



hands & feet

The Gleanings | July & August 2021 | Gethsemane Lutheran Church



Musings from Mavis

By Mavis Buker, Synod Authorized Minister

Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he (Jesus) said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to

him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

This story is a familiar story, told to most of us since

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childhood. It has provided comfort to me over the years, just knowing that Jesus is with me in the storms of life. It has been said sometimes Jesus calms the storm and sometimes he calms the child. Either way, Jesus is with me, guides me through the storm, and brings me safely to solid ground. This story brings great personal comfort in times of personal stress.

These days I am looking at the story with new eyes. The story speaks not only to us as individuals, but also as a church. Gethsemane is one of many, many churches in rural Minnesota that is getting smaller and smaller. It is time to look ahead and envision what we will be in the years to come. Jesus said, "Let us go across to the other side."

As members pass away, and some move to other places, there are less people to take their place. Our worship attendance numbers are lower than just a few years ago and lower than prior to the pandemic. Our Sunday School potential numbers are dropping. Our congregation is aging. We have left the shore of what used to be and not yet arrived on the other side of what we will become.

Yet, we are active and engaged. Our members faithfully serve in weekly worship. Our Bible study groups continue to meet. We take time for fellowship to keep in touch with one another after worship. The sick are visited. Faith Formation continues to find creative ways to provide learning for students. Social ministry leads the congregation in outreach to

others.

Yet, just hanging on is not enough. How can we engage more people in our ministry? How do we remain a necessary part of the community? Can we envision a future that focuses on active mission and outreach? Of continued service? Of hospitality?

With the new assisted living facility being built in the near future, there may be opportunities to provide service related to that facility. Could we develop a beautiful and accessible outdoor space for those residents and their families to use on our south lawn? Perhaps with safe walking paths, individual picnic tables and seating spaces, shade trees, memory benches, flowers?

What creative uses could we find for the parsonage? Are there ministry opportunities we are missing that could be a service to the community, the county? Are there other churches we could partner with to conduct mission and outreach? What unmet needs are there in our community?

Jesus said, "Let us go across to the other side." What does the other side look like? The council is creating a Mission and Vision team to explore these and many other questions, then bring forward suggestions and opportunities. Would you like to be a part of this team? Give council president Rollie Johnson a call or contact the church office if you are interested. The team is still forming, so meeting times have not yet been established.

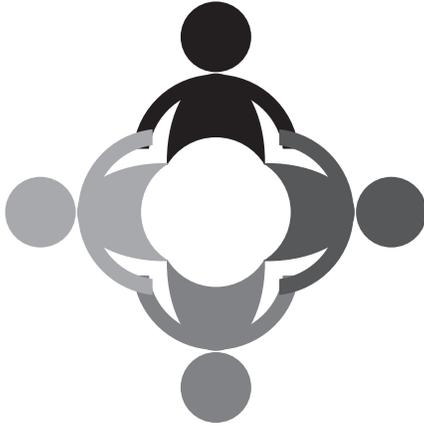
This is your chance to dream big dreams for Gethsemane. A person posting a position once advertised they were looking for a very tall person: one with both feet planted firmly on the ground and their head in the clouds. If this describes you, your church family needs you.

Just a couple more thoughts. There are many other boats on the same journey. We are not alone in going on this creative and sometimes difficult journey. Jesus is with us in the boat. We have nothing to fear. He will bring us to the other side.

In Christ,
Mavis



CONNECT



MAVIS BUKER'S
OFFICE HOURS
Wednesday-Thursday
9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
**In case of emergency,
please contact Mavis
Buker at (320) 360-9067
or Tina Gunderson at
(320) 360-5121*

ADMIN OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday-Thursday
9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

CONTACT

There are a number of ways you can stay connected to Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

- ✓ 155 W Walnut Av W
PO Box 128
Upsala, MN 56384
- ✓ (320) 573-2001
- gethlutheran.org
- f facebook
- f LIVE Sun @ 10:30a.m.
- E gethluth@upstel.net
- y YouTube

FYI

SAM Minister: Mavis Buker
Office: Tina Gunderson
Financial: Karin Nelson
Music: Denise Cheney
and Laurie Anderson
Custodian: Jason Anderson
Grounds: Grant Milbrandt
Cemetery: Michael Trettel
Property: Cory Bengston

NEWSLETTER AND BULLETINS

The bulletin deadline is Wednesday at noon. Gethsemane prints them Thursday afternoon. We reserve the right to limit additions and announcements. The newsletter deadline is the 15 of the publishing months Dec, Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct. If you wish to contribute, please e-mail a completed article by the date noted. The office reserves the right to exclude articles that are submitted after the deadline.

