

Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Hackettstown, NJ

# The Garden

Gethsemane's Bi-Monthly Newsletter



Volume IV: Issue 1

February/March 2010

## **Gethsemane Upcoming Important Dates:**

### **MISSION SUNDAY ON FEB.21ST**

Gethsemane welcomes the Rev. Jim Buckman as guest preacher for Mission Sunday on Feb.21. Pastor Buckman serves the Lord through LCMS World Mission and also is supported through our NJ District. Our Church Council recently voted to designate him and his ministry for our missionary support in 2010.

Pastor Buckman's main focus is on Urban and Immigrant Missions, and he has been instrumental in the formation of house churches in NJ. He and his wife Cathy have five children. Jim is a Valparaiso grad, and currently serves in the Air Force Reserves, having spent five years in the Army Special Forces. He grew up on the mission field in Nigeria where his parents served as missionaries. He most recently served a mission congregation in the Springfield, MO. area, where Pastor's wife Susie calls home.

Pr.Buckman sends out a daily email devotion and update at [jbuckman007@cs.com](mailto:jbuckman007@cs.com).

Join us Sunday, Feb. 21st, 10:30am.

### **WEDNESDAYS IN LENT INCLUDE SOUP SUPPERS**

The season of Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday Holy Communion and voluntary Imposition of Ashes on Wednesday, Feb.17, at 3:00 & 7:00 pm.

We will begin our **SOUP SUPPERS** on Wed., Feb.24 and each of the following four Wednesdays, serving from 6-6:45pm, preceding our 7pm worship service. Signup sheets will be on the hallway bulletin board. We hope to have several flavors of soup and kinds of bread. (see Pastor's article and schedule elsewhere in the newsletter)

**"The Sign of Jonah"--A Series of Services for Lent Wednesdays, 3:00 and 7pm. beginning on Feb.17th (Ash Wednesday)**

## **SUPPORT OUR CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL!**

Our Gethsemane Nursery School is currently enrolling for the Fall, 2010 sessions.

We offer classes for 3-yr olds (2-day, Th.& Fri.) and 4-yr olds (3-day, Mon-Wed.)

Our Director Janice Holz can be reached at the school number: 908.852.2285. You can also gain information through the preschool website:

[gethsemanechurch.tripod.com](http://gethsemanechurch.tripod.com)(click on nursery school)

PLEASE TELL PEOPLE ABOUT US. IT'S PART OF OUR MISSION!

### **NEW SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

It's not too late to join the Sunday Morning Bible study class in the church nave, as we have just begun a study of three of the Minor Prophets: Amos (who helps us look at justice and injustice), Jonah(the reluctant prophet) , and Habakkuk, who addresses the suffering of the innocent. Meets Sundays, 9:15am. Led by Pastor Terry

### **Upcoming Youth Group Activities**

Friday, Feb. 12th: Glow Bowling @ 9PM

Saturday, March 6th: Chinese Game Night

Saturday, April 17th: Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Friday, June 11: Dorney Park @ 4PM

**HELP WANTED:** Someone to periodically update our outside church sign. Please contact Pastor

Lent, 2010

Dear Members and Friends of Gethsemane:

Why do people put off until tomorrow what could be enjoyed today? Why do people hold onto gift certificates and wind up not using them? Why do we wait until someone is about to move away before taking them out to eat? Why do we wait until the last minute to redeem frequent flier miles, or take years to get around to visiting local landmarks that are on another's tourist itinerary?

Or, to put it another way, why ***don't*** people "carpe diem"? That is, why don't we "seize the day", a phrase popularized in the movie Dead Poets Society. Social scientists tell us that when there is no immediate deadline, we're liable to put off whatever (even the pleasurable) this weekend, because we assume we'll be less busy next weekend, or next summer, or whenever. Yes, you can procrastinate pleasure!

As the season of Lent approaches, I'm inviting all members to "carpe diem".....to "seize the day"....that is: to let God speak to you through our time together in WORSHIP both Sundays and the Wednesday midweek services; to "seize" the moment for repentance and prayer, and renewal of your spiritual life; to give up procrastinating and avoiding God's call and His mission to save the lost all around us.

