

# Bethlehem's Glad Tidings

Vol. 8 No. 4

April 2016

Rev. Peter D. Asplin, Pastor  
Bonita Cadman, Church Secretary  
Mrs. Melba McVay, Organist  
Mr. Ed Conkle, Sexton

Bethlehem 724-945-5198  
Pastor Home 724-503-4595  
Pastor Cell Phone 724-678-8798

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
21 Church Road  
Scenery Hill, PA 15360

## Council Members

Helen Myers  
Carol Brewer  
Molly O'Brien  
Roberta Mong

Elinor Ross  
Becky Devore  
John Ames  
Jim Hart

Arla Dague  
Matt Devore  
Rich Beck

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**My Dear Brothers and Sister sin Christ,**

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!  
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!  
Jesus is risen and we shall arise.  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia! And our hope is assured! "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (Rom 6:5 NRS)" We are promised a resurrection like his, with renewed bodies (1 Cor. 15:53), and cleansed hearts and souls. We are promised that while in this life we are confused and we don't understand how things

are or even how they should be, that with the resurrection, “we will see face to face.” (1 Cor. 13:12)

This is the great promise we rejoice in – DEATH HAS BEEN SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY! Our Lord is victorious and we need no long fear sin, death or the evil one. For we are the Lord’s.

Our celebration of the promise of the resurrection was glorious last Sunday! Thank you to everyone who joined in worship with gusto, praising the Lord in word, in sacrament and in song!

I especially want to thank the many, many people who made our worship wonderful, not just on Easter, but through all of Holy Week!

John Ames (Palm Sunday)

Jackie Anderson (Palm Sunday, Easter)

Johanna Asplin (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter)

Kristen Asplin (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)

Linnea Asplin (Maundy Thursday, Easter)

Rich Beck (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)

Kara Blum (Palm Sunday)

Carol Brewer (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)

Bonnie Cadman (Worship Mgmt. Team)

Ed Conkle (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter)

Arla Dague (Worship Mgmt. Team, Easter)

Lindsay Davis (Palm Sunday, Easter)

Jacob Davis (Easter)

Norman Davis (Maundy Thursday)

Brittany Dayton (Palm Sunday, Easter)

Brendon Dayton (Palm Sunday, Easter)

Lindsey Detrick (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)

Becky Devore (Easter)

Bill Devore (Palm Sunday)

Matt Devore (Palm Sunday, Easter)

Virginia DiAndreth (Maundy Thursday)

Bernice Elliott (Easter)

Dale Glotfelty (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday)

Jessica Glotfelty (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday)  
Judi Hart (Easter)  
Audrey Liker (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)  
Emil Liker (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)  
Tuffy McVay (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter)  
Devon Myers (Palm Sunday)  
Helen Myers (Palm Sunday)  
Karen Naddeo (Worship Mgmt. Team, Palm Sunday)  
Jeremy Naser (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday)  
Garrett Nassar (Maundy Thursday)  
Molly O'Brien (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday)  
Patrick O'Brien (Palm Sunday)  
Kaylie Randolph (Easter)  
Elinor Ross (Palm Sunday)  
Shirley Schultz (Palm Sunday, Easter)  
Cheryl Sukal (Easter)  
Emma Sukal (Palm Sunday, Easter)  
Angela Starosta (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)  
Miranda VanKirk (Palm Sunday)  
Alyssa Wise (Easter)  
Jeremy Woods (Easter)  
Roberta Mong (Worship Mgmt. Team, Hymn Selection, Palm  
Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter)  
Melba McVay (Worship Mgmt. Team, Hymn Selection, Palm  
Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter)  
Collin O'Brien (Hymn Selection, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday,  
Good Friday, Easter)

These forty-seven people took an active role in Worship during this Holy Week. They did everything from pass out bulletins, to clean the building, from counting money to sing the choir, from acolyte to running the Easter Egg Hunt, from playing bells to washing communion ware. Each of these people played a vital role in making our Holy Week and Easter celebration come together!!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you for participating in the faith life of our congregation! And if you would like to participate in a way you haven't before, please talk to Pastor, Melba or Karen!!

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

May God bless each of us this Holy Season of Easter!!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Asplin

Reflections from the Bishop

*Easter Strong*

*Goodness is stronger than evil;  
Love is stronger than hate;  
Light is stronger than darkness;  
Life is stronger than death.  
(ELW 721)*

These words are the creed of resurrection faith.

Than is to say, those who believe that Jesus was in fact raised from the dead dare to confess that the goodness of God prevails over every evil that appears for now to be unstoppable.

