

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
79 Brooklyn Street PO Box 606 Portville, NY 14770
(716)-933-6699

e-mail: bethelportville@gmail.com

Websites: (congregation) www.bethelportvilleny.org; (synod) www.upstatenysynod.org;
(ELCA) www.elca.org

Worship Service - Sundays at 9:00am; Sunday School, (Oct. thru May) at 10:15am
God's work. Our hands.

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact the church at: 716-933-6699 or Pastor Derek Cheek at 716-307-7963.

FEBRUARY 2019



In a previous issue of one of the Stewardship pamphlets there was an article that makes a Christian stop and think about how seriously he or she wants to follow the Lord. Take these words from the writer of one section: To give to God should be "from the top" not what may be left over. The writer of the article was not talking just about the stewardship of money, but of one's time, one's talents and one's heart. Remember that old romantic song that included the words, "all of me?" It went like this:

All of me ... Why not take all of me ... Can't you see
... I'm no good without you.

Yes, that was a song for lovers, but don't you think that could apply to one's desire to love the Lord with one's heart, mind, and soul? Now such a dedicated person would be worthy being called a serious Christian.

An old Christian minister tells about a man who was very serious about stewardship. He was probably the wealthiest man in his church. He was also generous in giving his time and talent. One day his pastor decided to ask him why he was such a

good steward. The fellow's answer was memorable. He said, "Well, as you know, the Lord has helped me to be very successful in my business. That is why I can give to the Lord's work somewhat generously." Then with a twinkle in his eyes and a smile on his face he continued: "I figure that if I am not a good steward, the Lord will stick out his foot and trip me." The pastor chuckled as would any Christian hearing the man's words. I close with these words from the 12th chapter and 34th verse of the gospel of St. Luke in which Jesus said: "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help us to take stewardship very seriously until we understand that true joy comes from doing your will. In Jesus' name. **Amen**



The Portville Food Pantry collects these items on an on-going basis: spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, pasta, mac and cheese, pork and beans, canned vegetables, tuna, soup, rice, egg noodles, and canned tomatoes. **Cereal is also needed as well.**



Pray First!

- For all service men and women, and their families, especially *Casey McCarthy, Tyler McCarthy, Kendra Linn, Travis Dorvit and Kyle Lust*. For Christ to be made known in our companion synods – *Zimbabwe and Zambia*, and our partner synod – *Central/Southern Illinois Synod*. For the Franciscan community at *Mt. Irenaeus* and the *Burkhart Retreat Center for Life* – retreats in our local area. For our Bishops, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (ELCA) and John Macholz Upstate New York Synod), Assistants to the Bishop Dave Preisinger, Mary Johnson, and Dean Daniel Rumfelt. For the mission congregations in our synod—*Organic Faith* in Amherst and *Todos los Hijos de Dios* in Amsterdam. For the pastors and congregations in our Southwestern Conference and for our congregation council leaders – President *Bill Graves*, Secretary *Linda Scott*, Treasurer *Doug Ploetz*, Vice President *Ruth Brewer* and members *Caroline Miller, Donald Linn and Jerry Maerten*. For our sister congregation, *Peace Lutheran* and their ministry in Slidell, LA for the ministry of *ELCMA* – Evangelical Lutheran Coalition for Mission in Appalachia. For area ministries: *Genesis House, Portville Community Food Pantry, and Interfaith Caregivers*.

PLEASE SEE BULLETIN BOARD outside the sanctuary for a COMPLETE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Council Member

Assignment

Bill Graves
Ruth Brewer
Linda Scott
Doug Ploetz
Ruth Brewer

Caroline Miller

Jerry Maerten
Don Linn

Committee

Council President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Worship and Music &
Christian Education
Stewardship &
Fellowship
Outreach/Evangelism
Property

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact the church at: 716-933-6699 or Pastor Derek Cheek at 716-307-7963 cell phone or at Immanuel 716-372-0650. When you call the church phone number it will be automatically forwarded to Nannette Giberson's home phone. You will be able to talk directly to her or leave her a message and she will return your call. Thank you.

We NEED people to sign up as worship servants. We are in need of Lectors, Prayer Leaders, Ushers, Communion assistants and Altar Guild. There are sign-up sheets on the table in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up for one or more of these positions as you feel led. Thank you.

Prayer Chain:

If you have need of prayer, we have an e-mail prayer chain. Just call Bev Robinson – phone number 814-225-3341 or e-mail at grandmagee756@gmail.com

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/127210584114232/>.

Fundraiser Funds are divided as follows:

10% Charity of our choice

10% Benevolence

Rest in general fund

Please keep these members in your prayers and send them a card if you are able.

Hilda Prosser

% Cuba Memorial Hospital
Nursing Home – Room 238W
140 West Main Street
Cuba, NY 14727
(585) 968-2000 Ext. 712



Our next monthly breakfast will be on Saturday, March 2nd, 8:00 till 11:00. Please come and join the fellowship and bring your family and friends.



Choir practice is held on Sunday mornings at 7:45am. All are welcome to join.

No audition necessary

New address for Ariel Kile

Ariel Kile
80 Eaton St- South Hall Room 212A
Morrisville, NY 13408

ANNUAL MEETING:

Our annual meeting will be held following our worship service on **February 24th**. Please do your best to attend. Thank you.