Now I know that not everyone associates the above with "pleasure". Yet our heavenly Father does. Luke 12:32 says "Fear not, little flock; it is the Father's good ***pleasure*** to give you the Kingdom...". And what is that Kingdom? It is wherever God rules, and wherever He rules, ***peace and joy are the norm*** (Romans 14:17). He is a God who gives. He has much to give you.

The prophet Jonah is getting prime-time attention this Lent, in our devotional booklets, and through the special Lenten midweek series. He procrastinated obedience, but the God of the "second chance" turned him into a successful missionary in spite of himself.

Please join us, beginning Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>, (3 or 7pm) as we "seize the day" for reflection, forgiveness, and to give pleasure to our heavenly Father.

In Christ,

Pastor Terry

## **LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES AT GETHSEMANE**

**(all services begin at 3:00 and 7:00pm/ Soup Suppers:6 – 6:45pm)**

Wednesday, Feb.17 ASH WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION  
Voluntary Imposition of Ashes  
"God Calls Jonah" (Jonah 1:1-3)

Wednesday, Feb. 24 "Saved In the Storm" (Jonah 1:4-16)  
Soup Supper

Wednesday, Mar. 3 "Our Providing God" (Jonah 1:17)  
Soup Supper

Wednesday, Mar.10 "Praying in the Belly of the Great Fish" (Jonah 2:1-10)  
Soup Supper

Wednesday, Mar.17 "The God of the Second Chance" (Jonah 3:1-4)  
Soup Supper

Wednesday, Mar.24 "About Face" (Jonah 3:5-10)  
Soup Supper

(please signup on the hallway bulletin board if you are able to bring your favorite soup or bread to contribute to our soup supper)

On Transfiguration Sunday, Feb.14, we will distribute Lenten devotional booklets, entitled "The Sign of Jonah" by Peter Mead.

## KNEADED AND RESHAPED

I'm writing this because it is still so painful to speak what is on my heart. Were I to try to express it, it would only come out as tears.

During the last week of Eppie's life I knew what lay ahead, but couldn't fathom the enormity of it. That precious week we talked about her death, our tears mingled no differently than how we were joined together as one flesh in marriage on May 29, 1971.

I promised her I would do everything to place her cats ("beasts"), as I so fondly called them, in humane no-kill shelters. Then there was my leg.

Like the making of bread with the pounding, kneading, rolling and twisting, my life had been slammed down on the cold marble of the pastry chef and I was utterly dependent on the outcome. I was shoved in the oven of grief to feel the hot blast of emptiness.

The ingredients of my life: who I was, my purpose in life, how I expressed it, goals, dreams, aspirations slowly faded away over these past eight years and completely extinguished in one instance of Eppie's last breath.

All good pastry chefs look into the oven to see if the dough is rising, is the outcome what was anticipated, is it ready to so gently be placed on the cooling rack to assume its new purpose of nurturing and sustaining?

Like that bread, I have begun that process of being reshaped and it has only been in the loving hands of you that I have begun to come out of the blast furnace of what felt like utter destruction.

You telephoned, you visited, you cooked (hurray), you disposed of my garbage, you sent cards, you hugged me, you washed my underwear and socks, and you became like my Eppie in her healthy days.

The oven timer is still clicking off the minutes because I'm not done yet. I still have to withstand some heat to fully rise, reshaped with a new purpose and reason for being. That's part of the recipe and the Master Chef is overseeing it all.

When the oven shuts off, I will be ready to be consumed. I pray that that will mean sustaining you with whatever crumbs I have to offer as you have nurtured and loved me until that day when we are all brought to the same table of our Lord.

Your "Fruitcake" servant,  
*Charlie*

## HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR – UPDATE

The Women's Guild Craft Fair was very successful. Over \$1800 was realized, plus \$800 in matching funds from Thrivent (designated to the needs of Gethsemane). We wish to thank all who contributed crafts, baked goods and their time to make it all come together.

