



# The Olive Tree

April 2016

## GLC Highlights

Confirmation Sunday  
New Horizons Walk  
May 15, 2016

**Women's Retreat**  
June 10-12, 2016

Vacation Bible School  
June 21-23, 2016

Fisher Cats Game  
Saturday, June 25th

Rally Sunday  
EndHunger NH Event  
Sept. 18, 2016

Church Office Hours  
Monday-Friday  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

## He Is Risen!



# Why Gethsemane?

Recently I was thinking about how I could support this fine institution known as Gethsemane Lutheran Church. At first, I was regularly attending the Joy, Java & Jesus service, but I soon realized that it was actually Gethsemane supporting my spiritual needs. Then I began taking stock of the support that Gethsemane provided me in way of my spiritual salvation. Many of you are not aware of just how significant this support has been to me over the past two years. When I moved back to New Hampshire two years ago, I was in spiritual distress and was in mortal danger of ending my life. To put it more succinctly, I returned to New Hampshire after a 25 year absence as an atheist with almost no will to live. How I arrived at that state is irrelevant to this conversation, but trust me when I tell you that I was broken in the worst way possible. Since September, 2013, I attempted suicide three times and the two most recent attempts landed me in a hospital ICU. I had given up on life, on hope, and I no longer had the strength to go on. I was just going thru the motions of the daily grind of life, meeting my functional obligations, but lacking the spiritual underpinnings that made life worth living. I tried attending other churches, but each time I was disappointed and was left in a more disillusioned state. Gethsemane change all that for me. I met an outstanding Pastor who was patient with me, and who helped me understand Christ in a way that fit my way of reasoning. Unlike any other, helped me fill that spiritual void in my life that has for many years been draining my soul to the point of self-destruction. The congregation in its own right is a blessing unto itself. I'm never met with a frown and when we share the peace of the Lord amongst ourselves, there is no question of the good feelings we have for each other. It is itself the embodiment of the strength and hope that Jesus Christ brings to the world. Now it is my turn to channel that strength and hope back towards the institution that had a significant role in my new born life.

Institutions of worship are under an increasing amount of financial stress due to several factors. Low attendance, religious conflicts, global events, and the ever increasing conflict of fact over faith. Gethsemane is not immune to these stresses. As part of my effort to commit my strength and hope to the church, I joined the Gethsemane Operations Committee. Our financial challenges are significant, but not insurmountable. My strength and hope demand that this great institution, by the grace of God, continue on for many years to come. My hope is that Gethsemane will be around to help those lost souls, like my former self, who have given up on life, and who needs the love of Christ to fill that deathly void that is ultimately consuming. This is why I have decided to tithe a portion of my 2015 tax return to Gethsemane. I could have used that money to buy something for my house or go on a trip, but in the context of this conversation, that would be selfish.

I wrote this article to put into context the role that Gethsemane has played in saving my life and how the time has come for me to do my part to ensure the perpetuity of this institution for years to come. I humbly ask that you join me in this effort so that the lives that we touch will serve to inspire a renewed spiritual growth in our community. Lord hear my prayer.

Scott Jawidzik





# Easter Offerings 2016

## *EASTER FLOWERS GRACING OUR SANCTUARY ARE GIVEN BY:*

- \* **Kevin and Sarah Arndt** in memory of Nancy Carlson
- \* **Tom and Carolyn Arndt** in memory of Lin, Hazel & Annette
- \* **Madeline Blidberg** in memory of Einar and Edith Blidberg
- \* **Pastor & Paula Boehringer** in memory of our parents & grandparents
- \* **Carol Burgess** in memory of Albert P. Burgess
- \* **Kim Calhoun and Dave Scannell** in memory of Helen & Fred Scannell and in thanksgiving for Frances Rose Calhoun
- \* **Hank and Judie Chary** in memory of our parents, Clifford Broker & Wink Ahrens; and in thanksgiving for our grandchildren.
- \* **Rich and Diane Destrempe** in thanksgiving for our children and our grandchildren
- \* **Dagny Fecht and Ruth Higgins** in memory of our mother, father, brother, aunt and Dagny's daughter Deborah
- \* **Karrie French** in memory of my grandmothers; Lorraine McMahan & Kathryn French
- \* **Ron Jones and Marsha Journey** in thanksgiving for our families
- \* **Cynthia & Chris Kaufmann** in memory of Edward & Catherine Wenzel and of Irving & Katherine Kaufmann. In thanksgiving for our grandchildren.
- \* **Roy and Sara Kjendal** in memory of our beloved son, Karl and in thanksgiving for our Lord Jesus and our children and grandchildren.
- \* **Janice Koch** in memory of Leonard Koch
- \* **Judy Lange** in thanksgiving for my husband
- \* **The Leibig Family** in thanksgiving for The Lord our Savior who daily bears our burdens.
- \* **The Lord Family**
- \* **Ed & Monica Moquin** in memory of Leo Vincent & Family and in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren
- \* **Bonnie Ramsey**
- \* **David Reinke** in thanksgiving for my friends and family of Gethsemane Lutheran
- \* **Jo & Mark Sad** in memory of our loved ones
- \* **Diane and Mike Shaffer** in memory of our grand Parents and in thanksgiving for our children
- \* **The Stama Family** in memory of Ted & Barbara Tin-

