

The Evangel

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

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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
Organists. Sarah Dougal
 Dave Forsyth
 Greg Wehner

Board of Directors

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

Other Officers & Contact People

Financial Secretary Fred Heintz
Recording Secretary Donna Heintz
Treasurer Dorothy Carlisle
Altar Guild Marie Litke
Sunday School Marie Litke
Sewing Group Donna Heintz
Sign Manager Gary Swanson
Children Sermons Gary Swanson



In Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Him all things, whether on earth and in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

Colossians 1:19, 20 (ESV)

The Fullness of God

“I’ll be home for Christmas.” “There’s no place like home for the holidays.” We’ve all heard these words during the weeks that lead up to the Christmas season. And we’ve all shared those sentiments. But when you really stop to think about it, it’s not really “home” that the singer of these words longs for or that we long for; it’s being with the people that we love.

Our God loved us so much that He wanted to be with us—not just to be in our presence, but really be one with us. That is why He chose in love to become One of us in His incarnate Son Jesus Christ. That’s the very meaning of the name Immanuel: God with us. Everything that God is embodied in a helpless Baby lying in a manger. And that’s what Christmas is all about.

It’s been said that Christmas is the season of giving. It is a time when we exchange gifts with one another and give to various charities in order to provide those less fortunate than ourselves with the opportunity to share in the joy of the season. The reason why we do this is because we have received infinitely more than we could ever give. God gave Himself—all of Himself—for us and for our salvation.

He was pleased to dwell with us in Christ—not just for a brief time, but forever—permanently uniting Himself with our human nature. It is this love that we celebrate during this special time of the year. And it is this love that we reflect to others, not only at Christmas but always. Merry Christmas!

In His love and service,

Pastor Litke

PRAYER THOUGHT

“Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Son of the Most High, Prince of Peace, be born again in our world. Wherever there is war in this world, wherever there is pain, wherever there is loneliness, wherever there is no hope, come, Thou long-expected One, with healing in Thy wings. Holy Child, whom the shepherds and the kings and dumb beasts adored, be born again. Wherever there is boredom, wherever there is fear of failure, wherever there is temptation too strong to resist, wherever there is bitterness of heart, come, Thou Blessed One, with healing in Thy wings.”

--Frederick Buechner in *The Hungering Dark*



CONCORDIA NEWS

This year Ross Betts and Donna Heintz were Bethel's delegates to Concordia Lutheran Ministries' annual meeting. Here are some facts that were brought to our attention:

- Concordia is the 22nd largest facility in USA.
- Concordia has 16 locations.
- There are 82 acres that are under roof to maintain.
- Concordia spent \$12 million on benevolent care in 2019.
- There are 650 residents in subsidized care.
- Concordia served 45,00 people in 2019.
- The only organization in senior care industry with a high rating from S&P— Rated AA!

New Director for 2020 are as follows:

Rande Casaday, Jennifer Ciccone, Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein, Russell Lucas, Katie Straszheim, James Wolf.

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.

December 1

"Enough with the Self-Talk"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

We are not always who we say we are. What you say to yourself about yourself may or may not be what's true. Dr. Michael Zeigler says, "Enough with the self-talk!" Who does God say you are? You'll find that you are worse than you thought, and yet, more loved than you could ever imagine.

(Luke 18:9-14)

December 8

"God's Yes"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Loved and Sent Series - "If we say that God's purpose is simply to take our souls to heaven when we die, we might miss God's bigger 'yes' ... God's 'yes' to putting bodies and souls back together again in the resurrection; God's 'yes' to creation as He intended it to be."

(Romans 8:18-39)

December 15

"Love Is Enough"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Loved and Sent Series - God shows us a different kind of love. It's love for the world that is not of this world, love that is focused outward, love that gives without requiring anything in return.

(Matthew 22:35-40)

December 22

"Christmas"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Matthew 1:18-25)

December 29

"Dreams"

Guest Speaker: Pastor John Nunes

(Jeremiah 23:24)



MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

This year's Midweek Advent services are also Tri-Parish events. The theme will be "The Angelic Messages of Advent." The schedule will be as follows:

December 4:

"The Message to Zachariah" (*Luke 1:13; 17*)
Saint John's in Millvale

December 11:

"The Message to Mary" (*Luke 1:30-33*)
Zion in Lawrenceville

December 18:

"The Message to Joseph" (*Matthew 1:20, 21*)
Bethel in Glenshaw

Each service will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be preceded by a light supper at 6:00 p.m.



LET US ADORE HIM

Our Christmas Day service this year will be a Tri-parish event. The service will be at 10:00 a.m. on Christmas morning at Saint John's in Millvale. Pastor Daniel Hahn of Saint John's, will be the preacher for the service.

PAST PASTOR OBITUARY

Obituary – Floyd P. Duff

Floyd Paul Duff, 90, died on Saturday, November 2 at Commonwealth Senior Living in Hagerstown. Born in Detroit, Michigan September 26, 1929, he was the son of the late Floyd Duff and Evelyn Mulokey Duff.

In 1955, he married Bobbie Ann Wessinger at Trinity Lutheran Church in New York. He graduated from Concordia Seminary also that year.

