

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.

MAY 2019



An article in a previous issue of *Stewardship* pamphlet focuses on the importance of faith and the wonderful results we discover when we take faith seriously. The author confesses that for some years faith was not always a serious matter for her. But the time came when faith became her top priority and life took on a whole new perspective. Instead of worrying and finding daily life a burden, the writer discovered that living by faith brought meaning and joy; that to have a partnership with God throughout life brought guidance, hope and strength to handle the many decisions, worries, and woes which came her way.

Think about the following: However intelligent we are, we need the wisdom and guidance of God in our lives. To live life solely on our own, going our own way, doing as we please without the guidance of

God available to us surely would not be wise, would it? Especially, when one considers the indescribable intelligence and wisdom of our Creator, which is available for us when we humbly ask and faithfully follow it.

And what should be our response to the amazing grace and goodness of God? It is to be a responsible steward of all that our loving God has given and will give to us throughout life. That means to offer our all to be used by God; our hearts, minds, bodies

and souls ... our resources of whatever sort. For what do we have that God has not given to us to use as God's stewards and the fulfillment of our lives?

Prayer: Dear God, you but open your loving hands toward us and shower us with all that we truly need in life. We humbly thank you. In the name of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. **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 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



See you in October for our monthly breakfasts!!!



Choir practice is held on Sunday mornings at 7:45am. All are welcome to join.

No audition necessary



Saturday, May 4th Women of the Church
Banquet at 5pm.
Ron Kile will be our chef and served by the men of our church.
Special music by Janet Nolan.



What's happening in Sunday School you ask?
May 12th during worship Sunday School will perform. This will be the last Sunday of Sunday School till September. Special coffee hour for Sunday School!!!!



WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!

August 3rd – Chicken BBQ

Aug 6th – Community Night at Bethel

October 17th - Pulled Pork Dinner

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:

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

May 2019



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
- 27—Parker Keenan
- 30—Jon Giberson

Acolyte.....*Dakota & Haedyn Brewer*

Communion

Assistants:.....*Linda Scott & Don Linn*

Lectors:

- (5th)*Judy Graves*
- (12th)..... *Connie Matteson*
- (19th)*Pen Yunghans*
- (26th)..... *Don Linn*

Prayer Leaders:

- (5th)*Linda Scott*
- (12th)*Nannette Giberson*
- (19th)..... *Connie Matteson*
- (26th)..... *Linda Scott*

Ushers*Bill Graves*

Altar Guild.....*Marge Nix*

Mail Greeter.....*Caroline Miller*

Bread Bakers*Ron Kile*



Happy Anniversary to:

- 5—Robert & Barbara MacPherson
- 13 --- Marc & Marilyn (Ploetz) Perkins

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - MAY 2019

Sunday, May 5

The Third Sunday of Easter

7:45am - Choir Practice
9:00am- Worship with Fellowship time following
10:15am- Sunday school

Sunday, May 12

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:45am - Choir Practice
9:00am - Worship with Sunday school program
with fellowship time *following*.
Last day of Sunday School

Thursday, May 16

Council meeting at 7pm

Sunday, May 19

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:45am - Choir Practice
9:00am - Worship

Sunday, May 26

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

7:45am - Choir practice
9:00am - Worship with fellowship time following

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



One ornament

Front of second ornament

Back of second ornament

Ruth Brewer is selling these 2 ornaments for a fundraiser for the mission trip to Guatemala. They are \$24 each. Ruth will bring them to church to display and sell.

Please visit us at the Mountain in 2019!

We welcome everyone to make a visit to the Mountain in the upcoming year. Whether it is to take a hike, sit by the pond, share a meal, relax on the porch or spend a few days with us ... please know you are always welcome to join us for some time on the Mountain ... this is home for everyone!

Summer 2019 - Evenings of Re-Creation

Celebrating the Mountain's responding to the call of Jesus to "Go into all the world and proclaim the Good News to the whole of creation." (Mark 16:15)

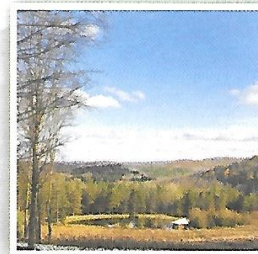
Wednesday Evenings - June 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24

- 5:15 pm Evening Prayer followed by quiet time on the land
- 6:30 pm Dish to pass supper
- 7:30 pm Eucharist with discussion of theme

Feel free to come to all or part of any evening and to come early to spend time on the land.

For any questions about the evenings, call the friars at 585-973-2470.

"Climb the Mountain!"



Portville Food Pantry update

Food is collected from area churches, Portville Free Library and Dollar General

Bread is donated by Stroehmanns

Last quarter 2,000 meals were given.

