



*Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*

1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

January, 2012

Dear Members and Friends of Gethsemane:

Jane Austen said "Nothing, but death." Winston Churchill said, "I'm bored with it all." Teddy Roosevelt said "Put out the light." Princess Diana (Spencer) said, "My God, what's happened?"

These were the purported last words spoken by each, as they were dying. This Lent, we invite you to gather to hear our Lord's last words from the cross on Calvary, as He hangs dying. Lent is a time of reflection and contemplation. So, come and contemplate the Lamb of God on the cross, the sacrifice offered once and for all time for our redemption. Contemplate what former Lutheran professor Ken Korby has described as "the fire of God's wrath, fanned by His mercy and passionate love, as it roasts this Lamb."

He goes on, "Look at those parched, chapped lips.....He utters through those cracked lips the words that heal you---at cost to himself.....These words have authority--- authority to heal you in and with and through those words." From the first word, "Father, forgive them"....to the last, "Father, into Your hands, I commit my Spirit", let us behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Come and hear our Lord in His own words, starting on Ash Wednesday, Feb.22. We will have two services that day, at 3:15 pm and at 7pm.

And then come again to each of the next five midweek Lenten services, also on Wednesdays, 3:15 pm and 7pm. Join us for our Soup Suppers at 6pm, beginning the Wednesday (Feb.29) after Ash Wednesday. All members are invited to sign up on the hallway bulletin board to bring soup and/or bread for the Suppers, so that we have several choices of soup.

Finally, our Choir will lead us in our Good Friday 7 pm worship, as they sing a special cantata: "The Seven Words From the Cross" by Carl Schalk.

Please see the Lenten schedule on the reverse side.

See you Wednesdays and Sundays,

Pastor Terry

## **LENTEN SERVICES AT GETHSEMANE--2012**

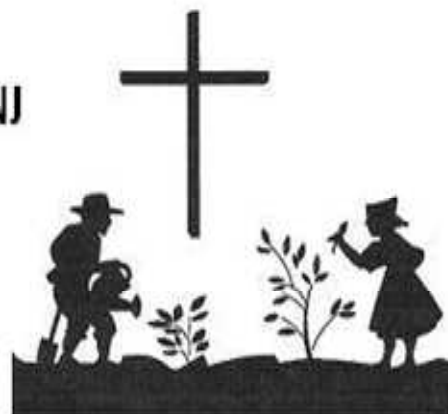
**Theme: "The Words from the Cross"**

<b>Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP, 3:15 and 7:00 p.m. Voluntary Imposition of Ashes/Holy Communion "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34)</b>
<b>Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Midweek Worship, 3:15 and 7:00 pm. (Soup Supper, 6:00-6:45 p.m.) "Today, you shall be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43)</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Midweek Worship, 3:15 and 7:00 pm. (Soup Supper, 6:00-6:45 p.m.) "Woman, behold thy son!....Behold thy mother" (John 19:25-27)</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Midweek Worship, 3:15 and 7:00 pm. (Soup Supper, 6:00-6:45 p.m.) "My God, My God, why have You forsake me?" (Matthew 27:46)</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Midweek Worship, 3:15 and 7:00 pm. (Soup Supper, 6:00-6:45 p.m.) "I thirst" (John 19:28)</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Midweek Worship, 3:15 and 7:00 pm. (Soup Supper, 6:00-6:45pm) "It is finished." (John 19:30)</b>

Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Hackettstown, NJ

# The Garden

Gethsemane's Bi-Monthly Newsletter



Volume VI: Issue 1

February/March 2012

## **DATES OF IMPORTANCE**

### ***Mark Your Calendars!***

**\*Wednesday, Feb. 22nd: ASH WEDNESDAY**

3:15 AND 7:00PM Services

**\*Wednesday's: Feb.29, Mar.7, 14, 21, 28:**

Midweek Lenten Worship, 3:15 & 7pm

**\*Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

Thrivent Financial Coffee Hour Forum on Charitable Giving

**\*Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

Extended Coffee Hour presentation on Endowment Fund

**\*Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Palm/Passion Sunday/Beginning of Holy Week

**\*Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>**

Festival of the Resurrection

**\*Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**

Celebration of 55th Anniversary of Chartering Service

**\*Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

Voter's Meeting

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## **\*LENT BEGINS FEB.22**

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb.22 with worship services at 3:15pm and 7pm at Gethsemane, both including the voluntary imposition of ashes.

