

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church



Becoming Disciples-Serving Others

March/April 2019

Pastor's Musings: We Are On A Journey

Anyone who knows me, knows I enjoy road trips or just trips in general. I have driven to Florida, Canada, Denver, and now when visiting family in Ohio, it feels like a road trip. The wildest and probably dumbest was a 24 hour drive from Western Minnesota to Columbus, Ohio when I was in college...this included six hours in Chicago all by myself. I will admit, most trips now can't be done without more rest breaks.

On March 6th we began another journey, the journey to the cross. I will admit, the next 40+ days may not seem as exciting as seeing the countries largest golf tee or checking off another state off your bucket list. Yet, this journey is one which can be more memorable than any other trip we have ever taken. During this Season of Lent we are going to be faced with various things in our faith, this includes our doubts, struggles, sin, and more. I am sure you are looking at giving something up or even added onto to make this Lent more meaningful to you. I pray this journey from Ashes to the

Cross is one which gives you a deeper sense in your journey of faith. May you be able to experience Jesus in a way which is different than before. I know there will be numerous opportunities to experience that journey this season from our Mid-Lenten services (happening two times every Wednesday), Sunday worship, Faith on Tap, and Holy Week. Maybe there is something new you want to experience this Lent which you may have not done before which can include setting up in a local coffee shop and reading the Bible or some other faith-based book.

No matter what you do this Lent, I hope this road trip from Ash Wednesday to the Cross of Good Friday and ultimately to the Empty Tomb of East will bring more meaning into your faith than any other experience you have had before. May God's peace be with you on the journey, my friends.

Peace ><

Pr. Drew

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Mid-Week Lenten Series 2019: Journey to the Easter Vigil

During the Season of Lent, we are always told to look towards the cross or towards the empty tomb as symbols of hope. The night before Easter Sunday, there is also another celebration called the Easter Vigil where we read other moments where we hear of God's Hope for God's people which include Creation, the story of Noah, and more.

During this Lenten Season, we will not only be journeying to the cross but we will also find that light which shines in the darkness of our lives. We hope you join us for either of our Wednesday offerings: 12 noon Lunch services at either Bethany Lutheran or St. James Lutheran (please see the event photo for locations) or 6:30pm communion service held at Bethany.

May this season of Lent be one where you feel God's comforting presence in your life.

Here is what the schedule for our Lenten Series will be. (Schedule will be posted WEEKLY in the bulletin)

	Noon Service Location	6:30pm Service Location
Mar 13th	Bethany	Bethany
Mar 20th	St. James	Bethany
Mar 27th	Bethany	Bethany
Apr 3rd	Bethany	Bethany
Apr 10th	St. James	Bethany

Upcoming Love Feasts: Please mark your calendar to help! Bethany is hosting only two Love Feasts this year at Simpson/Temple. We will be needing teams to help with buying food and supplies, setting up, cooking, baking items, serving, and cleaning up. The two dates for our commitment are Saturday, July 27 and Saturday, September 28. So please keep these dates in mind and lend a hand wherever you are able. Sign up sheets will be available a few weeks before the dates. Thanks for your consideration.

Contact person: Debbie Lechner



Interested in helping with Holy Week?

We are in need of various individuals for Holy Week. Do not worry if you are not formally trained or fear of something going wrong, Pastor will walk through the various service(s) you are willing to participate with. This is a great opportunity if you have ever been interested in taking up a role in worship! The need of the services are as follows:

Good Friday (April 19th)

- Greeter(s)-1 or 2
- Worship Assistant-1
- Head Usher/Usher(s)



Easter Vigil (April 20th)

- Greeter(s)-1 or 2
- Worship Assistant-1
- Head Usher/Usher(s)
- An individual who will work behind the scenes

Easter Flowers Available to Honor, Memorialize Loved Ones

One of the first signs of spring to beautify Bethany's sanctuary are the beautiful flowers that are displayed for Easter. You are invited to purchase a flower to honor or memorialize a loved one by returning this form to the church office no later than Sunday, April 7, or call the church office at 814-944-7560 to place your order. You may also email your order to bethanyelca@atlanticbbn.net.

Flowers are \$11 each.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Flowers given in memory of: _____

By: _____

Flowers given in honor of: _____

By: _____

Please return form to Bethany Lutheran Church Office,
200 Third Ave., Altoona, PA 16602

Holy Week Services at Bethany

Holy Week is the most sacred week of the Christian Church year. We are asked to remember and experience the week which changed the world and hopefully changes us as well. This is a week in which we get to experience Christ's passion and see how it isn't just another week on the calendar.

