
◆ The Olive Press ◆

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2011

CHURCH COUNCIL

President:

Laura Britzius

Vice President:

Lyle Johnson

Secretary/Treasurer:

Bill Herbert

Properties:

Joe Rapp

Lutheran Liaison:

Tom Lewis

Evangelism:

open

Worship:

Liz Blohm

Education:

Vanessa Lindstrom

Community Action:

Hal Hingst

Stewardship:

Dick Bemrose

Fellowship:

Kim Stoffregen

Children & Families:

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,

The Holy Spirit has a way of bringing the people of God together.

Pentecostal worshipers speaking in tongues in a revival tent; Roman Catholic faithful at mass led by a mitred bishop in a red chasuble in a cathedral; Presbyterian believers singing hymns in a neighborhood church; the Holy Spirit makes them one.

The Holy Spirit has a way of bringing the people of God together.

Members of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Portland, Oregon, USA; members of the Lutheran Church in Tanzania; members of the Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland; the Holy Spirit makes them one.

The Holy Spirit has a way of bringing the people of God together.

Joel the Prophet, speaking in Hebrew, looking ahead to a time when the Holy Spirit will be poured out on men and women, young and old; Simon Peter and the other disciples speaking the Good News of Jesus Christ in new languages to people of many nations who hear it in their own language; Martin Luther, speaking in German, leading fellow Christians to a new understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; members of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Portland, Oregon, USA learning to translate the Good News of Jesus Christ into the languages of diverse groups of ethnic origin and culture; the Holy Spirit makes them one.

The Holy Spirit has a way of bringing the people of God together.

In a world of Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus, Jews, secularists, and spiritual seekers, the Holy Spirit leads and guides us to effectively proclaim the Gospel and to respectfully listen to the thoughts, beliefs, and experience of others.

The Holy Spirit makes us one.

In the Life of Christ, Pastor Tom

Oregon Synod Assembly The voting members of the Oregon Synod Assembly from our congregation this year are Dick Bemrose, Liz Blohm, and Pastor Tom. The assembly will take place in Eugene, June 3-5. Please pray for the Oregon Synod.

Pentecost is Coming! Sunday, June 12 is Pentecost. On that day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church in all of its diversity. Wear red and bring your enthusiasm!

From the People of Luther House

Luther House is a vibrant, welcoming, inclusive, curious, traditional-yet-progressive, Christ-centered, Spirit-inspired Lutheran Campus Ministry at Oregon State University. We are students, faculty, university staff, international guests, and community members linked by faith and committed to academic life. We offer a place of hospitality – a gracious old home one block from campus – to meet others, form friendships, share a meal, worship, pray, make connections between faith and studies, ask questions, relax and have fun. Our purpose is to invite others more deeply into Jesus Christ and the community that bears his name so that they can discover and fulfill their callings for the sake of the world.

If you would like to support this ministry you may send a contribution to: 211 NW 23rd Street, Corvallis, Oregon, 97330. The phone number is 541.753.5213; the e-mail address is info@luther-house.org; and the web site is www.luther-house.org. Luther House is also available on facebook.

Council Meeting Highlights for May

Great things are happening with Children, Youth, and Families. In their report to council we received a sneak peek at this summer's events. Wow! Watch for their calendar of events and see if there is a chance for you to get involved with this dynamic group!

Save the date: The summer band concert with the Portland Metro Band is scheduled for June 26, so mark your calendar and join us for great music and excellent food following second service, at noon.

You have heard me speak about the community hall and the TLC it requires. We have taken the first few steps and worked with an engineer and a contractor to get our facts regarding the repairs necessary to make our building safe for all who use it. A group of folks are just beginning the next step of looking at what forms our community, both inside and outside Gethsemane and, most importantly, our mission to serve all groups. If you are concerned about the community hall and the communities that use it, please feel free to join the group. We'd love the extra help. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 21 at 7p.m.

Please see the narthex counter for a copy of the minute draft for additional meeting information.

Laura Britzius, Congregation President

Children, Youth & Families Update – June 2011

The Fifty Days of Easter are times of great joy. This year, because they are very late, they overlap with many of the normal ending of the (academic/program) year activities. With the return of good weather, we often tend to feel like we are in the Season after Pentecost (*aka* Ordinary Time) and in the process may miss some of the specialness of these great Fifty Days. We keep up the symbols of Easter – the Paschal Candle, Alleluia banner, and Easter eggs in the garden – until Pentecost. Let us remember there are still a few more days to celebrate!

