

# The Olive Tree

March 2016

GLC Highlights

Youth Sunday  
March 6, 2016

Easter Sunday  
March 27, 2016

Sunday School  
Retreat  
Calumet  
April 15-17

Women's Retreat  
June 10-12, 2016

Vacation Bible School  
June 21-23, 2016

Fisher Cats Game  
Saturday, June 25th  
Note date change

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



## ENDHUNGERNE

# Harvard, Harmony, Ending Hunger

Who Are We?

This past Wednesday, we participated in an event that highlighted many aspects of who we are:

- We are generous givers to those in need. We raised \$2,750 to help provide 11,000 meals for the hungry in New Hampshire.
- We are partners. We partnered with University Lutheran in Cambridge and other donors to provide over 26,000 meals to the hungry in New England.
- We are a community. 55 members of Gethsemane and our sister churches in S. NH, traveled by bus to Harvard University to hear the music of the Concordia Choir, the collegiate choir of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, a college of the ELCA.
- We are Lutherans. In the third set of the concert, the choir sang "The Music of Living" by Dan Forrest, which, beautifully sung, affirmed our prayer:

"Giver of life, Creator of all that is lovely,  
Teach me to sing the words to your Song.  
I want to feel the music of living;  
And not fear the sad songs  
But from them make new songs  
Composed of both laughter and tears.

Teach me to dance to the sounds of Your world.  
I want to move in rhythm with Your plan.  
Help me to follow Your leading,  
To risk even falling,  
To rise and keep trying,  
For you are leading the dance."

To listen, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/zuhryuq>

We are grateful. Thank you Gethsemane!





# Lent and Holy Week Schedule

## LENT

Mid-Week Lenten Supper and Service

Wednesdays (2/17, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16)

(there will not be a service on 2/24)

Light Supper: 6:00 PM

Worship Service (Holden Evening Prayer) 6:45 PM

## HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, March 20th

JJJ 8:30 AM

Traditional 10:30 AM

Maundy Thursday, March 24th

Seder Supper for First Communicants

Worship Service 7:00 PM

Good Friday, March 25th

Worship Service 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday, March 27th

Worship Services

JJJ 8:30 AM

Traditional 10:30 AM

Easter Breakfast 9:15 AM

# EASTER MIRACLES



In one of the final scenes of the movie, *Moonstruck*, a conversation takes place between Rose Castorini (played by Olympia Dukakis) and her daughter Loretta Castorini (played by Cher)

Rose: Johnny Cammareri showed up last night.

Loretta: What?! He's in Sicily.

Rose: - No more, he's not.

Loretta: - He's there with his dying mother.

Rose: - She recovered.

Loretta: - She was dying!

Rose: It was a miracle.

Loretta: This is modern times! There ain't supposed to be miracles.

Rose: I guess it ain't modern times in Sicily.

I'll own up to it, it is one of my favorite movies. In the dialogue above, Loretta expresses beautifully the cynicism of the modern world. Of course, one of the things I love about Easter is that it posits the miracle of the Resurrection of Our Lord, right in the middle of the world's cynicism, as if to say, it may indeed be modern times, but here is the undeniable truth.

In the world of politics in recent weeks there has been some discussion as to who is, or who isn't, a Christian. A lot of the discussion has been focused on an individual's deeds over/against the tenets of Christian faith. However, the question of who is a Christian should most likely be answered from a very different perspective, -one that is bound to the resurrection of Christ. Who is a Christian? Christians are those who are enlivened by their faith that the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ can transform themselves and the world.

What this means is that even in our modern world there is a place for miracles. It means that the Easter Gospel has the power not only to change lives, but transform lives and raise each of us from death to life. It means that having received Easter faith, we can, with confidence, expect that the risen Christ will not only enliven us, but through us transform the world and bring light where there is darkness; life where there is death. You see, from our perspective as Christians, we expect miracles. Easter faith declares that miracles are not relegated to ancient times, and that you and I should actually be expecting to see the results of the resurrection in our lives, the lives of others, and the world.

On Easter Sunday, our sanctuary is filled with beautiful flowers, the silver is polished, and everything looks wonderful, but it is the Gospel proclamation of the risen Christ that takes what might be a beautiful flower show and turns it into a life altering event. And that really is the heart of it. I believe it is Gail Ramshaw who writes for Christians, "the resurrection is not about the resuscitation of the body of our dead leader, but rather about the creation of a new heaven and a new earth."

Properly understood, the miracle of Easter is ongoing, it knows no single time or place as it continues in every moment to make all things new. Properly lived, Easter isn't so much a commemoration as it is anticipation of what transformation may unfold before our very eyes, and what role our resurrected Lord may give us to play in it.

