



A FAMILY IN CHRIST CARING FOR ALL PEOPLE

August 2011

VOLUME #118 ISSUE #8

Holy Hospitality

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection...Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Romans 12:9&13

Did you know that the first sermon preached each Sunday is not by the pastor, but by you?

—You preach a message of good cheer when you say “Good Morning” to those you meet as you are parking, or in the hallways.

—You preach a message of welcome when you slide over in the pew instead of forcing others to squeeze in front of you; or when you sit toward the front of the sanctuary so that guests, who may be more uncertain, may sit toward the rear.

—You preach a message of hope and joy when you sing the hymns and service music.

—You preach a message of the love of God when you pass the peace and God’s love flows through you to the person you shake hands with.

—You preach a message of love when you smile and say “Hello” and introduce yourself to a guest.

—You preach a message about the importance of the scriptures when you listen carefully to the day’s texts.

—You preach a message of inclusion when you help a guest find his/her place in the hymnal or with the worship folder.

—You preach a message about the power of prayer when you lift up names and concerns, either silently or spoken, during the prayers of the people.

Many messages are preached before the pastor stands to share the sermon. When your hospitality is holy and genuine, then the message from the pulpit will be that much more effective!

Come to worship this Sunday, and every Sunday, prepared to preach your best sermon with holy hospitality!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Kendra

Gethsemane Happenings



**GYG
Mission
Trip**
Watch for an
upcoming spe-
cial presentation
between services



Spring Women's Luncheon

June 8, 2011



Sundays in August

We will be using portions of “Now the Feast and Celebration” as our liturgy for the month of August. This joyful setting will ease us back into the transitions that August brings with a return to school! We also conclude our series on “God’s Not-so-Modern Family,” looking at the fathers and mothers of the faith in the Old Testament.

Sunday, July 31: Joseph Is Sold by his Brothers

Between services, watch a DVD featuring sand art depictions of the Old Testament Bible stories we’ve been hearing in worship. The sand art is done by renowned artist Joe Castillo; each image transforms from one element of the story to the next.

Sunday, August 7: Joseph Forgives

Pastor Kendra is commissioned as a voting member to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Between services, a short DVD on the role of a voting member will be shown.

Sunday, August 14: Blessing of the Backpacks

All returning students and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks/ computer cases for a special blessing at the start of another school year. Chaplain Peter Muschinske will be our guest preacher. Chaplain Muschinske is Chaplain Programs Officer with the Navy, based here in St. Louis. Ms. Merry Denny, principal at Mallinckrodt School, will bring greetings!

Sunday, August 21:

Pastor Gary Voss will be our guest preacher.

In between services, there will be a presentation on Via de Cristo, with guests Pastor Ron and Sandy Schuette. Via de Cristo is a Spanish phrase meaning “Way of Christ.” A Via de Cristo weekend is designed to strengthen and renew faith and bring a new awareness of living in God’s grace. Pastor Kendra, Ami Boehlje, and Joan Williams have attended a Via de Cristo weekend.

Sunday, August 28: Holy Hospitality Sunday-A Celebration of Reconciling in Christ

Pastor Kendra will preside; Pastor Martin Rafanan will preach. Pastor Rafanan is the Executive Director of Gateway 180 Homeless Services and former St. Louis director of the National Conference for Community and Justice. We will receive a certificate of our Reconciling in Christ status, sing songs of hospitality and welcome, and share cake & punch in between services. Please come and join us to celebrate!

Sunday, September 4: Labor Day Weekend —A Celebration of Faith and Daily Life

Summer Fellowship: Come between services for coffee and doughnuts; stay after the 2nd service for cookies and lemonade.

Church Council Highlights, July 2011

1. Began with devotions and Dwelling in the Word.
2. Received correspondence from the Bishop's office, thanking Gethsemane for their mission support of over \$20,000. Also received a thank you from St. James Lutheran Church in Jackson, MI for the youth attending during the Group Workcamp.
3. Spent a significant amount of time reviewing Treasurer's and financial reports. Voiced gratitude to the congregation for faithful giving; currently, we are \$1862 behind in our anticipated giving. It was noted that if everyone in the congregation was able to meet their statement of intent for giving, we would make our budget, even including the \$5000 built in deficit. A special note from the Council will be included with the 6 month financial statements.
4. Heard that Pastor Kendra will be on vacation from August 8-24, a part of that time attending the ELCA Churchwide Assembly as a voting member from the Central States Synod. Examined a fall calendar of events.
5. Did further planning for the Ice Cream Social. Heard that the Fellowship Committee will be planning the Church Picnic on September 11th.
6. Welcomed Jan Bornemann to the Council, to fill out the rest of the year for the open position.
7. Heard plans for Sunday, August 28th to be a celebration of becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Pastor Martin Rafanan will be our preacher; Pr. Kendra presiding. Cake and refreshments served in between services.
8. Decided not to meet in August.

Pastor Kendra will be out of town from August 8-24. From August 15-19, she will be serving as a voting member of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly from the Central States Synod. You can follow both the proceedings and the worship from the Assembly by live streaming, simply go to elca.org and follow the appropriate links. Key items of business at this year's assembly will be a proposed social statement on Genetics and proposals to restructure the churchwide organization.

