



The Messenger

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

“Bethany Family” Nights

We are trying our first thing as we work on our newly articulated priority to “minister with and to children and their families.” Please mark your calendars for our “Bethany Family” Nights: Wednesdays, February 19, March 18, and April 22 from 6-7:30pm. This is an intergenerational event during which we will share a meal, activity, and worship that engages our youngest friends. Please note the quotes in “Bethany Family” Nights. It is meant to be a gathering of our “Bethany Family,” including folks of every generation. Come, ready for some fun (and maybe a bit of chaos.)

In the book, Growing Young, the authors talk about how it takes everyone in helping a church “grow young,” meaning, the average age of congregational members decreases. Young people who have caring adults at church show a higher faith maturity and engagement with church life and faith practices. It is quality AND quantity of relationships that count. As we work on this priority to “minister with and to children and their families,” these tidbits remind us we can all be invested in this task.

Sermon Series

Enough: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity

Our faith can be integrated into all areas of our lives. Faith can influence the choices we make on how we spend our time, care for our bodies, how/when/where we shop, our play and leisure, our work, our relationships, and our finances. Maybe you immediately identify some of those connections between this list of things and your faith. And maybe, this list has made you curious.

All that we have been given—our time, our bodies, our resources, our spiritual gifts, our creativity, our intellect, etc—are gifts from God. We are called to be wise stewards (or managers) of these gifts so that they might serve God’s purposes and human flourishing.

Coming this February, we will have a three week sermon series that connects faith and finances. We will consider: When dreams become nightmares, wisdom and finance, and cultivating contentment and generosity. The idea is to talk about money outside of some appeal asking for money and to connect our financial life to our spiritual life.

Learning something new or being presented with information that does not fit one’s current world view, can literally trigger a flight or fight response (did you know new information could be so powerful?) As we engage this topic, if you feel your defenses go up, ask yourself these questions:

What am I feeling?

Why am I feeling this?

What can I learn from this feeling?

A robust faith can be integrated into every area of our lives. Join us in February as we take a closer look at how faith and finances connect.

New Member Class

A New Member Class will be offered on Sundays, February 2 and 9, approx. 11:45-12:45, for anyone interested in learning about what it means to be Lutheran and our congregation. Then, on February 16, we welcome all the people of Bethany to gather for a New Member Mixer. After worship, we will gather for some nibbles and structured conversation, so that our new members can get to know some current members.

Hope you can join us!

**Visit us at www.bethanylemont.org
Church Office 630-257-7953**

SMALL GROUP STUDY: MAKING SENSE OF THE CROSS All are welcome to participate in this small group study that will explore God's saving work through the cross. It will be theological and it will be fun! You're guaranteed to learn something new! The study will take place from 9:15-10:15am on Sundays, February 16 thru March 29. There will be reading assignments outside of class. Books cost \$14/each. Please RSVP to Doug and Dorothy Freehauf, the leaders, or Pr. Elaina to reserve your spot and get a book!

Thank you

The month of December held so many significant events—The Giving Tree Forest, the funeral of our beloved Bill, the children’s Christmas Program, extra food pantry donations, care for our homebound members during the holiday season, and special services for Longest Night and Christmas Eve. There are many people to thank, and thank profusely, for the time and gifts they shared throughout the month. So many, I don’t want to leave anyone off the list. So, a hearty, grateful thank you to the people of Bethany for the many and varied ways you served and participated in a demanding, beautiful and holy month.



FEBRUARY BOOK CLUB

Not a reader? Join us anyway for lunch at a local restaurant and social hour. Book discussion follows lunch so if you haven't read the book, feel free to leave. The February selection is Lost Roses by Martha Kelly. Book Club will meet at 1PM on February 19th at Next Mex.



