

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

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Tony Corey, Office Manager

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Reverend Brenda L. Greenwald

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Sunday

Worship

10:30a

(Fellowship

AFTER)



December Calendar: Advent + Christmas	1
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December Calendar: Advent + Christmas

- December 1:** 1st Sunday in Advent: 10:30a Worship, Fellowship after
- December 8:** 2nd Sunday in Advent: 10:30a Worship, Fellowship after
- December 15:** 3rd Sunday in Advent: 10:30a Worship, Fellowship after
Carols, Cookies, & Cocoa + Silent Auction: 1p, Fellowship Hall
- December 22:** 4th Sunday in Advent: 10:30a Worship, Fellowship after
- December 24:** **Christmas Eve** Worship: 4p Geth and 5:30p at St. St. *(No Fellowship)*
- December 29:** First Sunday in Christmas: **9a** Joint Worship at St. Stephen's
Potluck Lunch to follow worship - bring a dish to pass!



- 4 Jim Parrish
- 8 Lynda Caylor
- 17 Jordan Parker
- 21 Lori Kirt
- 23 Karson Parker
- 24 Kaylyn Parker
- 28 Darrell Havelka
- 29 Easton Rasner

We invite you to pray for those serving in the military:
Jordan Baril, Jay Chapple,
Ken Dams, Trish Dams,
Brent Jurmu, Jared Jurmu

Our Blood Drive Ministry: There is a delightful text on Stewardship entitled: **Ask, Thank, Tell**, that guides leaders to let their congregants know just how their ministries impact those around them. Well, Gethsemane, we began hosting Red Cross blood drives two years ago. By all accounts, this outreach ministry is very successful. This success is because we **ASKED** for your help with time, financial support and donor appointments.

We are **THANKFUL** for the time given to distribute advertising posters, grocery shop for the canteen supplies, time spent resetting the fellowship room, time at home in the kitchen to provide the home baked sweets, personal and work schedules that were rearranged in order for volunteers to be on site during the drive. Your generous cash donations fully funded the most recent drive with seed money for the August drive. We must also thank every person who made an appointment and took time out of their day to donate a unit of life-giving blood.



I am so pleased to **TELL** you that our most recent drive EXCEEDED our goal of 25 units. We had 28 units donated. Each unit of blood saves THREE lives. We saved 84 lives!! This ministry thrives because of your commitment to GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS in our community and with your continued support, this ministry will grow and thrive.

God's Peace to you all, Council President Wendy Hanson

We continue to hold the following in prayer:

- Macy Berzsenyi-Kienitz
- Rob Boe
- Tammy Parrett
- The Sorensen Family



+Barbara Vretener+
 May 7, 1954 - Sept 30, 2024

In Loving Memory

+Gary Klatt, Jr.+
 Sept 7, 1974 - Nov 12, 2024



Hospitalized? Welcome a visit? Contact the Office at **906.788.4234**, or reach out to **Pr Brenda** directly at **720.989.8218** (call/text), and we'll make it happen!



**THURSDAY
Morning**



11a on Dec. 5



**Bring a DISH to
pass for food
after decorating!**

**Carols
Cookies
Cocoa!**

**December 15th
1p at Gethsemane**



*From Frosty to
Silver Bells to Silent
Night, come join us
for an afternoon
of festive fun!*



BACK AGAIN this year: a *Silent Auction* will feature donated items, available for bidding, just **BEFORE** and **DURING** the gathering, with proceeds supporting a new HVAC system at Gethsemane.



Lots of new, handi-capable parking spots on the side and in back!



Bring a canned food item for the Mid-County Food Pantry!

