

# CROSSINGS

JUNE 2019



Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
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That passage holds special meaning to my sister Kathy and I, as she gifted me with a beautiful painting many years ago that featured this very verse. The word HOPE, she painted in all caps. She had grown up with me as big sister, I have 13 years on her, being one of those who she credits with passing on the faith to her – especially with the reading of the bible. Our relationship later would go through painful years, especially for her, after I left home and became too self-focused to remember the preciousness of my little sister. The painting came after amends, forgiveness and reconciliation in our relationship. In it, the word of God, *my HOPE*, emerges from the beautifully ambiguous sunset, or sunrise, of one day.

## Pastor's Corner

Dear Bethlehem family,

Being one who prefers to live one day at a time, recently turning 60 caught me off guard. I even jokingly repeated my age mantra to the congregation, not too many days before the milestone. “I realize now that I’ve lived half my life.” Let’s see  $60 + 60 = 120$ . Ok. Mental update needed.

Dorothy Day, tireless and passionate defender of the hopeless and homeless in New York city, penned this about her daily practice of faith. “My strength returns to me with my cup of coffee and the reading of the psalms.” So, I read on with King David and Psalm 71:

I even had my life flash before my eyes the day before my birthday, and I thought that meant it was over. ☺ How do you get through such mental conundrums? King David the psalmist prays, “Rescue me, O my God from the grasp of fill in the blank. For you O Lord, are my hope, I have trusted in you from my childhood. Psalm 71:5

*9“Do not cast me off in the time of old age; do not forsake me when my strength is spent.” And later, 15“I will hope continually, and will praise you yet more and more. 17O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. 18So even to old age and gray hairs (yup), O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come.*

None of us knows how many days we have on this earth to sing God’s praises and to pass along the faith. Every day is precious, and purpose filled, no matter our age. I’ve been blessed by those from 9 days to 99 years old. People are even more precious than the number of days. I am grateful for relationships past and present, including the congregation at Bethlehem and the opportunity to serve here. Mental update complete. Dorothy Day was right, just give me a cup of coffee and the Psalms. *For you O Lord are my hope. I have trusted you from my childhood.* Peace and blessings to you and your loved ones in this one day.

Pastor Carol

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**WORSHIP 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 June 2.

**Healing Services** with communion will be June 23.

**Youth will share** their mission trip experiences on June 30.

**Sing with the Choir!** You are invited to join us. We begin again in September. 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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**BETHLEHEM’S GENERAL  
OPERATING FUND**

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

2019	April	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Receipts to Gen. Oper. Fund	\$23,541.37	\$69,114.07	\$65,403.00
Expenses	\$14,714.93	\$61,722.13	\$65,403.00
Total Receipts less Expenses	\$ 8,826.44	\$ 7,391.94	\$ 0.00

Thank you for your generous April giving. We are now in the vacation season, but our church bills don’t take a vacation. So, if you plan to be absent from worship, please sign up for eOfferings or mail your offerings to church.

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

2019	April	YTD
Contributions to Renovation	\$ 385.00	\$ 1,790.00
Contributions to Property Trust	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 3,190.00

The current Renovation loan balance is \$8,600.

Chery Peacock, Treasurer

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**THANK YOU, PRAYER PARTNERS**

Thank you, prayer partners! Your prayers are so important to us and to those we will serve in Beckley, West Virginia. The list of prayer partners has grown to 110: received by May 15: Armida Dominguez.

We appreciate the support provided by the congregation, friends and family. We will be serving June 23 – 28 in Beckley, West Virginia. We leave on June 22.

Mission Trip Participants

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**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**



- 01 Larry Anderson
- 02 Scott MacDuff
- Drew Olson
- 04 James Jindra
- 05 Margaret Drafall
- 08 Kristin Olson
- 09 Lucas Resener
- 12 Stephanie Mathus
- Joe Nail
- 14 Corey Kile
- Michael Tanner
- 16 Diane Wilke
- Kathie Larson
- Gina Lempa
- Edwin Depaz
- 17 Dario Depaz
- Hudson Miller
- 19 Ethan Wolff
- 22 June Anderson
- Christopher Bieschke
- 24 Billie Jo Waugh
- 25 Richard Heimberg
- Cindy Guillen
- 26 Timothy Burnett

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

**May 13, 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

- Heather Thomas 847-977-1371
- Mike Murschel 847-741-4221
- Pastor Carol Book 856-655-4743

April and May have flown by with the weather changing daily, leaving us wondering whether we will have snow, floods, or sunshine. Hopefully, June brings the warm weather to Bethlehem!

The fire code repairs are progressing nicely with only minor delays or additional costs so far.

At the request of the Worship/ Learning/ Witness Committees, the council discussed the possibility of any modifications or changes to the worship schedule. The committees have proposed options including changing the worship times to 9, 10, 11 with 10 being Coffee Hour, Sunday School, Youth Group, Small Groups, or individual forums. The committees asked if the council could discuss these options & how that would/ could simplify our Sunday morning and what challenges may remain or even be created. During the council meeting, we all agreed that there are pros and cons, and this should be an ongoing discussion with the congregation. Possibly focus on growing/developing the 10:30 service rather than change the times. We discussed participation concerns and how the revised times could impact our members. We invite the congregation to share any thoughts, preferences, and ideas regarding this topic. We have also agreed to host our annual Church picnic on August 6, 2019, at 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. again this year in conjunction with National Night Out. Here is additional information provided by the Elgin Police Department, and further details for the BLC picnic will be provided as the plans progress. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on August 6th rain or shine!

