



GETHESEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

A FAMILY IN CHRIST CARING FOR ALL PEOPLE

September 2010

VOLUME #17: ISSUE #9

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

A little over a year ago, several people asked about our becoming a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. An RIC congregation is one that seeks to make clearer both in policy and practice that all people are welcome as full members, regardless of their sexual orientation, their gender identity or that of their children, relatives, or friends.

Since that time, a small group attended a training session to learn more about the Reconciling in Christ process. They came back and began to organize different opportunities for us to learn and discuss what becoming an RIC congregation might mean for Gethsemane. At the congregational meeting, an introductory DVD was shown. In March, a “Reconciling in Christ 101” presentation was made between services. Last May, Pastor Don Thusus led two sessions on “What Does the Bible Say about Homosexuality?” Material from presentations was summarized in the Messenger. A survey was given about what information would be helpful for folks to have and a “question box” has been located in the narthex. Later this month, there will be a panel discussion and sharing of stories.

It is clear that while many who have attended these sessions are ready to move ahead, there are also many who are struggling with this. In addition, there are many in the congregation who have not attended these sessions. It’s not easy talking honestly with one another about tough issues. Yet, any congregation/community that wants to be healthy and whole needs to learn to do so. Living in community doesn’t mean we agree on everything. What it means is that we are committed – committed to God and to one another, to caring for one another, and serving with one another. It also means that we must learn to listen and speak to one another in ways that enable honest, open conversation and promote respect for varying perspectives. When we do not do this, invisible walls go up that separate us from genuine relationship.

So I invite and encourage you to come and participate – at the panel discussion in September and in following events. I ask that you pray that this time might help us grow in faith and community, honoring our diversity as we listen and share with one another.

“I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6

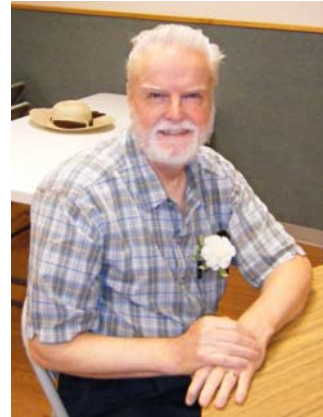
Yours in Christ, *Pastor Kendra*
(with thanks to Pastor Karen Scherer)

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, August 1st, we welcomed new members to the Gethsemane faith community. Please make sure to welcome them and introduce yourself!



Susan Newell (left) comes to us from Redeemer Lutheran in De-Soto. She is a retired teacher, and currently works at Joann's Fabrics in Affton. She is the daughter of Howard Watson and the sister of Jane O'Neill.



Rev. Jeff Lindgren (right) is Pastor Kendra's spouse, recently retired from Zion Lutheran Church, Ferguson. Watch for him to be playing the guitar! Ask him about his favorite books and computer games!



Matt Robb has graduated with a degree in engineering and is looking for a position in that field. He's a Blues hockey fan, and a life-long resident of Affton.



Don DeVore enjoys cooking (and eating!). He lives here in the neighborhood and was introduced to Gethsemane by his friend Peggy Lewis.



Stephen Arff and Emily Cheverere will be married at Gethsemane in October. Steve is an engineer and Emily works in real estate management. Steve is from Peoria, IL, where he used to be a next door neighbor to Pastor Kendra's parents!

Sundays in September

Sunday, September 5: Favorite Hymn Sunday

Sunday, September 12: Rally Day/Church Picnic

8:30am Worship at Gethsemane (Setting 10, a “chorale” service that uses familiar hymns as liturgical pieces).

11:00am Devotions at Tilles Park

Pastor Jeff Lindgren will be our worship leader while Pastor Kendra attends the 90th anniversary celebration of the first congregation she served, Good Shepherd Lutheran in Chicago.

Sunday, September 19: Blessing of 3-year olds and Installation of Sunday School Staff.

Our worship will feature Sunday School and “camp” songs to celebrate the start of a new year of lifelong Christian Education opportunities.

Sunday, September 26: 18th Sunday after Pentecost. Again, we will use Setting 10 from the ELW, a “chorale” service that uses familiar hymns as liturgical texts.

RACHEL CIRCLE LUNCHEON

September 27, 2010 at

Pietro's Restaurant

Please call our hostess and make your reservation.

Florence Frederickson at 314-351-8282
(there's been a change in Hostess this month)

Building a House Where All Are Welcome!

Construction Update: Upstairs bathrooms are now useable, but still need finishing touches! The elevator has arrived, but needs further work and inspections before use.

Financial Update: Giving for the Renovation Project is \$42,285. Thank you for your continued support! Watch the “elevator climb” on the Giving Chart in the narthex.