Gethsemane Lutheran Church



N6095 US Highway 41 – Wallace, MI 49893

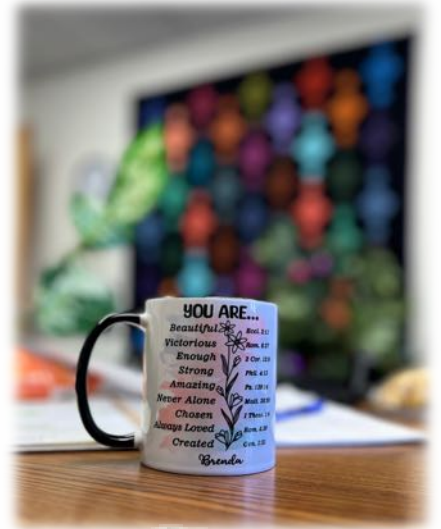


Gifts from God

Rev. Brenda Greenwald

Dear Church,

*I have a delightful and encouraging mug on my desk that reminds me of the many gifts we are given by a gracious and benevolent God. In this season of gift-giving, I want **YOU** to hold some of these gems close to **YOUR** heart:*



You are BEAUTIFUL
He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.
Eccl. 3:11

You are CHOSEN
For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you.
1 Thessalonians 1:4


You are AMAZING
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
Psalm 139:14

You are ENOUGH
But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.
2 Corinth. 12:9

PONDER these things in your hearts, dear Church, as Jesus's mother did, awaiting the birth of her Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Pr. Brenda

Speaking of gifts, give the gift of LIFE by signing-up to donate blood on Tuesday, December 10th. The Red Cross will be at Gethsemane between 10a and 3p. Sign-up at [RedCross.org](https://www.RedCross.org) today!



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Save a Life, Give Blood

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, ELCA
Spacious Hall • Delicious, After-Donation Snacks
N6095 US Hwy 41 • Wallace, MI 49893 • 906.788.4234

December 10, 2024 • 10a – 3p

Schedule Online: [RedCrossBlood.org/](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org/)
Event Coordinator: Wendy Hanson

Daily Bible Readings - December 2024

Sun. Dec. 1 — First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

Prayer of the Day: *Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Mon – Dec 2	Numbers 17:1-11	2 Peter 3:1-18	Psalm 90
Tue – Dec 3	2 Samuel 7:18-29	Revelation 22:12-16	Psalm 90
Wed – Dec 4	Isaiah 1:24-31	Luke 11:29-32	Psalm 90
Thu – Dec 5	Malachi 3:5-12	Philippians 1:12-18a	Luke 1:68-79
Fri – Dec 6	Malachi 3:13-18	Philippians 1:18b-26	Luke 1:68-79
Sat – Dec 7	Malachi 4:1-6	Luke 9:1-6	Luke 1:68-79

Sun. Dec. 8 — Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

Prayer of the Day: *Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Mon – Dec 9	Isaiah 40:1-11	Romans 8:22-25	Psalm 126
Tue – Dec 10	Isaiah 19:18-25	2 Peter 1:2-15	Psalm 126
Wed – Dec 11	Isaiah 35:3-7	Luke 7:18-30	Psalm 126
Thu – Dec 12	Amos 6:1-8	2 Corinthians 8:1-15	Isaiah 12:2-6
Fri – Dec 13	Amos 8:4-12	2 Corinthians 9:1-15	Isaiah 12:2-6
Sat – Dec 14	Amos 9:8-15	Luke 1:57-66	Isaiah 12:2-6

Sun. Dec. 15 — Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Isaiah 12:2-6, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18

Prayer of the Day: *Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*



**Quilters meet
on the first
Wednesday
and Thursday
of the month
from 9a - 12p.**



Daily Bible Readings - December 2024 *(continued)*

Mon – Dec 16	Numbers 16:1-19	Hebrews 13:7-17	Isaiah 11:1-9.
Tue – Dec 17	Numbers 16:20-35	Acts 28:23-31	Isaiah 11:1-9
Wed – Dec 18	Micah 4:8-13	Luke 7:31-35	Isaiah 11:1-9
Thu – Dec 19	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Hebrews 10:10-18	Psalms 80:1-7
Fri – Dec 20	Isaiah 42:10-18	Hebrews 10:32-39	Psalms 80:1-7
Sat – Dec 21	Isaiah 66:7-11	Luke 13:31-35	Psalms 80:1-7

Sun. Dec. 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:46b-55, Ps 80:1-7, Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45

Prayer of the Day: *Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen*

Mon – Dec 23	Micah 4:6-8	2 Peter 1:16-21	Luke 1:46b-55
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Tue. Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve

Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97, Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:8-20

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the rightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen*

Sun. Dec 29 – First Sunday of Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

Prayer of the Day: *Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.*

Mon – Dec 30	2 Chronicles 1:7-13	Mark 13:32-37	Psalms 147:12-20
Tue – Dec 31	1 Kings 3:5-14	John 8:12-19	Psalms 147:12-20



