

# The Evangel

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church  
(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)  
301 Scott Avenue Glenshaw, Pennsylvania 15116

Phone: (412) 486-5777    [www.bethelglenshaw.org](http://www.bethelglenshaw.org)    Fax: (412) 487-8328

Volume XLII, Number 5

May 2018

### Mission Statement

*In our commitment to mission, Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church will proclaim and witness to God's salvation in our community and the world by preaching God's Word and administering the Sacraments in all their truth and purity."*

*Adopted by the congregation on April 23, 1989*

### Staff

Pastor . . . . . *Arthur E. Litke*  
Secretary . . . . . *Donna Heintz*  
Director of Music . . . . . *(vacant)*

### Board of Directors

Executive Director . . . . . *Al Todd III*  
Doctrine & Worship . . . . . *Ross Betts*  
Mission . . . . . *John Rehder*  
Education . . . . . *Darren Deltondo*  
Christian Service . . . . . *Gary Swanson*  
Property . . . . . *Dave Augustine*  
Finance . . . . . *Fred Heintz*

### Other Officers & Contact People

Financial Secretary . . . . . *Paul Hoffman*  
Recording Secretary . . . . . *Donna Heintz*  
Treasurer . . . . . *Dorothy Carlisle*  
Altar Guild . . . . . *Marie Litke*  
Men's Club/LLL . . . . . *(vacant)*  
Bethelites/LWML . . . . . *(vacant)*  
Youth Group . . . . . *Gary Swanson*



*All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"*

*Acts 2:12 (ESV)*

## What Does This Mean?

Even twenty centuries ago (1500 years before the Reformation and the writing of Luther's Small Catechism) people were already asking what has been described as the typically "Lutheran" question—"What does this mean?" The crowd that was present when the power of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the apostles, giving them the ability to proclaim the Gospel to people of many nations in their own native languages. "Amazed and perplexed," they wondered: "What does this mean"?

What does Pentecost mean? It means that the Christ who died and rose again—the Christ who ascended into heaven—is still present with His Church, empowering it to share the Good News of His grace with all people everywhere. It means that the Gospel of His grace is not for just a select few but for all sinners who are in need of salvation. It means that the people of God in Jesus Christ, no matter how despised and persecuted they might be in a hostile world, can go forth boldly in the name of Christ, confident that His Spirit is with them and will work through them.

What does Pentecost mean to us personally and individually? It means that we are children of God, having been redeemed by the blood of Christ and adopted by the power of His Spirit in Baptism. It means that we have no reason to fear opposition or failure as we confess Jesus in our world and share His redeeming love with others. We have no reason to fear because His Spirit is our Motivation and Strength to be the people He has called us as He and daily conforms us to the perfect image of Christ.

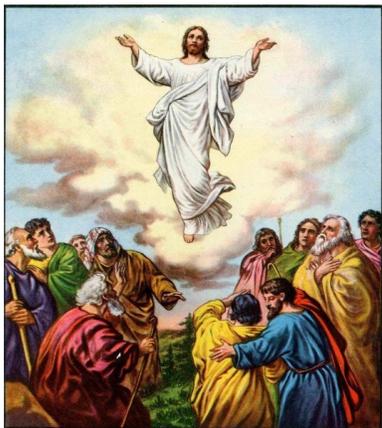
In His love and service,

*Pastor Litke*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- May 20 will be the last Sunday School until the Fall.
- Will be getting estimates to replace bathroom faucets
- Zion Lutheran in Lawrenceville will be receiving a seminary student named Paul Morrison.
- Discussion of upcoming events (see *article "Upcoming Events"*)



## ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

For the first time in several years we will be having an Ascension Day service. In fact, we will be having two of them. As part of our attempts to work more closely with our brothers and sisters at Saint John's in Millvale and Zion in Lawrenceville, we will be celebrating the Ascension of Our Lord with two services on Ascension Day, May 10.

