

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, (*Sept. 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.

July 2020



Have you ever been in a quandary about how much to give to your church? Of course you have. Each of us has had to struggle with how much we will or can give to our church.

Ted Knutson was a farmer dealing with just this problem. He and his wife gave their time and talent to God, but while considering giving resources to his church he was perplexed by the issues of a typical farmer ... income comes at once after the harvest, but the church has monthly needs. Sometimes it is a struggle to come up with a plan we can live with.

Ted wondered what he could do about it personally. He and his wife took the situation to the Lord. As the two prayed and thought about it, they came to the conclusion that just as they paid regularly for the necessities of life: food, clothing, gasoline, and utilities, they too could give weekly to the church. They also concluded that if they had a bountiful harvest and their income

swelled, they would be able to give a full tithe or more.

The full story is in this month's issue of ***Stewardship***, but with that plan, they were able to find inner peace regarding their stewardship. The trouble was that when only small amounts were given weekly to the church, the church sometimes had to borrow from the bank to meet current expenses. As others learned of the Knutson's new approach to financial giving, perhaps they would follow suit.

What does the Knutson story say to us? Surely it says that every Christian family must work out their own stewardship plan. And it says that praying seriously about it will enable each family to find guidance as to what they should do about their own stewardship.

Prayer: Almighty God, you open your hands and all of our needs are met. Guide us in the use of all your gifts to us that we may please you completely in our stewardship.
Amen.



Pray First!

- For all service men and women, and their families, especially *Hillary Peterson, 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 *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.

<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Committee Assignment</u>
Bill Graves	Council President
JoAnn Kile	Vice President
Trinette Brewer	Secretary
Doug Ploetz	Treasurer
Skip Giberson	
Ron Kile	
Don Linn	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

On July 26th Hilda will be 97 years old. Please shower her with cards for her birthday and bless her day!!!!

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:

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



All are welcome to join the choir.
No audition necessary.
Choir will resume in the fall.

Deadline for the August newsletter is July 23rd.



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.

Fundraiser Funds are divided as follows:

10% Charity of our choice

10% Benevolence

Rest in general fund



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.

July 2020

Worship Assistants, Birthdays, and Anniversaries



Worship Assistants

No acolyte this month

Communion Assistants:

Caroline Miller

Lectors:

July 5th*Jo Kile*
 July 12th*Ruth Brewer*
 July 19th*Myra Sprout*
 July 26th*Ruth Brewer*

Prayer Leader:

July 5th*Linda Scott*
 July 12th*Caroline Miller*
 July 19th*Linda Scott*
 July 26th*Caroline Miller*

Usher/s:*Donald Linn*

Mail Greeter:*Caroline Miller*

Bread Baker:*Ron Kile*

Altar Guild:*Trinette Brewer*

3—Doug Ploetz
 5—Mark Welles
 11—Cliff Nix
 22—Mike Brewer
 24—Cheryl Welles
 Abbagayle Wolsky
 26—Joelle Brewer
 Hilda Prosser
 Pen Yunghans
 Yanna Mott
 28—Ron Kile
 Chelsea Shelander
 29—Billy Snow



12—Chris & Molly Scott
 16—Rick & Delores Chapman,
 22—Kyle & Kristen Keenan
 25—Chris & Joy Linn
 26—Kurt & Carol Miller

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - JULY 2020

Sunday, July 5

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
8:30am - Worship

Sunday, July 12

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
8:30am - Worship

Thursday, July 16

Council meeting at 7pm

Sunday, July 19

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
8:30am - Worship

Sunday, July 26

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
8:30am - Worship

WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!



Our **monthly breakfasts** will resume in October.

No Sunday School until fall.



July 25th - Chicken BBQ, Carol Miller chairperson. Carol sent this info:

We will have carryout only! Meal will be 1/2 chicken, salt potatoes, baked beans, roll and a brownie. We will be asking people to bake and individually wrap brownies. **NO BAKE SALE NO BASKET RAFFLE.** BBQ time will be 12:00 to 3:00. Ideas, thoughts, anything please let me know. We don't have much time, so we need to get on this as soon as possible! Hope to hear from you!

October 6th - Community Night at Bethel, An evening of fun with games and a chance to get to know your neighbors! Linda Scott chairperson.

October 10th - World Food Rally Day, JoAnn Kile chairperson.

October 15th, 4-7pm - Pulled Pork Dinner, Ruth Brewer chairperson.



