

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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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.

JANUARY 2019



At worship services we hear about being good stewards. We are reminded that everything we have ultimately came because of God. God created us; body, mind, and spirit. Our talents, creativity and achievements are all God-given. We have possessions because God has given us the ability to obtain them. Not to be overlooked is the time God gives us to live on earth, which is a theme in this month's Stewardship. The article makes the point that our time is a sacred trust from God as long as we live. St. Paul makes that point in his letter to the Ephesians: "Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people, but as wise, making the most of the time..." (Ephesians 5:15-16). Christian stewards are those who make the most of the time that they have. In short, we are called to spend our time responsibly, using our talents to serve the Lord in whatever way we can.

Some years ago a brilliant Englishman named Malcolm Muggeridge, who for years used his mental and spiritual powers wastefully, wrote a book called *Chronicles of a Wasted Life*, in which he told of his foolish living. A wasted life! How sad.

Fortunately, in his later years he became a dedicated Christian and went to India where he detailed the wonderful service of Mother Teresa in a book called *Something Beautiful for God*. That, of course, was Mother Teresa's goal: to be something beautiful for God.

What if we were such steadfast servants of God that we used our time profitably in service to God whatever our occupation happened to be?

Imagine what a world that would be!

Prayer: Lord, give us the courage to make our lives beautiful for you. 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 Rumpfelt. 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

Committee

Assignment

Bill Graves
Ruth Brewer
Linda Scott
Doug Ploetz
Ruth Brewer

Caroline Miller

Jerry Maerten
Don Linn

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.

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:

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

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

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, January 5th, 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.

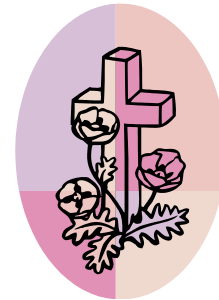
No audition necessary

New address for Ariel Kile

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

STROEHMANN'S DONATION PROJECT

Alice Frost and Mark Frost sent a great big thank you for helping them with the donation of books to help needy families have a better Christmas! Thank you!



In Memory of Barbara Erickson

Emry and Amy (Erickson) Sisson

ATTENTION

January 20th will be the deadline for all of the yearly financial reports as well as committee reports for 2018. 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.

ANNUAL MEETING:

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



Snow fun day at the home of June Murray is being scheduled for Sunday, January 27th. This is all contingent on the weather of course. Please plan to come and join the fun. IT IS NOT MANDATORY THAT YOU GO SLEDDING. Just come and enjoy the fellowship with one another. Chili and hot dogs will be served. Hope you can make it.

Below is an article on Don Linn's grandson JJ Williams. We have been following JJ during the soccer season. Congratulations!

LEXINGTON, KY. – Kentucky soccer junior forward [JJ Williams](#) was named one of 15 semifinalists for the [MAC Hermann Trophy](#), based on voting by NCAA Division I soccer coaches, the United Soccer Coaches announced on Tuesday.

The [MAC Hermann Trophy](#), presented by World Wide Technology, is the top individual award in NCAA [Division I](#) soccer and has been awarded annually since 1967.

Williams is in the midst of a prolific season as the Wildcats' co-captain has led the line throughout UK's 19-1-1 season to date with an Elite Eight match coming up on Friday.

He ranks third national in total goals (18), second in game-winning goals (9), third in total [points](#) (44) and 28th in total assists (8).

He was also named C-USA Player of the Year and Offensive MVP in 2018.

Williams has scored huge goals on the biggest stages this season, scoring twice in 3-0 regular-season wins against NCAA Tournament No. 4-seed Louisville, No. 2 Indiana – a game in which he assisted the third goal. He also scored a brilliant 1-0 game winner in the C-USA Tournament final against USC No. 14 Charlotte just after halftime to go along with an NCAA Tournament second-round brace against USC No. 21 Portland.

Three men's finalists and three women's finalists will be named on Dec. 7 in conjunction with the Men's College Cup semifinals in Santa Barbara, California. The [winners](#) will be announced at the Hermann Trophy banquet at the historic Missouri Athletic Club in St. Louis on Jan. 4, 2019.

Many thanks to all of the people who make our worship time special. It takes many not only behind the scenes but also those who are always so willing to sign up to serve as our worship assistants. Below are two very nice pictures. One showing Rick Giberson and Corben ringing the bell prior to the start of our service and the other is of the Sunday school girls lighting the advent candle. Thanks to all of you for your service to Bethel.



Rick and Corben ringing the bell.



Lighting the advent candle– Sunday school girls.

January 2019



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
- 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 6th *Doug Ploetz*
- Jan 13th *Myra Sprout*
- Jan 20th *June Murray*
- Jan 27th *Don Linn*

Prayer Leaders

- Jan 6th *June Murray*
- Jan 13th *Doug Ploetz*
- Jan 20st *Linda Scott*
- Jan 27th *Don Linn*

Assistants for January

- Acolyte *Dakota Brewer*
- Communion Assistants..... *Ruth Brewer*
- Usher/s..... *Don Linn*
- Altar Guild..... *Marge Nix*
- Mail Greeter *Nannette Giberson*
- Bread Bakers *Ron Kile*

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - JANUARY 2019

Saturday, Jan 5

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

Sunday, Jan 6

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

7:45am - Choir Practice

9:00am- Worship with Fellowship time following

10:15am- Sunday school

Sunday, Jan 13

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

7:45am - Choir Practice

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

10:15am - Sunday school

Thurs. Jan 17

7:00pm - Church Council

Sunday, Jan 20

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

7:45am - Choir Practice

9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following

10:15am - Sunday school

Sunday, Jan 27

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

7:45am - Choir practice

9:00am - Worship with Fellowship time following

10:15am - Sunday school

The monthly offering for January will be going to the Veterans Van

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM – DECEMBER 16TH

On Sunday December 16th we were blessed to have our Sunday school kids put on their annual Christmas program. As always they did a super job. We are so fortunate to have so many children in our Sunday school and to have people such as Nannette and Rick Giberson, Skip and April Giberson and Courtney Sprout who are willing to take the time to teach and work with them. Thanks to all the kids for a great job and many thanks to Nannette and all of her helpers for the wonderful job they do to make this program possible. May God bless you all.





CHRISTMAS CAROLING

We went Christmas caroling, Sunday December 16th. Myra, June, Jo, Ariel, Nedeane, and Nannette went to Aspen Tower, Aspen Manor, Home on Prospect, Portville Manor and Portville Square. The weather was great and we had a good time singing to all. I believe the listeners enjoyed joining in with us!!! Thank you Gang!!!





