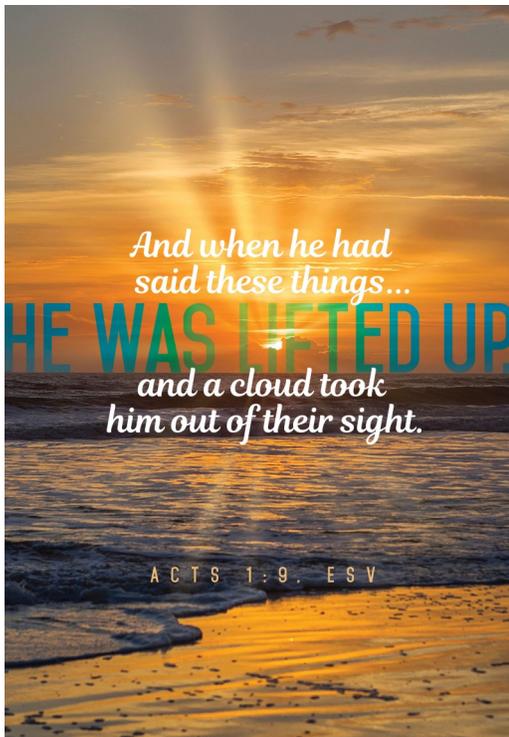


Celebrating 130 Years of Making Jesus Known

THE BETHEL NEWS



Inside this Issue:

- Pastor Richard's Article—Pg. 2
- Council President's Article—Pg. 3
- Ministry Overview—Pg.4
- Bible Readings for May—Pg.5
- Letter from Bishop Allende—pg. 6
- Birthdays & Anniversaries—Pg. 7



Keep tuned in to our weekly on-line worship with Pastor Richard and Shelia. See enclosed article from Bishop Allende regarding our return to worship services.

★NATIONAL★ DAY of PRAYER

Thursday, May 7th

Let us all pray to end the virus and to let us return to our lives and to worship





Worship at Bethel, Boardman in the Time of Coronavirus

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God for all of you and Shelia and I truly miss being physically with you in worship and being with you face to face. I do enjoy talking to you by phone, e-mail, text, and some by Facebook or Zoom. This has been a hard couple of months during Lent and Easter when we are usually gathered together in prayer and in celebration around Word and Sacrament. Yes, we have online Worship but it is still not the same as being together. However, we are in a pandemic. The President and our Governor is slowly opening businesses. He has published guidelines for states to begin moving businesses toward their previous capacity again. Things will not open up all at once, but the process must start somewhere, sometime, and it appears that it will start soon. As we have done throughout, Bethel will continue to explore how we might worship during these rapidly changing times. We have been using Facebook and recently have a Youtube page. No one should mistake this moment for the end of our concern about the Coronavirus. Without a cure or a vaccine, we will still all be at risk of catching Covid-19, and the most vulnerable of us will be at risk of dire outcomes. For the sake of those of us in the latter boat, I am recommending to Council that we continue distancing measures for the foreseeable future, reevaluating periodically as time goes on. There are economic concerns, which, truth be told, have a lot to do with life and death, too, are being weighed against concerns about the virus. It is difficult to know where to strike the balance. You can be sure of this: no matter what decisions are made, many people will complain about them. And, in my estimation, they'll usually be right. This is because there are no good choices right now. Only bad ones. All of them. We must simply try to choose the least bad options, in so far as the choices are ours to make at all. This includes the choices we make here at Bethel. The Bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod has recommended no services at our buildings through the month of May. You can read the letter in the newsletter this month. We must protect the elderly, the vulnerable, and ourselves (especially when most of we ourselves fall into one of those two previous categories!). It remains wise and compassionate to avoid crowds, to wear masks in public, to maintain physical distance from each other, to stop shaking hands, to continue working from home if that is possible (or to let our employees work from home if they can), to wash our hands frequently, and to self-quarantine if we're showing symptoms. Whatever society does, all of these options are available to us as a congregation, with a minimum loss of an impactful worship experience. We will have to do things differently when we come back to worship at church. No passing of offering plates, handing out bulletins, not sitting close to one another, Sanitizers which we were already using and Holy Communion done differently. We might even think about doing a Parking lot worship service. We will have Music in the Parking Lot planned in the Summer. These are tough times but God is with us. God promises that he will never leave or forsake us. Yes we should be cautious and follow guidelines to be safe and keep others safe but we should not live in fear. Our faith points us to the Crucified and Risen Lord who told us, "Take heart, It is I. Do not fear!!(Mark 6:50). This is what Easter is all about! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! We can get through this together. I want you to know that I am praying for you all. You have called me to preach the Gospel among you, and to be your shepherd. A good shepherd protects his flock from the wolves, and is unwilling to lose even one sheep out of a hundred to the wolves. Coronavirus is a wolf. I intend by my recommendations to protect you from the wolf, as is my charge. We are the body of Christ and if one member suffers, then we all suffer. Let's pray for one another. I want to thank you all for your prayers and support at this time and if you ever need anything please call me at 330-509-2563 or drop me an e-mail at rkidd777@yahoo.com.

