

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

A FAMILY IN CHRIST CARING FOR ALL PEOPLE
June 2023 Volume #130 Issue #6

**“In a world where
you can be anything,
be kind.”**

— Clare Pooley

Messenger Contents

Pastor's Page	2
Worship in June	3
Community Life	4
Connections Corner	5
Around the Church	6
June Calendar	7
June Worship Leaders	8
Aria's Notes	9
Announcements	10
Anniversaries	10
Dates to Remember	11
Get Connected	11
Month in Pictures.....	12

Pastor's Page

*“In those days Peter stood up among the believers
(together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons)
and said, ‘Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled...’”*
--Acts of the Apostles 1:15-16a

When have you ever found yourself, maybe unexpectedly, speaking up for someone else? Have you ever raised your voice for something important to you, even if you were afraid to speak, but you started speaking anyway?

Peter is an interesting character to follow in the story of Jesus's ministry. Jesus calls Peter to follow him, and Peter has no credentials other than being a fisherman and being faithful to God. Over and over, Jesus teaches the disciples about the reign of God; over and over, the disciples misunderstand and need to be retaught. Peter sometimes appears the most enthusiastic *and* the one who understands the least. But Jesus doesn't give up on Peter!

After Jesus promises his disciples that the Holy Spirit will be with them, the disciples are left to wait and wonder what that means. But for Peter, something *clicks*. He gets it, and he starts speaking up. His first speeches and sermons are recorded in the book of Acts. He speaks up, and he is willing to keep learning as he goes (remember that story about Peter having a vision about eating 'unclean' animals? That's in chapter ten of Acts).

What is God calling you to speak about? How are you being called to bear witness to what God has done in your life? Could you tell someone you worship with Gethsemane Lutheran Church? Could you wear a t-shirt that starts a conversation about faith? Could you pray with someone in need of healing (like, *actually* pray with them in the moment, rather than simply saying "I'll pray for you"—this is my challenge too!)?

There's always more to learn! And it isn't necessary to have all the answers. Sometimes wondering with a good question is enough, even wondering aloud about God with someone else can become a holy conversation.

It's important to practice the skills of speaking about your faith. This comes more easily for some people than for others, but Jesus says that all of us will be his witnesses!

During this summer, how will you rest and get restoration for your soul? How will you expand your learning? Remember that you are never left alone in this work—Jesus promises to be with us always, and the Holy Spirit will keep reminding us of Jesus's words and God's love for us.

Pastor Cheryl Walenta Gorvie

Worship in June

Sunday, June 4th, 2023

Holy Trinity Sunday

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

Sunday, June 25th, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

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

Sunday, June 11th, 2023

Second Sunday of Pentecost

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

Sunday, June 18th, 2023

Third Sunday of Pentecost

Father's Day

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



June 11th - Celebrate the baptism of Brock Christian Williams, son of Lindsay Schuessler and Brian Williams.

June 11th - Celebrate our recent graduates with a special blessing.

June 18th - Join us as we welcome new members to Gethsemane.

How Well Do You Know Your Church Family?

Did you know that Gethsemane has a link to the Kardashians? We do, and we have pictures to prove it. What else don't we know about our Gethsemane family? We would like to find out.

If you, a close family member, or even a friend have an interesting story or event that you would like to share, please take a moment to contact the church office (to be in the July Messenger, we need your information by June 20th). We are pretty sure that everyone has stories about their "brush with fame" or chance meeting. What is yours?

Our tie to the Kardashians? Don Kurt - his grandson has filmed several famous people, including the Kardashian family and Oprah Winfrey.

May Attendance

May 7th

107 In-Person 47 Online

May 14th

95 In-Person 33 Online

May 21st

73 In-Person 33 Online

May 28th

Summer Worship

59 In-Person 16 Online

Synod Assembly

On Saturday, June 3rd, Pastor Cheryl, Eve Cooney, and Mark Cutelli will represent Gethsemane at the ELCA Synod Assembly. This year's event is being held on Zoom. Please keep our representatives in your prayers.

Community Life

wear orange
Prayer Service

we can
end gun violence

Friday, June 2 at 6 p.m.
Tower Grove Park, St. Louis
Humboldt South Pavillion

Join The Episcopal Diocese of Missouri for this **wear orange** event.

Bishop Deon Johnson will lead a prayer service of remembrance and lament for the victims of gun violence, followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments. Free gun locks and gun safety materials will be available from local vendors.

+ Learn more about wear orange: wearorange.org

+ Learn more about The Episcopal Diocese of Missouri: diocesemo.org



Gun Violence Prevention
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MISSOURI

Tower Grove Park is located between Kingshighway and Grand Avenue,
1 mile south of I-44 in St. Louis.



