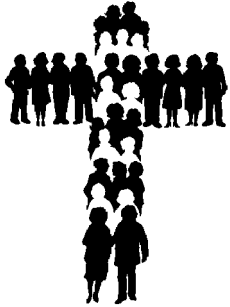


# CROSSINGS

APRIL 2019



Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
340 Grand Blvd.  
Elgin, IL 60120  
Phone : 847-741-8434  
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writing this letter, the event was scheduled for Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Due to scheduling conflicts, it will take place on a Wednesday in May to be determined.

The event is modeled after the *Race Card Project*. A creation of respected journalist and author Michele Norris, *The Race Card Project* won the Peabody award in 2014 for excellence in electronic communications. Her idea encourages people to condense their observations and experiences about race into one sentence with just Six Words. Since it began in 2010, the Project has received tens of thousands of Six Word stories from all over the world. You can view some of these on her website, [theracecardproject.com](http://theracecardproject.com).

So that is what we will be invited to do on a Wednesday evening in May. Everyone will receive a card on which you can choose to write a Six Word essay on your observations and experience of race – these will be anonymous. The cards will be collected, and the three pastors will choose some to read aloud. Whoever wrote the essay will have the opportunity to add more explanation, only if you want to as you don't have to identify yourself, and then the card will be used as a conversation starter for the whole group. The last time Second Baptist hosted an activity like this, the churches only got through five or six cards during the evening. The importance will be not on



Dear Bethlehem,

Grace and Peace in the name of our Lord. Hope your Lenten practices are bearing fruit in your

relationships with God and others. I was reminded recently that church, worship, and even simply following Christ are all about relationships. Thanks to the great Easter mystery of Jesus's death and resurrection, we have been set free to love our neighbor.

I am pleased to let you know that we have a special opportunity to get to know our neighbors. We have been invited by Second Baptist Church, 1280 Summit St., Elgin, IL 60120, to participate in *Conversations on Race* along with Highland Avenue Church of the Brethren and the First Presbyterian. At the time of

whose card is read, but the opportunity for the discussion that follows. The churches who have participated previously are excited to be invited back. They found it interesting and a fun way to talk and learn about race from perspectives different than their own. They are not alone, the website has been used by schools, businesses, churches and even the military to foster a dialogue about race.

Morgan Freeman (playing God in Evan Almighty) asked Evan, “If someone prayed for their family to be closer, do you think God zaps them with warm fuzzy feelings, or does he give them opportunities to love each other?” *Conversations on Race* is an opportunity that I hope you can take advantage of. May we learn more about ourselves, our neighbors and our God.

Peace,  
Pastor Carol

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**BETHLEHEM’S GENERAL OPERATING FUND**

Below is the action report of our giving with dollar amounts for February and YTD.

2019	February	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Receipts to Gen. Oper. Fund	\$14,636.36	\$29,475.76	\$32,633.00
Expenses	\$16,367.25	\$31,079.50	\$32,633.00
Total Receipts less Expenses	(\$ 1,730.89)	(\$ 1,603.74)	\$ 0.00

The brutal winter caused higher than expected snowplowing and salting bills and heating costs.

**Bethlehem’s Renovation and Property Trust Fund**

2019	February	YTD
Contributions to Renovation	\$ 635.00	\$ 971.00
Contributions to Property Trust	\$ 25.00	\$ 110.00

Our renovation loan balance is \$9,400 as of 2/28/19. Use your special Renovation Fund envelope for special giving to help lower the amount of this debt for building improvements.

Chery Peacock, Treasurer

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**SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – LENTEN FOOD DRIVE**

We can always help end hunger in our own community by bringing food to the Caring Cube in the Narthex. During Lent, all food donated will be taken to the Community Crisis Center Food Pantry in Elgin.

*“Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, “How can I help?” (Romans 15:2)*

We have been so blessed by God and wish to share those blessings with those whom Jesus would have fed. Each Sunday and/or Wednesday night Lenten service through Easter, we ask that you bring a specific type of item to contribute.

