

# 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](http://www.bethelportvilleny.org); (synod) [www.upstatenysynod.org](http://www.upstatenysynod.org);  
(ELCA) [www.elca.org](http://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.*

## MARCH 2018



### Reap Bountifully

In the March issue *Stewardship* there is a story about a couple who decided to clear out the clutter from a bedroom closet. Naturally, they found a lot of things they no longer needed; everything from clothes, comforters, kitchen equipment, lamps, and so forth. You can identify with their experience, can't you?

The question, of course, when we decide to clean out a closet or garage or whatever, is what shall we do with the things we do not need? Well, the couple in the story decided simply to give these things away to those people in need, or to organizations which serve the poor or afflicted.

That was a smart move. Their action of giving away their unneeded goods became the source of blessings for them. They found the great joy which comes from giving. You don't need to wait until you clean out your attic! They discovered the great truth that in giving, we receive. St. Paul's words to the Corinthians became very meaningful to them. Paul wrote: "The one who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." (II Corinthians 9:6) They decided to sow bountifully by giving things away.

Jesus said: "Give and it will be given to you." (Luke 6:38) I remind you that if Jesus said it, you can believe it. You can count on it.

**Let Us Pray:** Lord, keep reminding us that it is in giving that we receive the greatest joys you have for us. **In Christ's name, Amen**



**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.**

**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](mailto:grandmagee756@gmail.com)

**Fundraiser Funds are divided as follows:**

**10% Charity of our choice**

**10% Benevolence**

**Rest in general fund**



Our last church breakfast of the season will be on **Saturday April 7th** . Breakfast will be held from 8:00am until 11:00am. We need volunteers to help cook and serve. We will start our breakfasts up again in the fall. Thank you all for your support of this fundraiser.

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



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

**No audition necessary**



We continue to do well with our clothing drop off box. Thanks to all of you who are helping us make this project a success.

# March 2018



## Worship Assistants

to:

- 3—Crystal Benson
- 5—Kristen Keenan
- 6—Ruth Brewer
- 11—Corben Giberson
- 14—Amy Giberson
- 17---Keith Fahnestock, Dorothy Lewis
- 18—Marge Nix
- 22—Kyle Dunn
- 22—Alyssa Shelander
- 25—Chris Scott
- 26—Jennifer Baughman
- 27—Jen Talmadge

### Lectors

- Mar 4<sup>th</sup> .....*Pen Yunghans*
- Mar 11<sup>th</sup> .....*Haedyn Brewer*
- Mar 18<sup>th</sup> .....*Connie Smith-Matteson*
- Mar 25<sup>th</sup> .....*Doug Ploetz*

### Prayer Leaders

- Mar 4<sup>th</sup> .....*Judy Graves*
- Mar 11<sup>th</sup> .....*Connie Smith-Matteson*
- Mar 18<sup>th</sup> .....*Doug Ploetz*
- Mar 25<sup>th</sup> .....*Ruth Brewer*



to:

- 20—Ron & Jo Kile

## Assistants for March

- Acolyte.....*Haedyn Brewer*
- Communion Assistants .....*Bill and*  
.....*Judy Graves*
- Usher/s .....*Rick Giberson*
- Altar Guild.....*Ruth Brewer and Nedeane*  
.....*Knowlton*
- Bread Bakers.....*Ron Kile*
- Mail Greeter.....*Nannette Giberson*



**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR MARCH 2018**

Sat, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Monthly breakfast from 8:00am - 11:00am

Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> **THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
7:45am - Choir Rehearsal  
9:00am- Worship with fellowship following  
10:15am - Sunday school

Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> **THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
7:45 - Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 - Worship with fellowship following  
**No Sunday school today**

**AVAILABLE SERVICES THROUGH LENT**

***Bethany Lutheran Church***

Wednesdays 12:10pm - Soup and service with communion

***First Presbyterian Church***

Monday, March. 5<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm - Soup and Study

Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm - Soup and Study

Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm - Soup and Study

Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm - Council Meeting

Sunday, March. 18<sup>th</sup> **FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
7:45am - Choir rehearsal  
9:00am - Worship with Fellowship following  
10:15am - Sunday school

Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

**PASSION/PALM SUNDAY**

7:45am - Choir Rehearsal

9:00am - Worship with Fellowship following.

10:15am - Sunday school

Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

7:00pm -Joint service at St. Johns in Allegany with Bethany, Bethel,  
Immanuel St. Johns and St. Stephens

**First Presbyterian Church of Portville**

5:30pm - Meal and Communion

Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

**GOOD FRIDAY**

7:00pm - Joint services at Immanuel Lutheran in Olean for -  
Bethel, Bethany, Immanuel, St. Johns and St. Stephens

**First Presbyterian Church of Portville**

Noon - 3:00pm - Church will be open for prayer

Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**HOLY SATURDY (EASTER VIGIL)**

7:00pm -Joint services at St. Stephens (Across from Lincoln Park)  
for St. Stephens, Bethel, Bethany, Immanuel and St. Johns.

The charity for the month of March is Accounting Beyond Borders

Dear Friends, 01/30/18  
I am always surprised when I get a call from Mary Ellen at the Front Street Service Store telling me she has money for the Portville Community Food Pantry. And I was certainly surprised to hear it was a gift of \$1,000! But I am never surprised that it came from your congregation. Thank you for your generosity and continued support. Stephanie

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.**



We have been blessed once again with another baptism. Marcus Wilson was baptized on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Marcus is the son of Cliff Wilson and Tamera Linn and the grandson of Don Linn. We had so many kids in attendance again that Pastor Lee held another children's service. What a wonderful blessing.







I want to thank everyone who came to my house on Sunday, Feb. 11th to the sled riding party. We had a good turnout with various ages present. The snow was pretty wet and heavy but the sleds worked well and everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks again for making this such a success.  
June





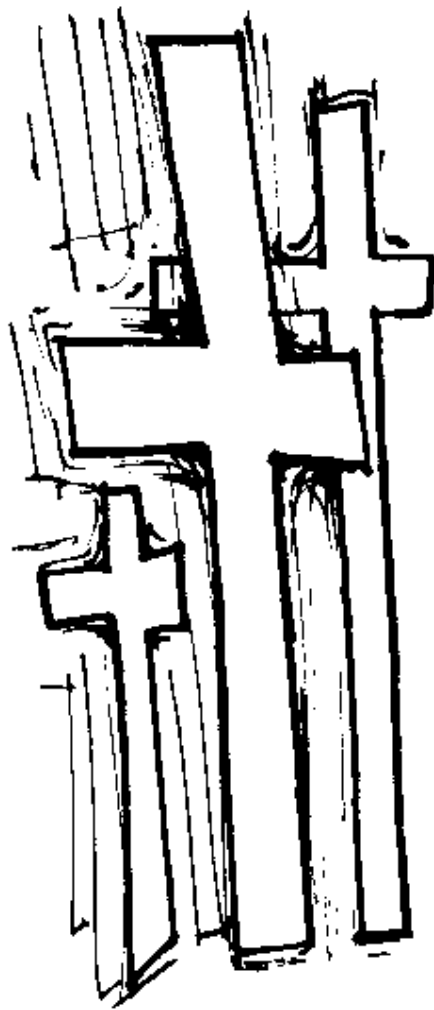




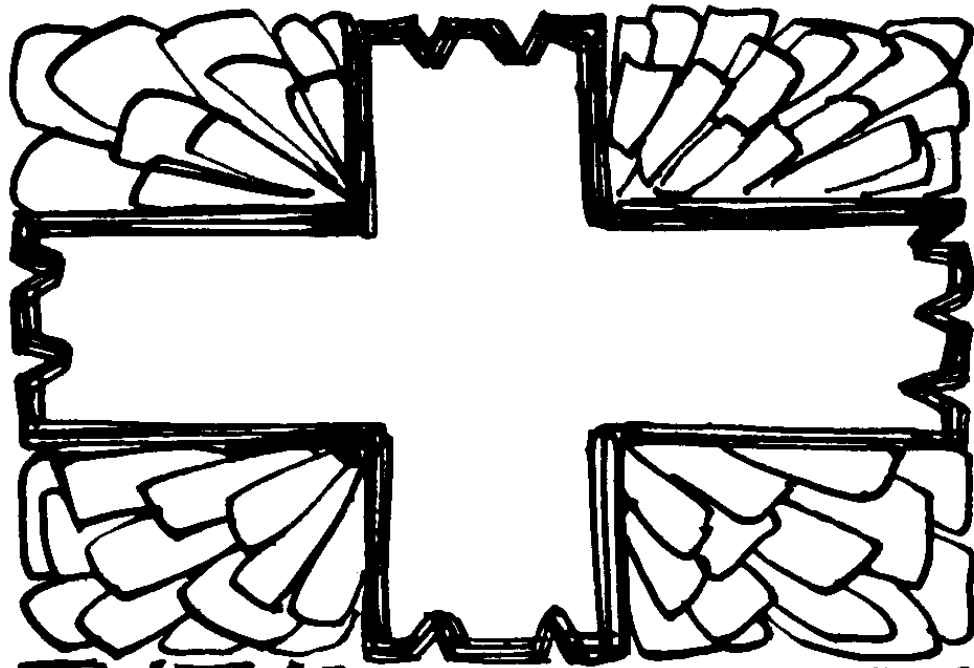








He humbled  
himself  
and became  
obedient  
unto  
death



THEY MOCKED HIM  
SAYING, HAIL, KING