- \* **The Tafelski Family**
- \* **The Wegman and Krones Families** in memory of Mark Wegman and in thanksgiving for Joseph and Georgia Krones
- \* **Karen Wynn**

## *HUNGER APPEAL OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN BY:*

- \* **Tom and Carolyn Arndt** in memory of Lin, Hazel & Annette
- \* **Madeline Blidberg** in memory of Einar and Edith Blidberg
- \* **Carol Burgess** in memory of Albert P. Burgess
- \* **Kim Calhoun and Dave Scannell** in memory of Helen & Fred Scannell and in thanksgiving for Frances Rose Calhoun
- \* **Hank and Judie Chary** in memory of our parents, Clifford Broker, Wink Ahrens; and in thanksgiving for our grandchildren
- \* **Barbara Connor** in memory of Violet Campbell
- \* **The DeLucia Family** in memory of Herbert and Elizabeth Kerman.
- \* **Rich and Diane Destrempe** in thanksgiving for our children and our grandchildren
- \* **Dagny Fecht and Ruth Higgins** in memory of our mother, father, brother, aunt and Dagny's daughter Deborah
- \* **Roy and Sara Kjendal** in memory of our beloved son, Karl and in thanksgiving for our Lord Jesus, our children and grandchildren.
- \* **Judy Lange** in thanksgiving for my husband
- \* **The Leibig Family** in thanksgiving for The Lord our Savior who daily bears our burdens.
- \* **The Lord Family**
- \* **David Reinke** in thanksgiving for my friends and family of Gethsemane Lutheran
- \* **Jane Scarlett** in thanksgiving for God's many blessings
- \* **Karen Wynn**

## *THE PASCHAL CANDLE*

has been given in memory of  
Craig Peter Madsen  
by **Mark, Linda and Peter Madsen**



# Pastor's Page

During the Easter season, one of the stories that always catches my attention is the conversion of Saul to the man we know as St. Paul. It is a remarkable story, and one that we can turn to whenever we are in need of hope.

Two things are striking about the story. The first is that God chose Paul to be a servant of the Gospel despite his past persecution of the Church. Paul had been one who was licensed by the Pharisees to go throughout the region and essentially persecute **any people who were attached to "the way."** Paul did his work zealously, arresting anyone who could be deemed a follower of Jesus. Yet, by the grace of God, Paul was chosen by God to be the evangelist to the gentiles who would go through much of the known world sharing the Gospel and establishing churches. When you are having one of those moments, when you think that God cannot use you, remember Paul.

The second thing I find striking in the story of Paul is that with his conversion he changed his name from Saul (the Hebrew version of his name) to Paul (the Greek version of his name). I find this striking because Paul seemed to know immediately that change was in order if he was going to carry the Gospel to the whole world. It leaves me thinking: if Paul was willing to change his name, and to change the whole way he had been living, what changes might we consider personally, and as a community, in order to more fully share the Gospel?

The Easter Season is replete with stories about the way the resurrection of Christ **changed lives with the outpouring of God's grace. We hear them, we share them, and** when we internalize them they are life changing.

Easter Blessings,

Pastor Boehringer

# Treasurer's Report - February 2016

## Monthly Total Contributions vs. Total Expenditures

Monthly Contributions	\$23,403
Monthly Spending	\$27,963
Difference	<b>(\$4,560)</b>

## YTD Total Contributions vs. Total Expenditures

YTD Contributions	\$41,519
YTD Spending	\$56,740
Difference	<b>(\$15,220)</b>

## Monthly Operating Income vs. Monthly Operating Expenses

Monthly Operating Income	\$19,903
Monthly Operating Spending	\$26,607
Difference	<b>(\$6,704)</b>

## YTD Operating Income vs. YTD Operating Expenses

YTD Operating Income	\$35,095
YTD Operating Spending	\$47,608
Difference	<b>(\$12,513)</b>

