



December 2018

Gethsemane GEMS

✠ *Educating* ✠ *Motivating* ✠ *Serving*

10675 N. Washington St.
Northglenn, CO 80233

Church: 303-451-6895

School: 303-451-6908

www.glutheran.com

Sunday Worship:

8:00am Traditional

**9:30am Adult Sunday
Bible Study**

10:30am Contemporary

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I do not like change. It makes me uncomfortable and often unsettles me. But when I think about the biggest changes in my life, they were all great blessings. My marriage, graduation from Seminary, and becoming a father were the greatest changes in my life.

Sure, I welcomed these changes but was hard to realize the true nature of what those changes are until you have already made the change. We all have an 'idea' of what marriage is and what it is going to look like before we are married. But only until after you are married do you realize the wonder of marriage. It truly is a 'dying to self'. Similarly, I had an idea of what it took to be a pastor. But I didn't fully realize that joy until I became a pastor. It was a different transition from being a Seminary student, studying and reading, to a day filled with visiting people during their joys and sorrows. Finally, becoming a father was a big shift for me. Schedules, sleep, and structures all changed for the sake a little child. As any new parent can confess, it is never an easy transition but one filled with great joy and blessings.

So while I do not like change, it has brought me some of the greatest blessings in my life. I'm sure the same is for you. As we face the future of Gethsemane Lutheran Church and School, we are looking at change as well. We will have certain ideas of what that change may look like but until we enter into those changes we will not see the full reality. Change will make us uncomfortable, only for a while. Change will also help us adapt to a new generation of faithful Christians.

One thing is certain; the message of Jesus Christ, His death on the cross and resurrection for our sake will never change. We have a God who does not change. His promises are unchanging. This we can trust even in the midst of change.

In Christ,

Pastor Ryan

DORCAS GUILD *by Pat Gray*

The DORCAS GUILD met November 20th to discuss their business for the busy December Advent season. The Annual Soup Supper, originally scheduled for December 5th, will be held the following Wednesday, December 12th. The menu has been set, and the dinner is scheduled for 5 o'clock p.m., followed by the Advent service at 7:00 p.m. We ask everyone to complete their dinner by 6:45 p.m. so the ladies can complete their clean-up by 7:00 p.m. and join the rest of the parishioners in a timely manner.

Dorcas wishes to thank everyone who provided Christmas Shoe Boxes this year. 54 boxes were filled and sent to the distribution center for shipment. We also wish to thank everyone who attended our Fall Bazaar and Pulled Pork Supper, making it a success.

Dorcas Guild is sending money to Orphan Grain Train, to be matched with funds from Thrivent to benefit victims of the Hurricanes.

Our nominating committee was looking for people to step up and take on the responsibilities of Vice President and Treasurer. However, the current members agreed to stay on for one more term.

We are adopting a seminary student from Concordia University, sending them quarterly payments to assist with his financial needs.

The ladies are planning to take on a special sewing project through Dignity of Girls, to benefit young ladies in countries where feminine hygiene products are not available. We will be gathering supplies to complete this project with the assistance of Thrivent Dollars. We will need members of the congregation to assist in the sewing of these items. Please advise Lillian Frey or Pat Gray if you are interested.

Regarding funerals, special events, etc., we discussed the need of ladies to step up to assist in baking bars and assisting in the kitchen, or men to set up and take down tables and chairs. We had some good response last month. However, we would like to see more individuals step up when needed. If you haven't already notified us you can help, let someone in Dorcas Guild know. We just need your name and telephone number, so we can advise you when we have a need.

Finally, we discussed changing the date of our Annual Fall Bazaar and Supper. In order to get better attendance, in the next couple of months we are considering changing the format. Perhaps just a meal, or maybe a craft fair. Nothing has been decided yet; however, if anyone in the congregation has any ideas, we are happy to take them on at our January meeting.



GETHSEMANE SENIOR CLUB NEWS *by Lillian Frey*

Gethsemane Senior Club meets at 12 o'clock noon for a potluck meal and entertainment on the first Thursday of every month. The programs consist of music, speakers, DVD's, white elephant bingo etc. You may join AARP at 50 years of age and it is the same for Senior Club. Those attending are encouraged to bring friends and neighbors, one dish for the potluck and your own plate and tableware. We will enjoy fun, food and fellowship.