If you are in need of pastoral care during her absence, please contact the church office. Pastor Linda Anderson-Little from St. Mark Lutheran Church in Clayton will be on call for emergencies. She may be reached at 314-721-6974 (office) or 314-581-6365 (cell).

The **Wednesday Women Study Group** will not meet in August, but will resume in September. During our "break" we will be reading a book, **The Red Tent**— a fictionalized account of the women in Genesis, telling the story from their point of view. Talk to Pastor Kendra to find out about the book. Watch the September Messenger for next start-up date!

Save The Date!!!!

Choir will be starting a new season! First rehearsal is Monday, August 22nd (Angel Wings 6:00, Choir 7:00). New singers and ringers are welcome. Child care is provided for the choir. Any questions call Ann at 314-963-0934 or e-mail at ptlall4@earthlink.com

**CHURCH PICNIC and
RALLY DAY**
Sunday, September 11th
Tilles Park Pavillion
8:30am Worship at GLC
9:30 am Fellowship/Coffee Hour
at the Park
(Yes, this includes doughnuts!)
11:00am Devotion in the Park
11:45 am Lunch

The Fellowship Committee invites everyone to be a part of the Gethsemane Church Picnic. Sunday September 11th, join us at Tilles Park after first service for coffee and donuts 'al fresco! Then stay for the 11:00 a.m. devotion under the park pavilion and after that the picnic begins! Food, MORE Games, and Fellowship with your church family – can't beat that! The Picnic will be catered once again! Shuttling will be provided, if needed. Stay tuned for more details!

REMEMBER: Comfortable Dress for the day!
 We will be asking for your reservation and also if anyone would be willing to help move tables, chairs, coffee pots, games and other items to or from the park that day. Looking forward to fun and fellowship!

(Tilles Park is just 3 blocks north of church on the same side of Hampton! The Pavilion is located in the back of the park; the restrooms are very close to the pavilion.)

Women's Luncheon

A special note of thanks to Everyone for attending the Summer June Luncheon at Pietro's Restaurant. We had a good response and it was great to relax and talk with people we have not seen for awhile or that go to opposite worship services. A very special Thank You to Ruth Hanson for her beautiful handmade quilts and her presentation of the history of how she began with her mini dolls, mini trunks and carrying cases; remember the "smurf". She fully designs each and every quilt with the person in mind. The intricate handwork Ruth does is just amazing to us and the details she expresses within each quilt is truly artwork with love. We all appreciated her time and talents she portrayed to us that day. Thanks Ruth and thank you everyone for the day!

St. Louis Area Foodbank Volunteers

We have the opportunity to sort and pack boxes for the St. Louis Area Foodbank on Saturday, August 20th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Foodbank collects nonperishable food and sells the boxes to area food pantries for 10 cents/lb. In the past, we have had a terrific time doing this project and the time flies. It is also a good way to earn high school service hours. We have places for 30 volunteers, so 'first come, first get to serve.' There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall on the coffee table. Thank you.

JOINT NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY: August emphasis is**Backpacks & School Supplies** (loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, folders, crayons, markers, pencils, scissors, glue sticks, back packs, etc.) Please bring items on either July 31st or August 7th as items need to be delivered to JNM for their Back-to-School Fair on Saturday, August 13 from 10am-1pm. Underwear and socks for children are also needed. If you would like to volunteer for the Back to School Fair, please contact Fred Lenhart or JNM at 771-3987.
Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credit: Under section 135.647 RSMO the Food Pantry Tax Credit sunsets on August 28, 2011. All food pantry tax credit claimants must make contribution to an eligible food pantry on or before that date. Gifts made directly to Joint Neighborhood Ministry qualify for this tax credit.

VICISSITUDES

(The changes or events that occur in our lives)

RACHEL CIRCLE LUNCHEON

Monday August 22, 2011

at Pietro's Restaurant

Please call our hostess

Edna May Otto at 314-968-5039 to
make your reservation.

Volunteers Needed: St. Louis Public Schools Annual Back to School Fair

Saturday, August 6, 2011, 9am-1pm at Chaifetz
Arena, St. Louis University

Contact Maureen Nolan, Director for Volunteer
Services at 345-4577 or Maureen.Nolan@slps.org.

Richie Frohlichstein is currently in Amman, Jordan with a U.S. State Department Critical Language Scholarship, studying Arabic. You can follow his travels and reflections on his blog:
<http://www.travelpod.com/travel-blog/richfrohl/2/tpod.html>

Vacation Bible School 2011



There will be a meeting for all people interested in helping with Sunday School for the 2011-2012 school year on August 21st in between services. This meeting is for teachers, subs, and anyone who might have an idea for a monthly project for the youth. Last year we had amazing programs including a food drive, health day, Reformation Sunday activities just to name a few. We are looking for people who can commit to teach twice a month and people who can commit to less. Please consider this wonderful opportunity to get involved.

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

Pastor Kendra Nolde
314-571-9205 prkendra-glc@swbell.net

MESSENGER NEWS

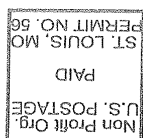
You can send your news and notes for the Messenger to glc-messenger@swbell.net. There is also a Messenger drawer by the church office. For best results, news should be in by the 20th of each month, but we'll do our best to get your news in whenever you submit it.

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”

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