Thrivent Investments	Month	YTD
Total Account Value beginning of month	\$77,567.93	
Securities Transfers	\$0	\$0
Additions and Withdrawals	\$10,000	\$10,000
Income	\$328.75	\$824.45
Taxes, Fees and Expenses	\$0	\$266.58
Change in Investment Value	\$491.06	<b>(\$1,912.52)</b>
End of Month Money Market Cash on hand	\$5,778.78	
Total End of Month Account Value	\$88,387.78	

Projections based on Income vs. Expenses	
Average monthly deficit	<b>(-\$6256.36)</b>
Thrivent & Money Market Balance	<b>\$ 93,087.74</b>
Months before GLC depletes Accounts based on deficit	<b>14.88</b>

	<u>Month</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Month</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2016 YTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2016 YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2016</u> <u>Annual Budget</u>
<b><u>BUDGET INCOME</u></b>					
Giving Income	\$18,959	\$12,663	\$33,659	\$27,996	\$193,025
Operating Income	\$944	\$532	\$1,436	\$1,175	\$8,102
SUB-TOTAL BUDGET INCOME	\$19,903	\$13,194	\$35,095	\$29,171	\$201,127
<b><u>NON-BUDGET INCOME</u></b>					
Thrivent Withdraw	\$0	\$4,937	\$0	\$10,916	\$75,259
Withdraw from TD Bank Money Market	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Giving to Off-Budget Programs	\$2,210	\$0	\$4,419	\$0	
Giving to Capital Campaign	\$1,290		\$2,005		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$23,403</b>	<b>\$18,132</b>	<b>\$41,519</b>	<b>\$40,087</b>	<b>\$276,386</b>
SUB-TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES	\$26,607	\$22,270	\$47,608	\$45,848	\$276,386
<b><u>NON-BUDGET EXPENDITURES</u></b>					
Reimburse Investment Account Principal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures on Off-Budget Programs	\$1,356	\$0	\$3,636	\$0	
Capital Campaign Spending	\$0		\$5,496		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$27,963</b>	<b>\$22,270</b>	<b>\$56,740</b>	<b>\$45,848</b>	<b>\$276,386</b>



# Youth Led Sunday and More!



Thank you to everyone who participated in and helped with Youth Led Sunday! A lot of energy, joy and teamwork.



## Vacation Bible School Sneak Preview! **We're going to Egypt!!**



Join Joseph as he swats away scorpions in a dark prison cell... stroll through the golden splendor of Pharaoh's palace... experience exotic sights and smells in an Egyptian bazaar... be carried away by music wafting through enticing desert air.



Join us June 21-23 for three days of fun and lasting Bible learning!



# Mary Martha Group: The heartbeat of Gethsemane

In almost every aspect of church life at GLC, they are present: the ladies behind the scenes who organize, collect, fundraise, purchase, and support the needs of our congregation and community. In fact, there's no place in this church's ecosystem that isn't touched by the ladies of Mary Martha.

So named after the sisters who received a visit from Jesus, the group boasts over a dozen vibrant, welcoming, and caring women who meet monthly, from September to June, for a working lunch. Carol Burgess, the group's current president, runs the meetings with an efficient yet easy manner. While the ladies finish their coffee, Carol walks them through the meeting's agenda, leading the discussion on which items of need the group can help with.

The impact that the Mary Martha group has is immeasurable. Through their wildly successful Holiday Fair, they have been able to fund projects for the church and the community. "Here at Gethsemane, we bought the TV for the conference room, the induction cooking system for the kitchen, and provided funds for a Confirmation Retreat scholarship," says Carol.

In the community, the group's reach is immediately felt as well. "We collect and distribute greeting cards for the women's prison, donate old glasses to the Lion's Club, bought brand-new winter clothes for the homeless and baby needs for Our Place, the local family crisis center," Carol continues. The group also collects and packages items for Lutheran World Relief. "We bought and packaged cleaning kits, complete with a mop bucket," says Carol, quietly. Soon afterward, the group received a touching note from a woman who received one of the kits. "She and her husband were firefighters on 9/11, and had just lost everything in Hurricane Sandy. Here she was thanking us, when we should be thanking her."

Most of the things that the group does are done thoughtfully, like that; the small kindnesses that makes one stop and realize that these gestures are not small at all.

The fellowship of the group is no small thing either. It's what bonds the ladies together.