At 12:00 Noon on that day we will worship at Saint John's and at 7:00 p.m. here at Bethel. Both will be services of Holy Communion. At both services Pastor Litke will deliver the sermon and Pastor Hahn will officiate at the liturgy. The service at Bethel will be preceded by a meatball hoagie meal at 6:00 p.m.

Please join us at one of these services to receive the Lord's Word and Sacrament and to enjoy fellowship with fellow Lutherans.

## THE LUTHERAN HOUR WJAS-AM 1320 SUNDAYS 7:00 A.M.

May 6

### "Love One Another as I Have Loved You"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer  
Jesus calls His followers to be different as they deal with difficult people  
(John 15:9-17)

May 13

### "Keep Them"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour:  
Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus  
There are times Christians might readily wish the Lord would airlift them out of this world. Because we have some work to do, the Lord Jesus prays we be kept safe. So, how's that working for you?  
(John 17:14-17)

May 20

### "Functional Atheist No More!"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer  
Christians like to think of themselves as following the first disciples. That's uncomfortably true. The first disciples had trouble believing the promises of Jesus for their daily lives. Too often we do too. On Pentecost the Spirit of the risen Lord Jesus gave the first disciples faith like they had never had before. Today the same Spirit is ready to do the same for us.  
(Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27)

May 27

### "Impossible"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour:  
Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus  
Can death hold us? Experience says, "Yes!" the Apostle Peter says, "No." Today's sermon talks about making possible that which can't happen.  
(Acts 2:22-24)

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## BIRTHDAYS

- 05—Ross Betts
- 08—Dorothy Carlisle
- 13—Lynn Betts
- 18—Seth Swanson



# VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Volunteers are requested for the upcoming dinner for the blind at First Trinity Lutheran Church in Oakland on MAY 19. Let Fred Heintz know if you can help.



# IN HIS SERVICE

- Head Usher.....Paul Hoffman
- Communion Asst.....Jon Meier
- Offering Usher.....Eddie Stabile
- Altar Guild..... Melanie Rehder  
Eddie Stabile



# THANK GOD FOR

There is no love, like a mother's love,  
no stronger bond on earth...  
like the precious bond that comes from God,  
to a mother, when she gives birth.

A mother's love is forever strong,  
never changing for all time...  
and when her children need her most,  
a mother's love will shine.

God bless these special mothers,  
God bless them every one...  
for all the tears and heartache,  
and for the special work they've done.

When her days on earth are over,  
a mother's love lives on...  
through many generations,  
with God's blessings on each one.

Be thankful for our mothers,  
for they love with a higher love...  
from the power God has given,  
and the strength from up above.

# PRAYER THOUGHT

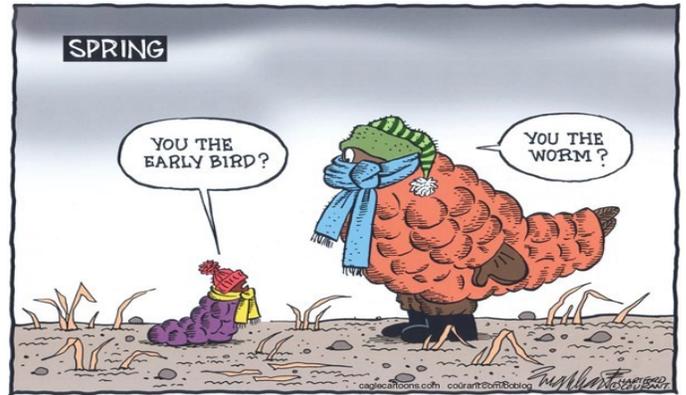
"Prayer is contact with God such as lovers have, such as friends have. It doesn't need solitude to exist. Occasionally it is nice to have it but let's not make the mistake of thinking that we can only pray to God if we can get away from the mob and escape to the solitude of a Russian-style poustinia. We have to be realistic about prayer. Prayer is, first and foremost, standing still before God. Before you even begin to ask questions about prayer, you must stand still."