God's blessings in Christ,

Pastor Richard

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

Bethel's mission statement is, " Making Jesus Known ". We achieve this by searching Scriptures

Congregation President Don Wiff

A verse from a Lutheran Hymnal, "The Words on the Cross", *Jesus, all our ransom paid, All thy Father's will obeyed; By thy sufferings perfect made: Hear us, holy Jesus.*

Now we wait for the Holy Spirit to arrive and we celebrate the **TRINITY**. Yes, the Trinity makes Christianity truly unique in comparison to all other world religions. Others find it difficult to comprehend Three but still One.

God is always with us, even in trying times. In the old testament we have incredible proof that God is always with His people and doesn't let His children go through trying times alone. Remember how the Israelites fled Egypt, then wandered through the wilderness for forty years? God was with them every step of the way. Not only was He with them, but also fought for them, guided them, and provided for them.

For those who are afraid, here is a prayer for you. *"Dear Lord, I am afraid. I don't know what will happen during this terrible crisis. Will my loved ones and I be safe? Will I lose everything? I come to You knowing how much I desperately need Your help. Your word reassures me of Your presence. I need Your Spirit to replace my fears with trust in You, heavenly Father. Because You are with me, I know that I don't have to be afraid. Thank You Lord, for being with me, even in the midst of my fears. Amen."* (adapted from W. Wiedmann)

"When you go out to war against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own, you shall not be afraid of them, for the Lord your God is with you, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt." Deuteronomy 20:1

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6.

MINISTRY OVERVIEW PAGE



On Going Prayers including occasional homebound folks

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Deanna Brannigan | John Conti |
| Peggy Shaw | Lynn Henry |
| Josh Midgley | Dale Goehring |
| Richie Martin | Janet Phelps |
| Audrey Wylie | Nancy Kissel |
| Grace Bayne | Carol Coalmer |
| Jean Thorpe | Linda Martin |
| Ruth Ragan | Eleanor Laise |
| Arlene McAtee | Shari Zackesee |
| Cora Dixon | Barb Ferro |
| Sharon Chase | Janet Conkey |
| Berta McGuire | |



A huge thank you to the members of our congregation who have generously continued their tithes and offerings so that our church can remain open and solvent. We are very thankful to remain working during this international health crisis. Thank you, from the staff.

General Operations Fund

To cover our 2020 approved budget, We need to bring in \$21,307.00 per month to our general fund.
Total received in March \$17,860.85

Capital Improvement Fund

Total received in March \$1,734.50



Pastor Richard has been sending out via email, daily scripture readings and a prayer. If you would like to be added to the email list, please send an email to Pastor Richard at rkidd777@yahoo.com and request to be added to the list. We are finding this to be immensely helpful under our current circumstances.
Thank you Pastor Richard!!



Dear Members:
Contact for our e-mail for the Prayer chain is Sandy Dorman. Her email is sdoman@zoominternet.net
If you would like to be a part of the e-mail prayer chain, contact Sandy. ~Thanks Sandy!~

Please add to your prayers the family of Ross and Shawna Applegate. Ross has been called to deployment with the United States Navy to Bahrain on May 17th. He will be gone for one year. They have two children, Michael, who is 9 and Alexia, who is 6 this month. This is a difficult transition for them and prayers are needed.
Thank you! Beth Applegate

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY!

