

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](mailto:bethelportville@gmail.com)

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

Worship Service - Sundays at 8:30am;
Sunday School, (*Oct. thru May*) at 9:30am, zoom class
Confirmation Class at 9:45am
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.

January 2021



And he gave him a tithe of all.

Genesis 14:20

Leonard DeWitt of Ventura, California, recalls that God spoke to him about tithing after he came to faith in Jesus Christ and applied for admission in a Bible college in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Leonard was saving for his tuition and college expenses. One Sunday at church, his pastor spoke about the biblical practice of giving ten percent of one's income to the Lord, the practice of tithing. Leonard decided to do that. The next week, he got his paycheck and paid his room and board and a few other expenses. But when he looked at his checkbook, there wasn't enough left in the account for him to tithe. He was confused and frustrated by this.

He said, "Lord, I'll do better next week." But the next week the same thing happened, and the week after that. He was very frustrated. He told the Lord he wanted to give a tenth of his income, but there was never enough left over. The Holy Spirit seemed to whisper in his heart, "Give the tithe first."

That brought about a panic attack. But Leonard knew God wanted him to trust and to obey Him, and so he started writing a check for his tithe first. Many years have since passed, and Leonard says that from the very first time there has always been enough to take care of his living expenses with some left over.

Give the tithe first.

Give God what's right, not what's left!



Pray First!

- For all service men and women, and their families, especially *Gavyn Neudeck, Hillary Peterson, Casey McCarthy, Tyler McCarthy, Kendra Linn, Travis Dorvit, Kurt Michael Miller 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 Derek Cheek. 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 *Trinette Brewer*, Treasurer *Doug Ploetz*, Vice President *JoAnn Kile*, and members *Skip Giberson, Donald Linn and Ron Kile*. 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, Accounting Beyond Borders*.

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

Council Member

Bill Graves
JoAnn Kile

Trinette Brewer
Doug Ploetz
Skip Giberson

Ron Kile
Don Linn

Committee Assignment

Council President
Vice President,
Worship & Music,
Christian Education
Secretary
Treasurer
Fellowship,
Stewardship
Bldg./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 cell phone. You will be able to talk directly to her or leave her a message and she will return your call. Thank you.

Prayer Chain:

If you have need of prayer, we have an email prayer chain. Just call Nannette at 716-933-8855 or e-mail rangiberson@gmail.com. This is temporary while Bev's computer is down. Bev Robinson – phone number 814-225-3341 or e-mail at grandmagee756@gmail.com



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



The Portville Food Pantry collects these items on an on-going basis: spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, pasta, mac and cheese, pork and beans, canned vegetables and fruit, tuna, soup, rice, egg noodles, cereals and canned tomatoes.

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



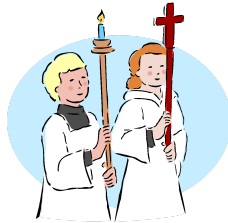
Deadline for the February newsletter is January 17th.

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.

January 2021

Worship Assistants, Birthdays, and Anniversaries



Worship Assistants



No acolyte this month

Communion Assistant:

Linda Scott

Lectors:

January 3rdMyra Sprout
January 10thRuth Brewer
January 17thConnie Matteson
January 24thJo Kile
January 31stRuth Brewer

Prayer Leader:

January 3rdLinda Scott
January 10thRuth Brewer
January 17th Linda Scott
January 24thMyra Sprout
January 31stConnie Matteson

Usher:

Mail Greeter:Nannette Giberson

Bread Baker:.....Ron Kile

Altar Guild:.....Ruth Brewer

4---J.J. Williams Jr.
4---Robert Wolsky
4---Scott Wolsky
6---Katie Bush
9---Melissa Fahnestock
11---David Robinson
16---Jena Linn
17---Rae Fitzsimmons
19---Richard Chapman Jr.
19---Jeff Scott
24---Janet Vanderworker
27---Alec Smith
28---April Giberson
30---Chris Miller



*Happy
Anniversary*

8---Ron & Trinette Brewer

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - January 2021

- Sunday, January 3 ***EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD***
8:30am - Worship
No Sunday School or Confirmation Class
- Sunday, January 10 ***BAPTISM OF OUR LORD***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:00am Sunday School Zoom Class
9:45am - 10:45am Confirmation Class
- Sunday, January 17 ***SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:00am Sunday School Zoom Class
9:45am - 10:45am Confirmation Class
- Thursday, January 21 Council meeting at 7pm
- Sunday, January 24 ***THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:00am Sunday School Zoom Class
9:45am - 10:45am Confirmation Class
- Sunday, January 31 ***FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:00am Sunday School Zoom Class
9:45am - 10:45am Confirmation Class

Vicar Gerry Zimmerman wants all to know that he can get communion to those of you that would like to have it, just let him or Nannette know.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!



