

Other News and Events

HELPING HANDS FOR HONDURAS: PACK A SUITCASE. We are collecting items for the John Carroll University medical mission brigade who will return to Honduras in May 2018. Items we are collecting in January include: Tylenol, Advil and Aleve for adults, children and infants, brand or generic. We continue to collect gently used/new children's toys (no batteries or water, cannot resemble weapons, simple to understand, easily packed into a suitcase). A suitcase is located in the hallway for collection of items. Please contact Darla Boyk at dboyk@amplex.net or 419-575-0078 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!

SMALL GROUPS: January is a busy month for Small Groups at Bethlehem. ●Pam Frankfather and Becky Buchman have an existing group made up of mostly teachers which has met for two seasons already. Many of them participated in serving meals at Mosaic Ministries on December 30. ●Ken Finley is starting a small group of seven men. ●Paulette Bresler, Teri Hansen and Janet Witker are developing a small group to meet at Portage Valley which will include BLC members and some PV residents. ●There is interest in forming a small group for couples. If you are interested in getting on board, talk to Pastor Matt or any of the people mentioned here. All are welcome! You are encouraged to start a group of your own if the spirit moves you - we can help.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH HANGOUT on January 14, 7 p.m., at Vicar Janelle's, 341 E. Front Street.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will take place in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, January 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments call: 800-RED CROSS or go online to redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: BethlehemLuth. You may also go online to redcrossblood.org/rapidpass to fill out all the paperwork to bring with you.

KNOTTING: Come help tie blankets for Lutheran World Relief and local nursing homes on Tuesday, January 23, at 9 a.m., in the basement. If schools close we will not knot!

BETHEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN volunteer sign ups are online at: tinyurl.com/BLCWsignup. There are 13 open spots for 2018 that need to be filled. Instructions are on the page. Sign ups are for funerals, altar guild, altar flowers and the office window.

COFFEE HOUR: Please sign up to help on the clipboard or online at tinyurl.com/BLC-CoffeeHour to host coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Coffee and supplies will be provided. Your responsibility is to set up, make the coffee and bring a simple snack item such as cookies or donut holes (not mandatory) and clean up. Thank you.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY will be open on two Saturdays (the second and last) every month starting in January, from 8-11 a.m. We are still open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.—2 p.m.

YOGA CLASS OPEN TO ALL on Mondays, 7 p.m., in the church's Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5 per person.

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 14, 2018



5 Week Preaching Series on Prayer Based on Mark Batterson's book, *The Circle Maker*.

January 14: Prayer: A Listening Spirit

January 21: Dreaming Big

January 28: Praying Hard

February 4: Thinking Long

February 11: Keep Circling

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 14, 2018

Worship with Holy Communion Sundays at 9 a.m.

Faith Formation for all ages

Sundays at 10:20 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT: Transformed by the crucified and risen Jesus we are a loving community of disciples making disciples.

WELCOME! We welcome you to join us in worship, growth in faith and service.

CHILDREN are always welcome and encouraged to participate fully in worship. If needed, a cry room is available near the east exit.

VISITORS, please fill out a Visitor Connection Card. You may place the card in the plate during the offering. Please also take a gift bag (also at both entrances) to learn a little more about Bethlehem.

FOR WORSHIP, most of what you will need is in this bulletin or the weekly insert with readings and news. Pastor/leader parts are in plain typeface. Congregational parts are in **bold typeface** and indented.

HYMNS are indicated by number and may be found in the back part of the red hymnal.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from the ushers.

FAITH FORMATION (Sunday School):

Preschool—5th Grade and Catechism, Basement

High School—Gr.9-12, Room 209-211 Adults, Fellowship Hall

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Phone: 419-287-4182

office@bethlehempemberville.org

http://bethlehempemberville.org

Ministers: All the People

Pastor: Matthew Musteric

Bishops: Elizabeth Eaton, Daniel Beaudoin

Intern: Vicar Janelle Hennager

WORSHIPING Weekly

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP: TODAY

Presiding Minister Pastor Matt

Preacher Pastor Matt

Music Brian Bryant

Reader Joyce Brinker

Elders Vic Schuerman, Willie Fisher

Deacon Travis Ford

Youth Deacon Evan Frankfather

Acolytes Toby Marten, Trent Marten

Altar Flowers Joanne Bruning, Jo Lynn Gerwin

Altar Guild Becky Schuerman, Jen Schuerman

Communion Bread Jennifer Schuerman Jennifer Schuerman

Radio Broadcast Matt Meyer Scott Schuerman

Coffee Hour *Volunteer needed* *Volunteer needed*

NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Matt

Vicar Janelle

Brian Bryant

Keirsten Hummel

SERVING Others

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY is housed at Bethlehem. It is available Monday through Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the last Saturday of the month from 8-11 a.m., for Eastwood community residents in need of food. Please help us stock these items in January: hot and cold cereals, muffin mixes, crackers and kleenex. Other non-perishable items and monetary donations are gladly accepted. Please place items in the tubs in the Mission Action room (111).

