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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.***



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APRIL 2022 CALENDAR

April 6 5:15p Supper, 6p Service, 6:30 Study All at St. Stephen's



April 10 Palm Sunday Worship 9:00a, Gethsemane
10:30a, St. Stephen's

April 13 No Supper, Service or Study during Holy Week

April 14 Maundy Thursday Worship 6:00p, Gethsemane

April 15 Good Friday Worship 6:00p, St. Stephen's

April 17 Easter Sunday Worship 9:00a Worship, Gethsemane

9:15 am Breakfast, St. Stephen's

10:30a Worship, St. St.



April



02	Erik Panske	Jordan Baril
18	John Hoof	Jay Chapple
20	Christopher Beardsley	Trish Dams
24	Eva Schultz	Thomas Dutkavich
27	Wendy Christophersen	Brent Jurmu
28	Marnie Schuette	Jared Jurmu



April 25 Jim & Sue
Skowronski

We continue to hold in prayer:

Jim and Sandy Gill upon the death of Jim's mother, +Delores Gill+

Bruce Christenson	Caitlin Christophersen	Connie Kendrick	Dan Etelamaki
Darwin Diehm	Deanna Thill	Dennis Kaczmarczyk	Dennis Paul
Emily Christenson	George Hensley	Jim Gill	Joan Hofer
Karen Raether	Keith Thoun	Kenny Kline	Kevin Havelka
Logan Parrett	Lois Azelton	Luann Q. Kiefer	Macy Berszenyi
Marcia Droese	Matt Koldos	Michelle Bouchard	Mike Lubore
Mike McCarthy	Mike Pfeiffer	Miles Sorenson	Rob Boe
Robert Berszenyi	Ronnie Anderson	Sandy Baumler	Sarah Hess
Shannon Bickel	Shirley Gulbis	Sue Skowronski	Tammy Baumler
Tammy Parrett	Terry Stage Roddy	Tom Wenger	Tracy Klatt
Vernon Paul	Wendy Gravelle	Wendy Majkrzak	Zeke Gill

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

*If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord.
So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Romans 14:8*

“Dying Well: Gift, Choice, Funeral, Grief”

Adult Faith Formation Class: Join Pastor Brenda this **May** as we explore the unique aspects of both living and dying well.

Sessions are open to **Members and Friends** of St. Stephen's and Gethsemane Lutheran Churches, and will meet on **FRIDAYS at St. Stephen's from 10:10 – 11:11am**

Session 1 The Gift of Life Friday, May 6
Explore the fascinating and restorative world of Organ and Tissue Donation. Pr. Brenda's time as a hospital Chaplain revealed how powerful these donations can be to people waiting for this unique expression of hope, and the comfort of being able to gift such a donation.

Session 2 The Gift of Choices Friday, May 13
Making end-of-life decisions during a time of illness or grief can be stressful and confusing. Do my loved ones know my wishes? Is this what Mom would have wanted? Let us name our fears and express our concerns together, as we face this God-given mystery of death, all the while remembering the confident hope in the Gospel's promise of eternal life.

Session 3 Crafting a Funeral Friday, May 20
We'll spend some time understanding the marks of a Christian funeral, a service that is an occasion for thanksgiving and the proclamation of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. While the ministry of the funeral is for those who are yet living, we will explore certain components that can personalize the experience to reflect your life as a whole.

Session 4 Essential Touchstones of Grief Friday, May 27
The journey of grief is both normal and necessary, yet it can also be quite complex. The work of Dr. Alan Wolfelt will guide our final session, as we understand both our grief, and how to find hope in healing our hearts.

Daily Bible Readings - Year C

Year C focuses on the Gospel of Luke. The semi-continuous Old Testament readings are of prophetic proclamation chosen in chronological order and highlighting Jeremiah. The second, New Testament, readings are chosen mainly from Colossians 1 and 2 Timothy and 2 Thessalonians.

Fri – Apr 1	Isaiah 43:8-15	Philippians 2:25—3:1	Psalms 126
Sat – Apr 2	Exodus 12:21-27	John 11:45-57	Psalms 126

Sun. Apr. 3 — Fifth Sunday in Lent Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 126 (5), Phil 3:4b-1,4 John 12:1-8
Prayer of the Day: *Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

Mon – Apr 4	Exodus 40:1-15	Hebrews 10:19-25	Psalms 20
Tue – Apr 5	Judges 9:7-15	1 John 2:18-28	Psalms 20
Wed – Apr 6	Habakkuk 3:2-15	Luke 18:31-34	Psalms 20
Thu – Apr 7	Isaiah 53:10-12	Hebrews 2:1-9	Psalms 31:9-16
Fri – Apr 8	Isaiah 54:9-10	Hebrews 2:10-18	Psalms 31:9-16
Sat – Apr 9	Leviticus 23:1-8	Luke 22:1-13	Psalms 31:9-16

Sun. Apr. 10 — Palm Sunday Luke 19:28-40, Isa 50:4-9a, Ps 31:9-16 (5), Philippians 2:5-11
Prayer of the Day: *Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