Friday, May 1, 2020: [Psalm 23](#); [Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20](#); [1 Peter 2:13-17](#)

Saturday, May 2, 2020: [Psalm 23](#); [Ezekiel 34:1-16](#); [Luke 15:1-7](#)

Sunday, May 3, 2020: [Fourth Sunday of Easter](#)

Monday, May 4, 2020: [Psalm 100](#); [Ezekiel 34:17-23](#); [1 Peter 5:1-5](#)

Tuesday, May 5, 2020: [Psalm 100](#); [Ezekiel 34:23-31](#); [Hebrews 13:20-21](#)

Wednesday, May 6, 2020: [Psalm 100](#); [Jeremiah 23:1-8](#); [Matthew 20:17-28](#)

Thursday, May 7, 2020: [Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16](#); [Genesis 12:1-3](#); [Acts 6:8-15](#)

Friday, May 8, 2020: [Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16](#); [Exodus 3:1-12](#); [Acts 7:1-16](#)

Saturday, May 9, 2020: [Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16](#); [Jeremiah 26:20-24](#); [John 8:48-59](#)

Sunday, May 10, 2020: [Fifth Sunday of Easter](#)

Monday, May 11, 2020: [Psalm 102:1-17](#); [Exodus 13:17-22](#); [Acts 7:17-40](#)

Tuesday, May 12, 2020: [Psalm 102:1-17](#); [Proverbs 3:5-12](#); [Acts 7:44-56](#)

Wednesday, May 13, 2020: [Psalm 102:1-17](#); [Proverbs 3:13-18](#); [John 8:31-38](#)

Thursday, May 14, 2020: [Psalm 66:8-20](#); [Genesis 6:5-22](#); [Acts 27:1-12](#)

Friday, May 15, 2020: [Psalm 66:8-20](#); [Genesis 7:1-24](#); [Acts 27:13-38](#)

Saturday, May 16, 2020: [Psalm 66:8-20](#); [Genesis 8:13-19](#); [John 14:27-29](#)

Sunday, May 17, 2020: [Sixth Sunday of Easter](#)

Monday, May 18, 2020: [Psalm 93](#); [Genesis 9:8-17](#); [Acts 27:39-44](#)

Tuesday, May 19, 2020: [Psalm 93](#); [Deuteronomy 5:22-33](#); [1 Peter 3:8-12](#)

Wednesday, May 20, 2020: [Psalm 93](#); [Deuteronomy 31:1-13](#); [John 16:16-24](#)

Thursday, May 21, 2020: [Ascension of the Lord](#)

Friday, May 22, 2020: [Psalm 93](#); [2 Kings 2:1-12](#); [Ephesians 2:1-7](#)

Saturday, May 23, 2020: [Psalm 93](#); [2 Kings 2:13-15](#); [John 8:21-30](#)

Sunday, May 24, 2020: [Seventh Sunday of Easter](#)

Monday, May 25, 2020: [Psalm 99](#); [Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24](#); [1 Peter 4:1-6](#)

Tuesday, May 26, 2020: [Psalm 99](#); [Numbers 16:41-50](#); [1 Peter 4:7-11](#)

Wednesday, May 27, 2020: [Psalm 99](#); [1 Kings 8:54-65](#); [John 3:31-36](#)

Thursday, May 28, 2020: [Psalm 33:12-22](#); [Exodus 19:1-9a](#); [Acts 2:1-11](#)

Friday, May 29, 2020: [Psalm 33:12-22](#); [Exodus 19:16-25](#); [Romans 8:14-17](#)

Saturday, May 30, 2020: [Psalm 33:12-22](#); [Exodus 20:1-21](#); [Matthew 5:1-12](#)

Sunday, May 31, 2020: [Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth](#)

Sunday, May 31, 2020: [Day of Pentecost](#)

A LETTER FROM OUR NEO SYNOD BISHOP

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ of the Northeastern Ohio Synod,

Let me say at the outset that I can never tell you enough how grateful I am for all of you and the ministry you do in Christ's name here in the Northeastern Ohio Synod. I never cease to be amazed at the creative ways you continue to share the Gospel and witness to the glory of God in all the twenty counties of our mission territory. You have been resilient in your faithfulness.

