

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

A FAMILY IN CHRIST CARING FOR ALL PEOPLE

May 2010

VOLUME #117: ISSUE #5



Construction Has Begun!

From this (above)
To this (below)



Building a House Where All Are Welcome!

Commitment Sunday

May 2, 2010

Pastor Philip Reitz, Guest Speaker

Pastor Reitz, an ELCA Stewardship Key Leader, was invited by our congregation to help with our campaign. We are pleased to have him share his gifts and leadership with us again, and we thank him for his service and ministry in our midst.

On this Sunday, during worship, all of our members and friends will have opportunity to make their pledges. If you are not able to be present this weekend, you will have the opportunity to make your pledge through follow-up activities.



Palm Sunday and Easter at Gethsemane!



Congratulations to Royal Wobbe, Aidan Jenson, Conner Lawrence, Connor Boehlje, and Ben McElwee who received their First Communion on Palm Sunday. They also made the bread used at our Maundy Thursday worship.



Thanks...to the Fellowship Committee for an awesome Easter Breakfast...to Charlie Wallis for lawn care to spruce things up before Easter...to Mary Kelly for planting Easter flowers outside and arranging Easter lilies inside...to Altar Guild members, Choir singers, Bell ringers, worship participants, musicians, bulletin preparers, and all who helped to make our Holy Week and Easter celebrations meaningful and joyous.



God, You Made This World a Garden!
Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!



LIFE AT GETHSEMANE

Church Council Highlights April, 2010

(Note: Official minutes are placed on the hall bulletin board after approved at the next Council Meeting)

1. Began with prayer, blessing the construction site in the parking lot.
2. Received a Treasurer's Report which showed the newly created fund for the Renovation at \$189,156.
3. Received the Pastor's Report, which included news about her moving to south St. Louis, worship guests to welcome, thanks for everyone who helped with Holy Week and Easter services. Received membership items including a request from Terry Garland to be removed from our roster, and the transfer of Kate Dopuch to Christ Lutheran, Webster Groves.
4. Discussed a recommendation from Finance Chair Dan Flaxbart that we handle financing for the Renovation internally until the end of the Capital Fund Campaign and perhaps the construction phase of the project. At that time, we will have more information to know the amount and type of loan that will serve us best.
5. Affirmed a recommendation from the Gift & Memorial Committee for money for updates to our sound system.
6. Announced that Gethsemane needs a male and female voting member for this year's Central States Synod Assembly from June 3-6 in Wichita, KS. Anyone interested in serving in this capacity is encouraged to talk to President Charlie Wallis or Pastor Kendra.
7. Heard that the Fellowship Committee did a fantastic job with this year's Easter Breakfast and was most grateful for all the volunteers who helped!
8. Heard that a visiting youth group would be staying at Gethsemane the first weekend in June, and our youth might join them for a day at Six Flags. Both the Youth and Gethsemane have Facebook pages!
9. Heard that the Partnership for Missional Church bridgebuilders have met with staff at Mallinckrodt Elementary School and are looking forward to the next PMC Cluster Event on April 30-May 1.
10. Heard that the Social Action committee is going to have a July emphasis on food, hunger, and homelessness concerns.
11. Approved a bid for repair to the roof/chimney over the pastor's office. Thanked Charlie Wallis for agreeing to mow the lawn this year; other lawn care items are still being determined.

We pray for the hope and comfort of the resurrection for the family of Marion Grana. Marion died and joined the marriage feast of the Lamb after an extended illness. Funeral services were held at Gethsemane on Saturday, April 3rd.

Renovation

The foundation is ready for exterior construction to start. Interior renovations will begin shortly. To the best of our ability, we will keep everyone up to date on the availability of building services. Keep on eye out for emails and an ear out for phone messages.

HELP!

Coffee Hour Hosts are needed for May! Sign up on the sheet in the upstairs hallway!

Note: Pastor Kendra will be out of the office May 17-21. That is moving week! She and Pastor Jeff are moving from their home in Ferguson to the South Hampton neighborhood. She invites your prayers for her family during this time of transition! (She might also be inviting packers, drivers, and cleaners!)

GLCW

GLCW WOMEN'S SPRING LUNCHEON

Everyone is Welcome!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010, 11:30 A.M.