Church Council Minutes

November 21, 2024 - Council Meeting



Members present: Wendy Hanson, Cindy Moore, Carol Klein, Pastor Brenda Greenwald
Absent: Rose Klatt, Gail Schmidt **Devotions:** Carol **Meeting Called to Order:** 6:04p

AGENDA APPROVAL **Motion to Accept:** Cindy **SECOND:** Pr B **CARRIED**

- Additions were: 5) Co-treasurer approval; 6) Parking Lot Paving; 7) 2025 Proposed Budget; 8) 2025 Nominees; and 9) Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

SECRETARY'S REPORT **Motion to Accept:** Pr B **SECOND:** Cindy **CARRIED**

- Minutes were from the September 2024 meeting (Council did not meet in October)

PASTOR'S REPORT: September 19 - November 19, 2024 *Pr. Brenda Greenwald*

CALENDAR ITEMS	<input type="checkbox"/> Funerals	+Barbara Vretenar+ (10/4/24) at Anderson-Diehm + Bethesda
		+Beth Johnson+ (10/12/24) at Mellen Township
		+Gary Klatt, Jr.+ (11/17/24) at Gethsemane
	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	(9/29/24) Joint Potluck: went well
	<input type="checkbox"/> Gatherings	(10/6/24) Blessing of the Animals – poorly attended (3 dogs) Done.
		(10/30/24) Stewards of Children – Rescheduled class well-attended
		12/10/24 Blood Drive at G, Homemakers Christmas Party at St.
		12/15/24 Carols, Cookies, Cocoa + Silent Auction – 1p at Gethsemane
		12/24/24 Christmas Eve Worship: Gethsemane, 4p St. St. 5:30p
		12/29/24 Joint Potluck (Brunch) at St. following worship
	1/26/25 Annual Meet for G at 11:30a-ish	
	2/2/25 Annual Meet for St: JOINT Worship at 9a, Meet at 10a-ish	

MINISTRY MOMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/> Community	(10/16/24) Chili Supper at St. St. Only 60 attended. WHY?
		(10/19/24) Boxcar for Lutheran World Relief: Marinette
		(10/24/24) Dinner That Shall Not Be Named at G.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concerns	(to be shared verbally at meeting)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Custodial Duties	Tony Corey resigned from his custodial duties at G + St. on 10/30/24. Heather Esmahan eagerly took on the duties at both G + St.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Devotions	Annual Hunter Blessing + Synod Blessings
	<input type="checkbox"/> Directories	Memories Studios did photos only . Pr B completed the entire book.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Faith Formation	Shaw Salo (St), Taylor Schultz (St), Malinda Frizzell (G), Sam Frizzell (G)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation	Classes began 10/20/24 at St. Stephen's.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Faith Formation	Classes continue at G, began at St. on 11/10 by Kenzie
<input type="checkbox"/> Fortune Lake \$29K+	Raised at Fall Fest! Incredible!	
<input type="checkbox"/> +Nancy Diehm+	Memorial Announced on All Saints' Day . Family in attendance.	

PASTOR'S REPORT

(continued)

MINISTRY

- NGL Synod** Conference Meetings: (10/10 at Bethel, 10/20 in Porterfield)
12/10 at Gethsemane,
Boundaries Training: (11/7 at Zion)
Will **CONCLUDE** Synod Council term at conclusion of 2024 Assembly.
- Nursing Homes** **Harbors:** Jack Wittgren - 4th Tuesday of each month
Menominee Health: Worship - 4th Tuesday of each month
Roubals: BINGO cancelled due to COVID. Re-opened (10/7)
- Thanksgiving Meals** Anonymous member donated **2, FULL meals** to families in need.
- Visits** Homes: **4** Hospital: **4** Retire. Home: **4** Office: **9**
Phone: **DAILY** Text: **DAILY** Squad Calls: **1**

