

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.bethelportvillenyny.org;
(synod) www.upstatenysynod.org; (ELCA) www.elca.org

Worship Service - Sundays at 8:30am;
Sunday School, (Oct. thru May) at 9:30am, zoom class
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.

October 2020



One day, a wise old grandfather clock, feeling weary, began to consider just how many times it was ticking annually. It figured it ticked two times a second, 120 times a minute, 7200 times an hour, 172,800 times a day, 63,072,000 times a year. Imagine that ... over 63 million ticks a year! Exasperated at how hard the clock had to work, it wanted to quit ticking: "I'll sit down and quit. That's too much ticking for me."

Sometimes life feels that way for many of us. If we over-think the time and energy we spend on every little thing ... it can be overwhelming. We need to learn to expend our efforts wisely, taking one step at a time. Moving forward with steady determination, we can accomplish a great amount.

In our service to and worship of God we must steadfastly continue, or else Christianity would wither away. An article in one of the *Stewardship* issues suggests that we exercise our stewardship steadily ... a bit at a time ... week by week, year by year. Faithfully and steadily.

Jesus talked about a woman taking a bit of yeast then mixing it in flour. It took a while, but in time the risen dough was ready to bake. A little expanded into a lot. (Luke 13-20-21) Just so, our daily stewardship in time builds a refuge for orphan children, aid for a missionary in Africa or Asia, medical help for those dying of malaria or Aids, or a wonderful church, such as we have ourselves. Bit by bit, our stewardship, with God's help, will always work miracles.

Prayer: Do not, O Lord, allow us to grow weary in well-doing. Stir us up to exercise our total stewardship, that our efforts may always please you. **Amen**



Pray First!

- For all service men and women, and their families, especially *Hillary Peterson, Casey McCarthy, Tyler McCarthy, Kendra Linn, Travis Dorvit, Kurt Michail Miller 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 Rumpfelt. 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.

Council Member

Bill Graves
JoAnn Kile

Trinette Brewer
Doug Ploetz
Skip Giberson

Ron Kile
Don Linn

Committee Assignment

Council President
Vice President,
Worship & Music,
Christian Education
Secretary
Treasurer
Fellowship,
Stewardship
Bldg./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

Bryan Hatch's email address:
bryanhatch68@gmail.com

**Have you checked out Bethel's
Facebook Group?**

The url is:
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/
127210584114232/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/127210584114232/).



**Deadline for the November newsletter
is October 16th.**



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

The October, November and December issue of *Christ in our Home* is available to pick up at church.



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.

October 2020

Worship Assistants, Birthdays, and Anniversaries



Worship Assistants

No acolyte this month

Communion Assistants:

Jo Kile

Lectors:

October 4th*Myra Sprout*
October 11th*Ruth Brewer*
October 18th*Jo Kile*
October 25th*Ruth Brewer*

Prayer Leader:

October 4th*Carol Miller*
October 11th*Myra Sprout*
October 18th ..*Nannette Giberson*
October 25th*Linda Scott*

Usher/s:*Don Linn*

Mail Greeter:*Nannette Giberson*

Bread Baker:.....*Ron Kile*

Altar Guild:.....*Trinette Brewer*

2nd ----Ron Brewer
6th ----Jake Parr
8th ----Jianna Nix
9th ----Rain Fahnestock
15th ---Jean Benson
17th ----Joy Linn
23rd ----Kyle Keenan
24th ---Delores Chapman,
Tamera Linn
31st ----Kerrie Parr



Happy Anniversary

4th ----Robert & Kathy Baughman
21st ---Chris and Molly Scott

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - October 2020

- Sunday, October 4 ***The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:30am Sunday School Zoom Class
- Sunday, October 11 ***The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:30am Sunday School Zoom Class
- Sunday, October 18 ***The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:30am Sunday School Zoom Class
- Thursday, October 22 Council meeting at 7pm
- Sunday, October 25 ***Reformation Sunday***
8:30am - Worship
9:30am - 10:30am Sunday School Zoom Class

Reformation Sunday will be held at Bethel this year. It won't be a joint service.

Vicar Gerry Zimmerman wants all to know that he can get communion to those of you that would like to have it, just let him know or drop a note to Nannette.

At our recent council meeting – we discussed a couple trees that are causing concern on the church property. With the recent storms that went through – a tree in the back of the church just so happened to fall towards the neighbors and not on us. If it would have fallen towards the church, it would have smashed our fellowship hall where we currently are having our church services. We feel that some action needs to be taken for a couple of the trees on the property. We wanted everyone to know about these things and were hoping that you could help us decide on Tree #2 or give any suggestions you may have.

Tree #1 is the one that is between where you pull in and out of church. This tree is falling apart and large limbs come off it regularly with the smallest wind storm. It is also leaning over the church roof and we feel it needs to be taken down before it falls on the church. We have a quote to remove this tree for \$1,200. A motion was passed to take this tree down as soon as possible.

