

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 8:30am;
Sunday School, (*Oct. thru May*) at 9:30am, zoom
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.

September 2020



Jesus gave us two great commandments: Love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; and, love our neighbor as we love our self. Remember what the psalmist wrote in Psalm 24? He said "...the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it." (Ps. 24:1) It is logical therefore, that we are showing love and respect for God when we care for this beautiful earth that God has provided for us.

Stewardship of the earth ... keeping it beautiful, managing the land, waters and air properly so that they are clean, productive, healthy, and lovely ... is clearly showing love and appreciation to our Creator. Consider, also, that loving one's neighbor sincerely involves respecting those traveling with us on

planet earth. Taking care of our "home" is an important form of stewardship and is in line with Jesus' two commandments.

Stewardship of our earth is not just an environmental concept, but also a biblical one. As we give our heart-felt concern and respect to those who are using this earth with us, we can only conclude that maintaining it as best we can is in line with what Jesus commanded.

Prayer: Open our minds and hearts, dear Lord, that we may truly be stewards of God's earth and those we are meant to help. **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.

<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



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.

Have you checked out Bethel's Facebook Group?

The url is:

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

Fundraiser Funds are divided as follows:

10% Charity of our choice

10% Benevolence

Rest in general fund



All are welcome to join the choir.
No audition necessary.

Deadline for the October newsletter is September 16th.



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.

September 2020

Worship Assistants, Birthdays, and Anniversaries



Worship Assistants

No acolyte this month

Communion Assistants:

Caroline Miller

Lectors:

September 6th*Ruth Brewer*
September 13th*Myra Sprout*
September 20th*Ruth Brewer*
September 27th*Don Linn*

Prayer Leader:

September 6th*Myra Sprout*
September 13th*Linda Scott*
September 20th*Linda Scott*
September 27th ...*Caroline Miller*

Usher/s:*Don Linn*

Mail Greeter:*Caroline Miller*

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

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

- 2—Bev Robinson
- 7—Joan Johnson
- 12—Sydney Blicharz,
Ariel Kile
- 13—Barbara MacPherson
- 14—Hunter Kile
- 15—Dawn Campbell
- 17—Deb Kolkowski
- 18—Brittany Seal
- 22—Karen Snow
- 24— Bill Clemens
- 26—Myra Sprout
- 27—Victoria Lopes
- 28—Felicia Kile
- 29—Jason Gabler,
Jo Ann Kile
- 30—Candy Clemens



*Happy
Anniversary*

5---Skip and April Giberson

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR - September 2020

Sunday, September 6 ***The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost***
8:30am - Worship

Sunday, September 13 ***The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost***
8:30am - Worship

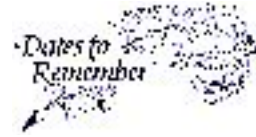
Thursday, September 17 Council meeting at 7pm

Sunday, September 20 ***The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost***
8:30am - Worship

Sunday, September 27 ***The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost***
8:30am - Worship

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!



Cancelled: Community Night at Bethel



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

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



Hello Bethel Parents,

We are preparing for a new year. We have lots of exciting happenings coming up.

We are planning for a confirmation class. Meeting once a week from October to May with a Confirmation Service in May! We can hold our classes in the fellowship hall where we have lots of room and can socially distance from each other and mask!

We are also planning a First Communion class which will consist of 3 classes also held in the fellowship hall with a First Communion service being held in November.

Sunday School will be different unfortunately. We are trying to create a zoom class held Sunday morning after church from 9:30am – 10:30am. Courtney and I (Nannette) would be in the Sunday School room and would teach from there. I will get materials to you before class each week.

Please contact me, Nannette, at 716-307-9881 cell to text or call, or call 716-933-8855 or email rangiberson@gmail.com to be a part of Confirmation or First Communion and Sunday School.

Please let me know by September 15th so we can order material.

Blessings

Nannette

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://bethelportvillenycreechms.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/>

Bethel's 2020 Chicken Barbecue

On July 25th we had our annual Chicken BBQ, and what a successful day! Because of the Covid 19 virus, we had to do things a little differently this year. The BBQ was a drive through only. We didn't have a basket raffle or bake sale this year. We sold out of chicken dinners in just 22 minutes!! What a team effort it was! How fortunate we are at Bethel to have so many wonderful people willing to help when needed to make our events successful. First, I would like to thank Ron Kile and everyone that may have helped him finish the inside of the pavilion! The running water, electricity, stove top and counter space made preparation and serving the very-best- ever! Thanks to Ruth for obtaining the \$250 start- up money from Thrivent. Also, thank you Ruth for paying for the chickens! Thank you, Linda, for printing tickets, and signs and taking care of advertising for the dinner. Thanks to Kurt for cooking the chickens and for Ron helping him flip those birds! Trinette, thanks for purchasing the desserts for the dinners. A very big thanks to all the people that helped sit up, sell tickets, assembled the meals, and were runners to the vehicles, and then stayed and helped clean up! (Especially our own dish washer, Marge!) We made just a little over \$1,00.00 for the day, what a blessing from the Lord! I thank the Lord everyday for the wonderful Family we have at Bethel and I believe this BBQ was just one example of how true that is!