Special Lenten midweek services will continue on Wednesdays at 3:15 and 7pm through March 28, featuring a series on Jesus' Words from the Cross. Soup suppers will again be held at 6pm on Wednesdays, beginning Feb.29, with donations of soup and bread from members. (Please sign-up on the hallway bulletin board).

Holy Week begins on Palm/Passion Sunday, April 1, culminating in our Festival of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 8. (See Pastor's letter with schedule on reverse side.

## **NEW MINISTRIES FORMING**

**\*A new Greeters ministry** is beginning, sponsored by the Board of Ministry. Anyone wishing to serve as a greeter before services on a rotational basis is invited to contact Pastor, Art Stuber, or Carl Anderson. Brief training will be offered after worship on an upcoming Sunday. The greeter's role includes being present before worship to welcome all who come to church, and to be available after to greet any new guests and visitors.

**\*A monthly Seniors' Luncheon** is being organized by The Social Ministry Committee, with hopes of having a monthly gathering of seniors (you choose your own definition and age limit!) with bag lunch, devotion, and perhaps a guest.

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## **BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING**

This ministry is offered by parish nurse Karen Cook on 2nd Sundays each month, (Feb.8 and Mar.11<sup>th</sup>) after the service in the Pastor's Office

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## **SPECIAL "CHARITABLE GIFT" FORUMS AT COFFEE HOUR**

Plan now to join us after worship for two special presentations on Charitable Gifts:

1) **Sunday, Feb.26:** Our Thrivent Financial representative, Mel Kent, will be present to speak of various forms of *charitable giving* during an extended coffee hour.

2) **Sunday, Mar.11:** NJ District Staff member Dave Hildebrandt will present a special extended coffee hour discussion on *Endowment Funds*. Note: This is a timely presentation, as our Church Council has just approved the formation of an Endowment Fund Committee, for the purpose of organizing a Gethsemane Endowment Fund, to be approved by the Voters' at our May meeting. Dave will be available to answer your questions.

## CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE AT WORK

The adhoc Constitution Committee has been hard at work reviewing our Bylaws and recently presented the first draft of proposed bylaw changes to the Church Council. The Church Council will review this more thoroughly at the March Council meeting, with hopes of a first presentation at the May 20 Voters' Meeting. Any proposed changes would be made available at least two weeks prior to the Voters' Meeting. The committee members include: Jeff Meeks, Molly Petty, Kathy Steinert, and Pastor.

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### Music Notes:

What a wonderful, musical Christmas season we had at Gethsemane! Thanks again to all of the talented servants of God who shared their singing, chiming, and narrating gifts to help to praise our Lord and celebrate His birth.

As I write this, the chancel choir, chimers, and Sunday School children are preparing for the Lenten and Easter seasons with music of prayer and praise. Please accept this **open invitation** to join us as we rehearse this sacred music! The Easter Sunday anthem, in particular, is a rousing "Alleluia" that would be even more glorious with more voices! Let me know if you are interested!

The ranks of our chimers have grown in recent weeks, which is a reason for thanksgiving! We have that gorgeous three-octave set of hand-chimes, and we recently purchased two new chimer tables. ***There is room for more ringers***, and there is no experience necessary to be an accomplished chimer. We offer "on the job" training! ***Stop in the sanctuary any Thursday evening at 6:45 to try it out!***

A couple of weeks ago, I sent home a letter with Sunday School children in grades 1-5 to ***survey interest in the formation of a Children's Chime Choir***. This group of kids would meet on Saturday mornings - or perhaps a weekly afternoon - to learn about music and to practice songs that could be used in our worship each month. Chiming is a great service for children, good fellowship, and a chance to learn a new skill! Talk this over with your children to see if they would be interested, and please encourage them to give this a try. If I can get a few kids who are ready to make a commitment - for even a few weeks to try it out - it would be lots of fun, and it just might grow! I'm in Sunday School each week to open our sessions with a song or two, so let me know if you have any questions, or email me at [lpetrie@aol.com](mailto:lpetrie@aol.com).