The following services are here to help us experience the kind of love which was shown on the first Holy Week. We hope you are able to attend and experience a closeness of God's love for us and the world.

Palm Sunday—April 14th @ 9:00AM



With a joyful noise, we gather at the entrance of Jerusalem waiving our palms. We shout "Hosanna" (save now!) as our cry for a broken world. "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" (Luke 19:38) This service serves as a wonderful opportunity to begin our journey with Jesus to the cross.

THE GREAT THREE DAYS (TRIDUUM)

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter

The experience of worship on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil is, in many ways, a tunnel we ride through together. It is a shared experience of Jesus' loving final acts, his death, and his resurrection. The services are designed to be one liturgy, best experienced together, coming back night after night. It's an unusual pattern for us. When else would we set aside this kind of time for each other as the body of Christ, for worship, for prayer, for singing and hearing the story of God? The tunnel is as long as it is. In the midst of these days and these worship times, we can experience the prolepsis—the anticipatory there-and-not-yet-ness—of Christian life in especially profound ways.

(Sundays and Seasons 2019, Year C, copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress)

Maundy Thursday — April 18th @ 6:30PM

(This service will be at 2nd Ave UMC this year!)

"Lord make our sad divisions soon to cease; draw us all closer, each to each, we plead, by drawing all to you, O Prince of peace." (ELW 463)



On this sacred night, we remember the final night which Jesus gathered with the original twelve disciples sharing with them the commandments of Love and Grace through meal and the washing of feet. This is a night which we give thanks for the gift of communion as we are mere hours away from his death on the cross. The altar is stripped as we remember Jesus being stripped of his freedom as we hear the words of Psalm 22, preparing us for Good Friday.

Good Friday — April 19th @ 7:00PM

(a Tenebrae Service-Progressive Darkness)

(Communion will not be celebrated)

We gather at the foot of the cross to hear the words of Jesus's agonizing death for us and for our salvation. In this service of remembrance we ponder his trial, his torture, his carrying the cross, his crucifixion and burial through the use of Scripture and hymns. We also hear the final words of Jesus by candlelight and leave in darkness and silence this night.



The Vigil of Easter — The First Service of Easter

April 20th @ 5:00PM

This is *the* night, the night to be immersed in who we are as God's people. This night overflows with biblical images of a world redeemed in Jesus Christ. We come not to get all the answers, but to be filled to the brim with stories that both refresh and perplex us. At first it could appear that the Vigil is a simple movement from dark to light, from death to life. We await the magic moment when the lights come on and, yes, it is Easter

We will gather in Alexy Hall in darkness as we left Good Friday and hear the stories of hope throughout the Old Testament. We will then travel to the sanctuary where we will rejoice in the light of a new day as we "ring" in the first "Alleluias!" of Easter. If you have never participated in the Vigil of Easter, you do not want to miss out on one of the most ancient services within the Church.

Worshippers are invited to bring a bell (any shapes or sizes are welcomed) which are to be muffled until announced. Worshippers are also invited to bring a coffee mug with them. After the Service a small candle may be lit from the Paschal Candle and you are invited to safely transport the candle home. If you leave your home dark, when you re-enter with the candle lit, may it represent the light of the Risen Christ in your home.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD (EASTER SUNDAY)

April 21st @ 6:30AM & 9:00AM

It has finally arrived!! If you've ever wondered if there was a day in which the world was changed, the first Easter was that day. We gather to celebrate Christ being Raised from the Dead!! Death, sin, fear, cruelty, injustice, and evil no longer have the final say in our lives because the final words belong to Jesus. Christ is risen and we celebrate that freedom!

The church will be decorated to celebrate this momentous occasion and will "ring" in moment through the use of bells as we sing the return of "Alleluias." Our Easter Sunday Services will take place with a Sunrise service at 6:30AM and again at 9:00AM. An Easter Breakfast will be between services. Why not bring a friend to join in on the festivities. Come and celebrate the highest of all days of celebration!





Interested in serving within the Synod???

All positions will be voted

at Synod Assembly on June 14th -15th , 2019

Synod Council (3 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote, Youth-2 Yr Term)

NEED: 1 clergy (male or female), 1 youth, & 2 laypersons (one male & one female)

Each person elected to the Synod Council shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, with the exception of ordained ministers on the roster of this synod who reside outside the territory of this synod . The process for election and the term of office when not otherwise provided shall be specified in the bylaws. A member of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, unless otherwise elected as a voting member of the Synod Council, may serve as an advisory member of the Synod Council with voice but not vote.

