

GETHSEMANE GAZETTE

April 2017

Lent - Journey to the Cross



Sunday Mornings at Gethsemane

- 9:15 am Learning For All Ages
- 9:15 am Worship Singers (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
- 10:30 am Worship
- 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship

GETHSEMANE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7330 Lake Drive
Lino Lakes, MN 55014
(651) 784-7667
www.gum.church

From the Pastor:

We are in the dark but lengthening days of Lent – focusing on the cross of Jesus Christ. Thank you to all who helped with our extra scripture readings in worship during Lent. Looking ahead, the whole month of April is full of exciting and unique opportunities to be in ministry together.

- We've been learning about the many different kinds of crosses, and on Sunday, April 2, we will celebrate CROSS SUNDAY. You are invited to bring any crosses you own, which you'd like to display in the lobby for other church folks to see, and, of course, everyone who has one should wear a cross on this day.
- Don't forget our wonderful TURKEY DINNER on Palm Sunday, April 9th, as well as special music that morning in worship. Invite your friends and neighbors – for worship and the meal, a fundraiser for the church. Sign up to help or bring salads and bars.
- On Easter morning, April 16, we will need all of you "on deck", to greet people, welcome them, perhaps help with the Easter breakfast (see Cindy Smith) or with worship tasks (see Pastor Diane) or to share your musical gifts (see Judy Schulze). **We** are this church, Gethsemane United Methodist Church. On Easter morning we celebrate new life – don't miss it!
- We continue to enjoy a busy month after Easter, with our wonderful Lay Leader, Mike Evans, preaching on April 23 while Pastor Diane is on vacation, our annual Spring clean-up day on April 29th, and our special 5th Sunday Service Day on the 30th.

As always, I thank God for this church and all of our members and friends, and for all of the good ministries we are doing, as we, together, look forward to the future to which God calls us. God bless you all. God is good. All the time.

Pastor Diane

April Birthdays

01 Dean Smith
04 Joseph Barott
04 Steve Steiner
05 Kyle Blackledge
06 Linda Leibel
07 Emily Rainer
07 AnnaMae Anderson
08 Rita Landgraver
15 Keith Czarnecki
15 Cindy Smith
17 Lydell Newby

17 Andy Wood
23 Ashley Smith
25 Junah Crandall
30 Trevor Blackledge



April Anniversaries

19 Steve and Pat Steiner
27 Jamie and Jennifer Riesterer
29 Lydell and Jennifer Newby

A big thank you to our March volunteers including:

Announcements/Worship Readers: Janet Boyer, Sue Prouty, Steve Steiner, Naomi Bartle

Greeters/Ushers: Lance & Deb Noren, Ed & Paulette Torgerson, Dean & Naomi Bartle, Doug & Pam Wenzel.

Coffee/Fellowship Hosts: Debbie Evans, Deb Noren, Becky Stevens, Ed & Paulette Torgerson, Doug & Pam Wenzel.

PowerPoint Facilitators: Sean Bixler, John Cicha, Ed Torgerson

Church Cleaners: Pat & Steve Steiner, Tom & Barb Raby, Gary & Diane Caza

We also would like to thank those of you who volunteer your time and services but are not listed on our sign-up sheets. Thank you to our mowers, Sunday school leaders, money counters, handy-men, last minute Sunday volunteers, and all who serve Gethsemane UMC.

Women's Retreat: Friday May 19 – Saturday, May 20: We are planning a women's retreat beginning with supper and ending midafternoon the next day at Koinonia near Annandale, MN (see <http://www.koinoniaretreatcenter.org/lodging.html>), about 1 ¾ hours from the church. We'll meet for fellowship and discussion (led by Pastor Diane and group members) on Friday evening, Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon, and there will be time to hike, sit by the lake, walk the labyrinth and more. There's a retreat center there called Woodhaven, with rooms for two (or single if you wish), each with a bathroom. Cost for a single room is \$100 plus \$38 for food for the event, so a double room is \$50 plus \$38). Scholarships are available, see Pastor Diane. Registration forms are available in the foyer. If you have not reserved your space, please see Pastor Diane.

There are four different ways to receive the Newsletter:

*By Mail *By Email *Pick up at Church *Via Website

Please let Jill know if you have a delivery preference.

For the latest calendar information, check out our website at www.gum.church



This is a Q/R code. If you scan it with your cell phone, you will go to the donations page on our new website. An easy way to give from home!

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IN-CHURCH MINISTRIES

Lent At GUMC: Journey to the Cross



It's not too late to pick up a Lenten Disciplines handout in the Narthex - inward and personal disciplines and outward and social practices you read to prepare yourself for Easter.

Ongoing study: Join us Sunday mornings at 9:15 as we study the lectionary scriptures of this season.

