

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 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.

JANUARY 2018



There is a quote by an unknown author which is worth our remembering: "You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving." One might say that our gifts to God and others are concrete evidence of our love for them.

The Bible does not teach us regarding how much we should give to humans, but it is fairly clear about giving to God. The prophet Malachi told the Jews to bring the "full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts," as they came to worship God. (Malachi 3:10) He was talking about a tithe of their crops or animals or monetary possessions. The rule of thumb of giving, according to the Bible, is one tenth of a person's gains.

Tithing is a wonderful practice throughout a person's life. It is so because it means that we are serious in showing our appreciation to God, who has enabled us to have all of the blessings we enjoy daily. It is an indication that we love God and want to show it by what we give.

What every tither seems to learn is that tithing is not a hardship, but a genuine joy. Try it and see.



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.

ATTENTION

January 28th will be the deadline for all of the yearly financial reports as well as committee reports for 2017. Please do your best to meet this deadline as the information is needed in preparation for the Annual Congregational meeting which will be held in February. 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 grandmagee7@verizon.net.

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:

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



Choir practice is held Sunday mornings at 7:45am. All are welcome to join. **Sopranos' are needed.**

No audition necessary

Fundraiser Funds are divided as follows:

10% Charity of our choice

10% Benevolence

Rest in general fund



Our next church breakfasts will be on **Saturday February 3rd**. Breakfast will be held from 8:00am until 11:00am. We need volunteers to help cook and serve. Please help if you are able as this is a great fundraiser and a wonderful time of fellowship. Thanks.

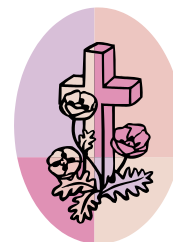
Please keep these members in your prayers and send them a card if you are able.

Skip Robinson

1262 Indian Creek Road
Eldred, PA 16731
(814) 225-3341

Hilda Prosser

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



**In memory of
Ryan Aderman**

By

Ron and Nancy Wilcox
Bill and Judy Graves
Skip and Bev Robinson
Janet Lyons

Jeanne Fredrickson Clark

Lynn and Lisa Allen
Mary Kay Danielson
Cliff and Marge Nix

Ruth Brewer

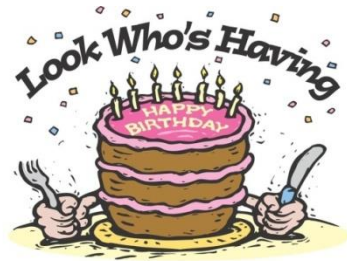
Jean Morgan and Nedean Knowlton
Kurt and Caroline Miller

**In memory of
Bob Brewer**

By

Bryan Hatch

January 2018



a Birthday!

Happy Birthday to:

- 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
- 20—Matthew Cole
- 24—Janet Vanderworker
- 27—Alec Smith
- 28 – April Giberson & Gertrude Yohe
- 30 – Chris Miller

Celebrating an Anniversary



Happy Anniversary to:

- 8—Ron & Trinette Brewer



Worship Assistants

Lectors

- Jan 7th *Pen Yunghans*
- Jan 14th *Haedyn Brewer*
- Jan 21^s..... *Doug Ploetz*
- Jan 28th *June Murray*

Prayer Leaders

- Jan 7th *Ruth Brewer*
- Jan 14th *Trinette Brewer*
- Jan 21st *Connie Smith Matteson*
- Jan 28th *Doug Ploetz*

Assistants for January

- Acolyte.....*Haedyn Brewer*
- Communion Assistants..... *Ruth Brewer and Dakota Brewer*
- Usher/s.....*Don Linn*
- Altar Guild.....*Ruth Brewer*
- Mail Greeter*Caroline Miller*
- Bread Bakers*Ron Kile*

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - JANUARY 2018

- Sat, Jan 6th Monthly breakfast from 8:00am - 11:00am
- Sunday, Jan 7th **BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**
7:45am - Choir Rehearsal
9:00am- Worship with fellowship following
10:15am - Sunday school
- Sunday, Jan 14th **FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**
7:45 - Choir Rehearsal
9:00 - Worship with fellowship following
10:15 am - Sunday school
- Thursday, Jan 18th 7:00pm - Council Meeting
- Sunday, Jan 21st **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**
7:45am - Choir rehearsal
9:00am - Worship with Fellowship following
10:15am - Sunday school
- Sunday, Jan 28th **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**
7:45am - Choir Rehearsal
9:00am - Worship with Fellowship following
10:15am - Sunday school

The charity for the month of January is the Portville Food Pantry

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On Dec 10th we went Christmas caroling in our community. We had 15 people ranging from 9 months old to much older than that. We traveled to Aspen tower, Aspen manor, a group home in Olean, Portville manor, Portville square and to Bev and Skip Robinson's. We went back to Bethel for hot cocoa and sugar cookies afterwards. We had good weather and a great time. We were warmly greeted by everyone and many joined us in singing! We even had one request to sing the Christmas song by Alvin and the chipmunks. We are all starting to practice that for next year!!!!







SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM – DECEMBER 17TH.

The Sunday school kids put on a Christmas program for us and they did an awesome job. They played songs using the bells and afterward sang several other Christmas songs for us. What a wonderful blessing it was. Thanks to Nannette, April and Courtney for all their hard work in putting this together and thanks to all the parents who bring their children to Sunday school each Sunday.







HAPPY NEW YEAR

