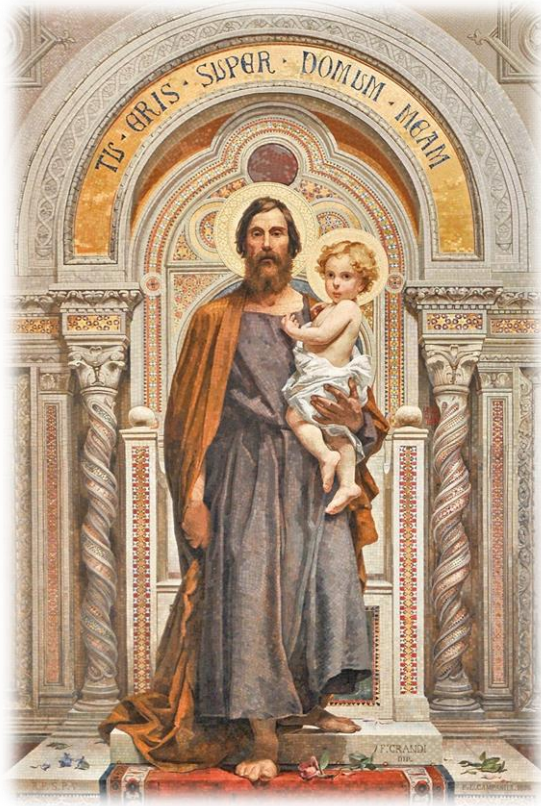


ST. JOSEPH, GUARDIAN OF JESUS

Sunday, March 19, 2023



We sing our thanks for Joseph, The guardian of our Lord,
Who faithfully taught Jesus, Through craft and deed and word.

Grant wisdom, Lord, and patience

To parents ev'rywhere

Who guide and teach the children

Entrusted to their care.

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6409 N. 200TH St. Altamont, IL 62411

Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor

Pastor Manley's Phone: 712-880-2452

Pastor's email: bzaltamontpastor@gmail.com

Church Office Phone: 618-483-6756

Church e-mail: bethlehemaltamont@gmail.com

Church website: www.bethlehemaltamont.org



“Let us go to Bethlehem...” Luke 2:15

Bethlehem is Hebrew for “House of Bread,” the city of David, King of Israel, and the birthplace of the Lord Jesus. This land was originally planned to be a town called Bethlehem, and eventually our congregation adopted it as its name. You are invited to believe that Jesus is present here, at Bethlehem today according to His Word and to confess the very Bread of Life Jesus feeds us with in the Sacrament.

Prayers

In our prayers we remember:

Those in need of healing & comfort: *Howard “Butch” Bahrns, Mike Gaede, Bernice Graumenz, Arlin & Lillian Grobengieser, Abby Guffey, Luella Rubin, Steve Voelker, and Gene Wharton.*

Those celebrating Birthdays this week: (03/19-03/25) *03/19 – Anna Manley, Lantz Wills, Bob Grobengieser; 03/20 – Danielle Arnold, Luke Grobengieser; 03/21 – Kysson Koester; 03/25 – Justine Carlson*

Anniversaries: *03/23 – Clark & Paige Phillips (6)
03/24 - Ronnie & Kaylyn Putnam (11)*

Church News

Trustee’s Report:

Offering collected for Home Purpose General Fund on March 12.....\$ 5,844

Weekly amount needed for unified budget: \$ 7,400

Donations for Building Fund \$ 2,027

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

Sunday School offering has been designated for our Radio Ministry.

Attendance: Sunday, 03/12, 9:30am – 103

Have Thrivent Choice Dollars? – don’t forget to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to the organization of your choice by March 31st. If you would like to recommend Thrivent Choice Dollars to Bethlehem Lutheran, Altamont, IL, contact Thrivent Client Services 800-847-4836. Thank you!

Today in Bible Class – Judges 7 – Gideon’s 300 Men

- ✘ Why does God reduce Israel’s army?
- ✘ How does God defeat the Midianites?
- ✘ What great prophecy references this victory?



Homemade Pie baked by Janice Heiden - One pie will be offered for silent bid auction every Sunday, during Bible Class – highest bidder will take home the pie – all proceeds will go towards the church steeple project. Another reason to come to Bible Class!

Matins - Wednesdays - 9:30am at Bethlehem - Whether you were unable to make it to church on Sunday, have the day off, or need to pray about something, join us on Wednesday mornings for our Matins worship service.