June:
shampoo,
conditioner,
bar soap

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

Save the date: St. Phillip's Evangelical Lutheran will have a Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 17th.



You're invited to join St. Phillip's Evangelical Lutheran every Saturday this summer between 10 am and 2 pm for a free barbeque. St. Phillip's is located at 2424 Annie Malone Dr. in North St. Louis, 63113. They are participating with the Urban League to bring communities together in hopes of bringing down violence.

Transgender Support



Evan Gorvie shows off the sign he made for the Transgender Rally held at the Cathedral Basilica in May.

(It says: *Physical is not Mental. Let trans people be themselves. Even a kid knows not to judge a book by its cover.*)

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)



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

God's work.
Our hands.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
www.gethsemanestl.org

Save the Date! August 27th.

Even though the sweltering heat of August is months away, it's time to start thinking about *God's work. Our hands.* day of service!

Do you have an organization that is near and dear to you? Do you know of an organization that could use a little boost of people power?

Let me know or have them get in touch with me (details listed above).

God's work Our hands. is a day where we, Gethsemane, can give back to the community as a way of living out Jesus' commandment to love one another.

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

Facebook: Gethsemane Lutheran Church - ELCA, St. Louis, MO



Around the Church



June GLCW Luncheon

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

- Date:** Monday, June 26
Time: 11:30 AM
Place: GLC Fellowship Hall
Hostesses: Phyllis Saathoff and Dawn Riske
RSVP: Please call or text Phyllis at 314-359-9134 by **June 22.**

The meal will be catered by Kaldoun and Malak Hreedeen, Syrian friends of Dawn Riske. Their business "Falafel Saha" will prepare a meal including hummus, pita bread, salad, and chicken biryani. The cost is \$15 per person, payable by check, cash or by using Venmo (sorry, no credit card availability that day).

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



Summer Lite Fellowship



As we return to Summer Single Services at 9:30am on Sunday mornings, we also return to a more relaxed summer version of Fellowship. We will continue to encourage 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. Directions, cookies, and lemonade mix are provided. Items are served in the hall next to the elevators.

From Your Cart to Ours Little Free Pantry Update


Thank you all for your continued support of Gethsemane's new Little Free Pantry. We know that it is being used and filled by members of our community. So far we have received financial support from Thrivent, the Gethsemane Lutheran Church Women's Group and several individual members. You are welcome to support our efforts financially or physically with food items placed in the grocery cart between the food pantry collection shelves and Church Council bulletin board. We go through a lot of peanut butter, cereal, meat (canned tuna, spam, sausages, etc.), jerky, mac-n-cheese, crackers, and toilet paper. Pop top cans are encouraged. No glass please.



Do you have a garden? This is also a great way to share your bounty. A basket for fresh produce will be placed next to the pantry later this summer.

June 2023

Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 National Donut Day 	3
				8	9	10
4  <i>Trinity Sunday</i> 9:30am Worship 10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship 11:00am Sunday School Teacher Luncheon	5	6 10:00am Bible Study	7 10:00am Staff Meeting	15	16 *Messenger info. due	17 8:30pm Visiting Youth Group from Minnesota
11 9:30am Worship 10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship 4:00pm New Member Orientation	12	13 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	14 10:00am Staff Meeting	22	23	24
18  <i>Father's Day</i> 9:30am Worship 10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship	19 <i>Juneteenth</i> 7:00pm In-Person Worship Committee Meeting	20 10:00am Bible Study	21 <i>First Day of Summer</i> 10:00am Staff Meeting	Kim on Vacation		
25 9:30am Worship 10:30am Summer Lite Fellowship	26 11:30am GLC Women's Luncheon	27 10:00am Bible Study	28 10:00am Staff Meeting	29	30	
Kim on Vacation						

June 2023 Worship Leaders

	4th		11th		18th		25th		July 2nd	
	9:30am		9:30am		9:30am		9:30am		9:30am	
Greeter	N. Fontana		R. Lima		R. Schankner		Wind Family		D. Schaller	
Usher	J. Mayhaus		G. Borkowski		Rentchler Family		R. Boehlje		D. Buehrer	
Usher	R. Schankner		Yemm Family		R. Lima		J. McElwee		C. Morice	
Assisting Minister*	C. Schankner		A. Repp		B. Rentchler		R. Schuessler		N. Fontana	
Lector	A. Boehlje		M. Christian		C. Schankner		R. Jones		A. Fulton	
Children's Sermon	E. Gorvie		TBD		TBD		TBD		TBD	
Organist	V. Golemski		Johnson Family		H. Rothfuss		Olson Fulton Family			
Wine										
Bread Baker	Wisch Family		Yemm Family		Hunsinger Family		Richardson Family		Lima Family	
Summer Life Fellowship Host**	Schmidt Family		Schuessler Williams Family		Needed		Needed		Needed	
Altar Flowers	Fontana Family		Scanlan Family		Jenson Family		Schuessler Family		Johnson Family	
Altar Guild	Flaxbart Family		G. Jenson							
Camera										

* Assisting Ministers are **not** to wear robes this summer (June 4 – 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.

