

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 17, 2016

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

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 3 AUSTIN, TEXAS

FORTY DAY LENTEN JOURNEY LIKE NO OTHER

FEBRUARY 21—LENT 2

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; St. Luke 13:31-35

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Kya Raquel Felix infant daughter of **Pierce Donovan Felix** and **Raven Symone Raquel Robinson** and great granddaughter of Gethsemane member **Helen Cochran** will be baptized into the life and ministry of the **holy catholic church**, Saturday, February 20th. A reception will follow in the Steffans Parlor. Gethsemane congregation prays the blessings of the Triune God upon Kya and her family.

HEATHERWILDE MINISTRY

Gethsemane Lutheran congregants minister to the residents of Heatherwilde Assisted Living Sunday, February 21st, 2 p.m. with a liturgy of hymns, scripture, meditation and eucharist. September worship leaders were: **Alton Jones, Donna Lindgren Olson, Vernon & Doris Johnson Worrell, Dr. Erik Svenkerud, Pastor Susan Schnelle**. You are invited to share in this ministry to senior adults. **Stanley & Verline Berkman** are always happy to see and visit with Gethsemane friends.

TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

"FRONT ROW WITH VERNE LUNDQUIST" Tuesday, February 23rd, Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio. This annual event hosted by Hall of Fame nationally recognized CBS sports broadcaster **Verne Lundquist** is a gift to his alma mater **Texas Lutheran University**. Verne's guest will be **Charles Barkley**, named one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA history. For over a decade, Verne has offered TLU alums, friends and sports fans in general the opportunity to meet nationally recognized sports personalities. The event benefits the athletic program of TLU, a university of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. **Pastor Karl & Sharon Gronberg**, along with son **Joel Gronberg**, a Texas Lutheran University graduate and member of the Board of Regents, invite Gethsemane members interested in athletics and the mission of Texas Lutheran University to speak with Pastor for more details.

LENT MIDWEEK SOUP/ WORSHIP

Began **Wednesday, February 17th** 11:00 a.m. the Adult Bible Study with **Pastor Schnelle** in the **Steffans Parlor**. Wednesdays in Lent: Eucharist 12 noon & 7 p.m. soup meals 5:30 p.m. prepared by **Viola Hall** and **Timothy Huston**. Confirmants meet with Pastor Susie; adults meet with **Pastor Gronberg** in **Steffans Parlor**; mentors/confirmants meet following Lenten worship.

ADULT SCS CLASS

The Adult Sunday Church School class taught by **Pastor Richard Strait** has spent the past weeks focusing on the Islamic faith. The study has received an excellent response with much discussion on a variety of topics. Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry teacher **Tahmina Khanam** is a devout member of the Islamic community. She is a native of Bangladesh. Her academic degree is from Auburn University. The class enjoyed her presentation. Tahmina is assisting **Pastor Karl Gronberg** in coordinating other people of the Islamic faith to assist the Adult Class in their quest to know more about this world wide faith community. The class meets in the Steffans Parlor 9:30 a.m. Sunday mornings. Everyone is invited to this conversation.

FEBRUARY 28—LENT 3

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; St. Luke 13:1-9

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

34th ANNUAL GLC RETREAT

All are invited to the **34th annual retreat February 27-28, 2016**. The theme of this year's retreat, "**Under the Shadow of Your Wings**" **Psalm 63:7**. 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.

2016 LUTHERAN LEGISLATIVE EVENT

Gethsemane member **Mary Lou Newman** reminds congregants of the **Second Annual Lutheran Legislative Event** to be held at Gethsemane on **February 28-March 1**. This is the second year Gethsemane has hosted the event. Plans are for the three Texas **Lutheran bishops** to attend the event. Participants will be given an update on the current status of critical issues in Texas: **education, water, criminal justice, immigration, healthcare, payday lending**. There will be an provide training session including legislative visits to the Texas State Capitol. This program is planned by **Texas Impact** and sponsored by **Poverty & Justice Task Force of ELCA SWT Synod**. Online registration is open on the Synod website at www.swtsynod.org/synodevents. The **Gethsemane Lutheran Steffans Hospitality House** will hosts three retired pastors registered for the LLE.

