

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

A FAMILY IN CHRIST CARING FOR ALL PEOPLE

April 2020

Volume #127 | Issue #4

Maundy Thursday,
April 9th Worship

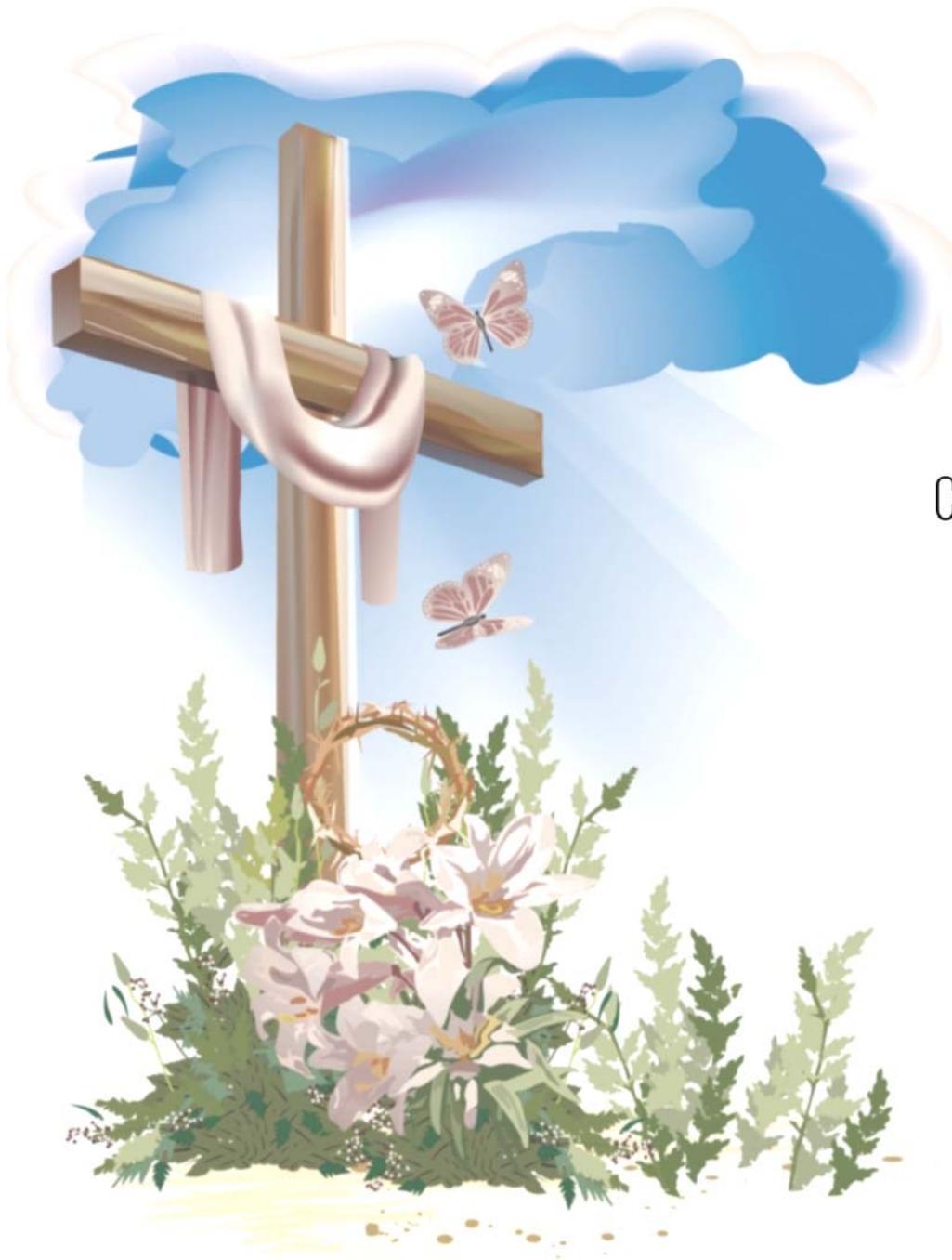
Good Friday,
April 10th Worship

Easter Sunday,
April 12th Worship

CALL  COMMITTEE
Update page 2

Messenger Contents

Pastors' Page	2
Worship in April	3
Member Voice	4
Connections Corner.	5
INSERTs	
Announcements	6
Anniversaries	6
God Sightings	7
Get Connected	7
Month in Pictures	8



