

GETHESEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 14, 2021

"Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane..." St. Matthew 26:36

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 12 AUSTIN, TEXAS

LUTHERAN/REFORMATION GIFTS: GRACE, FAITH, SCRIPTURE

OCTOBER 17—PENTECOST 21

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91:9-16; Hebrews 5:1-10; St. Mark 10:35-45

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Sunday Celebrate theme: Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what make you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

Altar Flowers: Given to the glory of the Triune God and in celebration of Adelle's 80th birthday by Jim and family.

Chancel Flowers: Given to the glory of the Triune God and in celebration of the birthday of Tom Kelly by Donna and family.

GETHESEMANE SUPPORTS IACT EVENT

For two decades, **Gethsemane Lutheran**, the mother congregation of the Lutheran-Reformation faith tradition in Austin, Texas, has supported **Interfaith Action of Central Texas "A Night Under One Sky"**. In past years, Gethsemane congregants have joined with **Pastor Karl & Sharon Gronberg** and people of faith communities throughout Central Texas in the beautiful **Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum**. This year the event will be virtual. The Gethsemane Lutheran community has a historic commitment, dating back to the 1940's, in supporting ecumenical and inter-faith organizations in the Austin area. Gethsemane Lutheran this year will help sponsor the event as a **Star of iACT** through Pastor Gronberg's Benevolent Fund. The 2021 "A Night Under One Sky" will be Tuesday, October 19th, 2021. The theme builds upon the inspiration from last spring's **Hope Awards, Calling On Our Better Angels**. The goal is to unify and energize the Austin community to act with understanding and compassion for others.

Dr. Daina Ramey Berry, chair of the **University of Texas-Austin History Department**, will be the keynote speaker. **Evan Smith**, founder of the **Texas Tribune** will be moderator. Dr. Berry is the first person of color to serve as chair of the UT History Department. Professor Berry is a "scholar of the enslaved", a gender specialist and a scholar of Black women's history in the United States. She is the award winning author/editor of six books. Dr. Berry has appeared on several syndicated radio and television networks including NBC, CNN, C-SPAN, National Geographic, Explorer and National Public Radio. In 2016, she served as a historical consultant and technical advisor for the remake of **Roots by Alex Haley**. Interfaith Action of Central Texas is honored to have here speak for she demonstrates in her life "what better angels in action look like". For information on participating in this event contact Pastor Karl Gronberg.

MEN IN MISSION

Gethsemane Men in Mission meet October 21st 10:00 am in the Music Room with **Trudy Marshall** from **Libraries of Love**. Lunch will follow. For information contact Jack Westerman.

MARIPOSA DINNER/FUNDRAISER

Mariposa Family Learning Center is a ministry of **Austin City Lutherans** located in the Montopolis community 403 Vargas Road. The vision for this ministry began in July, 2019 with ACL volunteers contributing financial gifts and labor "to create a beautiful space for children in southeast Austin". **Sheila Pharis** became MFCL Executive Director November, 2019. Sheila is a passionate advocate for equality and high quality care for all children. Her dedication to education and loving care is a guiding principle in the MFCL curriculum and child care principles. January, 2020 MFCL was dedicated. Members of Gethsemane Lutheran were in attendance. COVID 19 required the center to close with reopening August, 2020 following CDC, Austin Public Health and Travis County Health guidelines. **Friday, October 22** MFCL friends will gather at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran to celebrate this Austin City Lutherans ministry thanking everyone having made this witness to children and their families a reality. Please contact **Glenn & Patti Hjelm** or **Pastor Karl Gronberg** for information.

OCTOBER 24—PENTECOST 22

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 7:23-28; St. Mark 10:46-52

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Sunday Celebrate theme: Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as "Son of David" he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won't give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus' question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Altar Flowers: Given to the glory of the Triune God and in loving memory of Joe & Barbara Torn, Albert & Camilla Torn by family and Gethsemane friends.

SUNDAY CHURCHSCHOOL LEARNING HOUR

The **Adult Class** meets in the **Steffans Parlor** 9:30 am following Covid 10 Protocols. The class is led by **Pastor Karl Gronberg** with focus on the scriptures appointed for the day. Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation. **Children's Learning hour** (2 yrs—6th grade) will begin under the Bomemann Tree with songs, bible story, snacks and much more! Gethsemane Confirmation youth meet with **Pastor Schnelle** in the confirmation room downstairs.