--Catherine de Hueck Doherty in  
Soul of My Soul

—Annon

## UPCOMING EVENTS

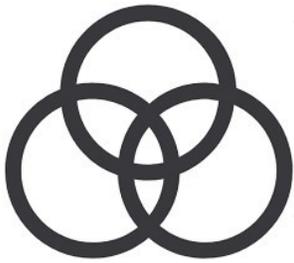
May 5.....	Concordia Kids Fishing Derby at Saxony Farms.....	8:00 a.m.
May 10.....	Ascension Service at Zion.....	12:00 p.m.
	Meatball Hoagie Supper at Bethel ( <i>volunteers needed</i> ).....	6:00 p.m.
	Ascension Service at Bethel.....	7:00 p.m.
May 12.....	Concordia Fashion Show at Butler Country Club.....	10:00 a.m.
May 19.....	Men's Breakfast at St. John's in Millvale.....	8:00 a.m.
	Dinner for the Blind at Frist Trinity in Oakland ( <i>volunteers needed</i> ).....	TBA
June 2.....	Ben Swanson and Katelyn Miller Wedding at Bethel.....	11:00 a.m.
June 10.....	Tri-Parish Church Picnic at Squaw Run Park.....	2:00 p.m.
June 17.....	Orphan Grain Train Presentation by Rev. James Carretto & luncheon....	11:00 a.m.
June 18-21.....	Vacation Bible School at St. John's ( <i>volunteers needed</i> ).....	evening
July 9.....	CLM Golf Classic at Treesdale.....	8:30 a.m.
August 11.....	Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream Social.....	TBA
August 18.....	Hazelwood Community Day ( <i>volunteers needed</i> ).....	TBA
October 13.....	Oktoberfest at Zion.....	TBA



## FINANCIAL NEWS Through March 31, 2018

	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u>
March income	\$ 6,075.88	\$ 7,366.42	\$1,290.54
March expenses	\$ 10,020.52	\$ 9,274.07	(\$ 746.45)
Income less expenses	(\$3,944.64)	(\$1,907.65)	\$ 2,036.99
Y-T-D income	\$23,329.80	\$24,605.66	\$1,2775.86
Y-T-D expenses	\$32,488.54	\$29,672.18	(\$2,816.36)
Y-T-D Income less expenses	(\$9,158.74)	(\$ 5,066.52)	\$4,092.22

The actual deficit for the year is \$5,066.52 We intended to include the \$1,200 per month when we passed the budget. If that \$3,600 is added to the income total, our net deficit would be \$1,466.52



# Tri-Parish News

May 2018

Vol. 1 No. 1

Bethel Lutheran Church – Glenshaw  
St. John's Lutheran Church – Millvale  
Zion Lutheran Church – Lawrenceville

## EVENTS

Joint **ASCENSION DAY** services will be held on Thursday, **May 10**. A **12:00pm** service is scheduled at St. John's and a **7:00pm** service at Bethel. Members are encouraged to attend whichever service is most convenient for them. Holy Communion will be celebrated at both. **Meatball Hoagies** will be served at Bethel before the evening service beginning at 6:00pm. A freewill offering will be received at the meal. For the service, offerings received in marked envelopes will be forwarded to the designated congregation. Loose plate offerings will be gifted to Unity Lutheran Mission in Homewood.

A **MEN'S BREAKFAST** will be held at **8:00am** on **Saturday, May 19** at St. John's. All men of the three parishes are invited and encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity to fellowship and pray together. At the breakfast we will also be making plans for a men's retreat to be held later this year.

The **TRI-PARISH PICNIC** is scheduled for **Sunday, June 10** at **Squaw Valley Park**, Shelter #1, 330 Fox Chapel Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Corn-hole tournament, bocce, bingo, bubbles, balloon and egg tosses, etc. Hot Dogs will be provided, please bring a side dish, snack, or dessert to share and your own beverages.

ST. JOHN'S VBS will be held Monday through Thursday, June 18-21, from 6:00-8:30pm. The theme will be "God Shows His Love for Me". As a follow-up, a **Community Carnival for Kids** will be held in St. John's front lawn and basement on Saturday, June 23, 12-4pm.