ANNUAL CROP WALK

Gethsemane members are invited to participate in the **CROP HUNGER WALK** Sunday, February 28th, 2 p.m. **Camp Mabry**. Registration, 2:30 p.m. Walk. Money raised from the walk provides food, medical assistance, disaster relief, and self-help development for people throughout the world. 25% of the money raised is given to local organizations. Gethsemane has participated in every CROP WALK. Speak with **Pastor Karl Gronberg** for more information.

YOUNG LIFE MINISTRY RESUMES

Young Life, a ministry to area high school students, was hosted by Gethsemane Lutheran during the 2015 fall semester. The coordinators, **University of Texas-Austin students**, have requested Gethsemane to welcome this ministry back for the spring semester. They meet Wednesday evenings in the **Gethsemane Ministry and Hospitality Houses**.

GLCM NEWS

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK, March 6-11, "**God's Kids, Our Kids, Together.**" The **GLCM kids** will sing during children's time at second service on March 5th. The daily themes are: Monday, Pray Together; Tuesday, Learn; Wednesday, Reach Out; Thursday, Serve; and Friday, Pray. Throughout the week the children will bring food and clothing for the Gethsemane Food Pantry and Clothes Closet. Save the date...Sunday, May 1, 2016 for the **GLCM Annual Golf Tournament** at Star Ranch Golf Course.

MARCH 6—LENT 4

SCRIPTURE: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; St. Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CAMPING MINISTRY GALA

The **Fourth Annual Cross Trails Ministry Gift of Faith Gala** will be held Saturday, March 5th, 5-8 p.m. at **Boulder Springs Event Venue in New Braunfels**. Gethsemane youth and adults have participated in Camping Ministry at Camp Lutherhill, Camp Chrysalis, Beach Camp, and Ranch Camp. Gethsemane congregants interested in attending this event are invited to speak with **Pastor Gronberg**. This summer Gethsemane confirmants will be going to Confirmation Camp with **Pastor Schnelle** June 6-10. Thanks Gethsemane for supporting Lutheran Camping Ministry.

GETHSEMANE HOSTS NEIGHBORS

Gethsemane Lutheran has been vital during 2014, 2015 in the formation of **Georgian Acres Neighborhood Association**. Gethsemane members have joined with **Pastor Karl Gronberg** in hosting the GANA meetings. Most recently Gethsemane assisted neighbors in their Saturday **trash clean up**. Thursday, February 18th, Gethsemane hosted in the **MPR Neighborhood Enhancement Team (NET)**. The purpose of this outreach is to "increase increase education and compliance with city codes while helping to build sustainable and livable communities and building effective partnerships with long-standing community leaders for the improvement of the quality of life in the **Rundberg area**. **Monica Guzman**, Community Engagement Specialist with the City of Austin has met with Pastor Gronberg in preparation for the February 18th meeting. She will also be guest for the **Lenten Wednesday Conversations** on February 24th. Thursday, February 25th, Gethsemane will the **Restore Rundberg** effort by the United States of America Justice Department, the City of Austin and the University of Texas. **Pastor Karl Gronberg** and **Gethsemane members** have participated for the past three years in this initiative to improve the quality of life in the area around Gethsemane. Contact Pastor for more information.

RETIREMENT/ CONGRATULATIONS

Gethsemane organist **Sheryl Johnson Evans** has notified **Pastors Gronberg and Schnelle** of her decision to retire as organist. Sheryl, a life long member of Gethsemane Lutheran, has served the congregation with commitment gifting the community with music in praise to GOD: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Pastor Gronberg has expressed to Sheryl the gratitude of Gethsemane congregation for her decades of faithful service rejoicing with her over the exciting future for her family. Sheryl is assisting in the search for an organist. Please express to Sheryl your gratitude for her blessing the corporate assembly with her love for the music of the church. Plans to recognize Sheryl and acknowledge her generous contribution to Gethsemane Lutheran music ministry are in process. **To God be the glory!**

THEOLOGY ON TAP

March 6th, 7:30pm, Cherrywood Coffeehouse, 1400 E. 38th 1/2 Street. Come for a cold drink, fellowship and casual faith conversation. Just look for a table tent with Martin Luther holding a beer mug...that'll be us! This event is open to anyone regardless of church membership or faith affiliation, so please invite your friends! Cheers!