The SANDS Restaurant

7435 Watson Road

(Formally Frailey's Restaurant)

Reservations: Please Call Norma Schenck
314-892-3868 By Sunday, May 30, 2010

If you would like to carpool,
call Norma for arrangements.

RACHEL CIRCLE

We welcome anyone who would like
to join Rachel Circle.

Meeting will be Monday, 5/24, 11:00a.m.

Pietro's Restaurant

3801 Watson Rd.

Call Edna May Otto at 314-968-5039
for your reservation!

Congratulations to Pastor Ron and Sue Ann Glusenkamp who will be honored at the Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries 20th Anniversary Celebration on May 6, 2010. They will be recognized for their work in establishing the parish nurse ministry at Gethsemane, which was the first congregation in St. Louis to partner with Deaconess.

**You are cordially invited to the
Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries
20th Anniversary Celebration!**

**Thursday, May 6, 2010, Shearton Westport Chalet
6:00pm social hour & silent auction
7:00pm Invocation & Dinner with Introduction of Honorees**

**Individual reservations - \$100 per person
This event will benefit Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries**

Become a "Fan" of Gethsemane on Facebook! If you are on Facebook, check us out for announcements, events, and pictures! To date, we have 30 fans – are you one of

Building a House Where All Are Welcome: Stories to Tell, Gifts to Share

Mary Ann Costa was born and raised in South Saint Louis, a child of “the Hill”. She lived in the same house for 79 and 1/2 of her 81 years.

Mary Ann Costa learned of Gethsemane through the Otto family, who were her neighbors. At a time when she and her mother felt alienated from their Catholic faith, they began to attend our church.

Mary Ann was a very solitary person. She was very frugal and had a very simple life. Her only extravagance was eating out. Mary Ann had not only favorite restaurants in the neighborhood, but also favorite tables, favorite waiters, and her favorite foods. Even when her “special” was off the menu, Mary Ann could cajole the waiters into getting it for her. She was strongly independent and until diagnosed with cancer she asked little of anyone.

Suddenly this fiercely independent woman needed help and Gethsemane was there. We became her support system and her friends, her rides, her advisors. She would tell me how she never believed that anyone would be there for her in her final days. We would sit for hours and look out on the Mississippi River from the dining room of her skilled nursing care center and talk of God, death, and the comfort of “my new church”.

Just before her death, Mary Ann Costa called her lawyer and asked him to place Gethsemane Health Cabinet in her will. The money was to be used to help those who were unfortunate, especially those with disabilities. She wanted some of the money to make Gethsemane a welcome place for all. Gethsemane had welcomed Mary Ann and she wanted to be sure others would be welcome here.

When you consider this renovation project, remember that all around you are brothers and sisters in Christ who return each week because here they have found a home for their faith. Mary Ann gave you the seed money for this project. Please join her in this work.

In Christ,

Mardi Manary

Partnership for Missional Church

Our first “missional experiment” was Friday, April 30th as we lent support to “Kite Day” across the street at Mallinckrodt Elementary! Members of the Bridgebuilders and Missional Engagement Teams also attended the next Cluster Event on April 30-May 1st. Ask Mary Kelly, Kate Hartz, Jack Jaworski, Carolyn Schainker, Amy Rose, Charlie Wallis, or Bill Burmeister about what’s happening as we seek what God is up to across the street with public school kids and their families.

Stories of Faith and Life

A personal experience of welcome in the church

By Rodney Jones

(one of several shared as part of the Hymn Sing at Gethsemane on April 11, 2010)

My mother loved Easter. She instilled in me a love of marshmallow chocolate eggs, Peeps, dying Easter eggs and preparing an Easter ham. However, all of that paled in comparison to her participation in Easter Sunrise service. She loved the pageantry and the trumpets. She loved the scent of lilies. She loved the majesty and promise of the Risen Christ. To this day, five years after her death, I tear up when the organist fires up “Jesus Christ is Risen Again, Alleluia” and I don’t hear my mother’s warbly voice attempt with great confidence all of the notes in that song. However, there was an Easter Sunday almost three years ago when I missed the experience all of that completely because I wasn’t in the church.