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod ordained Rev. Duff where he served for over fifty-seven years in mostly pastoral capacities. He began in 1955 serving Redeemer Lutheran Church and Calvary Lutheran Church in upstate New York as pastor. In 1957, he was called to serve Bethel Lutheran Church in Glenshaw, PA where he oversaw construction of a new church building that was dedicated in 1964. It was here where he also served as treasurer for the Lutheran Service Society of Pittsburgh, PA. He was called to serve as pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Preston, MD in 1967 where he had an educational building built in 1968 to ease overcrowded conditions in the main church building. In 1971, he was named Superintendent-Administrator of Augsburg Lutheran Home in Baltimore, MD where he served until moving to Mars, PA to serve in that same role for a short time at St. Johns Lutheran Home. He went back to the pastoral role by accepting a call to Trinity Lutheran Church in Gretna, LA where he served from 1981 through 1993. He was a chaplain at the World's Fair in New Orleans during that time. He then moved on to get closer to family, at my mom's urging, by accepting a call to Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Bryan Roads, MD in 1993 where he was their pastor until he retired in 2002. Not one to sit still, he filled in as pastor for two congregations in MD after his retirement – Concordia Lutheran Church & School in Upper Marlboro and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Mechanicsville.

He is survived by three sons; Timothy Mark Duff of Hampstead, MD, Paul David Duff of Ellicott City, MD and Jonathan David Duff of North Palm Beach, Florida; four daughters, Evelyn Louise Baldea of Stevensville, MD, Marion Elizabeth Hajimirsadeghi of Baltimore, MD, Katherine Duff of Belcamp, MD and Lois Kathleen Duff of Clarksburg, MD; thirteen grandchildren; six great-grandchildren and his sister, Delores Reimer of Hemet, California.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER

	October			Year-to-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Surplus/(Deficit)	Budget	Actual	Surplus/ Deficit
Income	\$ 7,454.18	\$ 6,341.51	\$ (1,112.67)	\$89,131.78	\$82,252.17	\$(6,879.61)
Expense	\$ 8,419.18	\$ 7,068.68	\$ (1,350.50)	\$95,177.91	\$92,375.85	\$(2,802.06)
Income less Expense	\$ (965.00)	\$ (727.17)	\$ 237.83	\$(6,046.13)	\$(10,123.68)	\$(4,077.55)

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY*

- 07—Marilyn Heintz
- 17—Melanie Rehder
- Bob Meier
- 27—Abbey Todd
- 29—Heidi Todd
- 31—Helen Lightell

**Birthdays of ACTIVE parishioners*



IN HIS SERVICE

- Deacon.....Al Todd III
- Communion Asst.....Fred Heintz
- Offering Usher.....Eddie Stabile

- AltarMelanie Rehder

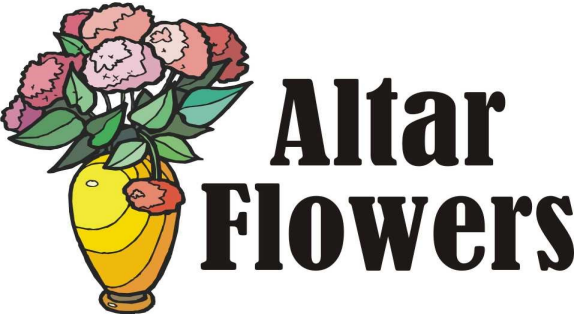
DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 16—Cindy and Curt Hetz
- 18—Jacob and Emma Swanson



FLOWERS FOR 2020

If you would like to place fresh flowers on the altar for the Sunday morning services during 2020, please fill out a pink flower form and give to Donna Heintz. The cost is \$15. You may also place our already made silk arrangement for the cost of \$3. Payment is requested when you hand in your form.



SING UNTO THE LORD

Tri-Parish Choir is scheduled to perform as scheduled:

SUNDAY, DEC. 15- Concordia Live Nativity
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 Festival of Lessons and Carols for Rebecca and Highpointe.

There will be choir rehearsals following each 7:00 Advent Service **at 8 p.m.**

WEDNESDAY -DEC. 4—St. John's

WEDNESDAY—DEC.11— Zion

WEDNESDAY—DEC.18—Bethel

POINSETTIAS



If you would like to place a live poinsettia at the altar for CHRIST-mas please fill out a form found in the narthex or see Marie Litke or Donna Heintz.

The cost this year will be \$10. Deadline for ordering will be DECEMBER 21.

JOIN US

The Tri-Parish will host caroling this year on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 beginning at 5:00 p.m. We will meet at Bethel's parking lot and car pool. If you have someone in mind that would like us to come to them and sing see Gary Swanson. Afterwards we will gather at Bethel for hot cocoa and cookies. Everyone is invited!



LET'S DECORATE

We will be decorating the church on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 beginning at 2:00 p.m. If you can help out it would be great. We may decide to join together in fellowship for dinner afterwards at a local restaurant.



LIVE NATIVITY

Concordia will host a Live Nativity - featuring staff and residents from the Concordia family - on Sunday, December 15 in front of Haven II on the Concordia at Cabot campus. The event is free and open to the public.

There will be three shows, which last approximately 15 minutes each. Show times will be held at 4:30, 5:15 and 6:00 p.m. Between performances, there will also be live Christmas music, hot chocolate and refreshments inside the Haven II building. Children 12 and under will receive a free gift and have a chance to interact with some of the animals. *New for 2019: Children will have a chance to visit with Santa between performances! If you're interested in taking your child's photo with Santa, please bring your own camera.

This will be a "walk-through" Nativity scene, so guests are encouraged to dress warmly. Last year's event drew several hundred people. [Click here for Google Maps directions.](#)

Are you interested or going to the event? Visit the Event page on Facebook and let us know: <https://www.facebook.com/events/419222608761642/>. For more information, call Connor Hagey at 724-352-1571, ext. 8343 or message us through our online contact form.