MISSION ACTION PROJECT for January is bingo prizes for Otterbein Portage Valley. Items wanted include: jewelry including used wrist watches; packaged snack items, sugar free, non peanut butter; knickknacks, stamps, stationary and personal hygiene items including small lotions, sprays, deodorant. Thank you!

Calendar

1/14, Sun.	9 a.m.	Worship / Communion
	10:20 a.m.	Faith Formation (SS) / Catechism
	7 p.m.	High School Youth Hangout at Vicar Janelle's
1/15, Mon.	5 p.m.	Get those Annual reports into the office
	7 p.m.	Yoga, Fellowship Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Dartball, basement
1/16, Tue.	5 p.m.	Newsletter deadline
1/16-18		Pastor Matt, Vicar Janelle at Sawmill Retreat
1/17, Wed.	10:30 a.m.	OPV Communion
	6:15 p.m.	Bell Choir rehearsal
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir rehearsal
1/20, Sat.	9am-3pm	Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
	10 a.m.	Liturgical Choir practice
1/21, Sun.	9 a.m.	Worship / Communion
	10:20 a.m.	Faith Formation (SS) / Catechism

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Take, Oh, Take Me as I Am #814
I Received the Living God #477

+ SENDING +

The Holy Spirit sends us forth to serve in Jesus' name.

We stand for the blessing.

Blessing

Sending Hymn *Will You Come and Follow Me #798*

Dismissal

What is our mission?

Transformed by the crucified and risen Jesus we are a loving community of disciples making disciples.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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GIVING and WORSHIPING

Weekly Offerings: \$4,452 Noisy offering: \$127 SS: \$7

YTD: Community Food Pantry: 3 family visits

Food Vouchers to IGA given out: 3

GSF help for Utilities: 1 check written for assistance

Snack Pack (weekend food): packed 13 bags

ATTENDANCE: Worship: 152 SS: Youth: 41 Adults: 16 Teachers: 9

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in memory of Foster Gerwin from Mickey Gerwin and family.

RADIO BROADCAST is given to the glory of God.

+ GATHERING +

The Holy Spirit gathers us for worship.

Prelude and Announcements

Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Loving God,

we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Have mercy on us. Turn us around, and forgive our sins, so we can live as your children. Amen.

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we are broken, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of † Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

We turn and face the cross at the back, turning as it moves forward.

Gathering Hymn *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak #676*

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:13

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying #752 (words below)

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place,
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

+ WORD +

The Word of God, Jesus Christ, speaks to us.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...

A brief silence is kept before the prayer, a time for us to pray silently to God.
Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon

First Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10

A reading from first Samuel:

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.

⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

We remain standing as the bread is broken and for the invitation.

Spoken together in unison:

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as once you revealed yourself to your apostles.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is our Lord's thanksgiving feast of victory shared among his baptized people. We believe, teach and confess that Christ is truly present in this meal...his body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. With this understanding, baptized Christians who usually commune in other Christian congregations are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. Those who are not yet communing (of any age) are invited to come forward for a blessing.

We receive the bread at the head of the aisle. Wine is available in individual glasses (in trays) or you may drink from the common cup. White grape juice is available in the center of each tray. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and Communion will be brought to you.

Communion Songs *Lamb of God*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise. S3

It is indeed right... ..and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est. S4

Eucharistic Prayer

Salvation History, Words of Institution, Prayer for the Holy Spirit

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

*We begin by singing the refrain below, and then we will read the verses responsively, singing the refrain where indicated with the word **Refrain**.*

Search me, O God, you know me com - plete - ly.
Be my sure guide, my hope and stay.

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Music: Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Bimamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
²**You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

³You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴**Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.**

Refrain

⁵You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

¹³For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

¹⁵**My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**

Refrain

¹⁶Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.

¹⁷**How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!**

¹⁸I try to count them — they are more than the sand;
I come to the end — I am still with you.

Refrain

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel John 1:43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon. Following time for reflection, we stand to respond in song:

Hymn of the Day *Here I Am, Lord #574*

Installation of Council Members and BLCW Officers (Women of the Church)

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of The People

Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy.

We respond: Hear our prayer.

+ MEAL +

We gather at the Table of our Lord to share his Supper.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

John 20:21

We share a sign of peace by greeting those around us with the words "Peace be with you."

Offertory

Today's loose offering will go to the general fund.

We stand and sing as the gifts are brought forward:

Offering Hymn *Come to the Table #481 (words below)*

**Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.
All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.
Come to the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

Offering Prayer

Let us pray...

Merciful God,

as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered