



GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH  

MESSENGER

A FAMILY IN CHRIST CARING FOR ALL PEOPLE

August 2023

Volume #130 Issue #8

Everything that is made
beautiful and fair and
lovely is made for the
eye of the one who sees.

- Rumi

Messenger Contents

Pastor's Page	2
Worship in August.....	3
Brush with Fame	3
Community Life	4
Connections Corner	5
Around the Church.....	6
August Calendar	7
August Worship Leaders.....	8
Reparations Update	9
Meet the Author	9
Announcements	10
Anniversaries	10
Dates to Remember.....	11
Get Connected	11
Brush with Fame Images.....	12



Pastor's Page

[The disciples] replied, “**We have nothing** here but five loaves and two fish.”
And [Jesus] said, “**Bring them here to me.**”
Matthew 14:17-18

Do you ever look around and notice only the things you *don't* have?

Maybe you look around the sanctuary and remember people who used to show up, or how there were once more kids in Sunday School classes. Maybe you remember days in the past when you enjoyed better health and less pain, you could *do* more things because your body gave you more options. Maybe you remember having more money in the past, and you fondly recall the choices you could make when you weren't having to watch your finances so closely.

Do you ever stop and notice the things you *do* have? This is the wisdom of “counting your blessings!” And it isn't easy to do—this is a spiritual discipline.

When Jesus instructed his disciples to feed a large crowd, they said, “We have nothing here.” But that wasn't really true! Five loaves of bread and two fish are *not nothing*! Now, granted, it wasn't enough to feed a whole crowd, as far as the disciples could imagine, but it also wasn't *nothing*.

Jesus asked them to bring what they had. And in the hands of Jesus, somehow that small amount of food that was not enough—it became *more than enough*. If we believe God can summon all of creation out of nothing, then can't God also make plenty out of our scarcity?

Share what you have. Note the monthly “Big Ask” by collecting items for our food pantry partners St. Anthony's and Isaiah 58. Add a can of soup into your grocery cart and share with neighbors who visit our Little Free Pantry in the church yard.

In the hands of Jesus, every small gift becomes more than enough.

Pastor Cheryl Walenta Gorvie

Counters Needed

We are still in need of volunteers to help count the offerings on Monday mornings. Process takes less than an hour and training is provided. Contact Kim Elliott in the church office for more information.

Worship in August

Sunday, August 6th, 2023

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:30am In-Person and Online Worship
10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship

Sunday, August 13th, 2023

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

9:30am In-Person and Online Worship
10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship

Sunday, August 20th, 2023

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

9:30am In-Person and Online Worship
10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship and Meet the Author Event

Sunday, August 27th, 2023

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:30am In-Person and Online Worship
10:30am God's work. Our hands. Event

A Brush with Fame

We asked our readers to share their encounters with fame and they did not disappoint. Here are a few of their stories.

1 - Don Kurt spent most of his career around planes. In the 1960s, while Don was in the Air National Guard, he took care of a couple impressive planes that just happened to belong to even more impressive pilots. Don recalls working on the Mercury Seven's (Alan Shepard, Gus Grissom, Gordon Cooper, Wally Schirra, Deke Slayton, Scott Carpenter, and John Glenn) planes before their trips to space.

2 - Gethsemane's music director, Aria Thomé, was interviewed by and has sung karaoke with stand-up comedian, actress, and radio host Nikki Glaser.

3 - Ken and Cheryl Bauer had the pleasure of meeting and shaking hands with Mikhail Gorbachev on October 29th, 2005. The Nobel Peace Prize recipient was in Lindsborg, KS for a "Chess for Peace" celebration.

4 - During Kim Elliott's senior year in High School, Lee Greenwood visited Okinawa, Japan as part of an USO tour. (Continued on page 9)

July Attendance

July 2nd

78 In-Person 49 Online

July 9th

93 In-Person 41 Online

July 16th

64 In-Person 43 Online

July 23rd

72 In-Person 25 Online

July 30th

After Messenger Printing

Don't forget to complete your weekly attendance form.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Want your own brush with fame? See page 9 for more information about a "Meet the Author" event including book signing on August 20th.

Community Life



Isaiah 58 Back To School Supply Drive

Gethsemane has volunteered to donate 200 boxes of **12-count colored pencils**. Brand does not matter. These items must be at the church by Sunday, September 3rd, so that they can be delivered to Isaiah 58 by September 5th. These items will be used to fill backpacks for the 2024-2025 school year.



August:
shaving cream,
razors, body
lotion, lip balm

Please bring products to the church before the last Sunday of the month!