An **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** for the three parishes is being planned for this summer at Bethel, Glenshaw. More details to follow.

Zion, Lawrenceville will host an **OKTOBERFEST** on **Saturday, October 13**. This is a tri-parish event continuing the celebration of Zion's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

## NEWS

**A NEW PASTOR** is coming to Zion! At the celebration banquet for Zion's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary it was announced that Zion would be receiving a pastor from the Fort Wayne Seminary. At the call service on Wednesday, April 25 the Reverend Candidate Paul Morrison was named as Zion's future pastor. The date and arrangements for his ordination and installation are still to be determined.

**Zion, Lawrenceville** marked its **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** with a special celebratory service on Sunday, April 22. An anniversary banquet was held at Concordia's new Highpointe at Rebecca. Many thanks to all who helped to make this day so special.

The **Eastern District Convention** will be held at Daemen College in Amherst, NY on June 15 & 16. Bethel's delegates are Pastor Art Litke and Darren Deltondo. St. John's delegates are Pastor Dan Hahn and Michael Purucker. Zion's delegate is Naomi Agostino. Information on the convention, including resolutions coming to the floor, may be found on the district's website: [www.lcmsed.org](http://www.lcmsed.org).

## QUICK-LOOK CALENDAR

Thurs. May 10 Ascension Day , 12 :00pm – Worship, St. John's ,  
6:00pm – Dinner, Bethel 7:00pm – Worship, Bethel

Sat. May 19 8:00am – Men's Breakfast

Sun. June 10 2:00pm – Church Picnic

June 18-21 St. John's VBS

June 15-16 Eastern District Convention

June 23 12-4pm Kids' Carnival, St. John's

**TRI-PARISH COMMITTEE** The TRI - PARISH COMMITTEE consists of the officers of the three congregations who meet together periodically to discuss our common mission and future plans.

The committee met most recently at St. John's on Thursday, April 19. Sixteen people were present: 3 from Zion; 6 from Bethel; 7 from St. John's. Paul Brand, president of St. John's, led the meeting. Below are some highlights of the discussion:

After approving the corrected minutes of the previous meeting, the committee discussed UPCOMING EVENTS. The service times and plans for Ascension Day were finalized and are detailed elsewhere this news-page. Developing plans for the church picnic, ice cream social, and Oktoberfest were likewise discussed.

This new Tri-Parish News page will be produced monthly to share activities and news among the three churches. Each congregation will print and distribute the page as best suits them. Information to be included in the news-page should be submitted to the office at St. John's by the 15th of the month. The email address is listed below.

Under NEW BUSINESS there was a discussion about possibly sharing secretarial services to increase service and reduce costs to the congregations. Interest was also expressed in having some shared webmaster/technology help. It was determined that there was not a need for this at the present time and the discussion was tabled. (Any action that might be considered in the future would ultimately have to secure the approval of the voters from each congregation.)

A men's retreat was discussed at some length. The committee discussed whether the Tri-parish might want to host a men's gathering for all of our regional churches. (There was an offer to have retreat leader supplied for us from Lutheran Hour Ministries.) It was decided that our goal at the present time is to increase fellowship among the people of our three congregations and that a smaller, more focused, men's retreat should be targeting that audience. To plan and schedule such a retreat a Men's Breakfast was scheduled. "Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.'" John 21:12.

Other possible future activities were discussed including: (1) Offering more Bible Study opportunities, perhaps with small groups meeting in a local restaurant or private homes. (2) A future women's retreat or activity. (3) An outing to a Pirates game with a tailgate party. (4) An outing to a Christian movie with a discussion time scheduled afterward.

A question was asked about how we might share the cost for the events being planned. For the time being, it was decided that the host congregation for each event will determine how costs are to be covered for that event.

The next meeting of the Tri-Parish Committee will be Thursday, May 31, 7:00pm at Bethel, Glenshaw.