Pastor's Page

*Psalm 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?*

We are God's people who gather at Gethsemane's building on Hampton, and we are not afraid. May I politely suggest you repeat those words to yourself every morning, as we "shelter in place," "stay at home," and face the realities of the COVID-19 virus in our midst.

*Psalm 27:3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.*

We are living in a time of uncertainty. There are financial concerns, health concerns and social concerns as we face life apart from one another during this time. Yet, our hope and help is found in God's promise and strength. This hope is not Polly-Anna hope.

We take the virus seriously, and as a community we are taking very seriously the advice of our **health professionals** - ignoring the various rantings of politicians. We know that the virus may visit even those within our congregation. Ignoring the virus is not our hope. Our hope is the love of God made flesh in Christ Jesus. One last thing we know:

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 8:38-39)

Do not hesitate to call upon your Pastors at this time. God's peace be with all the saints.

Pastor John



CALL COMMITTEE Update

Gethsemane Community,

Certainly a lot has happened in all our lives since the last update. Your call committee is walking the line between keeping ourselves and those around us healthy while continuing our work. We're excited to recently receive several new candidate profiles to review. Our challenge has been coordinating a time to meet for discussion. I assure everyone we are moving forward but just at a slightly slower pace than before our lives became so drastically altered. We are in the process of setting up a conference call with each other to share our thoughts and then continue contact with our candidates. Just like the call process itself, I'm confident we will clear these hurdles before us and accomplish our goals.

Stay safe and healthy and until next time, peace

Gary Borkowski

Worship in April

Sunday, April 5, 2020

Palm Sunday

9:00am Worship

Thursday, April 9, 2020

Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 10, 2020

Good Friday

Easter Vigil Service Canceled

Sunday, April 12, 2020

Easter Sunday

9:00am Worship

Sunday, April 19, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter

9:00am Worship

Sunday, April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter

9:00am Worship

All worship services are closed to the public and will be recorded at the time designated. The recordings will then be posted on Facebook and YouTube the same day for your viewing pleasure.

God's Disciples

**Confirmation Ministries
(7th and 8th graders)**

Canceled until further notice.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study
10:00-11:00am**

Canceled until further notice.



**Gethsemane Women's Luncheon
for April**

Canceled.



**South Cluster High School Youth
Café 3:14**

Canceled until further notice.

Pastor John's Adult Bible Study on the book of Revelation has been canceled until further notice.



This Summer at VBS*

"On Earth As In Heaven"

July 20-24
9am-12pm or
9am-5pm!

Register Now!

Complete details on our website:

gethsemanestl.org/glcvs2020



We need volunteers too! Current 6th graders to adults. We can provide service hours documentation for those who request it. Tell your friends, one does not need to be a member of Gethsemane to join in the fun!

** We are holding off deciding whether we need to cancel VBS. To secure your child's place you can register but wait to pay if finances are tight. If you have already paid and we do cancel, you will be issued a refund in the form of a check.*

Confessions of a Disabled DIVA



SEE ME

All of my life my inner voice has been screaming for people to SEE ME!!!. I am much more than my disability

I don't know how to embrace my CP. It's a part of me. Like my brown eyes. I have tried to imagine what my life might have been like without CP. I can't. Life with cerebral palsy is all I know

There are, however, some perks to having cerebral palsy. I usually don't have to wait in long lines. This was definitely a perk when we visited The Disney Theme Parks. When I traveled I boarded the plane first. We were upgraded to first-class a few times. And, of course, I can't forget better parking spots.

