

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, (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.

MARCH 2019



In a former issue of *Stewardship* there was a brief article by Mother Teresa. It brings to mind how troublesome holy people can often be to those of us who fall short of holiness. Consider this prayer Mother Teresa offered to God:

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves. Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of the things we possess, we have lost our thirst for the water of life.

After her prayer she addressed her listeners with the following words: "Open your hearts to the love God instills in them. What God gives you is not to be kept under lock and key but to be shared. Let us ask God ...to help us to be generous." Isn't that the basic meaning of stewardship? Isn't it to be generous ... not simply with money, but generous also with our talents, our strength, our mental ability and our time? Stewardship is considering our many blessings from God and using them for the glory of God and the welfare of mankind.

In every congregation on earth there are some dear souls who set an example for those who hide their light under a bushel. These are they who

volunteer their heart, hands and resources to glorify and serve God and God's church. Should not each of us consider making the effort to bring light to the dark places of the world?

Jesus said: "You are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

Prayer: Serving you, dear Lord, is an honor and a privilege. Grant us the strength and guidance to serve you well. In Christ's name. **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.**

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:

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



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 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

Assignment

Bill Graves
Ruth Brewer
Linda Scott
Doug Ploetz
Ruth Brewer

Caroline Miller

Ron Kile
Don Linn

Committee

Council President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Worship and Music &
Christian Education
Stewardship &
Fellowship

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.

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.

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, April 6th, 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



Memorials:

In Memory of Thelma “Peg” Welty

By Beverly Robinson

Rick & Nannette Giberson & family

*St John's Allegany will host regular
Lenten services thru Lent at 7pm on
Wednesday nights.
A Soup supper will be at 6pm.*

*Bethany will host a mid-day Lenten
service on Wednesdays with
communion at noon led by Deacon
Gerry Zimmerman*

Maundy Thursday hosted by Bethany

Good Friday hosted by Immanuel

*Portville Presbyterian Church services
Ash Wednesday service at 7pm
Sunday March 17th, 24th 31st and April 7th
following service 11am soup & study
Maundy Thursday meal at 5:30pm with
communion
Good Friday 12pm – 3pm Church open for
prayer and meditation
Easter –sunrise service at Chestnut Cemetery*

March 2019



Worship Assistants

Lectors

- Mar 3rd*Pen Yunghans*
- Mar 10th*Doug Ploetz*
- Mar 17th*Connie Smith-Matteson*
- Mar 24th*Don Linn*
- Mar 31st*Don Linn*

Prayer Leaders

- Mar 3rd*Don Linn*
- Mar 10th*Trinette Brewer*
- Mar 17th*Doug Ploetz*
- Mar 24th*Connie Smith-Matteson*
- Mar 31st*Nannette Giberson*

Assistants for March

- Acolyte.....*Haedyn Brewer*
- Communion Assistants ...*Trinette Brewer*
.....*Nedean Knowlton*
March 3rd.....*Jo Kile/Nedean Knowlton*
- Usher/s.....*Don Linn*
- Altar Guild.....*Trinette Brewer*
March 3rd*Nedean Knowlton*
- Bread Bakers.....*Ron Kile*
- Mail Greeter.....*Nannette Giberson*



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



to:

- 20—Ron & Jo Kile

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - MARCH 2019

- Saturday, Mar 2 8:00am-11:00am - Monthly Breakfast
- Sunday, Mar 3 **TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**
7:45am - Choir Practice
9:00am- Worship with Fellowship time following
10:15am- Sunday school
- Wednesday, Mar 6 **ASH WEDNESDAY** -combined service (Bethel, Bethany, Immanuel and St. John's) at St. John's Allegany at 7pm. Service will include Communion and the option for imposition of ashes.
- Sunday, Mar 10 **FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**
7:45am - Choir Practice
9:00am - Worship with fellowship time *following*.
10:15am - Sunday school
- Sunday, Mar 17 **SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**
7:45am - Choir Practice
9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following
10:15am - Sunday school
- Thurs. Mar 21 7:00pm - Church Council
- Sunday, Mar 24 **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
7:45am - Choir practice
9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following
10:15am - Sunday school
- Sunday, Mar 31 **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
7:45am - Choir practice
9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following
10:15am - Sunday school

The monthly offering for March will be going to the Portville Food Pantry



Ruth Brewer is selling these ornaments for a fundraiser for the mission trip to Guatemala. They are \$24 each. Ruth will bring them to church to display and sell.



Bethel Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

We are focusing this year on diverting more clothing items and textiles away from landfills and sending them to people who can use them around the US and World!

If possible, we ask that you read the following note to your congregation on our behalf.

—
Thank you for continuing to collaborate with us on the St. Pauly Textile clothing drop off shed project! In 2018 roughly 15,757 garments of clothing were donated to your shed. This was enough to clothe an estimated 1910 people. This clothing is being used right now by people in one or more of 44 different countries (including the US) to which our clothing is likely to have been distributed this past year.

Your organization raised \$ 939.15 in 2018 through hosting this shed.

We ask that you continue to spread the word about the clothing shed to other community members. Thank you for all your support, and please feel free to reach out to us at any time!

Sincerely,

The Team at St. Pauly Textile, Inc.

Portville Community Food Pantry
19 North Main Street * P. O. Box 765
Portville NY 14770
(716) 933-6426

January 19, 2019

Bethel Lutheran Church
PO Box 606
Portville NY 14770

Dear Friends,

It has happened again! Mary Ellen Fox at the Front Street Service Store called to tell me Bethel Lutheran had given her a check for \$1,000 for the Portville Community Food Pantry! She makes it so easy for us to purchase what we need when it is on sale, going above and beyond to call me to alert me to upcoming sales. It is a perfect arrangement for us!

Your gifts have also made it possible to purchase eggs each month and provide a protein for our food pantry families.

You are an amazing group of people! I have witnessed the joy you have that comes through your generous hearts. As always, I am grateful for our shared ministry in the Portville Community Food Pantry.

Sincerely,



Stephanie W. Hill
Program Coordinator



Happy St Patrick's Day!