April 7 (Sunday) & April 10 (Wednesday) – Dinner  
Please bring canned meats, canned chicken, canned beef stew, canned vegetables, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, beans, rice.

April 14 (Sunday) – Your choice!

Please place your non-perishable items in the Caring Cube in the Narthex. Let’s fill up the box with nourishment for those who are hungry. Thanks for your care and concern for others.

Service Team

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Sunday Morning Schedule

#### Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Sunday School Youth Group
10:00 a.m.	Hospitality Hour
10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Service

**Holy Communion** is offered at each service.

**Children** worship with their families April 7 and April 21.

**Easter flowers orders** are due by Sunday, April 7.

**Midweek Lenten Services** continue April 3 and April 10 at 7:00 p.m. Our theme is *Deepening Our Worship with the Psalms*.

**Palm Sunday** is April 14. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., join us for an outdoor procession with a guitarist, festival worship, brunch and an Easter egg hunt.

**Maundy Thursday** is April 18 with communion services at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.

**Good Friday** is April 19. Our 7:00 p.m. worship will allow us to reflect on Christ's death.

**Easter** is April 21. Join us at 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 as we joyfully celebrate Christ's resurrection.

**Sing with the Choir!** You are invited to join us. If you would like to know more, contact Peg at 847-337-9805.

**Praise God with the Praise Group!** We welcome singers and instrumentalists such as percussion, flute and violin. Your involvement can be occasional or regular.

**Other worship opportunities:** lector, assisting minister, communion steward, acolyte, usher, greeter, drama and welcome center. All are welcome.

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## DIAPER COLLECTION

The Service Team would like to thank all who have donated diapers/wipes during the month of March for the Community Crisis Center. Thank you!



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## CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET PROGRAM

A sincere thank you to all who supported the Blanket Program. A total of \$140 was collected and donated to Church World Service. Thanks for your support which provides warmth, hope, and care during cold and trying times.

Service Team

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## STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

### Saturday, May 4, 2019

Planning for the festival is coming along nicely. We still are looking for more volunteers, people willing to make baked goods for the bake sale and donations for the Strawberry Patch. There will not be a flea market, book sale or holiday room this year.

We will have outside crafters as a new addition, so if you know someone who is a crafter, they may contact Heather Thomas if they are interested in participating.

If you are interested in donating plants for the plant sale, please contact Karin Jones for details. Please let us know how you can help make this festival a success!

Heather Thomas (847)977-1371 or

[luvley1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:luvley1@sbcglobal.net)

Karin Jones (224)558-9504 or [Karin@kjhins.com](mailto:Karin@kjhins.com)

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**SUMMARY OF BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**March 11, 2019**

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

Margaret Drafall, President	847-695-4721
Ronnie Malave, Vice-President	847-873-9940
Karin Jones, Secretary	224-558-9504
Barkley Mapes	224-803-6573
Bob Graham	847-695-9186
Billie Jo Waugh	847-917-0319
Heather Thomas	847-977-1371
Mike Murschel	847-741-4221
Pastor Carol Book	856-655-4743

are all sad to lose her insight, historical knowledge, and perspective. She has been a valuable asset to our congregation through her service on the council and will be missed at the council meetings. She assures us she will still be an active participant in other areas. Thank you for your dedicated service, Billie Jo! You are much appreciated!

The next council meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Karin Jones

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This month the council had two guests attend with special requests. Sherry Liske attended & requested to attend the ELCA Church-wide Assembly in Milwaukee. Sherry has been on this task force for the last seven years participating in writing a statement for Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Lutheran Call to Action. She will be attending as an observer in August, and the council would encourage our BLC members to talk with Sherry about this exciting process that she was a part of for many years!

Sue Richoz also attended and presented a summary of what the Reconciliation in Christ process means through the ELCA and how to determine how BLC can be all-inclusive as a congregation. There is a lengthy process involved to complete all the steps in the study. It was agreed that we as a congregation should begin gathering more information with the intent of moving forward with this process.