MONTH OF GRACE + PRAYER (A Retreat in Everyday Life) Coming October 15

Go on retreat while staying at home by praying on your own each day and meeting privately with an experienced spiritual companion for one hour, once per week for four consecutive weeks. Participate either in person (meetings at church on Mondays – mornings, afternoons or evenings) or virtually (Zoom or phone). This retreat is personalized to what you are hoping for, whether that is to make more time for prayer, to learn new ways to pray, to pray about a certain issue in your life, to deepen your personal relationship with Jesus, or to receive whatever God is offering to you at this time. During the weekly sessions, your spiritual companion will listen with love and affirmation, offer questions that will lead you deeper into your prayer experiences and offer prayer suggestions for the coming week. More information to follow.



Capital Gains Recycling

On Saturday, August 19th, between 10am and 2pm, Gethsemane will host an electronics recycling drive on our parking lot. Start cleaning out your old unused electronics to be disposed of properly. Come support the environment and our local community! They can accept **ANYTHING** with a cord or battery! Internal electronic components are welcome as well.

Although most items are free to recycle, the following items will require a fee: TVs, monitors, light bulbs, and nickel cadmium batteries. See website or Friday e-news for complete list of items and associated fees.



Gethsemane will once again have a **Blood Drive on August 7th** in the Fellowship Hall. A link to book your preferred time slot can be found on Gethsemane's website.



The Bridge Market and Faith Community is 15!

You are invited to help celebrate 15 years of ministry: Fair Trade, Coffee, and Worship, in New Town, St. Charles, by enjoying 15% off ALL Fair Trade items August 7th-13th!! Thank you for your support and we look forward to your continued partnership for the next 15! The Bridge is open Mon-Sat 7am-5pm, Sunday 7am-noon 3257-1 Domain Street St. Charles, MO 63301.

Connections Corner



✉: glcstlsocialmedia@gmail.com

☎: 314-518-6978 (ok to text)

*if you send me a friend request on Facebook I will accept you!

Office hours: Mon –Thurs, 10am—2:30pm

Ways to stay connected:

Utilizing these resources can help you feel closer to Gethsemane!



Give online
(Vanco Mobile App)



Access the Church Directory
Online (Instant Church Directory)



Watch Worship Services
Online (YouTube)

August 27th is “God’s work. Our hands.” Gethsemane’s annual day of service!

There will once again be a plethora of options for you to choose from to do God’s work with your hands, including: gardening at Buder, making casseroles in the kitchen, assembling kits for LifeWiseSTL, ordering from Bridge Bread, getting a free gun lock, canvassing the neighborhood, a Little Free Pantry food drive, plus much more! The website will be updated regularly and there is an electronic and physical sign-up. We will also be collecting items for LifeWise STL and CARE STL if you cannot donate your time but can donate your money! We will also be giving away Ted Drewes as a way of saying thank you to those who volunteer!



“God’s work. Our hands.”



Find Gethsemane on Social Media:

Website: www.gethsemanestl.org

YouTube: [gethsemanestl](https://www.youtube.com/gethsemanestl)

Instagram: [gethsemane_elca_stl](https://www.instagram.com/gethsemane_elca_stl)

Pinterest: [Gethsemane Lutheran Church](https://www.pinterest.com/GethsemaneLutheranChurch/)

Facebook: [Gethsemane Lutheran Church - ELCA, St. Louis, MO](https://www.facebook.com/GethsemaneLutheranChurch-ELCA-St-Louis-MO/)



Around the Church



August GLCW Luncheon

All women are welcome to join us at our next luncheon:

Date: Monday, August 28
Time: 11:30 AM
Place: Chris' Pancake & Dining
5980 Southwest Ave.
Hostesses: Dawn Schuessler
RSVP: Please call:
314-369-6989 (Dawn) by **8/24**

Blood pressure monitoring will continue in its new location on the first and third Sundays of each month over the summer. Look for the sign in the church library after worship.



Education News!

Sunday School teachers will meet on August 20th to finalize plans for the 23/34 year.

Sunday School will begin on September 17th between services! All eligible families will receive an email with a registration link in August. Sunday School is open to all children aged three through high school.

In addition to Sunday School there will also be opportunities for adult education. On September 17th we will have a NARCAN training. Stay tuned!

Offering Counters Needed

Gethsemane is in need of additional offering counters. Duties include counting Sunday offerings (checks and cash), tracking amounts, and assigning the offerings to their proper funds. Information is confidential. Counters currently count on Monday mornings between 10 and 11 am. If you are interested and available, please contact the church office.

From Your Cart to Ours Little Free Pantry Update

Gethsemane members are the best! We filled the grocery cart once again in July. Thank you! Did you know that it takes approximately \$400 a month in donations to keep our pantry full? We will continue to collect items throughout the month with our "From Your Cart to Ours" program and gratefully accept your financial donations as well as Thrivent grant support.

On August 27th, as part of our GWOH event, we will host a food drive to collect even more items for the pantry and help advertise its presence to members of our community.