CHURCH PICNIC and RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 12th

Tilles Park Pavilion

REMEMBER: Comfortable Dress for the day!

8:30 a.m. Worship at GLC

9:30 a.m. Fellowship/Coffee Hour

at the Park (Yes, this includes doughnuts!)

11:00 a.m. Devotion in the Park

(no communion)

11:45 a.m. *Lunch*

Bring: Happy Faces for Fun and Socialization
Lawn Chairs, there's space to play baseball, kickball (Bring your baseball glove or kickball, for park activities)
Some Games will be provided - volleyball, washers and more...

The Picnic will be catered once again (something like last year)! A free-will offering with a suggested donation will be collected to help cover expenses.

Some Picnic Tables are at the pavilion. Food, drinks, paper products and utensils will all be provided.

We are asking if anyone has pop-up tents and is willing to bring them that day, in case of rain or to keep the rain away, it would be helpful.

Please contact Lois Wind at 314-487-5755 / e-mail loja2@charter.net or Paula Brud-Brown at 314-603-6627 / e-mail ruralgurl@gmail.com.

Directions to Picnic from GLC:

The Park borders Marquette and Hampton; Marquette is a one way street; so you need to Go East on Pernod (from church alley go **right**)
Left on January ... then **Left** on Marquette
Tilles Park and the pavilion are on your right
Preferred Parking is in the driveway! (For those in need)

Restrooms are very close to the pavilion

Please let us know how many in your family (adults/children) will attend on your blue Worship attendance card or call the GLC office.

Hope to see everyone there!

Health Cabinet

Looking Ahead: During the month of October, the Health Cabinet will be focusing on a “Journey Toward Health and Wholeness.” Watch for a “GO! Challenge” to be distributed at the beginning of the month, special speakers, candlelighting for mental health awareness, and healing prayer.

Parish Nurse Update: The Health Cabinet is recommending to the Council that we look for a part-time, 10 hour a week Parish Nurse, as well as continue the ministry of the Parish Visitor. Pending approval by the Council, we will start advertising for this position.

Blood Drive Thanks: At the Blood Drive on August 22nd, 33 people offered to give blood, and 26 units were drawn. Thanks to the 18 GLC folks, 12 St. Joan of Arc members, and 3 community folks who gave the gift of life!

Toward Financial Sanity: A Workshop with Nathan Dungan Saturday, September 25, 2010 1:00-4:00 pm At Gethsemane Lutheran Church

Cost: \$5 at the door

This workshop is being offered by the ELCA South Cluster and the Central States Synod.

Toward Financial Sanity is a year-round stewardship effort with a goal of instilling faith based values, which will be at the forefront of individual, family, and congregational financial thinking.

The presenter is Nathan Dungan, an author, speaker, and national expert on family finances and the effects of mass marketing on young people. He is founder of Share-Save-Spend, LLC, and has made presentations at the Central States Synod Assembly. This workshop is especially appropriate for individuals, parents, Stewardship Committees, and Church Councils. Contact Pastor Kendra Nolde for more information or to RSVP.

Looking Ahead – Save the Date!!

Sunday, October 3rd: Blessing of the Animals, 4:00 pm

Sunday, October 24th: South Cluster Faith and Finance Event – “Wills, Estates, & Gift Planning Seminar” by Joyce JP Palmer, 12:30-2:00pm, at St. Mark’s, Clayton

Friday-Saturday, November 5-6 South Cluster Revival/Renewal Weekend: Spark the Spirit in PRAYER

Saturday, November 20th, 6:30 pm “Uncle Jim LIVE: Let There Be Fun.” A family concert with Jim Mayer; a celebration event for the Building a House Where All Are Welcome Campaign.

Social Action

Food Stamp Challenge, part 2 Reflections by Lindsay Schuessler

-Normally I shop at Whole Foods or Trader Joe and buy mostly organic and natural foods. However, I would only be able to buy a few days worth of food with the amount allotted for a week when on food stamps if I did this. Instead I went to Aldi's for the first time. I was able to buy a lot more food, although it was not organic or all natural. This was one of the first "cuts at healthy" I took in order to stay within budget.

-Speaking of budget, I have never really thought about how much I was spending while shopping. Usually I make a list and get things I would like to eat for the week, never really thinking about cost. Grocery shopping with a budget is stressful! And as I started to run out of food during the week it became even more stressful to think about. I have never wondered how I was going to pay for my next meal. I now understand how this must cost a great deal of stress to a single parent living on food stamps.