Mon. Apr. 11 — Monday in Holy Week Isa 42:1-9, Ps 36:5-11 (7), Heb 9:11-15, John 12:1-11
Prayer of the Day: *O God, your Son chose the path that led to pain before joy and to the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

Tue. Apr. 12 — Tuesday in Holy Week Isa 49:1-7, Ps 71:1-14 (6), 1 Cor 1:18-31, John 12:20-36
Prayer of the Day: *Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you. Grant that our love may not grow cold in your service, and that we may not fail or deny you in the time of trial, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

Wed. Apr. 13 — Wednesday in Holy Week Isa 50:4-9a, Ps 70 (1), Heb 12:1-3, John 13:21-32

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty God, your Son our Savior suffered at human hands and endured the shame of the cross. Grant that we May walk in the way of his cross and find it the way of life and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Thu. Apr. 14 — Maundy Thursday

Exod 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14, Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (13), 1 Cor 11:23-26, John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Prayer of the Day: *Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Fri. Apr. 15 — Good Friday Isa 52:13—53:12, Psalm 22 (1), Heb 10:16-25, John 18:1—19:42

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, Amen.*

Sat. Apr. 16 — Vigil of Easter

1. **Creation:** Genesis 1:1—2:4a, Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26 (1)
2. **Flood:** Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13, Psalm 46 (7)
3. **Testing of Abraham:** Genesis 22:1-18, Psalm 16 (11)
4. **Deliverance at the Red Sea:** Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21, Ex 15:1b-13, 17-18 (1)
5. **Salvation Freely Offered to All:** Isaiah 55:1-11 Response: Is. 12:2-6 (3)
6. **The Wisdom of God:** Pr. 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 or Baruch 3:9-15, 32—4:4, Psalm 19 (8)
7. **A New Heart and a New Spirit:** Ez 36:24-28 Response: Psalms 42+42
8. **Valley of the Dry Bones:** Ezekiel 37:1-14 Response: Psalm 143 (11)
9. **Gathering of God's People:** Zephaniah 3:14-20 Response: Psalm 98 (4)
10. **Call of Jonah:** Jonah 1:1—2:1 Response: Jonah 2:2-3 [4-6] 7-9 (9)
11. **Clothed in the Garments of Salvation:** Is. 61:1-4, 9-11, Deut. 32:1-4, 7, 36a, 43a (3-4)
12. **Deliverance from the Fiery Furnace:** Dan 3:1-29, 35-65 (35)
13. **New Testament Reading** Romans 6:3-11 Gospel John 20:1-18

Prayer of the Day: *Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Sun. Apr. 17 — Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (24), 1 Cor 15:19-26, Luke 24:1-12

Prayer of the Day: *O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*



Mon – Apr 18	Joshua 10:16-27	1 Corinthians 5:6b-8	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Tue – Apr 19	Jud 4:17-23; 5:24-31a	Revelation 12:1-12	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Wed – Apr 20	2 Samuel 6:1-15	Luke 24:1-12	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Thu – Apr 21	1 Samuel 17:1-23	Acts 5:12-16	Psalm 150
Fri – Apr 22	1 Samuel 17:19-32	Acts 5:17-26	Psalm 150
Sat – Apr 23	1 Samuel 17:32-51	Luke 24:36-40	Psalm 150

Sun. Apr. 24 — Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, Ps 118:14-29 (8), Rev 1:4-8, John 20:19-31

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Mon – Apr 25	Esther 7:1-10	Revelation 1:9-20	Psalm 122
Tue – Apr 26	Esther 8:1-17	Revelation 2:8-11	Psalm 122
Wed – Apr 27	Esther 9:1-5, 18-23	Luke 12:4-12	Psalm 122
Thu – Apr 28	Isaiah 5:11-17	Revelation 3:14-22	Psalm 30
Fri – Apr 29	Isaiah 6:1-4	Revelation 4:1-11	Psalm 30
Sat – Apr 30	Genesis 18:1-8	Luke 14:12-14	Psalm 30

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH – COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Annual Meeting (via Zoom) 2/6/22

- The proposed budget of \$70,294.00 was approved
- Members were elected to various positions including:
 - Northland Retirement Community Annual Mtg: Sandy Gill
 - Synod Assembly Delegates: Mary Jo Mahaffy, Wendy Hanson, Judi Freis
 - Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp: Ann Rasner
 - Menominee Valley Conference Representatives: Council Members; 2 congregational Members needed
 - Congregational Council: 1 position available

Special Council Meeting 2/6/22

- Election of Council Officers:
 - President: Wendy Hanson
 - Vice President: Sandy Gill
 - Council Secretary: Carol Klein
 - Financial Secretary: Ann Rasner
 - Co-Treasurers: Mary Jo Mahaffy, Ruth Thoun



Council Meeting 2/17/22

- Sarah Krzych volunteered to create the ELCA logo design for the sign in front of the church.
- The Pastoral Review Document has been completed and a survey questionnaire needs to be compiled that will be sent out to all congregational households for input on the Pastor's performance. These replies will then be used in the final evaluation.