I'm so pleased to be a member of the **Association of Lutheran Church Musicians**. This organization supports the music ministry of our Lutheran congregations with publications, online newsletters, weekly devotions, regional conferences, free music for choirs and congregations, and tips for leading music in worship. In just the first year of my membership, I've learned a great deal and garnered some helpful suggestions for utilizing music in all facets of our worship life. The idea for our Hymn-Fest was inspired by an article I had read in an ALCM publication! Check out the new poster in my office some time which describes the

holy calling of a church musician. It is a reminder to me and to all church musicians of the heritage and

importance of music in Lutheran worship. As always, I am thankful to our Gethsemane family for the support that allows me this membership. It's a very worthwhile organization, and I hope to get more involved with it during this, my second year as a member.

Finally, remember ***that during Lent, the chime and chancel choirs move the rehearsal times to Wednesday evenings - chimers before services and singers after services***. Mark your calendars! There's plenty of room for newcomers! If you're not sure you're suited for musical service, let me share my favorite Max Lucado quote: "God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called!" A willing, faithful heart makes for the perfect choir member!

Laura Petrie

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### Gethsemane Lutheran PreSchool

Our PreSchool had an exciting December. Many stories were read about the gingerbread man. We put our giant gingerbread cookie in the oven, and he escaped! Several days later, the children followed many clues throughout the church until they found that gingerbread man. He was back in the oven! We ate him right away - yum yum, he tasted sooo good!

The "Night Before Christmas" parties brought the parents together with their children, dressed in their P.J.s, to engage in many activities and enjoy delicious cookies and punch. The children sang several songs in the church to celebrate the birth of baby Jesus and the magic of Christmas.

We are currently taking registrations for fall of 2012. We have classes for 3 and 4 year olds.

January and February will involve themes of Snow, Penguins, Mittens, Polar Bears, Valentines, the Post Office and Dr. Seuss. We will read many books, create awesome crafts, learn new songs, work on our letters and numbers, and practice writing our names.

We provide an exciting, nurturing, Christian environment for our children.

Sue Galloway, Director  
Gethsemane PreSchool

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### Secret Prayer Pals

Saturday, Jan 14, the Secret Prayer Pals held a reveal yourself party with a Mardi Gras theme. Everyone enjoyed Hurricanes (virgin), Jambalaya, and King Cake. There were beads, doubloons, and games. All had a great time. Some thought they knew who their pal was, but when revealed, they were very surprised. Special bonds were made through this fellowship program. Let us continue the fun and friendship of being a Secret Prayer Pal into 2012.

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## Social Ministry

We are currently in the midst of a **PAPER DRIVE at Gethsemane through the end of February.** The Lords Pantry at Trinity UMC accepts any type of foods, cans, boxes that you are able or willing to donate. ***We desperately need boxes of facial tissue and/or individual rolls of toilet paper.*** No other group or organization focuses on this particularly-needed product for the food pantry. We noticed shortage of cans of peas and elbow macaroni. Anything you can donate will be appreciated.

The Food Pantry moves approximately 20 to 30 people per 3-hour time period on Mon, Tues, & Thurs. Food Pantry Statistics: Dec. 31, 2011: 1 month: 279 children/536 adults/57 seniors. Total 872 people, 25 new, never used or visited the food pantry. Christmas distribution (Toni and Dorla Brown assisted) 192 turkeys and a bag of food for 1 meal= 1,400 people served in a 30 day period.