Thank you to Bryan Hatch for donating an I-Pad to our church in memory of Mary Hatch. This I-pad is to be used as needed. This is much appreciated.

A Thank you has been received from Veteran's Van for the money we previous donated.

A Thank you has been received from Interfaith Caregivers for our donation of \$515.



In Memory of Bill Anderson

Nancy Renner

February 2019



Worship Assistants

Acolyte*Haedyn Brewer*

Communion Assistants*Linda Scott*

Lectors:

Feb. 3rd*Pen Yunghans*

Feb. 10th*Doug Ploetz*

Feb. 17th*Connie Smith-Matteson*

Feb. 24th*Ruth Brewer*

Prayer Leaders:

Feb 3rd*Nannette Giberson*

Feb 10th*Connie Smith-Matteson*

Feb. 17th*Doug Ploetz*

Feb. 24th*Linda Scott*

Ushers*Bill Graves*

Altar Guild.....*Ruth Brewer*

Bread Bakers*Ron Kile*

Mail Greeter..... *Nannette Giberson*

2—Marilyn (Ploetz) Perkins
—Troy Giberson

3—Annie Blicharz

4--- Pace Scott

5—Robert Baughman

7---Quinn Scott

9—Mitch Smith

12—Robert MacPherson

14—Kay Anderson

19—Irelynn MacPherson

20—Kevin Hepfer

20—Warner Johnson

26—Linda Scott



20—Bill & Karen Snow

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2019

Saturday, Feb 2

8:00am-11:00am - Monthly Breakfast

Sunday, Feb 3

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

7:45am - Choir Practice

9:00am- Worship with Fellowship time following

10:15am- Sunday school

Sunday, Feb 10

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

7:45am - Choir Practice

9:00am - Worship with fellowship time *following.*

10:15am - Sunday school

Sunday, Feb 17

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

7:45am - Choir Practice

9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following

10:15am - Sunday school

Thurs. Feb 21

7:00pm - Church Council

Sunday, Feb 24

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

7:45am - Choir practice

9:00am - Worship with Annual meeting following.

10:15am - Sunday school

The monthly offering for February will be going to the Portville Food Pantry



We are proud to announce that Don Linn's grandson, JJ Williams (son of Sondra and Jerome Williams) has been elected to play Major League Soccer. He was the 18th pick by the Columbus Crew in the first round of the MLS Super Draft on January 1, 2019 in Chicago. The Columbus Crew is based out of Columbus, OH.

JJ as baptized at Bethel Lutheran years ago.

JJ has been playing soccer since he was about 9 years old. He started playing at the YMCA and then played competitive soccer very young and has been dedicated to the sport since then (playing in several state and overseas). He works very hard and has finally achieved one of his life goals! He is ready to "get to work" for Columbus. The season kicks off in Columbus on March 2, 2019.

Go JJ and the Columbus Crew!!

Columbus Crew link to his profile:

<https://www.columbuscrewsc.com/players/jj-williams>

GOAL

Our annual sled riding party was held this year at the home of Linda Scott on January 27th. It was a beautiful day for sled riding and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Even us old folks enjoyed the nice warm garage and of course all the food and goodies. Thanks to Linda for welcoming us into her home this year for this annual party.








12th Annual Fun Fleece Festival

When? 1 PM to 3 PM on
Monday, February 18, 2019

Where? First Presbyterian
Church, Portville



Snacks and beverage provided

What is the purpose?	Who will receive them?
To make as many tied fleece blankets as possible in one night	 <p>The Southern Tier child advocacy center <i>Working Together for our Children</i> Olean, NY</p>

Who can come? Anyone who can cut and/or tie a knot

What will you need to bring? Material for **one** blanket, pair of good shears (or rotary cutter and mat), a willingness to help others ☺

For small child 1.5 yards of 2 different colors of fleece (3 yds.)

For larger child 2 yards of 2 different colors of fleece (4 yds.)

Robbing the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12: 14-21

Every day, you get out of bed, put on clothes, and walk to the kitchen to eat breakfast. You maybe watch the news or check your email, and a few minutes later, you drive to work at 60 miles per hour on a road where other vehicles can pass by within feet. In the first hour or so that you're awake, your body completes thousands of complex tasks that are so routine they go unnoticed. We hardly even think about them.

Our physical frame is a creation of remarkable beauty and intricacy. And while certain parts seem more attractive than others, all are useful. The body's interdependent nature that is, the way the different parts rely on one another to perform properly is an apt metaphor for the Christ-centered church. When believers use their gifts and talents to operate and depend on each other, the whole-body functions properly to the glory of God.

However, many people in church today feel insignificant. Upon seeing the successful work of other, they decide they are not really needed or assume they haven't got the "right" talents to make a worthwhile contribution. Those are lies from the devil. When his misguidance succeeds, which is all too often, one more Christian backs away in hopes that someone else will do the Lord's work.

Hanging back instead of seeking a place to serve is unfair to the congregation, because your unique contribution is integral to the unity of God's church. Your role might not be center stage, but it is vital to Jesus Christ and to His body on earth.

HAPPY VALENTINE DAY

