

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 12, 2023



Blessed
rather are
those who
hear the
word of God
and keep it!

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
6409 N. 200TH St. Altamont, IL 62411



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“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: (03/12-03/18) 03/13 – Donna Parker, Jeremy Ruffner; 03/14 – Cody Heiden; 03/17 – Kurt Becker, Lonnie Wilson
Anniversary: 03/18 - John & Donna Parker (23)

Church News


Trustee’s Report:

Offering collected for Home Purpose General Fund on March 05.....\$ 5,405
Gifts received for General Fund - In Memory of Marcella Wolf\$ 765
Weekly amount needed for unified budget: \$ 7,400
Gifts received for Steeple Fund - In Memory of Marcella Wolf.....\$ 3,680
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, 03/05, 9:30am – 113

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 6-7 Timber!

- What is Gideon's nickname?
- Who's ready to fight?
- What does God prove with the dewy fleece?
- What does God prove by reducing the men?



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
03/15 – Wednesday of Oculi: Epistle	Exodus 20:12-24a	Psalm 4	579
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 is nearly completed on the "overhang canopy" for the front doors. The custom made doors are scheduled to be installed in about 7 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.

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 alisoffice2@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.



TOP PODCASTS IN RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY...

Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken, consistently ranks among the Top Podcasts in Religion & Spirituality with Apple Podcasts. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or your favorite podcast provider. **Bethlehem has a mission commitment of \$1,000 for Issues, Etc.**

KFUO Radio CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: Study John 13-14 on Sharper Iron's "The Word Made Flesh" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear a Lenten Organ Recital and Worship Service on 3/15 at 11:00 a.m. CT, and study Hosea 6-10 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUE Radio app!



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 7, the food pantry had 25 participants.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Monday, March 13

– 12:00pm – Elder's Meeting

Tuesday, March 14

– Bethlehem/Zion - Braille/Lg. Print Center @ St. John's, Effingham

Wednesday, March 15

– 9:30 a.m. – **Matins – Wednesday of Oculi**

– 4:30 p.m. – Kinderchor practice

– 5:30 p.m. – Youth Group Bible Bowl Practice

– 7:00 p.m. – **Lent Vespers Service @ Zion** "Crossed Continuum"

– following worship service – Choir practice

Sunday, March 19 – Lent 4 and St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

– 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