The council also agreed that we need to establish/form a Witness Committee that would have some additional roles not currently being covered. The council would like to work on getting the people with a passion for certain areas of the church into those areas to lend their thoughts and help. Hopefully, through some strength assessment surveys being reviewed by stewardship, we can make that happen. "Assessing the winds of the holy spirit."

We also sadly accepted a letter of resignation from Billie Jo Waugh submitted to Margaret Drafall. We



- 01 Barbara Paulsen
- Mary Schalow
- 04 Sharon Williamson
- 05 Kayla Hernandez
- 07 Johanna Riddle-Roland
- 08 Judith Sorton
- 17 Eva Marquez
- Amanda Richoz
- 18 Amy O'Brien
- 19 Cheryl Bacon
- Duke Anderson
- 21 William Sensor
- 24 Warren Mette
- 26 Jill Olson
- Karyn Lunsford
- Cameron Lichtenberg
- 28 Vicki Edwards

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**ELCA WORLD HUNGER  
40 DAYS OF GIVING –  
Lent 2019**

Journey through Lent as we join together to study, reflect and give during the 40 Days of Giving World Hunger banks that collected your change during Lent, can be returned on Easter Sunday.

The world provides enough food for all, but more than 800 million people around the world face hunger. So as a church, we strive for a world where all are fed. Our gifts to ELCA World Hunger address hunger and poverty around the world.

Thank you for your support!

Service Team

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***APPRECIATION BY  
MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS***

Our pasta supper and silent auction was a huge success. Yea, God! About 125 people enjoyed the dinner, participated in singing, and saw the pictures from the 2018 mission trip. The silent auction and dinner raised \$1,800. Thank you all for the spirited bidding. It was an awesome time. The youth enjoyed serving all who attended the pasta dinner.

A very special thank you to Ed Chiarugi, the chef, and Gentry Jones for preparing the meal.

Thrivent Financial provided the seed money of \$250 for the event. Thank you for supporting the mission trip.

Thank you to the following individuals for their donations to the auction: Kristen Anderson, Meggi Anderson, Anna Gutierrez, Beth and Steve Jernberg Amanda Richoz, Sue Richoz, Deb Sensor

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**EMBROIDERED DISH TOWELS**



Today is looking a little like spring, and it's time to think of getting some projects ready for the **Strawberry Festival**. The projects that I'm thinking of are the embroidered dish towels that are a 'regular' in our craft area. We have some towels 'stamped' that need embroidering. They are in a basket at the

Welcome Center with floss to use.

Please take a couple -or more - and see how you can help with this project. There is a box there for the completed towels. THANKS for your help.

Jan Jones and the Rebecca Circle

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**YOUTH MISSION TRIP CLOTHING DRIVE**

It's Spring cleaning time! Clean out your closets and donate your gently used clothing to benefit the Youth Mission Trip!

On Sundays, May 5, May 12 and May 19, bring your donations to the Narthex. The Youth will be available to assist you with your clothing donations. All items must be in good, clean condition. We need:

Clothing

Shoes

Textiles (towels, sheets, blankets, etc.)

Accessories (purses, belts, etc.)

Approximately 125 full 33-gallon bags or 200 full 13-gallon bags will equal 2,500 lbs. of soft donations! That will provide the Mission Team with \$500! This FUNDrive is happening through Savers. They believe that the impact your donated goods make, touches lives in our community, reaches developing nations and keeps the planet healthy!

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## MISSION TRIP MEETING

A meeting for mission trip for parents and participants will be Sunday, April 7 following the 10:30 service.

Each family needs to bring a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. Parents will be completing the necessary paperwork for Youthworks. Please bring insurance card to be copied. Attendance is required. If you have a conflict, please contact Gayle 847-710-4266 or Cindy 847-814-3249.

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## Altar Guild Workday Saturday, April 20 – 9 a.m.

Members of the altar guild will meet to polish the communion ware and restore the altar for Easter Sunday. We invite anyone interested in helping us to join us. Please come to the kitchen.

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You are not too dirty for God to cleanse.

You are not too broken for God to fix.

You are not too far for God to reach.

You are not too guilty for God to forgive.