The Seniors will meet on Thursday, December 6th for their Christmas party. Two years ago we attended the dress rehearsal of Gethsemane Lutheran Schools Christmas program. We will be doing the same this year. What a privilege! The program will be in the sanctuary after we eat. After the program we will return downstairs for our gift exchange. The gift exchange will be in the 8.00 range. The men will mark the gift they bring for a man and the women will mark the gift they bring for a woman. The gifts SHOULD say who the gift is from. The hostesses will be Ann Nordeng and Barbara Southard.

We will begin 2019 with our meeting on January 3rd. The program will be an olio of things pertaining to the New Year. It will include traditions, a New Year with new opportunities under God, a New Years quiz and conclude with A Litany (prayer) for the New Year. The hostesses will be Dolores Lake and Marie Woehrle.

One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism....Eph. 4:5

Live Well

Love Much

Laugh Often

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN (OGT)

Here is a way to help those who have been devastated by disasters the past few months.

Thrivent is matching up to \$1 million to support hurricane relief efforts for both Hurricane Florence and Michael. Thrivent will match up to \$1 million in personal donations made online to Thrivent.com for specific disaster relief organizations helping with ongoing recovery efforts. This must be done by December 31, 2018.

Thrivent is also helping with the destruction effected by the wildfires in California. They will match up to \$250,000 in personal donations made online. The matching opportunity can be done through Thrivent.com and will run through January 31, 2019 or until the goal is met.

You do not need to be a member of Thrivent to donate.

We continue to collect items at Gethsemane to help those less fortunate here and abroad. If you have large items, contact Paul Winters (303-452-2874).



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WEBSITE TEAM

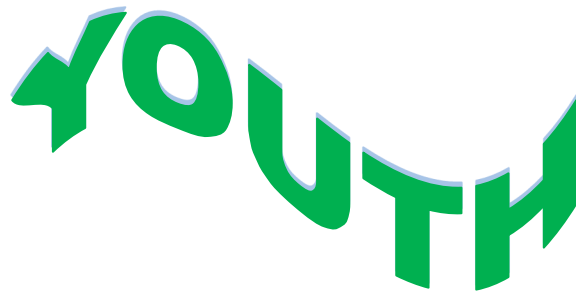
Our website is in need of redevelopment. We need a team of volunteers who are savvy with visuals and communication skills. You do not need to have any technical skills for this project. We will be reviewing ways to redo our website and maximize our online presence. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Ryan.

VISION TEAM

The Simple Church Team has renamed and restructured to the "Vision Team." We have included the ideas of Simple Church and added some important components, such as, developing a new vision and mission; defining metrics and outcomes to track and understand what our impacts are of our church and ministries and to coordinate efforts of our church and school.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, December 8th at 9:00am at church.

For more information or to join the Vision Team, please contact Pastor Ryan or the church office.



MIDDLE AND SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Our annual Gethsemane Youth on a Mission (GYM) Christmas Party and Caroling is coming up on December 15th!! The details on what time and where we are going is dependent upon how many houses we are caroling at and how many people are planning to attend. You must **RSVP by December 9th** in order to guarantee your spot, so start thinking about it now. Because we caravan to at least 10 different houses, if I don't know you are coming, then I cannot guarantee that we will have space in the carpools. If you have any questions or if you need any information, please feel free to contact me at anita.burnham@gmail.com or 303.803.5418.

Senior High Youth Group meets the 3rd Sunday after the late service at Starbucks off of 104th and Grant in the Home Depot Shopping Center.

Middle School Youth meets in the church basement from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

2018/2019 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

Tracey Maruyama
Chairperson

AriAnne Gilliland
Vice Chairperson

Gary Hitzeman
Secretary

Open Position Treasurer

Brenda Beebe
Financial Secretary

Carl Christensen
Board of Elders

Kevin Mullet
Board of Trustees

Matt Harkness
School Board President

Bob Svenson
Board of Missions

Jessica McTaggart
Board of Youth

Jane Mynard
Board of Parish Education

Stacy Folkmann
Director/Teacher, Montessori
Early Learning Center, Principal

Ryan Oakes
Pastor

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee addresses our budget and financial obligations and processes. If you would like to participate on the committee, please contact Bill Owens, Brenda Beebe or Pastor Oakes.