GETHSEMANE PRAYERS

If you or someone is in need of prayer, contact our office to have that person added to our prayers. Please let the office know when they no longer need to be on the list.

SIMPLY GIVING

A simple, generous choice. Electronic giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to Gethsemane. Please

contact the Church office at (320) 573-2001 or gethluth@upstel.net for more information.

WHO WE ARE

Want to know more about who we are affiliated with? What our beliefs are? How you can help?

- elca.org
- nemnsynod.org
- nemnsynodwomen.org
- womenoftheelca.org

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL

- ROLLIE JOHNSON, chair
rollie@sytekcom.com
- CORY BENGSTON, vice
hpjunkie99@gmail.com
- BARBARA SKODJE MACK, secretary
bkskodje@hotmail.com
- RANDY NILSON,
rnils@upstel.net
- MIKE TRETTEL
mltrettel@gmail.com
- PAM SCHOON
crazeequilter@sytekcom.com
- ANDRE RENE
toutounee12@gmail.com
- MAVIS BUKER, minister
dmbuker@charter.net
- KARIN NELSON, treasurer
karin@elmdalemutual.com



[facebook.com/GethLuth](https://www.facebook.com/GethLuth)

Youth activities

WE HAVE
A NEW
LOGO!
Check it
out.



DATE: July 27, 2021
TIME: Be at church by 9:15 am
RETURN: To be determined
EVENT: Bunker Beach Waterpark in Coon Rapids.

All members and guests must have covenant, liability, and health forms filled out/updated and signed prior to event.

Save The Date

August 22

Confirmation (9:30am)

September 1

Confirmation Meeting (7pm)

September 19

Confirmation (4-7pm)

September 22

Ditch Clean-up (6pm)

October 10

Spud Fest

November 19-20

In person Middle School Gathering (6-9 grade)

March 3-6, 2022

In person Cardia Deo (9-12 grade)

PLEASE WATCH FACEBOOK, EMAIL, BULLETIN, AND TEXT MESSAGING FOR IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.



2022 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

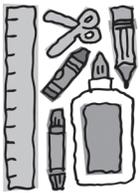
July 24-28

Minneapolis, MN

This opportunity is open to youth in 9-12th grade in 2021-2022 school year. Check out: elca.org/youthgathering and nem-synod.org/2021-synod-journey.html for more information about this great program! **LET THE OFFICE KNOW IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SENDING YOUR YOUTH.** Lots of planning and fundraising will need to be done, so we need to plan accordingly.



SEPTEMBER WELCA SCHOOL KITS



SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

In places where education is not affordable or accessible to all, many families are forced by their economic realities to choose which of their children go to school. Most often, though the decision is difficult, the

oldest male child is the one who has the opportunity. That means that essentially half of that community's or country's population does not have the means to explore and reach their potential as productive and active members of society.

Why school supplies? Imagine having to choose between a meal or purchasing a notebook. Project Promise School Kits are

sent to places where even the few required school supplies may be more than a family can afford. Pencils and paper can help write a positive future. This WELCA Social Ministry opportunity runs September 1 - 30.



X1
Back-pack

 <p>X1 Ruler</p> <p>One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other</p>	 <p>X1 Sharpener</p> <p>One pencil sharpener</p>	 <p>X1 Scissors</p> <p>One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)</p>	 <p>X4 Notebook</p> <p>Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide - or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper</p>
 <p>X5 Pencils</p> <p>Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band</p>	 <p>X5 Pens</p> <p>Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band</p>	 <p>X1 Crayons</p> <p>One box of 16 or 24 crayons</p>	 <p>X1 Eraser</p> <p>One 2½" eraser</p>



START WITH YOUR
WHY

Worship Corner

by Mavis Buker

Music in our worship

We begin worship with a gathering, a call to worship. It is often in the form of a musical prelude, usually instrumental, played on an organ, piano, or keyboard. It might be special music

by a soloist or group, or a sing-a-long that includes the congregation. It might include a performance of some kind

such as liturgical dance, or poetry, or drama. But no matter the particular presentation, the gathering almost always includes music.

