

GETHSEMANE GAZETTE

He Has Risen!



2017 Holy Week Worship Schedule

~**Maunday Thursday Service: April 13th @ 7:00 pm**
(Gethsemane Sanctuary)

~**Good Friday Service: April 14th @ NOON** (North
United Methodist Church: 4350 Fremont Ave. N, MPLS)

~**Easter Sunday Service: 10:00 AM @ Gethsemane** (Wear
your Easter Bonnets & Hats ☺ !)



APRIL NEWS

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be a part of our prayer chain or have any prayer requests please

Dianne Szach 612-521-3295

Quilters Wanted

Our quilting group is looking for more members to sew quilts for donation and enjoy fellowship. If you have never quilted before, we are willing to show you how!

If you are interested contact Arlene Dohrn @ 612-521-8583

Easter Hat Decorating:

*Kids Easter Hat-Decorating fun will take place Sunday 4/9/17 at 11:00 during Sunday School!



Annual Easter Celebration: Sunday 4/16/17

Honoring one of Roxi's favorite traditions, Gethsemane will once again be having our Kid's Egg Hunt, Easter Parade & Basket Give-Away

9:00-9:45 Breakfast, Kid's Basket Decorating, Alumni Meet-up

10:00: Easter Service (wear your Easter Bonnets/Hats!)

11:00: Easter Parade, Egg Hunt, Basket Give Away & Fellowship

Editor's Corner: From "Were You There" to Halleluiah

"Were You There...when they crucified our Lord?" and "Christ the Lord has Risen Today... Halleluiah!"

Growing up, the words of these moving hymns bookended my experience of Holy weekend, the time when my family and friends talked of Christ's death and celebrated his resurrection. At Maundy Thursday services, I'd witness the stripping of the church's sanctuary of adornment and the draping of black fabric over everything. On Good Friday, we'd read the last walk of Christ, his suffering, crucifixion and final exclamation on our behalf, "Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do!"

As a child, I was always fascinated by the emotional journey that adults went through during the Lenten season. Over a month long sacrifice of sweets or other vices (my Jewish friends eating Matzo for Passover), the contemplative Tenebrae service and the slamming closed of the Bible, with the declaration, "It is finished!" This contrasted strikingly to Easter morning when suddenly the church was filled with fragrant lilies, fancy dresses and joyous organ hymns, with dozens of



"For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." Romans 6:5

sung Alleluias. But, admittedly, I understood (and appreciated) more about the Easter Bunny, decorating eggs and candy baskets, than about Jesus' death and resurrection.

Years later, as an adult, when I reenacted Christ's passion and resurrection with movement as I shared my dance ministry with others, I finally got it. Both bookends are needed to support the truth in between. You can't fully dance with ribbons down the center aisle -- twirling and leaping to "Christ the Lord Has Risen Today" -- unless you experience the trembling, heaviness

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Sitting Easter Vigil



In some Christian traditions, the night before Easter Sunday sometimes a vigil is held. In church sanctuaries, people sit awake and keep watch, as if keeping guard over Christ's tomb during the darkness before sunrise. Reading the Word and reflective prayer is done throughout the night, as the "guards" take their shifts. It is reminiscent of the Jewish tradition of sitting *shomer* with the body of the dead, every hour until the burial.

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Gethsemane Lutheran Church Women: Then & Now



Left:
"Legacy of Faith"
Booklet
Cover

Right:
GLCW
Quilts at
the Bazaar



As we approach the 125th anniversary of our church, it is fun to look back on Gethsemane's roots and beginnings. In the booklet "Legacy of Faith" compiled by Marlene Nelson (with the help of Jim and Pat Ericksen, Arlene Groves and Pat Wasgatt) with information from old ledgers of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, you can read about the history of "those faithful people who have gone before us, leaving this heritage which we enjoy today." In it you will find information about the starting of the church, its buildings, its many internal organizations and workings and long time mission to spread God's word.

After working on the annual report this year, I realized there was very little that I knew about some of the organization that we currently have here at Gethsemane. One of them is the GLCW, who in their report shared that they did some phenomenally generous things this past year. So I decided to dig deeper with the help of the "Legacy" Booklet.

Here's a bit of what I found out, as quoted in the Legacy Booklet. The Gethsemane Lutheran Church Women (GLCW) has always been an organization that welcomed "all women to be a member to help serve God and Gethsemane, His church". In October of 1957, GLCW was formed out of the original Ladies Aid group (with its own constitution) and Women's Guild. They merged seven ladies circles into three.

