



Gethsemane Lutheran Church
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*Our Shared Mission: We are saved by grace through faith
to share the good news of the Gospel with all people and live
God's love by our words and actions.*

Reverend Brenda L. Greenwald
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St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
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Newsletter for January + February



Our "Tune In" worship services have been running smoothly, and will continue through at least the end of February. (Probably longer - but who can plan that far in advance!?)

JANUARY 2021

Meet at St. Stephen's this entire month

- Sunday, Jan. 3 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at St. Stephen's
- Sunday, Jan. 10 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at St. Stephen's
- Sunday, Jan. 17 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at St. Stephen's
- Sunday, Jan. 24 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at St. Stephen's
- Sunday, Jan. 31 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at St. Stephen's



FEBRUARY 2021

Meet at Gethsemane this entire month

- Sunday, Feb. 7 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at Gethsemane
- Sunday, Feb. 14 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at Gethsemane
- **Ash Wed, Feb 17 6pm "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at Gethsemane**
- Sunday, Feb. 21 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at Gethsemane
- Sunday, Feb. 28 9am "Tune In" (Parking Lot Worship) at Gethsemane



How it Works

You'll drive yourself on over to the parking lot of the Church who is hosting the worship service, and a masked and [Usher](#) will greet you offer you the following:

- Self-contained **Holy Communion** Cup (wafer + juice) for each occupant in the vehicle
- **Service Bulletin** for that day's service (complete with the Radio Station we will use)
- **Offering Plate** (if you'd like to drop off your envelope/tithe/offering) ...**And you're all set to worship!**

JANUARY

February

1 Dennis Berger, Mary Jardeen
 5 Everit Porter
 6 Elmer Mullard
 11 Linda Djupstrom
 13 Pam Sederquist
 15 Teran Belec, Penny Nehls
 18 Sarah Krzych
 19 Cyndie Berger
 20 Shelby Hoof
 22 Jeff Peretto
 24 Julie Kohrt
 26 Callie Crawford
 27 Sandy Chaney
 28 Juanita Kraus
 29 Alyssa (Peretto) Kinjerski, Sally Oliver
 31 Justin Majkrzak



2 Kari Diffenderfer, Kristi Panske
 4 Katrina Kruhmin
 5 Doug Hofer, Sharon Peretto
 6 Kim Belec, Kayla (Parrett) Jessel
 8 Nick Diehm, Cassandra Kruhmin
 10 Jim Koldos, John Koldos, Lee Spaude
 13 Joel Christenson
 16 Pastor Brenda Greenwald, Roy Parrett
 21 Keith Salo
 23 Pattie Starzynski
 24 Shaw Salo
 25 Bob Freis, Sandy Gill, Pat Lesperance
 27 Sara Havelka



Jay Chapple, Trish Dams
 Thomas Dutkavich
 Jared Jurmu, Brent Jurmu
 Julie Tanguay

Happy Anniversary

Jan. 30 Doug & Joan Hofer
 Feb. 3 Alvin & Sharon Etelamaki
 Feb. 10 Wm. & Helen Harris
 Feb. 11 Brian & Kerri Mack
 Feb. 16 Jack & Karron Wittgren
 Feb. 17 Fred & Kim Belec
 Feb. 20 Doug & Carol Klein
 Feb. 22 Steve & Julie Kohrt

We trust in the comfort and hope of the Resurrection for the following families:

+**Buck Strohl**+ (brother of Nancy Diehm), +**Don Freis**+ (brother of Cheri Leiphart),
 +**Darlene Beauchard**+ (niece of Deanna Thill) and +**Dennis Steinhoff**+ (cousin of John Starzynski)

We continue to hold in prayer:

Al Macco	Becca Merk	Bethany Gearheart	Brian Raether
Caitlin Christophersen	Christine Havelka	Coralee Mack	Crystal Salo
Dan Etelamaki	Dave Hannon	David Kohrt	Deanna Thill
Deloris Erickson	Denise Marineau	Emily Christiansen	Evelyn Gewerth
Janet Voss	Jim Wenger	Karen Raether	Keith Thoun
Kevin Havelka	Krista & Paul Hendricks	Lee Scherer	Lewis Nicholson
Lois Azelton	Lorrie Stone	Luann Q. Kiefer	Macy Berszenyi
Michelle Bouchard	Mike Lubore	Paul Sederquist	Rob Boe
Robert Berszenyi	Sarah Hess	Sheila Konkel	Shirley Wangerin
Stephanie Walren	Steve Anderson	Tammy Parrett	Tom Wenger
Tony Gill	Tracy Klatt	Wayne Sundstrom	Wendy Hanson

Thank you for holding the friends and families of our Congregants in your daily prayers.
 Corrections? Additions? Please contact your respective Church Office. Thanks!