People are naturally drawn to music. When we hear music, we stop to see where it is coming from, and we listen. When the prelude begins the congregation knows to come together, sit quietly and listen, or join in. It prepares them for what is to follow as it draws them together.

It has been said when you sing, you pray twice. The Kyrie or Kyrie Eleison, (Lord have mercy) is an ancient prayer. It is used as a response to a series of petitions or litanies. The pilgrim nun Egeria, in the Holy Land for Easter in the late fourth century, was

surprised to learn that at the end of evening prayer the deacons would read out lists of petitions and names of people to be prayed for, and after each the boys' choir would call out Kyrie eleison. (ocp.org/en-us/blog/entry/kyrie-eleison-lord-have-mercy)

Chants using this formula date back to at least the sixth century. Over the years, the Kyrie has been set to various styles of music with various petitions included. In our traditional liturgy, the worship leader sings, "In peace let us pray to the Lord." The congregation responds, "Lord, have mercy." That's one form of the Kyrie.

It has been said when you sing, you pray twice.

We sing many songs of praise in our worship settings. Some are ancient, some are just old, and some are considered contemporary.

No matter the style, singing praise to God is as old as humanity. King David played musical instruments, wrote poetry, sang songs of praise, and danced to worship the Lord. Martin Luther used melodies of popular bar tunes and wrote words to sing with them. Contemporary Christian musicians find scripture verses or messages that touch their hearts and put their words to today's styles of music, played with guitars, drums, keyboards and more.

In our hymnal, the various songs of praise included in the liturgy (and also in the hymns we sing) have their roots in scripture. We sing: worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain... This comes from Revelation 5:8-14.

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

The gospel acclamation, "Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" is from John 6:68, the very words Peter spoke to Jesus. When we sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might..." we sing with Isaiah nearly word for word from the scripture in Isaiah 6:3. Quoting John 1:29 we sing, "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world..."

The Bible (Psalm 66:4) says that all creation sings God's praise. All creation. I did a quick internet search and found NASA recordings of the sounds each planet makes. Some spacecraft have instruments capable of capturing radio emissions. Scientists convert these to sound waves which we can then hear. Each planet has its own sound. Yes, all creation sings praise to the Creator.

There is a recording that is supposed to be angels singing. Some people recorded their choir practice. When they played it back there was singing that no one in the church had sung. They believe it to be angels. Now, we may dismiss this story, (it is never a bad thing to be skeptical) but think about it. When we praise God in song we might be singing with the angels.

Music and praise are woven into the fabric of creation. They are woven into the fabric of our lives. And they are most assuredly woven into our worship.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Upsala HERITAGE

Saturday, August 14

We want to have a booth in the park and serve taco-in-a bag and water but we need help.

LOOKING FOR:

- Coordinator for park
- Volunteers to work (1-2 hour shifts)
- Setup and cleanup Crew
- Prep on Friday Night

Let the office know if you are able to do a job and we will see if we can have a booth!



Visit

If you would like a visit from the ministerial staff for a hospitalization or illness, or any other reason, please call:

Church Office
(320) 573-2001
Tina (320) 360-5121
Mavis (320) 360-9067

If you would like to place anyone on our prayer list or prayer chain, please call the church office.

“Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me and I shall be saved, for You are my praise.”

Jeremiah 17:14

Women's Night Out

JORDIE'S
TRAIL SIDE CAFE
& CATERING

July 15 - 5:30pm - meet @ church



August 19 - 5:30pm - meet @ church



THANK YOU

“Thank you! The garage sale wouldn't have been so successful without all of you coming to help throughout the week and the day of the sale.” - Jenna and Crew!

\$1460 was raised!