National Night Out is Tuesday, August 6 6-pm Contact your neighbors and mark your calendars for the 35th Annual National Night Out crime prevention celebration! National Night Out (NNO) is an excellent opportunity to build neighborhood unity and strengthen police-community partnerships. It is also a chance to send a message to criminals, letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. It's a chance for neighbors to get to know each

other and celebrate community efforts to fight crime. If you are hosting a party this year, the hours are 6-8 p.m. You and your neighbors can plan the party in any form you wish. If you register, your party will be visited by the city, including a police officer, the Fire Department, a city dignitary and if possible, a costumed mascot.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karin Jones.

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### Congratulations, Graduates!!

#### EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATES:

Domanik Malave  
Violeta Rendon

#### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES:

From Elgin High School: Abby Sensor - attending Harper Community College

From Larkin High School:  
Max Anderson - attending Elgin Community College to study Criminal Justice  
Nayely Chimal – attending Elgin Community College to study social work

From South Elgin High School:  
Griffin Allen – attending Western Illinois University in Macomb

From Elgin Academy:  
Derek Warren – attending Elgin Community College to study Electrical Engineering

#### COLLEGE GRADUATES:

Paige Allen – University of Wisconsin – Stevens Points with a Bachelor of Science in Early Child Education  
Sean Edwards – University of Chicago with a Bachelor of Science in Math, minor in Statistics  
Rebecca Jindra – Ohio State University with a master’s degree in Social Work  
Ethan Wolff – University of Illinois

Joe Quick – Loyola University Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Management

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### Mission Trip Dates

Important dates/times:

**Sunday, June 16** – attend 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services for commissioning of the mission trip; wear your t-shirts; brief meeting after the service

**Saturday, June 22** – 6:15 a.m. - meet in parking lot to depart for West Virginia

**Sunday, June 30** – attend services to share mission trip experience

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### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NEWS



Bethlehem Lutheran, as part of New Hope Partnership, can participate on Saturdays at the worksite here in Elgin. There will be something for all skill levels to do and all work will be done under the supervision of a project manager.

- Beginning on Saturday June 2 we can work any Saturday at 535 Edison in Elgin.
- Volunteers need to call me so I can inform the project manager that you will be coming
- Work hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Volunteers need to be on site at 8:30 a.m. for instructions.
- Volunteers must be 18 years old OR 16-17 years with an adult (4 minors/1adult).
- If you can provide lunch to the workers on a Saturday, please let me know. I will contact the Spring of Life lunch coordinator to place Bethlehem on the lunch schedule.

Cindy Lange 847-814-3249

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH  
JUNE 2019**

<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>
						1 *James Muirhead  9:00 – 4:00 Endowment Interviews
2 *M/M Mike Murschel  9:00 Traditional Service with Children in worship 9:00 Youth Group 10:00 Hospitality Hour 10:30 Contemporary Service 11:00 – 12:40 Endowment Interviews	3 *Joseph Nail family  12:30 Craft Circle Red Room 7:00 Worship Team Meeting 7:00 Witness Team Meeting 7:00 Learning Team Meeting	4 *MaryLeslie Naker  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	5 *Kathra Naviaux  5:30 Praise Him	6 *Ellen Nelson  3:00 Bible Study at the Vines 7:00 Finance Meeting 7:00 Executive Meeting	7 *Aimee O’Claire	8 *Alexander O’Claire
9 *M/M Robert O’Connor  9:00 Traditional Service with Sunday School 9:00 Youth Group 10:00 Hospitality Hour 10:30 Contemporary Service 1:00 Golf Outing at Streamwood Oaks	10 *Aracely Ojeda and family  7:00 Church Council	11 *Drew Olson  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	12 *Erik Olson  5:30 Praise Him	13 *M/M Greg Olson  3:00 Bible Study at the Vines	14 *Kristin Olson	15 *Megan Olson
16 *Gary Ottaviano family <b>Commissioning of Mission Trip</b> 9:00 Traditional Service 10:00 Hospitality Hour 10:30 Contemporary Service	17 *Hilary Ottaviano & Ashley Ottaviano	18 *Lindsey & Dan Morris  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	19 *Kyleigh Pacello  <b>CROSSING ARTICLES DUE To Shirley Harnish</b>  5:30 Praise Him	20 *Barbara Paulsen  3:00 Bible Study at the Vines	21 *M/M John Peacock	22 *Vivian Peck  6:15 am Mission Trip leaves for Beckley, WV
23 *Wilma Peterson <b>Communion and Healing at both services</b> 9:00 Traditional Service 10:00 Hospitality Hour 10:30 Contemporary Service	24 *M/M Jack Pflederer	25 *David Quick  10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scout Troop #111 Meeting	26 *Joseph Quick  9:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30 Praise Him	27 *Amanda and Elias Richoz  3:00 Bible Study at the Vines	28 *Sue Richoz  4:00 Soup Kitchen – Holy Trinity Church	29 *Julie Anne Robbins and Anna
30 *Ali Rodriguez  Sharing by Youth about Mission Trip 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:00 Hospitality Hour 10:30 Contemporary Worship						

\*Members to be prayed for.