STEWARDSHIP + MEDIA RESOURCES



The 2021 Budgets have been prepared and presented to your Church Councils. During this unique time of worship, we will depend even more on the generosity of our worshipping community.

*PLEASE continue to give of your **hearts** so each congregation will emerge from this pandemic in healthy space, ready to continue the ministries of **Christ**.*

Daily Devotions + Worship Services

2021 Daily Devotions (video) and Weekly Worship Services (video) are uploaded to our **Facebook Pages**, and feature cheerful Scripture readings, prayers, lively hymns, and a sermon.

Visit either of the links, whether you're a "Facebooker" or not.



No membership necessary to view videos!

<http://bit.ly/GethMI> OR <http://bit.ly/StephMI>

Please reach out to Pastor Brenda (720.989.8218) if you have any connection issues or technology questions. She can trouble-shoot over the phone, and walk you through the set-up!



world hunger

FYI: Over \$200 was raised through Wreath Sales at Gethsemane to support ELCA World Hunger!





COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ST STEPHEN'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 - 6:00p

Present: Pete Thoun (President), Harland Anderson (Vice-President), Kelly Francour (Secretary), Sue Hess, Keith Olson, Al Raether, Kami Salo, John Starzynski, and Pr. Brenda Greenwald

Excused: Cheri Leiphart

Devotions: Pastor Brenda

Meeting called to order: 6:17 p.m.

Agenda Approval

- Motion to Accept JS Seconded KS FAVOR

Secretary's Report – Kelly Francour

- Written Reports: Add agreed to increase rent to \$300 w/ annual report
- Motion to Accept AR Seconded KO FAVOR

Pastor's Report - Pastor Brenda

Treasurer's + Financial Secretary's Report - Sandy Chaney, Danielle Bergquist

- Written Report
- Motion to Accept JS Seconded HA FAVOR



Ministry Team Reports

- Faith Formation (Kami) Online service with kids
- Finance (Al, Harlan, John, Pete) Keep same as last year/Audit Plan/January
- Property (Al, Cheri, Harlan, John, Keith) Thermostat installed, Wally will plow/roof ask Martin
- WELCA (Harlan) Judy sent cards to shut ins
- Motion to Accept KS Seconded AR FAVOR

OLD BUSINESS

- Upgrading Exit Lighting (John Starzynski)-bought need to be installed when time
- Christmas Services Update-Eve at 4 p.m. radio dial, drive up in lot

NEW BUSINESS

- Annual Meeting-Sunday, Feb. 28, 2021
- Council Nominations-President and 2 members
- 2021 Budget-Keep same as last year
- Resignation of Council President-Pete is moving to Texas
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 19th at 6:15p
- Offering Envelopes-passed out at Christmas Eve service

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to Accept JS Seconded HA Time: 7:02pm

Closing – Lord's Prayer



COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

GETHSEMANE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS: Wednesday, 12/16/20

Present: Sandy Gill (acting President), Carol Klein (secretary), Wendy Christophersen, Judi Freis, Debbie Kruhmin, Mary Jo Mahaffy, Janet Mullard, Ruth Thoune, and Pr. Brenda Greenwald

Excused: Wendy Hanson (medical leave)

- ** Approval was given to increase **Synod Benevolence** for 2021 by \$100 - raising the annual amount from \$2500 to \$2600.
- ** Council approved the proposed **budget** for 2021 of \$73,888 which is an increase of \$334 from 2020.
- ** It was noted that St. Stephen's has accepted the increase in **parsonage rent** of \$50 per month - raising the monthly rent from \$250 to \$300. This money is used specifically for parsonage maintenance and updates.
- ** Approval was given to move the **day** of Council meetings from the third Wednesday to the third Thursday of each month.
- ** Motion was made and approved to **suspend** the 2021 Annual Meeting until the congregation can safely gather. The Annual Report will be compiled and mailed to members. The three Council persons whose terms are expiring this year, have agreed to **remain** on the Council. (this being the end of their first term, they are eligible to serve another three-year term)
- ** Pastor Brenda noted that she has been asked by Bishop Katherine to serve as a **Synod Assembly Team Member** which will be planning the Virtual 2021 Synod Assembly.