Those who trust that Jesus' resurrection is a promise of life for all who belong to him harbor a confident hope that God's love has the final word, even when hate is in full stampede through their neighborhood.

Those who see in Jesus' resurrection a sign of God's intention to make all things new look expectantly for the dawn of a new world against which no darkness has any lasting power.

Those who have been reborn to eternal life in Christ Jesus have no fear of death, for they know that death is the gate to eternal life.

May your celebration of Holy Week and Easter be a public witness to the bold Christian claim, *Vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us.*

With you in Christ

+Kurt

### **Council Meeting**

The Bethlehem Council meeting was call to order on March 15, 2016 by President Helen Myers.

Pastor Asplin led the devotions.

Council Members present:

Helen Myers	Collin O'Brien	John Ames
Rich Beck	Molly O'Brien	Roberta Mong
Arla Dague	Becky Devore	Carol Brewer

Secretary's report was approved by Arla and seconded by John.  
Treasurer's report was approved by Carol and seconded by Becky.

Pastor's report included Worship planning for 2016; VBS, Cave Quest; Confirmation trip to Gettysburg; Marianna bathroom; automatic door opener; Easter Egg Hunt.

Old business: Pastor will look for visitor cards.

New business: Look for window washer for the High Windows  
New Addition Contractor back for adjustments to  
addition.

Property to look into “Black Top Contractors.”

### **WELCA Meeting Second Wednesday, April 13, 2016**

The WELCA will meet Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. The Bible Study Christian Citizenship 101 Paul’s letter to the Philippians session 4 is “Keep On, Keeping On.” This closing session of the Bible study, we encounter some of the best know passages from Philippians. We will also reflect on all four sessions, to respond to God and to witness to one another. Paul presents positive examples of those who have “the same mind” as Christ and care about others’ interests, more than their own. The Bible study will be led by Melba McVay. A covered dish luncheon will be held following the meeting. All women of the church are invited to join us for a morning of Bible study and fellowship.

Knives, knife sets and spatulas are still for sale.

### **2016 Designated Outreach Mission**

We will be collecting for a new Designated Outreach Mission project which will be Jeremiah’s Place of Pittsburgh, PA. They provide a safe haven of repite, health, renewal and support for children and families free of charge during times of crisis. They are in need of non-perishable food, formula, diapers and etc. These items will be collected and taken to the spring cluster meeting and again in the fall. Thanks so much for your continued support for these Outreach projects. These organizations are selected and voted on by the Women of the ELCA.

## **Spring Cluster Meeting**

The Spring Cluster meeting for 5 & 6 will be held April 9, 2016 at Grace Lutheran Church in Monongahela, PA. The theme is “Bless The Children.” Please bring baby items for Jeremiah’s Place and put them in the box in the narthex.

Reservations must be made by April 4, 2016. The cost of the luncheon is \$6.00. If you would like to attend, please contact Betty Naser at 724-225-2616.

## **Mother and Daughter Banquet**

The Mother and Daughter Banquet is set for Thursday May 5, 2016 and will be held at the Lone Pine Social Hall. The meal will be catered by Danny’s Catering Service. Cost will be \$14.00 for adults and \$12.00 for children ages 6-12. Ages 5 and under are free. The meal will consist of sliced turkey, roast beef, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, cauliflower with cheese sauce, green beans, tossed salad, rolls, butter and beverage. The dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Betty Naser or Melba McVay for reservations.

## **BETHLEHEM’S ANNIVERSARY YEAR-HAT SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND**

The people of Bethlehem have been gathering to worship and pray, to baptize and commune, to catechize and confirm, to marry and bury, to celebrate and to lament for 225 years this year!! So we are planning a celebration!

Sunday, April 3, 2016 – HAT SUNDAY

One of the ways “things used to be” was men and women wearing hats to church! Dig through your relatives storage and wear a hat to Sunday and remember our history together!

Sunday, May 8, 2016 – MOTHER’S DAY BREAKFAST

We are planning to have the men of the church and church families prepare and serve a pancake breakfast for the congregation on Mother’s Day this year as part of our anniversary celebration! Please plan on being a part of this festive celebration of “MOMS”!!!!

**BIBLE BOWL, APRIL 3, 2016**

The Bible Bowl will be held at Bethlehem on April 3, 2016. We will be hosting 3 other teams: Stewart Avenue-Pittsburgh, Good News-New Stanton, and Harold Zion-Greensburg. Come and support our team!!! Start time is 2:45 p.m.