It was Easter Sunday and I completely missed every service available at the church I was a member of. I had given up on church. I’m not going to disparage the church I was affiliated with. The people were nice enough, but it had many members and after 10 years of membership neither of us had made much attempt at getting to know each other. Furthermore, the denomination made very clear their stance on people like me which made me feel like I wouldn’t be accepted. “Love the sinner, but hate the sin.” The only problem was that while, yes, I am a sinner, the hated sin was an aspect of me that was as natural to me as my dark hair or being left-handed. So gradually I left the church altogether even though I had really checked out years earlier. I was always welcomed outwardly with smiles and pleasantries, but I knew I would never be fully accepted because, at heart, a majority of the people thought people like me should never be able to participate fully in the church.

So, it was two years ago after that Easter that I felt something move in me to return to a church environment. I decided to do some homework and started looking for a church that would be familiar to me in liturgy and tradition, but open enough to welcome people like me. If my partner should ever choose to join me at church I wanted him to feel welcome too. I had done a little homework online and visited the ELCA web site and liked many of the things I read. So, I decided to try the church on the corner of Hampton and Pernod with the great signs.

On my first visit I was welcomed with kindness and warmth and given a sincere invitation to return, first by Roy Geers and finally by Pastor Kendra. And, I wanted to return. In my homework on the ELCA, I found several points of interest, among them the statement on Human Sexuality. A civil and intelligent dialogue was happening. I liked that the ELCA was acknowledging that it had members who are homosexual but still wanted to participate fully in the church. I want to be clear though, it wasn’t just because of the ELCA’s exploration on this topic that I decided to return. I decided to return because on that first Sunday I met some very nice people. Each Sunday after that I met more and more good people and in true small church fashion (also something I grew up in) I was asked to participate outside of worship as I grew into membership at Gethsemane. It made me a little nervous. Sometimes when people discover this aspect of me, they withdraw a little. They’re not angry or mean. I can just sense their discomfort or their mental search to understand and accept me, but I decided that full disclosure was the best policy when it came to being asked to participate just so if it ever came up as a problem or an issue, it wouldn’t be a surprise to those who asked. Each time, such as when I was asked to be on the listening committee for Partnership for Missional church, I felt compelled to be honest about who I am. Each time, I was assured that it wouldn’t be an issue and it hasn’t been and I am thankful.

As I became more involved in church, some of my friends started questioning me about Christianity and my new (old) found fascination with church. How could I want to be member of a group that seeks to harm us? That tells us we're evil and unworthy of love? Some of my friends had tried to use religion in the past to change who they were with ill effects and perhaps a permanent distrust of Christians. Some have never been church goers outside of the occasional Christmas or Easter service, but they've gotten a good dose of shame. Professing to be an open and welcoming church is a tough sell on those people who see Christianity through the lens of the media. However, there are many GLBT people who have been raised in Christian homes and churches, who like me said, "I'll not go where I'm not wanted even though I know that God still loves and wants me and I will find a place where I can be accepted." Some of those friends choose the very open and affirming churches.

I assured my friends who were distrustful of Christians that even though many Christians may not understand us and may not even attempt to accept us, that there are many Christians who can. I also emphasized that I needed God in my life like I needed air or food. My relationship to God gives me a more abundant life.

I have celebrated the resurrection of Christ for my second Easter at Gethsemane. I love the people who have become my family in Christ and when I see a new person sitting among us during worship, I try very hard to greet them in some way and let them know that Gethsemane is a place they will want to come back to. It is a place that first and foremost allows you to worship the Risen Christ with a wonderful open and accepting family.

“So Much to Sing About”

ELCA South Side Cluster Hymn Festival

Sunday, May 16, 2010 3:00pm

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Union and Reavis Barracks Rd. (just off I-55)

Gethsemane's Choir and Bell Choir are working hard to prepare a special afternoon of music, and Ella Rothgangel and Dawn Riske are practicing to provide accompaniment with other musicians and choirs from area ELCA congregations. The lyrics of hymn writers Herbert Brokering and Jaroslav Vajda and the music of organist and composer Paul Manz will be featured. All three of these figures from the Lutheran tradition have recently passed away. Plan now to participate in this wonderful celebration of God's goodness with our brothers and sisters from Holy Trinity, Christ/Webster Groves, and St. Thomas/Holy Spirit. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit World Relief.

Health Cabinet

Greetings!

“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds” (Ps. 147:3).