Senior High youth gather for fellowship and conversations with **Greg Althaus** in the youth loft. An important part of our faith journey is service and one way we encourage both our Jr. and Sr. high youth to serve other is by participating in worship as an acolyte. Wear a mask! **Save the Date.**.....Affirmation of Baptism celebrated All Saint's Sunday, November 7th.

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS RETURN

Diane Rouda, Volunteer Services Coordinator for **Foster Grandparent Volunteers** expresses thanks to Gethsemane Lutheran for support given to this senior adults and children ministry. **Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry Pre-School** has been a partner with this volunteer program for many years. COVID-19 put a pause on their work but now they are resuming outreach to adults willing to engage with children. **Foster Grandparent volunteers** are role models, mentors, and friends to children with exceptional needs. They provide the comfort and love that set a child on the path toward a successful future. A workshop for current foster grandparents was held at Gethsemane on October 7th. Next workshop will be November 4th in the Gethsemane Music Room. Volunteers receive training, orientation, mileage reimbursement, if eligible a monthly stipend, vacation, sick leave, holiday time, daily meal when available. Want more information? Contact Diane (512)529-1415. Tell her you are from Gethsemane.

GETHESEMANE TRAIL OF TREATS

Join the Gethsemane community for a spook-tacular good time at our first-ever "Trail of Treats" event! **Saturday, October 30 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Wear your costume and walk the grounds of Gethsemane to trick or treat at different outdoor stations around the church property. Be sure to visit our **Praise Pumpkin Patch** display for a fall photo opportunity. Social distancing safety protocols will be followed throughout the event.

Gethsemane Members: WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Congregation members and small groups are encouraged to sponsor a treat table for the children to visit. Decorate it and get creative with how to hand out candy while social distancing. Or donate individually wrapped candy, snacks or toys for the tables. We've invited the **Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry Pre-School families** and **Georgian Acres neighbors**...so we need lots of tables to host all of the wonderful ghosts, goblins, princesses, and super heroes!

OCTOBER 31—PENTECOST 23

REFORMATION SUNDAY

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; St. John 8:31-36

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Sunday Celebrate theme: Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Altar Flowers: Given to the glory of the Triune God and in celebration of Miriam Elisabeth Alice Etheredge, baptized at Gethsemane Lutheran September 24, 2006 affirming her baptism Reformation Sunday in the Rite of Confirmation through the ministry of Abiding Grace Lutheran, Southlake, Texas by her grandparents Karl & Sharon Hendrickson Gronberg.

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Reformation Sunday is celebrated by the **Lutheran/Reformation community** as the Sunday to focus "on the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free!" **The Reformation community prays for the Holy Spirit** to continue uniting the church catholic in proclamation and witness for all the world to hear of the **grace of God**. In the blessed sacrament of "Holy Baptism, the people of God are made one body;" giving thanks for **Dr. Martin Luther** and all the reformers past and present. **Sola Gratia-Grace, Sola Fide-Faith, Sola Scriptura-Scripture**. The **Gethsemane Sanctuary Choir**, directed by **Michael Harrison** assisted by pianist **Patience Jones** are preparing special music for the Reformation celebration. Save the Date.....Affirmation of Baptism/Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated All Saint's Sunday, November 7th.

OCTOBER OFFERING FOR GLCM

A gift of the **Lutheran Reformation** was the importance of education for all ages and both genders. Lutherans have always given priority to education. Gethsemane members are encouraged to use the special offering envelope in their monthly offering envelope packet for a gift to **Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry Pre-School**. A generous gifts was given by a Gethsemane member using the October envelope. This gift will be matched by the Gethsemane Endowment Fund, managed by **Alan Bergstrom** and **Blake Bergstrom**. Other gifts will be added to this fund. The total amount will be presented to GLCM Pre-School for playground improvements. Please use the envelope provided-thanks! Weekly Chapel time with **Pastor Karl Gronberg** and **Dar Krenek** provides children and staff with the opportunity to become familiar with Bible stories and themes. GLCM Director **Valerie Johnson** and her staff continue to follow COVID 19 protocols and to prioritize the health and safety of everyone. **GLCM Pre-School annual silent auction November 6th**. More information will follow. GLCM hours extended from 7:15 am-5:30 pm. Part-Time Hours remain 7:15 am-4:00pm. Mothers Day Out hours remain 9 am-2:30 pm. **Full Time students have an extra 15 minutes in the evenings**. Car line runs from 3:34 pm-5:30 pm. Please call the GLCM office (512) 339-6335 for further information. "Good beginnings never end."

ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

Boundless: God Beyond Measure, July 24-28, 2022, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Gethsemane youth are invited to join Lutheran youth across the country for the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota next summer. Early registration is now open. There will be an information/registration meeting in the near future for those youth and parents of 9th-12th grade. Save the Date.....Affirmation of Baptism will be celebrated on All Saint's Sunday, November 7th.

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MINISTERS: EVERY MEMBER OF GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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OCTOBER REFORMATION MONTH EMPHASIS

9:30 AM LEARNING HOUR FOR ALL AGES

SPECIAL ENVELOPE OFFERING BENEFITS GLCM

"CALLED BY GRACE,
LED BY FAITH,
WELCOMING ALL TO
SHARE GOD'S LOVE."

EDUCATION/TRADITION REFORMATION FOCUS

October is the month when people of the Lutheran/Reformation faith community are reminded of the priority placed by Dr. Martin Luther and the reformers on education for all-male and female; traditions of the faith to be shared by families and community. **Bethany College**, a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in Lindsborg, Kansas partners with the community to lift up education and traditions. Bethany was established as an academy in October, 1881. Through the next century the college grew into an important part of **Lindsborg, Kansas**. The college is known for the **Bethany Oratorio Society** presentation of **Handel's Messiah**, the longest running annual performance in North America since 1882. The **Lutheran tradition** of excellent music is one of the gifts of the **Reformation**. The Lindsborg community highlights the importance of cultural events with the traditional **Midsummer Festival** in June and **Svensk HyllningsFEST** in October. **Pastor Karl & Sharon Gronberg** have attended the Messiah Festival and Svensk HyllningsFEST. Unable to attend this year due to schedule, Pastor & Sharon celebrated the tradition with **Gethsemane members Elisabeth Kihlberg and David Skoglund**. Pictures of their celebration are posted in the narthex. The Lutheran/Reformation tradition is rich with heritage and tradition blessing many. Want to know more about **Bethany College** and the **Lindsborg, Kansas community**? See Pastor Gronberg. Maybe you will experience this treasure on the **Kansas plains**.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Gethsemane members and friends are invited to the Wednesday 6:15–7 pm virtual Bible Study with **Pastor Karl Gronberg**. Recent conversations considered the role of angels in the Bible particularly **Michael and All Angels**; the Biblical influence on **St. Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, William Tydale, translator, martyr, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America**; brought a new awareness to the class participants of the influence of the Bible to the witness of these faithful Christians. Pastor Gronberg has met with a Gethsemane friend knowledgeable of the life of the late beloved **Henri Nouwen**. Plans are for the Wednesday evening class to look at the teachings of Nouwen on **Identity, God, Love, Suffering, Freedom**. Come join the Wednesday evening conversation.

SEMINARIAN REQUESTS PRAYER

Pastor Karl Gronberg and **Gethsemane member Daniel Holmstrom** have met to discuss the discernment process for Daniel as he anticipates joining the **Wartburg Seminary community** in February. Daniel is the son of **Gethsemane members Lane & Glenda Holmstrom**. His uncle, the **Rev. Don Holmstrom** was the first Gethsemane member to be ordained a Lutheran pastor. Daniel is a baptized/ confirmed member of Gethsemane. He graduated from **Texas Lutheran University**. Pastor Gronberg & Daniel are discussing ways in which Daniel might assist Gethsemane in ministry prior to beginning his seminary studies. Daniel asks the Gethsemane congregational community for prayers as he looks to future ministry within the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**.

