

What's Inside?

- March Calendar and Ministry Schedule
- March Birthdays
- Service Possibilities!

March 2016

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The Pastor Ponders...

Our Holy Week journey may be historical as an exploration of what happened to Jesus in first century Judea. It may be literary...how does Luke tell the story of Jesus' last days with his followers and of his death and resurrection. But mostly, I hope, Holy Week may be practical and spiritual...*how is my faith and life touched by these events of long ago.* Here's our schedule for Holy Week with an invitation to be open to the "Spirituality of Holy Week."



Pastor Gloria

Sunday, March 20 Sunday of the Passion

8:00am *Contemplative Communion*

9:30am *Liturgy with Reading of Luke 19:28-46; 22:1-23:56a*

"Passion Story with Choir Music"

Monday, March 21 Monday in Holy Week

9:30am *Study & Reflection: Luke 19:47-21:38 "Jesus in the Temple"*

Tuesday, March 22 Tuesday in Holy Week

7:00pm *Centering Prayer with Lectio Divina: Mark 14:1-11*

"The Woman Anoints Jesus"

Wednesday, March 23 Wednesday in Holy Week

11:00am *Study & Reflection: John 13:1-38*

"Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet"

Thursday, March 24 Holy Thursday

8am-5pm *Holy Thursday Prayer Retreat "In the Garden of Gethsemane"*

11:00am *Holy Thursday Contemplative Communion—*

"The Lord's Supper and Gethsemane" (Luke 22:1-54a)

Friday, March 25 Good Friday

10:00am *Good Friday Contemplative Communion*

7:00pm *Good Friday Liturgy into Darkness with the Way of the Cross*

Saturday, March 26 Holy, Silent Saturday

9am-noon *Chapel open for prayer and meditation (Luke 23:56b)*

Sunday, March 27 Easter ~ The Festival of the Resurrection

6:30am *Sunrise Labyrinth Walk with Contemplative Communion*
(Luke 24:1-12)

8:30am *Fellowship and Family Time (Easter Craft and Egg Hunt)*

9:30am *Festive Easter Holy Communion (Luke 24:1-12, 34)*

7:00pm *"Road to Emmaus" Labyrinth Walk with Contemplative Communion (Luke 24:13-35)*

Come on this journey...as often as you can.

More on Holy Week...

Flower Cross and Easter Lilies at Easter......our tradition at Gethsemane is to decorate a cross with flowers people bring. If you want to be a part of this tradition, bring your flowers by 8:30am on Easter and then enjoy the Fellowship time. The "greens" are provided. You may also bring Easter lilies for the Chapel by 1pm on Saturday. If you wish to have us buy the lilies, a donation of \$10 per lily is suggested. Also, donations of any amount may be made to purchase extra flowers for the cross. If you wish your gift to be in memory or honor of someone or to the Glory of God, call the office or fill out the form in the bulletin or in the narthex. We need your dedication by March 22 to be in the Easter bulletin.

Good Friday Crosses...Gethsemane has created a "Way of the Cross" tradition in the Good Friday Liturgy of Darkness. Crosses of different styles and materials are placed throughout the Chapel to support our meditation and prayer. If you have a cross to offer for use on Good Friday, please bring it to the office by Thursday. They may be picked up at noon Saturday or the following week. Thanks!

The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday is an ancient liturgy rich in symbolism and meaning. While Gethsemane has not used this liturgy, Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community uses it for their Easter Liturgy (i.e. they have no gathering on Sunday). First Lutheran downtown also celebrates The Vigil with excellent music. Both liturgies are at 7pm on Saturday, March 26. If you are so led, consider attending one of these or another Easter Vigil.

The Altar Guild prepares the Chapel for The Sunday of the Passion with palms for the processional and also for Easter. Your help is appreciated...Saturday, March 19, at 9am or Saturday, March 26, at 1pm. If you know of palm branches we could use (you or your neighbors), call the office with your info.

A last word on your Lent offering...all gifts received in your "purple-edged" Lent envelopes will be shared between the Serra Mesa Food Pantry, TACO at First Lutheran downtown, and the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Thank you for your willingness to share!

2016 Mission Trip and Fiesta with Pop Concert

At our first Mission Trip meeting in 2016, we selected October 1 as the House Build Day for our Mission Trip with Ascension Lutheran through Lutheran Border Concerns Ministry. As in years past, those who want to stay over on Saturday night for dinner out in Tijuana and worship with Sao Paulo Luterana on Sunday morning can do so. Susan and Mark Mendoza are planning to go again (Jenny will be at college!) as well as Jerry Albert. We are very open to new participants. Let us know and, remember, you will need a Passport so that you can return!