## LWML/Women's Guild Meeting Schedule

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** – ANNUAL SILVER TEA – 1 PM at the Church - All ladies are welcome to join us.  
**March 20<sup>th</sup>** – Saturday, 1:00 PM

## Secret Prayer Pals

It's 2010, a new year, new decade and new Secret Prayer Pals, bringing new adventures as you pray for and come to more closely know your new Secret Pal.

Here are some tips on being a Secret Prayer Pal.

1. Keep her in your prayers every day. You'll be surprised how much your life, as well as hers through your prayers, will change this year.
  2. Get your calendar out. Mark her birthday and anniversary as well as the holidays you'll want to send cards or leave a small gift (Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, etc).
  3. Get quietly nosy about what's going on in her life. Is she sick? Send a card. Is she going through extra trials in her life? Send a card. Is something extra happening, like a graduation, an award, the birth of a new baby or grandbaby? Send a card and/or a small gift.
  4. Remember, it's a secret, so use the church's return address not your own. Don't E-mail her, unless you set up an E-mail that makes you anonymous.
- So, just relax, have fun, and enjoy your Secret Prayer Pal.

**Marilyn Meeks**

### BIRTHDAYS

#### February

- 1) Justin Hill  
Lesley Olivieri  
Kathy Steinert  
Jeffrey Swanson
- 2) Lauren Kocher  
Marie Zebrick
- 3) Maria Tonno
- 4) Theresa Niederhaus
- 5) Richard Aschoff  
Kelsey Bolling
- 6) Erika Everett
- 8) Gregory Boyer  
James Dobak  
Claudia Nething
- 9) Gail Rothe
- 11) Thomas Hill, Jr.
- 12) Kim Lombardo
- 13) Barry Mayberry  
Gregory Nunn  
Jason Smith
- 15) Charles Parke
- 16) Colleen Kayhart
- 18) Erich Nething  
Scott Smith
- 19) Brian DeSantis  
Julie McCormick
- 20) Janice Meade
- 21) Anna Kydland  
Michael Rothe
- 25) James Allen
- 28) Keegan Woolverton

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### FEBRUARY

- 5) Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Allen
- 8) Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sternadori
- 16) Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bornemann
- 18) Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Dougherty
- 23) Mr. & Mrs. John Lombardo
- 28) Mr. & Mrs. Donald Van Horn

### BIRTHDAYS

#### March

- 1) Antonio Latona III  
Colin Stalter  
Ryan Steckel
- 2) Christa Reed
- 3) Kathleen Shisler
- 5) Lorraine Smith
- 10) James Peterson
- 15) Christine Nething
- 16) Andre Colon  
Hannah Lepinski
- 17) Gregory Zotti
- 18) Kellyn Swanson
- 23) Caitlyn Allen
- 24) Robert Nething  
Sydney Smith
- 25) Elisabeth Barone
- 26) Devin R. Allen
- 27) Jennifer Srenaski
- 29) Olivia Hopek