In the earliest years, the women's organizations held their meetings "once a month with devotions, and later with Bible Studies, a business meeting, followed with coffee and fellowship." Over time the women of Gethsemane "contributed so much to the social and financial needs of many charities, missions and the church with tremendous dedication and service of so many".

Over the years, the GLCW "held fundraisers: sales of aprons, cook books, Christmas and greeting cards, candy, donut and bake sales, magazine subscriptions, clothes hangers, crafts etc. They had pie and ice cream socials, basket socials, lutefisk, ham and bean suppers, turkey dinners, Annual Fall sales, Country Fairs, Bazaars, a food booth at the State Fair. They bought material and sewed aprons, quilts, dish towels, curtains for the church and the Junior Choir robes, etc." In addition, GLCW purchased the rail on the choir loft, stoves, refrigerators, dishes, carpet, drapes, clergy chairs, communion glasses, organ and church repairs and so much more. Can it be safe to say that without the GLCW we wouldn't have half the items we take for granted each Sunday?

In her GLCW Annual Report, President Arlene Dohrn shared that the current group of women are "vibrant, sharing and fun-loving" and that they still meet every third Tuesday of each month for Bible Study and Fellowship (in "Circles") in people's

Continued page 4...

Sunday School (continued)

homes. They spent 2016 collecting personal hygiene items for a women's shelter, and school supplies for neighborhood schools. They held their Annual Bazaar with our Turkey Dinner and raffled off and sold many great items.

They donated large amounts of money to the Gethsemane Helping Hands Fund and made nine quilts to donate and others to sell. They purchased and delivered Christmas poinsettias and cards to our Homebound Senior members, who greatly appreciated the visits and miss fellowship with everyone at church. But they also had fun with their Annual Christmas Gathering at Anoka Lyric Arts Theatre's "A Christmas Story" and dinner at Billy's Bar and Grill as well as their summer Annual "EAT OUT" at the Roasted Pear restaurant.

It's guaranteed that GLCW will be a busy group in 2017, and that Gethsemane's women will continue on with their well over 60-year long tradition of generosity and fellowship.

If you would like to join this lovely group of ladies contact Arlene Dohrn @ 612-521-8583!

Editor's Note: As a granddaughter of a full-blooded Swede, I wonder (only half seriously) why the lutefisk dinner did not last until today. Is that something we should bring back in our 125th year? ☺

Editor's Corner (continued)

and falling that came with "Were You There?"

We cannot fully appreciate the joy of the Resurrection, or our salvation, without knowing the agony of the crucifixion, and Christ's suffrage for our sins.

No, we may not have been there as believers when Christ was nailed to the cross, witnessed the empty tomb, or saw him restored again. But we all have experienced, in a small way, what it might have been like. We may have known personal pain, or have witnessed someone else suffer. We may also have turned our backs on someone and regretted it later. And most assuredly we all have experienced some type of loss, waiting by the tomb, when the sun refused to shine. And, the blessed surprise when we realize what was lost is found again, or better yet, that really it was with us all the time.

Picture those experiences, magnify them ten-thousand fold, and we might get a tad closer to comprehending the magnitude of Jesus' journey and God's sacrifice for us, actually experience being "there", oh so many years ago; and finally be able to sing God's praises with a truly grateful Halleluiah!

**APRIL
SPECIAL EVENTS**

Special-Themed
Community Meal :

Liberian Dinner

Wednesday April 5

@ 6:00 pm

Come join us for a yummy
free feast!



Gethsemane
Youth Group
(GYG) Presents:

Night of the Stars

Dinner, show and
auction:

Sunday, April 30th
@ 4:00

Don't miss the fun
and entertainment!

Easter Vigil (continued)

Last year, I had the honor of sitting *shomer* for a dear friend's mother after she had passed from cancer. Her body was in a pearl white casket in the small room of a burial home, surrounded by drapery, candles, a bowl and pitcher of water, and a beautiful painted tarp of God's creation in nature. Not being Jewish, I did not understand what I was to do when my friend asked me a *shomer*, but I knew it was important to her or she would never have asked.