Easter Blessings,

Pastor Peter

# Treasurer's Report - January 2016

## Summary for January 2016

### Monthly Total Contributions vs. Total Expenditures

Monthly Contributions	\$18,116
Monthly Spending	\$28,777
Difference	(\$10,661)

### Monthly Operating Income vs. Monthly Operating Expenses

Monthly Operating Income	\$15,192
Monthly Operating Spending	\$21,001
Difference	(\$5,809)

### YTD Total Contributions vs. Total Expenditures

YTD Contributions	\$18,116
YTD Spending	\$28,777
Difference	(\$10,661)

### YTD Operating Income vs. YTD Operating Expenses

YTD Operating Income	\$15,192
YTD Operating Spending	\$21,001
Difference	(\$5,809)

Thrivent Investments		Month	YTD
Total Account Value beginning of month	\$79,742		
Securities Transfers		\$0	\$0
Additions and Withdrawals		\$0	\$0
Income		\$495.70	\$495.70
Taxes, Fees and Expenses		\$266.58	\$266.58
Change in Investment Value		(\$2,403.58)	(\$2,403.58)
End of Month Money Market Cash on hand		\$3,453.34	
Total End of Month Account Value	\$77,567.93		



	<u>January Actual</u>	<u>January Budget</u>	<u>2016 YTD Actual</u>	<u>2016 YTD Budget</u>	<u>2016 Annual Budget</u>
<b>BUDGET INCOME</b>					
Giving Income	\$14,700	\$15,333	\$14,700	\$15,333	\$193,025
Operating Income	\$492	\$644	\$492	\$644	\$8,102
SUB-TOTAL BUDGET INCOME	\$15,192	\$15,977	\$15,192	\$15,977	\$201,127
<b>NON-BUDGET INCOME</b>					
Thrivent Withdraw	\$0	\$5,978	\$0	\$5,978	\$75,259
Withdraw from TD Bank Money Market	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Giving to Off-Budget Programs	\$2,209	\$0	\$2,209	\$0	
Giving to Capital Campaign	\$715		\$715		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$18,116</b>	<b>\$21,955</b>	<b>\$18,116</b>	<b>\$21,955</b>	<b>\$276,386</b>
SUB-TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES	\$21,001	\$22,347	\$21,001	\$22,555	\$276,386
<b>NON-BUDGET EXPENDITURES</b>					
Reimburse Investment Account Principal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures on Off-Budget Programs	\$2,280	\$0	\$2,280	\$0	
Capital Campaign Spending	\$5,496		\$5,496		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$28,777</b>	<b>\$22,347</b>	<b>\$28,777</b>	<b>\$22,555</b>	<b>\$276,386</b>

# GLC Young Peoples Happenings

## Sunday School Weekend at Calumet

April 15-17 is the weekend for "Sunday Schoolers" grades 1-7 at Calumet. We have always had a real cool time at this and hope to get a good group for this year. The cost is \$60 per student (if cost is an issue see Pastor or Gretchen). For more info, see...who else...Gretchen!

## 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.

## Youth Led Service

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 6th. The youth of Gethsemane have been busy planning the 10:30 service and will be conducting it that day. The Confirmation Class will be giving the sermon, the Sunday school classes will present a skit based on the parable of the Prodigal Son. There will be great music and lots of energy.



2015 Youth Led Service



Find us on:  
**facebook**

Just in - Hammo will be held at Calumet this year, Sept 9-11.



# First Communion Class 2016

This year, Gethsemane has three young people who will be celebrating their First Communion on March 24th, Maundy Thursday. They, along with their families will join together for a Seder Meal before the service. We thought you might like to get to know them a little better.

## Joseph Krones

Joseph Krones is a 2nd grader at Peter Woodbury School, and is excited to receive his First Communion. Joseph was baptized at Gethsemane and has been an active participant in the children's programs for many years. He looks forward to Vacation Bible School all year long, and loves to act and sing in the Christmas Pageant. He also loves to play soccer, read, ski, camp, and travel with his family. Joseph is also working toward his Bear Scout rank in Pack 5, and loves being a Cub Scout.



## Jaya Kelly

"Hi, my name is Jaya Margaret Kelly. I am 7 years old and I am in the second grade at North Londonderry Elementary School. My birthday is in June. I live at home with my dad, mom, brother Jeffrey, sister Jaelyne and our dog George. My grandma lives right next door, I can get to her house without even going outside! My favorite things are: reading, playing, my dog George, soccer, dance, going to school, my birthday, and going to the beach. My favorite food is macaroni and cheese. My least favorite thing is to sit around and do nothing. My favorite part of Sunday School is learning about God and doing fun things. I also really like the Christmas Pageant. I am excited about receiving my first communion because I am going to learn some new things and I may get my feet washed by Pastor!"

## Owen Arndt

Owen is all about sports. Soccer, basketball, lacrosse and baseball are the ones he plays but he loves watching football and hockey too. He is an avid and loyal Boston fan and is hoping to attend his first Bruins game this winter/spring. Owen likes going to Sunday School because he likes learning about Jesus. He is very excited about going to Camp Calumet for overnight camp this summer for the first time. When Owen grows up he would like to be a Major League Soccer player.



