

Be|heLight

A Publication of Bethel Lutheran Church
A member congregation of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
7171 Pearl Rd, Middleburg Heights OH 44130
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www.gobethel.org



FEBRUARY

AND

MARCH



2019

BetheLight

A Publication of Bethel Lutheran Church



Let your light shine
before others so they
may see your good
works and give glory
to your Father in
heaven.
Matt 5:16 NRSV

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**Deadline for the April-May 2019
BeTheLight is March 17th**

The purpose of *BeTheLight* is to inform our members, friends and visitors of worship services and to encourage spiritual growth, Christian Education opportunities, missions and outreach, activities, fellowship events and volunteer opportunities. This newsletter is meant to be an information tool of Bethel Lutheran Church where we serve together as a family in Christ.

The *BeTheLight* welcomes contributions and letters. Copyrighted material (including prayers and inspirational verses) cannot be published without written permission from the author.

MISSION STATEMENT

*The people of
Bethel Lutheran Church
are called by God to be
faithful to the word of God
and proclaim it to all people.*

*We share Christ's love
and forgiveness
by being Christ's hands,
feet, arms and voice
as we gather and
as we scatter.*



ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

PERSONS IN NEED OF HEALING

Marshall Camp, Eric Nemerovsky,
Kirk Nemerovsky, Eric Whitsel,
Maureen Zelina



PERSONS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND

Bob Breska~Viola Dase~Jan Harmon~Esther Johns
Jean Kellmer~Phil Long~Richard Larson~Joyce Larson
Helmut Link~Marie Link~Betty Powers

*Please keep these friends in your thoughts
and prayers.*

LENT BEGINS MARCH 6

Ash Wednesday Worship **March 6**



Our 2019 Lenten journey begins with Ash Wednesday worship on Wednesday, March 6. Services will be held at 1 PM and 7 PM and will include confession, the imposition of ashes, and Holy Communion.

Mondays During Lent **March 4, 11, 18 and 25**

7 PM- Adult Bible study in the Gathering Place with the theme: Daily Discipleship: On the Road to the Cross with Jesus. Using the Lenten Gospel readings from Luke, we will explore what it means to follow Jesus in our everyday lives, exploring themes of service, work, patience, grace, devotion and love.

Sundays During Lent

Sermon series using the Lord's Prayer as a way into the Lenten scripture themes.

- Mar 10** **OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME.**
Jesus' and our temptation to hallow something else besides God's name.
- Mar 17** **YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN**
Jesus won't be deterred from being obedient to God's will.
- Mar 24** **GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD**
Jesus is our food, a living sign from heaven
- Mar 31** **FORGIVE US OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US**
The Prodigal Son (and Father and Brother)

The remainder of the Lenten schedule will be published in the April/May issue of the Bethelight.

Tasty Fun for Everyone!!

Bethel's 10th Annual Soup & Chili Cook-off/Bake-off.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 16. We will hold our 10th annual chili and soup cook off and family fun night in the fellowship hall from 4 until 7 PM. There will be tastings of homemade chilies, soups and desserts for you to vote on the best, most unusual, etc. Games, kid's activities, prizes and more will round out the evening. Tickets will be sold in the Gathering Place and at the door. Proceeds will go to support our youth programs and activities including camperships for kids going to the Camp Mowana this summer, as well as the 2021 Youth Gathering. Watch for more information in the Gathering Place and News and Views!



We need lots of help to make this a great evening. Can you do any of the following?

- Chili & soup cooks and bakers – make your favorite recipe to share and enter the competition
- Bread or dessert providers
- Soup/chili servers
- Games/activities coordinator or helper

Contact Ed and Jane Salem @ 440.572.5235 or janesalemconnect@gmail.com
Or Dan and Merri Karp @ 440-891-0208 or bereafish@roadrunner.com for more information or to sign up to help.

CAMP MOWANA NEWS

Pastor Krebill will be serving his 40th and final year as chaplain for Camp Mowana this summer from July 7-12. As in past years, this will be an elementary and middle school week. We will be offering scholarships, as in the past, for any young person who wants to attend camp. Registration information is available at www.lomocamps.org. As always, young people are free to attend camp any week they like, but this is the week that Pastor will be serving as chaplain. For high schoolers thinking about camp, Senior High week at Mowana is June 30-July 5.





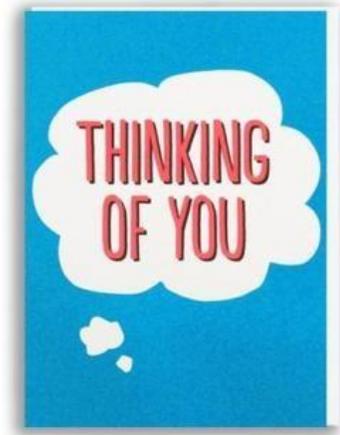
Saddle Up With MEEC!