I give thanks to God for you and feel blessed to be among you as we travel this COVID-19 journey together. It has been a long and arduous path that we have walked thus far, by faith and not by sight. Yet we take a measure of comfort in knowing that the risen Lord walks alongside us, as he did with the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

On Monday afternoon, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine rolled out his "reopening plan," that is scheduled to begin May 1 and will involve three phases. This plan has obvious implications for us as the body of Christ. We are called to imagine what this will look like in our congregations as we ponder when we will be able to resume in-person public worship.

As bishop, my chief concern is providing pastoral care and leadership for this synod, its congregations, its people, and its rostered ministers. To that end, my principal consideration is the spiritual, physical, and emotional health of all. As I look at the demographics of our synod, it is clear that the majority of those that worship in our congregations fall into the most vulnerable age categories. 75% of coronavirus deaths occur among people 70-years of age or older.

Several of our rostered leaders have formed congregational advisory teams that include medical personnel to guide their reopening process. I have asked them to share their wisdom to guard against my making any decision in a vacuum. I thank them for their willingness to assist me in this process.

I am sensitive to the financial stresses this has created for many congregations. We continue to explore the economic resources that are available to assist in those challenges. We post those and other information on our [Northeastern Ohio Synod Resource page](#).

As we move ahead, I will make every effort to communicate more frequently and as quickly as possible anytime there are significant changes in our medical landscape. To that end, this Wednesday, I will begin weekly Zoom meetings with our rostered ministers by conference. These meetings will include the rest of the synod pastoral team.

Peace,



+The Rev. Abraham Allende

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 David Coffin | 12 Ross & Shawna Applegate |
| 4 Korie Swanson, Sarah (Gleydura) Henry, Jane Midgley | 21 Bob & Becky Butcher |
| 5 Elise DeMartino, Marc Pupino | 25 Richard and Marcie Lieb |
| 8 Presley Kulik | 27 Mark & Lori Guthridge |
| 10 Debra Coffin, Jon Johnson | 30 David & DeAnna Griswold |
| 12 Ted Conway | 31 Christopher & Lissa Bell |
| 13 Bill Conkey | |
| 15 Fred Noday Jr., Jason Wiff, David Cisine | |
| 16 Scott Morlan, Judy Borelli | |
| 18 Walter Baust | |
| 19 Susan Marrie | |
| 20 Deborah Ogden, Debra Gleydura | |
| 22 Elaine Kamps, Toni Juergensen | |
| 23 Alexia Applegate, Karen Protzman | |
| 24 Nancy Kissel | |
| 25 Linda Adair, Cheryl Taraszewski | |
| 29 Jim Kitelinger | |

**MISSION OF THE MONTH
FOR
MAY IS
ENDOWMENT FUND**

The committee meetings and council meetings have been through Zoom during a pre-determined time and day. If you wish to “attend” one of these meetings, please contact the chair person of that committee and they will let you know when the meeting will be. Thank you!

Let the office know of any changes, corrections or additions, or if celebrating a “milestone” birthday or anniversary. Thank you!

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

425 Crestview Drive
Boardman, Ohio 44512

135 Years of Making Jesus Known

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Sent with a prayer to:



Phone: 330-758-5745
Fax: 330-629-8658
E-mail: office@bethelboardman.org

**Worship with Communion...Sunday: at 8:30 & 11:00 am
Nursery Provided at 11:00 Service**

Our Staff

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| The Ministers | The Entire Bethel Family |
| Senior Pastor | Richard Kidd |
| Office Manager | Georgette Kollay |
| Building Manager | David Walsh |
| Organist | LaRue Murray |
| Bookkeeper/Treasurer | Debbie Carrocce |
| Director of Music | Marc Pupino |
| Christian Ed Coordinator/Financial Secretary | Beth Applegate |

**Our Web Page:
bethelboardman.org
and visit our FB Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/Bethellutheranboardmanohio>