Our readings for July and August

Jul 4	Lectionary 14 (Pent 6)	Ezek 2:1-5	Ps 123	2 Cor 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13
Jul 11	Lectionary 15 (Pent 7)	Amos 7:7-15	Ps 85:8-13	Eph 1:3-14	Mark 6:14-29
Jul 18	Lectionary 16 (Pent 8)	Jer 23:1-6	Ps 23	Eph 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
Jul 25	Lectionary 17 (Pent 9)	2 Kings 4:42-44	Ps 145:10-18	Eph 3:14-21	John 6:1-21
Aug 1	Lectionary 18 (Pent 10)	Exod 16:2-4, 9-15	Ps 78:23-29	Eph 4:1-16	John 6:24-35
Aug 8	Lectionary 19 (Pent 11)	1 Kings 19:4-8	Ps 34:1-8	Eph 4:25-5:2	John 6:35, 41-51
Aug 15	Mary, Mother of Our Lord or Lectionary 20 (Pent 12)	Isa 61:7-11	Ps 34:1-9	Gal 4:4-7	Luke 1:46-55
Aug 22	Lectionary 21 (Pent 13)	Prov 9:1-6	Ps 34:9-14	Eph 5:15-20	John 6:51-58
Aug 29	Lectionary 22 (Pent 14)	Josh 24:1-2a, 14-18	Ps 34:15-22	Eph 6:10-20	John 6:56-69
Sep 5	Lectionary 23 (Pent 15)	Deut 4:1-2, 6-9	Ps 15	James 1:17-27	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Sep 12	Lectionary 24 (Pent 16)	Isa 35:4-7a	Ps 146	James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17	Mark 7:24-37
Sep 19	Lectionary 25 (Pent 17)	Isa 50:4-9a	Ps 116:1-9	James 3:1-12	Mark 8:27-38
		Jer 11:18-20 or Wis 1:16-2:1, 12-22	Ps 54	James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Mark 9:30-37

In September watch for worship assignments, we will be going back to our “normal” way of scheduling positions, if you are unable to come your Sunday, please call for a replacement. There will be a worship going home in August.



SS2GO HYBRID

Our Sunday school ministry has never changed at a faster pace than it has changed since March 2020. But what hasn't changed—and will never change—is our goal to bring God's Word to our Gethsemane children and families. Last year in SS2GO (Sunday School To Go), we studied different super heroes who showed their love of God to others. This year you will be the super hero/heroine by showing your love of God to others. "Sunday School to Go" is back for another year but as a hybrid program. Our theme for 2021-2022 is Love God – Love Others; monthly we will be looking at the different ways to show love to others to show our love to God by finding stories from the Bible that will explain each month's topic.

OUR TOPICS INCLUDE:

September: Friendship
 October: Trust
 November: Forgiveness

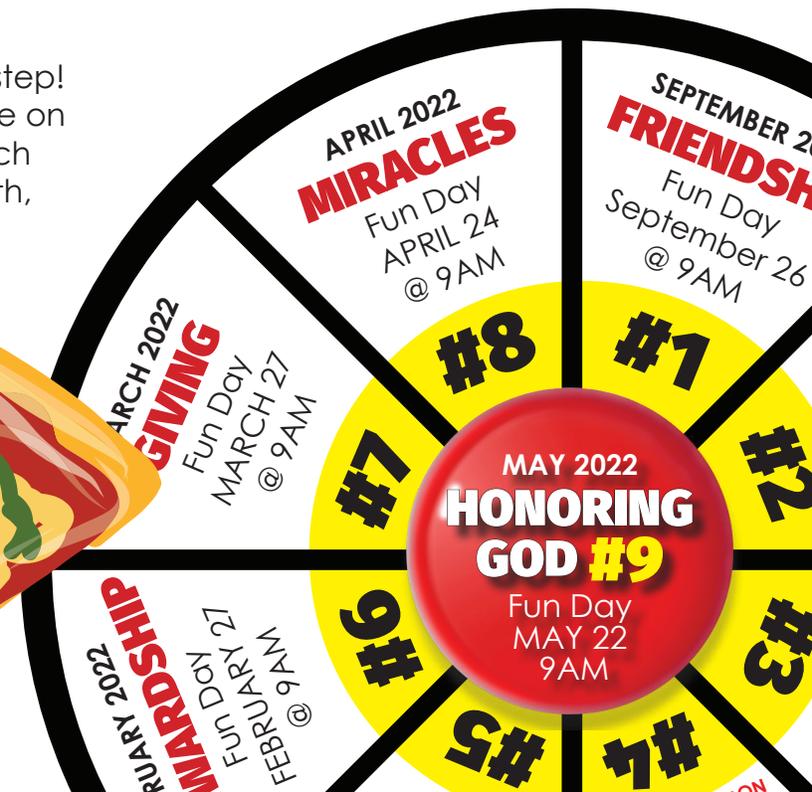
December: Thankfulness
 January: Faithfulness
 February: Stewardship