Summer Lite Fellowship

Fellowship continues with casual discussions following worship, but instead of coffee and donuts, we are offering cookies and lemonade. Snacks and beverages will be available for 30 minutes and can be consumed in the halls and outside. As always, we are in need of fellowship hosts. Duties include making up pitchers of lemonade and preparing cookie trays. All needed items are stored in the refrigerator and on the counter to the right, in the downstairs kitchen. Items are served in the hall next to the elevators.

August 2023

Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10:00am Bible Study	2 10:00am Staff Meeting	3	4	5  Sandcastle Day
Gretchen on Vacation						
6  9:30am Worship 10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship	7 1:30pm – 5:30pm Red Cross Blood Drive	8 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting	9 10:00am Staff Meeting	10 National S'mores Day 	11	12
13 9:30am Worship 10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship 11:30am Youth Gathering Meeting	14 7:00pm Worship and Music Meeting	15 10:00am Bible Study	16 10:00am Staff Meeting	17	18 *Messenger info. due	19 Electronic Recycling Event 10:00am – 2:00pm
Aria on Vacation						
20  9:30am Worship 10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship 10:45am Meet the Author Event	21	22 10:00am Bible Study	23 10:00am Staff Meeting	24	25 National Banana Split Day 	26
Aria on Vacation						
27 <i>God's Work. Our Hands.</i> 9:30am Worship 10:30am Event Activities	28 11:30am GLC Women's Luncheon	29 10:00am Bible Study	30 10:00am Staff Meeting	31		Save the Date: Sunday, September 11, Mission Fair Sunday, September 17, First Day of Sunday School

August 2023 Worship Leaders

	6th	13th	20th	27th	Sept. 3rd
	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am
					
Greeter	B. Bartholomew	R. Schanker	C. Morice	N. Fontana	N. Hopper
Usher	J. McElwee	C. Morice	J. Mayhaus	R. Lima	J. Sandberg
Usher	A. Rentchler	D. Buehrer	R. Boehlje	S. Hetager	S. Walentik
Assisting Minister*	R. Jones	C. Schanker	R. Lima	A. Repp	G. Borkowski
Lector	P. Saathoff	A. Walentik	L. Schuessler	A. Gorvie	M. Schmidt
Children's Sermon	C. Schmidt	L. Schuessler	Pastor	C. Schmidt	Pastor
Wine	Brown Family	Rentchler Family	Brown Family	Brown Family	Tepe-McFarlane Family
Bread Baker	Yemm Family	Hunsinger Family	Lima Family	Richardson Family	Fontana Family
Blood Pressure	T. Yemm	n/a	TBD	n/a	J. Williams
Summer Lite Fellowship Host**	Starr-Hunter Family	Needed	Meet the Author Event	God's Work. Our Hands. Event	Needed
Altar Flowers	Aronsson Family	Breed Family	Szyman Family	Schuessler Family	Wind/Williams
Altar Guild	Denise Buehrer				
Camera	Gretchen Jensen				

* Assisting Ministers are **not** to wear robes this summer (through September 3). Please dress appropriately.

**Fellowship hosts are needed to make and serve lemonade. Cookies are provided, but hosts are welcome to supply additional lite snacks. Fellowship will be held in the hall at the top of the landing near the elevators and will last approximately 30 minutes.

Reparations Update

In the near future, you will hear about a program being rolled out to pay reparations for the use of African American Spirituals, and their use within worship. You will hear about what the program entails, how it will look, and how it is a work of the congregation to promote justice. To prepare us, here are two important definitions we should keep in mind:

REPARATIONS - The use of the word reparations is most often used in the US to describe the process of *making amends* for the historical and systematic wrong done to African Americans. In this case, the historical and systematic wrong is related to never properly giving credit to the body of music that is African American Spirituals. A number cannot and need not be assigned to monetize the historical wrong, but we can and should as believers in justice affect the future. Pay it forward, so to speak.

ROYALTIES - The church music industry relies on royalties generated by the licensing of copyrighted hymns as a primary form of payment to lyricists, hymn tune writers, arrangers, or a publisher holder of the copyright. A royalty is a payment to a copyright owner for use of a hymn printed in a bulletin and/or broadcasted/streamed. The copyright holder may compensate the lyricists, composers, and arrangers that originated the hymn.

Meet the Author Event

Mark your calendars for Gethsemane's "Meet the Author" event and book signing on Sunday, August 20th. We are excited to welcome Ciera McElroy to talk about her new book: *Atomic Family*; a story about a family living in South Carolina in 1961 and their reactions to the possibility of nuclear war. We are also excited to welcome Bob Chamberlin and hear about his autobiography, *What's Next?* We always knew he was an extremely talented organist, but that's just the tip of the iceberg. If we are lucky, Pastor Jeff may also be in attendance to celebrate his birthday and discuss his books: *Looking for a City* and *Sycamore Tree Service and Other Stories*.