St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, sponsored by St. Mary's Church of Assumption is a group of volunteers that have organized a soup kitchen to serve lunch to the local needy in the Hackettstown community. Open to the public on Saturdays in Jan and Feb. from 12 noon to 2 pm. at St. Mary's School Cafeteria, 259 Liberty St. Monetary donations as well as paper products are needed to help this project. Please contact me if you are interested in helping in any way

The Social Ministry board meets Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM. Any member of the church is welcome and encouraged to come to this meeting and sit and listen to upcoming plans at Gethsemane. We welcome and encourage persons willing to help in any way they can, as new ideas and programs are needed to help a congregation grow.

Toni Torchia  
Chairperson.

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## HOLY BAPTISMS

We celebrated with heaven the adoption as children of God through Holy Baptism of:

**\*Sophia Grace Smith**, daughter of Stacy and Doug, on Jan.8; her sponsor is Sandy Anderson.

**\*Douglas Mitchell Smith**, son of Stacy and Doug, on Jan.8; his sponsor is Sandy Anderson.

**\*Devyn June Corydon**, daughter of Lauren and David, on Jan.8; her sponsors are Rachel and Ryan Pelkay.

**\*Leah Anne Selawsky**, daughter of Bill and Becca, on Jan.29; Leah's sponsors are Kenny and Allison Wilson.

**\*Mia Diehl** will be baptized on March 4, a "First Sundays in the Pew" day. She is the daughter of David and Carol, and sister of Jeremy.

May God bless and keep these children in His baptismal grace!



## Your Local Thrivent News



The Northwest New Jersey Chapter (Warren and Sussex counties) has been active for us and our communities. To remain a non-profit organization, revenues the company accumulates as it manages members policies are given out to mercy and service organizations. Our local chapter has helped with purchasing food cards and the local food pantries, among other endeavors.

Once again the local leadership board will offer Gethsemane a small assistance for Vacation Bible School, and continue to offer service opportunities throughout the year, such as work days for Habitat for Humanity.

We would like to thank our members for voting this past November, as Susie Herzberg was again elected to the board as Director of Congregation Advocates. We would also like to thank those who have directed their Thrivent Choice dollars to Gethsemane. This past year the congregation received \$1964, which is used for volunteer recognition and leadership training at our church. The school received \$311 of its own. For those who haven't, please consider Gethsemane Lutheran Church and Gethsemane Lutheran Preschool as two possibilities.

Your 2012 Leadership Team

Advocates

Jason Kiefer, lead

Kathy Steinert

Ginger Starrett

with

Susie Herzberg, Dir. of Cong. Adv.

Mel Kent, Financial Rep.

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## Save Your Labels for Bethesda

Many educational institutions use Campbell and Campbell divisions labels to "purchase" support items for the work that they do. For many years, LWML Societies have been sending their labels to Bethesda Lutheran Homes —residence facilities for the developmentally disabled. During this soup season, please remember to save your labels. Please place your Campbell labels in the blue box in the hall.

# Gethsemane Lutheran Church

409 East Baldwin Street  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840



## HYMNS WE LOVE TO SING

***Great is Thy Faithfulness***

**LSB 809**

***Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.***

### ***Refrain:***

***Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.***

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Written by Thomas Obadiah Chisolm (1866-1960)

Hymn was written in 1923

Music by William M. Runyan(1870-1957)

During the fall of Jerusalem the weeping prophet, Jeremiah, describes the evil acts of humankind in such loathsome detail that the reader is given to despair. In his book of Lamentations Jeremiah vividly portrays the emotions and feelings of those who actually experienced the catastrophe. Right in the midst of the ruin, as though he were transported into a completely different setting, renewed hope springs up within his heart as Jeremiah looks from the

affliction and ruin and contemplates the infinite mercies of God. His perspective turns from the evil peril that surrounded him to the eternal promises that renewed him.

"I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. I say to myself, 'The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for Him'"

(Lamentations 3:19-24).

In 1923 Thomas Chisolm birthed one of the greatest modern hymns regarding the faithfulness of God from this golden text. In stanza one he writes of God's unchanging character and unfailing compassions. In stanza two he writes of God's faithfulness in maintaining the order of His universe. In stanza three he writes of God's faithfulness in forgiving our sins, providing strength for today and hope for tomorrow. Each stanza leads to the great culminating chorus that declares the victorious words of Jeremiah, "Great is Thy faithfulness."

