

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 7, 2015 “Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane...” St. Matthew 26:36 VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1 AUSTIN, TEXAS

LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

JANUARY 11
BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL
SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; St. 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.

GETHSEMANE YOUNG ADULTS
Gethsemane Young Adults will meet for food, fellowship and faith conversations on Sunday, January 11th at the Gethsemane ministry house at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a potluck dish to share. Children are welcome! Contact gya@gethsemaneaustin.org or search for “Gethsemane Young Adults” on Facebook for more details.

WELCA MARY/MARTHA
Mary/Martha Unit Gathering is Tuesday, January 13th at 9:30 a.m. in the Music room. Hostess is Verline Berkman and Program Leader is Joann Rees.

MEN IN MISSION
Men in Mission tour gravity meter manufacturer, ZLS Corporation and custom bicycle maker, Crampton Cycles, on Thursday, January 15th. Gethsemane member Dr. James Adams is President of ZLS. During fellowship, John Berry will present on his summer bicycle tour in Europe. Meet in the Music Room at 9:00 a.m. for coffee and donuts. Sign up at the Men in Mission bulletin board.

BORDERLAND TRIP
January 16-18, 2015. This mission trip includes the installation of a 2800 gallon rainwater capture system, construction of raised garden beds for a community garden, a remodel of the current food pantry to a new client-served pantry, a modified Bible School and Spanish worship Sunday morning. Youth 18 and under must have a parent or guardian with them. Brochures are available in the narthex.

SWT SYNOD SR HIGH GATHERING
“Do Justice Love Mercy Walk Humbly” is the theme for the senior high gathering January 9-11 at Camp Chrysalis. Youth and sponsors attending this year are Byron Bohls, Zack Brock, Ben Dworin, Michael Greinert, Grant Johnson, Will Johnson, Mackenzie Kite, Ryan Kuenast, Trey Lundquist, Denver Malin, Katey Malin, Jesse Sanchez, Ezra Spielvogel, Intern Sharolyn Browning, Raymund Kuenast, Pastor Susan Schnelle. Please keep our youth and sponsors in your prayers.

JANUARY 18—EPIPHANY 2
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. EMPHASIS
SCRIPTURE: SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; St. 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.

GETHSEMANE WEBSITE
You are invited to visit our new website at www.gethsemaneaustin.org. There are a lot of exciting activities and ministries for you to share your time and talents. Also, register on the left hand side bar to receive updates by email when new posts and information are added to the website.

CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is observed every year in the Epiphany Season beginning January 18 (Confession of St. Peter) concluding January 25 (Conversion of St. Paul). Gethsemane Lutheran, as mother congregation of the Lutheran/Reformation tradition in Austin, Texas has a historic role in the area of ecumenical and inter-faith conversation within the Austin community. Pastor Karl Gronberg has been contacted by a Roman Catholic priest from St. Austin’s Church to meet with Austin clergy discussing the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran reforms of 1517. Gethsemane will offer prayers for unity during Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

MLK OBSERVANCE
Monday, January 19, Gethsemane members join people from the Austin community in the annual walk commemorating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Contact Pastor Gronberg indicating your interest in participating.

REGISTER TODAY FOR 33rd ANNUAL RETREAT
All are invited to the 33rd annual retreat for the “Family of Gethsemane”, Camp Chrysalis, February 28-March 1. This is a very special opportunity for friends and all members of the congregational family: singles, couples, those with and without children, from the very young to the not so young in years, but all young in spirit.

Everyone is invited to come to a relaxed informal time to share thoughts, histories, dreams, conversations, laughter, songs, the bread and wine of communion, the fresh air of the hill country, and good food. You may climb to the cross on the mountain, read your Bibles, play, eat, visit, and rock on the porch. We will meet new friends and have time to relax and be with those we may not know so well. This is a great event to invite friends to share in the family life of Gethsemane.

