

What's Inside?

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

May 2016

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The Pastor Ponders...“Hooray...it’s May!”

Those who’ve been around for a while know that I highly value the Festival of Pentecost (the 50th day of the Easter season, this year on May 15) and the Sunday of the Holy Trinity (first Sunday after Pentecost, this year May 22). Since these two Sundays are not known by Hallmark like Christmas and Easter are, we don’t have to compete with Santa Claus or the Easter Bunny. God is clearly in focus on these two Sundays as well as our life as “the body of Christ for the sake of God’s beloved world.”



Pastor Gloria

At the same time, not having Hallmark to support us means that God’s beloved world do not know that “God’s mission to the world has a church”. In other words, most people have no clue that, as the Holy Spirit, God is calling us to share the good news of God’s grace, love, and mercy and to witness to God’s reign of mercy, peace, and justice (i.e. “the kingdom of God”) brought into history in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

Beyond this, in the spirit of a “farewell tour”, I have decided to do a summer sermon series (Memorial Day through Labor Day) bravely called “Sermons I Should Have Preached, Didn’t Preach Often Enough, or Need To Be Revisited”. Look for not-well-known texts from Holy Scripture (some of which, on the surface, are quite “unholy”), themes rarely addressed, and “my favorites”. It is not my intention for this to be Bible study or a lecture series...my preparation and call to serve the Office of Word and Sacrament (more about this later) means that I will proclaim the good news of God’s reconciliation in Jesus Christ and our call to be the body of Christ for the sake of God’s beloved world with every sermon, especially if a biblical text seems to negate it. The wonder and mystery of exploring “Holy Scripture” with depth and a probing faith is that “the Gospel” shows up in some of the most unlikely of places. This should not surprise us since Good News showed up on an instrument of torture of the Roman Empire in the first century. If you have a text or a theme, talk to me or email me at pastor@gethsemanesd.org. At this time, the plan (?hope) is that each will end up in script form. Who knows...the skeleton of a retirement book?

Now that the Sustainability and Transition Planning Task Force has finished their task, where do we go from here?

1. First, thank Roger Krauel, Jerry Albert, Pat Wiedower, Susan Mendoza, and Liz Thompson for their faithful work (**and read their six reports if you haven’t done so!**).
2. Enter into relationship with the Office of the Bishop of Pacifica Synod which the Council and guests did on Monday, April 25, when Assistant to the Bishop Rev. Terry Tuvey Allen was present. We had an open and fruitful conversation.

The general approach will be to:

- A. Begin the work of “passing of the baton” to be prepared for November 21, 2016.
- B. Ask the newly elected Bishop to come to Gethsemane in late August or September to get to know GLC and to talk about Interim Ministry in November.
- C. Form a Transition Team now that will meet with Pastor Allen to begin work on the Ministry Site Profile which is GLC’s “resume” to potential Pastors. The Council appointed Roger Krauel, Debbie Attwood, Jerry Albert, and Jean Arneson to serve as the Transition Team. Pacifica Synod provides a specific format to be completed.
- D. Have an Interim Pastor here (hopefully) for the First Sunday in Advent, ask them to reflect on what the MSP says in light of their experience serving GLC, and be support for the loss felt from the retirement of a long serving Pastor.
- E. Elect a Call Committee sometime in 2017 and go from there.



Mission Trip Fundraiser... Fiesta & Pop Concert by Debbie & Andy Attwood

Saturday, May 21st, at Gethsemane

4:30pm Chips, Salsa, Lemonade, and Margaritas

5:00pm Pop Concert

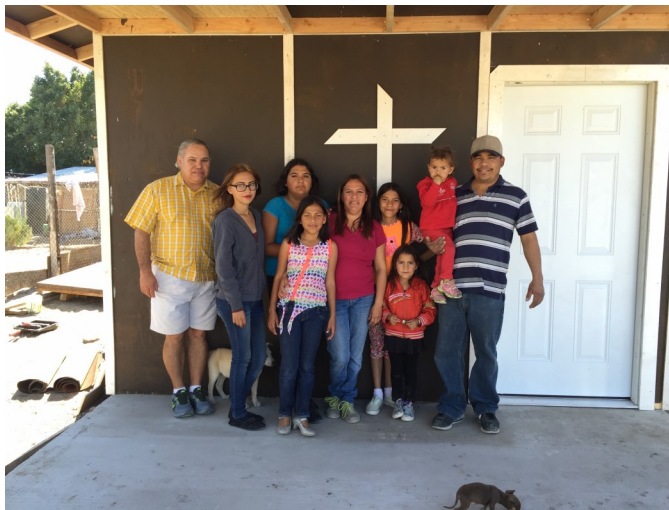
6:00pm Mission Trip Video from 2015

6:15pm "Fiesta"... "Taco Cart" and Mexican Buffet

Need inspiration? Go to this link for a video made after last year's trip:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=mq400xZkKcs&feature=youtu.be