2021 Synod Assembly

In case you haven't heard, Synod Assembly 2021 will be online! To avoid screen fatigue, we will announce dates and times for when and how the WHOLE synod can be involved in workshops and Synod-wide worship and orientation for voting members. We will have a Synod Assembly WEEK with opportunities all week for engagement, discussion, worship, and information. Stay tuned for more info!

Daily Bible Readings - Year B

Year B focuses on the Gospel of Mark with more selections from the Gospel of John than any other year.

The second, New Testament, readings are from 1 and 2 Corinthians, Ephesians, James and Hebrews.

Thu — Jan. 7	1 Samuel 3:1-21	Acts 9:10-19a	Psalm 29
Fri — Jan. 8	1 Samuel 16:1-13	1 Timothy 4:11-16	Psalm 29
Sat — Jan. 9	1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12	Luke 5:1-11	Psalm 29

JAN. 2021

Sun. Jan. 10 — Baptism of Our Lord Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11

Prayer of the Day: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Mon — Jan. 11	Genesis 17:1-13	Romans 4:1-12	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Tue — Jan. 12	Exodus 30:22-38	Acts 22:2-16	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Wed — Jan. 13	Isaiah 41:4-12	John 1:29-34	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Thu — Jan. 14	Judges 2:6-15	2 Cor. 10:10-11	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Fri — Jan. 15	Judges 2:16-23	Acts 13:16-25	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Sat — Jan. 16	1 Samuel 2:21-25	Matthew 25:1-13	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Sun. Jan. 17 2nd Sun. after Epiphany 1 Sam. 3:1-10, Ps 139:1-6, 13-18, 1 Cor. 6:12-20, John 1:43-51

Prayer of the Day: Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Mon — Jan. 18	1 Sam. 9:27—10:8	2 Cor. 6:14—7:1	Psalm 86
Tue — Jan. 19	1 Sam. 15:10-31	Acts 5:1-11	Psalm 86
Wed — Jan. 20	Genesis 16:1-14	Luke 18:15-17	Psalm 86
Thu — Jan. 21	Jeremiah 19:1-15	Revelation 18:11-20	Psalm 62:5-12
Fri — Jan. 22	Jeremiah 20:7-13	2 Peter 3:1-7	Psalm 62:5-12
Sat — Jan. 23	Jeremiah 20:14-18	Luke 10:13-16	Psalm 62:5-12

Sun. Jan. 24 3rd Sun. after Epiphany Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Ps 62:5-12, 1 Cor. 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

Mon — Jan. 25	Genesis 12:1-9	1 Cor. 7:17-24	Psalm 46
Tue — Jan. 26	Gen. 45:25—46:7	Acts 5:33-42	Psalm 46
Wed — Jan. 27	Proverbs 8:1-21	Mark 3:13-19a	Psalm 46
Thu — Jan. 28	Deut. 3:23-29	Romans 9:6-18	Psalm 111
Fri — Jan. 29	Deut. 12:28-32	Revelation 2:12-17	Psalm 111
Sat — Jan. 30	Deut. 13:1-5	Matthew 8:28—9:1	Psalm 111

Sun. Jan. 31 4th Sun. after Epiphany Deut. 18:15-20, Psalm 111, 1 Cor. 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