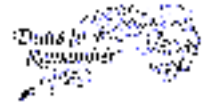
Tree #2 is the one to the left of the pavilion (if you are looking at it from the front). This tree is very large and is growing over the neighbors fence and small building and if it ever fell, could cause damage to their property or worse (hurt someone in the yard). We have a quote for this tree for \$4,000 (that is because of the way the tree has grown and it has to be taken down in small segments so as to not hurt any property, etc) We have not made any decisions about this tree yet other than to let the congregation know and then we will discuss this at a later council meeting. We have had a donation of \$1,000 towards this cost. If you have any recommendations, suggestions, etc, please get in touch with a council member by Oct 22nd (our next meeting).

Secondly – we are going to be having a “Fall Cleanup Day” on Sunday, October 18th after church

We would like to do some clean up including cleaning out the gutters, winterizing the pavilion (since there is now water in there), installing a new window in the office (the one in there currently is broken), fixing the ramp entrance to church (to make it a smoother transition from the parking lot) and general outside cleanup of the church property. As they say.....many hands make light work. We hope to see everyone there!

Trinette Brewer
Council Secretary

WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!



Cancelled: Community Night at Bethel



World Food Day Rally Sat, Oct. 10, 2020

Bethel Lutheran Church
79 Brooklyn St.
Portville, NY 14770

9:00am - 9:45am - sign in
10:00am-12:45pm - Rally/Scavenger Hunt
1:00pm-2:00pm - lunch

Registration Deadline: Oct 7, 2020

Register by calling: 716-933-6699
Entry fee: minimum 7 non-portable food items
per person; mask for inside use only

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

16 October
WORLD FOOD DAY

[Acts 20:35](#)

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than receive".

October 13th - Pastor Appreciation Day

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

This dinner is to raise funds for Ruth Brewer and her mission work in Guatemala. The menu is as follows: Pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, applesauce, coleslaw, and dessert. Price: \$10.00. **TAKE OUT ONLY.**



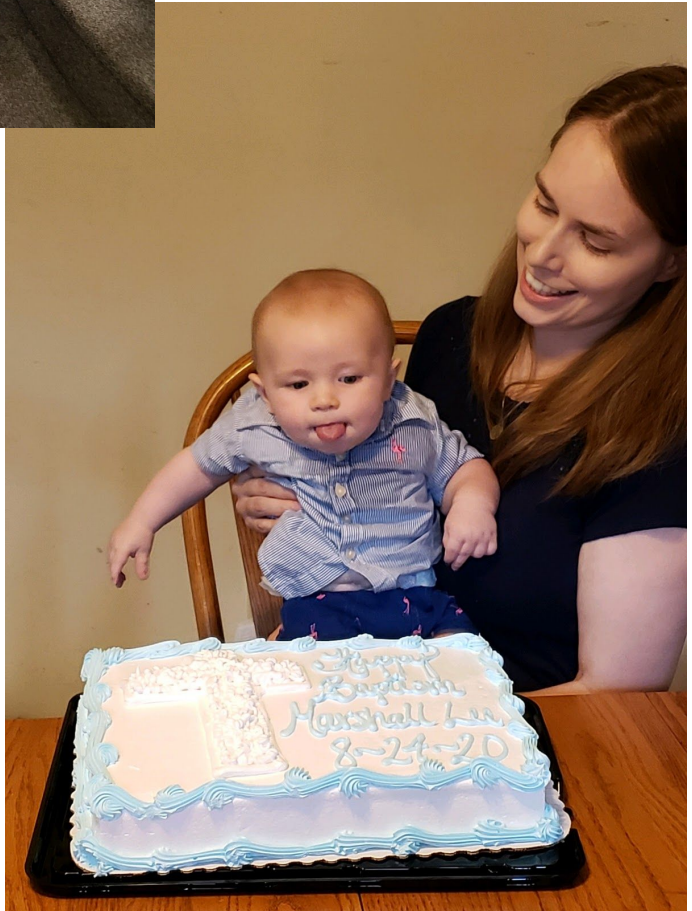
Zoom **Sunday School** class will be held **Sunday mornings from 9:30am – 10:30am**. Materials will be provided to you before class each week. Courtney Sprout and Nannette Giberson are the teachers.

November 8th - annual budget meeting after worship.

Welcome to the family Marshall Lee Perkins.

Marshall was baptized at Bethel on Monday, August 24th, by Deacon Terri Ploetz. Son of Marc and Marilyn Ploetz Perkins and sponsored by Erin Ploetz Hall.





Thank
You

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.

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/>

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

Hinsdale Legion chicken barbecue



Joe Kelly/Olean Times Herald

Putting together barbecue chicken dinners for the Hinsdale American Legion on Saturday are (from left) Jerry Martin, Connie McCoy, Kathy Ursoy and Dennis Redding. The Legion reported selling a total of 225 dinners on the day.