Zoom **Sunday School** class will be held **Sunday mornings from 9:30am – 10:00am.**

Confirmation class will be held **Sunday mornings from 9:45am – 10:45am**, also on Zoom. **Jo Kile and Ruth Brewer** are the confirmation class teachers.

Bethel now has Zoom services! Nannette has set up Zoom meetings for Bethel's Sunday services. She is also sending out Zoom info for Shepard of the Valley's service. Thank you Nannette!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88305027386?pwd=L0pxbU9UK1lxcmlNEWdVpBbXFiVjBVUT09>

You need the meeting number and the passcode.

Bethel Zoom Service: 8am Sundays. The **meeting ID: 883 0502 7386** and **passcode: H9i7j9** are the same each time.

Shepherd Zoom Service: 10:30am Sundays. Shepherd of the Valley's meeting ID and passcode change weekly.

The **annual meeting** will be held following worship service on **February 21st**.

January 31st will be the **deadline for all of the yearly financial reports as well as committee reports** for 2020.



Trinette sent this link out to help us stay in **prayer during this pandemic.**

<https://www.elca.org/Faith/DailyBible>

Trinette also sent this if you are interested in staying up with your **tithing - Online Giving for Bethel:** <https://bethelportvillenycreechms.com/give/online>

You can also **give through texting.** The number is 716-477-3131. The first time it takes you to the giving page and then after that you text "give \$50".

Thank you to Greg and Denise Scott and family for the donation of the webcam given in memory of Beatrice Husband, Linda Giberson and Ted Scott. It was dedicated on December 6th.



Thank You Notes Received



Please accept our warmest thanks
for your

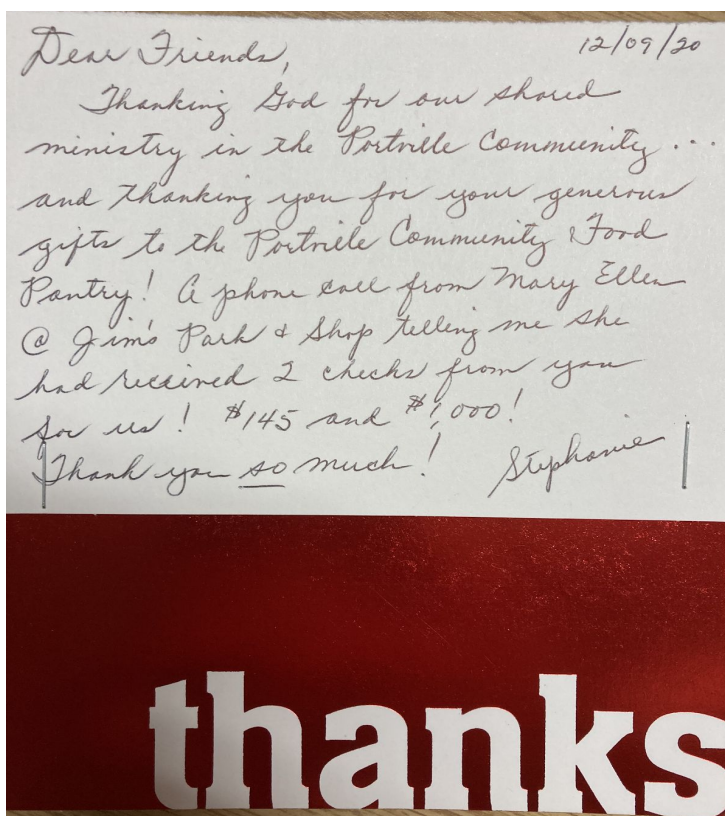
generous contribution of \$386.00.

Your gift will help us to
continue our mission in providing
service to those in need.

Sincerely,

Megan Taylor

Executive Director



Trinette Brewer and Ruby Costanza made thirteen blankets from leftover material and donated them to the Southern Tier Child's Advocacy Center.