I ended up being scheduled for 3 am to 5 am, in the darkest of night. When I arrived for my shift, both apprehensive and intrigued, I watched the previous *shomers* wash their hands (to purify themselves) and read a prayer from a laminated page. Then I was left alone in the tiny space. I had learned online that you can speak psalms and read scriptures every hour, or half hour, but instead I found myself reading out loud the entire time. I had never been up in that that time of night reading from the bible before, and it was a beautiful and centering experience. I chose my favorite psalms, my friend's favorite (Psalm 23), and my grandmother's favorite (Psalm 121): "I will lift my eyes unto the hills..." Surprisingly what was to be a gift to my friend and her mom, turned out to be more of a gift to me. By the end of the two hours, I felt a reverent calm and peace that I've not felt before. I had woken myself up in the middle of the night, ventured out in the dark to sit vigil with the dead, and found myself closer to God.

I wonder if that was what the Disciples and followers felt that first night after their friend and teacher died and was laid in the tomb. Did they sit vigil for their Lord and tell stories about him, or speak prayers? Did they take turns staying awake with better success than they had in the Garden of Gethsemane when they fell asleep on their watch?

Perhaps, as a meaningful addition to your faith life this Easter, and to experience a bit of what it might have been like keeping watch over Christ's tomb, you can partake in a personal Easter vigil of your own.

If you choose, here are a few ideas you can use, or simply come up with your own.

1) Suggestion of possible Vigil readings taken from onlineministries.creighton.edu.

- I. Genesis 1:1-2:2
- II. Genesis 22:1-18
- III. Exodus 14:15-15:1
- IV. Isaiah 54:5-14
- V. Isaiah 55: 1-11
- VI. Ezekiel 36:16-28
- VII. Romans 6:3-11 Baptism
- VIII. Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 1-12

2) Reading the Psalms/Gospels: You could read through your favorite Psalms out loud, or an entire Gospel (like Luke or John) from beginning to end, in honor of the life and sacrifice of our Savior.

3) Family Bible Time: As a family, you could take turns reading favorite Bible passages about Jesus and talk about why/how they important to you in your life now.

4) Time of Silence/Prayer: Dedicate the day or evening for silence and prayer: turning off all phones, media and television. Go to bed early and wake with the sunrise to celebrate the Risen Lord!

Whatever you do, may your preparation for this Easter be a blessed one, one that brings you ever closer to God and his peace!

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." John 14:27

Who's Who At Gethsemane...

Senior Pastor: Jeff Nehrbass

Youth Group (GYG) Director: Matt Straumann

GYG Assistants: Anne Johnson, Dick Mork

Camden Kids Director: Carrie Asanji

Building and Grounds: Darrel Taitt

Confirmation Teacher: John Nelson

Sunday School Leader: Brittany Schiebe

Newsletter Editor/Communications Director: Cindy Nehrbass

Bulletin/Stewardship Coordinator: Linda Omark

Food Shelf Volunteer Coordinator: Jean Bailey

Altar Guild Coordinator: Arlene Dohrn

Prayer Chain Leader/Sunshine Person: Dianne Szach



GETHEMANE CHURCH: (612)-521-3575

Website: www.glcmpls.org

CAMDEN KIDS Learning Center: (612) 767-7041

Website: www.camdenkids.net

CAMDEN PROMISE: (612) 521-5216

Website: www.camdenpromise.org

EMERGENCY ONLY LINE (612) 964-0881

Prayer Chain Request: 612-521-8583

Weekly At Gethsemane...

Sundays:

9:00-9:45 am **Breakfast*** (2nd & 4th Sundays =
Breakfast & a Bag* of food)

9:00-9:30 am **Bible Study**

10:00 am **Worship Service**

11:00 am **Fellowship, Sunday School &
Confirmation**

Noon-3:00 pm **GYG (Youth Group)**

Mondays & Fridays: 9:45 am **Food Distribution**

Wednesdays:

10:00 am **Bible Study**

6:00 pm **Free Community Meal**

7:30 pm **Food Distribution**

Saturdays:

Every Saturday: 11:00 am **Produce
Distribution**

(1st & 3rd of the month) 12:30-3 pm **Food
Shelf & Lunch**

Gethsemane Youth Group (GYG)

Night of the Stars Alumni: Remember when...



SADIE/BRANDON: ALL the boys wore dresses...Colt sang "Oh Canada"... the old group did the Wizard of Oz...every time Joe F. and Aaron F. wore a dress... magino and magona...Ryan P. and Josh F. were magicians and Ryan wanted Josh to jump through a flaming hoop and Roxi said, "Ryaaaaaannnn...NO!"...Footloose 3...Caitlin N. and Mr. Fix It...Koombaya (i.e. Old Man Skit)

MATT: Jacob and Josh danced and Jacob gave Josh a rose...they made up a dance so they could see me do "The Whip"?