Middleburg Early Education Center's biggest fundraiser is coming! We will have a fun celebration of the Wild West including a buffet dinner, a live auction, a silent auction and raffles. Please plan to join us at the Old Oak Bible Church on Saturday, February 23, 2019. Old Oak Bible Church is located at 7575 Old Oak Blvd., Middleburg Hts. Early Bird ticket price is \$35.00 per person, and tickets will be available following Church services. Starting February 8, tickets will be \$40.00. Buy a whole table early and have a great evening out for you and seven friends for only \$280.00! Don't miss the fun! If you are unable to attend, a \$20.00 "ticket only" may be purchased for a chance to win a fun door prize.

Greeting Cards Brighten the Day for People in Our Congregation and Communities

Bethel's Adopt-a-Member ministry sends cards to Bethel members who are home-bound, on the Prayer List, receiving Pastoral Care, sick, in a hospital or rehab or nursing home, at college, in the military, or celebrating a birthday or anniversary. And we send a "Thanks for worshipping with us" card to visitors.

Our cards encourage, inspire, convey sympathies and get-well wishes, give thanks and appreciation, share happiness and, overall, offer a "We're thinking of you" message. We hand-write a note on each card for a personal touch.



We also try to brighten the day for people in our communities with greeting cards and special cards. Example: hundreds of 2x3-inch "Smile" cards were given to clients at three local food pantries, including the Middleburg Heights food pantry (a Bethel ministry).

Most cards are purchased. Some are hand-made by team members and by God's Faithful Followers at their craft evenings. And some are donated by our congregation. Our Adopt-a-Member ministry is funded by Thrivent's "Action Team" program which pays for cards, materials, and postage.

You might ask, "What is so special about a ministry sending cards? Everyone sends cards. Right?" "Yes, that's right, most (all?) of us send cards to our relatives and friends."

Some people, however, send more cards than others or they even make their cards. These folks are the core members for the Adopt-a-Member ministry. Other team members send cards for the pleasant feeling of helping others feel good. When these card-loving people are on a team, we (Bethel, the Adopt-a-Member Ministry, team members, and those who receive our cards) are better off than if we sent cards as non-team individuals. How? We share ideas about cards, inspiring hand-written messages, and encouraging feedback from card recipients.

Also, the ministry's expenses (cards, materials, and postage) are paid by Thrivent, not from Bethel's budget.

The feeling-good emotion was expressed by a team member in the Thrivent Magazine (June 2016): *"I send cards of encouragement and inspiration to members of my church who are not able to attend worship services, to nursing-home residents, homeless men at a shelter, inmates at a correctional institution, and others. I hope to brighten the day of people for whom life may be more challenging than what I sometimes think mine is. In helping others, I feel God's comfort in helping myself."* Ray Herzog, Middleburg Heights, Ohio



Think about Bethel's Mission Statement: "We share Christ's love and forgiveness by being Christ's hands, feet, arms, and voice as we gather and as we scatter."

Your heart could share love, your hands could write cards, and your cards could make a huge difference in someone's life -- and in yours!



Tax-free Traditional-IRA Distributions in 2019

Here's how federal income tax can be lowered for persons who are over 70-1/2 and are taking a distribution from a non-Roth, traditional IRA. From your distribution, you gift funds (up to \$100,000) to a qualified charity. The gift is called a "Qualified Charitable Distribution" (QCD) and must be made (on your behalf) directly from your financial institution to the charity. The

QCD can be used for all or part of a required minimum distribution (RMD). This tax benefit, started in 2015, continues in 2018 and beyond. It is not affected by the recent tax bill. Children, relatives, and friends of senior citizens: Tell them about the QCD for their immediate or future tax-cutting plans. Bethel Lutheran Church and MEEC are qualified recipients for this tax-free gift. . . . Ray Herzog



Middleburg Heights Food Pantry

The following items are needed now and year round: **soup, coffee, tea, hot cocoa, ramen noodles, skillet dinners and tuna.** Items to warm the heart and soul during the colder months are appreciated. Your donations of other nonperishable foods are also welcomed.

Redeemer Crisis Center

If you have decided to clean out your closets, please remember the Redeemer Crisis Center could use donations of clothing and shoes. There is a box located in the Gathering Place coat closet. Remember to bring the items in a box or bag. The need is always there and always appreciated!! Thank you for helping this ministry!!



An Update on Bethel's Soap Box Ministries

By the end of 2018, 80 Colorful Cosmetic bags filled with personal care items were made to the LMM Women's Re-Entry program (WREN). This delivery brings a total of 1510 bags delivered since the program started in 2001. Thank you, Bethel Members!

As you can see in the letter below (see page 9), from LMM's Lisa Smith, the agency has expanded their services to include personal care kits for the county jail. Lisa is asking if we can increase our Soap Box Ministry to include kits for incarcerated individuals.

There are approximately 2100 people held in the jail mainly because they cannot afford to pay bail and therefore do not have funds to purchase hygiene products from the commissary.