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 can be done at this link:

<https://bethelportvilleny.breezechms.com/give/online>

Link for the weekly message from Pastor Cheek (with a message from the Bishop).

<https://www.screencast.com/t/wH4qm13EEA>

Nannette has been letting us know when Gerry Zimmerman is scheduling a Zoom church service and sending the bulletin. THANK YOU!!


Link to join Zoom Meeting. (You need the meeting number and the password):

<https://zoom.us/j/93191647520?pwd=bmRRRFdZTE5OdmsrTjFRMExpT2dTUT09>

Website to listen to Immanuel's Sunday Service. Each week the service will be posted on their church website. Usually it will be available beginning Saturday evening. Previous Sunday services are also available.

<http://www.lutheranolean.org/>



The logo for St. Pauly Textile, Inc. consists of two curved lines forming a partial circle, with the company name centered between them.

St. Pauly Textile, Inc.

Bethel Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

Thank you for continuing to partner with us on the clothing drop-off shed program! In 2019 roughly 4,011 garments of clothing were donated to your shed. This was enough to clothe an estimated 486 people all over the world.

Based on this volume of clothing, your organization received \$1,168 in 2019.

Thank you for continuing to spread the word about the clothing shed to other community members. We truly appreciate all the support you've given this program!

Sincerely,

The Team at St. Pauly Textile, Inc.

Bethel Lutheran Church, 79 Brooklyn Street, P.O. Box 606, Portville, NY 14770

June 12, 2020

Dear parishioners:

We have been notified that Phase 2 for the Covid re-opening has been approved and we are pleased to announce that we will be once again **starting service at Bethel on Sunday, June 28, 2020.**

We will be led by Gerry Zimmerman, Vicar for Shepherd of the Valley in Wellsville. He has been accepted/hired at Bethel for leading our worship for the next three years. He will continue to lead Shepard as well.

Because of this, **our worship time will now be 8:30 AM** to allow Gerry time to get to Shepard.

Unfortunately, we have many state mandates that must be adhered to during these reopening phases. Attached you will find a list of Bethel's policies that we have detailed adhering to them. These policies will be posted at church, but we wanted to give you a copy to review. Please keep in mind that these policies will change as we enter phase 3 and 4.

If you have any further questions, please contact Bill Graves at 814-225-4263 or 814-558-4043. If unable to reach Bill, please reach out to any council member.

We look forward to seeing everyone on June 28th.

God's peace -

Your council members - Bill, Don, Ron, Jo, Trinetta and Skip

Bethel Lutheran Church
Service and Church Attendance Policies during Covid 19 (Phase 2):

1. If you do not feel well, please stay at home.
2. If you are not attending worship and would like communion, please let a council member know and we will arrange for it to be delivered to you.
3. Church doors will be open and remain open during the service to avoid any need to touch the handle.
4. **ALL in attendance must wear a mask.** Please bring your own and take it home with you. Some masks will be available at the church if you forget yours.
5. Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the church.
6. Sunday School will be paused for the time being. As a result, downstairs of the fellowship hall will be closed for use.
7. Seating for worship will adhere to social distancing guidelines.
8. Bulletins will be available in print and electronically. Bulletins will be set on the seats at worship or passed out to you from the usher. Bulletins will continue to be emailed to parishioners. Please feel free to print it off at home - if you do, please be sure to take it home with you or place it in the provided receptacle when leaving the service.
9. Communion will be administered touchless. *We* will be using disposable cups that will be pre-filled and wafers will be dropped into your hands. No common cup for now. *More* instructions will be given during the worship service.
10. There will be no singing or choir at this time.
11. To share God's peace, please give the peace sign, bow or place your hand over your heart.
12. An offering plate will be available as you enter the church for tithes and offerings.
13. Dismissal will be by row (pew) in an orderly fashion directed by the user. All will be encouraged to not congregate in the building or on the ramp.
14. For the time being, areas not used for worship will be closed for use.
15. Coat racks and library resources cannot be used at this time, so please keep all personal belongings with you.
16. Lectors and Prayer Leaders will read from their seats.
17. Service at Shepherd of the Valley will be available online as an option. If you are interested, please let a council member know.

GOD BLESS

AMERICA

LAND THAT I

LOVE

STAND BESIDE

HER,

AND GUIDE

HER,

THRU THE NIGHT

WITH A LIGHT

FROM ABOVE