Discipline Committee (6 Yr Term by Assembly Vote)

NEED: 1 layperson (one female)

From the ELCA Constitution: There shall be set forth in the bylaws a process of discipline governing officers, ministers of Word and Sacrament, ministers of Word and Service, congregations, and members of congregations. Except as provided in 20.18. or 20.19., such process shall assure due process and due protection for the accused, other parties, and this church. Since synods have responsibility for admittance of persons into the rostered ministries of this church and have oversight of pastoral and congregational relationships, the disciplinary process shall be a responsibility of the synod on behalf of this church.

Consultation Committee (6 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote)

NEED: 1 layperson (one female)

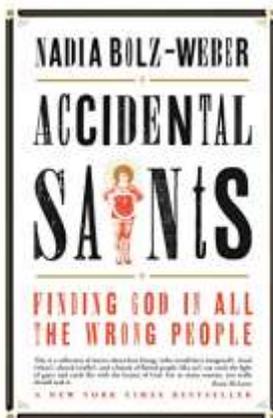
The Consultation Committee of this synod shall consist of at least six persons and not more than 12 persons, of whom half shall be ordained ministers and half shall be laypersons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection . The functions of the Consultation Committee are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and in Chapter 17 of this Constitution. The size of the Consultation Committee, in accord with this provision, shall be defined in this synod's bylaws. Committee is on call at the request of the Bishop.

Endowment Fund Committee (various year terms)

NEED: 2 individuals to serve 3 year term, 2 individuals to serve 2 year term, and 1 individual to serve 1 year term. Male or Female are invited to apply.

Individuals will serve as the overseers of the endowment funds for the synod.

****If interested in serving or have questions, please see Pastor Drew and he will get you a nominations form/answer any questions you may have.****



Faith On Tap Continues to Find Accidental Saints

In the beginning of January, our Faith on Tap group started a new series : Accidental Saints by Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber (an ELCA Pastor). Accidental Saints shares various experiences in Pastor Nadia’s life where those she least expected showed her the greatest sense of God’s grace. The first chapter brought many heartfelt conversations and had us too discuss the saints we least expected. It isn’t too late to join, and we hope you will join us as we have been going slowly in this powerful book. It is also a quick and easy read. You are always invited to join in the conversations, even if you haven’t read the book. We meet at

Marzoni’s in Greenwood on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month.

You can purchase *Accidental Saints* at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or most e-readers. Hope to see you at Marzoni’s.

Upcoming dates and Chapters for our Accidental Saints Series

March 19th: Ch 8 *The Slaughter of the Holy Innocents of Sandy Hook Elem.* & Ch 9 *Frances*

April 2nd: Ch 10 *Panic Attack in Jericho* & Ch 11 *Parlors*

April 16th: Ch 12 *The Lame* & Ch 13 *Dirty Feet*

Troop 15 Celebrates Blue/Gold Event

Every year, Cub Scouts and Scout Group 3015 have a Blue and Gold Banquet where they celebrate the group’s yearly achievements. This includes presenting the famous badges and other awards. This year’s theme was Scouts around the Round Table with a medieval



theme. Troop 15 also celebrated the regional Klondike Event, held a couple of weekends ago, which includes a sledding event which Troop 15 one the Best Sled Event because of the new Troop Mascot, as you can see in the image. The next big event Troop 15 will be having is the annual Pinewood Derby in March. Congrats of Troop 15 as they continue to raise new leaders in our community and have fun while doing it.

If you are interest in scouting, please check out “Boy Scout Troop 3015” on Facebook or contact Don Irvin for more information.

Happy Birthday

Schlosser, Timothy	3/02
Keller, Dalton	3/06
Curran, Deborah	3/07
Pry, Susan	3/09
Hoffman, Laura	3/11
Walker, Maliqua	3/13
Thompson, Joyce	3/14
Walker (Patillo), Valerie	3/15
Thompson, Troy	3/17
Ivory, Joseph	3/18
LaHive, William	3/25
Wolfinger, Pearl	3/27
Hoffman, Arianne	3/31
Bowers, Don	4/05
Hoffman, Ray	4/07
Leaper, Charlotte	4/07
Naughton, Cheryl	4/08
Moses, Zachary	4/09
Leonard, McKenzie	4/10
Ralson, Jill	4/15
McMasters, Melvin	4/17
George, Jacob	4/18
Tompkins, Cathy	4/18
Lockard, Janet	4/28

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Bill and Debbie Lechner	March 8
Doug and Cathy Tompkins	March 30
Eric and Jodi Johnson	April 1
Missy and Walter Wertz	April 20

Can challenge 2019 Results

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone for participating in our winter food drive this year.. **We raised 1326 items!!!!** Again, thank you to everyone who helped with our can drive because the Altoona Food Bank was ecstatic when Pastor Drew and Bill Scott delivered all of this food. Keep an eye out for when our next potential drive may appear.