Please join us in the fellowship hall following worship for a brief introduction to each author and their work. Authors will then be available to sign copies of their books. All featured books are available through Amazon and should be ordered prior to the event.

A Brush with Fame Continued.

At one of his concerts, he came off stage, held her hand, and serenaded her during his singing of "God Bless the USA", surrounded by hundreds of marines and airmen.

5 - While Mark Cutelli was co-owner in a restaurant, deli, and catering company, many of his clients were the more affluent people in Kansas City, MO. He met three different presidents in my lifetime and six different first ladies, including a private talk with at-the-time a little known woman named Hillary Clinton. He has her autograph to prove it.

Not sure who some of these people are? See the back cover of this issue for images.

Announcements & Anniversaries

Congratulations...

To Noah Jenson and Riley Boehlje, who both qualified to play in the Junior PGA golf invitational on August 7th and 8th!

Save the Date...

Families with age- eligible kids who are interested in learning more about the ELCA Youth Gathering next year are invited to a lunch on August 13th. We will discuss fundraising and next steps.

We will return to two services (8:30am and 11am) on Sunday, September 10th. Between services, we will host the 2nd annual Mission Fair where we will showcase all the ways you can give of your time and talent!



“Hey, we know them!”

Sen. Brian Williams observes Bioscience training session offered by Biotech for MO as part of new job training program offered by Biotech for MO. Picture by Ashley Vargo, St. Louis Post Dispatch.



Don't forget to send in your Flat Jesus pics!
#FlatJesusGLCSTL23



August Birthdays

- 1 Ami Boehlje
Ella Rothgangel
- 4 Becky Rentchler
- 5 Liz Neuf
- 6 Reese White
- 7 Michael Schaller
- 8 Carleen Reinhardt
- 10 Annabelle Potter
- 12 Alfred Gorvie
- 16 Callie Yemm
- 18 Courtney Baxter-Annis
- 19 Norm Hopfer
- 20 Jeff Lindgren
- 21 John McElwee
Josie Szyman
- 24 Mykaela Williams
- 26 Robert Lewis
Justin Tatum
- 27 Riley Boehlje
- 30 Lois Wind
- 31 Eleanor Mayhaus

August Anniversaries



- | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|----|----|----------------------------|----|
| 5 | Joe Epplin and Peggy Zapf | 40 | 21 | Roy and Mary Ruckdeschel | 52 |
| 6 | Mark and Elke Overton | 30 | 27 | Michael and Debra Schaller | 40 |
| 12 | Adam and Becky Rentchler | 17 | 28 | Todd and Ami Boehlje | 30 |
| 13 | Edward and Stina Roach | 40 | 28 | Dan and Susan Flaxbart | 52 |
| 14 | Mike and Kim Elliott | 30 | | | |

Dates to Remember

Coming Up:

Saturday, August 19	E-Recycling Event
Sunday, August 27	“God’s work. Our hands.” day of service
Weekend, September 9-10	Saint Joan of Arc Homecoming
Sunday, September 10	GLC Mission Fair
Weekend, September 23-24	Tower Grove Pride Festival

Don’t Forget

Every Wednesday - Bulletin Items Due
Second Tuesday - Church Council Meeting
Third Friday - Messenger Articles Due
December First - Budget Requests Due

SPECIAL EVENT HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Sunday, August 27th: “God’s work. Our hands.” day of service. We’ve got opportunities for all abilities and ages. Please plan to stay for an hour or two and help make our event a success. Ted Drewes will be given out at the end!

One Month Prior to the Annual Meeting in January -
Committee Reports Due



Get Connected @ Gethsemane

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

3600 Hampton Ave.,
St. Louis, MO 63109
Phone: 314-352-8050
Fax: 314-352-8051
Email Address:

office@gethsemanestl.org

Church Office Hours: 8:00am-2:00pm

Pastoral Care: Rev. Cheryl Walenta
Gorvie 903-918-3992
pastor@gethsemanestl.org

Council President Barb Johnson
314-962-3501
barbjohnson47@hotmail.com

Website: www.gethsemanestl.org
YouTube: [gethsemanestl](http://gethsemanestl.org)
Instagram: [gethsemane_elca_stl](https://www.instagram.com/gethsemane_elca_stl)
Pinterest: Gethsemane Lutheran Church
Facebook: Gethsemane Lutheran Church - ELCA, St. Louis, MO

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 a message to:
messenger@gethsemanestl.org.

WEEKLY E-NEWS

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

MESSENGER NEWS

You can send your news and notes for the *Messenger* to messenger@gethsemanestl.org. There is also a *Messenger* drawer by the church office. For best results, news should be in by the third Friday of each month.



Gethsemane Lutheran Church
3600 Hampton Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63109

Return Service Requested

Brush With Fame Images

