

Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church serves God and its neighbors by joyfully living and sharing the Good News!

BETHEL NEWS for the week of February 4, 2018



This week @ Bethel

Today!	10:15a coffee & fellowship, Sun. school, 1 st Communion class
Monday	9a Quilting group-join us! 10a-5p office open
Wednesday	10a-5p office open 6:30p choir practice
Thursday	10a-5p office open
Saturday	Equipping Congregations Day 6-9p WMM
Sunday	9:00a worship, installation of Church Council, 1 st Communion 10:15a coffee & fellowship, Sun. School, Adult Forum

Events are subject to change. For up-to-date calendar events, see our online calendar: <http://www.lpbethel.org>

Save the date!

Ash Wednesday: 2/14/18

5:30 pm Supper; 7:00 pm Service- "Our Crosses"

This year's theme for Lent will revolve around the most common symbol in Christianity: the Cross. Pastor Aaron is teaming up with other pastors in the Crow River Conference to do a round robin sermon series on the crosses we carry. Every Wednesday a different pastor will visit Bethel to give a sermon on a particular aspect of the cross, bringing with them personal crosses that adorn their office walls or homes. Come and hear fresh perspectives, different takes, and new voices as we move through the 40 days of Lent!

Africa presentation: 2/18/18

Cathy Houg will present photos of her trip to Africa! Pizza buffet! Free! **Everyone of all ages is invited! Open to the community! Please call the church to RSVP.**

"Women and Justice"

"Women and Justice" Social Statement Draft is Out and Waiting for Feedback. The ELCA is currently working on a Social Statement concerning Women and Justice, which is set to be voted on at the 2019 National Gathering. Recently, a complete draft of the statement has been made available to be read and considered. We are all invited to participate in this important discussion and give feedback. Here at Bethel we will be organizing more formal group discussions in the coming months but individual thoughts and concerns are also welcome! The draft can be found by visiting <http://elca.org/womenandjustice> and following the proper links. Individual feedback is encouraged and can be given directly here: bit.ly/womenandjusticedraft. Let us prayerfully and intentionally join in this important work as we seek to be the church of the world.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Through a Thrivent Action Grant, Bethel has stocked up on yarn to help launch a new ministry. **Prayer Shawls can be crafted by anyone in the community as a physical sign of comfort or blessing for those facing major life changes.** Shawl makers are invited to start each pattern with a prayer for whomever will eventually be receiving it. Throughout the entire process of making a shawl, blessings and prayers can be said for every stitch. When Pastor Aaron goes on hospital or home visits, he will deliver these prayer shawls as a sign of strength, comfort, solace, community, and God's constant presence in their lives. Yarn skeins can be signed out in groups of three for those interested in participating. If you have questions speak to Pastor Aaron or Abbe. The yarn is in the narthex with sign up sheets on the container.

Bethel Book Club

February: *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein

Check the library for a copy of the book.

Discussion date: 2/21/18 following the Lenten service.

Good News, Good Brews

Green Lake Bible Camp-February 9-11, \$145 (Must be 21 to attend)

Join Pastor Reggie Klindworth and Dave Eliason as they share the Good News and walk you through the craft brewing process. No matter the experience level, come join us for a great opportunity for crafting, conversation, and community. Experience the brewing process from start to finish—you'll even go home with some of your own home brew!

Welcome to Bethel!

Worshipping together as the Children of God.

Christ has claimed all of us as children of God, we encourage children of ALL ages to participate in worship, each to their ability.

To our youngest worshippers: we believe children are not the future of the church: they are the church present! We welcome your wiggles, giggles, cries and curious bodies and voices. Parents: encourage your child to sing, clap, wiggle, drop coins in the offering, and receive communion. A [non-staffed] toy room is available just outside the sanctuary.

To our “young at heart”: we welcome your enthusiasm and voices, too! If hearing assistance is needed, see an usher for a device.

For all: we strive for worship that is intergenerational and welcoming to the whole body of Christ. Communion is served every Sunday. We invite all persons who seek God’s grace through the bread and wine to share this meal, regardless of age or denominational affiliation. You are welcome at Christ’s table! Grape juice and gluten-free options are available, too.

Bathrooms are located just outside the sanctuary. Fellowship Hour happens immediately after worship. Join us for coffee, treats and conversation! During the school year, children are invited into the basement for Sunday School. Communication cards are located on the back of the pews, we’d love to hear from you or leave your name and email in our guestbook!

Serving in January

Altar Guild: Diane Horsman

Lector: Jill Duncan

Usher: Dave Horsman & Steve Klobe

Greeter: Brian & Jill Duncan

*Thank
You*

Committee Chairpersons

Altar Guild: Judy Angvall

jlangvall@yahoo.com; 320-395-2198

Lector: Cathy Houg

cathy.houg@gmail.com; 320-395-2759

Usher: Tim Smith

benson_lester@yahoo.com; 320-395-2755

Greeter: Ron Foust

rfoust@lesterbuildings.com; 612-201-2351

Lawn Mowing: Matt Krull

mkrull27@gmail.com; 320-224-8084

Easy online 2018 volunteer sign-up:

Go to www.lpbethel.org, click on **Worship**, and then **Worship Volunteer Sign Up**. Opportunities available!

Paper Drive

Bethel’s next paper drive is scheduled for **March 23-29**. Watch for the truck in the parking lot.

Directory Updates

Please, update the office with **changes for the 2018 Church Directory** at bethellutheranlp@gmail.com or 320-395-2125.

announcements due by Wednesdays @ noon~ newsletter items due by the 25th of the month

www.lpbethel.org ~ www.facebook.com/lpbethel ~ bethellutheranlp@gmail.com