GIVING RECORD FOR 2015

Thank you Gethsemane members for faithful giving during 2015. If you would like a copy of your giving record for 2015, email the church office, info@gethsemaneaustin.org and your statement will be sent to you via email. *God's work. Our hands.*

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MINISTERS: EVERY MEMBER OF GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

TLU "VERNE LUNDQUIST FRONT ROW" FEB. 23 CONGREGATION RETREAT FEB. 27/28 NEIGHBORHOOD MTGS. FEB. 18 & 25

FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD

Thanks to those having served: **Claudia Gann, chair; Dee Riley, Ashley Saucedo, Dottie Saucedo, Elisabeth Kihlberg, Jane & Stephen Greinert, Babs Chandrasoma and Forrest & Frances Newsom.** February Altar/Chancel flowers given to the Glory of the Triune God: in loving memory of **Pauline Clunis Jones** by **Valerie Johnson, Angelica Lundquist, Dar Joy Krenek, JaMilla Arnold and the Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry Staff;** in honor of our wedding anniversary by **Bennet Spielvogel & Louise Eidbo;** in loving memory of **Sue Nichol** by **Ron & Joyce Kingsbury and family;** in loving memory and gratefulness for **Lee Krenek** on the anniversary of his birthday by the **Krenek family;** in loving memory of our daughter, **Wendy Westerman Kouts** by **Jack & Judy Westerman;** in honor of **Dan Lundquist's** 70th birthday by the **Lundquist family;** in honor of our 20th wedding anniversary by **Don & Georganna Swenson.**

Thanks to the February Altar Guild for their generous gifts for the worship life of Gethsemane. Continuing the tradition of the late Gwen Ericson, their gifts will purchase the Palm/Passion Sunday Palm crosses from Africa. The ministry of African Palms awards grants up to \$5,000 for community clean water, fish farming, agricultural, life saving food projects in Africa. African Palms USA is headquartered in Olney, Maryland. Gethsemane Altar Guild has purchased palms from this organization for decades.

MARRIAGES CELEBRATED

Over 50 Gethsemane members enjoyed the *St. Valentines Day* luncheon prepared by **Timothy Huston** Sunday, February 14th. Gethsemane members **Merlin & Linda Dunahoo** (50 years of marriage) **Mark & Marsha McConaughy** (35 years of marriage) **John & Claire Kingsbury** (30 years of marriage) **Ken & Belinda Malin** (25 years of marriage) were recognized. Others in attendance shared stories from their wedding day and lessons learned from years of married life. There was much laughter and expressions of gratitude for the gift of love. Thanks to **Roger Walck** for music; **Sharon Gronberg** and **Belinda Malin** for coordination and decorations; **Brian Tweedt, Will Errett, Sam Huston** and **Austin Holmes** for kitchen assistance. The lasagna, salad, cheese cake and drink were enjoyed by all. Thanks to everyone for enjoying *St. Valentines Day* together.

CONGREGANT RECOGNIZED

Gethsemane member **Dr. David Maidment**, Hussein M. Alharthy Centennial Chair in Civil Engineering, Center for Research in Water Resources, UT-Austin has been elected to The **National Academy of Engineering** "among the highest professional distinctions" accorded to an engineer. Dr. Maidment will be inducted during a ceremony the NAE's Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. on October 9, 2016. Gethsemane congratulates David and his family on this recognition.