To meet their needs, both male and female, LMM is requesting the following items- all hotel or travel sized:

Deodorant: roll on or stick
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Denture cleaner
Bar soap: regular and sensitive skin brands
Lotion
Shampoo
Conditioner
Pair of socks

Please leave your donations in the designated box in the coatroom off the Gathering Place.

Cash donations would be welcomed so we can buy bags to hold the items plus additional care products. Donations via check should be made out to Bethel and labeled "Soap Box-SF 107 Helping Hand" in the memo line.

Bethel Members, thank you for your continued support and commitment to LMM Health & Wellness Services.

Ed Harbart

If you have any questions, contact Nancy Kilkenney, council member for Service.
440-623-4774



January 11, 2019

Bethel Lutheran Church Congregation
7171 Pearl Road
Middleburg Hts., Ohio 44130
Attn: Ed Harbart

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your most recent donation of cosmetic bags and toiletry products to benefit indigent residents within the Cuyahoga County Jail. As you may be aware, given the recent reports in the news, there are approximately 2,100 individuals in the County jail and the vast majority of them are being held for no reason other than their inability to pay the bail fee required for release.

What you may not know is that individuals within the County jail are not provided with basic hygiene products. Individuals must purchase these items and if they are not able to afford them then they must go without. I cannot think of anything more dehumanizing than to be deprived of basic hygiene care because of one's socioeconomic status.

As we enter into yet another year of our Lord, where many continue to suffer unjustly, I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for continuing to express caring and giving generously to your neighbors in need. Your congregation is a true blessing to many and on behalf of all those that benefit from your kindness and acts of love; we pray that God continues to bless your ministry and all that you do in the name of his son, Jesus Christ.

Shalom,

Lisa M. Smith, VP
Health & Wellness Services



Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Margaret Gutwein
- 1 Richard and Victoria Bobey
- 3 Helmut Link
- 4 Robert Pickens Jr
- 6 Ruth Kuhn
- 8 Ruth Bemer
- 8 Cole Nicholas
- 10 Mitch Ciccarello
- 11 Ginny Markus
- 15 Thelma Bradnan
- 15 Erika Haskell
- 17 Kathy Maszczyński
- 17 Aubryana Kolomijez
- 22 Ray and Wanda Herzog
- 24 Cindy LoPiccolo



Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 4 Kelly and Alex Bartlett
- 7 Gloria Neumann
- 8 Ray Herzog
- 8 Bev Riehl
- 8 Ava Jarancik
- 9 Karl and Jeanette Yanuzzi
- 10 Emma Whitsel
- 13 Sandy Sauvey
- 14 Riley Vata
- 20 Fred Sauvey
- 26 Lauren Einheit
- 28 Holly Nicholas
- 30 Carol Dershau

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 AA 8:00pm	2 Men's Bible study 8am  GP in Use Noon-4PM
3 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am	4 Pastor Krebill returns from Vacation	5 Lectionary Bible study 10am	6 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	7 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7pm	8 AA 8:00pm	9 Men's Bible study 8am
10 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am FaithX – 6pm	11	12 Lectionary Bible study 10am Men's Lunch 11:30 am Council Meeting 7 pm	13 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	14 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7pm	15 AA 8:00pm	16 Men's Bible study 8am
17 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am FaithX – 6pm	18 Presidents' Day  No MEEC Classes	19 Lectionary Bible study 10am Ladies Lunch 11:30 am	20 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	21 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7pm	22 AA 8:00pm	23 Men's Bible study 8am MEEC Dinner & Auction 5pm
24 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am	25	26 Lectionary Bible study 10am	27 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	28 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7pm Birthday Dinner		

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 AA 8:00pm	2 Men's Bible study 8am
3 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am FaithX – 6pm	4 Lent Bible Study - "Daily Discipleship" 7pm.	5 Lectionary Bible Study 10am	6 Ash Wednesday Services 1pm & 7:00 pm +	7 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7pm	8 AA 8:00pm	9 Men's Bible study 8am (Daylight Savings: Turn your clock Forward 1hr)
10 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am	11 Lent Bible Study - "Daily Discipleship" 7pm.	12 Lectionary Bible Study 10am Men's Luncheon 11:30am Council Meeting 7 pm	13 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	14 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7pm	15 AA 8:00pm	16 Men's Bible Study 8am Soup & Chili cook-off & bake-off 4pm – 7pm
17 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am	18 Lent Bible Study - "Daily Discipleship" 7pm.	19 Lectionary Bible Study 10am	20 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	21 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7 PM	22 AA 8:00pm	23 Men's Bible Study 8am
24 Adult Bible Class 8:30 & 11:30 am LIFE Together 9:00 AM Worship 9:45am	25 Lent Bible Study - "Daily Discipleship" 7pm. MEEC Spring Break Begins	26 Lectionary Bible Study 10am	27 Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	28 Al-Anon 10am Bible Class 11 am GFF 7pm Birthday Dinner	29 AA 8:00pm	30 Men's Bible Study 8am