Palm Sunday Worship with Special Music: April 9, 10:30 AM, followed by Turkey Dinner

Good Friday Service: Friday, April 14th at 7 PM

Easter Morning April 16, 9:30 AM Fabulous Breakfast hosted by the Smith Family followed by 10:30 AM Resurrection Worship. *Don't forget to bring in Flowers to decorate the church!*

Easter Blessings to all! If you are receiving this in paper format, you found an envelope marked "Easter" inside. As has been our custom, we are asking for a special extra offering on Easter Sunday. You are generous donors, and we have done marvelous work over the past couple of years. This special offering for Easter supports our general budget and is needed this year. When we made the pastoral position full time again, we cut the budget in other places but were still \$6000 short on income for the year. As you are able, please give generously so that we can make up that deficit.

Sunday morning includes learning! Join us for all age learning at 9:15 every week – Kari Leibel and Sherry Crandall lead the children, Carl Crandall leads conversation with the youth, and Pastor Diane facilitates the adult Bible discussion. There are no classes on Easter Sunday. Join us for breakfast instead!

Pastoral Transition at GUMC: As we anticipate Pastor Diane's retirement in September, please know that the Management Team is meeting on April 11 with our District Superintendent to gain some clarity on the transition. On Saturday, April 29th at 11:30 AM and again on Sunday, April 30th at 9:15 AM, members of the Management Team and Pastor Diane will be available in her office to answer your questions or address your concerns. Please plan on attending or email your concerns to Sue Drabek or Pastor Diane. GUMC is strong and vital, and we look forward to a smooth, healthy transition.

Our All Church Spring Clean-up Day is scheduled for April 29



from 9 – 12. Plan to help! We clean up the garden and grounds, wash windows and this year we will deep clean the kitchen. If you've left items that you own in the kitchen, now is the time to take them home! There will be tasks for anyone to complete – and free snacks and coffee.

Confirmation! Our confirmation class is small, but mighty, and the service of Confirmation will be on Sunday, June 11 at 9:30 AM. We've met several times, confirmands, mentors and church leaders. We're meeting through May on a scheduled basis. See the church calendar at www.gum.church for exact dates. Confirmands are invited to help serve communion at the Good Friday service or to help with the liturgy of the service. They are also doing service projects, and they (thanks to Kari Leibel) attended a conference wide event for confirmation youth where Bishop Ough led the closing worship. Adults are welcome to join our discussions on Wednesday evenings. Special thanks to mentors Kari Leibel and Linda Leibel, and lay leaders Deb Noren and Mike Evans. You are blessings!

5th Sunday Service Impact Sundays: Our next Service Impact Sunday is April 30th. We begin with a short worship service at 10:30, with a puppet drama (thank you Mike and Debbie Evans), and then we move to the fellowship hall for refreshments and to work on a project for people in need. We're focused on the FOOD SHELF this month, and will be providing short tours of our Centennial Area food shelf as well as some helpful food related service projects. We need people to organize and "run" the various stations – please see Pastor Diane if you'd like to help out! Don't miss this, it will be fun and we help others at the same time!

COMMUNITY

Are you thinking about joining GUMC? Why join?

- Because it is a public statement of your love for this church and these people.
- If you are a member you can vote at the all-church meetings.
- It looks good on your resume.
- When you join, you are then an official part of our community of faith, documented in our roster and reports.

There are many more good reasons, just ask a member, or talk to Pastor Diane. If you are interested, we'll plan a new member's class for May or June.

Be a pray-er: GUMC has a group of people who pray regularly for the concerns and joys lifted in worship on Sunday mornings and for additional concerns that arise during the week. They are members and constituents of GUMC who are contacted by the church office at least weekly with the list of prayer concerns, and agree to hold these concerns in confidence. If you would like to be included in the prayer chain, please contact Pastor Diane.

Recycle - Donation Station (bins in entryway)

- Your old printer ink cartridges and computers, netbooks and tablets .
- Used eyeglasses for the Lions club.
- We also appreciate any Bibles you are not using; these are taken over to the Lino Lakes prison .
- We always accept nonperishable food for the food shelf and Powerpack. In April we hope to fill our donation barrel to overflowing! *Powerpack items* are needed for the many kids who need food for the weekends. This is a “backpack” type food distribution, where nonperishable and healthy items are sent home with kids who need a little extra help over holidays and weekends.

Powerpack items are needed for the many kids who need food for the weekends. This is a “backpack” type food distribution, where nonperishable and healthy items are sent home with kids who need a little extra help over holidays and weekends. They need juice boxes and individually packaged snacks and food items. Other needed donations items are listed below:

What's in a Pack?