PARSONAGE ISSUES

- South Door** The southern-most door of the parsonage, just off of the mini-deck, is in **terrible shape** and in need of replacing. Mold, holes, leaks. **ICK!**
- Flies** The fly problem at the parsonage (*and office*) is out of control this time of year. I routinely have to **kill** 40-50 **flies** A DAY in my garage, and an additional 0-15 that sneak in from my sliding glass door on my desk. **EEW!** I'm advocating for some kind of **spray** on 2 sides of the parsonage next year.
- New Trees** Dennis Davis (St.) is ready, willing, and able to provide **trees** for in front of the parsonage. He would transplant **4-6 Cedar Trees** to give me the coverage for the **privacy** I seek. (*He noted that all other trees, like fruit trees or maples, would lose their leaves, and the pine trees lose needles and would kill the ground.*) Upon Council approval, Pr B would then contact **MISSDIG811.org** or call 811 to locate the **safe** places to dig for said trees. **YAY!**

Secretarial Notes: In addition to Pastor Brenda's report (which follows), several items were discussed concerning the parsonage: 1) She noted that the north entrance door, just off the mini-deck is in sad shape and needs replacing - this will be referred to our Property Guys! 2) the Fall fly problem has become a real issue of concern both at the parsonage and in the church offices - this will be addressed next season; and 3) Pastor B would like some trees planted both for privacy and for "curb appeal"! Dennis Davis from SS is willing and able to provide the trees and would transplant them in the front of the parsonage. This will be done at the appropriate time.

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion to accept ALL financial reports was made by Pr B. **SECOND:** Carol **CARRIED**

MINISTRY TEAM LIAISONS

- **Faith Formation:** Pastor B noted that we now have a small, but active Faith Formation (*formerly known as Sunday School, because faith formation happens EVERY day*) at both churches with Steph Klein again doing a lesson for the little ones during the sermon at Gethsemane and Kenzie Bright volunteered to do the same at SS! *Thanks be to God!* Confirmation classes are going well!
- **Fellowship:** Since our last meeting in September, we have hosted a Potluck with SS following our Joint Worship; invited the community in for our Sauerkraut Supper (*Super turnout!!*) and continue with our Sunday Morning Coffee Hours.
- **Living Trust:** A 3rd client has been approved to receive monetary support.
- **Property:** Smoke alarms are being replaced at the parsonage; fluorescent lights at the church have been replaced; flies in the church offices have been a real problem this Fall - thanks to Tom and Andrea for zapping them! It was decided to look into having some spraying done before the next "fly season"! The fire extinguisher in the kitchen has been recharged after being used for an oven fire during a funeral. The screen for the kitchen window needs to be located or a new one purchased. A quote has been received for blacktopping the parking lot (*discussion and action under New Business*).
- **Social Ministry:** Gethsemane covered the Food Pantry for the Saturdays in November and some members also filled in for a couple of Saturdays in October where needed.
- **WELCA:** The ladies prepared and served the food for the Sauerkraut Supper which had tremendous support from our neighbors, friends, and members!! From the proceeds, WELCA was able to give \$500 to each - the Mid-County Rescue Squad, the Hope Memorial, and Mellen Township Fire Dept., and will stock the Food Pantry baking product area up to a total of \$500! The ladies are now planning for the *Carols, Cookies, & Cocoa* event to be held in December along with a Silent Auction. The ladies also prepared and served the funeral supper for +Gary Klatt,+ son of Rose Klatt.
- **Worship/Music:** Since our September meeting ,we have had a joint Worship with SS followed by potluck lunch; we had the blessing of the quilts, backpacks and fabric kits. There was also the Blessing of the Animals (*not well attended this year*). All Saints' Sunday was also observed with a special remembrance of all those family and friends who have passed into life Eternal this past year. Our veterans were also remembered with a special video created by Pastor Brenda, available for viewing on Facebook and YouTube.



Motion to accept Ministry Team updates made by Carol. **SECOND: Cindy CARRIED**

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Brief Overview of Sauerkraut Supper: An **OVERALL SUCCESS!** As for next year's supper - a new source of kraut needs to be found (*in progress!*)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Reminder that it's time to begin preparing **Ministry Team Reports** for the Annual Report! Reports are due to the office by 12/19.
2. **Blood Drive:** Date has been changed to December 10 from 10a - 3p at Gethsemane. Both Sue Skowronski and Sandy Gill will coordinate.
3. **Carols, Cookies, and Cocoa:** December 15 at 1p - WELCA will plan + organize food + auction.
4. **Christmas Decorating:** Scheduled for 12/5 following quilting with potluck lunch afterwards. (*Cindy and Carol okayed that, but will confirm with the others!*)
5. **Co-Treasurer:** Vicky Kline was asked if she would be interested in helping Ruth with the responsibilities of the treasurer and she said "YES"! Thank You, Vicky!
6. **Parking Lot Blacktopping:** A quote was received for the blacktopping of the entire parking lot (2 coats) for approximately \$18,000. After some discussion, it was determined that with the \$10,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund and remaining \$'s from the Maintenance Fund, we would be able to cover the cost of the paving next year!

