

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 9:00am;
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.

May 2020



In the early days of our country, grist mills ground grain for various foods. Many mills were powered by water wheels until gasoline engines replaced them. The water-powered mill could not work during the dry season when the flowing water was not powerful enough to turn the wheel. The gasoline-powered mill, however, worked steadily, supplying ground grain consistently.

As followers of Christ, we can only fulfill the mission of the church if we are consistent and faithful in doing the work of the Lord. The work of the Lord is dependent upon us being reliable in the use of our talents, time, energy, and financial resources. The church can only be as fruitful as we Christians enable it to be, therefore our dependability is as important as it is with the grist mill.

An article in the May issue *Stewardship* describes these two grist mills. The author makes the point that the mill powered by gasoline was more dependable than the one which relied on water-power because of the varying levels of the water in the river; therefore, the gasoline-powered mill consistently met its goals!

St. Paul wrote the following words to the Christians at Corinth: “Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” (I Corinthians 15:58) “Excelling in the work of the Lord” should be our goal and mission!

Prayer: Lord of all, make us restless until we are steadfast in serving you rightly. In Christ’s name. **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

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/127210584114232/>.



Choir practice is held on Sunday mornings at 7:45am. All are welcome to join. **No audition necessary**

The special offering for May will be as follows:

***1st Sunday Confirmation,
Rest of the month will be Ruth Brewer's
Guatemala Trip in August.***

Donations can be monetary or jars of peanut butter. Also, she is collecting sewing thread, sewing needles, pins, scissors, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and smaller size toys to use as prizes for the kids (like McDonald toys).



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.

May 2020

Worship Assistants, Birthdays and Anniversaries



Worship Assistants:

Acolyte*Haedyn Brewer*

Communion Assistants:

.....*?and ?*

Lectors:

May 16th.....?

May 23rd.....?

May 30th.....?

Prayer Leader:

May 16th.....?

May 23rd.....?

May 30th.....?

Usher/s.....?

Altar Guild.....?

Mail Greeter.....*Nannette Giberson*

Bread Baker*Ron Kile*

Happy Birthday to:

2---Tristen Lewis

3---Bill Graves

5---Jessianne (*Doty*) Hosmer

10---Abigail Benson

12---Nathan Gabler

15---Mariah Shepard

16---Casey Baughman

17---Sarah Linn, Rick Chapman

18---Don Linn

19---Erin Ploetz Hall

23---Tom Ploetz

24---Dakota Brewer & Jerry Maerten

25---Kellie Swanson Krzos

27---Parker Keenan

30---Jon Giberson



Happy Anniversary to:

5---Robert & Barbara MacPherson

13---Marc & Marilyn (Ploetz) Perkins

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - May 2020

Sunday, May 3

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

No Service

No Sunday School

Sunday, May 10

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

No Service

No Sunday School

Sunday, May 17

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

* 7:45am - Choir practice

* 9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following

No Sunday School

Sunday, May 24

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

* 7:45am - Choir practice

* 9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following

No Sunday School

Sunday, May 31

PENTECOST

*7:45am - Choir practice

*9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following

No Sunday School

*Bethel is closed until further notice. This is a tentative schedule.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!



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



No Sunday School until fall.

July 11th - Pie Sale at Portville Heritage Days to benefit the Portville Food Pantry. Ruth Brewer chairperson.

August 1st - Chicken BBQ, Carol Miller chairperson.

Aug 4th - Community Night at Bethel, 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://bethelportvillenya.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>



Submitted by Ruth:

Prayer For a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
Let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

(Author unknown)