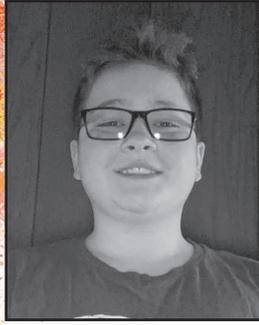
March: Giving
 April: Miracles
 May: Honoring God

Because we are doing SS2GO again this coming year, we decided to do it a little differently from last year. For this next school year (September-May), we will be having a Hybrid SS2GO. Just like last year, we will be sending home a monthly packet that will include three weeks of family Bible study. The difference comes on the fourth Sunday. That day SS2GO will be in church; we call it Sunday Fun Day where all the youth will come and enjoy games, snacks, or an art project (whatever is planned for that Sunday). Every month on Sunday Fun Day, the youth will enjoy a youth sermon during the worship service that will tie all the Bible study lessons together from that month. At the end of worship on that Sunday, each youth will receive a "slice" of pizza (from September through May) which will be put in a pizza pan (which all youth will receive in September). When the pizza pan is full in May, the youth will receive a coupon for his/her own personal pan pizza from Lange's!

DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Program starts September 5, watch your doorstep!
- The packet for the next month will be available on Sunday Fun Day (the fourth Sunday of in-church Sunday school each month) for the next month, or mailed out afterwards.
- Note the Fun Day dates on your calendar!
- If your family did not receive any SS2GO boxes last year, but you would like your child(ren) to participate this year, please call the church office at 573-2001 to register.





Landon Baggenstoss



Mason Bengston



Jake Gunderson

2021 Confirmation

Sunday,
August 22
9:30AM

Please join us to celebrate Landon, Mason, and Jake's journey of faith

In person or Facebook Live, say a prayer for these young men.

If you would like to send a card, please send to church and will put in their basket on the day.

Sometimes all it takes is just

ONE PRAYER
to change everything



PLEASE PRAY

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**DAN PANGRAC,
MARILYN GERLACH,
JERRY JOHNSON,
JEANETTE PANGRAC,
JANE BISHOP,
OWEN KOHOUT,**

Maleea Ansari
(granddaughter of Marv and Carol Johnson),
Michelle Mercado
(friend of Dawn

Janssen), Steve Raatikka
(friend of congregation),

Linda Milbrandt (mom of Grant Milbrandt),

Brayden Harren (friend of Diane Rohde), Kim

Benning Senne (friend of Randy and Sheila Nilson),

Andy Johnson (son of Sheila Nilson),

Michael O'Keefe
(grandson of JoAnne and Gerry Bjorlo),

Cindy Wischnack (sister of Grant Milbrandt)

ELCA MISSIONARIES:

The Friberg Family

SIL INTERNATIONAL:

The Wardlaw Family

SERVICE MEN AND

WOMEN: Drew Weinzierl

(grandson of John and Marlys Atkinson), Ethan

and Maria Schultz
(nephew and niece

of Marlys Atkinson and Joyce Swanson)

LONELY OR DEPRESSED?



- MN Farm & Rural Helpline: 833-600-2670, ext. 1
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-8255 (veterans, press 1)
- Crisis Text Line: Text MN to 741 741
- mda.state.mn.us/about/mnfarmerstress/copingstress

JULY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>SUMMER WATERING August 8, 2021 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Fellowship SERVICE AND FLOATS IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE</p>						
4 NOISY OFFERING INDOOR SERVICE 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Worship Team	5	6	7	1 9:30a Daily Discipleship	2 5:30a Men's Bible Study	3
11 OUTDOOR SERVICE (weather permitting) 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Social Team	12	13	14	15 9:30a Daily Discipleship	16 5:30a Men's Bible Study	17
18 FATHER'S DAY INDOOR SERVICE 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Property Team	19	20	21	22 9:30a Daily Discipleship 6p Women's Night Out	23 5:30a Men's Bible Study	24
25 OUTDOOR SERVICE (weather permitting) 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship	26	27	28	29 9:30a Daily Discipleship	30 5:30a Men's Bible Study	31
		Bunker Beach Youth Trip		9:30a Daily Discipleship	5:30a Men's Bible Study	