We desire God’s presence to add meaning and aliveness to all our days. May this weekend be a time of renewal for you. Camp Chrysalis is a beautiful setting for us to come away and meet one another and God in a wonderful way. Registration forms are in the narthex.

JANUARY 25 — EPIPHANY 3
RIC SUNDAY
SCRIPTURE: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; St. 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.

MISSION TO ALL PEOPLE
The Epiphany Season message is clear: “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34, Second Reading Baptism of Our Lord Sunday, January 11) Gethsemane, Austin a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has a history of being open to all people. Sunday, January 25 is designated by Reconciling Works, (formerly Lutherans Concerned/North America) the ecumenical community and Gethsemane Lutheran as Welcoming Sunday. With other reconciling communities in the Greater Austin area and throughout the nation, this Sunday gives emphasis to the Epiphany mission of showing “no partiality” but joyfully welcoming all persons regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity to share in the life of the baptized people of God. Gethsemane has been a reconciling congregational community since January 14, 2007 extending a greeting of welcome to all as beloved children of God. “God is my light and salvation! Whom shall I fear?” (Psalm 27)

GETHSEMANE YOUTH
Sunday, Feb.1st, Gethsemane youth will collect food and monetary donations at the end of both services as part of the National Souper Bowl of Caring Event. Donations will benefit the Gethsemane Food Pantry. Gethsemane Youth Dinner Theater April 18th. Lane Holmstrom has created another hysterically funny original play. Funds raised support Gethsemane youth during their summer trips. All youth are needed to make this production a huge success. Confirmands make your plans to attend camp June 7-12 at Ebert Ranch Camp. Senior High Youth mark your calendars for our National Gathering in Detroit July 14-19.

RETIREMENT/ CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
George Creager has retired as office/church manager. The Gethsemane family gives thanks to God for the faithful ministry of George Creager (Papa George). Pastors Gronberg and Schnelle, along with Intern Pastor Browning and the leadership of Gethsemane Lutheran, are planning a celebration for George and Gina and their family on Sunday, Feb. 1st. The Gethsemane Lutheran congregational meeting will also be held the same day. Reserve February 1st to meet and to celebrate many years of service.

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, February 14th, all are welcome to Gethsemane’s Sweetheart Banquet at 6:30 p.m. The banquet will be a youth fundraiser.

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



**MIDWEEK CONNECTIONS JAN. 14-FEB. 18
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WALK-JAN. 19
ALL ARE WELCOME SUNDAY JAN. 25**

**CHILDREN/YOUTH
SUNDAYS 9:30 A.M.**

Godly Play continues for our Little Lutherans and FrOGs (3yo-3rd graders) in the Multi-Purpose Room. JAM (4th-6th graders) will gather in the MPR, too, and then travel to key spots around the church building for learning. Confirmation students meet in Intern Sharolyn's office for Sunday learning, while Senior High Youth gather in the loft.

ADULT LEARNING HOUR
ECLIPSING EMPIRE: Paul, Rome, and The Kingdom of God beginning January 11th in the Parlor with Pastor Richard Strait. This is a 12 week study that explores fresh insights into Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its Challenge to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle's radical relevance for today. This series is filmed on location in Turkey, Greece and Italy, with presentations by Drs. Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. We will look at Paul's understanding of Jesus, Paul's mission, character, letters, ethics, theology and eschatology. This class is filled with new insights and lively

DECEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Thanks to those having served: **Debra Rodgers-Pitts, Lloydine Vinyard**, co-chairpersons, **Sharon Gronberg, Daisy Horton, Filippo Liverini and Rebecca Vinyard, Jerry Vinyard** assisted by **Dave Haight, Dean Haight, Garth Mailman, Ron Tigue** for the beautiful decorating of the Gethsemane altar, chancel, nave and Gethsemane Garden for the Twelve Day Christmas festival.