A **motion** was made by **Carol** to authorize the co-treasurers to create a Special Fund for 2025 Blacktopping project, and to authorize the transfer of the \$'s in the Capital Improvement Fund and the necessary \$'s from the Maintenance Fund into the new fund. **Seconded by Cindy. Carried.**

The project and cost now need to be brought to the congregation at the Annual Meeting for discussion and approval.

7. 2025 Proposed Budget: Ruth had prepared a preliminary budget and Council went through it line by line, tweaking it here and there.

Motion was made by **Pastor B** to eliminate the Youth Group and Youth Leadership School line items, and to transfer the \$100 from Youth Group into Auto Expense. **Seconded by Cindy. Carried.**

8. **Nominees:** Some discussion - not sure which approach works the best when it comes to expressing the need for more volunteers.
9. **Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp (FLLC): Motion** made by **Pastor B** to authorize Treasurers to make an annual payment to FLLC, as per budget. **Seconded by Cindy. Carried.**

NEXT STEPS

- Next Gethsemane Council Meeting: **December 19, 2024 at 6p**
- Devotions: **Pastor Brenda**

Motion to adjourn was made by **Pastor B**. Meeting adjourned at **7:46p**.

Meeting closed with the **Lord's Prayer**.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Klein Secretary



Advent Service Project: ALL of December



Rainbow House Empowerment Beyond Abuse



A little Rainbow House history: In 1978, a group of women concerned with the increase of domestic violence came together and formed a Task Force to pursue the development of a program. The organization operated as an information and referral service for many years prior to acquiring a shelter facility in 1982. Rainbow House provided education and information on stopping the cycle of domestic violence. They've been in their current location, serving survivors since 1984. They established as an independent non-profit in 1993, and continue to serve victims today, through providing prevention, education, and information to communities, families, and schools.

3-Ring Binder: hard-cover
Alarm clocks
Aluminum Foil
Band-Aids
Bathroom Cleanser
Body Wash
Brooms w/ Dust Pans
Can Openers
Cash Donations
Deodorant (men + women)
Diapers: Size 4 + 5
Dish Soap
Fabric Softener
Floor Cleaners
Garbage Bags 13 + 30 Gallon
Garbage Cans
Gift Card: Aldis
Gift Card: Amazon
Gift Card: Fuel
Gift Card: Jacks
Gift Card: Walmart
Hair gel/mousse
Ice Cube Trays
Kitchen Cleaner

Rainbow House serves victims and children of domestic violence in Oconto and Marinette Counties, WI and Menominee County, MI.

All items go **DIRECTLY** to those affected.

AVAILABLE AT:
Amazon
Walmart (look for Rainbow House on Registry)

Kleenex
Laundry Pods
Laundry Soap (S or Med)
Microwave (new)
Mop Buckets
Mops
Pails/Buckets
Paper Towels
Pizza Pans
Plastic Dish Sets (4, new)
Postage Stamps
Printer Paper
Razors (men + women)
Saran Wrap
Shaving cream (men + women)
Shower Curtains + Rings
SOS Pads
Toasters (new)
Toilet Cleanser
Toilet Paper: 1 ply
Vacuum Cleaner (new)
Windex
Ziplock Bags: Freezer, Gallon
Ziplock Bags: Regular, Gallon

Look for ornaments with these items once our Angel Tree is put up on December 5th!

Helping is as easy as 1-2-3

- 1. Take an ornament**
- 2. Purchase the item**
- 3. Bring the item to church and place it under the Angel Tree!**



Northern Great
Lakes Synod
www.nglsynod.org

Monthly Newsletter - 2024

Important Dates and Information inside!

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