Super Bible Bowl will be held on April 17, 2016.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN AFTER WORSHIP AND END AT 2:30 P.M.**

April 10, 2016

Lunch provided by Davis Family

April 24, 2016

Lunch provided by Naser Family

May 1, 2016

Lunch provided by Sukal Family

**VBS – CAVE QUEST – JUNE 20, 2016 – JUNE 24, 2016**

Last year we **climbed Mt. Everest!!** This year we will be **spelunking in a Cave Quest!!**

Plan on joining us for this great ministry, as a student, group leader or adult staff and together we will, **“Follow Jesus, the Light of the World.”**



You are invited to the Senior Luncheon

# celebration



RSVP By April 1, 2016 to:

Hazel Ritter 724-222-0443

Lila Headlee 724-377-1382



**Where:** Emmanuel U.P.Church  
480 Route 519  
Eighty Four PA

**When:** April 16, 2016

**Time:** Noon



# **HUSTLE FOR HUNGER**

## **5k race and 1 mile run/walk**

*"They will hunger no more, and thirst no more" –Revelation7:16a*



**Saturday June 18, 2016 at 7:16am**  
**California University of PA**

All funds raised will go to **ELCA World Hunger**,  
to support their work in domestic and international hunger and poverty.

Set up your own fundraising site at [www.elca.org/teamelca](http://www.elca.org/teamelca)  
There will be awards for the most funds raised (individual and congregation).

Awards will be given to the first, second, and third place finishers overall in the 5k.

Registration is \$25 and includes a race t-shirt (if registered by May 31<sup>st</sup>).

**Registration details coming soon!**

*(For those attending Synod Assembly, registration for the race will be included in Assembly registration.  
For others, there will be a separate registration site.)*

<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Offering</u>
February 7, 2016	87	\$3,961.20
February 14, 2016	75	\$3,716.00
February 21, 2016	82	\$2,725.00
February 28, 2016	87	\$3,777.19
<u>Averages</u>	82	\$3,544.84

**Bethlehem Treasurer's Report**  
**Summary of current operating account for February 2016**  
**Approved at Congregational Council Meeting March 15, 2016**

<u>Regular Income</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Envelope Offering	\$12,979.44	\$20,429.44
Special Benevolence	\$1,538.20	\$1,705.70
Other	\$890.25	\$1,252.55
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$15,407.89</b>	<b>\$23,387.69</b>

Expenses

Benevolence	\$2,674.00	\$2,674.00
Special Benevolence	\$845.06	\$1,653.91
Staff Compensation	\$8,064.03	\$16,051.03
Church Administration	\$568.94	\$1,432.28
Church Property	\$1,302.55	\$2,026.49
Mortgage Payment	\$1,466.35	\$2,932.70
Worship & Music	\$487.88	\$800.51
Church Program	\$351.31	\$390.97

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,760.12</b>	<b>\$27,961.89</b>
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Total Expenses over income for Month	(\$352.33)
Total Expenses over income for year	(\$4,574.20)
Total Income to Capital Campaign thru 2/29/16	\$346,627.04
Total Expenses thru 2/29/16	(\$32,354.60)
Transfer from Loan Account to Building Fund*	\$7,672.77
Citizen's Building Fund Balance 2/29/16	\$81,602.11

Community Bank Loan Account

Transfer to Citizen's Building Fund (see above)	\$7,672.77
Balance Loan Account 2/29/16 (account closed)*	\$00.00

Combined Building Addition Finances

Total Building Fund Income thru 2/29/16	\$346,627.04
Congregational Savings Contribution	\$165,036.00
Balance due on Mortgage Principal thru 2/29/16	(\$248,928.76)
Total Expenses thru 2/29/16	(\$710,570.42)
Combined Building Fund Balance 2/29/16	\$81,602.11

### Acolytes

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Brendon Dayton and Austin Naser  
April 10<sup>th</sup> Kaylie Anderson and Linnea Asplin  
April 17<sup>th</sup> Kara Blum and Miranda Van Kirk  
April 24<sup>th</sup> Madison Allender and Brittany Dayton

### Lectors

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Susan Randolph  
April 10<sup>th</sup> Rich Beck  
April 17<sup>th</sup> Carol Brewer  
April 24<sup>th</sup> Arla Dague

### Counters

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Helen Myers, Jim Hart, Devon Myers  
April 10<sup>th</sup> Karen Naddeo, Carol Brewer, Molly O'Brien  
April 17<sup>th</sup> Shirley Schultz, Elinor Ross, Ed Conkle  
April 24<sup>th</sup> Karen Naddeo, Becky Devore, Bill Ulery

### Ushers and Greeters

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Bill and Becky Devore  
April 10<sup>th</sup> Susan and Jameson Randolph  
April 17<sup>th</sup> Bernice Elliott and Arla Dague  
April 24<sup>th</sup> John and Sarah Ames

### Communion Assistants

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Blair Yoders