Call or email or stop by the table on Sunday for "Reservation Tickets" for preferred seating, "First in buffet line", and eligibility for Door Prize Drawings, one of which is lunch/dinner [your choice] with Pastor Gloria and Pastor Karin Boye of Ascension at Troy's Greek Restaurant or Tio Leo's. There also will be "Opportunity Drawings", one of which is 1/2 day of work at your home (or the home of a neighbor-in-need) by this amazing Mission Team. There is no charge for Reservation Tickets but "Mission Partner" Donation envelopes will be given out at the event so you may support the October 1 House Building Mission Trip in Tijuana. If you can't come to the Fiesta/Concert, you may give a gift through your regular envelope. A Thrivent Financial \$250 Action Team Grant will help with the cost of food.

Support has been so generous the past two years that we funded the building of a third house in January 2016 by a LBCM team. The new homeowners, Lupita and Carlos and 5 of their 6 daughters, live in San Luis Rio Colorado in the state of Sonora (south of Yuma) and are a part of San Mateo Iglesia Luterana there. More pictures of the house being built and the family are in the narthex.



3rd Annual Summer Gospel Music Concerts

Save these dates—June 25...July 30...August 27

5:00pm Gospel Music Concert by Andy & Debbie

6:00pm Salad Bar Supper by "us"

(volunteer sheets out June 1 or before)



May

Marta Brown 5th
Helena McGinley 6th
Nick Mulcahey 10th
Brad Trousdale 11th
Dianne Smalligan 16th
Mary Erlenborn 18th
Tami Bergen 23rd
Joanne Driskill 25th
Roxanne Rosengarten 26th
Amy Trousdale 26th
Kathy Layritz 29th
Liz Thompson 29th
Joetta Koishor 30th
Barbara Gandolfo 31st

Strengthening Serra Mesa...

...a **Farmers Market** is close at hand, and Gethsemane's Council voted to send \$100 to the Serra Mesa Community Council. Want to support this effort? Send a check to SMCC, P.O. Box 23315, SD 92193. ...the Serra Mesa Community Council and the Serra Mesa Village are trying to "restart" **Neighborhood Watch** and have it work for everyone, especially seniors. **NW** is organized block by block. Flyers are in the narthex or call the church office.

Thanks...

...to Becky Ackerman who will have her 25th Anniversary with the Preschool on May 20. Becky serves as Co-Director with Vicki Coffee. We are grateful for your faithful and creative work! ...ahead of time to the many Fiesta and Concert supporters: Bobby and Joetta Koishor for cooking carne & pollo asada and beans, Earline Trinkle (and Bob!) for decorations, Debbie and Andy for the concert, all who helped set up and clean up, those who brought food for the Fiesta Buffet, and all who came. It doesn't work without you! ...to the 12 NAMI Walk walkers and the many donors. Our team, Gethsemane Gardeners, raised over \$1,000. The commitment to reduce the stigma for diseases of the brain goes on. Let's keep working on it in whatever way we can.

Around the property and grounds...

Chuck Cheek, our Maintenance Coordinator, is keeping on top of things "great and small"...sewer blockages (UGH!), a door stop in the Children's Center (why did we wait so long to retire the duck tape by simply replacing the broken one??), broken sprinklers (saves on the water bill!), the on and off light over the Garden Room entry (for safe walking at night), and more! Thank you, Chuck!

Our Landscaper, Troung Phung, did some extra work for us in the labyrinth, sidewalk on Shawn, and by the Preschool fence. Great job!

...Good news on the front sign area and parking lot—we finally have several referrals for paving and landscape contractors who are interested in the job! We hope to have a recommendation to the Council at their May meeting.

...Before Pastor Gloria retires in November, we will need to designate a "Property Team" (for buildings and grounds...maybe 2 groups) to provide oversight to our volunteers, staff, and contractors. If you are open to serving in this way, talk with Council President, Roxanne Rosengarten or any Council member.