Marjorie Judd, a newer member of the group, has deep ties to Gethsemane and has come back after many years away. "When I moved back here, my conscience pricked me and I thought it was time to help out," she says. "This is a friendly church, and I was accepted right away. I truly enjoy the fellowship of these ladies." In addition to monthly meetings, there are pizza parties, Christmas cookie swaps, and a women's retreat at Calumet in the summer. "We have a lot of fun with the fellowship at meetings," says Carol. "We truly enjoy each other's company." Sarah Dorsch agrees. "I like to go to women's faith retreats and events just to collect the hugs," she says with a smile. "There's such a bond here."

After recounting all the projects Mary Martha does, the group becomes reflective. "I like to think the work we do is like the phrase, 'God's Work, Our Hands,'" says Marjorie.

In ways great and small, the Mary Martha group truly is the heartbeat of Gethsemane.

The Mary Martha group is open to all female members of GLC of any age. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at noon. Bring a bag lunch!



# Odds and Ends

## Gethsemane Confirmation Photos Back!

A huge thank you to Brian Fetterman and Scott Stapel for their donation of the 3 beautiful books full of Confirmation photos dating back to the 1880s. **Brian's creativity is so evident when you leaf through the books and the care he took in redoing the name plates was so special.** The albums are up in the Narthex for all to see. Thanks again guys!

## New Horizons Walk Against Hunger



Dust off your walking shoes! The New Horizons Walk Against Hunger is Sunday, May 15. Gethsemane will once again sponsor a team and hope to beat our record \$3300 we raised last year! Stay tuned for more details and sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you would like to walk. Please contact Karen Wynn if you have any questions: 603-714-4588 or [kwhrdh@comcast.net](mailto:kwhrdh@comcast.net).



## SNHU Wind Symphony Concert at Gethsemane

Please join us on Thursday, April 21st at 7:30 PM. The Southern New Hampshire University Wind Symphony under the direction of **Rick Cook will perform David Maslanka's "Symphony No. 4"**. This 30 minute piece of music is based on the Doxology (Old One Hundred).

David Maslanka is a U.S. composer who writes for a variety of genres and is best known for his **wind ensemble compositions. Maslanka's compositional style is rhythmically intense and complex, but also highly tonal and melodically-oriented. Maslanka's compositions have been performed throughout the United States and Europe, as well as in Australia, Canada, and Japan.**

Rick Cook was appointed Director of Music at SNHU in the Fall of 2008. During this time, the performing music program has expanded to included a full music education major and multiple performing ensembles.

Rick is in the process of completing his Ph.D in Wind Conducting /Music Education at U. Mass. Amherst. He has written original compositions performed by various ensembles throughout the Northeast and has served as the trumpet section leader for the Air National Guard Band of the Northeast. Rick is a Manchester, N.H. native, son of Kathy and Brad Cook and a member of Gethsemane Lutheran.





# The End

Friday, April 15, 2016 is the deadline for articles for the May 2016 newsletter. If you would like to contribute, please email your news to the church office at glcmanchester@comcast.net.



## Facebook

The Communications team would so love it if more members of Gethsemane would take the time to go out and like us, follow us and get in the conversation on Facebook. **Share us with your friends. Don't know how to use Facebook? Would you like us to set up a class to show you how. It is simple, fun and you get to keep in touch with long lost friends, catch up with family (Shelley's 93 year old Dad loves conversing with his granddaughter in Viet Nam and relatives in Scotland and Australia and orchid growers around the country). If we have a group that would like to learn how to use Facebook, let the office know. Facebook is such a great way of getting our church out there and known, helping to get more people interested in attending. Can't do it without your help. Let us know!**

### The Olive Tree"

is published monthly by

Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
65 Sagamore St.  
Manchester, NH 03104

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Peter Boehringer

Director of Music: Diane Destrempe

Office Administrator: Shelley Stama

Missionaries in Residence: Rev. Michael  
Fonner & Leslie Weed-Fonner

#### The Congregation Council

Marcia Ressmeyer-Sink (2/2016)	President
Bryan Lord (1/2016)	Vice President
Ron Jones (1/2017)	Treasurer
Marsha Journay (1/2017)	Secretary
Alex Krantz (1/2016)	
Matt Noon (1/2018)	
David Reinke (1/2018)	
Katelyn Shaffer (1/2018)	
Geoff Sloane (1/2018)	
Susannah Smith (1/2017)	
Stephen Stanley (1/2018)	

(Dates indicate end of "1" first or "2" second term of service)



**PLEASE VISIT US ON FACEBOOK**

**(click any of the Facebook links in this newsletter to visit us on Facebook and LIKE US!)**