Investing in Gethsemane's Future. Easter launched the fundraising season for children and youth. People can donate to **The 144 Fund** and/or **Sponsor** a child for the mission trip and camp. Many thanks to those who have already contributed. We will keep the envelopes available. Please be generous.

Our *programming* continues to draw a lot of kids and families to Gethsemane. On Sunday Funday we went bowling. We had 15 participants and a lot of fun. A week earlier, for Mother's Day, our kids made bejeweled flower pots. Many thanks to **Dick & Diane Bemrose** for making this possible. (*continued*)

Our *Daybreak families* arrived on Mother's Day. **Mandie Schie** and her friend Katelyn were a great help on Sunday. Not only did they help the families get situated and the dinner ready, they provided a lot of joy for the kids by playing with them and helping them get rid of a lot of energy! In future Day-break stays we hope to have more kids able to help with the meals and activities on Sunday.

The *Mission Trip* materials have been sent out. It looks like we will have a full group. From Gethsemane: Alec, Christine, Jasmine, Logan, Mandie, Ryan, Sierra, and Tyler. From St. Luke: Mary and Nicole. Adult leaders are Christina, Mark (St. Luke), Maureen, and Michelle. We will be working with the Seashore Literacy Center in Waldport. Our youth will be serving meals, reading to kids, cleaning, and doing maintenance as they learn what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

Education: Good news: We have more kids of different ages. In fact, we need to offer a new section for grades 2-5. More good news: Our curriculum has five different levels available, so no more cost involved. Potentially bad news: We do not have enough volunteers. Can you help??

We have decided to have Sunday School year-round. We purchased material that will make it possible. During the summer, we will offer a one-room schoolhouse, staffed by two-person teams who will work together for 2-3 weeks on one unit. Is God calling you?

Also, planning is underway for **VBS**. Christina, Jackie, and Vanessa are the planning committee and they would love your help, both for prep work and for help during the week. VBS is July 11-15.

Upcoming

27 May	Friday Fun Night – Outdoor Fun
12 June	Pentecost Celebration Sunday Funday @ Oaks Park
26 June	Celebration of Children, Youth & Families Teacher and Volunteer Appreciation Commissioning of Acolytes Mission Trip Commissioning Picnic @ Gethsemane
27 June-1 July	Mission Trip to Waldport
11-15 July	Vacation Bible School
20 July	Kids Nite Out resumes

Please hold our children, youth, and families in your prayers.

Yours in Christ, Maureen-Elizabeth Hagen
maureenhagen@gmail.com; 971.219.8219

The 144 Fund

- ⇒ ***What is it?*** A fun way to invest in the future of Gethsemane.
- ⇒ ***How does it work?*** Choose an envelope marked between \$1 and \$144 and put in cash or check equal to the amount.
- ⇒ ***How will the money be used?*** To support programs for children and youth, especially the mission trip, Camp Lutherwood, summer activities for children, etc.
- ⇒ ***Is this tax-deductible?*** Absolutely!
- ⇒ ***When?*** Return to Gethsemane by June 30.

Summer @ Gethsemane - We Need You!

Can you help out by teaching two or three Sundays this summer? We have the materials and they're great! Are you someone who likes to have fun and would like to be one of the adult leaders on our Tuesday excursions? (Trips to OMSI, the Zoo, bowling, Oaks Park, Children's Museum, swimming, Clackamas Aquatic Center) Would you like to watch kids as they have fun on Wednesday nights? All of these are fun. All of them require adult leaders. Come and see how great our kids are! Contact Maureen for more information.

Short Notes:

- ⇒ **Garden Party!** Let's clean up the garden at Gethsemane before our concert guests arrive on June 26. Bring gloves and shovels on ***Saturday, June 18, at 9 a.m.*** and we'll work until it's finished.
- ⇒ **Thanks to All** who contributed eggs, candy and cash for the Easter egg hunt. We had lots of kids who were very appreciative. We even had many used eggs returned for next year's hunt. Dick and Diane Bemrose.
- ⇒ **A Mural Painting Party** with free pizza is planned for June 12 after church in the Community Hall. All painters are welcome. We're doing murals for Vacation Bible School.
- ⇒ **Fairlawn Has Its Own Rose Festival Princesses** and Dorothy Thoreson was honored to be chosen as one of the six princesses this year.