Aria's Notes

by Gethsemane's Music Director: Dr. Aria Thomé

A Tribute to Our Substitute Organists

How blessed we have been! Music springs forth from the imagination, creations from the Creator to written page, and because of three individuals: Ella Rothgangel, Johanna Erdman, and Bob Chamberlin, this music sounds forth against the walls and into our hearts to bring song to our lips Sunday after Sunday. We have been without a permanent organist for almost two years now, and with unwavering faith and devoted commitment, these three have rotated week after week to provide our worship with the fruits of their dedication, love, and craft to enhance our song of praise. While we gaze forward to a new chapter with our newly hired organist, Helen Rothfuss, it is with boundless gratitude that we pause to consider our blessedness, to be led in hymns, psalms, and canticles of praise by three exemplary organists and loving people. We thank you Ella, Johanna, and Bob! Please accept our love and best of wishes. --



Summer Music Plans

Summer can be a time of rejuvenation, relaxation, and recharging before liturgically, we find ourselves in Fall and nearing Advent. To prepare, the music ministry will be active, participating in some of the follow:

- New psalmist to garner confidence proclaiming the word in song
- Duo and trio pieces meant to gain confidence singing on parts
- Use of children and families to assist in leading song
- Use of instrumentalist to provide instrumental musical offerings
- Use of solos for musical offerings to achieve independence and confidence
- Occasional solos as the come up throughout the summer
- A chance to explore new repertoire in special musical offerings
- Practical experience singing in parts
- Still surrounded by your favorite, singable hymns!

And more!

We will keep ourselves busy, so that Advent 2023 finds us awake and ready for a New Year!

Announcements & Anniversaries

Congratulations...

Roy Geers will turn 100 years old this month! Help us celebrate this milestone birthday with cards. You can send your well wishes to: Roy Geers in care of Barb Blankenship, 630 Nanceen Ct. Ballwin, MO 63021. Cards and address labels will be available in the Narthex until Sunday, June 18th.

Save the Date...

Sunday School teachers will meet on June 4th from 11 am-1 pm to set the schedule for next year. If you are interested in joining us please contact Gretchen Jenson. (We are ordering lunch and would hate for you to go hungry!)

God's work. Our hands. is on August 27th. We are Currently looking for giving opportunities. Contact Gretchen with ideas.

Join us for Rally Day/Ministry Fair on September 10th We return to two services and between services we will learn about all the ways we can be a part of Gethsemane's garden, within our own community and beyond.



June Birthdays

- 3 Dell Roth
- 4 Cheryl Bauer
- 7 Sharon Ryan
- 10 Denise Buehrer
- 11 Jessica Potter
- 12 Roy Ruckdeschel
- 13 Kate Hartz
- 14 Chloe Tatum
Rosemary Tatum
- 16 Jonathan Flaxbart
- 21 Betty Young
- 23 Oskar Starr-Hunter
- 24 Roy Geers
- 25 Ronin Wobbe
- 27 Claire Szyman
- 30 Will Kelly

upcoming **EVENTS**



Blood Drive: June 12, 1:30-5:30pm

"God's work. Our hands.": August 27

Mission Fair: September 10

Tower Grove Pride: September 23-24



June Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|----|
| 4 | Nick & Sabrina Kohlberg | 7 |
| 12 | Steve & Anja Walentik | 13 |
| 13 | Ella Rothgangel & Christopher Nahm | 13 |
| 19 | Brent & Gretchen Jenson | 24 |
| 22 | Eldon & Jean Miller | 61 |
| 25 | Tim & Christen Bass | 12 |
| 29 | Ken & Cheryl Bauer | 55 |
| 30 | Robert & Maggie Schurz | 6 |

Dates to Remember

Coming Up:

Sunday, June 11 4-7pm New Member Orientation
 Saturday, June 17 Visiting Youth Group
 Weekend, July 21-23 Saint Joan of Arc Flea Market
 Sunday, August 27 God's Work. Our Hands. day of service
 Weekend, September 9-10 Saint Joan of Arc Homecoming

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

New Member Orientation is on June 11th. We will welcome new members during worship on the following Sunday, June 18th.

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
Twitter: @gethsemane_stl
Instagram: 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

Month in Review



Pickle Ball

Sunday School Play