AUGUST 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 NOISY OFFERING INDOOR SERVICE 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Worship Team	2	3	4	5 9:30a Daily Discipleship	6 5:30a Men's Bible Study	7
8 OUTDOOR SERVICE (weather permitting) 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Worship Team	9 Summer Watering 9:30AM	10	11	12 9:30a Daily Discipleship	13 5:30a Men's Bible Study	14 UPSALA HERITAGE DAYS Come see our float in the parade at 10:30a and come eat tacos in a bag in the park!
15 INDOOR SERVICE 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Social Team	16	17 7p Council	18	19 9:30a Daily Discipleship	20 5:30a Men's Bible Study	21
22 CONFIRMATION OUTDOOR SERVICE (weather permitting) 8a Band Practice 9:30a Worship 10:30a Property Team	23	24	25	26 9:30a Daily Discipleship 6p Women's Night Out	27 5:30a Men's Bible Study	28
29 INDOOR SERVICE 9:30a Worship	30	31	 <p>SS2GO HYBRID Watch for your pizza box by August 27!</p>		 <p>PLEASE JOIN US FOR <i>Confirmation</i> on August 22 at 9:30AM London - Mason - Jacob</p>	

Accepted Church Council Meeting Minutes | May 18, 2021 | 7:00 pm

Present: Mavis Buker, Cory Bengston, Rollie Johnson, Karin Nelson, Andre Rene, Pam Schoon, Barbara Skodje-Mack
Absent: Randy Nilson, Michael Trettel

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Council President, Rollie Johnson.

Mavis Buker, SAM, led us in a prayer and reflection.

The April 20, 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed. Pam Schoon moved and it was seconded by Andre Rene to approve April 20, 2021 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Karin Nelson presented the Treasurer's Report for April 2021. Andre Rene moved and it was seconded by Cory Bengston to send the April 2021 Treasurer's Report to the auditor. Motion carried unanimously.

MINISTRY REPORT: Mavis Buker provided May 2021 report:

- Visitation continues regularly.
- Met with Upsala Area Ministerial on May 6, 2021.
- Ministerial held bacculaureate services May 16, 2021.
- Helping Hands has a new board.
- Last Confirmation class of the season completed.
- Planning funeral for Hollis Bishop May 24, 2021.
- Memorial for Lorell and Alice Anderson will be July 24, 2021.
- Attended Synod Assembly via Zoom April 30-May 1, 2021.
- Outdoor worship service planned for May 30, 2021.

TEAM REPORTS

COVID-19 SMART Team Update:

- No longer a statewide requirement to wear face coverings in most settings. People who are fully vaccinated are not required to wear face coverings indoors or outdoors; however, federal, state, or local laws may require face coverings in some settings, businesses may set their own requirements, and face covering requirements for K-12 schools remain in effect through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

- People who are not vaccinated are still at risk for getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.

- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) strongly recommend that anyone who is not fully vaccinated continue to wear face coverings indoors in businesses, public settings, and when around people from other households, as well as outdoors when social distancing cannot be maintained.

Faith Formation Team: Working on curriculum, Sunday School 2 Go boxes may continue next year along with some in person classes.

Property Team: Considering ways to make Gethsemane's outdoor sign/name more visible to visitors, comparing electric light options and solar light options.

Social Ministry Team: Smile Packs are wrapping up.

Stewardship Team: Working with Cemetery Team for Spring into Action project.

Worship and Music Team: Planning music and liturgy for summer, considering alternating traditional and contemporary services.

Youth Leadership Team: Working on Summer Fun Day, Youth Gathering, and Brat

Fundraiser. Plans are in the works for 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Discussed: "What is our Mission?"
- Recommended creating Vision and Mission Planning Committee to explore long-term planning.
- Explored ways to provide outreach, serve, and connect with different age groups in our community.
- Possible ideas such as a garden walking path, preschool, community youth collaboration, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussed video recording and live streaming worship services.
- Reviewed data of how many people are viewing and how much of the service is being watched.
- Noted that it is difficult to find volunteers to do the video recording.
- Discussed continuing video recording for now because outreach and mission are valued even if only a few are viewing and watching worship services on the Internet (YouTube/Facebook Live).
- Discussed summer worship start time and having indoor and/or outdoor services.
- Andre Rene moved and it was seconded by Cory Bengston to start summer worship services (June, July, August) at 9:30 am. Motion carried unanimously.

oPam Schoon moved and it was seconded by Barbara Skodje-Mack to alternate traditional and contemporary worship services with the 1st and 3rd Sundays inside and traditional and the 2nd

and 4th Sundays outside and contemporary. Services will be held indoors if the weather is bad. Motion carried unanimously.

