add a new truss to each existing truss and tie them together.

Recommendation 3: Replace the trusses with new trusses, leaving the flat roof as is. This option would replace the existing trusses with a like truss. The roof line would remain the same. There would be extensive flashing added between the flat roof and the new trusses to eliminate a point where rainwater could enter the building.

Recommendation 4: Replace the trusses with new trusses extending to the gutter line. This option would replace the one-piece existing truss with a three-piece truss system. One truss would span from the east load bearing wall to the west load bearing wall and then one truss from each load bearing wall to the gutter line wall. This system of trusses would pitch the entire roof for better runoff of rainwater and snow by eliminating the flat roof area.

It is my understanding that after the details of the four recommendations are completed, Phase One with AAI will be complete. Bill Jorgens will have his bids prepared on all four recommendations by our March council meeting. We will also entertain bids from other contractors on any or all of the recommendations made by AAI. If you have any concerns or questions on this matter, please feel free to discuss them with Bill Herbert or myself, Laura Britzius.

Short Notes:

- **Our Stewardship Emphasis** this year is called *Belief in Action*. On January 23 we distributed this year's *Belief in Action* form. We collected the completed forms at the Annual Meeting on January 30. This form is a way to let us know how God is calling you to use your gifts of time and talent to support and grow our work here at Gethsemane. We take seriously your investment of time and talent and want to be sure we use your gifts. So, if you are not contacted about an area you marked on your form, it is most likely "human" error in transferring your information to the *Belief in Action* matrix. If that happens, let the church office know right away so that the Stewardship Committee can make the correction!
- **Our 2011 Friends of Trees Planting** was a success. We planted 144 trees in the Hazelwood, Mill Park, and Parkrose neighborhoods. Thank you for your continued support. (They staged the planting operation from the Community Hall at Gethsemane.)
- **LEARN MORE ABOUT ALZHEIMER'S** -- Alzheimer's affects people in varying ways and ripples out to impact the lives of those who interact with them. Understanding what is happening to a person with Alzheimer's is key to interacting effectively and providing quality care. Learn about risk factors, warning signs and steps to diagnosis.
Kristrun Grondal of the Alzheimer's Association, Oregon Chapter will present "**The Basics of Alzheimer's & Dementia: What it is and what it you can do**" on **Wednesday, March 16 at 11 a.m.** Sponsored by the Senior Luncheon, the session is open to all adults, not just seniors. The presentation will be followed by a potluck lunch at 12 noon. Even if you can't stay for lunch, come to learn more about a disease which is affecting more and more people.
- **Super Bowl is Over! Unfortunately, Hunger is NOT.** So far, we have contributed 88 lbs. of soup to SnowCap as a result of the Souper Bowl Drive. I would LOVE to see that number be over 100 lbs. When we started the drive, we said it would go until the end of the month. If we brought one can each, we would surpass this goal. Thanks for all that you do. Dick & Diane Bemrose.

Preschool Registration Is Underway for the 2011-2012 School Year

Preschool is Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9 to 11:30 a.m., with lunch bunch available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children must be 3 or 4 years old by Sept 1, 2011 and toilet trained. Tuition is \$140/month; lunch bunch is \$6/day; the registration fee is \$50 until June 1, 2011 (\$60 after June 1).

Daybreak Shelter News

As a Daybreak Homeless Shelter volunteer, it is a privilege to visit with some of our guests and hear their comments. Because Gethsemane does such a fine job of caring for those who are temporarily homeless, it seems important that you hear some of those comments. Hal Hingst

- One of the families finally got an apartment of their own. It will cost them at least \$650 a month, but as they said, "It includes water, sewer, and trash pickup, which has been a difficult expense." As they unloaded their earthly belongings from the shelter bus to their new apartment, their nine year-old son gleefully skipped down the stairs singing out: "O boy, my own home!"
- The father of another family asked permission to take a shower before leaving for the day. He commented that "this is such a nice place to stay and it's very clean. We also have plenty of space as well as the privacy of our own room which is very good!"
- One mother said to thank the people of this church "for their kindness and making everything so nice for us."