May is such a beautiful month of the year. Sorry that strokes need to be discussed. May is recognized as National Stroke Awareness, High Blood Pressure, and Cholesterol month. Let’s focus on strokes. Strokes are also called Brain Attacks. The term “brain attack” is used to stress that a stroke is a medical emergency. Get help immediately – call 911.

Strokes kill 160,000 Americans each year and of the more than 4 million survivors, many have significant disabilities. This risk doubles every ten years after the age of 55. It is the #3 killer, behind heart disease and cancer. The costs of direct medical care and lost employment are estimated to be between \$41 billion and \$50 billion a year.

Unfortunately, many people don’t know about the symptoms of stroke. They are: sudden weakness or numbness on one side of the body – face, arm, and leg – sudden dimness or loss of vision, sudden difficulty in speaking, sudden severe headaches, and unexplained dizziness, unsteadiness, or sudden falls.

Some simple changes to make to protect yourself are: have your blood pressure checked often, follow your physician’s advice on cholesterol levels, eat a healthy diet – increase fruits and vegetables, and decrease fats, exercise regularly 3-4 times weekly for 30 minutes each time, take your medications as prescribed, and stop smoking.

Please have your blood pressure checked each month by one of our Health Cabinet members during fellowship hour. Check out the bulletin board in the hallway for more information (thanks Teri Wallis!)

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers” (3 John 2).



THE HAPPY HOOFERS (Gethsemane’s Team): 12th Komen St. Louis Race for the Cure June 12, 2010!

More than 65,000 people, including 4,500 breast cancer survivors, are expected to turn out for this year’s race. For registration information and deadlines, please visit www.komenstlouis.org or call Jennifer Paulson at 832-9687.

The 5K Race will begin at 8:35am, the 5K Walk starts at 9:00am and the Fun Walk starts at 9:15am. You may also participate in “Sleep in for the Cure.” Up to 75% of the net money raised by the St. Louis Affiliate of Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure stays in the St. Louis area to fund education, screening, treatment and support groups.

Fellowship

EASTER BREAKFAST CHRIST IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!

We hope you had a memorable Easter Morning at GLC. Thank you to everyone who brought their favorite sweet treat baked goodies. The Walter Eckman Fellowship Hall was completely full of families, friends and we hope everyone enjoyed the Easter Breakfast. Our caterer has added two partners who thought our church was so very warm and friendly and we all know the food was plentiful.

The Youth did a great job helping us by serving drinks, assisting people and cleaning up. We want to really thank ALL the people who helped along with the members of our Committee. This event takes many people to make it successful and this year it was so rewarding to have the marvelous assistance throughout the event even to the clean up.

We are very thankful for all those who attended the Easter Celebration and shared in the Fellowship at Breakfast. Thanks to everyone at Gethsemane for making this a special morning!

Sunday School

During the month of April, Sunday school lessons will focus on ways the children of our congregation can participate in Gethsemane's capital campaign. On April 11, children made coin banks which they are using to collect their offerings for Gethsemane's building project. The children are invited to bring these banks to church on commitment Sunday, May 2. On this day, the children will have a procession in church and dump the contents of their banks into a metal tub for a "noisy offering." Please talk with your children about ways they can contribute – from their allowance, by earning money for extra chores, or from birthday or other gifts of money they have received. Parents might even consider offering to match all or part of the offering their child contributes. As the children will learn in class, no gift is too small for God!

The last day of Sunday school for the year will be on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. All of the children (3yr olds – 5th grade) will be singing at the 11:00 service on this Sunday.

Thank you to all teachers, helpers and music leaders who helped to teach our children this Sunday school year! This year's teachers, helpers and music leaders were:

Lisa Lawrence, Ami Boehlje, Mary Kelly, Richard Schuessler, Betsy Bartholomew, Leslie Wobbe, Jen Meyer, Laura Begley, Kim Elliott, Gary Borkowski, Megan Yemm, Gretchen Jenson, Deb Schaller, Lindsay Schuessler, Darlene McElwee, Paula Brud-Brown and Ann Luciani.

Reconciling In Christ

**“Homosexuality: what does scripture say?”
discussion with Pastor Don Thuss**

**Part 1, Sunday, May 16th, 10:00 am
Part 2, Sunday, May 23rd, 10:00 am
in the chapel**

Reminder: There is an RIC “question” box available in the narthex if you have a question or concern you would like the Steering Team to address.