JACOB: The Murder Mystery: Jamar did his lines soooo well I messed up mine cuz of laughing so hard...Calling Matt a "hooligan" in the old man skits...Throwing my body on the stage in Again Skits, people laughed at my pain...Andrew and Malik doing the ballroom dance ☺...Jamar as batman, you couldn't see him cuz he blended into the background...YMCA skit I choreographed and Brandon had to catch me...Uptown Funk: right, left, right, right, left, right, left, left...Girls doing the circle chair thing...Playing a life-sized Pac Man game...Matt as the Cereal Killer in Mission Impossible!

BRITTANY: Ryan P. and Josh F. held signs behind the girls' dance directing the audience to "Boo" and "Applause"...All the boys dressed up in dresses... We made many of the dads compete in a Dad's Dance-off...We sang friends are friends forever while saying goodbye to great friends Josh and Aaron, and Sam and Joe...We made countless terrible movies during the Again Skit! ☺ ... Roxi would get involve in our skits, only to tell us NO! about something ☺!

Upcoming Youth Group Schedule: Sundays 1-3 pm (additional NOS rehearsals TBD)

4/2: Movie/NOS practice

4/9: NOS Practice

4/16: EASTER (No GYG)

4/23: NOS Practice

4/30: NOS Set Up, 4:00 SHOWTIME!!



GYG Alumni Page

Alumni Interview: Sadie Knutson

*Pictured here with with Breona Rydholm (left)

- 1) **What years were you in youth group?** I truly don't remember NOT being in youth group? I recall a group for the kids too young to be in the "regular" youth group called God's Children, and eventually all of us just aged up into regular YG. I graduated from Cooper in 2012, Le Cordon Bleu in 2013 and more or less graduated YG in 2013/2014, too.
- 2) **What was a favorite memory from your time in youth group? NOS memory too?** Mission trips and bible camps were always the funnest. We all got an escape but still got to be with people we loved. Most of my greatest memories happened with my long time best friend Caitlin Nelson... if we were together, trouble wasn't too far around the corner. Same with Roxi's disapproval! Favorite NOS memory is actually the fact that I cannot listen to a handful of songs (Footloose, Hoedown Throw Down, Ain't No Mountain) without dancing.
- 3) **What did being in youth group mean to you at the time?** Youth Group was my other family. We could go from deep conversations to ridiculous jokes in 0.3 seconds. I knew I always had a group of amazing friends to be there if needed them.
- 4) **How did it help grow your faith?** It's helped me embrace community more. I may not like some of the things we've done or people I've crossed paths with but everything is a life lesson and has helped me grow and learn things about myself that I wouldn't have known.
- 5) **How did it affect who you are today (how did you take its experiences with you)?** All the time spent together has taught me to be open hearted, non judgmental and to love someone even in their hardest moments.
- 6) **What was a favorite volunteer or mission trip activity?** I LOVE bagging groceries. It gets me out of my comfort zone by talking to people I normally wouldn't but it's nice to know that I took a small but time consuming task off their hands! Plus I love organizing so it's a win/win situation :)!
- 7) **What words of advice or special message do you have for current youth group members?** Embrace it. Enjoy the time you have with people that you love. Get a little weird, push yourself out of your comfort zone. It'll be some of the best memories of your life.
- 8) **Favorite Bible Verse?** Jeremiah 29:11 (my confirmation verse!) and 1 Corinthians 16:14 as it reminds me of Roxi!

Upcoming GYG Alumni Easter Sunday Meet-up! Join us at Gethsemane on **Sunday, April 16th** for Breakfast @ 9-9:45 AM, Service @ 10:00 AM, and Fun and Fellowship After! Please wear an Easter bonnet or hat for a photo-op @ 9:30! Message Cindy Nehrbass on GYG Alumni Facebook Group Page or Alum Coordinator, Brandon Peterson, for questions. ☺



Enrolling Now!

(612) 767-3097 OR www.camdenkids.net

**Hours of operation: 6:30 am – 6:30 pm
Monday through Friday**

** Onsite help with paperwork for families
using county childcare assistance*

Camden Kids

Learning Center

Safe, reliable and quality care for the youngest members of our community.