GIFTS TO BETHANY

Gifts to the Memorial Fund and Open Pantry in loving memory of Bill Laasch by his many friends and family

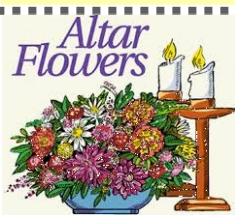
Gifts to the Open Pantry in loving memory of:

- Eugene Gutowski on the anniversary of his birth on December 15 by Dolores Gutowski
- Dorothy Goushas by Mari Ford
- Stanley Domikaitis Jr. by Ann Domikaitis
- Jerry Novak by Lori & Keith Olkiewicz
- Peter Chipain by Rev. Glenn & Marilynn Bergmark

A gift to the General Fund in loving memory of Jack Olson on the fifth anniversary of his death on December 26th by Syneta Olson

A gift to the Cemetery Fund by Phil Acton

A gift to the General Fund from Leslie & Michael Hall



THE 2020 ALTAR FLOWER CHART

is posted in the Narthex. Please fill in your name for the date you would like and complete a green card next to the chart with your special intention. Cards may be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office. Arrangements are \$25.00 and payment is due to Bethany when your flowers adorn the altar.

CALENDAR

WORSHIP

Wednesdays at 7PM Sundays at 10:30AM

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Sunday, February 2 | Parent Meeting re: Communion practices at Bethany, 9:45-10:15AM |
| Sundays, February 2 and 9 | New Member Class, approx. 11:45-12:45 |
| Sundays, February 16—March 29 | Making Sense of the Cross study group, 9:15-10:15AM |
| Sunday, February 16 | New Member Mixer following Worship |
| Wednesday, February 19 | Book Club at Next Mex, 1PM |
| | Bethany Family Night, 6-7:30PM |
| Wednesday, February 26 | Ash Wednesday Service, 7PM |

ADVENT SEASON AT BETHANY



SPONSORS

- KIDS PLUS DENTISTRY
- PLEWS
- LITTLE MOUNTAIN THEATRE COMPANY
- THE HILPEG FAMILY
- LEMONT JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB
- MRS PAM LAATCH
- BOY SCOUT TROOP 119
- LEMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY
- THE FEEHUFF AND STAUDT FAMILIES
- ED AND GRENDA ANDERSON
- LEMONT LIFE PROTECTION DISTRICT
- BETHANY OPEN PARTY
- THE MACDAM FAMILY
- LED AND SONS CARPET CLEANING
- THE SALMON FAMILY
- MS CAROL PHOADS
- MS MARTHA WALSH
- LHS STUDENT SERVICES
- THE GARLING AND YOWELL FAMILIES
- THE GRAY FAMILY



ADVENT SEASON AT BETHANY CONTINUED!



IN OUR PRAYERS

Bethany Members

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Ginny Connelly | Peyton Kirk |
| Nancy Iwan | Frank Iwan |
| Theora Kujawa | Ben Sabourin |
| Vivian Gunsaulus | Marie Heeren |
| Leona Nelson | Norma Johnson |
| Vivian Tiemeier | Glenn McAdam |
| Corey Schroeder | |