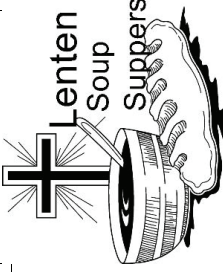
### ANNIVERSARIES

#### MARCH

- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Finch

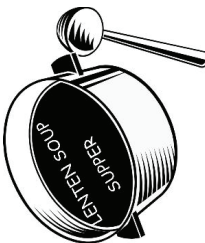
# February 2010

Nursery School Classes meet  
9-11:30 am Monday-Friday

| Sun                                                                                                                                                         | Mon                                                                                            | Tue                                                                                 | Wed                                                                                                                                           | Thu                                                                              | Fri                                                       | Sat |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----|
|                                                                                                                                                             | 1<br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm                                                        | 2                                                                                   | 3 Hackettstown<br><i>Women's Club</i><br>1:30-3:30 pm<br>Confirmation Class<br>4:00 pm                                                        | 4<br><br><i>Choir Practice—</i><br>7:30 pm                                       |                                                           | 6   |
| 7 <b>Fifth Sun after Epiphany</b><br>Bible Class/SS 9:15 am<br><b>HOLY COMMUNION-10:30 am</b><br>AA—6 pm                                                    | 8<br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm                                                        | 9<br><i>Circuit Pastors at</i><br>Morris Plains-10am<br>Church Council -<br>7:30 pm | 10<br><br>Confirmation Class<br>4:00 pm                                                                                                       | 11<br><i>Revitalization at</i><br>Oak Ridge<br><i>Choir Practice—</i><br>7:30 pm | 12<br><br><i>Youth Glow Bowling</i><br>9:00 pm<br>AA—7 pm | 13  |
| 14 <b>Transfiguration of Our</b><br><b>Lord</b><br>Bible Class/SS 9:15 am<br><b>HOLY COMMUNION-10:30 am</b><br>AA—6 pm                                      | 15<br><br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>Nursery School closed<br>(for President's Day)<br>AA—7 pm | 16                                                                                  | 17 <b>Ash Wednesday</b><br><br><b>MIDWEEK LENTEN</b><br><b>WORSHIP 3 &amp; 7 pm</b><br><i>Choir Practice—7:45</i>                             | 18<br><br><i>Choir Practice—</i><br>7:30 pm                                      | 19<br><br>AA—7 pm                                         | 20  |
| 21 <b>First Sunday in Lent</b><br>(Mission Sunday)<br>Jim Buckman, Guest Preacher<br>Mission Forum/SS. 9:15 am<br><b>HOLY COMMUNION-10:30 am</b><br>AA—6 pm | 22<br><br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm                                                   | 23<br><br><i>Board of Ministry -</i><br>7:00 pm                                     | 24 <b>Lenten Service</b><br><br><b>SOUP SUPPER, 6pm</b><br><b>MIDWEEK LENTEN</b><br><b>WORSHIP 3 &amp; 7 pm</b><br><i>Choir Practice—7:45</i> | 25<br><br><i>Choir Practice—</i><br>7:30 pm                                      | 26<br><br>AA—7 pm                                         | 27  |
| 28 <b>Second Sunday In Lent</b><br>Bible Class/SS. 9:15 am<br><b>HOLY COMMUNION-10:30 am</b><br>AA—6 pm                                                     |                                                                                                |                                                                                     |                                                           |                                                                                  |                                                           |     |