Society loves to label people. Labels make society feel better. Society understands labels I had been labeled "severely disabled." Society did not expect me to achieve very much.

The first time I realized I had been given the label "severely disabled." (I had attended the public school for the physically disabled for thirteen years. I needed help with almost everything and I had not figured it out? How dense was I?) was when my mom and I were waiting in a vocational rehabilitation office waiting to inquire about getting assistance in purchasing an accessible van. The counselor had not come in yet. I saw a file on the desk with my name on it. The words "severely disabled " were written on it.

I freaked out saying, "Mom, that's not what I am is it?"

"No, that's just something they wrote down for their records. It doesn't mean anything," she said.

I knew it did. It meant that society would always view me as different and make assumptions and judgments about what was capable of doing. It meant my inner voice would spend the rest of my life screaming to be heard. While I continued to try to make people see me for the person I am.

I am unique to Creative Concepts I am told. I am not mentally challenged. I could teach the new staff about CP. For two seconds I thought about offering to teach a class for CCL. I am tired. My voice is not what it used to be. I have tried to talk about cerebral palsy with some of the staff at Jaywood. They were not interested.

I am an intelligent, funny and creative woman who likes hanging with my friends. I like sushi, watching people sing Karaoke, going to the movies, and eating out, Hurricanes, and Margaritas are my favorite cocktails.

The most difficult thing about living here is the lack of privacy; coupled with the fact that when people here meet me for the first time most assume I m mentally challenged. Jaywood is not a bad place. It's just different.

There goes my inner voice again. SEE ME.

~ Joanne Granna

www.confessionsofdisableddiva.blogspot.com

Connections Corner



✉: glcstlsocialmedia@gmail.com

☎: 314-518-6978 (ok to text)

Twitter: @gethsemane_stl or @GretchenSTL17

*if you send me a friend request on Facebook I will accept you!

🕒 **Office Hours:** (may vary each week)

8:30am-1:30pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Online presence: Now more than ever it is imperative that we stay connected. If nothing else than for the sake of our collective sanity! I have worked hard over the past few years to build an online presence for Gethsemane. If you have liked, shared, commented, or watched THANK YOU! This is how we will stay connected until we can see each other again! (And even after we are physically connected!) If you have a computer or smart phone but don't know how to do this, call me, text me or email me! I will walk you through as best I can. I want YOU to feel connected to Gethsemane!

Did you know that in addition to interacting with Gethsemane online through social media - you can **Give Online**, (Give + Mobile App)



Access the Church Directory Online, (Instant Church Directory)

And See **Worship Services Online** (YouTube: [gethsemanestl](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgthsemane))



Utilizing these resources can help you feel closer to Gethsemane until we meet again!



The Mission Fair planned for the end of March had to be cancelled, but we are planning a similar event for the end of May. If you knit or sew you can get a head start by making baby blankets to be added to Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. More details can be found on [gethsemanestl.org](https://www.gethsemanestl.org).

Find Gethsemane on Social Media:

Website: www.gethsemanestl.org

Twitter: @gethsemane_stl

YouTube: [gethsemanestl](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgthsemane)

Instagram: [gethsemane_elca_stl](https://www.instagram.com/gethsemane_elca_stl)

Pinterest: Gethsemane Lutheran Church

Facebook: Gethsemane Lutheran Church - ELCA, St. Louis, MO



Vicissitudes and Announcements

Thank you...

... “Dear Members of Gethsemane, Thank you for the cards, thoughts, and prayers for my dad, Don Hartz. Your support of Kate and I has been a great comfort. Thanks again, Terry Hartz”

Announcement...

... due to increased costs, the price of sponsoring the Sunday morning flowers and wine will increase after Easter. Flowers will increase from \$25 to \$30. The wine will increase from \$5 to \$7. Thank you for understanding.