Camp Lutherwood Thanks for supporting our campers. All gifts may be sent to Camp Lutherwood, 22960 Hwy 36, Cheshire, OR 97419. Summer camp registration is available on-line. Sign up now for confirmation camp or Day Camp. Please check out the camp programs at www.lutherwood.org.

SAVE the DATE! Camp Lutherwood will have two Spring Celebration benefit dinners, on May 14 in Portland (place to be determined) and May 15 at Emmaus Lutheran Church in Eugene. Plan now to attend one of the events that supports the ministry of Lutherwood. Blessings, Andrea Scofield

Benevolence Giving: In addition to the 10 percent benevolence Gethsemane gives from all offerings, members also give directly, through Gethsemane, to specific charities. The breakdown of those amounts for 2010 are shown below; the total for the year was over \$9,000.

Snow Cap \$160	Loaves & Fishes \$501	World Hunger \$980
House of Zion \$58	Habitat for Humanity \$2,200	Disaster Relief \$2,345
Camp Lutherwood \$918	Bed Netting/Cong. \$258	Bed Netting/Youth \$\$377
St. Jude Hospital \$373	Genesis Youth Choir \$128	Compassion Int'l. \$440

OFFERING, INCOME & BUDGET REPORT THROUGH JANUARY 2011			
INCOME NEEDED	RECEIVED	ACTUAL EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE
\$25,104	\$21,613	\$23,137	(\$3,491)
WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:	2011: 124	2010: 113	CATHEY MYERS, FIN. MAN.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>March 2011 Gethsemane Lutheran Church</p>		<p>1 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study Noon-Pre- school Bd. Mtg. 7:30p-Swing Band</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 7:45a-Bible Class 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir</p>	<p>4 OFFICECLOSED 7P-BAND PRAC- TICE</p>	<p>5 12:30p- Recovery Inc. 9a-3:30- Growing Gar- dens MIDDLE SCHOOL RALLY @ EM- MAUS/EUGENE</p>
<p>6 TRANSFIGURA- TION SUNDAY- BRING PALMS 8&10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Pastor's Class <i>Daybreak here this week</i></p>	<p>7 NO BAND DUE TO DAYBREAK</p>	<p>8 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-NO Band 5-7P-SHROVE TUESDAY PAN- CAKE SUPPER</p>	<p>9 ASH WEDNESDAY NOON -SOUP/ BREAD /WORSHIP 7:15P-WORSHIP (NO SOUP/BRD.)</p>	<p>10 7:45a-Bible Class 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir</p>	<p>11 OFFICECLOSED</p>	<p>12 12:30p- RecovInc. 10a-Calgon Group</p>
<p>13 8&10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Pastor's Class 5:30p- Confirmation</p>	<p>14 8:30a-Preschool Staff Mtg. 10a-B-Team 1p-StephenMin 7p-Band</p>	<p>15 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band</p>	<p>16 5:30p- Church Coun. <i>11a-Speaker Noon-Sr. Potluck with Lenten De- votion 6:30P-SOUP/BRD 7:15P-LENTEN SERVICE</i></p>	<p>17 7:45a-Bible Class 10a-Dorcas Circle 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir</p>	<p>18 OFFICECLOSED</p>	<p>19 12:30p- Recovery Inc.</p>
<p>20 8&10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Pastor's Class</p>	<p>21 7p-Band</p>	<p>22 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band</p>	<p>23 NOON -SOUP/ BREAD /WORSHIP 6:30P-SOUP/BRD 7:15P-LENTEN SERVICE</p>	<p>24 7:45a-Bible Class 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir</p>	<p>25 OFFICECLOSED <i>NO Family Fun Night due to Spring Break</i></p>	<p>26 12:30p- Recovery Inc.</p>
<p>27 8&10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Pastor's Class 5:30p- Confirmation</p>	<p>28 7p-Band</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 NOON -SOUP/ BREAD /WORSHIP 6:30p-Soup/Brd 7:15p-Lenten Service</p>	<p>31 7:45a-Bible Class 9:30a-Quilting 1p-Orchestra 7p-Choir</p>	<p>April 1 OFFICECLOSED</p>	<p>April 2 12:30p- Recovery Inc.</p>

Sirens, Rabbits, Spaghetti ...