# March 2010

Nursery School Classes meet 9-11:30 am Monday-Friday

| Sun                                                                                                                                                      | Mon                                                                     | Tue                                                         | Wed                                                                                                                                                                              | Thu                                                         | Fri                                                     | Sat                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                          | 1<br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm                                 | 2                                                           | 3 Hack'n Women's<br>Club mtg. 1:30-3:30pm<br><b>Confirmation—4 pm</b><br><b>SOUP SUPPER—6pm</b><br><b>MIDWEEK LENTEN</b><br><b>WORSHIP 3 &amp; 7 pm</b><br>Choir Practice—7:45pm | 4                                                           | 5<br><br>AA—7 pm                                        | 6<br><i>Youth—Chinese Game Night</i>                                               |
| 7 <b>Third Sunday in Lent</b><br>Bible Class/SS. 9:15 am<br><b>Holy Communion—10:30 am</b><br><br>AA—6 pm                                                | 8<br><br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm                             | 9<br>Circuit Pastors—9am<br><br>Church Council -<br>7:30 pm | 10<br><b>Confirmation—4 pm</b><br><b>SOUP SUPPER—6pm</b><br><b>MIDWEEK LENTEN</b><br><b>WORSHIP 3 &amp; 7 pm</b><br>Choir Practice—7:45pm                                        | 11                                                          | 12<br><br>AA—7 pm                                       | 13                                                                                 |
| 14 <b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b><br>Bible Class/SS. 9:15 am<br><b>Holy Communion—10:30 am</b><br><br>AA—6 pm<br><b><u>Daylight Saving Time Begins</u></b> | 15<br><br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm                            | 16                                                          | 17<br><b>Confirmation—4 pm</b><br><b>SOUP SUPPER-6pm</b><br><b>MIDWEEK LENTEN</b><br><b>WORSHIP 3 &amp; 7 pm</b><br>Choir Practice—7:45pm                                        | 18                                                          | 19<br><br>AA—7 pm                                       | 20<br><br><i>Spring Begins</i>                                                     |
| 21 <b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b><br>Bible Class/SS. 9:15 am<br><b>Holy Communion—10:30 am</b><br><br>AA—6 pm                                               | 22<br><br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm                            | 23                                                          | 24<br><b>Confirmation—4 pm</b><br><b>SOUP SUPPER-6 pm</b><br><b>MIDWEEK LENTEN</b><br><b>WORSHIP 3 &amp; 7 pm</b><br>Choir Practice- 7:45pm                                      |                                                             | 26<br><br>AA—7 pm                                       | 27                                                                                 |
| 28 <b>Sunday of the Passion/ Palm Sunday</b><br>Bible Class/SS. 9:15 am<br><b>Holy Communion—10:30 am</b><br><br>AA—6 pm                                 | 29 <b>Monday in Holy Week</b><br><br><i>Pastors' Day off</i><br>AA—7 pm | 30 <b>Tuesday in Holy Week</b>                              | 31 <b>Wednesday in Holy Week</b><br><br>NO Confirmation Class                                                                                                                    | 1 <b>Maundy Thursday</b><br><br><b>Worship 3 &amp; 7 pm</b> | 2 <b>Good Friday</b><br><br><b>Worship 3 &amp; 7 pm</b> |  |



#### **HYMNS WE LOVE TO SING**

***"When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"*      LSB 425 & LSB 426**

***When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.***

Words by Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
Music (LSB 425) by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872  
Music (LSB 426) by Edward Miller - adapted from Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, London, 1778

Isaac Watts was born, July 17, 1674, at Southampton, England. He died November 25, 1748 at Stoke Newington, England. He is buried at Bunhill Fields Cemetery, London, England.

Watts' father was a Nonconformist imprisoned twice for his religious views. Isaac learned Greek, Latin, and Hebrew under Mr. Pinhorn, Rector of All Saints, and headmaster of the Grammar School in Southampton. Isaac's taste for verse showed itself in early childhood, and his promise caused a local doctor and other friends to offer him a university education, assuming he would be ordained in the Church of England. However, Isaac declined and instead entered a Nonconformist Academy at Stoke Newington in 1690, under the care of Thomas Rowe, Pastor of the Independent congregation at Girdlers' Hall; Isaac joined this congregation in 1693.

Watts left the Academy at age 20 and spent two years at home; it was during this period that he wrote the bulk of his Hymns and

Spiritual Songs. They were sung from manuscripts in the outhampton Chapel, and published 1707-1709.

The next six years of his life were again spent at Stoke Newington, working as tutor to the son of eminent Puritan John Hartopp. The intense study of these years is reflected in the theological and philosophical material he subsequently published.

Watts preached his first sermon at age 24. In the next three years, he preached frequently, and in 1702 was ordained as pastor of the Independent congregation in Mark Lane. At that time he moved into the house of a Mr. Hollis in the Minorities. His health began to fail the next year, and Samuel Price was appointed as his assistant in the ministry. In 1712, a fever shattered his constitution, and Price became co-pastor of the congregation, which had moved to a new chapel in Bury Street. It was at this time that Isaac became the guest of Sir Thomas Abney. He lived with Abney (and later Abney's widow) the rest of his life, mainly at Theobalds in Hertfordshire, then for 13 years at Stoke Newington. In 1728, the University of Edinburgh awarded Watts a Doctor of Divinity degree.

While there are two music versions of this hymn, LSB 425 & 426, my personal choice is the music of LSB 426.

**Bob Bornemann**