

Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Hackettstown, NJ

The Garden

Gethsemane's Bi-Monthly Newsletter



Volume IV: Issue 2

June/July 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

**REMINDER: SUNDAY SUMMER SERVICES START AT
9:30 AM STARTING SUNDAY, JUNE 20th**

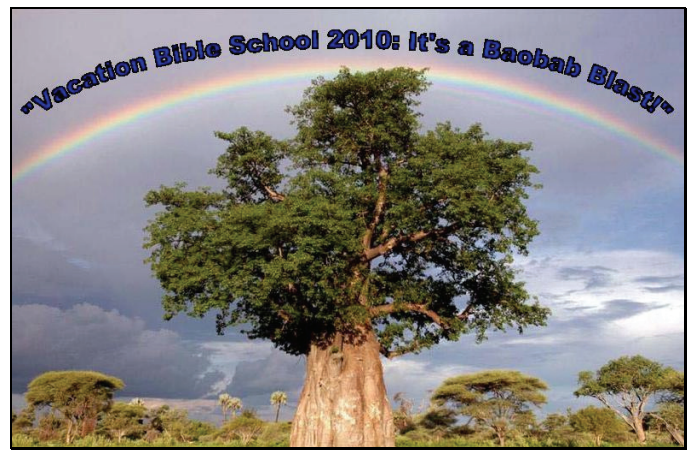
**Gethsemane 5th Annual Rummage Sale
Fri & Sat, June 18 & 19, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.**

The Woman's Guild needs many volunteers - to help us with unpacking and pricing on Wed & Thur. from noon till 8 pm - come anytime; to help with the bake sale (bring a cake); to help with the sale Fri & Sat (anytime); to help with breaking down the sale and repacking everything on Sat at after 3 pm. If you are unable to help with the above, please come and support all the volunteers and causes and enjoy a cup of coffee and dessert or enjoy a great lunch put on by the Woman's Guild. Maybe you will find something to purchase - if you have never been to a previous sale, make this your first and enjoy the hospitality and fellowship. Call Livia or Al at 908 979 0608, if you have some last minute donations you want picked-up or you can just bring the donations during our set up times. Thank you in advance for your support.

Congratulations to Our Confirmands!



Back Row (L to R):Joey Hill, Deacon Charlie Stackhouse, Pastor Terry and Justin Hill.
Front Row (L to R):Megan Giordano, Vicki Tonno, Jordan Lombardo and Allison Lay.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010: IT'S A "BAOBAB BLAST"!

**Get the word out and save the date:
the week of August 2-6, 9-11:45am**

****What's a "baobab"?***

It's a gigantic tree found mostly in Africa that serves as a source of water, food, shade, AND as a COMMUNITY GATHERING PLACE, whether for animals, or people! And these trees can live a LONG time, up to several thousand years.

Our main focus for VBS this summer is about CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY, and the themes of TRUST (Abraham), LOVE (Joseph and his brothers), FOLLOW (Jesus' disciples), CARE (The good Samaritan), and SHARE (Philip and the Ethiopian).

You'll meet Faye the Zebra, Amy the Monkey, Bud the Elephant, Sam the Meerkat, and Jonathan the Giraffe.

****FOR AGES 4 THROUGH 4TH GRADE***

****NEEDED RIGHT NOW:* Servants who can assist with 1. games, 2. decorating (especially Sun. Aug.1), 3.Guides for all classes and 4. Crafts.**

CONTACT SUSIE HERZBERG

(908.979.0024/susieherzberg@gmail.com) or

DEVIN ALLEN

(908.813.9652/dancingdreamer@yahoo.com)

GETHSEMANE WELL-REPRESENTED IN MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

A big turnout by members and friends of Gethsemane contributed to an impressive presence at the Hackettstown Memorial Day Parade. Our Nursery School led the Gethsemane procession, with 35 students and family members, followed by Jim Allen in his model T, then our Gethsemane float, with Dave Davenport and his grandchildren dressed in Civil War garb and firing musket volleys, followed by some 42 Gethsemane marchers, carrying American flags and dressed in red, white and blue. At the conclusion, many members returned to Gethsemane for a tasty picnic meal. We are grateful for the great organizational work done the Parade Committee, headed by Art Stuber and Jim Dobak, and including: Jim Allen, Dave Davenport, Bill Douma, Al Eikstrems, and Charlie Stackhouse.



Women's Guild Picnic Lunch

Saturday, June 12th - 1:00 PM

All ladies welcome to join us.
Sign up sheet on Bulletin Board.

SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR COMES TO A CLOSE

Gethsemane Sunday School teachers, students and staff will conclude another "year at Jesus' feet" on Sunday, June 13, with a special Closing Celebration.

*Fun Activities from 9:15 - 9:55am

*Ceremony with Recognition: 9:55- 10:15am PARENTS INVITED.

*Refreshments: 10:15am

*SS Children and Youth will sing in our WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:30am.

NEEDED: Donations of cookies, brownies, bagels, donuts, juice for the celebration.