Friends and Relatives of Bethany Members

| | |
|--|---|
| Joanne Bauer—friend of Jim & Ginny Connelly | Gary Cobbett—friend of the Bergmarks |
| Gene Sobba—uncle of Carole & Jim Ross | Pam Patterson—sister-in-law of Ed & Glenda Anderson |
| Bernie Schroeder—father of Cheryl Hagedorn | Dennis Murphy—friend of the Andersons |
| Finley Engnell—friend of the Olkiewicz Family | Yvonne Borkhuis—sister of Rev. Glenn Bergmark |
| Monica Johnson—friend of Beth Howell | Jim Driscoll—friend of Gary Gray |
| Stella Slowik—friend of Kim Stowe | Charles Walker, Jr—relative of Luke Walker |
| Jim McKeever—colleague of Kris Falese | Anita Bromberek—friend of Sharon Ahlberg |
| Sean Clark—friend of Kelsey Schroeder | Frank Roy—friend of Barb & Michael Woods |
| Rudy Cozzi—friend of Glenda & Ed Anderson | Brianna Freehauf—friend of Mary Staudt |
| The Halama Family—friends of the Iwans | Kyle Williams—friend of Sue Gray |
| John Shea—brother-in-law of Heather & Mike Nilles | Janice Johnson—relative of Pat Engwall |
| Sue Lucheon—friend of Ginny Connelly | Mike Hoffman—friend of Kerri & Corey Schroeder |
| Brenda Short—friend of Kealy Schroeder | Kelli Wilson—relative of Cliff & Bev Wilson |
| Marianne Carlson—friend of Ginny Connelly & Karen Rae | Ranada Rymkus—friend of Don Garling |
| Justin & Stephanie Wormsley—friends of Jodi & Bruce Taylor | Beau Dowling—friend of Kris Falese |
| Lenny Kobilca—great-grandson of Marie Heeren | Lenny Vabalaitis—friend of Beth Howell |
| Tim & Virginia Schroeder—relatives of Jim & Carole Ross | Sherri Vick—cousin of Gary & Sue Gray |
| David Gray—brother of Gary Gray | Frank Miller—brother-in-law of Marlene & EJ Ahlberg |
| Rev. Glenn Bergmark | Ashley Gray—niece of Sue & Gary Gray |
| Paula McCoy—mother of Katie Slager | Omni Rook Myers—friend of the Taylor Family |
| Evelyn Cahill—neighbor of the Staudts | Dana Koss friend of Jodi Taylor |
| Barbara Gray – mother of Gary Gray | Rick Cieski – friend of Sandy Doebert |
| Walter Corky Johnson – brother of Jerry Johnson | |
| Ed Dutemple – brother -in-law of Keith & Lori Olkiewicz | |

If you would like to add anyone to the Bethany Prayer List, call or email the church office OR drop a note in the offering plate—be sure to include your name.

Conversely, if anyone listed is no longer in need of our prayers, please notify us as well.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED TO BETHANY OPEN PANTRY

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| St. Alphonsus Church | St. Patrick Church | Lemont Garden Club |
| Jurgis Matulaitis Mission | St. Alphonsus/St. Patrick School | Lemont Township |
| Starbucks Coffee patrons | Lois Miller | Salco Industries |
| Emmanuel Baptist Church | Lemont Lions Club | Norman Stahl |
| John Tomaskovic | Hayes Auto Repair | Anytime Fitness |
| Lemont Park District | Diane Sandberg | Jill Dolan |
| Siobhan Johnson | Lemont Library | St. Matthew Church |
| Andrew Davey | Lemont Fireman's Assn. | Lemont High School Band |
| Lemont Junior Woman's Club | The DuBois Family | Sharon Bolerjack |
| Lemont Park District Preschool | Laura Tingle | Eileen McElroy |
| Melissa McElroy Taylor | St. Mary's Slovenian Church | Linda Czuchra |
| Hope & Friendship Foundation | Chuck & Jean Martinkus | Bruce & Jodi Taylor |
| Elsie Schultz | Al & Cele Albrecht | Gloria Abboud |
| Don & Patty Krengiel | Matthew & Elizabeth Clarage | Kevin Shingler & Family |
| Vacys & Viktoria Saulys | Theresa Graham | George & Geri Beck |
| Lorraine & George Repchak | Cathy Litoborski | T.O.P.S Chapter #2196 |
| St. Patrick Women's Club | Steven & Linda Barton | Kathleen & Michael Morris |
| Ken Novak | Emmanuel Baptist Church | Lemont Lions Club |
| Ron & Anita Bromberek | Mark & Maureen Skowronski | Adrian Zeglin |
| Chris Cummins & Theresa Gierlowski | John & Jennifer Davis | Carroll & Delayne Cunningham |
| White Eagle Social Club | Ed & Nancy Mason & Family | Geraldine & Roger Beck |
| Gerald Cox | Forzley Eye Clinic staff | Joseph & Bernice Forzley |
| Lemont High School Basketball program | Silver Cross Hospital volunteers and staff | |

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

500 LEMONT STREET

LEMONT IL 60439