New Member: Stan Johnson: Stan was born in Outlook, Montana and moved to Plentywood, also in Montana, where his folks bought a dairy farm, and Stan and his siblings worked. He met his wife Margaret at a Luther League Convention and they were married in June of 1945. The Johnsons had one daughter, Rita, four sons (Lloyd, Irvin, Lyle, and Dean), and six grandchildren. In 1947 they moved to Lebanon, Oregon where Stan took a job in the plywood plant. He worked there for 37 years. Stan helped start Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Lebanon. After the kids grew up, Stan and Margaret wintered in Apache Junction near Phoenix, Arizona for three or four months each year for 22 years. Margaret wrote music and they would entertain, she on the piano, he on the bass guitar, at the RV parks and clubhouses. They both loved music and their lives revolved around it. Stan was a member of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers for 35 years and he made two trips to Norway to sing; he's been to Europe four times; and he is also an amateur radio operator. When Margaret passed away in December 2009, Stan moved to Portland. He is thrilled to be so close to his family. He usually attends late service.

June Preschool News

Another school year is rapidly coming to a close. It is 5 a.m. in the morning and I have procrastinated writing this article long enough. I've got an Olive Press deadline today and I must get this article to Jude in time. So here I sit trying to put my thoughts and feelings on paper. As the year ends, we say goodbye again to preschoolers and their families. Some students are moving on to kindergarten. Most of our three/four year-old students will be returning in the fall.

We've had a great school year, learning and experiencing so many things. Weekly chapel lessons had the recurring message that God loves and cares for them. We had so much fun with music, movement, and large motor activities/games. Readiness skills – e.g. working on shapes, colors, counting, numeral recognition, sequencing, patterning, alphabet recognition, letter sounds, name recognition, and writing one's name, etc. are all part of our curriculum. Weekly science lessons were a blast! Sometimes literally, such as when our model volcano exploded (on purpose). The children have such a thirst for learning.

Thank you to our staff: Katie Greer, Tammy Gover, Krystal Moon, Margie Fletcher, and Christina Woods. Teaching preschoolers is not an easy task. It takes a lot of work, dedication, and patience. My thanks also to Linda Fletcher for her efforts in cutting and bundling the Campbell Soup labels for preschool items. Two of our staff, Katie Greer and Krystal Moon, are leaving. Katie's been here five years and Krystal for two years. Katie has done a wonderful job developing our Science and Art program. Krystal was our four/five year old teacher and is moving on to follow another career path. We wish them both well. As most of you know, I am retiring this year from my position as preschool director. I've worked with the preschool for 20 years, 15 as director. It is time for me to say "goodbye" also.

So many people over the years have helped or supported the preschool and me. Thank you to office staff, the preschool staff, members of the congregation, friends of the congregation, parents of preschoolers and, who could forget, the preschoolers themselves. Sometimes when having a challenging day and needing something to brighten my day, all I had to do was walk in a preschool room and hear the children's laughter or have a child come up and throw his/her arms around me and say, "I love you." I will so miss those times!

As my tenure here comes to an end, I've been remembering the past. The preschool staff, current and past, had a get together. It was so much fun to reminisce and see past staff members. One thing I consistently heard was that even though sometimes they needed to leave Gethsemane Preschool to follow other career paths, they so enjoyed working here. I have worked with such fantastic people at the preschool and in the church office. I will miss the daily contact with our church office staff and am so thankful for their help and support personally through the years.

Thank you to our Preschool Board members through the years. They are a sounding board for the director, especially when new or tough issues arise.

A big thank you to all responsible for my retirement party at church on Sunday, May 22. It was so nice! Thank you to the choir for the beautiful song during the service. I enjoyed all the well wishes and thanks from people, both verbally and in the memory books, in addition to the cards and gifts. At the party the children sang, which I especially enjoyed! Thank you to the congregation for the beautiful silver bracelet. I love it and it will be a special keepsake for me to remind me of my ministry here. I also will cherish the scrapbook album presented on behalf of the preschool board.

Our preschool is left in good hands as our new director, Katie Strobel, steps in as of July 1. Katie and I will work together during June and I will be telling her she won't be alone in leading our preschool ministry. We've such a supportive congregation, from volunteering to help at events to donating items such as egg cartons! Our congregation embraces the preschool as a ministry of the church. We know we are spreading the love of Christ through the families we serve at preschool. It is part of our mission in the community. My prayer is that our preschool continues to thrive and carry on this mission.