Prayer of the Day: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

FEB. 2021

Mon — Feb. 1	Numbers 22:1-21	Acts 21:17-26	Psalms 35:1-10
Tue — Feb. 2	Numbers 22:22-28	1 Corinthians 7:32-40	Psalms 35:1-10
Wed — Feb. 3	Jeremiah 29:1-14	Mark 5:1-20	Psalms 35:1-10
Thu — Feb. 4	Proverbs 12:10-21	Galatians 5:2-15	Psalms 147:1-11, 20c
Fri — Feb. 5	Job 36:1-23	1 Corinthians 9:1-16	Psalms 147:1-11, 20c
Sat — Feb. 6	Isaiah 46:1-13	Matthew 12:9-14	Psalms 147:1-11, 20c

Sun. Feb. 7 5th Sun. after Epiphany Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 147:1-11, 20c, 1 Cor. 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39

Prayer of the Day: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

Mon — Feb. 8	2 Kgs 4:8-17, 32-37	Acts 14:1-7	Psalms 102:12-28
Tue — Feb. 9	2 Kgs 8:1-6	Acts 15:36-41	Psalms 102:12-28
Wed — Feb. 10	Job 6:1-13	Mark 3:7-12	Psalms 102:12-28
Thu — Feb. 11	1 Kings 11:26-40	2 Corinthians 2:12-17	Psalms 50:1-6
Fri — Feb. 12	1 Kings 14:1-18	1 Timothy 1:12-20	Psalms 50:1-6
Sat — Feb. 13	1 Kings 16:1-7	Luke 19:41-44	Psalms 50:1-6

Sun. Feb. 14 Transfiguration of Our Lord 2 Kgs 2:1-12, Ps 50:1-6, 2 Cor 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Mon — Feb. 15	Exodus 19:7-25,	Hebrews 2:1-4	Psalms 110:1-4
Tue — Feb. 16	Job 19:23-27	1 Timothy 3:14-16	Psalms 110:1-4

Wed. Feb. 17 Ash Wednesday Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Psalm 51:1-17, 2 Cor. 5:20b—6:10, Matt 6:1-6, 16-21

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Thu — Feb. 18	Daniel 9:1-14	1 John 1:3-10	Psalms 25:1-10
Fri — Feb. 19	Daniel 9:15-25a	2 Timothy 4:1-5	Psalms 25:1-10
Sat — Feb. 20	Psalms 32	Matthew 9:2-13	Psalms 25:1-10

Sun. Feb. 21 — 1st Sun. in Lent Genesis 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15

Prayer of the Day: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Mon — Feb. 22	Job 4:1-21	Ephesians 2:1-10	Psalms 77
Tue — Feb. 23	Job 5:8-27	1 Peter 3:8-18a	Psalms 77
Wed — Feb. 24	Proverbs 30:1-9	Matthew 4:1-11	Psalms 77
Thu — Feb. 25	Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18	Romans 3:21-31	Psalms 22:23-31
Fri — Feb. 26	Genesis 16:1-6	Romans 4:1-12	Psalms 22:23-31
Sat — Feb. 27	Genesis 16:7-15	Mark 8:27-30	Psalms 22:23-31

Sun. Feb. 28 2nd Sun. in Lent Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31, Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38

Prayer of the Day: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

PASTORAL MUSINGS FROM PR. BRENDA



Dear Church,

I *love* Thursday evenings. **ADORE** them. Admittedly, it's not really the *day* of the week that enthralls me...it's the *company* in which I keep. My Thursday evenings are spent in the presence of one **Lillian Ann**, the darling 8-month old sweet pea you see here (*and the soon-to-be-youngest, baptized member of St. Stephen's.*)

The hustle and bustle of the day is **left behind** upon her arrival in my home, and the woes of the world seem rather far-off as she **snuggles** in my arms.

We'd **sing** and **dance** around my home as she'd curiously explore the colors of my quilts, **giggling** as the cats try to escape from her grip on their tails. What **JOY** this little one has brought to this season - what joy she brings to my **heart**!

You all know me well enough by now to know that my heart is most often filled with **joy**. But, that same joyful spirit you usually see can **also** be crushed upon the sadness of our many, shared plights, saddened by the tenderness of your vulnerabilities, by the struggles you share.



Thankfully, Psalm 34:18 reminds us: ***The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.*** Oh, what comfort we can find in those words - what reassurances we hear: that even though our hearts may be crushed by the weight of this world, we have a Lord who both recognizes our suffering, AND who promises to stay near.