Council has decided that the evaluation team will consist of 3 members - 1 Council person and 2 congregational members - and would serve for one year only. The review will be done annually.

Council Meeting 3/17/22

- Council reviewed and accepted a Safety Policy with guidelines that should be followed by all. The policy covers Building Security, Access to the Attic, and Candles.
- Fundraising will begin with a letter going out to all members informing them of our need to begin saving towards the cost of replacing the furnace and air conditioning units at the church. After receiving quotes from area heating and cooling companies, it was decided to set a goal of \$15,000.
- Council reviewed and accepted the draft of the congregational survey to be sent out to all members.
- Pastor Brenda noted that she has been asked to serve as camp pastor at FLLC one week this summer. She has been encouraging any youth to attend with her. Council has agreed to pay full scholarship for anyone wishing to go to camp with funds from the Kids for Kamp account.

The SOCKS & UNDERWEAR Lenten Challenge of 2022



We have accepted The Northern Great Lakes Synod ***“SOCKS and UNDERWEAR”*** Challenge for our 2022 Lenten Season.



**We make the
Perfect Pair!**

The challenge: collect **40 pairs** of socks and underwear for the homeless. These two, basic necessities are the most requested item at homeless shelters.

This began as a youth project for the 2022 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. With the cancellation of the Gathering, instead of donating to the national event, we are going to take-up the challenge and send our donations to **The Abundant Life Mission** in Menominee.

Contributions of **new, unopened** packages of men's, women's, children's socks and underwear (**any size**) may be placed in the laundry basket or hung on the laundry lines in the Fellowship Room. The basket and contributions will remain there until the **end of Lent**.

There is so much need in our community and we are called to help. BE the Church in our community!

WHAT KIND OF SHORTS
DO CLOUDS WEAR?



THUNDERWEAR

---Submitted by Council President Wendy Hanson

Pastoral Musings

by Rev. William Hurst, Pr. Brenda's Mentor and Internship Supervisor

"Putting the 'Holy' in Holy Week"

Dear Friends in Faith,

The pilgrimage of Lent is leading us to the solemnity and sacrality of Holy Week (April 10-17). These inimitable Eight Days take us, day by day, through what we call the **Passion of the Lord**. The centrality of these days are reflected in the Four Gospels themselves – as they devote their attention to these pivotal in the life of Christ, and to the Community of Faith that watches, follows and prays through each of the events that mark the path to the Cross and Empty Tomb.



From the "Hosannas" of Palm Sunday (April 10), to the supper of Maundy Thursday (April 14), on to the betrayals, denials, trials and crucifixion of Good Friday (April 15), and to the dark night of the Vigil of Easter (April 16) – all these lead to the announcement of resurrection and **new life** that Easter Sunday portends and promises. These are holy days – a Holy Week in fact – and the procession of days and events call a holy people to a holy day-by-day walk to discover the very core of Christian faith.

And as we draw near to these days, it's worth taking a closer look at the word "**Holy**" itself. For many, holiness is an intrinsic quality – **saintliness** – a quality none of us can honestly claim to possess. I'm certainly no saint, and my guess is that neither are you – at least not in the sense of being without sin, being entirely pure, living a life not tainted by sin and self.

So, what do we really mean by "**holy**," as we take up the long walk of these sacred days? Well, it's to be found in the meaning of the word itself. Literally speaking, "**holy**" means to be *set apart for sacred use*. Like the bread and wine of the Eucharist, or the water we shower upon the newly baptized, or the sacred word that promises eternal life – these are earthly elements, not intrinsically holy in and of themselves. What makes these things holy is the use to which they are put, not the imperfection of the loaf, the flood or the speech.

And what is **true** of these elements is just as true of those who handle them, who wash in them, who consume them. We are holy not because we are sinless and perfect in and of ourselves, but because of how **God sets us apart** for the divine and sacred purposes of showing kindness, expressing self-offering love, and pressing for God's equity and justice for every created being.



In one of our Eucharistic prayers, we hear, "**Holy things for a Holy People.**" As we draw ever nearer to these great Eight Days, I pray that we will turn over our deeds, our fortunes, and our very selves to the holy work to which we are called – to follow in faith, to watch and pray, to fall and rise, and to embrace and extend the eternal gift that is ours in the Crucified and Risen One. For in Him, with Him and through Him, God promises to make us a holy and purposeful people in Christ's service. Now that's a holiness to which we can aspire, and in which we can truly live!

With you in God's good work,

Bill Hurst

Senior Pastor, First Lutheran Church and School – Torrance, CA



Thanks for keeping those entryways shoveled, Jim!



"God loves you, and I love you."

Lily Keyzers shared a sweet blessing with Ann Rasner on the Sunday that Lily visited Gethsemane.



Adult Faith Formation classes on Wednesday evenings mean full, Fellowship Halls once again!



Northern Great
Lakes Synod
www.nglsynod.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

April

**2022 MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER**

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