CONFIRMATION & YOUTH

Confirmation Classes Continue...

On Mondays, May 3, 10, and 24 from 6:30-8:00pm

Keep those Sermon Notes coming...remember to answer ALL the questions!

GYG on Facebook!

Stay Connected to Fellow Youth and Events at Gethsemane
Respond to Your Invitation or If You Have Any Questions,
Ask Mrs. Yemm or Luke Borkowski

Service Opportunities

On Sunday, May 2, middle school and high school youth and parents are invited to meet with Pastor Kendra in the Youth Room in between services to talk about a possible service trip this summer during either the 1st or 2nd week in July.

Also, watch for information about a possible work day with the “Shoeman” project that collects shoes, distributes them, and uses the income to build wells in Kenya.

* * * * *
 * **ADOPT-A-GARDEN** *
 * In a continuing effort to control costs AND keep our grounds looking spectacular, we *
 * are implementing some new programs for outdoor maintenance. Charlie Wallis has *
 * stepped up and taken on the lawn mowing chores! He has done it several times already *
 * this year and done a great job. He is looking for anybody who would like to be on his *
 * lawn crew. The garden areas will be divided into five sections and you can put a crew *
 * together to ADOPT-A-GARDEN. Your crew will then be responsible for the care *
 * (weeding, watering) of your section for the growing season. A diagram of the grounds *
 * sections will be in the fellowship hall for crews to sign up for the garden they would like *
 * to adopt. Any questions, call Gary in the office. *
 * Thanks to all who helped with the garden blitz. We're off to a great start! *
 * * * * *

Grand View University

Below is a portion of a letter received addressed to Pastor Kendra:

Tour is always a wonderful experience and this year was exceptionally fine. We had an absolutely wonderful tour. It was wonderful making the connection with the people of Gethsemane. It was a great week! I know it's a great deal of work to host us, but please know how much we appreciate it!

We enjoyed expanding our horizons by visiting the Arch in St. Louis, the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, the swamp in Jackson, the Gulf in Biloxi, the Alamo/River Walk in San Antonio, and the Sixth Floor Museum in Dallas.

The great thrill for us, though, was in making this music come alive and sharing it with you. We hope that your people enjoyed us as much as we enjoyed them. It's my hope for our students that they keep their love of singing and that someday they will be able to return the kindness shown them by being, themselves, the gracious hosts and appreciative audience for a traveling choir.

With my very deepest thanks for all you have done for us and hopes of seeing you on tour again sometime, I am,

Most sincerely yours,
 Dr. Kathryn Pohlmann Duffy
 Chair Music department
 Grand View University

In Our Community...

FROM CAMP WARTBURG

10th Annual Golf Classic is Mon., May 24th. Get your foursome together for beautiful weather, great food, nature trivia, prizes, and a spectacular day supporting Camp Wartburg at the Camp's 18-hole, 4-person scramble. Tee off at Acorn's Golf Links near Waterloo, IL, is at 1pm. A \$100 donation includes noon lunch, cart, golf, beverages throughout and a fantastic dinner. More info: contact Theresa Thorburg at Camp Wartburg at 618-939-7715

2010 Summer Camping Program

2010 Camp Brochures and Registration forms are available in the racks in the hallway.

Why you should send your child or grandchild to Camp Wartburg:

Camp Wartburg is conveniently located within an hour of nearly anywhere in St. Louis and southwest Illinois. Nestled in the beautiful rolling hills of southern Illinois near Waterloo, Camp Wartburg seems far away to campers, but comfortably close to parents.

The spiritual life of your child will be nurtured. Energized, college-age Christian counselors will lead small groups in all activities. Camp Wartburg's 108 acres of woods, fields, and hiking trails offer an awesome study of God's beautiful creation. Camping programs are offered for children and youth, grades 1-12. Specialty camps include Equestrian, Fishing, High Ropes, Mall Rats, Native American, Night Owl, Painting, Sketching, Spe-lunking, Sports, Theatre Arts, and more! Trip Camps for Grades 7-12 include Appalachian Odyssey, Colorado Rocks, and Missouri Quest.