PASTORAL MUSINGS FROM PR. BRENDA

(CONTINUED)

One knows that a little child can be easily comforted by holding them **near** - by tucking them, ever-so-gently, under your chin, and letting them **nestle** into your embrace. **Lily** was no different - when troubled, I would take her into my arms, and hold her close. Her body relaxed, and she soon **cooed** with **comfort** once again.

Church, we are faced with so MANY moments in this current age that **threaten** to rip us out of the loving embrace of our God: sensational news reports that rile us up and get our pulse racing, the ever-present threat of a virus that doesn't seem to quit, the added tension of financial woes and strains on relationships...the list could go on and on. The temptation to crawl under the covers (and stay there) grows by the day.

Instead of hiding, all by yourself in the dark of your room, **wrestling** with the stress of the day on your own, choose, instead, to **nestle** into the comforting arms of our loving God...

...a God who holds US close when we need comforting...

...a God whose arms wrap around US when it's all too much to bear....

...a God who holds the crushed in spirit, whose hearts are broken...



Nothing quite compares to the **peace** one finds when holding a soon-to-be-sleeping babe in one's arms, seated before the gently glowing lights of a Christmas Tree. While He didn't have a tree, how LOVED Jesus must have felt in the arms of his Mother, and how LOVED we can feel in the arms of our Savior. Nestle in, my friends. Nestle in.

May your days and nights be calm and bright,

Pr. Brenda

NEWS FROM THE NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD

Fun & Interesting Classes for Adults Begin in January 2021 via Zoom

www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation

The Northern Great Lakes Synod presents the winter schedule of classes for people who want to grow in spirituality, faith, and knowledge.



After an excellent response to the launch of Lifelong Faith Formation this fall, the Northern Great Lakes Synod is offering a new schedule of six classes beginning the week of January 10, 2021. Registration is **now open** for the following courses at the synod's website, www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation

- **Introduction to Biblical Greek II** with Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn of Zion/Salem, Ironwood, meeting on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. CT/7:00 ET, January 10-February 28
- **Reflection's on Bonhoeffer's Life Together, While We are Apart**, with Pastor Lisa Ubbelohde of Bethlehem, Florence, meeting on Monday afternoons at 2:00 CT/3:00 ET and on Monday nights at 7:30 CT/8:30 ET, January 11-February 15;
- **The Doctrine of Discovery: From Myth to Reality** with Pastor Bucky Beach, Good Shepherd, Houghton, and other instructors, a call to increase understanding and appreciation of the heritage and culture of Native American peoples; meeting on Mondays at 5:00 p.m. CT/6:00 p.m. ET, January 11-February 8;
- **Bias in our Communities: Addressing Race in Rural America** with Pastor Christina Forsythe of Porterfield/Beaver, meeting on Tuesdays at 5:00 CT/6:00 ET, January 12-February 9;
- **Walking Together: Companionship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** with Luanne and Rev. Thomas Skrenes, meeting on Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. CT/5:00 p.m. ET, January 13-February 17;
- **The Gospel of John** with Pastor Tommy Richter of Zion, Manistique, meeting on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. CT/7:00 ET, January 13-March 10 (with no class on Ash Wednesday);

Classes will meet weekly for one hour for five to eight weeks via links to Zoom provided by the instructors. While the offerings are free of charge, some classes recommend or require the purchase of materials. Details are available on the synod website along with the registration form at www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation



While discussions through computer screens are not ideal, online learning presents an opportunity to connect people from across the synod -- people who share a love of learning and have discovered that adult studies help them to grow in faith. An offshoot of the synod's former Lay School for Mission, Lifelong Faith Formation is not driven by an end result such as graduation from a program. It is not a certification program to become a Licensed Lay Minister. Rather, Lifelong Faith Formation is designed for curious adults who want to become better equipped to serve the work of Christ in their congregations.

For more information visit www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation or contact Deacon-Elect Lori Ward at 615-519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org.



Sights of the Season





Northern Great
Lakes Synod
www.nglsynod.org

2021 Bi-Monthly NEWSLETTER

January + February

*Our Bi-Monthly Newsletter covers information for the Congregations
of both Gethsemane + St. Stephen's Lutheran Churches.*



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