Camden Kids Provides:

- Faith-based learning center
- Caring and qualified staff
- Safe and clean environment
- Activity-based curriculum
- Flexible schedules and competitive rates*
- Programs for ages from **Infants (6 weeks) to age 12yr**: before, during and after school hours
- Tools taught to help reinforce independence, social, listening and motor skills
- Before/ After School Programs with bus pick

Carrie's Corner: April News

Woohooo! April marks **month six** of Camden Kids being open! We are so happy to have made it thus far, and look forward to continuing this journey with you all. We are so pleased to have you all here --those who have been here from the beginning, and those who recently joined us. April will be a jam-packed month for our little ones. Our mission is not only to work towards developmental goals but to add to children's character, helping them become amazing citizens in their communities. This month we will be learning about Stress Awareness, the Easter Bunny, Jesus' Resurrection, Autism, Earth Day, and Arbor Day! We will introduce the little ones to "**Faithfulness**". While learning about faithfulness your child will learn:

~ To be confident in God and know that he will never break his promises to us

~Our faith in Jesus is the only thing that results in the salvation of our souls as expressed in Ephesians 2:8, "It is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God".

~ Faith means to trust

~ Faith can grow, once we start having faith it can grow over a lifetime

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3: 3-4 "Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

The Camden Promise

Building Hope... Together

Food Shelf/Food Distribution

Our Client Choice Food Shelf is a point value system. Different foods have different point values. Each household receives a certain number of points per month (based on the number of people living in their home) to be used for food of their choice.

Open: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month, 12:30-3 pm*

**Lunches provided onsite during this time*

Food Distribution: M & F @ 9:45 am, Wed. @ 7:30pm, & every Sat. of the Month @ 11:00 am



Breakfast-and-a-Bag

Gethsemane Lutheran Church serves **breakfast every Sunday** upstairs in their fellowship hall from 9:00-9:45 am. **On the 2nd and 4th Sundays**, you can have **breakfast and a bag** of groceries to bring home with you! Our goal is to provide a meal and extra food while building a sense of community and fellowship.



Clothes Closet

Clients of the Food Shelf can select from donated gently used and new clothing. The clothing comes from Gethsemane congregation members and their friends. To donate clothing, call (612) 521-3575 or please submit a donation request via email at the contact page of www.thecamdenpromise.org.



Volunteers Always Needed!

Camden Promise cannot serve the community without our many volunteers. Volunteers are trained and assigned different jobs based on availability. The food shelf alone takes 26 plus volunteers per day it is open. To volunteer call (612) 521-3575 or contact us via email at the contact page of www.thecamdenpromise.org.

APRIL STEWARDSHIP SCHEDULE

***Volunteers Needed! Please let Linda know if you can help, or have any conflicts with the schedule.**

SERVICE ROLES	4/2	4/9	4/16 (Easter)	4/23, 4/30
ALTAR GUILD	Michelle Johnson	Michelle Johnson	Michelle Johnson	M. Johnson
ASSISTANT MINISTER	Matt Straumann	Linda Omark	Jacob Nehrbass	Linda Omark
COFFEE	YOUTH	YOUTH	YOUTH	YOUTH
COMMUNION STEWARDS	Arlene Dohrn Rose Reeves	Norma Rydholm Maryann Case	Jean Bailey Dianne Shepker	John & Rochelle Nelson
GREETER(S)	Jill & Darrel Taitt	Dianne Szach	Harry Lehew	Dianne Szach
MONEY COUNTERS	Linda Omark Jill Taitt	Jill Taitt Dianne Szach	Dianne & Dale Szach	Dianne & Dale Szach
POWER POINT	YOUTH	Joshua White	Linda Omark	Joshua White
USHERS	Darrel Taitt TBD*	Darrel Taitt TBD*	Darrel Taitt TBD*	Ben & Ella Knaus
VAN DRIVER	Randy Schepker	Wayne Schepker	Ben Knaus (612)-616-9023	4/23 Ben Knaus 4/30 Randy S.

Community Prayer *

Lord, we are so grateful for your grace and mercy in our risen Savior after his suffering and death on the cross -- the ultimate sacrifice made for our salvation. You paid the ultimate price to show us your love and forgiveness. May we, in turn, be willing to extend forgiveness to those that sin against us, forgive ourselves for past mistakes, seek the path of repentance, and put you first in our lives. Let us be honest not only in changes we must make for ourselves, but how we need to lend a hand to help others. May the love you showed so perfectly with the cross and resurrection to us manifest itself in the way we show love to others. **AMEN**

Our Church's Mission:

To graciously invite into life-giving Christian community in a just and safe neighborhood.



"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19



*Celebrating 124 years of ministry...
praise be to God!*

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Minneapolis, MN 55412

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