Date	Text	Psalm	Hymn
03/22 – Wednesday of Laetare: Gospel	John 9:1-38	Psalm 132:8-18	694
03/29 – Wednesday in Judica: Epistle	Leviticus 19	Psalm 43	689

ENTRANCE CANOPY – DOORS - Work on the entrance canopy will continue as soon as the materials that have been ordered arrive, which are delayed. The custom made doors are scheduled to be installed in about 6 weeks. This project was approved by the voters and is funded by a member donor.

CHURCH STEEPLE – Committee members are continuing to receive quotes for the steeple project. Once all quotes are received and reviewed the committee will present them to the congregation.



Easter is just a few weeks away and once again, **Blossom Paradise is offering Easter Lilies and other Spring Plants** at a discount to help decorate the church nave. Contact Janice Heiden with your order by March 19th.



Lillies (1, 2 or 3 bulb plants)	\$18/ \$36 / \$54
6 Tulips.....	\$19
3 Hyacinths.....	\$19
Hydrangeas.....	\$40



Lutheran Witness - Annual subscriptions (11 issues) & renewals are due, just fill out the LW envelope (included in your offering envelope box set) & include \$19.20 (\$1.60 per issue). **New subscriptions & renewals are due in the office by April 15**. Subscriptions begin with the June/July 2022 issue.



Bethlehem Church Trustees are accepting bids through March 31st for **lawn mowing of the church property** for the 2023 season. Contact Jeremy Ruffner, 618-553-4628, for additional information and to submit your bid.

LWML members: **2023 LWML CID Convention – “Thy KING-dom Come”** Pre-convention on Friday, April 28th and convention on Saturday, April 29th, held at the Quincy Lindsey Center in Quincy, IL. Registration Deadline is April 10. “Gifts from the Heart Ingathering” recipients and list of items are located in the narthex. Additional convention information also located in the narthex or contact Roberta Phillips.

District & Synod News, Regional Items & Acknowledgments

ALIS KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION will be held on Mon., March 20 from 6:00-6:45pm. Students will meet their teacher and visit the kindergarten room while parents complete paperwork and ask questions. Bring a copy of your child's certified birth certificate to the orientation. Students will need a full physical, dental exam, eye exam, current immunizations, and a lead screening before school starts in August. Please call the school office at 618-483-6428, or email alisooffice2@gmail.com to RSVP.

MARCH FOR LIFE New Location: Springfield; **New Day:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023. **Same Mission:** Save Midwestern lives by marching for life in the public square. **Trip:** A bus will leave Immanuel North Parking Lot at **8AM** and return approx. 4-5PM. No charge for the bus; bring a sack lunch. **BUS IS FULL! You can still drive yourself and meet us there!** *Plan to attend by meeting us at a 10:30 AM service at Trinity, Springfield by CID President Mohr.*

→ **Another Bus is available:** Effingham County Right to Life has 25 seats available on a bus. This bus leaves the Effingham Event Center at 7:30 AM March 21 for the Right to Life March in Springfield, IL. The Event Center is formerly the KC Hall on Fayette Ave. Please text Diann Ruholl to reserve a seat 217-663-2056.

Additional information about attending The Illinois March for Life on March 21 in the March 2023 CID “News You Can Use” newsletter – printed copies available in the narthex.



Donation box is located in the narthex. Monetary donations and checks, payable to Altamont Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry, are also accepted, please place in the “Church Inbox”.

Items currently in need at the Food Pantry: complete pancake mixes, cereal bars or pop tarts, instant potatoes, any type of bread/buns

Tuesday, March 14, the food pantry had 23 participants.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Wednesday, March 22

- 9:30 a.m. – **Matins – Wednesday of Laetare**
- 4:30 p.m. – Kinderchor practice
- 5:30 p.m. – Youth Group Bible Bowl Practice
- 7:00 p.m. – **Lent Vespers Service @ BLC** “Crossed Called”
- following worship service – Choir practice

Sunday, March 26 – Lent 5

- 9:30 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion
- 10:45-11:30 a.m. - Adult Bible Class & Youth Sunday School
- 8:00 a.m. – Pastor Manley’s Radio program on KJ Country/102.3FM
- 5:00 p.m. – Sunday morning worship service TV broadcast Ch.81
(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