Gift certificates are purchased from Park n Shop Service Store and Aldi Foods. These are distributed in November and December as follows:

1 person \$15, 2 people \$20, 3 people \$30, 4 people \$35 to the Service Store

5plus people \$50 to Aldi's

Produce vouchers for Faulkner Farms from June to September

The food pantry will also contact Canticle Farms for produce vouchers

Next meeting will be in October

SAYING FAREWELL:

Pastor Clara Wilder from Rivers Edge UMC is leaving and taking on a full time pastor position in June at Trichurch in Brockton NY. Trichurch is formed with 1 Lutheran church – 2 Methodist churches. They recently had a fire and had to rebuild.

Submitted by Ruth Brewer

X 400 Religion

* The other day I visited a local Christian bookstore and saw a "Honk if you love Jesus" bumper sticker. Having just come from a powerful prayer meeting, I felt particularly spiritual that day, so I bought the sticker and put it on my bumper.

On my way home, while waiting at a red light at a busy intersection, I became lost in thought about the Lord and how good He is, and I didn't notice that the light had changed. It is a good thing someone else loves Jesus, because if he hadn't honked, I'd never have noticed. In fact, at that moment I discovered that lots of people love Jesus. While I was sitting there, the nice man behind started honking like crazy, and he leaned out of his window and screamed: "For the love of God, go!" What an exuberant cheerleader he was for the Lord.

Everyone started honking! I just leaned out of my window, waving and smiling at all these loving people. I even honked my own horn a few times to share in the love. There must have been a man from Florida back there, because I heard him yelling something about a sunnier beach.

I saw another man waving in a funny way with only his middle finger stuck up in the air. When I asked my teenage grandson in the back seat what that meant, he said it was a Hawaiian good luck sign or something. Touched by this act of kindness from a complete stranger, I leaned out the window and gave him the good luck sign back. My grandson burst out laughing; even he was enjoying this religious experience.

A couple of the drivers were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started walking towards me. I bet they wanted to ask what church I attended, but that was when I noticed the light had changed. So I waved to all my sisters and brothers, smiled at them all, and drove on through the intersection. I realized I was the only car that had got through the intersection before the light changed again, and I felt kind of sad that I had to leave them after all the love we had shared, so I slowed the car down, leaned out of the window, and gave them all the Hawaiian good luck sign one last time as I drove away.

Submitted by Ruth Brewer



WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE LUTHERAN AIRLINES IS NOW OPERATING IN MINNYSOTA!
ALSO SERVING VISCONSIN, NORDERN MITCHIGEN, NORT & SOUT DAKOTA

If you are travelin soon, consider Lutran Air, the no-frills airline. You're all in da same boat on Lutran Air, here flyin is a upliftin experience:

- Dair is no first class on any Lutran Air flight.
- Meals are potluck. Rows 1 tru 6, bring rolls; 7 tru 15, bring a salad; 16 tru 21, a hot dish, and 22-30, a dessert.
- Basses and tenors please sit in da rear of da aircraft.
- Everyone is responsible for his or her own baggage.
- All fares are by free will offering, and da plane will not land til da budget is met.
- Pay attention to your flight attendant, who vill acquaint you wit da safety system aboard dis Lutran Air.

Okay den, listen up; I'm only gonna say dis vonce: In da event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, I am frankly gonna be real surprised and so vill Captain Olson, because ve fly right around two tousand feet, so loss of cabin pressure would probably mean da Second Coming or someting of dat nature, and I wouldn't bodder with doze liddle masks on da rubber tu bes--you're gonna have bigger tings to worry about den dat. Just stuff doze back up in dair liddle holes.

Probably da masks fell out because of turbulence which, to be honest wit you, we're gonna have quite a bit of at two tousand feet, sorta like driving across a plowed field, but after a while you get used to it. In da event of a water landing, I'd say forget it.

Start saying da Lord's Prayer and just hope you get to da part about forgive us our sins as we forgive dose who sin against us, which some people say 'trespass against us,' which isn't right, but what can you do?

Da use of cell phones on da plane is strictly forbidden, not because day may confuse da plane's navigation system, which is by da pants all da way. No, it's because cell phones are a pain in da wazoo, and if God had meant you to use a cell phone, He wudda put your mout on da side of your head.

We start lunch right about noon and it's buffet style wit da coffeepot up front. Den we'll have da hymn sing; hymnals are in da seat pockets in front of you. Don't take yours wit you when you go or I am gonna be real upset and I am NOT kiddin!

Right now I'll say Grace: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let deze gifts to us be blessed. Fader, Son, and Holy Ghost, May we land in Dulut or pretty close.

Submitted by Pen Yunghans

Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Stewardship!!!



Hey you two this Easter egg hunt is for under 14!





Jo are you going to give me those eggs?





We have a group of very serious egg finders!!!!