A Gift You Won't Return!

When was the last time you gave your marriage a gift? Why not give your spouse and yourself a great gift by committing to attend the next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend?

On the weekend, you and your spouse will be gently guided through a communication process that will deepen your relationship and communication with each other. And not only will you receive the "gift" of greater depth and growth in your relationship, you will also renew and rekindle the sparks you had when you were first married. The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend is scheduled for June 4-6. It will be held at Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL. Be sure to register for this exciting weekend no later than May 18 in order to secure your hotel reservations and meals at a special rate.

For more information, please contact Tom & Kathy Von Behren at 636-343-9453 or vonbeh@attglobal.net. Too shy to call for more information? Then check out the website at stlmarriage.com before you register!

Immanuel Cemetery Clean-up Day Saturday, May 8 9am-1pm 3540 Marcus, St. Louis

Bring your rakes, weed whackers, gloves, yard bags, shovels, and lawnmowers. But most of all, bring yourself! For more info, call Janis at 636-328-5840.

...In Our World

Greetings from Accra, southern Ghana!

As I traveled north to meet these prospective children, I saw a school in session under a mango tree: children sat on benches, the school teacher had a book in hand at the front of his class. Amazing the obstacles that 'education in Ghana' faces.

Amazing how God has blessed our Rafiki Village with adults to teach God's Word, a classical education and lead and feed almost one hundred children.

The prospective children I have met in the last week are all from northern Ghana. All are double orphans, i.e. children whose mother and father are both dead. Please pray that God will arrange all the details if it is His plan to bring these children to Rafiki.

Please pray that God will bring two qualified women to be Rafiki mothers. When God brings the mothers, we can bring more children.

I will be home for furlough this summer from June 19th to August 24th. I look forward to sharing all that God is doing at our training Village.

Please pray that God will give me wisdom as I arrange all the details for my departure and arrival.

Looking forward to seeing YOU,
Nancy Bond

Remember: Gethsemane accepts gifts to support the work of Nancy Bond with the Rafiki Foundation!

Joint Neighborhood Ministry

May emphasis for the JNM Pantry is...***Peanut Butter & Jelly***. As is always the case, Joint Neighborhood Ministry is delighted to accept any and all non-perishable food and personal care items. So, if you find a "buy one-get one free" or "on sale" item or two this month, please place in the grocery cart in the upper level hallway. Your generosity is appreciated!

VICISSITUDES

(The changes or events that occur in our lives)

Pastor Kendra and Members,

My grateful thanks to "HUGS" for bringing me "back" to Gethsemane each Sunday morning. I even visualized in my mind who attended in as much as each of us have a special place to sit. My special thanks to those responsible for its inception and establishment.

Pauline Meinecke

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank everyone for their cards, calls, visits and meals during and following my recent hospitalization. Special thanks to Pr. Kendra for her visit the day before surgery and during my hospital stay; to Dawn Schuessler and Linda Ford for their daily visits; to Mark Cutelli for his hospital visit and later home visit to bring Communion. Also a very special thanks to our family for their constant love and support and the many ways they faithfully nurture and care for Sharon and me.

John Salerno

Dear Pastor Kendra and members of Gethsemane,

Thank you for all the sympathy cards and prayers for Walter and I and our son Joel whose daughter Hannah passed away at the age of 15 on March 12th. We are blessed to belong to such a caring church.

Walter and Marie Mueller

Dear Friends,

I want to thank everyone at Gethsemane who helped my mother and me out during her illness: Pauline Farmer who faithfully did our grocery shopping each week, Jack and Lois Wind who filled in. Thanks to Kim & Amy Rose for their continued support and to Madeline Paffett for her calls and visits. Mom really appreciated them. Thank you Pastor Kendra for your many visits, for the altar flowers, & for bringing communion to us. Thanks to everyone who has come by since my mother's passing. It feels good to know I have such a caring church family.