Attention High School and College Families

Do you have a 2020 graduate in your family. We want to celebrate their achievements with you. Please send the office a recent photo and a brief statement about their achievements and goals to include in an upcoming *Messenger*.



April The BIG ASK:

Feminine Hygiene Products
(Menstrual pads)

AND

Toilet Paper

Collect 40 rolls of
toilet paper
for the 40 days of Lent!



April Birthdays

- 1 Henry (Huck) Hunsinger
- 3 Paul Meuser
- 8 Eldon Miller
- 9 Lillian Yemm
Sabrina Kohlberg
- 10 Ron Liesner
Michael Schell
- 11 Deanna Brooker
- 13 Lillie Niebuhr
- 14 Richard Frohlichstein
- 15 Denise Soehngen
- 18 Alyssa Boehlje
- 19 John Frohlichstein
Joanne Grana
- 20 Kim Elliott
Ann Luciani
- 23 Ruth Hanson
Michael McFarlane
- 27 Richard Dougan
- 28 Todd Boehlje
Margret Hollingworth
Peggy Lewis
Shelly Morgan
- 30 Paul Lenhart

April Anniversaries

- 28 Conrad and Susan Otto 47
- 28 Ted and Megan Yemm 19



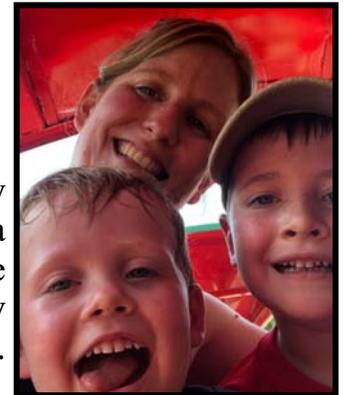
God Sightings

During this coronavirus pandemic we are using this page - usually reserved for the monthly Member Highlight - to showcase how different people are finding God where they are. Share your God Sighting via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or email: gethsemanestl@gmail.com



Chris Schmidt: I consciously enjoyed a hot shower this morning. I'm so grateful for the utility workers who are providing the basic comforts that make this confinement more bearable. ←

Anja Walentik: I am attempting teaching from home with my Kindergarten students. Quite a new experience. I challenged them to take a walk and find signs of spring. One sent me a picture showing what she found. Her smile made my day! Thankful I can still connect with my students. →



Get Connected @ Gethsemane

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

3600 Hampton Ave.,
St. Louis, MO 63109
Phone: 314-352-8050
Fax: 314-352-8051

Email Address:

office@gethsemanestl.org

Church Office Hours: 8:00am-2:00pm

Pastoral Care:

Call the church office or send an email
pastor@gethsemanestl.org

Council President John McElwee

314-791-2197 mcelwee2@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.gethsemanestl.org

YouTube: [gethsemanestl](https://www.youtube.com/gethsemanestl)

Twitter: [@gethsemane_stl](https://twitter.com/gethsemane_stl)

Instagram: [gethsemane_elca_stl](https://www.instagram.com/gethsemane_elca_stl)

Pinterest: Gethsemane Lutheran Church

Facebook: Gethsemane Lutheran Church - ELCA,
St. Louis, MO

eMESSENGER

Please consider helping us save a tree and save on the cost of paper and postage. This happens if you choose to receive your Messenger only by e-mail. Just send us a message to:
messenger@gethsemanestl.org.

WEEKLY E-NEWS

If you are not receiving our weekly e-news and would like to receive it, let us know by sending us an email. Please make sure that you put our address in your address book so that your spam filters let it pass through!

MESSENGER NEWS

You can send your news and notes for the Messenger to messenger@gethsemanestl.org. There is also a Messenger drawer by the church office. For best results, news should be in by the 20th of each month.



Gethsemane Lutheran Church
3600 Hampton Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63109

Return Service Requested

A Month in Pictures