# Getting to know ... Diane Destrempe



On any Sunday, as you pass by the big, red, open doors of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, you can hear the ethereal sounds of a church organ and harmonious voices raised in praise. The person behind the beautiful melodies you hear is **Diane Destrempe, Gethsemane's Music Director.**

A member of GLC since 1994, Diane has music in her blood. "I cannot remember when I didn't play piano or read music," she says. "I've always loved music. I began lessons in kindergarten when I was four." Her first teacher had quite an impact on her. "I remember disliking my first teacher because she made me name all the notes before I played them.

She discovered I was doing all the songs by ear," she laughs. "Bravo to her for her patience."

That same patience helped shape her own career as a music teacher, which she recently retired from after 36 years. "I hoped that most of the students I taught wanted to be in music," she continues. "But realistically, I know that was not the case." But at church, Diane says, "People are there because they want to be there and make a connection to God through music."

Diane leads both the Adult and Junior choirs, as well as the Joy Java Jesus (JJJ) group. What she loves most about GLC, she says, is the church's willingness to be flexible in ways to grow in faith. Music is one of the tools to do so. "These groups provide me with a sense of achievement through music to reaffirm my faith. We do so with joy, and a big dose of humor!"



In addition to choir and JJJ, Diane also leads the musical direction of the Christmas pageant. Up next for Diane is leading the Sunday School children through the musical part of the Youth-Led Sunday, scheduled for the 10:30 service on March 6.



Upon reflecting on her legacy as a teacher, she says simply, "I hope I have opened the door for some to become musicians and for others to have been shown the love for music and, along the way, had fun!"





# Odds and Ends

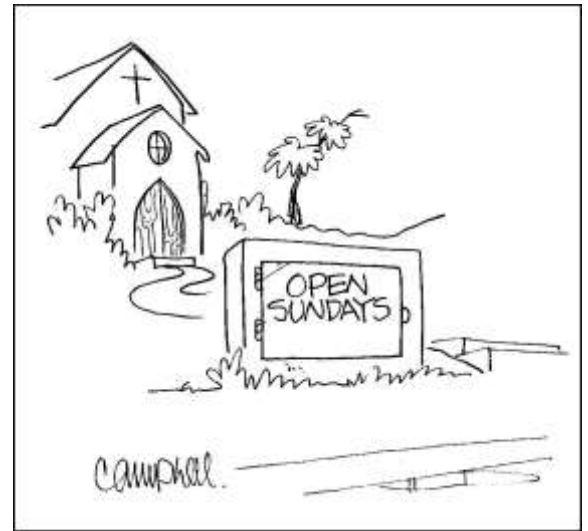
## MARY MARTHA NEWS

Due to inclement weather, Mary Martha monthly meeting was not held in February. The ladies will meet on Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at noon. No need to **bring lunch as this will be our annual "Pizza Party"**. Dessert and drinks will also be provided. All ladies are invited to join in - no need to RSVP, just meet in **the Mary Martha room. Items on the "work" part of our agenda** are: helping send two Sunday School children to Camp Calumet for Sunday School or Confirmation camps, what help Mary Martha will provide for Easter breakfast and who would like to attend the Interfaith Women program to be held on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

On an exciting note: we already have vendors asking **about participating in this year's Holiday fair!** Start spreading the word - the Fair will be on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.



**Hot off the presses! More upcoming events  
Mark your calendars and save the dates!  
Blood Drive - April 19th (tentative)  
New Horizons Walk against Hunger - May 15th  
Rally Sunday & Hunger Event - Sept 18th**



## A Funny Thing

Several weeks ago, in early January, we got a call in the office on a Tuesday from a member. The member was very concerned that there had been no church on Sunday and she **hadn't heard anything about a cancellation**. She had driven by the church but only saw 2-3 cars out there and thought they belonged to neighbors. We assured her that yes there had been two services on that day. What we realized and told her was that people were using the new parking lot out back! So, moral of this story, just **because you don't see any cars out front, don't think we aren't open**. Come on in, our doors are always open, especially on Sundays.

# EASTER OFFERINGS

This year, members of the Gethsemane congregation will have the opportunity to purchase a variety of plants to grace the Sanctuary at Easter and/or make a special offering for the relief of hunger around the world. Please return this form with your gift to the church office by Thursday, March 17, 2016. (Please make checks payable to Gethsemane Lutheran Church).

Number of Lilies @ \$12 each \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tulip Plants @ \$9 each \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Hyacinth Plants @ \$9 each \_\_\_\_\_

An Offering to Hunger Appeal \$\_\_\_\_\_

Include your envelope number here:\_\_\_\_\_

A Gift From:\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not planning on taking your plant home and would like to donate it to one of our shut-ins or a local nursing home please let us know.

# The End

## Wait 'til You See This!

Coming back soon to Gethsemane  
130 Years in Photos



## 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!**



Friday, March 18, 2016 is the deadline for articles for the April 2016 newsletter. If you would like to contribute, please email your news to the church office at [glcmanchester@comcast.net](mailto:glcmanchester@comcast.net).

## The Olive Tree"

is published monthly by

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### 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!)