Sincerely, Joanne Grana

May Birthdays

- 1 Peter Schainker
- 3 Susan Otto, Kelley Schaller
- 4 Lisa Mantia
- 6 Matt Hartz, Carmen Lampkin, Scott Tanner
- 7 Justin Lang
- 8 Don Thuss, Charles Wallis
- 9 Connor Boehlje, Jane Siebe
- 10 Mary Brice
- 11 Jeremy Meuser
- 15 Julie Otto
- 17 Alexander Stefanowicz
- 19 James Fozzy
- 20 Carolyn Moe, Chloe Richardson
- 21 Madeline Paffett
- 23 Benjamin McElwee
- 25 Scott Bartholomew, Mary Lou Young
- 26 Owen Lang
- 28 Emma Hanson, Noah Jenson, Marilyn McGuire
- 30 Kady Dieringer, Joe Epplin, Lindsey Garland
- 31 Susan Flaxbart

May Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Scott and Betsy Bartholomew | 23 years |
| 1 | John and Darlene McElwee | 12 years |
| 16 | Rich Brown and Paula Brud-Brown | 23 years |
| 20 | Anne and Greg Halvachs | 4 year |
| 20 | Kim and Linda Kolander | 10 years |
| 20 | Lois and Paul Pfeiffer | 21 years |
| 23 | Richard and Pamela Lane | 46 years |
| 25 | Paul and Anna Fehr | 64 years |

Summertime at Gethsemane

Summer Bible Fun

If you enjoyed going to Bethlehem for the Nativity, you'll love spending a while on the Nile this summer. Join us in ancient Egypt! You'll explore Pharaoh's palace, experience thrilling "real-life" dramas, play games, and hear unforgettable music. Get "wrapped up" in the fun as we learn about Joseph's journey from prison to palace.

We will meet the five Wednesdays evenings in June from 6pm – 8pm. This is a family opportunity for children of God of all ages. We understand your summer is busy; feel free to come to as many of the sessions as you are able.

Watch the bulletin for registration forms and opportunities to play a part. Dinner will be provided pot-luck style by the participants.



...and coming soon to a church near you... this Year's Gethsemane Vacation Bible School...

"HERO HEADQUARTERS"

July 26, 2010 to July 30, 2010

9am to Noon, Monday –Friday

At this Year's Gethsemane Vacation Bible School **kids will join forces with God!**

At "Hero Headquarters" kids will meet unlikely heroes from the Bible who are often overlooked...yet these unnamed unsung heroes' performed small acts that were used by God to do awesome and heroic things...

This year's VBS program is "Hero Headquarters" where Kids (and adults) will discover that if they're willing to be used by God in any situation, no matter how big or small, they can make a difference.

HERE'S THE THING ...WE NEED HEROES (AKA: Teachers, Station Leaders, Helpers)...Please let us know that you will volunteer as soon as possible...

Please talk with or call Debbie Schaller 314-832-6649 Kate Hartz 314-664-2935

CURRENT WISH LIST (more wishes to be named at a later date):

Need A VBS Co-Director for year 2011. Kim Elliott has graciously volunteered to act as a Co-Director for next year's (2011) VBS. She will be completing her understudy this year but in order to be a Co-Director she **needs another Co-Director**. Debbie Schaller and Kate Hartz have really enjoyed the last 8 years as Co-Directors of Gethsemane's VBS program but both feel that it is time to move on and allow new people and new ideas to step in. **Please, consider volunteering for this amazing opportunity.** For further information and/or to volunteer for this position please contact Debbie, Kate or Kim. **The benefits are absolutely priceless.**

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
3600 Hampton Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109
Phone: 314-352-8050; Fax: 314-352-8051
Email Address: Gethsemane@swbell.net
Webpage: www.gethsemanestl.org
Church Office Hours: 8:30am-1:30pm

Pastor Kendra Nolde
314-524-6817 prkendra-glc@swbell.net

MESSANGER NEWS

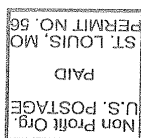
You can send your news and notes for the Messenger to glc-messenger@swbell.net. There is also a Messenger drawer by the church office. For best results, news should be in by the 20th of each month, but we'll do our best to get your news in whenever you submit it.

eMESSENGER

Please consider helping us save a tree and save on the cost of paper and postage. This happens if you choose to receive your Messenger only by e-mail. Just send us a message at glc-messenger@swbell.net.

WEEKLY E-NEWS

If you are not receiving our weekly e-news and would like to receive it, let us know by sending an email to gethsemane@swbell.net (and make sure that you put our address in your address book so that your spam filters let it pass through!).



“Return Service Requested”

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
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