December Altar/Chancel flowers given to the Glory of the Triune God: in honor of the board and members of **Swedish Women Education Association** from **Ingrid Edlund-Berry and Elisabeth Kihlberg**; in celebration of **Stanley Berkman's** 89th birthday on December 5th by his family; in celebration of **Jim Buehring** on his birthday by **Adelle & family**; in celebration of **Becky's** birthday by the **Rippy family**; in celebration of **Pimjai's** birthday by **Khem Saythongkham**.

GETHSEMANE PEOPLE NEWS

KNOWN TO BE HOSPITALIZED: **Mabel Krenek**, Seton MC and now at Gracy Woods Rehab; **Kileen Freitag**, Brackenridge and now Central Texas Rehab; **Dr. Larry Nau**, Seton MC...
THANKS TO: **December Altar Guild, musicians, Poinsettia donors** (138 donated), senior high students who served as 2014 Santa Lucia: **Irie Crenshaw, Megan Jones, Janine Dworin, Kate Anderson and Carly Anderson** representing Christian youth living their baptismal faith, the **Chuck Rice family & the Huston family** for apple tradition: **Advent-Christmas Season** was a beautiful reminder of beauty, light and love; **Gethsemane congregation** for your faithful giving in 2014...
THANKS FROM: **Lee Jensen, Mabel Krenek, Kileen Freitag** for congregational prayers.

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

GETHSEMANE CALENDAR

SATURDAY, January 10
Senior High Synod Gathering at Camp Chrysalis
SUNDAY, January 11—BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL SUNDAY
Fair Trade products available in narthex
8:15 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
6:00 p.m. GLC Young Adults(Ministry House)
MONDAY, January 12
7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (M-F)
6:00 p.m. Your Healthy Weigh (Music Room)
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)
TUESDAY, January 13
9:30 a.m. WELCA Mary/Martha (MR)
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
7:00 p.m. GLADOFFF at Springhill Catfish—
Hosted by Gordon & Marilyn Kettelman
WEDNESDAY, January 14
Midweek Connection — see center column
THURSDAY, January 15
9:00 a.m. Men in Mission lunch/tour (MR)
9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
6:30 p.m. English as Second Language(MH)
FRIDAY, January 16
Borderland Trip to Eagle Pass, Texas
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)
SATURDAY, January 17
SUNDAY, January 18—EPIPHANY 2
8:15 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist

9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
2:00 p.m. Heatherwilde Communion Service
MONDAY, Jan. 19—Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Children's Ministry/GLC Offices Closed
9:00 a.m. MLK Walk
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)
TUESDAY, January 20
7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (T-F)
10:30 a.m. Trinity Place Apartments Chapel

**WEDNESDAY
MIDWEEK CONNECTIONS**

January 14—February 18, 2015

11:00 a.m. Adult Confirmation Bible Study with Pastor Susie Schnelle & Intern Sharolyn Browning

12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

5:30-6:30 Supper (\$5 each; \$15 family) (MPR)

6:00-8:45 Baby sitting available

6:15-7:10 "Rooted in God's Garden" with Intern Sharolyn Browning, confirmation, English as a Second Language, conversational Spanish and Children/Youth activities (PreK-12th grade)

7:15-7:30 Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

7:30-7:45 Mentors & Confirmands

7:45-8:40 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (MR)

1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
7:30 p.m. OCD (Music Room)
WEDNESDAY, January 21
Midweek Connection — see center column
THURSDAY, January 22
6:30 p.m. English as Second Language
FRIDAY, January 23
9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)
SATURDAY, January 24
SUNDAY, January 25-EPIPHANY 3
RIC SUNDAY
8:15 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
MONDAY, January 26
7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing(Multi-Purpose Rm)
7:00 p.m. VASA (Music Room)
TUESDAY, January 27
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
7:00 p.m. Czech Historical Association (MPR)
WEDNESDAY, January 28
Midweek Connection — see center column
THURSDAY, January 29
9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
6:30 p.m. English as Second Language
FRIDAY, January 30
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)
SATURDAY, January 31