GETHSEMANE PEOPLE NEWS

Christian Sympathy to the Families of: **Sue L. Nichol, Barbara K. Warren, Tina Perez May-may the grace of God bring comfort and peace;*Congratulations to:* **Ingrid Edlund Berry** and **Mary Lou Newman**, participants in 25th annual **Austin Marathon**. Ingrid finished second in her age category; ..*Thanks From:* **Lester Johnson, Max Helsel, Edith Rodgers, Ron Tigue, Ursula Pries, Eddie Westling, Janice Stoner, Paulette Thomas, Pauline Kroll Schilling, Mary Hall Nicol, Claude & Joyce Gann, Jim & Darlene Werchan, Wanda Johnson, Frances Bornemann, George Wendlandt, Doris Minnix, Jean Kingsbury** for congregational prayers, cards, hospitality, altar/chancel flowers, hospital, birthday, pastoral calls ministry; Gethsemane members **Ashlynn Althaus** and **Avery Althaus** for Gethsemane members purchasing cookies in support of **Girl Scouts**, specifically troops 1170 and 931; **Amesley Davis** for support of her **Cedar Park Middle School** basketball team; Gethsemane youth for congregational support of the 2016 "**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**" held on Sunday, February 7th. Gethsemane members gave \$663.14 for the Gethsemane Food Pantry. This was the largest amount given in this annual appeal—**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT; Gethsemane Men in Mission** for participants in their annual **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Extravaganza**. Feeding 85 hungry people with \$375.00 given for Men in Mission ministries; **Dave Anderson** and **Roger Walck** for Gethsemane hospitality and support of the **Shepherd's Canyon Retreat** ministry/restoration for clergy and professional church workers. Over \$1,000 was given by Gethsemane congregation for this ministry; **Dave & Roger** stayed in the **Gethsemane Steffans Hospitality House**.**

GETHSEMANE CALENDAR

SATURDAY, February 20

2:00 p.m. Baptism

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21—LENT 2

8:15 a.m. Lenten Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Lenten Worship
2:00 p.m. Heatherwilde Communion Service

MONDAY, February 22

7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (M-F)
11:30 a.m. VASA (Music Room)
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)

TUESDAY, February 23

10:00a.m. Senior Men's Basketball (MPR)
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
6:00 p.m. *Front Row with Verne Lundquist*
7:00 p.m. Czech Historical Association (MPR)

WEDNESDAY, February 24

LENTEN WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK CONNECTIONS

February 17—March 16, 2016

11:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (Parlor)
12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup (MPR)
6:15 p.m. *Conversation* with Pastor Gronberg, confirmation, English as a Second Language, conversational Spanish and Youth activities for PreK-12th grade
7:00 p.m. Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
7:30 p.m. Mentors & Confirmands
7:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (MR)

THURSDAY, February 25

9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
6:00 p.m. Restore Rundberg meeting (MPR)
6:30 p.m. English as Second Language (MH)

FRIDAY, February 26

7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)

SATURDAY, February 27

**Gethsemane Family Retreat
UT Volunteers Project Day**

SUNDAY, February 28—Lent 3

8:15 a.m. Lenten Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Lenten Worship
2:00 p.m. CROP Walk-Camp Mabry
2:00 p.m. Texas Impact Legislative Event

MONDAY, February 29

7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (M-F)
7:30 a.m. Texas Impact Legislative Event
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)

TUESDAY, March 1

7:30 a.m. TX Impact Legislative/Capitol visit
9:30 a.m. GWELCA Quilting. Music Room
10:00a.m. Senior Men's Basketball (MPR)
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
6:30 p.m. Mopar Muscle Car Club of Austin(MR)

WEDNESDAY, March 2

Lenten Midweek Connections—See 1st Column

THURSDAY, March 3

6:30 p.m. English as Second Language
7:00 p.m. Ostomy Association of Austin (MR)

FRIDAY, March 4

9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)

SATURDAY, March 5

9:00 a.m. WELCA Conference Meeting —
Palm Valley Lutheran, Round Rock
12 Noon CTANA

5:00 p.m. Gift of Faith Gala-New Braunfels

SUNDAY, March 6—Lent 4

8:15 a.m. Lenten Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Lenten Worship
7:30 p.m. Theology on Tap

MONDAY, March 7

7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (M-F)
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)

TUESDAY, March 8

9:30 a.m. GWELCA Mary/Martha (MR)
10:00a.m. Senior Men's Basketball (MPR)
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
7:00 p.m. GLADOFFF

WEDNESDAY, March 9

Lenten Midweek Connections—See 1st Column

THURSDAY, March 10

9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
9:00 a.m. Men in Mission (Music Room)
6:30 p.m. English as Second Language

FRIDAY, March 11

7:00 p.m. Scandinavian Club (MPR)
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)

SATURDAY, March 12

9:00 a.m. Altar Guild Workday