Affirmation of Baptism (i.e. Confirmation)...

It is our joy to invite Jordan and Sydney Cummings to publicly affirm the Christian journey their parents set them on when they were baptized here at Gethsemane on September 14, 2003. This will happen June 5 in the presence of this community of faith, their family, baptismal sponsors, and friends. All are invited to pray for them in this next month as they take this step. Thanks be to God!

Wednesday Friendship Lunch

May is our month to provide soup, bread, and dessert for the Friendship Lunch held next door at Mission Village Christian Fellowship. Attendance is growing so that we consistently have five tables, sometimes six. The sign-up sheet to help in some way is in the narthex.

Thanks to Jean Knapp and Richard Norton for leading our efforts for this wonderful community ministry.



GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH +

Mission Village Christian Fellowship

Supporting our Serra Mesa Food Pantry

SUNDAY, JULY 31, 1:40p.m.

SAN DIEGO PADRES vs. CINCINNATI REDS

@ PETCO PARK

Tickets are \$40 each with \$10.75 going to SMFP

Seats in Shady Toyota Terrace Pavilion Section 218

Buy tickets NOW from Jerry Albert
or the Church office.



12th Annual Chili Cookoff & Cookie Chillout for Agape House Was Fun and Successful

We did it again! Earline Trinkle won "the Best Use of Chocolate" Award for her Chocolate Cracked Cookies (the secret ingredient was Chili Powder, Ancho), we won the "Silver Spatula" with \$1,311 in our Cookie Tip Jar, everyone had fun, and, all together, Agape House received over \$13,000 for Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at SDSU.

Chili Cook Richard Norton got raves over his spicy "Marmaduke Chili", receiving a check for \$25 in his Tip Jar. Thanks to Richard and Earline for sharing your culinary skills with us and the wider Lutheran community.

Our neighbors, Ascension, won for best "Vegetarian" Chili. (Lookout next year because they had no competition for the 2016 award!) "Best Presentation of Chili" went to Pastor Richard Vevia of Calvary (San Diego) and St. John's (El Cajon) with "Braised Goat Chili"! (Yes, real goat and goat cheese topper.) The cooks/bakers were 8 to 88 (or so).

While Richard is already thinking about next year's Chili, Earline says she wants to "take a year off"...so start looking for "unique" cookie recipes. We need not only good cookies but "an angle" so that we are able to intrigue the judges!

Thanks to everyone who supported Agape House through this event. Our GLC gifts totaled \$1,079. If you wish to support Agape House but have not done so yet, simply use the Designated Gift option on your regular envelopes, and we'll forward your support of Agape House to them.

Global Engagement Mission Fund

In honor of Bishop Murray Finck's 18 years of service as Pacifica Synod's Bishop, the Synod Council established a Bishop Murray and Rhoda Finck Global Engagement Mission (GEM) Fund to support the global mission efforts of congregations, to continue Pacifica's partnership with Companion Synods (Malaysia), and to support efforts of building lasting peace in the Middle East. If members of GLC want to contribute to this GEM Fund, simply designate a gift through your envelope. The Council will vote on support of the GEM Fund in June.

Supporting Third Avenue Charitable Organization

.....the 10th annual **Empty Bowls** is Saturday, May 7, from 11am-1pm at La Jolla United Methodist Church, 6063 La Jolla Blvd. Choose an amazing bowl made by local potters or students; fill it with soup donated by restaurants like George's at the Cove, the French Gourmet, Miguel's, and more; and then choose your favorite bread from Bread & Cie, Village Mill Bread Company, and more. A feast to be sure! The suggested donation of \$20 per bowl (which you get to keep!) is used throughout the year to feed others at TACO downtown at First Lutheran (3rd and Ash).

.....the 6th annual **"Homeless Treasures"** (a very large "rummage" sale) will be Saturday, June 25, at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego. Both donors and buyers are need to make this a successful "repurposing of our treasures" or to find new ones! Call Martha Radatz at [619-575-2845](tel:619-575-2845) (bradatz@cox.net) or Suzanne Pew at [619-988-1231](tel:619-988-1231) to drop your donations at the storage facility beginning April 30. Large items (like furniture) may be taken to St. Andrew's the 3 days before the sale.

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**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



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with

Debbie & Andy Attwood

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Get your free "Reservation Tickets" NOW which gives you preferred seating, "First in buffet line", and eligibility for Door Prize Drawings. Donation envelopes will be given out at the event.