SPECIAL GREETINGS

Gethsemane has welcomed former members visiting in the Austin area: **John Goodling** confirmed at Gethsemane in 1975. John lives in New England. He and his siblings were active youth ministry participants "remembering trips he took with Pastor Gronberg and Gethsemane youth;" **Paul Waller** while living in Austin was involved in many Gethsemane ministries. Paul lives in Colorado. He has joined a musical group at the University of Wyoming where the director is **Dr. Holly Dalrymple**, a former director of the Gethsemane Sanctuary Choir. Holly earned her PhD from the University of North Texas. Paul told Pastor Gronberg following his visit to the Gethsemane sanctuary "this holy place will always be home". Thanks to John and Paul for coming "home" if only for a visit.

GETHSEMANE PEOPLE NEWS

Thanks from: Gary, Vicki, Ted, children of **George & Norma Peterson Wendlandt**, and their families for ministry to them and their beloved parents; **Pat Johnson** and **Stephen** for ministry to them and their beloved husband/father **Clifford Johnson**; **Pam & Richard Atkins** for *Christ in Our Home* devotional and ministry during Richard's health challenge—thankfully he is on the road to full recovery; **Adam & Kim Johnson Crump** family for baptism of **Asa Adam**; **Erin Jolly, Austin Humane Society**, with AHS staff for inviting their participation in **St. Francis Blessing** along with **GWOH** gifts.

GETHSEMANE CALENDAR

THURSDAY, October 14

9:00 am GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
6:30 pm Japanese Sword Art Class (MR)

FRIDAY, October 15

7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (Music Room)

SATURDAY, October 16

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17—PENTECOST 21

9:30 am Sunday School Classes
9:30 am Choir & Bellissimo Rehearsals
10:30 am In-Person/Live-Streaming
Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, October 18

7:15 am-5:30 pm Children's Ministry (M-F)

TUESDAY, October 19

7:00 pm iACT "A Night Under One Sky"
Virtual-Zoom

WEDNESDAY, October 20

12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
1:00 pm Conversation (Steffans Parlor)
6:15 pm Virtual Adult Class (Zoom)

THURSDAY, October 21

10:30 am Men in Mission
2:00 pm Endowment Fund Meeting (CPA office)
6:30 pm Japanese Sword Art Class (Music Room)

FRIDAY, October 22

9:00 am GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
7:00 pm Mariposa Dinner/Fundraiser
7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (Music Room)

SATURDAY, October 23

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24—PENTECOST 22

9:30 am Sunday School Classes
9:30 am Choir & Bellissimo Rehearsals
10:30 am In-Person/Live-Streaming
Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, October 25

7:15 am-5:30 pm Children's Ministry (M-F)
11:30 am VASA
2:00 pm Central Texas Food Bank Pickup

TUESDAY, October 26

9am-12pm Food Pantry
(Lower Level—south Parking lot)

WEDNESDAY, October 27

12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
1:00 pm Conversation (Steffans Parlor)
6:15 pm Virtual Adult Class (Zoom)

THURSDAY, October 28

9:00 am GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
6:30 pm Japanese Sword Art Class (MR)

FRIDAY, October 29

7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (MR)

SATURDAY, October 30

10:00am-Noon 'Trail of Treats'-GLC Grounds

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31—PENTECOST 23

REFORMATION SUNDAY

9:30 am Sunday School Classes
9:30 am Choir & Bellissimo Rehearsals
10:30 am In-Person/Live-Streaming
Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, November 1

7:15 am-5:30 pm Children's Ministry (M-F)
2:00 pm Central Texas Food Bank Pickup

TUESDAY, November 2—GLCM Virtual Auction

9am-12pm Food Pantry
(Lower Level—south Parking lot)

WEDNESDAY, November 3—GLCM Virtual Auction

9:30 am GWELCA Quilters (Music Room)
12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
1:00 pm Conversation (Steffans Parlor)
6:15 pm Virtual Adult Class (Zoom)

THURSDAY, November 4—GLCM Virtual Auction

6:30 pm Japanese Sword Art Class (MR)

FRIDAY, November 5—GLCM Virtual Auction

9:00 am GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (Music Room)

SATURDAY, November 6—GLCM Virtual Auction