

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	





For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1 (ESV)

Forever Free!

At the heart of Martin Luther's preaching of the Gospel in the sixteenth century was our freedom in the Gospel. That fact begs the question: "Freedom from what?" Many people in Luther's day misinterpreted his message to mean that we are free from all authority, which led to what has been called "The Peasants' War." So violent was this conflict that Luther himself asked the civil authorities to put down this rebellion, by force if necessary.

True freedom—the freedom that is ours in the Gospel of Christ—is freedom from sin. This encompasses two things in particular: freedom from the guilt of sin and freedom from the power of sin. What Christ has done for us in His life, death, and resurrection has broken the stranglehold that sin had on us. No longer do we need to be afraid of God's judgment, because we have been justified by Christ. No longer are we compelled to sin, because in Christ we are a New Man, not just an old Adam.

Our freedom from the guilt and power of sin means that now we are free to do the right thing—not because we have to under the threat of damnation, but because we want to, with the promise of God's acceptance and blessing. It is a freedom that empowers us to "fight the good fight of the faith" (1 Timothy 6:12) every day of our lives, knowing that we are forgiven when we fail and that our efforts to serve God by serving our neighbor, no matter how lacking those efforts may be, are acceptable to God as if they were perfect, for the sake of His perfect Son. May God grant that we live in this freedom forever and never "submit again to [the] yoke of slavery" that is sin.

In His love and service,

Pastor Litke

PRAYER THOUGHT

"God does not wish to regard our sins and punish us as we daily deserve but to deal graciously with us, to forgive us as He has promised, and thus to grant us a joyful and cheerful conscience so that we may stand before Him in prayer. For where the heart is not right with God and cannot generate such confidence, it will never dare to pray. But such a confident and joyful heart can never come except when one knows that his or her sins are forgiven."

--Martin Luther in The Large Catechism



OKTOBERFEST

This year the Tri-Parish Oktoberfest will be held at Bethel on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 beginning at 4:00 p.m. All your favorite German foods will be served. A free-will offering will be collected and will benefit Redeemer Lutheran School.

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.

October 6 "Homeward"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
The spiritually homeless people of the modern
world have written God out of their story,
but God remains the one Way home.
(Genesis 11 - 12:9)

October 13

"Faith Unafraid"
Guest Speaker: Pastor Ryan Tinetti
Genesis Series - People sometimes talk of
"cutting a deal."
In times past,
this was more than a figure of speech!
(Genesis 15)

October 20

"The Lamp of the Body"
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Genesis Series - (Zeigler:) "If your heart is full
of light, then your eyes shine with generosity
and grace, and your body follows the light.
If your heart is full of darkness, then your eyes
are obscured with fear and greed,
and the rest of you follows suit."
(Genesis 16)

October 27
"Walk with Me"
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Genesis Series
(Genesis 17)

SEWING GROUP

The sewing group that meets once a month recently donated 16 patchwork quilts and four plyarn mats to First Trinity Lutheran Church's ministry to the homeless of Pittsburgh.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR AUGUST

INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)
August	\$ 7,181.06	\$ 7,709.19	\$ (528.10)
Year-to-Date	\$71,915.06	\$66,050.52	\$ (5,864.54)
EXPENSE August Year-to-Date	BUDGET \$9,029.20 \$77,584.71	ACTUAL \$8,223.38 \$76,016.98	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) \$ 805.82 \$1,5567.73

INCOME LESS EXPENSES

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)
August	\$ (1,848.14)	\$ (514.22)	\$ (1,333.92)
Year-to-Date	\$ (5,669.65)	\$ (9,966.46)	\$ (4,296.81)



IN HIS SERVICE

Deacon......Fred Heintz

Communion Asst.....Paul Hoffman
Offering Usher.....Eddie Stabile

Altar......Donna Heintz

Cindy Hetz

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS*

14—Fred Heintz Jr

18 -Donna Heintz

20—John Rehder

- Cindy Hetz

31—Kevin Hoffman

*Birthdays and Anniversaries of ACTIVE parishioners

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARYS

14—Heidi and Al Todd