- **Shelf-stable milk** (*plain, chocolate, or protein shake*)
- **Items** (*individually packaged or small boxes of low sugar cereal, breakfast bar, or oatmeal*)
- **Dinner items** (*single serve meals, single servings of tuna or chicken, or individual servings of mac and cheese*)
- **Healthy snacks** (*pudding cups, shelf-stable yogurt treats, fruit cups, granola bars, or small boxes of raisins*)

Support Emma Norton Services! Join them on Monday, May 5, for a Cinco de Mayo day festival of fun, fellowship, and inspiration. Silent Auction: 5:30 p.m. Dinner/Program: 6:30 p.m. \$35 Individual Tickets

For reservations call 651-251-2632. Reservations due April 25.

Thrivent Choice: If you are invested with Thrivent, or if you have insurance through them, you may be eligible to direct “Choice dollars” to our church. You will receive a notification from Thrivent that you have “choice dollars” which you can direct to an organization. If you choose GUMC from their list, we will receive the funds! It’s easy, and there is no cost to you!

YOUTH Ministries at GUMC:

Sunday school is at 9:15 each week! Join Carl for a great discussion and coffee.

Confirmation meeting April 5th and 26th. Confirmation Sunday is June 11!

Service opportunities coming up:

April 8 and 9: Turkey Dinner Set-up, Clean-up

June 3, 9:30 – 1, Wesley Meals

April 29 All Church Spring Clean-Up, 9- noon

More SERVICE opportunities for youth:

Need Volunteer hours? Call Jill or Pastor Diane to volunteer at church. We give service hour credits for school requirements! It would also be great if you would read scripture or volunteer to help lead worship in other ways – see Pastor Diane.



United Methodist Women: They usually meet each month on the second Saturday at 9 AM, but because of the Palm Sunday Turkey Dinner, we will meet on April 1 this month.

UMW SPRING CATALOG FUNDRAISER FOR 2017

UMW is sponsoring a **RADA** catalog sale this spring. RADA sells: **cutlery, cookbooks, stoneware, quick mixes, dips, seasonings, soups** and more. All are a reasonable cost and 100% American made. Many churches have found this organization a worthwhile means to raise funds for their special projects. As you know, our Gethsemane women help cover many of the church costs. The funds they have raised helped with the Booya, the Turkey Dinner, mission projects, scholarships and other events important to our church. Help us support our church by placing an order with RADA.

- PICK UP A CATALOG SUNDAY APRIL 2ND AND SAMPLE SOME OF THEIR PRODUCTS.
- COLLECT ADDITIONAL ORDERS BY SHARING YOUR CATALOG WITH OTHERS.
- TURN IN YOUR ORDER ANY TIME WITH PAYMENT TO GETHSEMANE UMW BEFORE SUNDAY APRIL 16TH.
- ORDER ONLINE AT **WWW.HELPOURFUNDRAISER.COM**. TO SIGN IN, THE INTERNET ORDERING # is **506845** AND THE PASSWORD IS **4gum@lino (small case)**.

For more info or questions, contact Gail Johnson or Barb Raby.

Scrip –Scrip is a fundraising program where church members and friends purchase gifts cards from MANY places, and a percentage of the purchase is given to the church by Scrip. The rebates are designated for future capital improvements for our building and grounds. Gift cards can be purchased by filling out an order form and leaving a check payable to GUMC with Scrip in the margin, or online. You can also refill cards you purchase for yourself, such as grocery cards. See the information on the table in the foyer, or ask Sue Drabek. Orders are being placed every other month if they total \$700, **the next orders are due on May 28.**

Music Ministry: We have some lovely music planned for this Lenten and Easter Season and we hope that some of you will be willing to join the Worship Singers in presenting this music on the next few Sundays. Some will be old favorites and there will be new music too. There are also opportunities for instrumental musicians especially on Palm and Easter Sundays. Please join us for rehearsals on Sundays at 9:15 and we sing in worship on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays. The Praise Musicians rehearse on Wednesdays at 7 pm and are in worship on the 2nd Sundays of the month. Please see Judy Schulze if you have any questions.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Wesley Meals: Our next service day at the Wesley Center in downtown Minneapolis is Saturday, June 3. We cook and serve a noon meal to about 100 people. Look for more information and sign ups in May.

Food Shelf News: **During the month of April, please bring canned/nonperishable food for donation to the FOOD SHELF and POWERPACK PROGRAM! We will collect all month, and sort/count it on the 30th at our 5th Sunday Service Sunday on the 30th.** **AND** the Food Shelf is organizing an Easter Food Basket Distribution on Saturday, April 8 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Circle Pines. This is a morning with church and community members from our community, where we pack and help carry out food bags for Easter dinners for people in need.

AND Gethsemane UMC provides the volunteers to operate the Food Shelf on the 3rd Monday of each month from 4 – 6. That's **April 17** this month. Volunteers do a variety of tasks, from greeting guests to helping them select specific food items to weighing the food before it is taken. Join us! The food shelf is located in the lower level of Circle Pines City Hall Building, next to the library. Let Ron Koon know if you are coming.