As of this writing, our annual spaghetti fundraiser is still to be held, but we have already received many donations of baskets to auction and gift certificates to raffle. The Fellowship Opportunities committee is busy planning and the Old Country Kitchen again donated meat for the spaghetti sauce, for which we are grateful. If you're reading this prior to February 27, please join us following the 10:30 service on Sunday. You'll be treated to delicious food, a few songs by the preschoolers, and a fun time of auctioning gift basket and possibly winning a raffle prize! Many, many thanks to everyone who helps. We can't do it without you and we appreciate all your help enormously.

Our thanks to Thrivent for their monetary support of the spaghetti dinner fundraiser, and to Marion Burgess for her efforts in this area. Some of the money from Thrivent will be used to purchase raffle prizes, as well as a \$700 donation to the fundraiser itself.

During February the preschoolers learned about some community helpers. A police officer from the Gresham Police Department let the children crawl all through his car before they stood and watched the lights go and, cover your ears, heard the siren at close range. Firefighters also came, with their shiny red fire engine; they also learned about postal workers.

During chapel the children heard stories about Jesus as healer, Jesus calling disciples and blessing the children, and about Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree.

In addition, we celebrated the Chinese New Year. This year is the Year of the Rabbit and we made paper lanterns to celebrate!

As always happens in March, we are now looking ahead to the coming year. Registration is open, so if you know of a 3 or 4 year-old (by September 1), please refer them. We have an excellent program. They can contact Karla Hills at 503/256-1835 or email her at gethsemanepreschool@hotmail.com or go online to glcportland.org.

As our weather turns warmer (we hope!), enjoy the signs of spring.

Karla Hills, Preschool Director

Collecting Now The GLCW (Gethsemane Lutheran Church Women) are gathering all the UPC labels they can from FlavRPac and Santiam products to send in soon. Please hand in at the church office or give to Lillian Huston. Thanks!

March Birthdays

2 Evelyn Kimpton
5 Josephine Crouse
7 John Skuzeski
John Hurlman
9 Joan Ward
10 RJ Treanor
12 Alfild Anderson
13 Michelle Schie
22 Bob Magnuson
23 Ralph Nelson
Tyler Riehl
27 Ken Hansen
Richard Burgess
30 Roseann Libonati

Anniversaries

24 Steve/Christina Riehl

Prayer Concerns—Ongoing: *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* Wynn & Jim Stafford & their daughter-in-law Jennifer, Linda Babcock, Karen Arendt, Dorothy & Gerald Shouse, Karen & Warren Stenberg, Alfild Anderson, Jerry Tilkens & his sister LaVonna, Bea Jarvie, Norm Thoreson, George Willett, Cathey Myers' friends Beth & Tom, Steve Olson, John Skuzeski & his son Tom, Vera Koosman, & Liz Blohm's niece Betty.

Urgent—Those who are ill: Bob Edwards, Kim Stoffregen's mother Phyllis, Dick Boro, Katherine Eshleman, Galvin Irby & the Irby's friend Sylvan Long, Theresa Qualheim's cousin's daughter Alena, the Larson's friend Jan, Evelyn Kimpton's granddaughter Terri, Dorothy Thoreson's sister Helen Loomis, the Shouse's daughter Gloria Miller, Nettie Ubrick's grandson Michael, Dorothy Thoreson & grandson Jacob, Mae Lapsley, Dorothy Olson, Randy Treanor, Stan Johnson, Roland Haacke, Ralph & Jo Nelson, Rosanne Libonati, & Dorothy Urbach.

HOMEBOUND Brothers and Sisters

- * **Lucille Langseth** Pacific Gardens, 17309 NE Glisan St., #402 Portland 97230 (503)256-0553
- * **Dorothy Urbach** Glisan Care Center, 9750 NE Glisan St., Portland 97220 (503)256-3920
- * **Dorothy Olson**, 4001 SE 182, Portland 97030
- * **Mae Lepsley**, 1280 NE Kane Dr. Fairlawn Care Ctr, Gresham, OR 97030
- * **Warren/Karen Stenberg**, 15521 SE Meadowlark Ln. Milwaukie 97267



Gethsemane Lutheran
Church Newsletter

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Pastor Tom Hiller

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