THANKS EVERYONE FOR WHATEVER YOU DID TO HELP! I APPRECIATE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!

Caroline



*Easter Lily blooming,
at church, that
Skip Robinson planted
years ago.*





Thanks Nannette!



Plaque in memory of Mary Hatch.

Beautiful inlaid cross on kitchen Island, by Ron Kile.



It seems unreal that summer is coming to an end! We've said this in our last newsletters, but our staff still has a hard time believing we did not have the privilege of hosting any teams this summer. We trust in the Lord and know He is sovereign, but as humans, it's hard to see the full magnitude of His plans. Nevertheless, we know who He is and who we are in Him, we will continue to commit ourselves to sharing the Gospel here in Guatemala.

Below we'd like to share a few Praises for you to rejoice alongside us and a few Requests for you to bring to the feet of Jesus with us.



- We are continuing to serve daily meals through Happy Tummies To Go. We've added a few new families and everyone is very happy and thankful for the meals. We've heard testimonies of families who are struggling to eat daily and the meals and food bags we have been able to provide have been a tremendous help. We have seen, as Pastor Luis calls it, the ripple effect reach far. It's nice to see the families we are able to help turn around and help others, who in return help others, and so on. We give all the glory to God and thank Him daily for wonderful, giving, Christ-like supporters.

- This brings us to our next praise, we are immensely grateful to each of our supporters, donors, and prayer partners! We praise God for you daily! You are a vital part of Impacto. God is using you in great ways.

- As many of you know we have land behind Xejuyu (Abuelito's land) that had not been fenced in. Due to COVID-19 all construction had stopped. This month we have been able to start the work on the surrounding wall. We still can't start full construction but it's nice we're able to get this wall done. This will allow us to have more land to be able to plant crops for now and in the future enlarge Xejuyu for many, many ministries.

- Praise God for providing through crops these last few months. Our biggest crop is corn as we use about 130+ pounds weekly to make tortillas for both Happy Tummies and Abuelitos.



- The towns around the lake are starting to see a rise in COVID-19 cases and we are hearing a lot of different 'news'. The situation we are living in has made it hard to know what is true and what is false.. We are praying for discernment for the church all around the world; and, that we may all be a light in these times of darkness.
- Join us in praying for a miracle, to see this virus disappear. There are still so many souls that need to know about Jesus. Pray that we are able to share the Gospel with as many people as we can in the most sincere, pure, and powerful way.
- Let us pray for all those around the world who have lost their job in the last few months. We are seeing great financial needs here in Guatemala, as well as all over the world. We pray that God, our Provider, will hear our cries.
- Pray for our staff in the United States who still cannot come to Guatemala as our airport is still closed. We are all feeling the need to be reunited and at work side by side again. We are asking God to fill us with peace and patience as we wait on His timing.



This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. Psalm 34:6-7

New Website!

We are so excited to announce the launch of our new website! It has been a project that has taken a lot of work, time, sweat, and even some tears. However, we are so excited to share this new site with all of you. As we worked on our new website we had to make sure we were being compliant with our fairly new 501c3 status. This meant we had a lot of editing to do throughout this project. One of those areas we had to rewrite quite a few times was our DONATE section. We want to be very clear that our ministries are the same, our goals and purposes are the same; we just ask that you bear with us as our wording had to change. Below you will find a rundown of how you can continue to support each ministry.

We would like to take this moment to kindly ask that you consider giving towards our general fund. We are committed to sound stewardship and using your gift to deliver the most effective solutions for alleviating malnutrition and suffering while sharing the Good News. Expenditures go to carrying out our ministry projects. In order to use our resources in the most effective manner possible, giving to the general fund allows us to direct your contribution to the greatest need or highest priority in our general purposes.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us and we will answer the best we can. Thank you for being with us through this process of achieving our 501c3. We pray that through this status we will be able to continue honoring and glorifying God's name.

When you donate to **GENERAL FUND** you allow us to use your gift to support where it is most needed.

When you donate to **COMPASSION MINISTRIES** you help with Happy Tummys/Abuelitos, Stitches of Blessings, Library, Emergency Relief (Food Bags, Church on Wheels, Natural Disaster Assistance, etc.), Healing Hands, Christmas Festival.

When you donate to **CONSTRUCTION** you help with projects like the Abuelistos Site, Protective Walls, etc.

When you donate to **TRAINING/PASTORAL SUPPORT** you help with Bible Institute, Zona Cero, Pastors Congress, Bible Conference.

When you donate to **CHURCH PLANTING** you help with everything involved in starting a church



You can support this ministry through Amazon Smiles

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

You know you're a Lutheran if, when watching Star Wars, when they say "may the Force be with you," you automatically reply "and also with you".