- Discussed refreshing the Baby Garden.

- Will have potted plants on pavers and incorporate Baby Garden into future garden walking path plans.

- Discussed planter pots in front of church blowing over, maintenance, etc.

- Pam Schoon moved and it was seconded by Cory Bengston to use memorial funds to purchase large, durable planter pots for outside the church. Motion carried unanimously.

Mavis Buker led the closing of the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be at 7:00 pm on June 15, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Skodje-Mack, Council Secretary

Proposed Gethsemane Church Council Minutes | June 15, 2021

Present: Cory Bengston, SAM Mavis Buker, Pam Schoon, Andre Rene, Randy Nilson, Rollie Johnson, Mike Trettel, and Treasurer Karin Nelson. Guests: Jake Gunderson, Mason Bengston, and Landon Baggenstoss

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Rollie Johnson. Mavis opened with prayer.

The minutes from the May 18, 2021, were read. Cory Bengston made the motion to accept the minutes and Randy Nilson seconded it. Motion carried.

Karin Nelson presented the

Treasurer's report. It was discussed, accepted and filed for auditing.

Confirmation students Jake Gunderson, Mason Bengston, and Landon Baggenstoss presented themselves for questioning by the Council about their confirmation experiences.

Pastor's Report:

- Visitations continue regularly

- Mavis missed the May 6, 2021, Ministerial Meeting. The next one will be on Thursday, July 8, the covenant church.

- Seven of the nine confirmation students have completed their requirements this year. Requirements missing may be made up over the summer or next year.

- Jake, Mason, and Landon are preparing for Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, August 22, 2021.

- Hollis Bishop's funeral was held May 26. July 24 will be a memorial service and/or burial for the Andersons.

- Worship planning continues to be "fluid" based on weather.

- Mavis will be on vacation from July 12-18, 2021. We will need a pulpit supply minister.

TEAM REPORTS:

Faith Formation: A theme for the next Sunday school year was chosen, the monthly format will change slightly this coming year, and the Team will continue to use the same company for the monthly devotions as last year.

Social Ministry: Forty one of the hoped for 50 Smile pack bags were filled and delivered.

Youth: Summer Fun Day will be July 27 and plans are to go to Bunker Beach Water Park. Paul and Kathy's are not doing their brat fundraiser this year, the team is looking for other

options.

Worship and Music: Alternating services indoors and outdoors is causing issues due to weather. It was decided to continue with the printed schedule; however, the Worship and Music team will decide if the Sunday mornings' outdoor worship should be moved indoors due to bad weather.

Property: The outdoors lighting issues are in the process of being taken care of and will soon be fixed.

Stewardship: Summer Watering will be August 8 with worship in The Garden of Gethsemane and root beer floats served afterwards.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Long-term planning: A committee is in the process of being formed which will look at Gethsemane's strengths and weakness, who we are, and what our options are once we are in need of a minister again. If you are interested in being on this team, contact the office or Mavis.

2. Videoing the weekly church services. So far, only two people have signed up; if we are to continue offering the services through social media, we must have more volunteers to help every Sunday.

3. Baby Garden Redo: As soon as the peonies are done blooming, removing the plants will begin. The peonies will be replanted by the tree and bench. A new memorial garden is being planned for the future.

There was no new business.

The meeting closed with prayers and the Lord's Prayer. Adjournment was at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Schoon
Acting Church Council Secretary



Gethsemane

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

To contact church, please call 320-573-2001 | gethluth@upstel.net | gethlutheran.org

SPECIAL STEWARDSHIP OFFERING SUNDAY

SUMMER WATERING

AUGUST 8, 2021

9:30 AM Worship | 10:30 AM Fellowship

SERVICE AND FLOATS IN
THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER A SPECIAL
OFFERING TO THE GETHSEMANE GENERAL FUND



OUTDOOR SERVICE – ICE CREAM FLOATS