Our Fiesta at Ascension Lutheran last year so that "Mission Partners" could share in the Mission Trip though their financial support was a great success. It's our turn to be the host—here are a few details we know already...more to come.

- When: Saturday, May 21
 Where: Gethsemane!
 What: Good food and margaritas at 6pm with a Pop Concert by Andy and Debbie at 5pm. (Thanks!!)
 Cost: Donations of any amount will be thankfully received for the cost of food and for the materials to build the house.
 Who: Everyone is invited. Bring a friend or neighbor. If you are open to helping (set up, clean up, food donations), we will provide opportunities to volunteer in April.

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News from The Serra Mesa Village...

"a neighborly network of seniors for seniors"

We have rhythm! Each month the General Membership meetings are held on the third Thursday at the Library on Aero Drive from 3-5pm. A speaker is featured, Village matters are discussed, and the meetings are open to all. On the first Thursday of the month, an outing is planned to a point of interest in the County. In March the visit was to the Nature Discovery Center in Chula Vista. In April, we will visit Marston House. Meet at the library on Aero at 10am to carpool. From 1-3pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays, there is a "Drop In" time in our own Gethsemane Garden Room for games, crafts, or just visiting.

Gethsemane received a grant from Lutheran Social Services for the Serra Mesa Village so that it could use the services of a Geriatric Case Manager at Jewish Family Services to assist families or individuals in planning care and exploring options when medical issues or frailty brings the necessity of making some changes. For more information, talk with Pastor Gloria or simply come to a meeting.

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Cards for St. Jude's Ranch...

We had a very successful St. Jude's recycled card drive this year. We collected 1,950 cards, an increase of 750 over last year. This year we also received over 300 unused cards. St. Jude's collects the following: General Christmas, Religious Christmas, Easter, Birthday, Thank You, Sympathy, and Thanksgiving cards.

For these same holidays, you can purchase "renovated" cards for \$17 for 10 cards (or \$1.70 each) at www.stjudesranch.org or call (877-977-7572).

Remember to save all through the year, and we will have another record setting program next year. Thanks again, and, if you have any questions, contact Linda Juhasz at 858-268-8071 or lbj6752@san.rr.com.



March

Rick Nagy 2nd
 Jo Koch 6th
 Hildie Class 15th
 Judy Dykins 15th
 Helen Bergen 18th
 Oz Meindl 18th

Summer Gospel Music Concerts

Now is the time to get your calendars out and bring on your inviting spirit! This summer's Gospel Music Concerts and Salad Bar Suppers are planned for 5pm on June 25, July 30, and August 27. The music of Andy and Debbie Attwood is featured along with wonderful fellowship around nutritious food.

We will need help in publicity, set-up and clean-up, and food preparation. Look for sign-up sheets in May.



As an added bonus, Debbie and Andy have offered two Pop Concerts like the one they did for Mardi Gras a few years back. One will be held with the Fiesta in May.

The other may be a "Cabaret Night" in August...stay tuned as we figure this out!



Pacifica Synod Assembly

At the February Council meeting, Mark Mendoza, Pat Wiedower, and Jenny Mendoza were elected to be our Voting Members at the Pacifica Synod Assembly, May 5-7, in Irvine. Pastor Gloria also attends as a Voting Member. At this Assembly, we will elect a new Bishop as Bishop Finck has served three terms. They are looking for people to volunteer or you may attend as a visitor. Talk with Pastor Gloria if you are interested.

Pacifica Synod covers Orange, San Diego, Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties and Hawaii. There are around 110 congregations in the Synod.

Around the property and grounds...

A huge thanks to Maintenance Coordinator Chuck Cheek for his efforts on the Shawn side slope. The drainage pipe from brow ditch to street had failed and was plugged so water was once again causing erosion. With some help from Chris and Roger Nies, the job was done "in-house" at much less than if we would have needed to contract it. THANKS!!

If you have ever struggled with the front door to Preschool, you will no more! A problem with the lock finally got so bad, we addressed the issue. Replacing the 56 year old lock, handle, and closing mechanism now makes us ask, "Why didn't we do this earlier??"

With the slope handled, our time turns to getting bids for the front entry area and parking lot. If you know of someone who does this kind of work, talk with Chuck Cheek or Pastor Gloria. Most contractors are quite busy now, and we are still looking for bidders.