We are most grateful for the blessings of God upon our children through the dedication of our teachers and staff: Sue Galloway and Sylvia Allen, co-superintendents; Sandy Anderson, Arianna Sternadori, Sylvia Allen, Devin Allen, Inara Sternadori, Michael Appeld, Charlie Stackhouse, and Peter Karcher, teachers.

Finally, we celebrate the 'growing in wisdom and faith' by our SS children and youth: PreK: Gianna Riefler, Lucas Smith, Sophia Smith, Morgan Smith; 1st grade: Cody Kaminski, Christine Siek, Jenna Wyckoff; 2nd: Austin Colon, Anzhela Page, Sydney Smith; 3rd: Mike Appeld, Tyler Kaminski, Jason Smith; 4th: Jonathan Karcher, Brett Wyckoff; 5th: Steven Hill; 7th: Joey Hill, Victoria Tonno; 8th: Megan Giordano, Justin Hill, Allison Lay, Jordan Lombardo.

NURSERY SCHOOL HIRES NEW DIRECTOR

Mrs. Sue Galloway will become the new Gethsemane Nursery School Director, following the retirement of Mrs. Janice Holz after 27 years of service as Director. Sue is a member at Gethsemane, currently serving as Sunday School co-superintendent. We pray God to bless the transitions of both Janice and Sue in the days ahead.

FROM THE PASTOR

One of the great privileges of being a pastor is to be present at some of the most significant transitions in the lives of members, or even friends of the congregation. Whether presiding at a wedding ceremony, where two people transition from single to married, or at a funeral, or a baptism, these are usually opportunities to bring God's Word and truth and presence to that special moment or time. Sometimes it is a move to a new home, a new job or job loss, a divorce, an accident, a major illness. These are all unique moments in people's lives, times often of great change.

"Leading Transition" is the title of an article by William Bridges and part of the required reading for us pastors involved in our District's Revitalization learning communities. He says there are three major parts to all transitions: they all begin with an *ending*, leaving the old situation behind; then, the *"neutral zone"*, that 'in-between time of letting go, experimenting with the new; and finally, *"new beginnings"*, the "promised land", the new place, the new situation.

Right now, two of our long-term staff members are undergoing transition: Karen Winters, our church secretary for 32 years (and four pastors!), will retire this summer; and Janice Holz, our Nursery School Director for the past 27 years, is retiring after the graduation ceremony and picnic this month.

Each has served their Lord and His Church here at Gethsemane faithfully and with dedication. Karen has typed more bulletins, answered more phone calls, and endured more interruptions than she may wish to recall over the years. And Janice has comforted more 3-year old crying children, welcomed back more 4-year olds, and listened to or counseled more young parents than she can probably count.

Our Board of Education is currently planning a retirement party for Janice. If you wish to write any remembrance, or assist with a gift, please contact Molly Petty or Pastor Terry. The Board of Ministry will begin this month to plan for Karen's farewell in an appropriate manner.

One other transition that is happening is with our Youth Group leadership. Molly Petty has served the Lord as our Youth leader for the past years, and is "passing the torch" to Maria Tonno and Sylvia Allen at the end of June. Molly has listened, encouraged, and guided our youth, modeling discipleship. And who of us members has not enjoyed a delicious cookie (or two) baked by Molly, as she introduced cookie-baking to the realm of Christian service by our youth!

One thing we learn from watching Moses and God's people in their transition from Egypt to the Promised Land: He will provide! For Karen, for Janice, for our Youth Group, for Gethsemane, for you!

In Christ, Pr.Terry

Music Notes

In the late spring, it's time to recognize Gethsemane's wonderful volunteer choir and to thank them for their dedication, talent, and selfless service to our worship life. June 20th is Music Appreciation Sunday, and it's a perfect time to recognize these dear members. They will tell you that they sing as an expression of their faith and that they welcome the opportunity to praise the Lord in song. While that is most certainly true, I will add that they are sometimes tired, or frazzled from work, or feeling discomfort from a cold or injury, or sad, or troubled, or missing a great show on television! And yet, they come to choir practice and sing with a conviction and confidence that can only come from the Holy Spirit. I am very grateful for this choir - for their friendship, support, and witness which inspires my faith and warms my heart. Join me in wishing them a restful and restorative summer, free from weekly practices and 'assigned seating.'

Of course, the other wonderful thing about this choir is their welcoming nature! Take the time this summer to consider joining us when we start up again in September! I dream of the need to order new robes and add a pew to the choir - and you can make that dream come true! Be there as we celebrate all of the 'little Easters' of our lives, prepare for the annual cantata, and learn the music that lifts our spirits and bolsters our faith.

Our music ministry was given a great gift with the funds to purchase a beautiful three octave hand chime set and the foam for the tables. They have a glorious sound, and we thank Mr. Michael Habermann for his generous donation to honor of his dear wife and to praise God. Susie Herzberg has been my mentor in this endeavor, and she has been very helpful in finding music, covering the foam pads with fabric, and teaching our chiming recruits to play the chimes. Together, we have great hopes for the future of this music ministry and the possibilities for worship and outreach that these portable instruments can afford.