Thank You

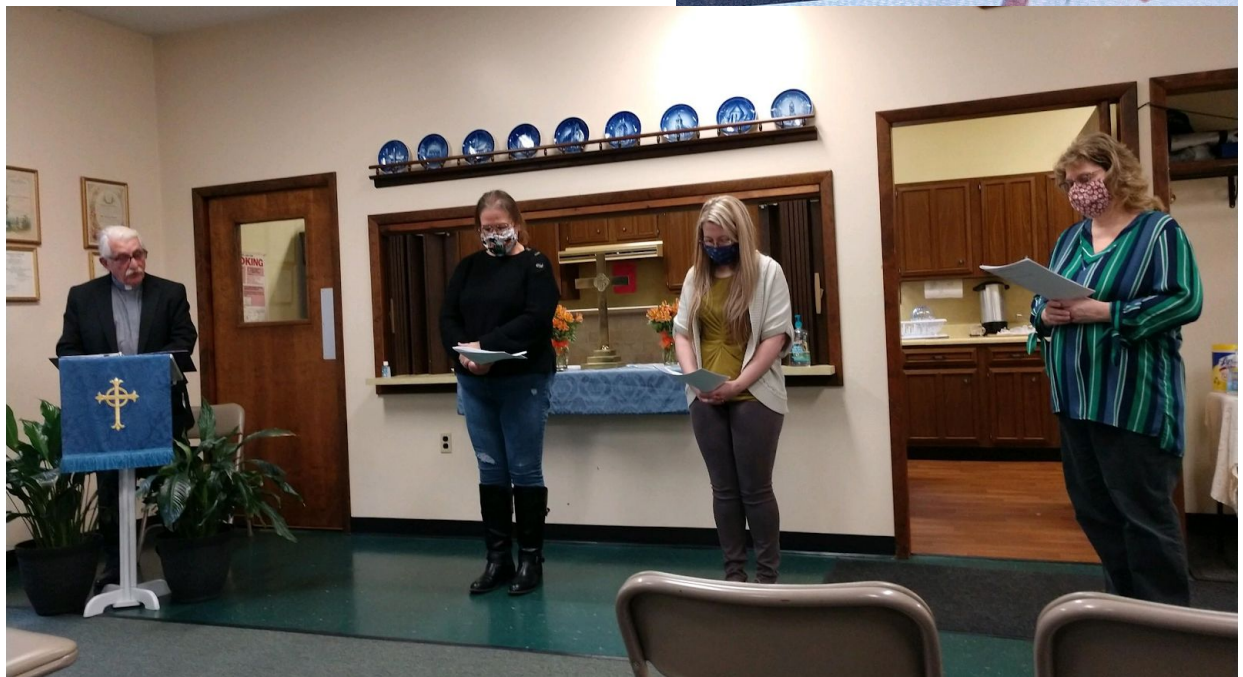


for your Kindness

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

On December 6th we had the installation of teachers. Jo Kile and Ruth Brewer are teaching Confirmation class. Jo Kile and Nannette Giberson are teaching First Communion class. Courtney Sprout and Nannette Giberson are teaching Sunday School.

Ruth Brewer on Zoom. Vicar Gerry Zimmerman with Jo Kile, Courtney Sprout and Nannette Giberson



FACES THAT SAY "THANK YOU!" - BASKETS, CHICKENS, AND MORE...

Dec. 15, 2020 by Impacto

December 2020 will be very different from years before and most likely, years after. Even though this Holiday Season will be different, one thing remains, our reason for celebrating. Jesus. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

So, we encourage you to look to Him during this season. To lean on Him. May He be the focus of your celebration and joy.



- With your help we were able to give Christmas Baskets that were the biggest we've ever given, plus a chicken, which we've never done before! The families were surprised, especially by their chicken, and they were so grateful! Though we didn't get to spend as much time with them it was nice to greet them and wish them a Merry Christmas!
- God has been opening doors as we prepare to start two new Happy Tummies in 2021.
- We praise God for allowing us to help the community of Chuimuc, Coban after hurricane Eta hit.
- To God be the glory as we have already started setting up the internet in some of the most remote churches so they may join the Bible Institute as full-time students!



"See, a virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they will name him Immanuel," which means, "God with us."

Matthew 1:23



- Please join us in prayer as we prepare to continue construction in Xejuyu. God has provided more than we ever imagined possible during a pandemic. Pray that He will continue to provide and that He will give us wisdom as we continue with such an immense project.
- Pray, that we will meet our needed financial goal to start two new Happy Tummies in 2021. So many families will benefit, many will be fed, many will hear the Gospel, and many will be disciplined through this ministry. We are in need of 80 new sponsors and are asking that you prayerfully consider financially partnering with Impacto with \$35 monthly as we minister through these two new Happy Tummies.
- We continue to pray for the situation that is COVID-19. We pray for all who have been affected, for all who have lost loved ones and for those who are far from family and friends.



When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36

Impacto Ministry Inc. 9690 Shepherds Creek Place, La Plata,
MD 20646

[visit our website](#)

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.



Thank you, God, for your many
blessings over the last year.

New Year

BLESSINGS TO YOU AND YOURS

You crown the year with Your goodness...

PSALM 65:11