

The Evangel

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

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September 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*



Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

James 4:7, 8 (ESV)

Drawing Near to God

Most Biblical commentators regard the letter of James to be a practical manual for living the Christian life. The advice James gives in these verses seems to be so obvious that it doesn't even need to be said. However, like so many things, it is a lot easier said than done. How does one go about "fleeing the devil" or "drawing near to God"? These statements of James appear side by side because we "flee the devil" when we "draw near to God." So the big question here is: How do we "draw near to God"?

God has told us where we can find Him, should we desire to "draw near to" Him: in His means of grace. That is where He has promised to meet us—not on the golf course or in our thoughts or emotions. We "draw near to God" when we read or hear His Word, printed or spoken or preached. We "draw near to God" when we study His Word, individually or in groups. We "draw near to God" when we meditate on our Baptism into Christ. We "draw near to God" when we receive the true body and blood of our Savior in His Holy Supper.

The end of the summer gives us even more opportunities to be in the Word. Our Sunday morning Bible class resumes on September 9. The Wednesday morning Bible study and prayer group resumes on September 12. This fall we have yet another opportunity to be in the Word with a new tri-parish study group, beginning on September 13 at Highpointe at Rebecca. Don't miss out on these opportunities. "Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you."

In His love and service,

Pastor Litke



PRAYER THOUGHT

"The task of men who work for the kingdom of God is to work for the kingdom of God. The result beyond this demand is not in their hands. He who keeps his eyes on results cannot give himself wholeheartedly to his task, however simple or complex that task may be."

--Howard Thurman in *The Inward Journey*

Bible Study



TRI-PARISH STUDY GROUP

A new study group, made up of members of Bethel, Saint John's in Millvale, and Zion in Lawrenceville, will begin on Thursday evening, September 13. We will meet at Highpointe, the new independent living facility that Concordia recently built on the campus of Rebecca Residence. The meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The study will run until just before Thanksgiving and will center on our purpose as Christians living in the world today. We will discuss Christian identity and Christian mission, as well as practical examples and ideas for carrying out our mission as God's people in Christ.

This is a great opportunity for us gather together around God's Word to learn and to grow in faith and fellowship. Plan to join us.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WJAS 1320 AM— Sundays 7:00 a.m.
WWNL 1080 AM—Saturdays 3:30 p.m.
- Sundays 6:00 a.m.
- Sundays 5:30 p.m.

September 2

"Eager to Preach the Good News"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

In a classic message from 1968, Dr. Oswald Hoffmann says, "The Good News (of Christ) is really good; good enough to believe, good enough to trust."

(Romans 1:14-17)

September 9

"The Changeless Christ for a Changing World"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Walter A. Maier

In a classic message first heard in 1937, Dr. Walter A. Maier tells how Christ comes to us in our world of change and decay with a message of unchanging hope.

(Hebrews 13:8)

September 16

"The Mystery of God"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

The undeniable hiddenness of God becomes the openness of God when you see His Son, Jesus Christ.

(Isaiah 55:6-9)

September 23

"Come, Lord Jesus"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

In a classic message from 1998, Dr. Dale Meyer explains how a common table prayer reminds us of our dependence upon God and His gifts.

(Exodus 16)

September 30

"Cut Off-for Us"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr.

Sin is serious because it cuts us off from God. Guest speaker Dr. Lawrence Rast says Jesus was

CELEBRATE



September 02—Leona Deltondo
16—Tim Hornish

ZION'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Lawrenceville section of Pittsburgh continues to celebrate the year of its 150th Anniversary with A Day of History on Sept. 15 from 12:30 to 4 p.m. at its location at 237 37th Street.

The tri-event will feature 15-minute docent tours of the church sanctuary from 12:30 until 2 p.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. led by Zion's church historian Rebekah Johnston.

At 1 p.m. in the church undercroft, Lawrenceville's well-known historian Jim Wudarczyk will address the topic of "German Ethnicity and the Lawrenceville Experience." The talk will demonstrate how the quest of German immigrants to maintain their European roots led to the rise of several religious and cultural organizations. Wudarczyk will also show how the areas around 37th Street became one of several German enclaves in the City of Pittsburgh.

Following the presentation at 2 p.m. attendees are invited to journey to the past with The Pittsburgh Historical Music Society Orchestra as members recreate concerts and experiences from colonial times through the Civil War. Lively and engaging performances in the church sanctuary will include the music of the gentile society as well as popular songs of the time.

Everyone who has ever resided or visited in Lawrenceville is familiar with the "Doughboy" statue at the Y forming Penn Avenue and Butler Street. The third and final performance introduces Dan Simkins, Avonworth Historical Society Board member, who will present a lecture on the life of a doughboy, a WWI soldier. He will be dressed in full uniform.

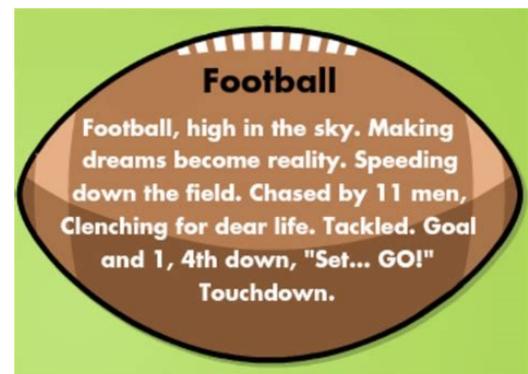
The tri-event is free to the public. Refreshments will be available. Please call 412-621-2720 from more information.



IN HIS SERVICE FOR SEPTEMBER

Head Usher.....Fred Heintz
Communion Asst.....Paul Hoffman
Offering Usher.....Eddie Stabile

AltarMelanie Rehder and
Eddie Stabile



OUR CHURCH'S
FINANCIAL
HEALTH

FINANCIAL NEWS

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Surplus/ (Deficit)</u>
July income	\$ 8,888.60	\$ 9,738.16	\$ 849.56
July expense	\$ 8,969.02	\$ 8,514.81	\$ (454.21)
income less expense	\$ (80.42)	\$ 1,223.35	\$ 1,303.77
Y-T-D income	\$ 57,845.51	\$ 63,351.78	\$ 5,506.27
Y-T-D expense	\$ 71,259.08	\$ 66,183.54	\$ (5,075.54)
Y-T-D income less expense	\$(13,413.57)	\$ (2,831.76)	\$ 10,581.81

THANK YOU

Bethel received many "thank you" letters over the summer.

From Redeemer Lutheran School — thank you for \$197.75

From First Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church thank you for:

\$197.75 for Campus Ministry,
\$ 60.75 for Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind.

\$ 49.25 from P.A.L.M. for Deaf ministry.

back2school
prayer

"Dear Lord, use my eyes to see new friends.

Open my ears to hear my teacher.

Open my mind to learn new things.

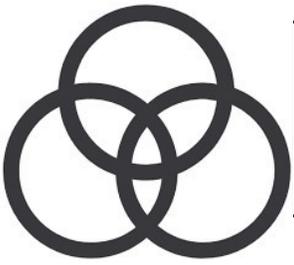
Let my heart remember YOU are near when I'm afraid.

Help me to love others like you do.

I want to shine your light so bright in my school."

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Amen.



Tri-Parish News

May 2018

Vol. 1 No. 1

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