Our hearts have been heavy lately. We are seeing so much unrest all over the world. There seem to be so many different causes going viral these days and so many campaigns persuading so many. So here is our challenge for you as these times continue: Share the Gospel for one day. That's it! Don't share opinions, don't talk facts, just share Biblical truth in love and kindness. Share with words and actions because the world needs Jesus more than ever. So let's all share about Jesus and the salvation He offers, remembering that He already paid the price.



- We praise God for your life. Those who pray for Impacto, send us uplifting messages, and have donated during such hard times all have a special place in our hearts. You are such an important part of Impacto's ministry and we are forever grateful for your life.

- We praise God for allowing us to use this time to plan. We are planning and putting many things into action. Some you might not see right away as a lot are behind the scenes. Yet, we know God is doing big things.
- We are grateful for Guatemala. On September 15 we celebrate our 199th year of independence! We praise God for the privilege He has given us to serve the people here and to share the Good News in this country.



“Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.”

Psalm 32:1-2



- As you know the Coronavirus situation is not over. In many of the areas where Impacto has the privilege to serve people are being affected in many different ways. We are seeing the more rural areas outside Guatemala City taking a bigger hit the last couple of weeks. They are on their way to reaching their highest peak,

but we are hoping to see the numbers go back down in the weeks to come.

- Impacto feels strongly about continuing with relief efforts and we have many plans for the weeks and months to come. We especially want to do something great for Christmas and you'll hear more about this soon! However, as of now we hope to re-open Happy Tummies To Go in the next few weeks while taking more drastic measures to keep every single person involved healthy and virus free.
- We're also working on purchasing COVID-19 care kits. These are kits that will allow people, who don't need to be at the hospital, have, what we hope will be, a faster and easier recovery at home. We are working closely with doctors in the area and hope to help as many people going through this awful illness as possible. We will also continue to help with food bags as often as we are able as well as other medicines for different sicknesses and emergencies when needed.
- For this reason we ask that you continue to graciously donate towards our Compassion Ministries, this covers Emergency Relief. Remember, in the lake area many live from tourism and with everything being shut down they are now walking through hard times.

We are so thankful for your giving hearts and pray that God will bless you. Every little bit helps as we walk alongside some of those who need it the most during this time. Our staff wishes we could do so much more, but we are so glad you have joined us to aid our little corner of the world.

MISSIONARY MINUTE

When I was 13 years old my dad let my younger sister, Ana, and I know we would not be spending our entire summer in Guatemala with our grand-parents and cousins like we had in years past. He let us know we were traveling with him to Lake Atitlan and would help him translate for the teams Impacto was hosting that year. I remember Ana and I cried and told our



mom that's not what we wanted to do. We lived in the US at that time and a few weeks out of the summer was our only time to see our family for the year.

I remember riding to the lake that first time, the view was gorgeous, but I was not happy. I did not want to be there. We spent a total of 4 weeks at the lake that summer, working closely with the locals, translating for the teams, and making lots of new friends. When those 4 weeks came to an end and Ana and I had to get on the bus one last time we cried. We didn't want to leave the beautiful people we had met and that gorgeous place that stole our hearts. After that summer Ana and I went back every single summer for almost the entirety of our vacation to volunteer with Impacto Ministry.

Years later when I got to college my heart rebelled against God and my parents. I still spent a great amount of time each summer at the Lake. Ana would tell me how she wanted to marry a pastor and work in ministry, which she did. I would tell her I would bring my family to Guatemala as often as I could but I did not want to be a part of any ministry. Well, as you can tell God has a sense of humor. After going through some difficult times in college my parents brought me home. I remember those first few days being home I couldn't stop crying. I'm not sure if I was mad, sad, regretful or a little bit of everything. Yet, what I remember the most is the love, patience, mercy, and wide-open arms that my parents received me with. I didn't deserve it but they held on to me and walked me through an extremely difficult time.

A few months after this is when Tony, whom I had known for a few years but never really took the time to get to know, and I became friends. From there our relationship blossomed, to everyone's surprise, including us, again, God has a sense of humor. Tony always knew he had been called to ministry and I had been ignoring this call for many years. Tony helped me accept that and helped me when I felt unworthy of being in the ministry full time. After we were married we came on full time with Impacto Ministry. I am so thankful to God for the family He has given me, Tony, our 3 kids, my parents, my sister, her husband and their kids, and of course my Impacto Family. They all inspire me to be a better version of myself and to always fix my eyes on Jesus. There have been hard days and hard seasons, however when I look back I see God with me every step of the way. I praise God for Impacto and though I never thought I would be here full time, I am so grateful He brought me back to work for Him full time.



When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36

You can support this ministry through Amazon Smiles

Impacto Ministry Inc. 9690 Shepherds Creek Place, La Plata, MD 20646



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Littlest Angels Preschool
SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30AM
**GOD DID'NT CREATE ANYTHING
WITHOUT A PURPOSE. BUT
MOSQUITOES COME CLOSE.**



VALLEY FREE CHURCH
**HOW DOES MOSES MAKE
HIS TEA? - HEBREWS IT**
WORSHIP 9 & 10:30 AM
AFFILIATED, EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AMERICA