WAYS TO CONTACT COUNCIL:

- ◆ Contact Tracey Maruyama through the church office
- ◆ Attend a Church Council meeting
- ◆ Talk to any Council member
- ◆ Email church@glutheran.com
- ◆ Place a note in one of the designated Church Council mail boxes in the Narthex
- ◆ Contact your Elder

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Church Council currently meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at Gethsemane. The meeting schedule is below:

- December 20th
- January 17th
- February 21st
- March 21st
- April 18th
- May 16th
- June 20th
- July 18th
- August 15th
- September 19th
- October 17th

school *gems*

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The Montessori Early Learning Center (MELC) and Gethsemane Lutheran School Christmas program (appropriately titled "Merry Christmas") is Friday, December 7, at 6:30pm at church. The church doors will be open at 6:00pm for seating, and at 6:15 all students will need to be brought to their classrooms. MELC students will be dropped off in the before/after care room.

NORTHGLENN ANGEL TREE

Each year, GLS partners with the Northglenn PD by purchasing gifts for children in the Northglenn area who are less fortunate. The Angel Tree is a great way to help our local community.

Our Angel Tree is up in the school lobby! Each angel tag on the tree has the age of a boy or a girl. Please take an angel tag, purchase a gift appropriate for that age level, place it in an OPEN gift bag, and attach the angel tag to it. Gift cards make great gifts for any age. :)

The deadline for bringing your Angel Tree gift is Wednesday, December 19. Please leave the gifts under the tree.

Thank you for your generosity in helping those that might not otherwise have a Merry Christmas.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Christmas Break

Friday, December 21st is an 11:00am dismissal for ALL STUDENTS and it marks the beginning of Christmas vacation! Aftercare will be provided from **11:00am-3:00pm**. Please let Mrs. Mullet know if your child will be needing aftercare. Lunch must be brought from home.

School will resume on Monday, January 7, 2019.



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CALENDAR (Note: events, dates and times may be subject to change)

Adult Sunday Bible Study. Class at 9:30am Sunday in the church fellowship hall. Led by Pastor Oakes entitled, "How to Read the Bible." Everyone is invited to attend.

Saturday, December 1: Easter Seals, 8:00am-5:00pm

Wednesday, December 5: Advent Casserole Supper served by GLS staff, 5:30-6:45pm
Confirmation Class, 5:45-6:45pm
Advent Service, 7:00pm
Board of Elder, 8:00pm

Thursday, December 6: Senior Club (50 and older), 12:00pm noon
Celebrate Recovery meeting, 6:30pm

Friday, December 7: School Children's Christmas Program, 6:30pm. Doors open at 6:00pm

Saturday, December 8:
Board of Trustees meeting, 8:00am
Decorate the church, 8:00am
Vision Team, 9:00am-11:00am

Wednesday, December 12: Adult Bible Study, 9:00am. Meets every 2nd and 4th
Confirmation Class, 5:45-6:45pm.
Advent Soup Supper served by the Dorcas Guild, 5:30-6:45pm
Advent Service, 7:00pm

Thursday, December 13: Bible Book Study at 9:00am
PTP at 6:00pm
Celebrate Recovery meeting, 6:30pm

Saturday, December 15: GYM Annual Christmas Party and Christmas Caroling, TBD

Wednesday, December 19: Confirmation Class 5:45-6:45pm.
Advent Supper served by the Youth Group, 5:30-6:45pm
Advent Service, 7:00pm

Thursday, December 20: Board of Education, 5:30pm
Celebrate Recovery meeting, 6:30pm
Church Council monthly meeting, 7:00pm

Saturday, December 22: Board of Trustees meeting, 8:00am

Monday, December 24: CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, 5:00pm and 7:00pm

Thursday, December 27: Celebrate Recovery meeting, 6:30pm