Finally, I am saying "goodbye" but not really. I am still a member of the family of Gethsemane. While I won't be occupying the preschool director's office here anymore, I will still be around. I hope I have the opportunity to be involved perhaps in some other areas of the church I have not had the time to do previously. I am excited about the opportunities ahead.

With many thanks to all! God's blessings, Karla Hills, Preschool Director

OFFERING, INCOME & BUDGET REPORT THROUGH MARCH 2011

INCOME NEEDED	RECEIVED	ACTUAL EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE
\$100,420	\$85,716	\$95,171	(\$14,703)

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:	2011: 178	2010: 139	CATHEY MYERS, FIN. MAN.
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Adult Ed. 5:30p-Confirm.	30 7p-Band <i>Office Closed Memorial Day</i>	31 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band 9a-Preschool Clean-Up	1 9a-Preschool Clean-Up	2 7:45a-Bible Study@AdMed 1p-Orchestra	3 OFFICECLOSED	4 12:30p- Recovery Inc.
5 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Adult Ed. 5:30p-Confirm.	6 7p-Band	7 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band SYNOD EVENT IN COMMUNITY HALL	8 SYNOD EVENT IN COMMUNITY HALL	9 7:45a-Bible Study@AdMed 1p-Orchestra	10 OFFICECLOSED	11 12:30p- RecovInc. 10a-Calgon Group 2-6p-50THANNIV IN COMMUNITY HALL
12 PENTECOST 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Adult Ed. 12:30p-Oaks Park	13 10a-B-Team 1p-StephenMin 7p-Band	14 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band 6P-CHILDREN/ FAMILYMTG. 7P-EDUCMTG.	15 7p-Church Council 3p-Steward- ship Mtg.	16 7:45a-Bible Study@AdMed 1p-Orchestra	17 OFFICECLOSED	18 12:30p- Recovery Inc. 9a-?-Courtyard Clean-Up (until it's done!)
19 FATHER'S DAY 8 & 10:30a- Worship 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Adult Ed. 5:30p-Confirm.	20 7p-Band	21 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band 7p-Community Hall Group 5p-Mutual Ministry	22	23 7:45a-Bible Study@AdMed 1p-Orchestra	24 OFFICECLOSED 6-8p-Family Fun Night	25 12:30p- Recovery Inc. 9:30 to 4:30- Super Saturday First Aid Class
26 8 & 10:30a- Worship/Com- mission Acolytes TeacherApprec. 9:30a-EdHour 9:15a-Adult Ed. NOON-BAND CONCERT	27 7p-Band YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO WALD- PORT, OREGON	28 8a-Men's Breakfast 10a-Bible Study 7:30p-Band	29	30		 JUNE 2011 GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

June Birthdays

Anniversaries

There is a glitch in a computer program, so Birthdays and Anniversaries will be posted next week.

Prayer Concerns—Ongoing: *Those who are ill, homebound, or in need of other prayers:* John Skuzeski, his son Tom; Vera Koosman; Liz Blohm's niece Betty; Kim Stoffregen's mother Phyllis; Dick Boro; Katherine Eschleman, the Larson's friend Jan; Evelyn Kimpton's granddaughter Terri; Nettie Ubrick's grandson Michael; Mae Lapsley; Randy Treanor; Stan Johnson; Roland Haacke; Wynn & Jim Stafford, their daughter-in-law Jennifer; Galvin Irby; Dorothy Urbach; Linda Babcock; Karen Arendt; Dorothy & Gerald Shouse, their daughter Gloria Miller; Karen & Warren Stenberg; Alfhild Anderson; Jerry Tilkens & his sister LaVonna; Bea Jarvie; Shirla Rapp's mother Ethel Krueger, Norm & Dorothy Thoreson, their grandson Jacob & Dorothy's sister Helen Loomis, George Willett, and Cathey Myers' friends Beth & Tom;.

Urgent: *Those who are ill:* Ralph Nelson, Colette Gill's son Jim, Bob Edwards, Penny Thoreen, Kim Stoffregen's nephew Nick, Steve Rector, and Joe Rapp. *Those who are grieving:* The family and friends of Lois Ladich; and the family and friends of Mickey Duchow's sister, Lola.

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
- * **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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