HOPE Recognition Event

For the past five years, Bethany has hosted the HOPE Drop-in as a meeting place and community for those escaping the stigmas of mental illness. This community has grown over the past few years and so has their programming. They currently meet two days a week and one includes doing assorted art projects. It takes a lot of hands to run the weekly programming. On Feb 18th, HOPE recognized the many volunteers who have helped in assorted ways from helping in the kitchen, planning outside events, bringing in speakers, and thanking those who have done other projects throughout the year. This has been a newly developed event but one which has become an exciting celebration. Thank you to the many hands who continue to make HOPE Drop-in a great community to be a part of.

JANUARY OFFERING REPORT

NOTE: Capital Campaign donations are deposited in a separate account and are not counted toward regular weekly giving. An expanded Financial Report is available from the treasurer upon request.

January 6	\$1896.00
January 6 Capital Campaign	\$157.00
January 13	\$1740.00
January 13 Capital Campaign	\$25.00
January 27	\$1841.00
<i>(includes \$81.00 gift received for Lord's Pocket)</i>	
January 27 Capital Campaign	\$140.00
Total Service Collections since last report	\$5,477.00
Total Capital Campaign Contributions since last report	\$322.00
Total Memorial Donations	\$0.00

March/April Worship Helpers at a Glance

Worship Leaders for March 17, 2019

Greeter - Jim Estep
 Lector - Terry Koch
 Worship Assistant - Rhonda Barry
 Head Usher - Cheryl Harpster
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - Mike & Nancy Stell

Worship Leaders for March 24, 2019

Greeter - Jodi Johnson
 Lector - Debbie Lechner
 Worship Assistant - Terry Koch
 Head Usher - Jodi Johnson
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - Jeff & Judy Robison

Worship Leaders for March 31, 2019

Greeter - Debbie Lechner
 Lector - Rick Tromm
 Worship Assistant - Denny Fasekas
 Head Usher - Peggy Johnson
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - Tim Schlosser & John Maher

Worship Leaders for April 7, 2019

Greeter - Pat Dorfmeister
 Lector - Becky Twine
 Worship Assistant - Debbie Lechner
 Head Usher - Bob Laughlin
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - Daryl Little & Carl Long

Worship Helpers for March:

Bereavement Team - Jodi Johnson & Debbie Lechner
 Counting Helpers - Peggy Johnson & Terry Koch
 Altar Guild - Rhonda Barry & Becky Twine

Worship Leaders for April 14, 2019

Greeter - Carl Long
 Lector - Becky Twine
 Worship Assistant - Beth Wagner
 Head Usher - Angie Elder
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - Ray & Laura Hoffman

Worship Leaders for April 21, 2019

Greeter - Jim Estep
 Lector - Becky Twine (6:30); Emily Tompkins (10:00)
 Worship Assistant - TBA (6:30);
 TBA (10:00)
 Head Usher - TBA
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - TBA

Worship Leaders for April 28, 2019

Greeters - John Maher & Tim Schlosser
 Lector - Traci Naugle
 Worship Assistant - Becky Twine
 Head Usher - Missy Wertz
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - Beth Wagner & Debbie Lechner

Worship Leaders for May 5, 2019

Greeter - Sue Pry
 Lector - Beth Wagner
 Worship Assistant - Rhonda Barry
 Head Usher - Cheryl Harpster
 Gift Bearers & Ushers - Jeff & Judy Robison

Worship Helpers for April:

Bereavement Team - Cheryl Harpster & Bob Laughlin
 Counting Helpers - Cheryl Harpster & Bob Laughlin
 Altar Guild - Debbie Lechner & Wendy Tomlinson

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

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bethanylutheranchurch.net
bethanyelca@atlanticbbn.net

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Becoming Disciples - Serving Others *March/April 2019*



Holy Week is coming!!

This year we will be celebrating the following services during Holy Week:

Palm Sunday: 9:00am

Maundy Thursday: 6:30pm (*this service will be held at 2nd Ave UMC*)

Good Friday: 7:00pm

Easter Vigil: 5:00pm

Easter Sunday: 6:30am & 9:00am

Pastor:

The Rev. Drew McCaffery

Office Manager:

Marty Jo Stellabotte

Organist/Choir Director:

Cathy Tompkins

Sexton:

Chris Beach

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday,

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(most weeks)

Sunday Worship: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.