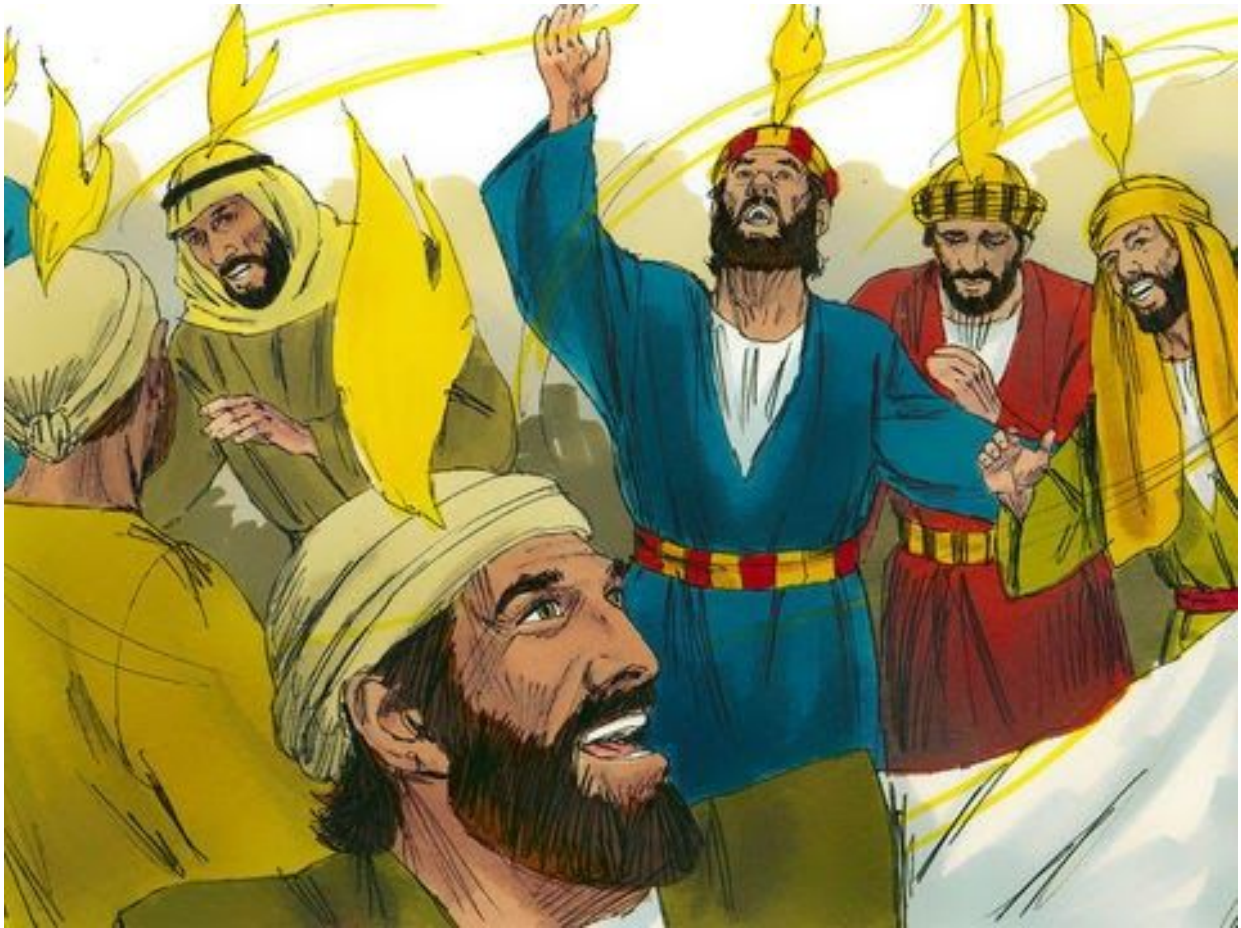
Submitted by Nannette:

“Though a righteous man falls...he rises again.” Pr 24:16 NIV

WAYS TO DEVELOP RESILIENCE

Like any skill, mental, emotional, and spiritual resilience can be learned. Here's how:
(1) Redefine setbacks as the gateway to something greater. (2) Remember successful people don't just face adversity, they embrace it. (3) Tune out the critics and focus on doing your best. (4) Wake up every day remembering that prayer and gratitude create a fertile environment for faith. (5) Increase your faith-talk when you're afraid. (6) Learn from failure, and remember the many times you've succeeded. (7) Visualize victory before going into battle. (8) Refuse to dwell on the past or worry about the future; today is where you have the most influence. (9) Identify a solution instead of complaining. (10) Replace self-doubt with faith-talk. (11) When things look hopeless, remember "with God all things are possible" (Mk 10:27). (12) When you feel alone, think of all those who have helped you and who love and support you. (13) Pray for guidance when you're in over your head (See Jas 1:5). (14) Rest when you're tired, but don't give up. Finish strong in everything you do. (15) Remember you "can do all things through Christ" when you think you can't (Php 4:13). (16) Recognize what you can't control, focus on what you can, and surrender the rest to God. (17) Exercise physically to give yourself a sense of control and fight depression. (18) Laugh to reduce stress, strengthen your immune system, and improve arterial blood flow. (19) Be grateful. Research shows that people who sent a letter or email of thanks to somebody who helped them, stayed in a better mood for up to a month.





Pentecost Sunday