

First Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 10, 2021



BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1861-2021 - Zum Kripplein Christi - 160 years

**6351 N. 200TH St.
Altamont, IL 62411**

Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor



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Prayers

Prayer before worship *O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You and grant that they both perceive and know what things they ought to do and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen*

In our prayers we remember:

Those in need of healing & comfort: *Kaly Benning, Sherry Dahnke, Tiffany Dunaway, Bernice Graumenz, Alice Harmon, Zoe Hoehler, Brian Mueller, Susie Rush, Hayden Summers, Steve Voelker, Clete Westendorf, and Craig Wolff.*

Those celebrating **Birthdays** this week: *01/10 – Lucy Rose Kroening; 01/11 – Avery Jahraus; 01/12 – Daniel Hites*

Church News

➔ Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council will continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation in our area, considering the guidelines to make a good faith effort to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our worship service. Thank you.

Church Admin. Office is open Mon. – Thur. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. - with additional hours throughout the week.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Worship Services this week:

- *First Wednesday after the Epiphany, matins, Wed., January 13 at 6:00 p.m. (Please note - This Wed. service will follow the same liturgy used for Sun., Jan. 10th)*
- *BLC Tuesday Morning Chapel Services will resume on Jan. 19 at 9:15 a.m.*

Any change or cancellation of services will be announced on our church website (www.bethlehemaltamont.org) and Facebook page.

Adult Bible Class: All are welcome to come to Bible Class

Subject: The Nature of the Sacrament of the Altar

- Why is The Sacrament such a big deal?
- What is the real presence?
- Why do are we so insistent on it?



Trustee's Report:

- Offering collected for the Home Purpose General Fund on Jan. 03: \$6,101
(*Our anticipated 2021 weekly amount needed is \$5,972.*)

All loose change in the offering plate has been designated for the LWML Mites.

- Church Window Project Fund collected Jan. 03: \$400

- Church Window Project Fund total: \$11,100 (Total amount needed: \$55,000)

- Missions – As of 12/20/20 - \$7,000 collected for CID for missions.

Please pick up your 2021 Offering Envelope Boxes which are located in your bulletin box and on the desk in the narthex. The Congregational Offering survey may be completed and returned to the church inbox.

LWML / Ladies' Aid Meeting – Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 p.m.

– Hostesses: Diane Buzzard & Daphne Flood

All women of the congregation are welcome to attend.

Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 20 at 7:15 p.m.

Voters' Assembly Meeting – Sunday, January 24 at 1:30 p.m.

1861 Bethlehem Ev. Lutheran – Cradle of Christ – 2021

For the 160th anniversary of our church's founding, we would like to make an AUDIO recording of the hymn "Nun danket alle Gott" by members who can sing in the German language. The recording will take place on January 31 following the worship service. Those who wish to sing will simply remain in their pews after the church service. After a "practice" run though, with organ accompaniment, the hymn will be sung once more and then recorded. Please consider assisting this project with your singing. May the Lord bless our efforts to give him thanks for all the blessings bestowed on members past and present here at Bethlehem. -Dean Manuel, Chairman 160th Anniversary Committee

☼☼☼☼ District & Synod News, Regional Items & Acknowledgments ☼☼☼☼

Holy Cross Lutheran Ladies Society Annual Soup/Chili Luncheon

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021- SERVING FROM 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. (or until soup is gone) Serving HOMEMADE CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP & CHILI, CHICKEN SALAD or PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES, HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE CAKES OR SUGAR COOKIES. Enter the alley from Taylor St. (in front of the Fayette County Hospital from the EAST ONLY) Vandalia, IL. (See flyer with drive thru map located in the narthex)

Live Stream Ft. Wayne Symposia for Free- Jan. 19-22 Ft. Wayne Seminary is making their annual Confessional and Exegetical Symposia available for free live streaming. Just go [towww.ctsfw.edu/ctsfw-events/symposia/](http://www.ctsfw.edu/ctsfw-events/symposia/) for details and streaming links. Pastor recommends for you to visit the website, click on schedule, find a lecture of interest, and plan to stream at that time. Even if you're working, you should be able to pause the stream and watch it later.

SAVE the DATE - The CID IL LLL Convention

What - The CID IL LLL Convention

Where - St John's - Effingham IL

When - March 6th, 2021

Who - Speaker - Lutheran Hour Speaker

Rev. Michael Zeigler

Please plan to attend - Look for Specific Times and more details to come

SAVE the DATE - The LWML CID's 75th Convention and 75th Anniversary Celebration is scheduled for April 29-May 1, 2021 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Morton. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

CID PTO (“Pass This On”) message: Soon we in this country will see another presidential inauguration. These have occurred every four years. Each president has left his inauguration fully authorized for his office. Usually, a big crowd gathers to see the event. Even without a crowd, though, the authorization would still occur.

In our church service this coming Sunday, we will focus on the baptism of Jesus. In some ways, this event resembles a presidential inauguration. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke offer details about the crowd, or the conversation between Jesus and John the Baptizer. However, Mark’s account concentrates on Jesus and His authorization from God. It says:

“And it happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. And when He came up from the water, immediately He saw the heavens split open and the Spirit coming down on Him as a dove. And there was a voice from heaven, ‘You are my beloved Son. In You I am well-pleased’” (Mark 1:9-11).

With this event, the story of Jesus begins in Mark. He is the eternal Son of God, certainly qualified to be the Messiah. Now He enters upon His office. God the Father was pleased with Him and what He is doing.

He does not waste time. He gets right to work. Later He said, “I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!” (Luke 12:50). There, He was speaking of His death.

What began when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan eventually ended on the cross. Jesus died as the Lamb of God, taking away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

The split-open heavens at Jesus’ baptism showed what was happening. When He bears your sin, God opens heaven for you.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Tuesday, January 12 – Pastor Winkel Meeting

Wednesday, January 13 – First Wednesday after Epiphany (Matins) – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 14 – Choir Practice – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 17 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

-- Divine service with Holy Communion - 9:30 a.m.

-- Adult Bible Study & Youth Sunday School – 10:45-11:30 a.m.

-- Pastor Manley’s Radio program on KJ Country/102.3FM – 8:00 a.m.

(Also available on the BLC website home page)

-- Sunday morning worship service TV broadcast Ch.81 – 5:00 p.m.

(Recording of today’s worship service is also available on our YouTube channel - link via our church website.)

To The Glory of God & The Salvation of Man