-I try to eat a healthy and balanced diet and found it very hard to do so on the food stamp budget. The healthy foods are the most expensive and the unhealthy foods are the cheapest. This was one of the most frustrating parts of living on the food stamp amount. It is sad to know that the poorest people, who most likely lack health care, are not given the option to live as healthy of a life as they might like. The challenge to make healthy and delicious meals on such a tight budget was made even more difficult by the fact that I have few culinary skills. I do not know what spices to add to give food flavor or how to cook meals from scratch, so I ate several less than tasty meals.

-Normally I have a protein shake each morning for breakfast after my workout. It includes a multivitamin for active women and helps aid in recovery after my workouts. I buy the shake mix at GNC and although I get enough to last a long time, it is quite expensive (about \$50 for the protein and \$35 for the vitamin). This is most certainly a luxury that someone on food stamps would never be able to have. I hated coming home after a workout and not being able to have a recovery shake.

-Needless to say, I pretty much feel like I failed at living on food stamps. By the end of the week I was out of food and had to go to the store to get more. I also cheated and ate out twice (with my mom and my boyfriend's family) during the week. I also went out for drinks with friends on Saturday. I never really think about going out to eat when people ask me. I am fortunate enough to be able to go whenever I am asked or feel like doing so. But during my week on food stamps I had to stop and think about how it wouldn't fit in my budget and ended up having to cheat to eat out with friends and family. Now I know that socializing and spending time with loved ones over a meal is a luxury to some people.

Reconciling In Christ

A Panel Presentation: Personal Stories of “GLBT Welcoming” in the Church

Sunday, September 26, 2010

Fellowship Hall

5:30 pm light dinner

6:00 pm Panel Presentation/Discussion/Questions & Answers

Event will end promptly at 7:30 pm.

Baby sitting provided if you contact the church office before Friday, September 24th.

Come! Listen! Ask Questions! Learn!

Individuals connected to Gethsemane will offer their own stories of how they or their family members have been impacted by “the church’s” relationship to/treatment of members of the GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender) community.

This is a *“must attend” event for everyone*—if you attend only one RIC event, make it this one!

Lutheran School of Theology St. Louis

“The Legacy of the Apostle Paul in Early Christianity” Five Mondays from September 13 to October 25, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. Taught by Dr. James Kelhoffer at Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Rd., Chesterfield, Mo. Tuition: \$68

Preaching Workshop: “Creating Identity: Preaching in the Year of Matthew” One day workshop on October 21, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Taught by the Rev. Dr. Edgar Krentz at Unity Lutheran Church, 8454 Glen Echo Dr., Bel-Nor, Mo. Tuition:\$68 (Includes lunch)

“Lutheran Confessional Heritage” Eight Thursdays from September 9 to October 28, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. Taught by the Rev. Dr. Ed Schroeder and the Rev. Ronald Neustadt at Bethel Lutheran Church, 7001 Forsyth Blvd., University City, Mo. Tuition: \$108

“The Reformations: Then and Now” Six Tuesdays from September 14 to October 19, 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. Taught by the Rev. Dr. Warren Crews at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 105 East “D” St., Belleville, Il. Tuition: \$81

Brochures with registration forms are on the Welcome Table in the narthex. You may also call 314-725-9710 or email <registrar@lststl.org> or register online at <http://www.lststl.org>.

Ice Cream Social 2010

The Fellowship Committee would like to give everyone who helped make 2010's Ice Cream Social such an amazing success (despite the rain) a **GREAT BIG HUG!** But since that's logistically impossible, there's so many of you that we'd be hugging for days..... this note of humble thanks will hopefully express our grateful hearts and feelings.

An event like this is a collaborative effort, it cannot be pulled off by a person or two. The more people get involved, the better it is! No wonder this one was wonderful! So to everyone who organized, baked, donated items, worked in the kitchen, sponsored games and bounce houses, ran errands, took pictures, face painted, donated raffle items, took money & tickets, hand made games, sold raffle tickets, served goodies and drinks, ran the games, set up, moved everything in the rain and reset it all up again, set up outside lighting, cleaned up or just came to have a good time, we say **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Stay tuned for 2011, we promise there'll be more pie, fun and hopefully better weather!

Paula, Lois & the members of the Fellowship Committee

ps. (By the way, did we mention we'd like to thank you?)