And you are not too worthless for God to love.

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## LOVE YOUTH RETREAT

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Youth Retreat happened Friday, February 22 and Saturday, February 23, 2019 at Living Lord Lutheran Church in Bartlett, IL.

We met the youth leader, Bob, and the youth of Living Lord when we served together on a mission trip in Louisville in 2013. We had hoped to unite our youth groups, and it happened again at the LOVE

Youth Retreat! We were also joined by a youth group from All Peoples Church in Milwaukee. The Milwaukee group spent the night in our youth loft and thanked us for our hospitality!

The Living Lord musicians led worship and the band from Leadership Lab led worship on Saturday night. Amazing music! The Youth Retreat was a faith and fun filled event for middle and high school students. We looked at the world in LOVE and talked about all the ways we can share God's love, despite what might be happening around us. We experienced awesome worship, small groups and workshops with guest speakers. We also had the opportunity to serve others.



Located next door to Living Lord is the Artis Memory Care Center. They set up games for a winter carnival and the youth helped the residents play games from bean bag toss to basketball. It was a fun time of interaction with the youth and the residents. We also watched a video clip about the Phil's Friends organization and their care of cancer patients. The youth then made cards of encouragement, that will be delivered to cancer patients. Thank you to Bob for all your planning and hosting the retreat. Gayle & Cindy were in charge of food, and we are thankful for the food donations from Bethlehem members.

We share our experience:

This year I experienced my first youth retreat at Living Lord Lutheran. While I could only attend the Friday night portion of the weekend, I could see God's work at hand. We sang many songs of worship as well as shared some experiences during a small group session. All were very welcoming and accepting of what everyone had to share with the group. Overall, it was a great experience. – **Lindsey Anderson**

This year was my first time at the Living Lord Youth Retreat. I only went to the Friday night part. It was really fun to meet and talk to some new people. We did some group activities in our small groups, sang tons of songs, and listened to a speaker. I had a lot of fun and I can see myself going again. – **Emma Anderson**

The Retreat this year was about Love. We had worship about love. We also had a speaker talk about how she shared God's love with inmates at a prison. We also went to the Artis Memory Care Center. We played games with the residents. I was rolling the ball back and forth with a guy who only spoke Spanish and we ended up playing ball for a while. We were also in small groups having discussions about love. – **Parker Jones**

At the Retreat, we sang songs about love. My favorite part was spending time with my friends. – **Brenden Canham**

During my time on the Retreat, we had very collaborative discussions during small group time. We then had some quality time with each other during the worship time. The band led us through worship as well as different speakers. – **Owen Thomas**

*Three things will last forever – faith, hope, and love – and the greatest of these is love.*

1 Corinthians 13:13

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### Prayer Partners! Yea, God!

Thank you for the prayers and financial support given to the participants of the 2019 Mission Trip to Beckley, West Virginia in June. Names were compiled as of March 19.

Everything hinges on prayer and we will pray for you and thank God for your continued support.

Ron & Darlene Albert  
 Donna & Dale Anderson  
 John & Sidne Bakker  
 Pastor Carol  
 Bruce & Char Carey  
 Vicki Edwards  
 Shirley & Fred Harnish  
 Gina & Len Lempa  
 Cameron & Christina Lichtenberg  
 Kim & Burt Lynn  
 Scott MacDuff  
 Phyllis & Ralph Mapes

Jon & Lynda Marquez  
 Katie Miller  
 Ida Mockler  
 Mary Les Naker  
 Diana O'Connor  
 Anne-Marie Rozsa  
 Bernette Ryza  
 Brian Sullivan  
 Dave Topping  
 Inez Tornblom  
 Sharon Williamson  
 Steve & Peg Youngren

### Family & Friends

Katie Dela Torre  
 Mimi & Skeeter Dunton  
 Vanessa Dybala  
 Mary Fischer & Kevin Jones  
 Jessica Gwinn  
 Cathy Hopkins  
 Raquel Johnson  
 KJH Insurance  
 Diane Kerruish  
 Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Latigo  
 Eric Lauderdale  
 Jerri McCue  
 Kathleen Olson  
 Ann Resener  
 Phil Seyller  
 Diane Verdi & Barry Wolf

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### LOOKING FOR GIRLS LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE

We are looking for girls who are looking for adventure to join the new Scouts



BSA troop for girls. As many of you know, girls are now able to join Boy Scouts of America and we are

working to start a troop for girls here at Bethlehem. Any girls ages 11-17 are eligible to join. If you know of a girl who would like to develop character, citizenship, fitness, and leadership while having fun and making friendships that will last a lifetime, invite them to join us.