May we all be transported through prayer and faith from our difficulty to a tranquil state of mind where we too can confidently and gratefully proclaim this to be our personal testimony, "Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me."

**Bob Bornemann**

# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	GETHSEMANE PRESCHOOL meets Mon-Fri. 9-11:30 AM		1 Confirmation Class, 3:45pm	2 Youth Quilters 3-5:30pm Chime Choir, 6:45pm Chancel Choir, 7:30pm	3	4
5 First Sundays in the Pew WORSHIP and Sun.School, 10:30am Bible Class, 9:15am Thrivent Coffee Hour	6	7	8 Confirmation Class, 3:45pm	9 Youth Quilters 3-5:30pm Chime Choir, 6:45pm Chancel Choir, 7:30pm	10	11 Bd of Property mtg.
12 WORSHIP, 10:30AM Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:15am Blood pressure screening	13	14 Circuit Pastors at Newton, 10am	15 Confirmation class, 3:45pm	16 Youth Quilters, 3-5:30pm Chime Choir, 6:45pm Chancel Choir, 7:30pm	17	18 Women's Guild Silver Tea, 1pm
19 WORSHIP, 10:30AM Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:15am	20	21	22 ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 3:15 & 7PM.  Confirmation, 3:45pm	23 Youth Quilters 3-5:30pm	24	25
26 WORSHIP, 10:30AM Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:15am Thrivent Forum on "Charitable Giving", 11:45	27 Pastor's Revitalization Group meets at Ridgewood, 9am	28	29 MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP, 3:15 & 7pm. Chime Choir, 6:15p Vocal Choir, 7:45pm Confirmation, 3:45pm	Alcoholics Anonymous groups meet at Gethsemane on Fridays (8pm), Sundays (6:30pm) and Mondays (7&8pm.)		

# March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	GETHSEMANE	PRESCHOOL	MEETS MON-FRI,9-11:30	Youth Quilters, 3-5:30pm		
4 <b>FIRST SUNDAYS IN THE PEW WORSHIP and Sun.School,10:30AM Bible Class, 9:15am</b>	5 Pastor's Day Off	6 Board of Social Ministry, 7pm	7 <b>MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP, 3:15 &amp; 7pm</b> Chime Choir, 6:15pm Vocal Choir, 7:15pm Confirmation, 3:45pm	8 Youth Quilters, 3-5:30pm	9	10 Change to Daylight Savings Time
11 <b>WORSHIP, 10:30AM Sunday School and Bible Class, 9:15am Extended Coffee Hour on "Endowment Funds", 11:45am</b>	12 Blood Pressure Screening also on Sunday, Mar. 11	13	14 <b>MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP, 3:15 &amp; 7pm</b> Chime Choir, 6:15pm Vocal Choir, 7:15pm Confirmation, 3:45pm	15 Youth Quilters 3-5:30pm	16	17
18 <b>WORSHIP, 10:30AM Sunday School &amp; Bible Class, 9:15am Women's Guild, 12:30pm</b>	19	20	21 <b>MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP 3:15 &amp; 7pm</b> Chime Choir, 6:15pm Vocal Choir, 7:15pm Confirmation 3:45pm	22 Youth Quilters 3-5:30pm	23	24
25 <b>WORSHIP, 10:30AM Sunday School &amp; Bible Class, 9:15am</b>	26	27 CHURCH COUNCIL, 7:30 PM.	28 <b>MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP, 3:15 &amp; 7pm.</b> Chime Choir, 6:15pm Vocal Choir, 7:15pm Confirmation, 3:45pm	29 Youth Quilters 3-5:30pm	30 <b>HOLY WEEK begins on Palm/ Passion Sunday, April 1</b> *Maundy Thursday worship at 7:00pm *Good Friday worship at noon & 7pm	31 Alcoholics Anonymous groups meet on Fridays(8pm), Sundays (6:30pm) & Mondays (7&8pm)