ICE CREAM SOCIAL SPONSORS

Laura Begley *Raffle*
Paula Brud-Brown and Rich Brown *Raffle*
Ron Bowman *Dog Pen Game*
Elliott Family *Face Painting and Tattoos*
Gethsemane Office *Raffle*
Sir Lancelot *Face Painting and Tattoos*
Mantia Family *Lollipop Tree*
Lynn McGoogan *Tic Tac Toe*
Lillie Niebuhr *Peg Ring Toss*
Mark and Elke Overton *Pig Race*
Jennifer and Keith Paulson and Family *Inflatables*
Simone and Chloe Richardson *Inflatables*
Ruckdeschel Family *Bean Bag Toss*
Rob, Carolyn and Peter Schainker *Inflatables*
Norma Schenck *Raffle*
Joan Williams, Jack and Lois Wind *Inflatables*
Jack and Lois Wind *Raffle*
Royal Wobbe *Spin and Win*
Ronin Wobbe *Duck Pond*
Mary Lou Young and Chris Kleine *Inflatables*
Thank you to all who donated baked goods

See pictures on page 11

Confirmation and Youth

Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays, September 8 and 22 6:30-8:00pm
At St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 6337 Clayton Rd.

Middle and High School Picnic, South Cluster ELCA Churches

Sunday, September 26 12:30-2:30 pm

Blackburn Park, Webster Groves

Bring your own sack lunch & drink. See friends from ConfirCamp and Youthquake.

Fun games and activities!

Sunday School

“It was my Sunday school teacher in second grade who left that year to be a missionary in India who had the first real impact in my life, so much so that I remember announcing in sixth grade that I was going to be a missionary when I grew up,” said Corinne Van Buren, a United Methodist deacon and director of the Christian Education Fellowship. “Sunday school, for me, has really been a place for life-long learning, support, and faith growth,” she added.

To volunteer for something you really need to see the value of it to yourself and/or others. I must say that when I first started attending church at Gethsemane one of the things that immediately stood out for me was that this church is really a church run by the church community. Sure we have a great Pastor that oversees everything but without volunteers things would not happen. So that being said, consider a church without Sunday school. What might that look like? Many of our current church members have been here since their Sunday school days. I have heard many stories about Sunday school from years ago. I even attended a funeral this year that had a candy reminder for an important Sunday School Leader. The value of Sunday school is immeasurable to the teacher, helpers and youth.

This is a new year, and I am new to the position of Sunday school coordinator. I know that being a teacher means you don't always get a lot of fellowship time. So I am working really hard to make sure we have in place enough teachers, substitute teachers and activity helpers. We will be doing music once a month for the bulk of time so that means more time for teachers to teach their lessons and more time to have a leisurely Sunday donut hour. In order to make all of this happen I am still in need of your time and talent. If you have something that you think would benefit this program (good at crafts, have a story that relates to a children's message, etc) please let me know. If you think you could help teach a class I still NEED 2 MORE teachers. And we are always looking for children that could benefit from an hour of God time. Please contact Laura Begley for more information at (314) 752-9335 or email Begley@prodigy.net.

Don't forget Rally Day in conjunction with the church picnic September 12th. Sunday school starts September 19th.

Joint Neighborhood Ministry

September emphasis for the JNM Pantry is...*Bar Soap, Toothbrushes and Toothpaste*. 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!

In Our Community...

Join St. Louis' top Lutheran service agencies for a Prayer Breakfast Sept. 22 Lutheran Senior Services, Humanitri, Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis, and Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri would like to invite you to "Standing Together, Serving Together," a joint prayer breakfast to be held at 7 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 22, at the Coronado Ballroom, 3701 Lindell Blvd. in St. Louis. Lutheran World Relief President and CEO Rev. Dr. John A. Nunes will be the morning's featured speaker. Please RSVP to 314.231.2244 by Friday, Sept. 10. or talk to Pastor Kendra about being part of a Gethsemane table. A freewill offering of \$25 per person or \$250 for a table of ten will be taken to support the Lutheran Malaria Initiative.

Feed My Starving Children Packing Event: Good Shepherd Lutheran, 327 Woods Mill Rd., Manchester, will once again be hosting a Feed My Starving Children Packing Event. This year it will be Friday, October 8 through Sunday, October 10. We will be packing 200,000 MEALS!! Please prayerfully consider signing up for a shift to help pack and contact Suzie Everingham at severingham@gslca.org or 636-391-6685. The Confirmation youth will be helping at the 2:30-4:00pm shift on Saturday.

Women's Via de Cristo Weekend: Women, you are invited to attend November 4-7, a Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon. The Lutheran Via de Cristo is intended for lay people from every walk of life, for pastors, for people who live strong and active lives in Christ, and also for those who seek to be renewed and strengthened in their relationship with Christ and the people around them. Brochures with applications are available from Pastor Kendra. For further info, talk to Pastor Kendra, Ami Boehlje, Joan Williams, or Pastor Mary Etta Skinner at 314-703-2547 or meskinner@att.net.