Thanks to Carol Stroud for tending the "Sin and Grace" Garden...the roses are in bloom thanks to her care! Thanks also to Ellen Wagner who is keeping the weeds "down" in the Labyrinth and Prayer Walk area. We could use help on Saturday, March 19, with the palms and with fine tuning our grounds. Come at 9am or whenever you get here!

The Chili Cookoff and Cookie Chillout...

for Agape House, the Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at SDSU, is at St. Andrew's Lutheran, from 3-6pm on Sunday, April 10.

Our newly discovered "chef", Richard Norton, promises us he can do Chili like he does salads. His only question was, "Can it be hot?" Come and try it out on Sunday, April 3.

Meanwhile, Earline Trinkle is exploring strange, new cookie recipes. Can she top last year's entry: "**Gluten-free Chocolate Avocado Oatmeal**"? Anyone else have an "attention getting" cookie recipe? To win a prize, it takes strong support from the congregation ahead of time and a unique appeal. Will we continue our winning streak with cookies?

**Daylight Saving
Time Begins**

Spring Forward

March 13, 2am



The NAMI Walk

Come and join Gethsemane's team, "Gethsemane Gardeners" on Saturday, April 30, at NTC Park in Liberty Station. We enter a team each year to provide support for NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) and show our commitment to destigmatize mental illness. Who wants to walk? Jerry Albert is our Team Captain. Among our team members is rescued greyhound, Maisie Rosengarten. To register, go to www.namiwalks.org/sandiegocounty and follow the trail to our team page or copy this specific address: www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=5744

We are getting new T-shirts to identify ourselves although they will be "general" Gethsemane rather than specific to the NAMI Walk.

That way we can wear the shirts on the 4th of July, for the Gospel Music Concerts, or at other events. Let the office know if you are interested in a shirt so that we know how many to order.



Mission and Service Possibilities...

Opportunities to serve abound in Lent...

Storefront "First Monday" serving nights to bring dinner to the teens at the Storefront Teen Shelter are March 7, April 4, and May 2. Becky Baker is our Coordinator for this outreach and is willing to help people volunteer. Supplies such as snacks and hygiene items can be brought to the basket in the narthex at any time.

Friendship Lunch...Jean Knapp and Richard Norton are our leaders for this wonderful community outreach. Last week we had six tables with new people being referred to the Lunch from the Pantry. We have soup for the month but need bread and desserts. The sign up is in the narthex.

Empty Bowls for Third Avenue Charitable Organization takes place on Saturday, May 7. Stay tuned for more information. The soup and bread provided by local restaurants and the soup bowls by local potters make this an amazing day.

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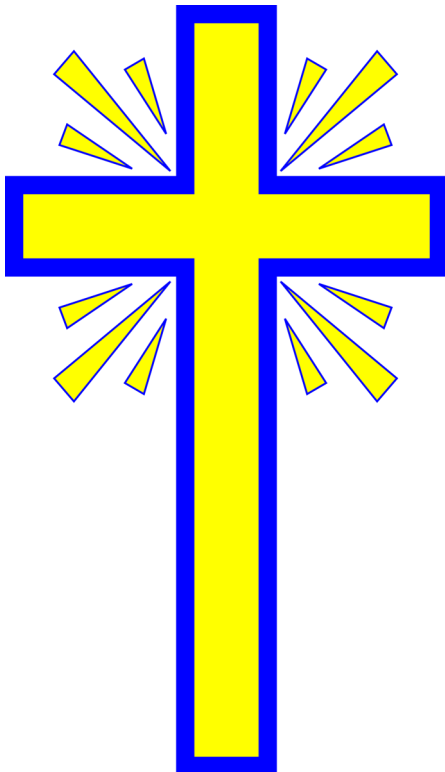
Preschool: (858) 277-7710

**Check out our Website
at
www.gethsemanesd.org**



Gethsemane Lutheran Church...
*grounded in the gospel, anchored in Word
and Sacrament, traditional yet creative,
seeking to be God's people in this time
and place.*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Holy Week Liturgies

Sunday, March 20, Sunday of The Passion

8:00am Contemplative Communion

9:30am Passion Story with Choir Music

Thursday, March 24, Holy Thursday

11:00am Contemplative Communion

Friday, March 25, Good Friday

10:00am Contemplative Communion

Sunday, March 27, Easter

6:30am Sunrise Labyrinth Walk with

Contemplative Communion

9:30am Festive Easter Holy Communion

7:00pm "Road to Emmaus" Labyrinth Walk with

Contemplative Communion

(For a full schedule of study and retreat, see Page 1.)