We are meeting on Tuesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in Wittenstrom Hall while we work on developing the troop.

We are also looking for some adults who would like to serve on our committee. We have several openings for women or men who would like to help us guide this new troop. This is an exciting time for the BSA and it is fun to be a part of a new venture!

For more information, contact Marti Jernberg, [mjscouter@aol.com](mailto:mjscouter@aol.com), or 847-337-0903.

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God has no phone, but I talk to Him.

He has no face book, but He is still my friend.

He does not have a twitter, but I still follow Him.



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**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**APRIL 2019**

<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>
	1 *Jennifer Corp, Robert Luna and Giselle  12:00 Craft Circle Red Room 7:00 Worship Team Meeting 7:00 Witness Team Meeting 7:00 Learning Team Meeting	2 *M/M Carl Cruse  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	3 *Dario Depaz family  5:00 Praise Him 6:15 Adult Choir	4 *Karen Dingel  3:00 Bible Study at the Vines 7:00 Finance Meeting 7:00 Executive Meeting	5 *Margaret Drafall	6 *M/M Jerry Drommerhausen  10:00 – 2:00 Jam Making – Kitchen 11:00 - 12:30 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Class
7 *Ryan Eberdt family  9:00 Traditional Service with Children in worship 9:00 Youth Group 10:00 Hospitality Hour 10:30 Contemporary Service 11:45 Mission trip meeting for parents & youth with potluck lunch	8 *M/M Charles Edwards  7:00 Church Council	9 *Sean Edwards  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	10 *Linda Fagan  5:30 Praise Him 6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Midweek Lent Service	11 *Craig Field  3:00 Bible Study at the Vines	12 *M/M Scott Fiorito	13 *Denise Gilbert-Collins  10:00 – 2:00 Jam Making – Kitchen 11:00 - 12:30 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Class 2:00-4:00 Bowling at Elgin Lanes
14 *Mark Goers  <b>Palm Sunday First Communion</b> 9:00 One Service with Sunday School 10:00 Brunch Easter Egg Hunt	15 *M/M David Gilliland  7:00 Rebecca Circle at Home of Judy Drommerhausen	16 *M/M Robert Gordon  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	17 *M/M Robert Graham  <b>CROSSING ARTICLES DUE To Shirley Harnish</b>  5:30 Praise Him	18 *Yolando Granados and Marco Villagomez family  12:00 Maundy Thursday Service 3:00 Bible Study at the Vines 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	19 *Matthew Hadley family  6:15 Adult Choir 7:00 Good Friday Service	20 *Jennifer Haring  9:00 Altar Guild Work Day – Kitchen 11:00 Jam Making
21 *M/M Fred Harnish  <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 9:00 Traditional Service 10:45 Contemporary Service	22 *M/M Richard Heimberg	23 *Matthew Hergert family  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	24 *Edward Hernandez  9:00 Prayer Shawl 5:30 Praise Him 7:00 Confirmation Class 7:15 Adult Choir	25 *Kayla Hernandez  3:00 Bible Study at the Vines	26 *Libby Hoeft  4:00 Soup Kitchen – Holy Trinity Church	27 *Marilyn House  10:00 – 2:00 Jam Making – Kitchen
28 *M/M Dave Jernberg  9:00 Traditional Service with Sunday School 9:00 Youth Group 10:00 Hospitality Hour 10:30 Contemporary Service	29 *Steven Jernberg family	30 *Sue Johnson  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting				

\*Members to be prayed for.