Angel Food Ministry is a food distribution ministry available to all people regardless of income level. There are several distribution points throughout the area and Mount Tabor UCC, 6520 Arsenal, 63139 is the newest location. Information is on the table in the narthex or go to www.angelfoodministries.com for more information.

If you could ask Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson a question about the ELCA, what would it be? **You are invited to submit your question at the next online Town Hall Forum with Bishop Hanson on Sunday, September 19, 2010, at 5 p.m. EDT.** Watch the event live from 5-6 p.m. EDT at www.elca.org/townhall

- Log in to post questions online
- Post comments using Facebook Connect
- Tweet about the event using the hashtags #ELCA and #BishopHanson
- View open captioning

Whether or not you have a question to ask, you'll be part of a nationwide conversation with other ELCA members about issues that matter to all of us. What a remarkable opportunity!

VICISSITUDES

(The changes or events that occur in our lives)

*Pastor Kendra, Phyllis, Jack and members of Gethsemane,
I would like to thank all of you for your special prayers,
visits, and all the delicious meals. And all your cards to
brighten my day.
A special thanks to Pastor Kendra, Phyllis and Jack for
their visits and bringing communion to me.
I feel so blessed to belong to such a caring church.
Wilma Shaw*

*My Dear Bothers and Sisters,
My deepest thanks to all of you for your prayers, flowers,
face-book posts, and many kindnesses on the death of my
mother, Ruth Bunch.
With great appreciation and continued love,
Mardi Manary*

September Anniversaries

3	Rebecca and Daniel Doss	4 years
3	Fred and Rosemary Tatum	11 years
5	Louis and Connie Perretta	23 years
11	Neil and Linda Gustafson	39 years
12	Rob and Carolyn Schainker	18 years
13	Mary Brice and Herb Siebert	2 year
19	David and Sue Hackmann	28 years
20	Jean Chouquette and Gerry Richardson	24years
25	Tripp and Carol Frohlichstein	28 years
25	Marilyn and Randy McGuire	23 years
27	Jack and Lois Wind	35 years

September Birthdays

1	Margaret Lenhart, Megan Manary, John Sandberg
4	Peter Borkowski
5	Norma Schenck
6	Ken Bauer, Kim Kolander, Leslie Wobbe
7	Fred Lenhart
8	Pauline Farmer, Luke Sandberg
9	Gary Borkowski
10	Jon Begley, Jesse Fenton
11	Bonnie Stefanowicz
12	Jim Mantia, Keith Paulson
13	Jaden Meyerstrom
14	Rodney Jones
15	Janine Burmeister
17	Teri Wallis
19	Zoe Bowman, Kathy Lee
20	Pauline Meinecke
22	Benjamin Begley
23	Joshua Fenton, Rob Schainker
26	Eric Lindgren
27	Jane Kurt
28	Cynthia Fenton, Addie Rose O'Neill, Anna Perretta
30	Simone Richardson

Thank you to Pastor Kendra for the July family pastoral visit and communion celebration with our family to give thanks for all that has transpired the past year and to enter the new transitions of this coming year. We thank Pastor for all her visits, guidance, prayers and support as well as for all the prayers, support and encouragement of the Gethsemane family this past year.

Thank you to Pastor Kendra, Pastor Boardman and the people of Gethsemane for the moving Blessing and Send Off for Christopher and the wonderful reception and cake between services! Christopher arrived in Ft. Sam Houston, TX, near San Antonio, on Sunday, August 29th to begin his Army career.

*Kathleen, Randy
Carolyn & Christopher Moe*

Ice Cream Social 2010



Calling all VBS HEROES. Thank You! It was truly a team effort and we could not have done it without you. Special thanks to Deb Schaller and Kate Hartz for their leadership and guidance. We had an incredible week and the kids had fun too. Leslie and I had so much fun, we couldn't wait to start making plans for next year. If you are as excited as we are, or just curious, we will be meeting September 19th at 1:00pm at the St. Louis Bread Company on Chipewa. We plan to meet the 3rd Sunday of each month (except in November and December) to plan and stay on track for our two VBS's next summer. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Leslie Wobbe, lawobbe@swbell.net or Kim Elliott, threeelliots1993@charter.net

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

MESSENGER NEWS

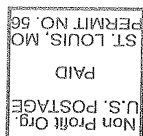
You can send your news and notes for the Messenger to glc-messenger@swbell.net. There is also a Messenger drawer by the church office. For best results, news should be in by the 20th of each month, but we'll do our best to get your news in whenever you submit it.

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
3600 Hampton Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63109