

Celebrating 135 Years of Making Jesus Known

THE BETHEL NEWS



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...WE HAVE
CONFIDENCE TO ENTER
THE MOST HOLY PLACE
BY THE
Blood of Jesus,
BY A NEW AND
living way
OPENED FOR US
THROUGH THE CURTAIN,
THAT IS, HIS BODY...
HEBREWS 10:19-20, NIV



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 10:30 | Inside w/communion
(and streamed on FaceBook) |
| 9:15 | Children & Adult Sunday
School |
| 9:00 | Children’s Choir |

Special Lenten services every Wednesday during Lent at 6:00 p.m.
“Holden Evening Prayer” music & scripture.
With Choir

Pastor's Page

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!

The Lutheran Church is a teaching and confessing church that centers itself around the Word of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the Sacraments. Each month we are going through The Augsburg Confession which is the summary of our beliefs and what we have in common with the whole Christian church. This month we will look at the Third article. This is appropriate for the Lenten season going into Easter where we are meditating and focusing on the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Third Article deals with Christ alone!

"Likewise, they teach that the Word, that is the Son of God, took upon himself human nature in the womb of the blessed virgin Mary so that there might be two natures, divine and human, inseparably conjoined in the unity of one person, one Christ, truly God and truly human being, "born of the virgin Mary," who truly "suffered, was crucified, died, and was buried" that he might reconcile the Father to us and be a sacrifice not only for original guilt but also for all actual sins of human beings. He also "descended into hell and on the third day he was truly "resurrected". Therefore, "he ascended into heaven" in order to "sit at the right hand of the Father" and he will reign forever and have dominion over all creatures. He will sanctify those who believe in him by sending into their hearts the Holy Spirit, who will rule, console, and make them alive and defend them against the devil and the power of sin. The same Christ will publicly "return to judge the living and dead...according to the Apostle's Creed".

The emphasis is on Jesus being true God and a true human being to be able to save us from our sins and be adopted as children of God. He defeated hell, death, and the devil to accomplish his work of salvation for us. God's right hand is a metaphor for God's power and authority because Christ is not just ruling above but is present everywhere. We believe Christ's bodily presence is also in the Lord's Supper where he promises to be. Christ is present in Word and Sacraments and our neighbor in need and where two or three are gathered in his name. Christ's present reign is with the work of the Holy Spirit who works in and through us. The reformer Phillip Melanchthon says, "To know Christ is to know his benefits."

Timothy Wengert tells a story about being called to a bedside of a member's wife as his pastor. Ray has just lost his wife and said, "I just want to go lie down next to Arlene." Wengert said he responded with not much conviction "Well, God is with you." And he responded, "I just trust Jesus!" Ray's drinking buddies in the back of the funeral home just wept at Ray's response. "I just trust Jesus!" I can only wish that the Holy Spirit would place such a remarkable confession of faith on my lips at the end of my life.*

I just trust Jesus! My prayer is that confession will stay with you all!

Pastor Richard



| *The Augsburg Confession: Renewing Lutheran Faith and Practice by Timothy Wengert



On Going Prayers including occasional homebound folks

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Deanna Brannigan | John Conti |
| Peggy Shaw | Lynn Henry |
| Janet Phelps | Audrey Wylie |
| Nancy Kissel | Linda Martin |
| Eleanor Laise | Cora Dixon |
| Arlene McAtee | Sharon Chase |
| Berta McGuire | John Beggs |
| Barney Davidson | Janice John |
| Teresa Krasinski | John Smiley |
| Ron Kinnick | Joyce Fowler |
| Alice Ogden | Doris Gluck |
| Debbie Wilson | |

A Look at our Loyalty

The Church is a gift...assembly required.

General Operations Fund

To cover our 2023 approved budget, We need to bring in \$22,914.00 per month to our general fund. Total received in January \$26,002.23

Capital Improvement Fund

Total received in January \$1,659.00



Set your clocks one hour ahead! Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12th!

Half of all offerings made during the Wednesday evening services will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief which will directly benefit the people of East Palestine. Thank you, Council!

Dear Members:



Contact for our e-mail for the Prayer chain is Nancy Kuivila. Her email is nkuivila41@gmail.com If you would like to be a part of the e-mail prayer chain, contact Nancy. ~Thank you Nancy!!~

A Call to Love



NOTES TO THE CONGREGATION:

HELP NEEDED:

Three Council Positions for 2023

- Finance Committee Chair
- Membership Committee Chair

Please Contact: Pastor Richard, Bill Conkey, Sue Mallery if you would be interested in filling these positions.

In addition, we need help one Sunday Morning a month after worship service to count the offerings. If you can help with this, please contact Bill Conkey at 330-727-0398. Thank you!!

Anyone interested in being on the Altar Guild, please contact Candy Rusinowski at 330-720-9764. She is looking for people to help set up communion!



The Outreach Committee is seeking new members to organize and provide activities in order to reach out to others in our community. Please contact Karen Protzman at 330-980-5769 or karen_caldwell@yahoo.com



If you have **Altar Flowers** or a **Candle**: Please pay when you reserve your flower date. Make checks payable to the church \$25.00 for flowers and \$8.00 for a candle, and mail to the church or put in the offering plate.
 If you have a **date** you want, let Susan know 330-758-4283
Thanks, Altar Flower Committee

2023 Church Council

President:	Bill Conkey
Vice President:	Tom Peterson
Secretary:	Linda Titus
Christian Ed:	Erin Conway
Communications:	Shelia Kidd
Finance:	OPEN
Parish Life:	OPEN
Property:	John Smiley
Outreach:	Karen Protzman
Worship:	Candy Rusinowski

EASTER BASKETS

The Outreach Committee is collecting monetary donations throughout March for Easter Food baskets for the less fortunate. Donations can be given on-line by selecting "Easter & Thanksgiving Food Basket" Fund or by check payable to Bethel Lutheran Church & mailed or placed in the offering basket or the collection box in the Narthex. If you know of anyone in need, please give their names to Pastor Richard. Thank you in advance for Making Jesus Known in our Community!

All Council Committee Meetings: If you would like to attend a Committee Meeting, please contact the Chair person of that committee to find out when that committee meets. All committee members and associate members should attend monthly meetings.

Church Council Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. each month unless notified of changes. All council members should attend monthly meetings.

Mickey Schuster Meeting will be as meetings are scheduled.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



MARCH
Birthdays

- 2 Adam Gear
- 3 Theresa Laverock, Liese Kirr
- 4 Eric Kulik
- 5 Nicole DeMartino, George Nerone
- 6 Kirsten Midgley
- 8 David Buker
- 9 Barb Buker, Anthony DeNiro
- 10 Elizabeth Crowll, Sue Haynes
- 15 Anne Garwig
- 16 Olivia DeMartino
- 18 Emily Griswold, Kimberly Thomas
- 21 Shelia Kidd
- 23 Georgette Kollay
- 25 Robert Collins
- 27 Donald Robinson
- 30 Renee Griswold
- 31 Jason Fabian Jr.



MARCH
Anniversaries

20 Jim & Sandy Dorman

**MISSION OF THE MONTH
FOR
MARCH IS
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

**Let the office know of any changes,
corrections or additions,
or if celebrating a
“milestone” birthday or anniversary.
Thank you!**