You don't have to be able to read music to play the chimes, and you don't have to sing or play any other instrument to have adequate experience! You don't have to pass an age or height requirement, either! Please let one of us know if you are remotely interested, and we'll encourage you to try out the chimes and help us to form a choir. We've had a great response from some of our children, so far, and we look forward

to expanding this choir for the fall. Please give this opportunity your prayerful consideration.

I recently joined the American Guild of Organists, which is a national organization that offers literature, workshops, and support to professional organists. It will be a great resource for me to grow as a musician and connect with other organists in the region.

As some members of our congregation will tell you, I love to play a hymn that I know has a special meaning to a member of our congregation. So, this is just another reminder. If you have a favorite hymn, or one that is personal to you, let me know with a note or email. There are often occasions, especially during Holy Communion, when there's time for an 'unscheduled free choice' hymn. This knowledge helps me to choose.

As always, I'm grateful for your support. Keep singing!

Laura Petrie

Gethsemane Youth Group News

Youth Group Trip to Dorney Park on Thursday, June 24th, leaving the church parking lot at 3PM.

Secret Prayer Pals

Hi! What opportunities we've had these last two months to share with our Secret Prayer Pals. Of course we've been praying daily, but did you communicate your best wishes at Easter and perhaps Mother's Day? Did you receive something from your Pal? I can surmise that you did, since there were many pretty packages awaiting Special Friends at church, and I heard about and saw several beautiful cards.

Let me digress for a moment, please. I want to give heart felt thanks to my Secret Prayer Pal this year (and all the others from years past, too). You have been so faithful, seem to know me so well, and make me feel so loved.

Now we celebrate with one of our own S.P.P. group. Congratulations Vicki! You are now confirmed into the body of Christ here at Gethsemane and are already showing yourself a blessing to us and others you know and meet. We look forward to sharing with you as you grow each day in Christ.

Summer is almost upon us. With all our busy schedules, it becomes so easy to forget sending uplifting and "I'm thinking of you" cards. (The big Christian holidays don't start for several months). So, of course, it is most important to maintain those daily prayers and send those cards. They are important these days, as we tend to lose touch with our special Christian friends: Sunday School is out, choir is out, and someone's always gone on vacation. Let us set the example and never forget our Pal.

Finally, but very important, a change is here. I have loved being your Secret Prayer Pal coordinator these last years, but it is time to let go and let someone else be the coordinator. She has been a blessing to me in countless ways and will be a blessing for you, too. We'll work together in 2010, but she will be in charge in 2011. Take time to welcome your new coordinator, Juanita Barna-Providoshin. Thank you for all you do. Juanita's contact information is as follows:

Phone: 908-637-4582

Cell Phone: 908-413-3329

E-mail: juanita.barna@yahoo.com

I would like to thank all of you for being my not so secret "prayer pals" and friends. I am blessed.

Your friend in Christ

Marilyn Meeks

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

409 East Baldwin Street
Hackettstown, NJ 07840



HYMNS WE LOVE TO SING

"Beautiful Savior"

LSB 537

***Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.***

This hymn expresses love and praise for Christ, the King of creation. The beauty of God's creation is readily affirmed, but the greater praise goes to the King of that creation, the same Christ who is the Lord of the nations!

The original German text ("Schönster Herr Jesu") appeared anonymously in a manuscript dated 1662 in Munster, Germany. It was published in the Roman Catholic *Munsterisch Gesangbuch* (1677) and, with a number of alterations, in the *Schlesische Volkslieder* (1842), a hymn book compiled by Hoffman and Richter.

The tune, St. Elizabeth, appears to be an eighteenth-century tune from the Glaz area of Silesia. It has always been associated with this text. No factual data exists for the legend that this text and tune date back to the twelfth-century crusades, although those apocryphal stories explain one of the names by which this tune is known, namely, CRUSADER'S HYMN. The music, Crusader's Hymn, is a Silesian folk song from Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842.

After Franz Liszt used the tune for a crusaders' march in his oratorio *The Legend of St. Elizabeth* (1862), the tune also became known as ST. ELIZABETH.

The translation, primarily the work of Joseph A. Seiss (b. Graceham, MD, 1823; d. Philadelphia, PA, 1904), was based on the 1842 edition and first published in the *Sunday School Book for the use of Evangelical Lutheran Congregations* (1873). Another well known translation based on the 1842 version is the anonymous "Fairest Lord Jesus," published in Richard S. Willis's *Church Chorals and Choir Studies* (1850).

Seiss was born and raised in a Moravian home with the original family name of Seuss. After studying at Pennsylvania College in Gettysburg and completing his theological education with tutors and through private study, Seiss became a Lutheran pastor in 1842. He served several Lutheran congregations in Virginia and Maryland and then became pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church (1858-1874) and the Church of the Holy Communion (1874-1904), both in Philadelphia. Known as an eloquent and popular preacher, Seiss was also a prolific author and editor of some eighty volumes, which include *The Last Times* (1856), *The Evangelical Psalmist* (1859), *Ecclesia Lutherana* (1868), *Lectures on the Gospels* (1868-1872), and *Lectures on the Epistles* (1885). He contributed to and compiled several hymnals.

Bob Bornemann